



DCF Legislative Testimony

July 21, 2025

TESTIMONY OF: Chrisy Khatib, Deputy Director of Adult Protective Services, Department for Children and Families

WRITTEN ONLY TESTIMONY ON: Performance Audit Report: Evaluating State Agencies' Registries of Perpetrators of Abuse, Neglect, and Exploitation (ANE) (July 2025).

DCF | ANE PERFORMANCE AUDIT

Chair Francis and members of the committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in response to the Performance Audit Report: *Evaluating State Agencies' Registries of Perpetrators of Abuse, Neglect, and Exploitation (ANE) (July 2025)*. The Kansas Department for Children and Families (DCF) deeply values our mission of protecting children and vulnerable adults, strengthening families and promoting adult self-sufficiency. We believe through partnerships with communities and stakeholders as well as legislative engagement, audits such as these help contribute to transparency, accountability and growing public trust.

The audit made several findings and recommendations to DCF, the Kansas Department for Aging and Disabilities (KDADS) and the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE), a few of which DCF has already taken steps to initiate and resolve.

While the Kelly Administration is taking steps to address the recommendations and findings in the audit, we appreciate the confirmation that **many functions of the registry and agency processes are working as intended** to protect vulnerable Kansans.

- The audit found that DCF findings for certified nurse assistants were, at times, being sent to an invalid email address.
 - o **Resolution initiated by DCF:** This has been resolved, and we have confirmed that findings are now arriving at the appropriate inbox within the Kansas Department for Aging and Disabilities (KDADS). Additionally, DCF Adult Protective Services (APS) has provided policy review and training to the APS management team regarding Documentation for Case Findings. DCF will update policy to request a Release of Information from the involved adult to share the assessment and analyses with KDADS when APS substantiates a CNA.
- The audit findings provided an opportunity to reexamine the *2013 Memorandum of Understanding on the Protection of Vulnerable Adults* and identify any changes to agency responsibilities.
 - o **Resolution initiated by DCF:** The DCF Legal Department has begun its review of the Memorandum of Understanding.
- The audit highlights DCF's policy regarding third party allegations of child abuse and neglect being referred to law enforcement for investigation.
 - o **Resolution initiated by DCF:** DCF will continue to initiate and complete investigation conclusions. While the agency does not track the outcome of reports referred to Law Enforcement, DCF does review and enter the investigative findings of Law Enforcement when we receive them. Additionally, reports from Law Enforcement that allege abuse or neglect of a child are responded to within 24 hours with implementation of HB 2075 – effective July 1, 2025.