

SYSTEM OF CARE COORDINATORS | BREEZE CALL | DECEMBER 4, 2017



Child Welfare Updates

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Overview

Core Child Welfare Refresher
Program Improvement Plan (PIP)
Bridging Local Systems Initiative
HB 630 (Child Welfare Reform)
Medicaid Transformation (Foster Care Lens)
NC FAST Child Welfare Update
You Should Know These Acronyms
Favorite Resources

Child Welfare Refresher

Child Welfare Overview – Key Legislation

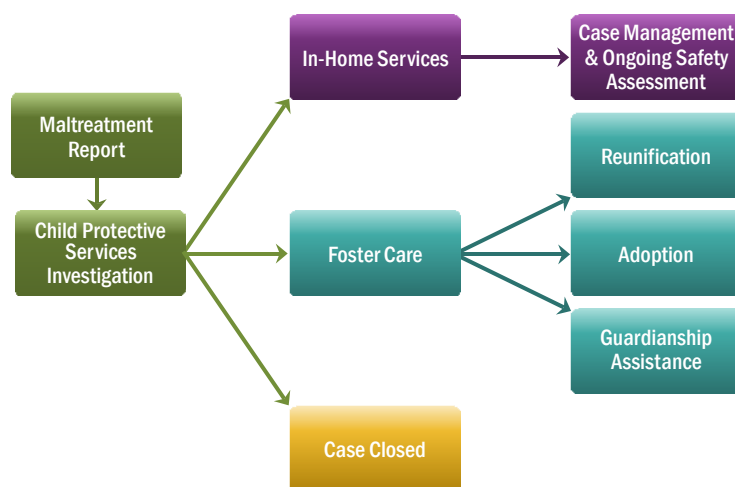
- **Federal Legislation**
 - Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act – 1974
 - Adoption and Safe Families Act – 1996
 - Fostering Connections to Success and Increasing Adoptions Act – 2008
- **Major State Legislation**
 - Fostering Success Act – 2015 (Foster Care to 21)
 - Foster Care Family Act – 2015 (Normalcy: Reasonable and Prudent Parenting Standards)
 - HB 630 - Family/Child Protection & Accountability Act of 2017/Rylan's Law

Scope of the Child Welfare System

All child welfare agencies in the U.S. have four core mandates from federal laws and regulations:

1. Respond to reports of child maltreatment
2. Serve families in their homes and help them overcome difficulties and keep their children safe
3. Provide alternative, safe living environments when children cannot be maintained safely in their homes
4. Provide a safe, permanent home for children as quickly as possible

Flow of Child Welfare Services



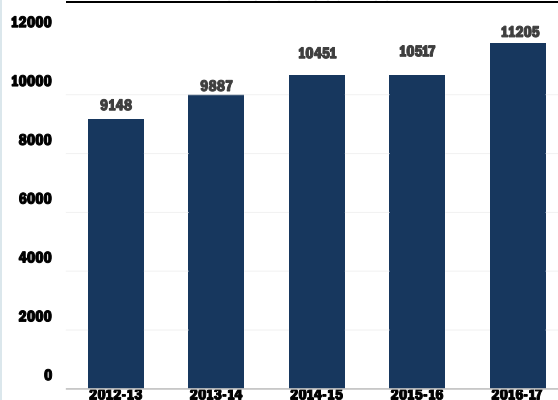
Child Welfare Overview – Foster Care

Children are placed in foster care when safety at home cannot be assured

Increase is due to a variety of issues including

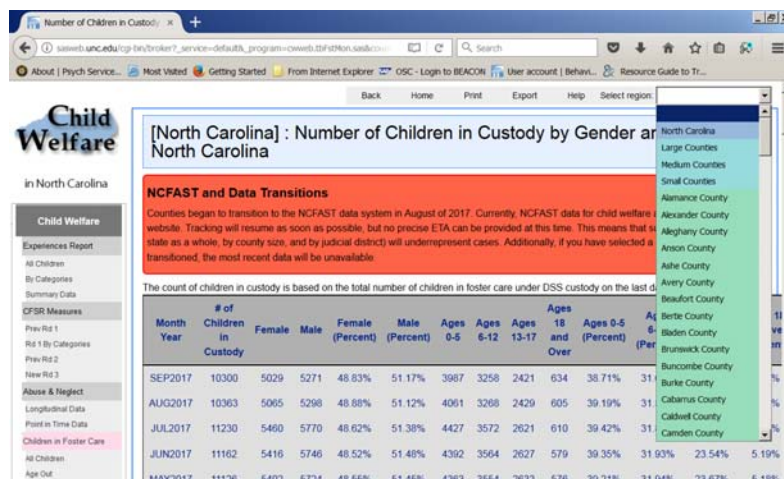
- Parental opioid use
- Parental mental health
 - Impacts the severity of child neglect and abuse

Youth In Foster Care at End of the Fiscal Year



Management Assistance Website

<http://ssw.unc.edu/ma/>



Program Improvement Plan

Child and Family Services Review (CFSR)

- Federal performance review of child welfare services conducted in 2015
- Review included a sample of child welfare cases from 10 counties
- Rated on 7 outcome measures and 7 systemic factors
 - Outcome measures focus on child and family well-being
 - Systemic factors focus on staff training, monitoring and quality assurance, and availability and provision of appropriate services

CFSR: Program Improvement Plan

- North Carolina did not meet substantial conformity in the 14 CFSR areas - requiring a federal Program Improvement Plan (PIP)
- DHHS, county DSS departments, stakeholders and ACF worked together to develop PIP
- PIP is a 2-year plan that began January 2017 and will conclude December 2018
- PIP is designed to improve statewide performance

Bridging Local Systems

Bridging Local Systems (NCIOM/DHHS/TDE)

- Held over 30 regional meetings with leadership from DSS and each LME/MCO

By the Numbers:

- 14 Locations
- 337 Participants
- 7 LME/MCO Regions
- 88 Counties



Examples of Collaboration

- Communication Protocols
- Co-located Positions
- Cross-Training Initiatives
- Collaborative Planning for Clients
- Data-Informed Action
- Pilot Services

Outcomes

Relationship Building
7 Regional Reports
1 Statewide Report
Metrics for
Monitoring Success



NC FAST

NC FAST Overview

North Carolina Families Accessing Services through Technology (NC FAST)

- **Developed as a tool to improve eligibility determination and service delivery for:**
 - Food and Nutrition Services, Medicaid, Work First, Child Care Subsidy, Child Welfare, etc.
- **Benefits include real-time sharing of client and case information across programs and counties and support for an integrated, cross-functional service delivery approach**

NC FAST Child Welfare Update

- Statewide by December 2018
- August 2017: 5 pilot counties began using Release 1 functionality
- January 2018: Go-live for 10 additional counties
- June 2018: Completion of statewide implementation with enhancements
- Mobility functionality pilots: Allows case workers to input information in field via iPads

HB 630 – Family-Child Protection and Accountability Act

Family-Child Protection and Accountability Act Overview

Law requires a reform of social services and child welfare system

Provisions of Act include:

1. Convene a Social Services Regional Supervision and Collaboration Working Group to:
 - Create regional supervision structure of county social services departments
 - Recommend any regulatory or legislative changes necessary to improve collaboration between counties in administration of social services
 - Identify potential benefits and challenges for transitioning state from county-administered to regionally administered system

Family-Child Protection and Accountability Act Overview

2. Reform State supervision and accountability of the existing social services system
 - Issue a Request for Proposals by 9/30/2017
 - Contract with an expert, third-party organization to work with DHHS to develop a recommended reform plan for social services and child welfare
3. Establish written agreements between county DSS and DHHS for all social services programs, except medical assistance
 - Focus on mutual accountability and corrective action
 - Includes performance and administrative measures

Family-Child Protection and Accountability Act Overview

4. Establish a Child Well-being Transformation Council
5. Implement specific policy and regulatory changes to improve the well-being of children and youth in foster care
 - Implement a driver's license pilot project for foster youth
 - Pilot an intensive family treatment program for foster youth
 - Establish 90-day timeframe for processing foster home applications
 - Change policy regarding termination of parental rights
 - Change procedures related to returning physical custody to parents

Key Milestones

	DATE	MILESTONE
2017	07/01	Rylan's Law went into effect
	09/29	RFP for third-party organization issued
	10/03	Working group convened by the School of Government
2018	02/15	Contract award for third-party organization
	04/15	Working group 1st report to NCGA
	07/01	Written agreements between DHHS and DSS effective Child Well-Being Transformation Council (phase 1)
	10/01	Reform legislation recommendations to JLOC by DHHS
	11/15	DHHS regional supervision plan due
2019	01/01	TPR statute effective
	02/01	Working group 2nd report due to JLOC
2020	03/01	Regional supervision implemented
	03/01	Child Well-Being Transformation Council (phase 2)

Acronyms You REALLY need to know :-)

Beyond the Acronyms

CFSP

Child and Family Services Plan

<https://www2.ncdhhs.gov/dss/stats/cw.htm>

Beyond the Acronyms

APSR

Annual Progress and Services Report

<https://www2.ncdhhs.gov/dss/stats/cw.htm>

Beyond the Acronyms

CFSR

Child and Family Services Review

<https://www2.ncdhhs.gov/dss/stats/cw.htm>

Beyond the Acronyms

PIP

Program Improvement Plan

<https://www2.ncdhhs.gov/dss/stats/cw.htm>

Beyond the Acronyms

OSRI

Onsite Review Instrument

Favorites

Handout with Important Websites

Favorite Resources

Watch Explaining the Brain to Children and Adolescents
<https://vimeo.com/109042767> (~5 minutes)

“Every Kid is ONE Caring Adult Away from Being a Success Story” (17 minutes)
<http://joshshipp.com/one-caring-adult/>

Advocating for Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services
<http://bhs.unc.edu/advocating-child-and-adolescent-mental-health-services> (~ 2 hours)

Recognizing and Responding to Suspicions of Child Maltreatment Course
<https://www.preventchildabusenc.org/services/trainings-and-professional-development/rrcourse>

Jeanne's Dog Sugar...



Funding from **Kids First** license plates helps children and families.

PLEASE HELP SPREAD THE WORD!