WELCOME STAKEHOLDERS





AGENDA

Welcome

Mike Deines **Director of Public & Government Affairs**

2:00 – 2:30 Where We've Been	
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- 2:30 3:00The Road Ahead
- 3:00 3:30 DCF Budget Update

2022 Legislative Session Update

3:30 - 4:00

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Q&A



DCF Secretary Laura Howard

Deputy Secretary Tanya Keys

Deputy Secretary Dan Lewien

Andrea Warnke **Government Relations Manager**

Mike Deines



WHERE WE'VE BEEN

DCF Secretary Laura Howard





MAJOR PROGRAM AREAS

- Economic and Employment Services
- Prevention and Protection Services
- Rehabilitation Services
- Child Support Services

STRENGTHENING PREVENTION

Family Crisis Response

Expand Parent Legal Representation

Family First Prevention Services

Family Preservation since 1997

TANF Youth and Families Grants







FAMILY FIRST PREVENTION ACT FAMILY FIRST PREVENTION SERVICES ACT (FFPSA)



Created reimbursement pathway for federal funds to provide services to keep children safely with their families.



When foster care is needed, allows federal reimbursement for care in family-based settings and certain residential treatment programs.



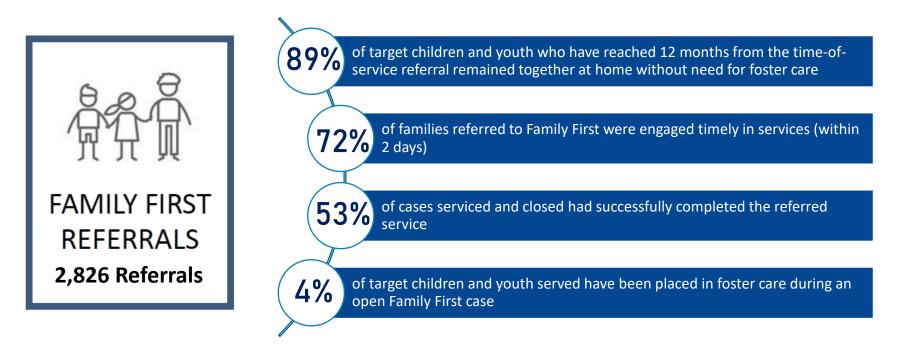


SUCCESS STORIES FAMILY FIRST PREVENTION SERVICES ACT

- Significant impact on reducing the need to bring children into the custody of the Secretary.
- The program provides grants to agencies providing services in:
 - Mental Health
 - Parent Skill Building
 - Kinship Navigation
 - Substance Use Disorders
- A chief measure of the program's success is the percent of children remaining at home after 12 months of referral. Initial data shows that overall, 89% of children and youth who have reached 12 months from the time of referral have remained at home.
 - The program goal is 90%.

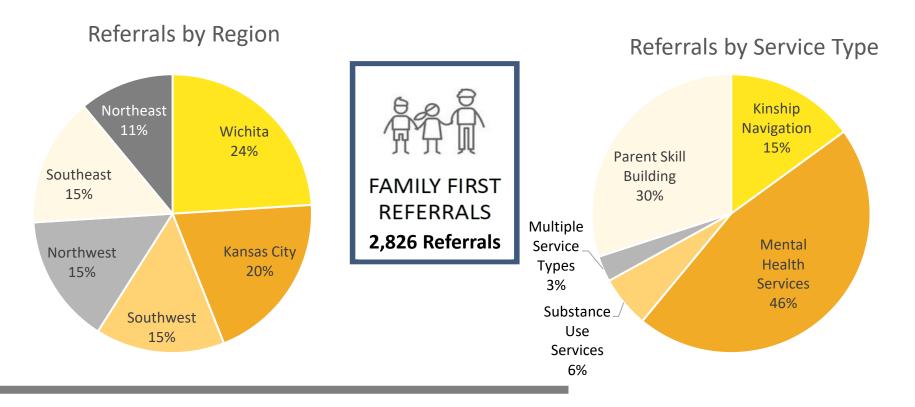
FAMILY FIRST PREVENTION SERVICES

OUTCOMES: OCTOBER 2019 - MAY 2022



FAMILY FIRST PREVENTION SERVICES

ACTIVITY: OCTOBER 2019 - MAY 2022



SUCCESS STORIES KANSAS PRACTICE MODEL

- Provides a consistent and customized framework to support engagement, safety planning, and decision making to guide our work alongside families, children, and youth.
- Foundation of the Kansas Practice Model:
 - Team Decision Making
 - Family Finding
 - Signs of Safety
 - Structured Decision Making
 - Solution Focused Questions
 - Resolutions Approach.

- As a result of this work, we are seeing a dramatic drop in the need for foster care:
 - The state currently has less than 6,500 youth and children in care, down from 7,600 at the beginning of the Kelly administration.
 - In FY 2020, there were 15 percent fewer children entering foster care than in FY 2019.
 - In FY 2021, there were 11 percent fewer than in FY 2020





SUCCESS STORIES THRIVING FAMILIES

Partnered with the National Governor's Association and Casey Family Programs

Child and family well-being national cohort

Community Supporting Family model

Emporia Pilot Program

SUCCESS STORIES TANF

Purpose:

- Provide assistance to needy families so that children can be cared for in their own homes or in the homes of relatives
- End the dependence of needy parents on government benefits by promoting job preparation, work, and marriage
- Prevent and reduce the incidence of out-of-wedlock pregnancies
- Encourage the formation and maintenance of two-parent families.

Grantees:

- In School and/or After School Youth Programs
- Youth and Family Stabilization
- Home Visitation
- Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault
- Substance Use Disorders





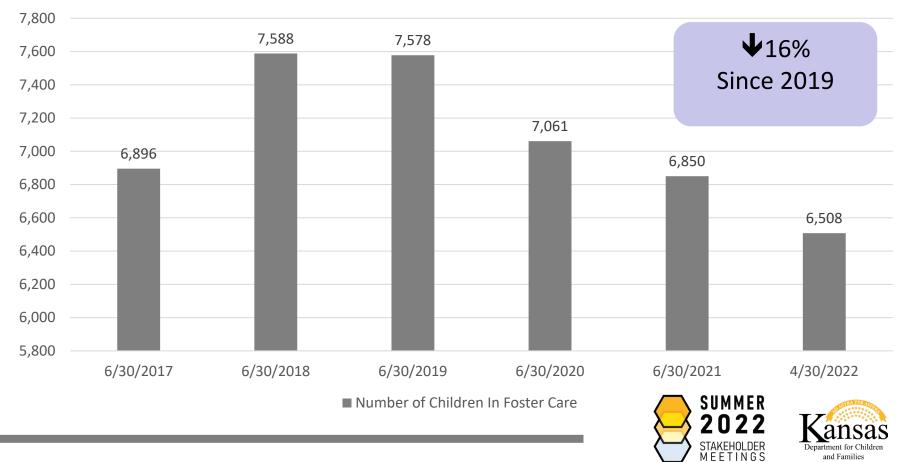
SUCCESS STORIES THRIVING FAMILIES – EMPORIA PILOT

Communities Supporting Families

Through a pilot to better support families in USD 253, Lyon County has been working with Kansas Department for Children and Families on primary prevention services. School staff are in a unique position to promote primary prevention services because they engage almost daily with children and families. When there is not a safety concern, certain services can be accessed without DCF involvement, lending to families feeling supported by their community.

USD 253 Emporia Public Schools "Communities Supporting Families" pilot project began in Feb. 2022 and as of May 31 there have been 149 families served.

NUMBER OF CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE



Department for Children and Families

Children Entering & Exiting Foster Care Across Years



STAKEHOLDER M E E T I N G S

Department for Children and Families

SUCCESS STORIES CHILD CARE

- Child Care Assistance Changes:
 - Increased the income limit from 185 to 250 percent of the federal poverty level.
 - Waived the family share deduction for families with incomes below 100 percent of the federal poverty level. It was previously 70 percent of the federal poverty level.
 - The Maximum rates paid to providers were increased from the 65th percentile of market rates to the 85th percentile to increase the access and availability of quality child care.
- Millions of dollars have been sent to Kansas childcare providers through sustainability grants:
 - More than \$90 million was sent to providers to support their operations and keep them in business during the pandemic.
 - New initiatives are being developed, including start-up funds for starting a child care business and additional workforce supports.



SUCCESS STORIES CHILD SUPPORT VENDORS

- As of October 1, 2021, the privatized child support system in Kansas moved away from a separate customer service center to integrating customer service responsibilities within the two full performance contractors:
 - Maximus Human Services Inc.
 - Young Williams.
- The change simplified service delivery for families across the state and expedites customer service.
- Clients using the call center are routed to a full-service contractor responsible for the services in their county/judicial district.
- All payments and state disbursement will continue to be processed by the Kansas Payment Center.
- Additional Outcome measures were added to the new contracts.



SUCCESS STORIES EMERGENCY WATER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

- The Emergency Water Assistance Program (EWAP) is a federally funded program that is being administered for Kansas residents by the Kansas Department for Children and Families starting in December of 2021.
- The program's sole focus is to restore or prevent disconnection of water to Kansas households. Kansas was awarded \$9 million to pay past due and/or disconnected drinking water and/or wastewater bills for Kansas households earning less than 150% of the Federal Poverty Level.
- DCF partnered with public water utility vendors to pay directly on behalf of qualifying households totaling \$678,910.94 thus far.



SUCCESS STORIES FAMILY CRISIS RESPONSE AND SUPPORT

- October 2021, DCF received a \$3.0 million enhancement in FY 2022 to enhance family crisis support services for children and adults ages 0-20.
- The services target families and caregivers whose children are experiencing an emotional crisis.
- DCF's goal is to deescalate a crisis before more restrictive interventions are necessary.
- Supports provided 24 hours per day, seven days per week include:
 - A centralized behavioral health crisis helpline
 - Screening assessment and mobile response stabilization services
 - Coordination and access to community-based services as needed

Kansas Department for Children and Families Family Mobile Crisis Helpline

Services are available for all Kansans 20 years old or younger, including anyone in foster care or formerly in foster care.



• KDADS plans to expand crisis intervention and mobile response to all adults through 988 and Certified Community Behavior Health Clinic Expansion.

SUCCESS STORIES DCF WORK PROGRAMS

- **TANF Employment Services.** TANF cash assistance adults who are required to engage in work programs must participate 20-30 hours per week in order to continue receiving assistance.
- Generating Opportunities to Attain Lifelong Success (GOALS). Goals is a voluntary program for adults in families who are receiving food assistance but not TANF cash assistance. The program piloted in 2016 2018 and was implemented statewide in 2019.
- Food Assistance Employment & Training (SNAP E&T). SNAP E&T is a voluntary program for adults receiving SNAP and who do not have dependents. The program operates statewide.
- Vocational Rehabilitation (VR). Available to individuals with a physical or mental impairment that results in a substantial
 impediment to employment and who require and can benefit from VR services to achieve employment. The program assists clients
 in finding competitive integrated employment and achieving self-sufficiency.
- Pre-Employment Transition Services (Pre-ETS). Empowers youth with disabilities to achieve their highest employment potential through job exploration, counseling on postsecondary education options, self advocacy training, and work-related learning experience.





SOUTHEAST REGIONAL SUCCESS FAMILY FINDING

Independence was one of the first offices in the state to commit a position to Family Finding. This person has done an outstanding job locating families for children who are currently involved in the child welfare system or those lingering with no known family.

This staff member presented at the Kansas Practice Showcase and received praise on her emotional stories about the impact of her work in the Family Finding position.

"I received a voicemail from a gentleman that had just finished speaking with a DCF employee on Family Finding. He wanted me to know that she was doing a fantastic job, she is Crushing it! He told me he is a big believer in keeping families together or finding relatives where the love is already there... I asked him if there was anything he felt we could do a little differently to improve on things? He had nothing other than to keep doing the great work we're doing." – Family Support Supervisor.

THE ROAD AHEAD

Deputy Secretary Tanya Keys





STATUS UPDATE COMPREHENSIVE CHILD WELFARE INFORMATION SYSTEM

- The new Comprehensive Child Welfare Information System (CCWIS) will modernize state child welfare systems and develop interfaces between the various agencies serving the Child Welfare and Adult Protectives Services programs.
- Currently, there are five legacy systems of varying ages and capabilities supporting child welfare programs. Major components of the existing systems use aging mainframe technology, unsupported operating systems, and obsolete programming languages. This makes the present systems difficult and costly to maintain, modify, or improve.
- Funding was added by the Legislature for FY 2021 to FY 2023 for the planning and design phase with the understanding that an estimated \$100 million would be needed for the development phase lasting 3 to 4 years. Requests For Proposals for Implementation, Quality Assurance and Independent Verification should post late summer or early Fall 2022.





STATUS UPDATE DCF WORKFORCE RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION

The Agency continues to emphasize job recruitment and retention.

This includes:

- Protection Specialist Salary Increase (\$3,680,154 enhancement)
- Meritorious awards for child investigation staff (approximately \$268,000)
- 80 internships for protective services work hourly pay increases from \$8/ hour to \$14/ hour summer'22.
 - Fall 2022 there will be about 38 students. (\$260,784 for wages and payroll costs)
- Advertising and online tools (\$148,000)
- Paying for license fee renewals for social workers and attorneys (\$50,000)
- Having job fairs (\$2,000)
- Job training for retention (\$15,500)

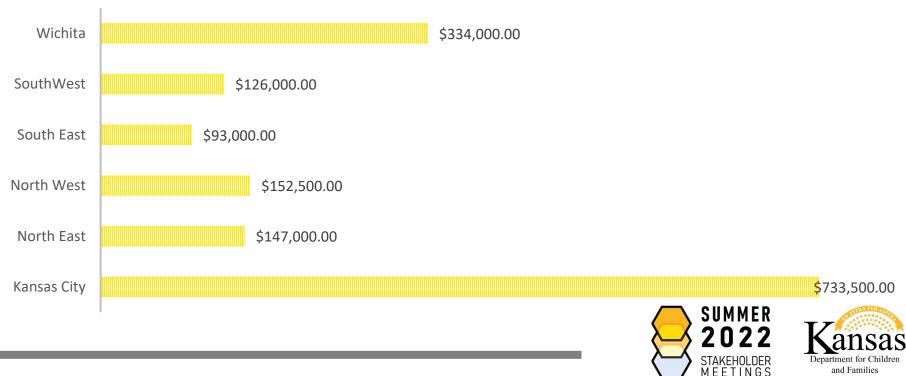


UPCOMING \$7.5MILLION FOR CPA'S AND DCF FACILITIES

- Workforce recruitment and retention incentives for Child Placing Agencies and licensed facilities including Qualified Residential Treatment Programs.
- This funds workforce recruitment and retention efforts for Child Placing Agencies and licensed residential facilities including Qualified Residential Treatment Programs.
- Approximately 25% of the funding will be used to provide every direct care staff and supervisor a \$2,000 payment in July
- The remaining 75% will be distributed to all providers as flexible funds to use for training, advertising, or any other recruitment and retention activities.
- The funds will be advanced quarterly starting in July.



STATUS UPDATE CHILD CARE SUSTAINABILITY GRANT BY REGION



STATUS UPDATE CHILD CARE RELIEF SPENDING INITIATIVES

Family Support:

 Increasing access to licensed, subsidized, and quality childcare with a focus on supporting families in need.

Direct Provider Supports:

 Assisting childcare providers in achieving or recovering financial and operational viability.

Start-Up Supports:

• Increasing the workforce and capacity in childcare

Quality Improvement Supports:

• Promoting and Recognizing quality childcare.

Workforce Supports:

 Recruiting, professional development (education, training, and technical assistance), and retaining a stable workforce

General Systems Improvement and Support:

 Improving flexibility of existing DCF and KS ECE system infrastructure to meet evolving childcare needs





STATUS UPDATE FAMILIES FIRST EXPANSION

When Family First was implemented, the starting budget for the RFP was \$13.9 million from all funding sources, \$6.5 million dollars from State General Funds ending on 6/30/2023

The next round of Family First grantees selected through the RFP, the budget was increased to \$20 million from all funding sources, \$12 million from the SGF; starting on 7/1/2023



FAMILES FIRST RFP TIMELINE



STATUS UPDATE FY 2022 INCREASE – KANDRIVE PILOT PROGRAM

- The 2021 Legislature provided \$250,000 All funds FY 2022 to pay for driver's education and related vehicle costs on behalf of youth in out-of-home care.
- Specifically, the funding was designated for driver's education, examination fees, driver's license fees, vehicle insurance and other costs incidental to obtaining a license.
- The \$250,000 increase was motivated by testimony by former foster care youth who recounted their difficulties in lacking a drivers license.
- In the first month of the East Region pilot program, 60% of the annual slots were used, indicating the overwhelming need for this program.
- Acceptance into the program was subsequently restricted to 8 youth per month.
- Because demand is so high, DCF added \$250,000 in one-time funds to the pilot program for this year.





STATUS UPDATE PERFORMANCE-BASED CONTRACTS

- We plan to collaborate with stakeholders through community meetings this summer and jointly develop a plan to implement performance-based contracts to provide "an array of evidencebased and prevention and early intervention services" for families who are at risk for "out of home placement or have a child in out-of-home placement and for children who are awaiting adoption" much like previous work group collaborations.
- This implementation plan would include information on services delivered, outcome measures, the referral process for families, and a description of how the contracts will share responsibility for child protection between the contractor and DCF.



STATUS UPDATE SOUL Support • Opportunity • Unity • Legal relationships.

Kansas is the first demonstration site of the SOUL in the country.

Partnership with Annie E Casey Foundation to help advance an idea from foster care alum a proposed permanency option that would allow older youth to establish, supportive circle of caring adults without severing legal ties with birth parents and siblings.

The proposed concept is that the young Kansan, age 16 and older, will chose one or more primary caregivers and additional caring adults to be their SOUL Family. The primary caregiver and other adults with supportive roles would commit to forming a legally recognized, lifelong relationship with the young person.

Forming a SOUL Family would not sever the young person's biological family ties. It creates a circle of caring adults who provide lifelong support, opportunity, unity and legal relationships for young people.

The planning and implementation team includes youth and young adult leaders with lived experiences, the Foundation, KVC Health Systems, TFI Family Services, Inc., St. Frances Ministries, Cornerstones of Care and DCF.





STATUS UPDATE THERAPEUTIC FOSTER CARE

Therapeutic Family Foster Homes will go-live on July 1, 2022. This new level of care has been created to enhance the continuum of care for children and youth with high acuity physical and mental health needs in out-of-home placement with the goal to meet their safety and well-being needs in a family setting within their community. The TFFH level of care was developed for Children who will benefit from this level of care which will include children and youth who are at risk for needing placement in congregate care or treatment PRTF.

Program Success Indicators:

- 80% of children leave TFH to a family-based placement within 9 months of beginning program placement start date.
- 90% of children will not experience a move to DCF group care within 180 days after TFH placement ends.

STATUS UPDATE FAMILY RESOURCE CENTERS

KANSAS CHILDRENS SERVICE LEAUGE DCF has a grant with KCSL to help communities assess their need for a FRC and help them become part of certified network.

Common FRC services:

- Parenting Support, Skill building and Leadership Development
- Access to Resources
 - Home visiting
 - Health screenings
 - Food markets and concrete resources
 - Job skills training
 - Child care resource and referral
- Child Development Activities and playgroups

STATUS UPDATE CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICE REVIEW APRIL 2023

- Federal Review by ACF every 4-5 years for all states for in home and out of home families receiving services
- Reviews outcomes , indicators and systemic factors
- DCF proposed 4 counties to ACF for site selection
 - Wichita (largest metropolitan area and confirmed as site)
 - Two (2) additional sites will be selected from the following:
 - Brown County
 - Crawford County ; or
 - Ford County
- Next Steps are to complete the self assessment and prepare site schedules with logistics for the on-site reviews.



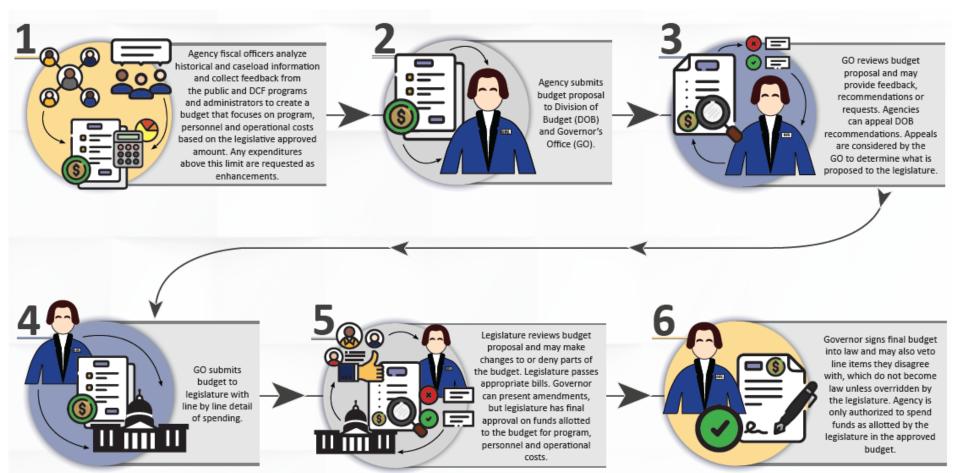
DCF BUDGET UPDATE

Deputy Secretary Dan Lewien



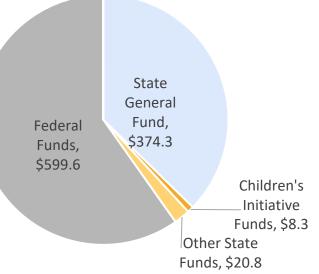


DCF BUDGET CYCLE

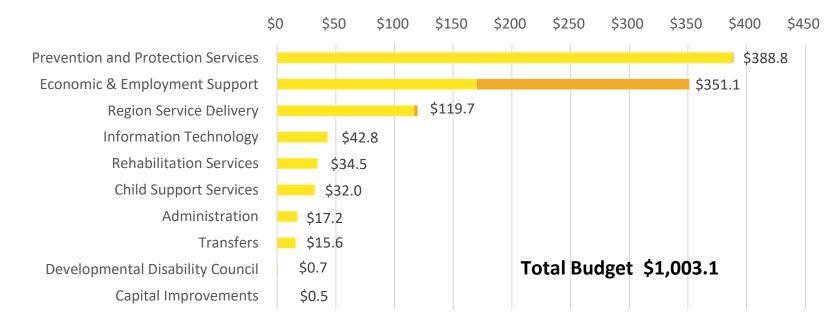


FY 2023 APPROVED BUDGET (MILLIONS)

	FY 2023	
Total Budget	\$1,003.1	
Positions	2,658.9	
Funding Sources		
State General Fund	\$374.3	Fe
Children's Initiative Funds	\$8.3	Fu
Other State Funds	\$20.8	\$!
Federal Funds	\$599.6	
Enterprise Funds	\$0.1	
Total Funding	\$1,003.1	
Federal Pandemic Funds	184.7	



FY 2023 APPROVED BUDGET BY PROGRAM (MILLIONS)



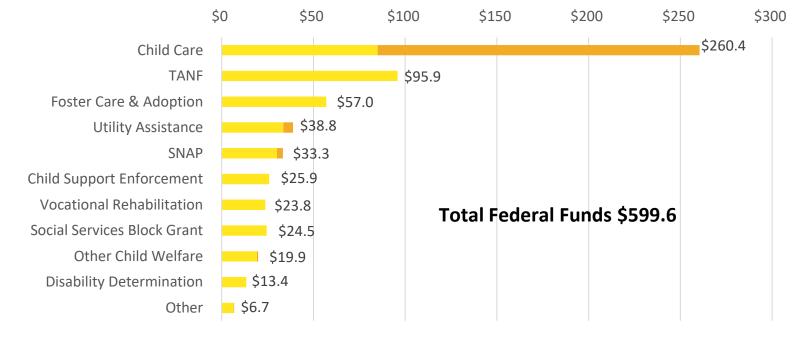
Regular Expend

Federal Pandemic-Funds

FY 2023 APPROVED SGF BY PROGRAM (MILLIONS)



FY 2023 APPROVED FEDERAL FUNDS (MILLIONS)



Regular Federal Funds

Pandemic Funds

FEDERAL PANDEMIC FUNDING

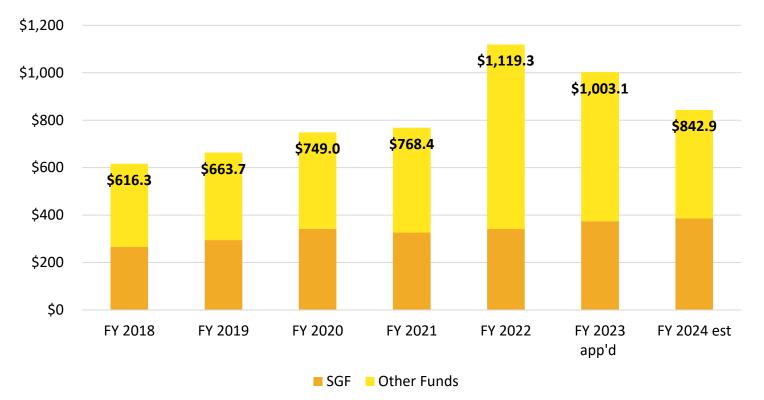
Approximately \$571 million has been received in federal pandemic awards from four appropriations acts:

- American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA)
- Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act of 2020 (CARES)
- Families First Coronavirus Response Act of 2020 (FFCRA)
- Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2021 (CRRSA)

The one-time federal pandemic funds boosted the DCF budget by \$330.8m in FY 22 and \$184.7m in FY 23.

		FY2020	FY2021	FY2022	FY2023
Federal Pandemic Awards	Awards	Actual	Actual	Est	Est
TANF Pandemic Emergency Assistance	\$5,142,203	\$0	\$0	\$5,142,203	\$0
Low Income Energy Assistance	48,163,615	-	4,761,942	43,401,673	-
Low Income Water Assistance Program	9,350,016	-	-	4,108,091	5,241,925
Child Care Development Block Grant	253,678,204	10,714,804	14,970,520	159,396,284	68,506,571
Child Care Crisis Stabilization Grants	213,897,405	-	-	106,948,703	106,948,702
Emergency Food Assistance Program	1,007,252	-	788,634	251,732	-
Commodity Distribution Administrative	19,904	-	-	19,904	-
SNAP Administration	7,514,937	-	1,644,193	2,700,097	3,170,593
Child Welfare Services	443,475	-	381,184	62,291	-
Promoting Safe and Stable Families	411,268	-	-	181,000	-
Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment	949,725	-	-	300,000	300,000
Chaffee Independent Living	6,475,743	-	14,163	6,044,493	295,491
Education Training Vouchers	941,241	-	5,426	701,018	188,209
Adult Protective Services	1,576,936	-	55,948	1,417,499	-
Randolph-Sheppard Financial Relief	113,314	-	-	113,314	-
Developmental Disabilities Council - PHSA	33,736	-	-	33,736	-
Coronavirus Relief Fund (Rent Assistance)	21,280,182	230,559	20,049,623	1,000,000	-
Total	\$570,999,156	\$10,945,363	\$22,622,010	\$330,822,038	\$184,651,491

DCF BUDGET FY 2018 - FY 2024



FY 2023 ADDITIONS TO THE BASE BUDGET

	All Funds	SGF
Base Budget	\$971.4 million	\$355.5 million
Governor's Enhancements	\$24.3m	\$14.1M
Additional Legislative Adjustments	\$9m	\$9m
Consensus Caseload Adjustments	(\$1.7m)	(\$4.4m)
Total Adjustments to Base Budget	\$31.6m	\$18.7m
Total DCF Approved Budget	\$1,003.1m	\$374.3m

*Includes non-expense transfers



GOVERNOR'S DCF ENHANCEMENTS

FY 2023 ENHACEMENTS	SGF	ALL FUNDS	EXPLANATION
Families First Prevention Services Program Expansion	\$ 3,500,000	\$ 7,000,000	Increases program size by approximately 50%. The grants will provide services to at-risk children to keep children safely with their family and avoiding foster care.
Families First Prevention Services SGF Only Grants	\$ 1,377,031	\$ 1,377,031	Replaces the 50% matching funds for grants that did not meet the evidence based-requirements for the Federal Clearinghouse.
Protection Specialists Salary Increases	\$ 3,587,316	\$ 3,680,154	Brings starting pay closer to market rates.
Independent Living Subsidy for Foster Care Youth	\$ 756,000	\$ 756,000	This SGF addition allows the \$700 benefit to continue in FY2023 and beyond when the Pandemic Funds end.
Kansas Management Information System (KMIS) Replacement for Vocational Rehabilitation Services	\$ 745,500	\$ 3,500,000	The current KMIS system uses an obsolete programming language on a mainframe system.
Amazon Connect Virtual Contact Center	\$ 929,625	\$ 1,850,000	This funding allows the Agency to continue with the current Virtual Call Center in future years.
KCDHH for Communication Access Services	\$ 79,000	\$ 79,000	Added 1 position and OOE to provide agencies services for hard of hearing.
Capital Improvements to the Topeka Service Center	\$-	\$ 450,000	The Topeka Service Center is a state-owned building and improvements are done through a capital improvement plan.
Governor's Statewide Adjustment			
5% Salary Increase For Every Employee (estimated amount)	\$ 3,134,676	\$ 5,599,235	
Subtotal Governor Adjustments	<u>\$ 14,109,148</u>	<u>\$ 24,291,420</u>	

LEGISLATIVE ADDITIONS

FY 2023 ENHACEMENTS	SGF	ALL FUNDS	EXPLAINATION
	7,500,000	7,500,000	This funding allows all Child Placing Agencies and
Workforce Retention and Recruitment			Residential Placement Providers to provide a
Efforts for CPA's and Residential			\$2,000 retention bonuses to staff. It also provides
Placement Providers			funding for advertising, training, and any other
			retention and recruitment efforts.
	500,000	500,000	Expands program in the KC & Wichita Metro Areas
Add funding to Safe Families for Children			and into SE Kansas. This bring total grant to
			\$796,240.
	500,000	500,000	New funding to provide Behavioral Intervention
Add Funding for Foster Adopt Connect			Services for children with behavioral and
			emotional issues.
	450,000	450,000	Provides additional funds for the recruitment &
Add Funding for CALM CPA			training of social workers and of foster families for
			high needs children.
Subtotal Legislative Adjustments	\$8,950,000	\$8,950,000	



CASELOAD ADDITIONS

FY 2023 ENHACEMENTS	SGF	ALL FUNDS	EXPLAINATION
Fall 2022 and Spring 2023 Consensus Caseload Adjustments			
TANF Cash Assistance Consensus Caseload Adjustment	\$ -	\$ (200,000)	Funds current caseload for TANF Cash Assistance
Foster Care Caseload Adjustments	\$ (4,350,000)	\$ (1,450,000)	Reduces funding to current projections. Lower caseloads partially offset by higher placement costs.
Subtotal Caseload Adjustments	<u>\$ (4,350,000)</u>	<u>\$ (1,650,000)</u>	



HOW TO PARTICIPATE & PROVIDE INPUT

The Department for Children and Families is taking suggestions and comments as we move forward through the 2024 budget process.

Please send any thoughts or suggestions through the end of August to :

DCF.Budget@ks.gov

2022 LEGISLATIVE SESSION UPDATE

Government Relations Manager Andrea Warnke





LEGISLATIVE AGENDA Driven by the Joint Committee on Child Welfare System Oversight's recommendations:

- 1. DCF should transform the RFP federal grants into a performance-based federal grant awarding process with foster care agencies that require outcome-based assessments. (SB 12)
- 2. Amend Adrian's Law and expand it to require visual pediatric physician examination from a pediatrician with specialized training to examine alleged abuse and neglected children. (HB 2632 / SB 460)
- 3. DCF should work with law enforcement to draft a statute clarifying the interpretation of statutory language for sharing information with local law enforcement during CINC investigations. (HB 2582 / SB 425)



UNSUCESSFUL LEGISLATION

PROPONENT DCF TESTIMONY

- HB 2468 Foster Youth Bill of Rights
- HB 2469 Foster Parent Bill of Rights

NEUTRAL DCF TESTIMONY

- HB 2215 SNAP for individual's with Felony Drug Convictions.
- HB 2700 Attachment Science considerations in Adoption Decisions.

OTHER BILLS

• HB 2525 – Remove Noncooperation of Child Support on TANF Child Care & SNAP

LAW ENFORCEMENT SHARING

HB 2582 / SB 425

DCF worked with Law Enforcement to draft the bill(s) House Bill 2582 / Senate Bill 425.

The Secretary testified in support of both bills.

The final bill this language was bundled into House Bill 2495 has been signed by the Governor.

The final text amends the CINC code to mandate 'a free exchange of information' between DCF and Law

Enforcement during CINC investigations



CHILD ABUSE REVIEW EVALUATIONS & EXAMS (CARE)

HB 2632 / SB 460

DCF worked with Children's Mercy Physicians, represented by Little Government Relations and KDHE to draft this bill which expands our "Safe-Care" pilot statewide.

Written testimony was provided in House Children & Seniors and Senate Public Health & Welfare.

The bill did not pass both chambers, but was funded through a

budget proviso:

\$757,000 to KDHE so that "expenditures shall be made from the child abuse review and evaluation program account to train healthcare providers to recognize signs of child abuse and reimburse reviews and examinations conducted by such trained healthcare providers:

Provided further, That on or before January 9, 2023, (KDHE) shall submit a report to the House of Representatives and the Senate committee, on services provided and the location of services provided by the program."

DCF PERFORMANCE-BASED CONTRACTS

SB 12

Senate Bill 12 was introduced in 2021 and DCF gave neutral testimony.

The contents of Senate Bill 12 were inserted into the State Budget (SB 267) as a proviso:

Requires DCF to collaborate with community partners and stakeholders to develop a plan for implementation for a set of performance-based contracts to provide an array of evidencebased prevention and early intervention services for families at risk or that already have a child in out-of-home care, and children who are awaiting adoption.

Requires DCF to submit a proposal to the Governor and Legislature on or before January 31, 2024, for the reinvestment of savings from reduced foster care caseloads into evidencebased prevention and early intervention programs designed to prevent the need for or reduce the duration of out-of-home placements. Requires the proposal to include sufficient detail regarding accounting, budgeting, and allocation of resources or other procedures for legislative consideration and approval.

DCF & BLIND CLIENTS

Senate Bill 343 prohibits blindness from being a "determinant factor for denial or restriction of legal custody, residency, or parenting time when it is determined to otherwise be in the best interest of a child." The bill also replaces statutory references to

"hearing impairment" and similar terms with "hard of hearing," "hearing loss," or "deaf."

ADOPTION VENUES EXPANSION

House Bill 2075 was a bill introduced in 2021,

DCF testified in support of its passage.

Allows for any county in the state where DCF has an office or subcontracting agency to be a venue for a state adoption – rather than the current limitations.

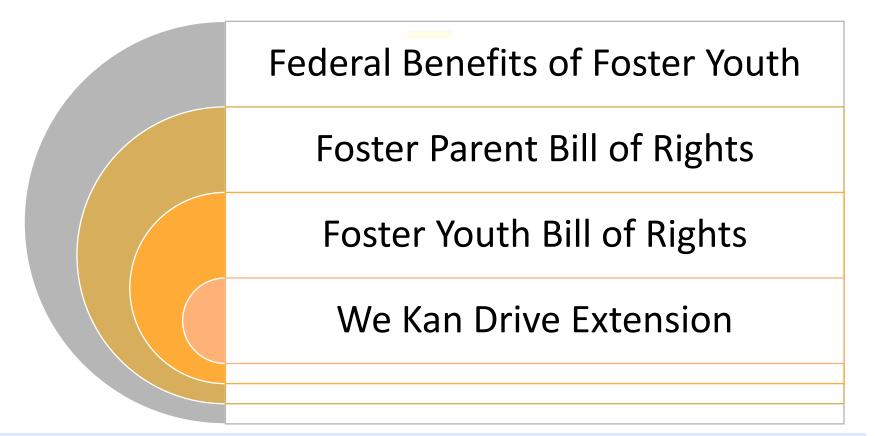
SNAP EMPLOYMENT & TRAINING FOR ABAWDS

SB 501

DCF submitted opponent verbal testimony. During conference committee, the contents were inserted into House Bill 2448, passed by both chambers, vetoed by the Governor but overridden.

This bill, mandates that all Able-Bodied Adults without Dependents, aged 18 through 49, who are not working 30 hours a week, be required to participate in Employment & Training through DCF.

POSSIBLE FUTURE LEGISLATION





BRIDGE THEM?

COMMUNITY, AND WHERE CAN DCF HELP

WHAT ARE CHALLENGES OR GAPS IN THIS

WHAT POSITIVE IMPACTS HAVE YOU NOTICED,

WHAT HAS BEEN GOING WELL?



THANK YOU FOR JOINING US!

QUESTIONS?

