Welcome Stakeholders

2026
STAKEHOLDER
Meetings

Kansas
Department for Children
and Families

Meeting Agenda

July 16, 2026
Hutchinson

Welcome
Stacey Tweedy, Southwest Regional Director

Community Conversation Focus
Secretary Laura Howard

Federal and State Updates
Secretary Laura Howard

Budget Update
Tammy Tompkins, Director of Budget

Program Updates
Tanya Keys, Deputy Secretary

Questions
Secretary Howard

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2026 STAKEHOLDER Meetings

Message from the Secretary

2026 STAKEHOLDER Meetings

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Department for Children and Families

Federal and State Updates

Secretary Laura Howard

Kansas Department for Children and Families

2026 STAKEHOLDER Meetings

Adoption of Revised Interstate Compact for the Placement of Children (ICPC)

HB 2557

DCF introduced legislation to adopt new ICPC 2007 language to join 20 other states.

The bill had no amendments and was passed to allow Kansas to join the new ICPC and to become part of the rulemaking body once 35 states adopt.

The Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children was created in 1960 and adopted in Kansas in 1976.

Over the past 3 years 6 additional states have adopted the language. All neighboring states have also adopted.

Revisions to the ICPC impact not just foster care children and placements but will guide and clarify language and processes for independent adoptions and parental placements both with individuals and in congregate care facilities across state borders.

This bill passed both chambers all but unanimously. Signed into law March 19.

Expanding Eligible Facilities for Juvenile Crisis Intervention Service Funds

SB 414

DCF introduced SB 414 to build capacity of facility models in communities across Kansas and allow crisis intervention facilities to access the $2M in evidence-based funds at KDOC for these services.

Since the 2018 JCIC law, additional facility-based crisis intervention service program models have been created and implemented.

Language proposed would have supported residential facilities licensed by either KDADS or DCF for the purpose of behavioral health crisis intervention services for juveniles to access funds.

This bill was inserted into HB2329, however the proposed language did not prevail.

Statutory Child Abuse and Neglect Registry

HB 2601

HB2601 Establishes in statute a child abuse and neglect registry to be maintained by DCF. It provides for **central registry and expungement processes that include administrative hearings** and **opportunities for subsequent appeals**, **requiring reports of abuse or neglect to include information regarding a custody dispute concerning the child who is the subject of the report** and directing the secretary to submit a report to the legislature on such information.

- The secretary may not place an alleged perpetrator on the registry without first providing notice and an opportunity for an administrative hearing.
- Individuals may request expungement from the registry after 3 years have elapsed since the order was entered and criteria listed in statute are consider and granted.
- The act amends related statutes governing adoptions, child care facilities and day care facilities to reference the new registry and to ensure that individuals cannot be prohibited from working with children based solely on their listing in the registry unless they have been given proper notice and an opportunity to appeal.

Juvenile Stabilization Center and Corrections Bill

HB 2329

This bill was vetoed but overridden on April 9.

HB 2329 Related to Child In Need of Care , the bill renames "juvenile crisis intervention centers" to "juvenile stabilization centers" and updates the rules governing how these facilities operate including new intake criteria and prohibited regulations. In addition, it establishes a $4M fund transfer so DCF has an account fund to pay for stabilization services.

Related to juvenile justice, provides for increased placement of juvenile offenders in non-foster home beds in youth residential facilities, requiring the secretary of corrections to pay for the costs associated with such placements and authorizing the secretary to make expenditures from the evidence-based programs account of the state general fund moneys to contract for such beds in youth residential facilities.

Child In need of Care And Child Support Bundle

Senate Bill 408

This Senate Bill bundled three separate bills:

1. **Age-Appropriate Activities of a child do not create a Child in Need of Care (CINC).**
2. **DCF is to continue and create new Memorandums of Understanding with Kansas Military Installations including the Kansas National Guard.** The new language addressed a specific step that when DCF investigates a potential CINC and a child's parent or legal guardian is military personnel, DCF must also refer the case to the appropriate Military **Family Advocacy Program.**
3. **Child Support and Voluntary Acknowledgment of Paternity (VAP).** A person who has signed a VAP has **60 days** or until the date of any related administrative or judicial proceeding to revoke it **without proof or reason**. After that deadline, a challenge may only be based on fraud duress or **material mistake of fact (genetic testing).**

This bill was signed on April 9.

CINC School Enrollment

House Bill 2320 authorizes children in custody of secretary to attend school in any district and **requires the timely transfer of school records by district.**

When a child's placement between districts changes **the Secretary must notify the affected school districts within two business days.**

For children remaining in their school of origin, the Secretary and school district are required to coordinate and develop a transportation plan.

This bill signed on April 6.

Foster Care Licensing

House Bill 2524 requires DCF to allow an existing foster home licensee to remain in-force when the home is otherwise qualified and a person living there was previously in state custody as a child under the age of 26 and has a disqualifying conviction or adjudication, providing there is no safety concern.

The bill also provides for an appeal process to allow applicants or licensees under this law to request review from the Secretary if said license is denied.

This bill signed April 6.

Economic and Employment Services Bills

HB2004 *requires DCF to share documents and information with the Office of Medicaid Inspector General as they relate to EES programs.*

The bill also requires DCF to respond to any written request by the USDA relating to federally administered programs with an MOU or similar data sharing agreement within 60 days.

HB2437 *bundled several elections measures and Requires DCF report identifying information of noncitizen recipients to the secretary of state on a quarterly basis.*

Including: names, addresses, dates of birth, alien registration numbers, and driver's license numbers.

HB2731 *Requires DCF (and KDHE) to enter into data-matching agreements with various entities to verify eligibility data for individuals and households receiving food or medical assistance and act on such data.*

The bill also codifies eligibility and work requirements from H.R.1 and Reduces ability for self-attestation, reduces exemptions from employment and training, and prohibits waivers.

All three bills were vetoed and overridden April 9-10.

Trusted Contact

House Bill 2591

HB 2591 Authorizes financial institutions to report suspected financial exploitation of an adult account holder to a designated agency, such as law enforcement offices or DCF.

Allows the institution to begin a process of notifying an adult designated as a trusted contact of suspected financial exploitation and to place a temporary hold on the suspected transactions or disbursements.

This bill was signed April 9.

Community Conversation Opportunity

What can we do together to advance our common purpose of strengthening families? What can DCF do to support you in your work?

2026 STAKEHOLDER Meetings

Kansas Department for Children and Families

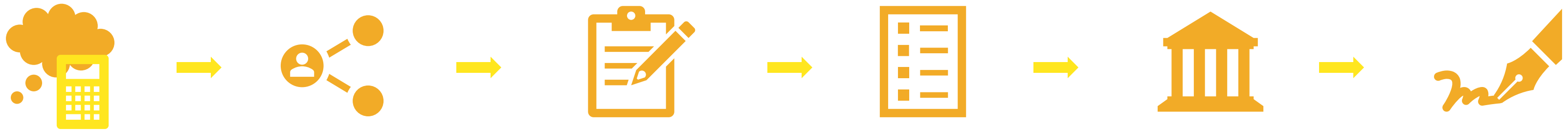
DCF Budget Update

Tammy Tompkins, Director of Budget

Kansas Department for Children and Families

2026 STAKEHOLDER Meetings

Traditional Budget Cycle



Agency fiscal officers analyze historical and caseload information and collect feedback from the public, DCF programs and administrators to create a budget that focuses on program, personnel and operational costs based on the legislative approved amount.

Any expenditures above this limit are requested as enhancements.

Agency submits budget proposal to **Division of Budget (DOB)** and **Governor's Office (GO).**

Governor's Office reviews budget proposal and may provide feedback, recommendations or requests.

Agencies can appeal DOB recommendations.

Appeals are considered by the GO to determine what is proposed to the legislature.

Governor's Office submits budget to legislature with line-by-line detail of spending.

Legislature reviews budget proposal and may make changes or deny parts of the budget. Legislature passes appropriate bills.

Governor can present amendments, but legislature has final approval on funds allotted to the budget for program, personnel and operational costs.

Governor signs final budget into law and may also veto line items they disagree with, which do not become law unless overridden by the legislature.

Agency is only authorized to spend funds as allotted by the legislature in the approved budget.

Changes in Budget Process

2026 Legislature

Kansas Department for Children and Families

Changes Continue

Last year's changes to the budget process continued in the 2026 Legislative Session.

Senate and House Draft Two Bills

The Senate and House worked their own budget bills instead of using the Governor's Budget Recommendation bill.

Conference Committee Held

The Senate and House appropriation bills were reconciled in conference committee.

Omnibus Not Held

Similar to last year, there was no omnibus session.

FY 2026 Approved Budget

Item	All Funds	SGF	Positions
Submitted Budget	$1,024,132,343	$472,732,161	2,588.73
Consensus Caseload	8,400,000	29,800,000	-
Legislative Adjustments	2,095,040	1,010,888	-
Total	**$ 1,034,627,383**	**$ 503,543,049**	**2,588.73**

The FY 2026 fund totals exclude $15.0 million in federal fund transfers to other state agencies.

FY 2026 Consensus Caseload

Item	All Funds	SGF	Description		
TANF	($400,000)	-	The caseload is projected to decrease slightly.		
				All Funds	**SGF**
Foster Care	8,800,000	29,800,000	Replace the loss of federal SSA funding	-	9.0
			Unrealized savings from relative licensing policy	(1.9)	8.2
			Caseload and placement rate increases	8.9	10.4
			Other	1.8	2.2
			Total	8.8	29.8
Total	**8,400,000**	**29,800,000**			

FY 2026 Legislative Adjustments

Item	All Funds	SGF	Description
KEES Upgrades	$1,895,040	$810,888	Update software version to facilitate system support and mitigate security risks.
Stabilize Foster Care in Sedgwick Co.	200,000	200,000	Address rising foster care caseload in Sedgwick County.
Total	**$2,095,040**	**$1,010,888**	

FY 2026 Comparison of Supplementals in GBR to Legislative Adjustments

Kansas Department for Children and Families

	GBR		Legislative Adjustments	
Supplemental	**All Funds**	**SGF**	**All Funds**	**SGF**
Projects to Reduce SNAP Error Rate	$2,797,302	$1,398,651		
SNAP E&T Work Requirement Changes	819,712	819,712		
Employment Verification Services	891,144	397,280		
KEES Upgrade	1,895,040	810,888	1,895,040	810,888
Indices Increases	2,216,082	1,428,314		
Stabilize Foster Care in Sedgwick County	436,482	436,482	200,000	200,000
Amazon Connect - Contract Increase	97,500	46,303		
Total	**$9,153,262**	**$5,337,630**	**$2,095,040**	**$1,010,888**

The supplementals approved by the legislature are below the GBR by $7.1 million all funds and $4.3 million SGF.

FY 2027 Approved Budget

Item	All Funds	SGF	Positions
Submitted Budget	$999,882,964	$465,359,796	2,588.73
Consensus Caseload	10,600,000	32,800,000	-
Legislative Adjustments			
Enhancements	4,612,104	2,847,088	-
Stakeholder Additions	3,041,000	1,665,000	-
Other DCF Changes	(169,373,545)	(19,792,751)	(29.00)
Subtotal	(161,720,441)	(15,280,663)	(29.00)
Total	**$848,762,523**	**$482,879,133**	**2,559.73**

The FY 2027 fund totals throughout this report exclude $8.6 million in federal fund transfers to other state agencies.

FY 2027 Consensus Caseload

Item	All Funds	SGF	Description	All Funds	SGF
TANF	($400,000)	0	The caseload is projected to decrease slightly.		
				All Funds	**SGF**
Foster Care	11,000,000	32,800,000	Replace the loss of federal SSA funding	-	9.0
			Unrealized savings from relative licensing policy	(1.9)	8.2
			Caseload and placement rate increases	6.9	9.0
			Increase in case management provider payments	4.7	4.5
			Other	1.3	2.1
			Total	11.0	32.8
Total	**$10,600,000**	**$32,800,000**			

FY 2027 Enhancements

Item	All Funds	SGF	Description
KEES Upgrades	1,895,040	930,844	Update software version to facilitate system support and mitigate security risks.
Lease Increases	1,122,804	716,244	Lease increases, office relocation, tax increases.
Indices Increases	1,094,260	700,000	Increase in fees imposed by other agencies.
Stabilize Foster Care in Sedgwick Co.	500,000	500,000	Addresses rising foster care caseload in Sedgwick County
Federal Match Change for SNAP Administration	-	-	$12.1 million SGF was moved from DCF's budget to the State Finance Council. DCF must provide information on SNAP error rates and SNAP administrative expenditures before funding is released.
Amazon Connect - Call Center	-	-	Approved however DCF must absorb the cost. ($195,000 all funds and $92,606 SGF)
Total	**4,612,104**	**2,847,088**	

FY 2027 Stakeholder Additions

Kansas Department for Children and Families

Item	All Funds	SGF	Description
Preschool Pilot	-	-	$4,200,000 transfer to the KS Dept of Education
CAK Workforce	400,000	400,000	Training program to strengthen workforce stability and improve service quality in child welfare.
Hope Ranch	200,000	200,000	Assists survivors of human trafficking
Radical Life	-	-	$500,000 SGF absorbed by DCF. Targets foster care reduction, family stabilization and financial education in Lyon County
Funded for Only FY 2027			
Guided Independent Living Assessment	215,000	215,000	Assist young adults with disabilities to live independently.
FosterAdopt Connect	500,000	500,000	Expand capacity in Sedgwick County for parent support and foster care prevention services
Core Community	350,000	350,000	Engage communities to lift families out of poverty
JAG-K	376,000	-	Help students overcome challenges and find a career path.
Big Brothers Big Sisters	1,000,000	-	One-to-one youth mentoring
Total	**$3,041,000**	**$1,665,000**	

FY 2027 Other Changes

Item	All Funds	SGF	Description
Office of Early Childhood Transfer	(164,373,545)	(14,792,751)	Transition from DCF to Office of Early Childhood.
Proviso - Healthy Foods Waiver	(5,000,000)	(5,000,000)	$5 million SGF was moved from DCF's budget to the State Finance Council. The $5 million will be released if DCF implements a SNAP waiver barring candy and pop by December 31, 2026.
Business Enterprise Proviso	-	-	Establishes a task force to review state administration of priority placement for blind vendors on state property.
Child Care Subsidy Proviso	-	-	Requires DCF to procure, develop, and implement software that makes child care payments directly to providers. The extent of those costs would pertain to the KOEC and the funding needed cannot be estimated until the request for information has been reviewed and assessed.
Total	**(169,373,545)**	**(19,792,751)**	

FY 2027 Pending Changes

These items include estimates that are not included in the budget totals.

Item	All Funds	SGF	Description
Pay Plan (estimate)	$1,420,000	$847,000	One percent salary increase for executive branch employees. The funding will be released by the State Finance Council.
Salary Savings Lapse (estimate)	-	-	Salary savings from positions vacant for 60 days or more will be lapsed. This reduction is calculated at the end of the fiscal year. No lapse is expected, as DCF salaries are in a deficit.
1.5% SGF Lapse (estimate)		(2,530,000)	Assistance and stakeholder additions are excluded from the 1.5% lapse. These reductions have not been finalized.
New Requirement for Applicants Requesting State Funding	-	-	Applicants requesting state funds in FY 2027 must provide a statement of purpose, measurable outcomes and a description of how progress will be measured before receiving funds. Applicants will receive 50 percent of funding initially and 50 percent after demonstrating measurable progress in outcomes. Federal subsidy programs are exempt from this requirement.
Total	**$1,420,000**	**($1,683,000)**	

FY 2027 Bills not funded by the Legislature

Kansas Department for Children and Families

Senate Substitute for HB 2004

Requires the secretary for Kansas DCF and the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) to respond to any requests for information from the U.S. Department of Agriculture regarding federally administered programs within 60 days of the request. Also requires DCF and the Office of Inspector General to exchange information and documents related to cash assistance, child care assistance and food assistance fraud investigations.

The cost to DCF of providing the requested data could range from $50,000 to $300,000 per request.

Substitute for HB 2731

Requires KDHE and DCF to enter into data-matching agreements with state agencies to verify eligibility for food and medical assistance. Prohibits both agencies from using self-attestation to determine public assistance eligibility for several criteria. Also puts several changes from H.R.1 into state statute, such as the increasing the age limit for able-bodied adults without certain dependents and prohibition of certain exemptions from work requirements under the food assistance program.

The fiscal impact is estimated to be $5.2 million all funds and $5.1 million SGF in association with the staff intensive eligibility verification requirements. This funding was not provided.

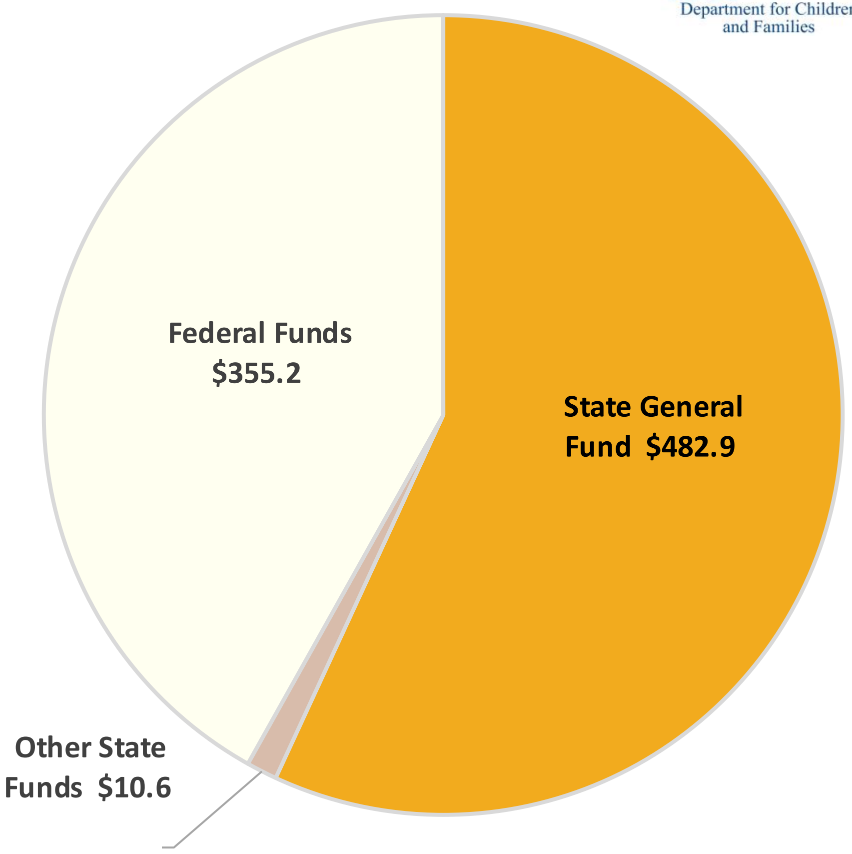
FY 2027 Comparison of Enhancements in GBR to Legislative Adjustments

	GBR		Legislative Approved	
Enhancement	All Funds	SGF	All Funds	SGF
Projects to Reduce SNAP Error Rate	$1,613,960	$968,660	-	-
Changes to SNAP Administrative Match Rate	-	12,061,053	-	-
SNAP E&T Work Requirement Changes	3,167,693	3,167,693	-	-
Employment Verification Services	-	-	-	-
KEES Upgrade	1,895,040	930,844	1,895,040	930,844
Workload Management Software Licenses	883,200	352,838	-	-
Lease Increases	1,122,804	716,244	1,122,804	716,244
Indices Increases	2,772,256	1,773,416	1,094,260	700,000
Stabilize Foster Care in Sedgwick County	872,964	872,964	500,000	500,000
Amazon Connect - Contract Increase	195,000	92,606	-	-
Nurse Co-Responder Partnership	996,000	996,000	-	-
Total	**$ 13,518,917**	**$21,932,318**	**$4,612,104**	**$2,847,088**

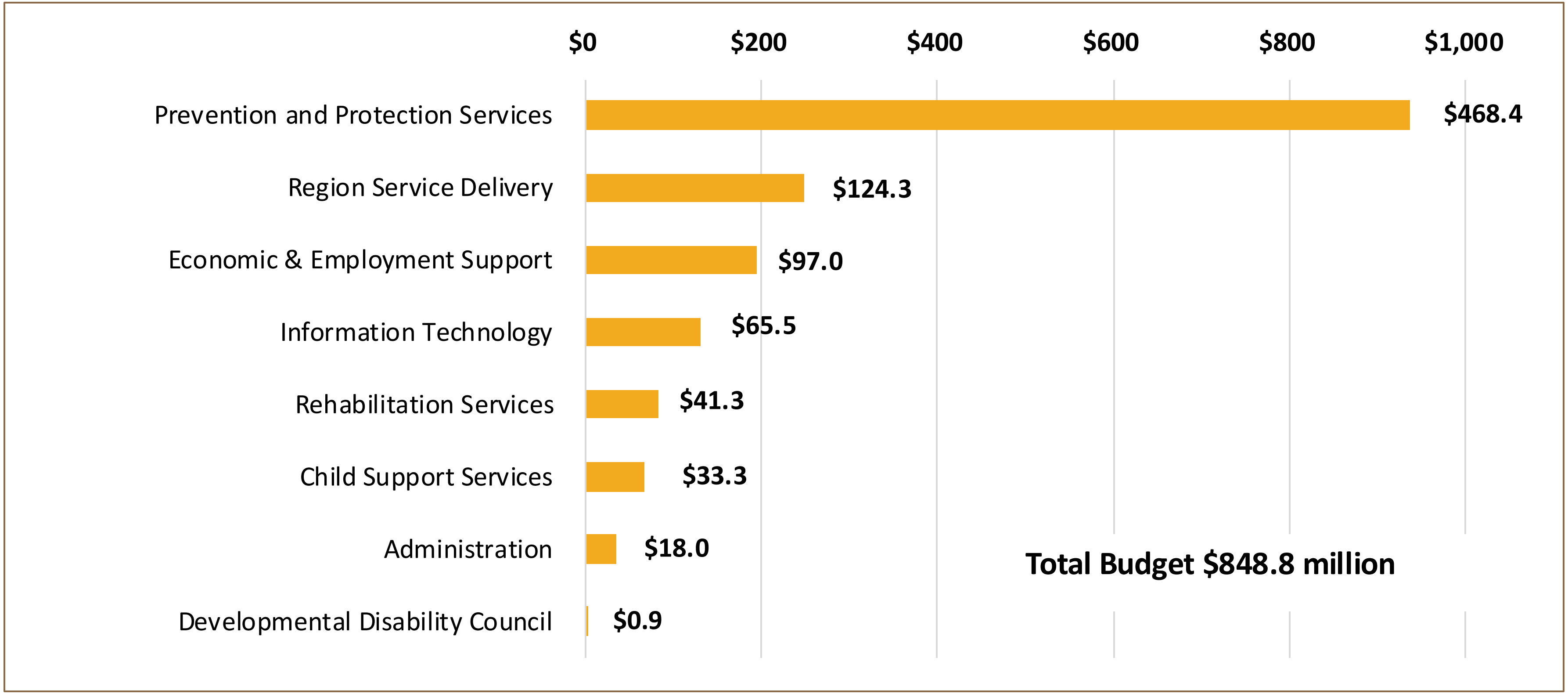
The enhancements approved by the legislature are below the GBR by $8.9 million all funds and $19.1 million SGF.

FY 2027 Approved Budget (MILLIONS)

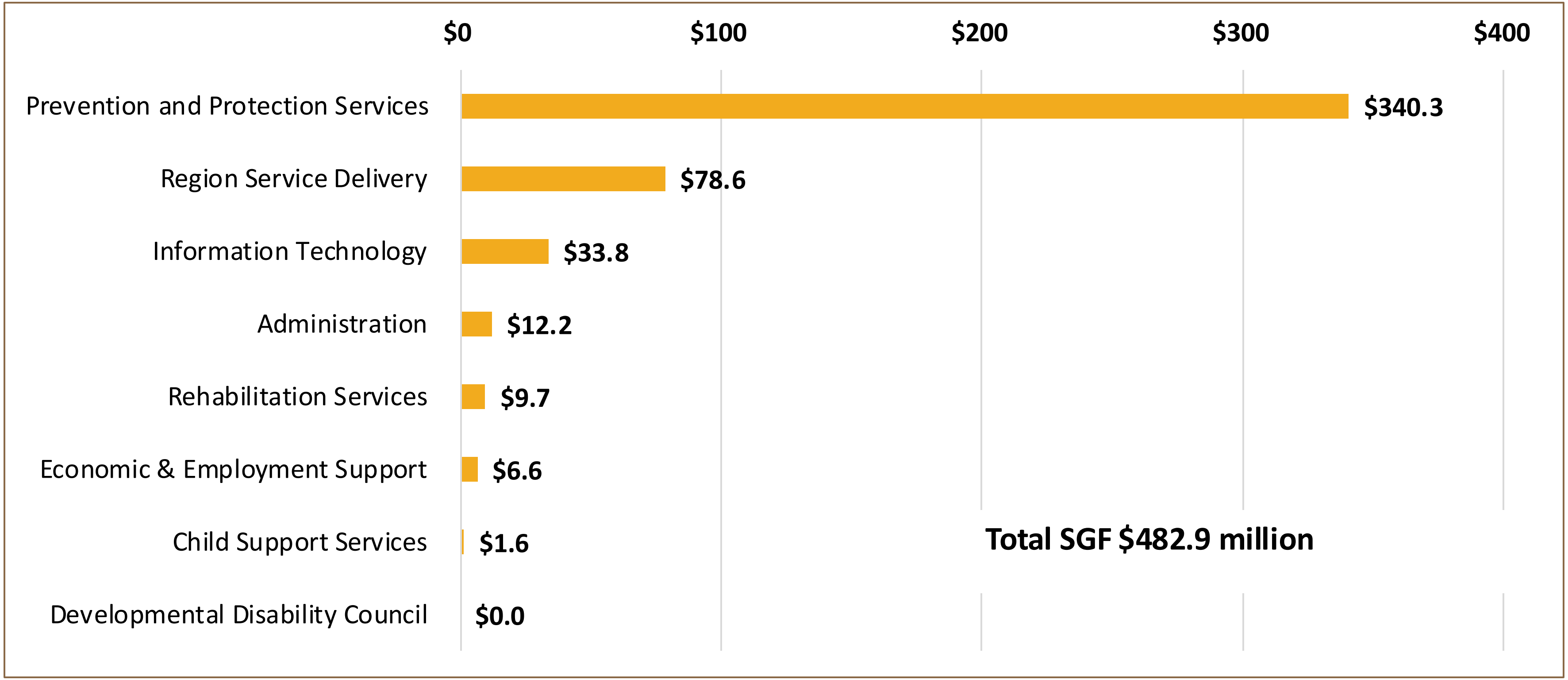
	FY 2027
Total Budget	$848.8
Funding Sources	
State General Fund	$482.9
Other State Funds	$10.6
Federal Funds	$355.2
Enterprise Funds	$0.1
Total Funding	**$848.8**



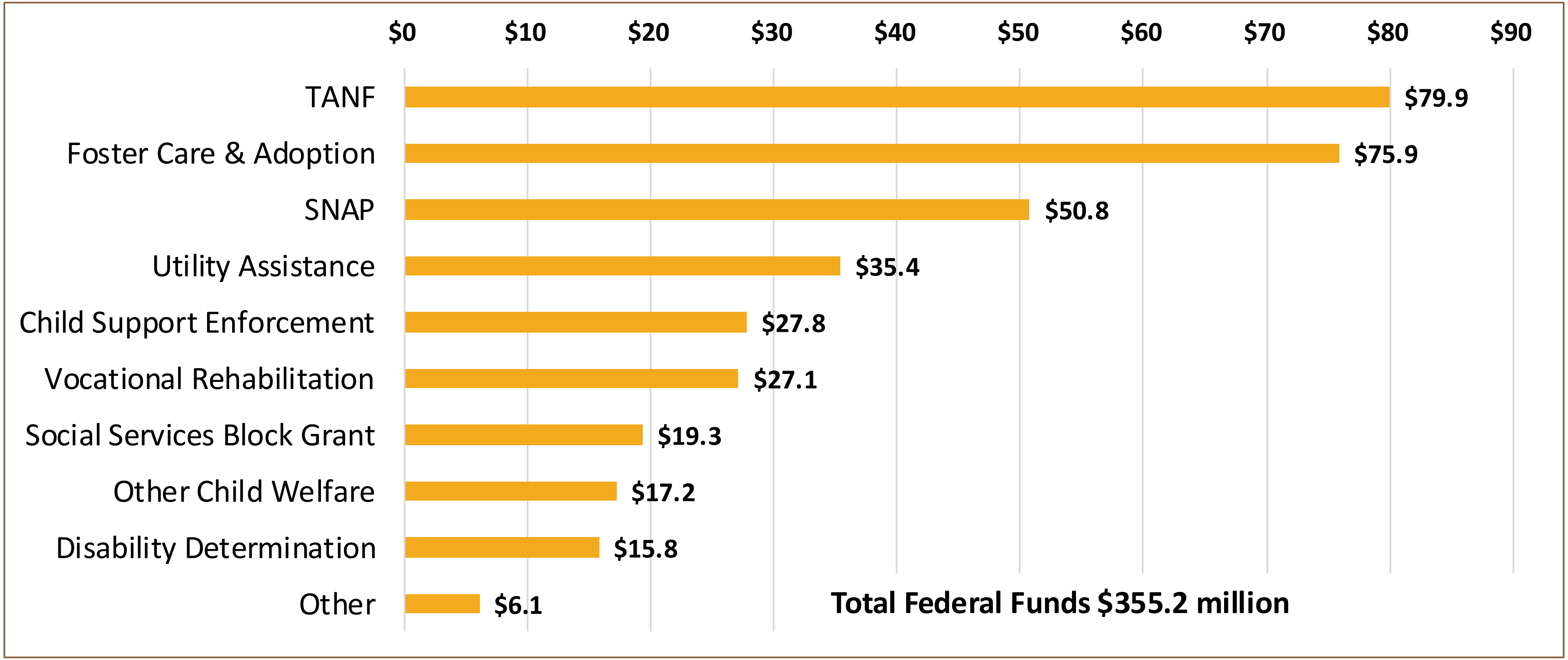
FY 2027 Approved Budget by Program (MILLIONS)



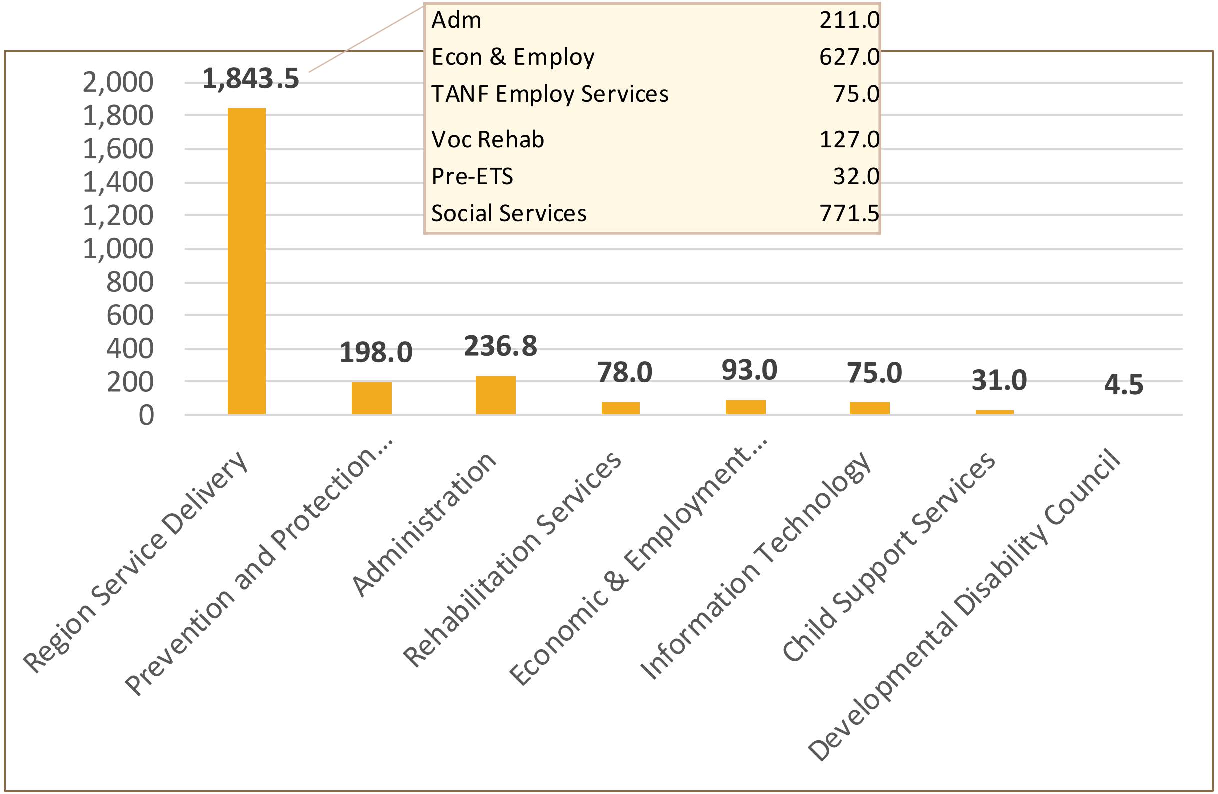
FY 2027 Approved SGF By Program (MILLIONS)



FY 2027 Approved Federal Funds (MILLIONS)



FY 2027 Approved Positions



As of April 10, there were 309.6 vacant positions representing **12.1%** of authorized positions. DCF cannot fill all positions due to a **shrinkage rate of 14.4%**.

Shrinkage is the portion of annual salary costs that is not budgeted. Shrinkage represents:

- Salary savings during the time a position is vacant, and
- The cost of salaries that the agency does not have adequate funds to budget, in which case the positions have to be left vacant.

How to Participate and Provide Input

SUGGESTIONS & COMMENTS

The Kansas Department for Children and Families is taking suggestions and comments as we move through the 2027/2028 budget creation process.

CONTACT US

If you have questions or ideas for budget efficiencies, program changes, or anything you want the agency to consider, please share with us.

DCF.Budget@ks.gov

Community Conversation Opportunity

Following the deep dive into the agency budget, what questions come to mind on the impact that may be felt in the work that you do in the Hutchinson community?

2026 STAKEHOLDER Meetings

Kansas Department for Children and Families

Program Updates

Deputy Secretary Tanya Keys

Kansas
Department for Children and Families

2026 STAKEHOLDER Meetings

Economic and Employment Services (EES)

In March 2026, the Kansas SNAP Food Restriction Waiver was Approved by Federal Partners.

- The waiver will restrict the purchase of pop or candy as defined by statute with SNAP benefits.
- The federally approved statewide implementation date is the 2/1/2027.
- The Kansas Legislature has tied $5M in SNAP admin funding to the implementation date of 12/31/2026.

Kansas Department for Children and Families

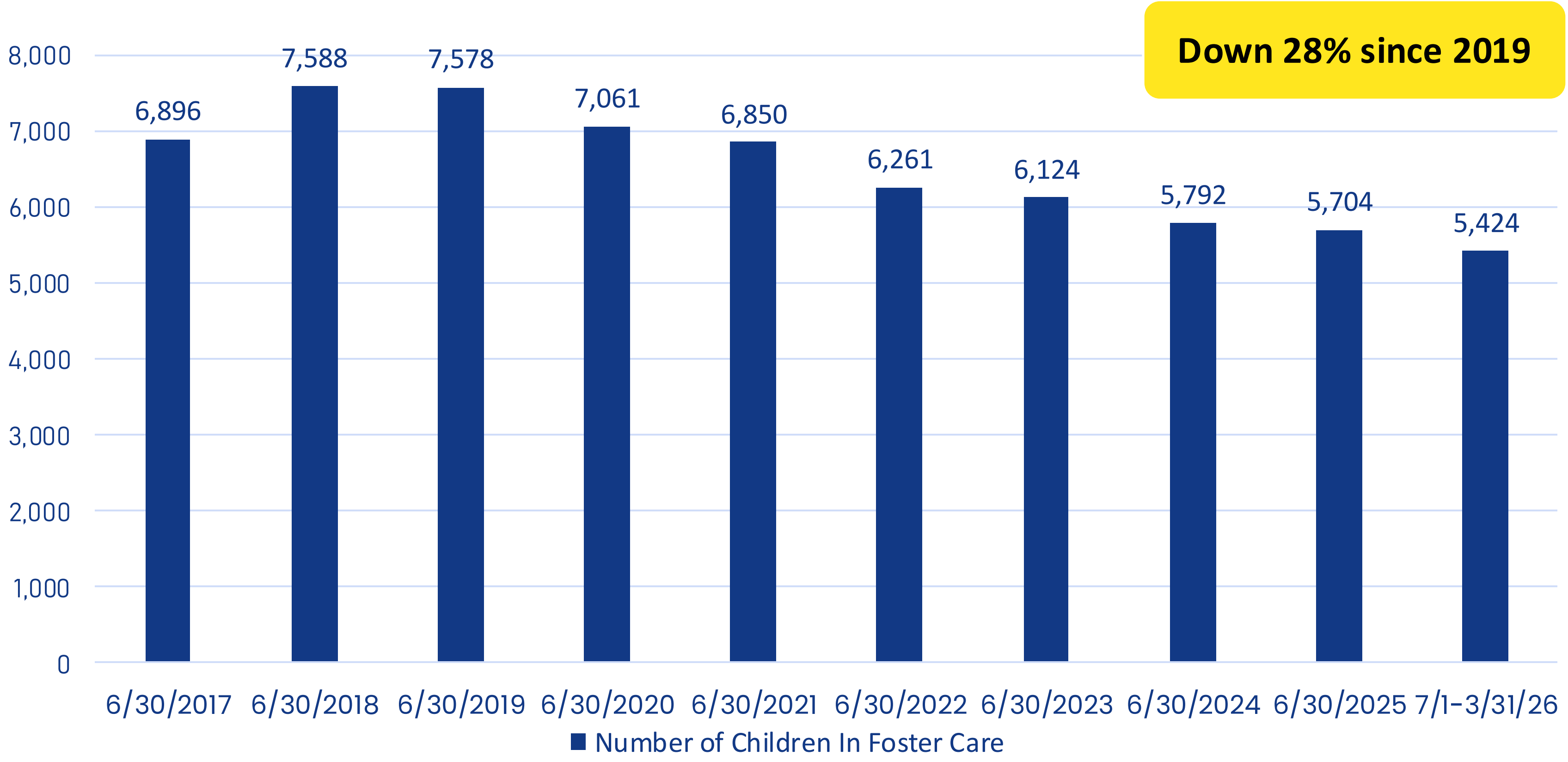
EES: Efforts to Reduce the Payment Error Rate

H.R.1 requires states to pay a portion of benefit costs based upon Payment Error Rates (PER) over 6% effective Oct. 1, 2027. *The federal fiscal year (FFY) runs October 1 through September 30.*

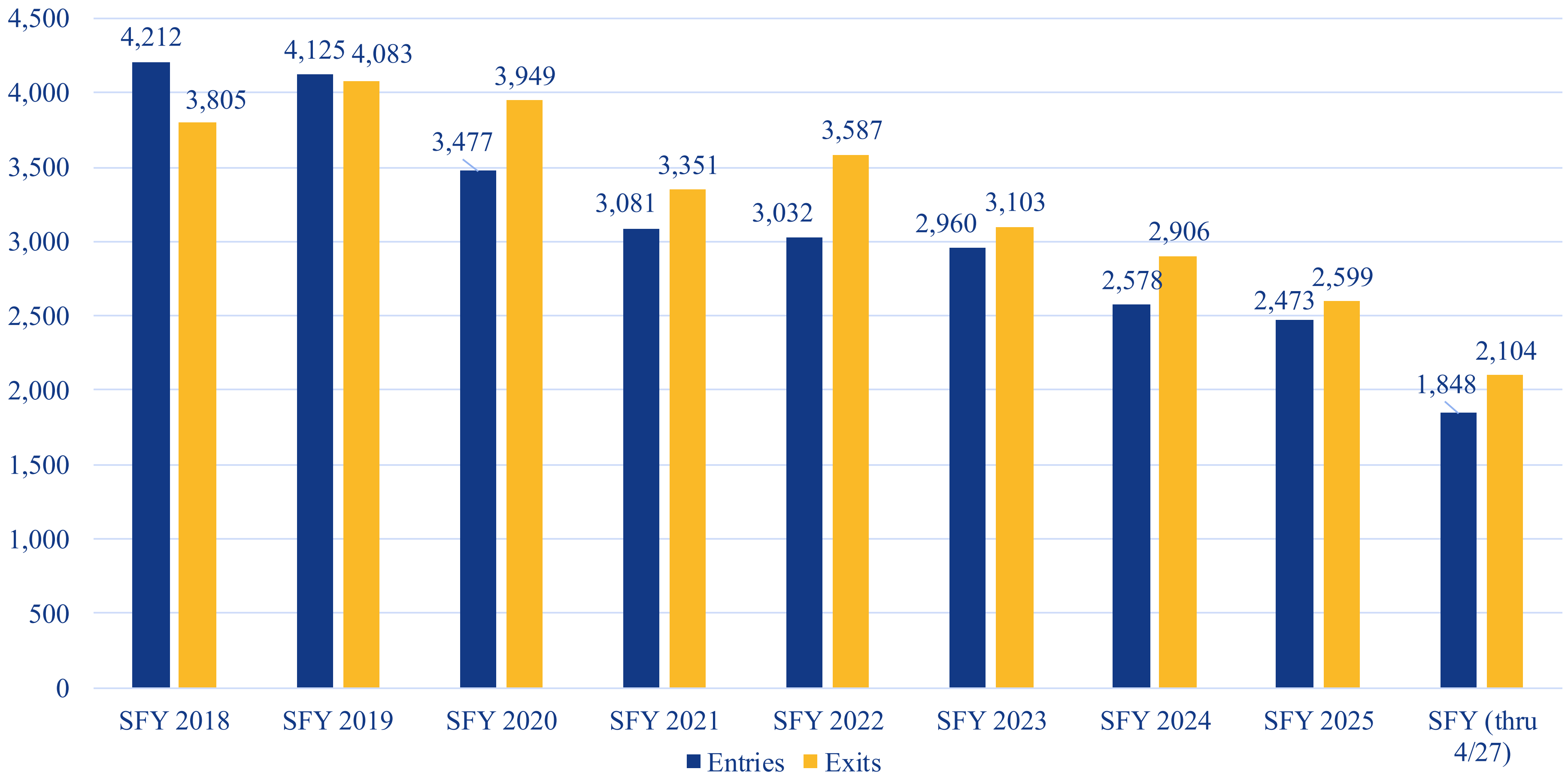
- **The agency is continuing to take aggressive steps to reduce the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Payment Error Rate (PER) under six percent – or zero percent – by October 2026**
- The Kansas PER for Federal Fiscal Year 2025 shows an error rate at 9.25% which equates to $41M in cost share of the previously federally paid benefits based on current projected spending. **Currently, the FFY 26 cumulative performance is 7.12% bringing us down a level to an expected cost of $20.6M in cost share.**

Kansas
Department for Children and Families

Number of Children in Foster Care



Children Entering & Existing Foster Care Across Years



Team Decision Making Success

Southwest Region

During calendar year 2025, the Southwest region facilitated 301 Team Decision Marking (TDM) meetings, impacting 546 children.

There has been a decrease in the number of children entering out-of-home placement in the Southwest region, and the TDM has played a significant role in contributing to this positive decline.

Outcomes reflect the commitment to involve parents in all decisions relating to their children as well as the strong teamwork and collaboration within DCF.

- **60% of cases** resulted in a recommendation for children to remain in their homes or be placed informally with kin.
- Of those who entered out-of-home placement, **79%** had kinship resources identified during the TDM meetings.

Holiday and Weekend Response
(2025 HB2075 Implementation)

On July 1, 2025, DCF began **initiating contact with families every day of the week, including holidays,** when there is a report from a law enforcement officer about a child who might be a victim of abuse or neglect.

DCF now responds **within 24 hours** by initiating contact with named individuals and responding back to the referring law enforcement agency.

From July 1, 2025 to Dec. 31, 2025, Kansas saw a **42.62% reduction** in use of Police Protective Custody.

- **16% of all PPCs** occurred on Saturdays and Sundays.
- **The Southwest Region** received the second most PPC's in the state. Wichita Regions experienced the most.

Kansas Department for Children and Families

SOUL Family Legal Permanency

SOUL Family Legal Permanency (FLP) allows young people **ages 16+ to achieve permanency** with a network of supportive adults while retaining eligibility for benefits to the greatest extent possible.

In SFY 25, **18 young people exited care to SOUL FLP** with an average of 38 months in care before finalization.

Between July 2025 and Jan. 2026, **28 youth exited care to SOUL FLP** with an **average length of time in care of 41 months.**

- Each DCF Region and CMP experienced at least one SOUL finalization.
- 25% of Kansas counties have experienced at least one SOUL FLP finalization (27 of 105)

Comprehensive Child Welfare Information System (CCWIS)

The CCWIS project modernizes **DCF's child welfare information systems** and develops interfaces between the various agencies serving DCF's Prevention and Protection Services (PPS) and Adult Protective Services (APS) programs.

Contracts were announced on July 22, 2025

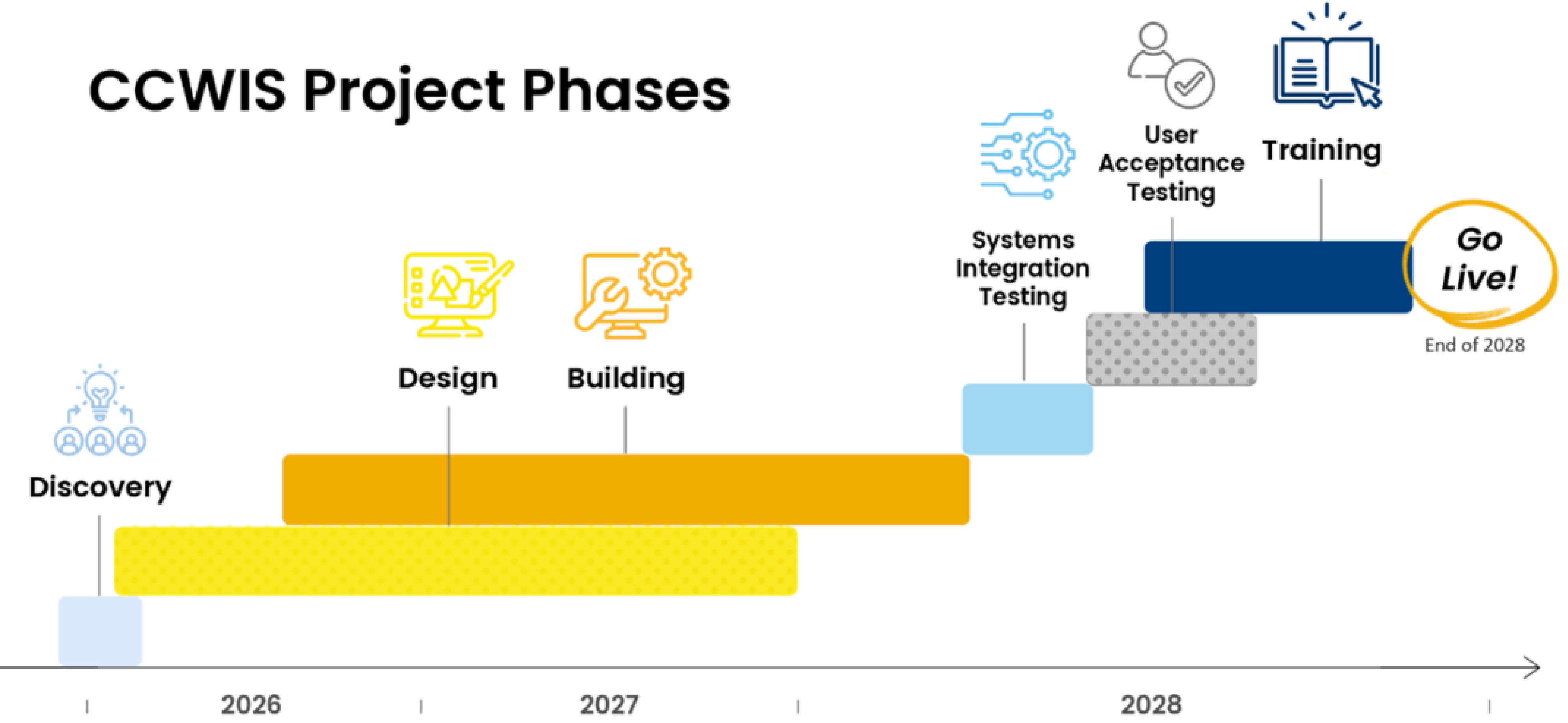
- DDI – RedMane Technology LLC
- IV&V Contract – Maximus US Services Inc
- Quality Assurance (QA) – CSG Government Solutions

CCWIS is a:

- **Single, comprehensive case management information system** to be used by DCF and all grantee partners
  - System compliant with **standards set by the Federal Government** for which Kansas receives **enhanced reimbursement**
  - System designed to support Prevention & Protection Services (PPS) staff needs to organize and record quality case information
  - Active Kansas Information Technology Office (KITO) project in ***good standing.***

Kansas Department for Children and Families

CCWIS Project Phases



Federal Child and Family Services Review (CFSR)

Kansas was halfway through an existing CFSR PIP, which was scheduled to conclude in February 2028; however, the implementation period ended April 2026, which means we needed to submit PIP request for changes (renegotiate) to our Region VII office before April, 2026. The Kansas CFSR Approved AH4EC Program Improvement Plan is posted on ACF's website.

A HOME FOR EVERY CHILD

Feb. 17, 2026

- DCF notifies ACF of intent to opt-in to Home for Every Child

March 11, 2026

- DCF submits a new Performance Improvement Plan (PIP)

March 26, 2026

- **ACF approves Kansas PIP**

May 1, 2026 to April 20, 2027

- is the effective date for the new PIP

CFSR Performance Improvement Plan (PIP) *continued*

KS Goals: Advancing *A Home For Every Child (AH4EC)*

Reduce the number of children in foster care

- Prevent unnecessary entries into foster care
- Support timely, safe exits from foster care

Strengthen family type placement availability

- Seeing, finding, & supporting relative and kin caregiver homes
- Recruiting and retaining family foster caring homes

CFSR Performance Improvement Plan (PIP) *continued*

DCF 5 Strategies: *A Home For Every Child*

Strengthening Decision Making	Strengthening decision making across the System by Utilizing Shared Definitions of Safety, Danger and Risk to Support Prevention, Placement and Permanency Decisions
Kinship Engagement	Increasing Early Identification and Engagement of Kin and Relational Supports to Support Prevention, Placement Stability, and Permanency
Improving Stability	Strengthening Stability Through Support in Foster Care Placements
Increasing Recruitment	Diligent Recruitment and Foster Home Retention
Enhancing Review Process	Enhancing Live Monitoring and Monthly Ratio Review Discipline

CFSR Performance Improvement Plan (PIP) *continued*

5 STRATEGIES with their Lead Measures

1. Strengthening Decision Making Across the System by Utilizing Shared Definitions of Safety, Danger and Risk to Support Prevention, Placement and Permanency Decisions

1. Monthly entries into foster care
2. Timely reunification, guardianship and adoption rates (per federal benchmarks)
3. Percentage of families who had a child entering care who had documented engaged prevention services or efforts prior to removal

2. Increasing Early Identification and Engagement of Kin and Relational Supports to Support Prevention, Placement Stability, and Permanency

1. % of TDMs where at least one natural support person was engaged
2. % of children placed with relatives/kin initially and overall

3. Strengthening Stability Through Support in Foster Care Placements

1. Placement Stability rate (per 1,000 days in care)
2. Placement Interval Disruption Rates
3. Percentage of children experiencing extreme placement instability (6+ placements per 1,000 days in care)

CFSR Performance Improvement Plan (PIP) *continued*

5 STRATEGIES with their Lead Measures *continued*

4. Diligent Recruitment and Foster Home Retention

1. Home-to-Child Ratio, with number of homes and number of beds
2. 12-month retention of licensed foster homes,

5. Enhancing Live Monitoring and Monthly Ratio Review Discipline

1. Monthly statewide and regional home-to-child ratio
2. Trend analysis across lead measures
3. Documented action steps from monthly review meetings

A Home for Every Child

Commitment to families

Regions re-dedicating efforts to **support families** whose sons and daughters are at risk for removal into foster care

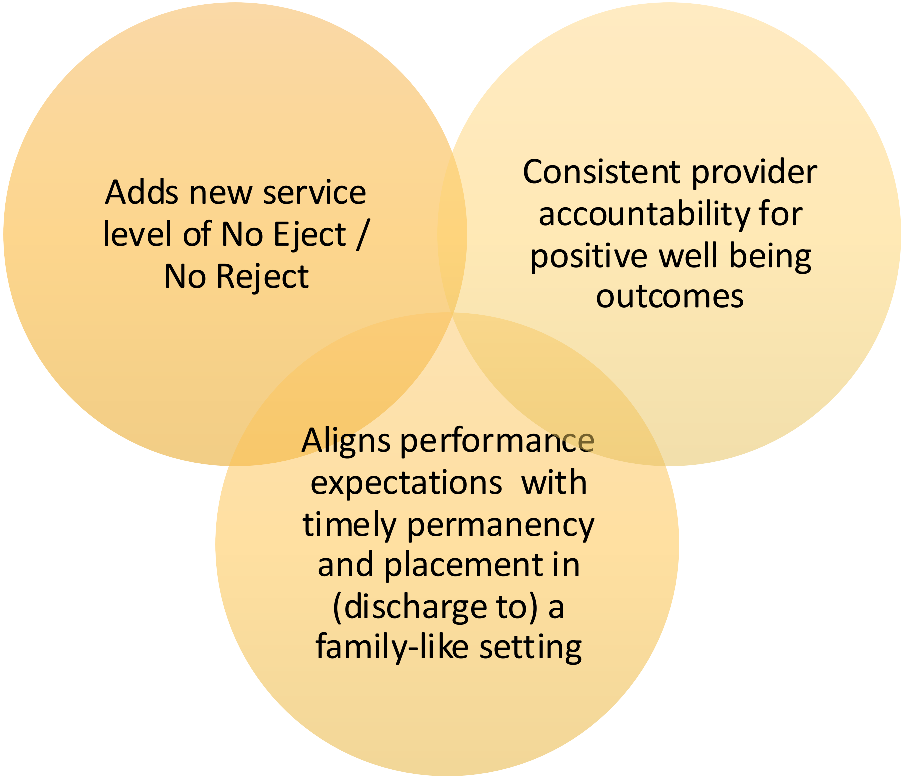
Local Focus	Presenting Situation Focus for prevention	3 Lead Measures
AT County	Family In Need of Assessment	• Monthly entries into foster care. • % of families with a child entering care who had documented engaged prevention services or efforts prior to removal. • Monthly regional home-to-child ratio.
RN County	Abuse/Neglect and child is aged 16-17 years or 1-3 years.	
Southeast Region	Indication that the caregiver may be overwhelmed, including Lack of Supervision, Physical Neglect, caregiver unable to care.	
Northeast Region	indicate the caregiver may be overwhelmed, including Lack of Supervision, Physical Neglect, Caregiver unable to care.	
Northwest	CD, EL, GE, RL counites for various presenting situations on those counties.	
SG County	Abandonment & Child Behavior Problem for youth aged 13-18 years	

Congregate Care Services RFP

A Request For Proposal (RFP) was posted on March 5, 2026, and closed April 30, 2026, to provide one or more of the following Foster Care Residential Placement Services.

The change from provider agreement to contract relationship has positive impact.

DCF is currently reviewing proposals.



Family First Community Pathway Implementation

Beginning **May 4**, PPS is offering a **Community pathway to access four state-only funded Family First services**, allowing families to directly access them **without child welfare involvement**. This initiative shifts services toward **early, primary prevention-focused support**, reducing barriers and stigma while keeping children safe and families together **when abuse or neglect are not a concern.**

- Community pathway service requests are capped at a set proportion of each provider's caseload.

Currently the only mechanism for families to access Family First services is through an open DCF child welfare case.

- Community pathway empowers families to make their own choices based on what they need and not what an agency decides to offer by moving service availability upstream.
- The aim is for parents to access needed services before a crisis that could result in the need for child welfare involvement.

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Family First Community Pathway Implementation, *continued*

Foster Adopt Connect – Parent Support & Prevention Program

- Focus: Parent-skill building, safety, stability, well-being.
- Serving caregivers with children ages 0–17.
- Community referral cap: **15%** Kansas City Region & **15%** Southeast Region

Kansas Legal Services – Kids2Kin

- Focus: Removing legal barriers to permanency.
- Serving kinship families with children ages 0–17
- Community referral cap: **no limit at this time** Statewide

KCSL – Parent-Child Assistance Program (P-CAP)

- Focus: Substance use recovery support, linkage to community resources.
- Serving caregivers with children ages 0–3.
- Community referral cap: **40%,** Shawnee Co. Only

St. Francis – Seeking Safety

- Focus: Trauma/SUD symptom reduction, safe coping skills.
- Serving caregivers and children ages 0–17.
- Community referral cap: **30%** Northwest Region, **20%** Wichita Region, **20%** Southwest

Community Conversation Opportunity

What else should we discuss to encourage continued progress together?

2026 STAKEHOLDER Meetings

Kansas Department for Children and Families

Questions?

Today's presentation will be available online.

SCAN

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Thank You For Joining Us

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2026
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Meetings