



Children's Services Agency Fiscal Year 2017

**Presentation to House Appropriations Subcommittee
on the Department of Health & Human Services**

February 23, 2016

Steve Yager, Executive Director, Children's Services Agency
Farah A. Hanley, Senior Deputy Director, Financial Operations Administration



Our Guiding Principles

Mission

The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services provides opportunities, services, and programs that promote a healthy, safe, and stable environment for residents to be self-sufficient.



Vision

Develop and encourage measurable health, safety and self-sufficiency outcomes that reduce and prevent risks, promote equity, foster healthy habits, and transform the health and human services system to improve the lives of Michigan families.



Children's Services Vision and Mission

VISION

DHHS will lead Michigan in supporting our children, youth, and families to reach their full potential.

MISSION

Child welfare professionals will demonstrate an unwavering commitment to engage and partner with families we serve to ensure safety, permanency and well-being through a trauma-informed approach.



Action on Flint Declaration of Emergency

Responsibility – Accountability – Action

CHILDREN'S SERVICES:

- Contacted each of the 122 impacted foster care providers and verified the use of appropriate filter or bottled water.
- Completed an on-site visit to each foster care provider to verify the presence and use of a filter or bottled water and ensure appropriate supplies.
- Water testing was completed for each foster care provider home, licensed and unlicensed, and each facility.
- Issued instructions/communication to all foster care providers regarding expectation for safe water at all times.



Action on Flint Declaration of Emergency

Responsibility – Accountability – Action

- Initiated blood testing for the 87 children currently in foster care under the age of 6 living in Flint.
- Informing caregivers of the 152 children in foster care age 6 or over, living in Flint to inform the child's physician of the child's possible lead exposure at their next primary care appointment.
- For children who resided in Flint between 4/2014-1/2016
 - Initiated blood testing for children in foster care under the age of 6.
 - Informing caregivers of children in foster care age 6 or over, to inform the child's physician of the child's possible lead exposure at their next primary care appointment.



Action on Flint Declaration of Emergency

Responsibility – Accountability – Action

- Notifications currently being sent to caregivers of the children who were placed in Flint and are no longer under MDHHS care and supervision.
- Children's Protective Services workers will ensure safe water in all homes encountered as a function of investigation or ongoing service cases.
- Dedicated 4 existing full time employees to Genesee County for tracking and monitoring.
- Obtained approval from the federal government to utilize IV-E funding for maintenance costs for water filters.



Children's Services Agency

- Oversees all child welfare services for children and their families.
- Employs approximately 3,861 staff including 3,186 field staff and 675 Central office staff.
- Oversees approximately 1,016 Private Agency foster care staff and 315 supervisors who are contracted to provide foster care, licensing and adoption services.



Children's Protective Services

Investigates all allegations of suspected child abuse or neglect by a parent, legal guardian or any other person responsible for the child's health or welfare, and provides services to prevent removal from the parental home.

- Complaints received: 157,417
- Complaints investigated: 92,729 (59% of complaints received)
- Substantiated complaints: 23,813 - Category I and II (26% of assigned investigations, 15% of all complaints received)
- Number of children removed from parent: 5,810



Foster Care

- Delivered by MDHHS and private agency foster care staff.
- Provides placement and supervision of children who have been removed by the court from their home due to abuse or neglect.
- Is a short-term solution to an emergency situation and permanency planning continues throughout the child's placement in care.
- Ensures the safety, permanence and well being of children through reunification with the birth family, permanent placement with a suitable relative, or a permanent adoptive home.
- Michigan is meeting 4 out of 5 national permanency measures. The only measure not being met is Permanency in 12 months for children entering foster care, however Michigan's re-entry rate is extremely low.



Foster Care

- Works with parents to rectify conditions that led to the child's removal.
- Supervises child in out-of-home placement to ensure well-being & provision of necessary services.
- Monitors parents' progress and compliance with services on a regular basis.
- Reports and makes recommendations to the court every 3 months.
- MDHHS is responsible for supervision of 12,873 children, as of December 31, 2015, down from 18,016 in 2008.
- Administers approximately \$187.8 million in foster care costs.



Adoption

Facilitates the adoptive placement of state and permanent court wards.

- 80% of the number of children available for adoption were adopted in 2015.*
- More than 1,700 children were adopted in 2015.
- Eight Post Adoption Resource Centers provide services statewide.

**Number is estimated because the 2015 number has not yet been finalized.*



Adoption Assistance

Provides financial assistance, medical subsidy and non-recurring adoption assistance to families who adopt special needs children from Michigan's child welfare system.

- 90-95% of all adopted youth from foster care are eligible annually.
- Administers approximately \$229 million serving approximately 26,500 children each year.



Guardianship Assistance

Provides financial support to ensure permanency for children who may otherwise remain in foster care until reaching the age of majority.

The transfer of legal responsibility:

- Transitions the child out of the child welfare system.
- Allows a caregiver to make important decisions on the child's behalf.
- Establishes a permanent caregiver for the child.
- Addresses financial needs through ongoing assistance payments.
- Administers approximately \$9.2 million in foster care costs.



Child Welfare Licensing

Protects vulnerable children by regulating and consulting with licensees.

The Child Welfare Licensing division regulates, monitors contracts, and licenses the following:

- Child Caring Residential Institutions
- Child Placing Agencies
- Children's Foster Homes
- Court Operated Facilities

The Child Welfare Licensing Division regulates 6,838 facilities.



Juvenile Justice

Provides community based programs and supervision for juvenile justice youth referred or committed to MDHHS.

Youth placed in state-operated and private residential facilities are also provided assessments and services.

Technical assistance, consultation, assessment services and training for community-based and residential juvenile justice programs.

MDHHS operates 2 juvenile justice facilities: Bay Pines and Shawono (capacity of 40 beds for each program).



Juvenile Justice

Ensuring a Juvenile Justice System that works for Michigan's children

- Properly assess the risks and needs of juvenile offenders to ensure the right type and amount of treatment.
- Develop a network of community-based and in-home programs using evidenced-based outcomes.
- Ensure the most appropriate placement for youth.
- Improve tracking outcomes in the juvenile justice system:
 - Development of quality metrics in all future juvenile justice provider contracts.
 - Metrics include: recidivism; placements; length of stay; and costs.



Juvenile Justice

Statewide Juvenile Justice Data

- MDHHS is committed to partnering with necessary entities in the development of statewide Juvenile Justice data collection, sharing and analysis.
- Developmental efforts to date:
 - Implementation of the University of Michigan's School of Social Work Child and Adolescent Data Lab.
 - Implementation of MiSACWIS for Juvenile Justice.
 - Statewide Juvenile Justice data collaboration including representative Court Administrators; the State Court Administrators Office; Department of Technology, Management and Budget, and vendors working with Juvenile Justice Vision 20/20.



Children's Trust Fund

Children's Trust Fund is also known as the State Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Board.

- An independent, autonomous nonprofit organization created by Public Act 250 of 1982.
- Serves as Michigan's only source of permanent funding for the statewide prevention of child abuse and neglect.
- The purpose is to prevent child abuse and raise awareness of prevention through community-based programs.
- Dispersed \$1.7 million in 2015 to support 21 child abuse prevention grants and 73 local Child Abuse Prevention Councils.



Family Support Subsidy

Provides a monthly subsidy to families that include children with severe developmental disabilities.

- The subsidy helps keep families together and reduce the demand for state-provided out-of-home services.
- In FY14, the program served 6,695 children. Only 18 children (0.3 percent) were placed out of home during FY14.



Children's Behavioral Action Team

- Responsible for overseeing development of collaborative transition plans to support 50 extremely complex children/youth to be discharged from Hawthorn Center to return home to their families.
- The target population includes children/youth with serious emotional disturbance, ages 5 to 18 currently residing in Hawthorn Center.
- Of the 18 youth discharged from the program as of 12/31/2015, 75% have remained completely out of psychiatric inpatient care.
- The number of days a child/youth spent in any psychiatric hospital post discharge from Hawthorn has been reduced by 65-70%.



MiSACWIS

Planned 2016:

- Financials Recoupment and Reconciliation
- Financials Chargeback and Adjustments
- MiCSES (Child Support) Interface
- Child Welfare Licensing Integration
- Field enhancement requests
- Initiate Centralized Intake Web Portal
Data Warehouse reporting

Planned 2017:

- Increase the effectiveness of safety plans
- Increase the performance of the
Centralized Intake Hotline
- Provide more efficient tools for
permanency planning
- Further prevent families needing long
term assistance from child welfare
- Utilize the Integrated Service Delivery
Portal



County Child Care Fund

- Provides financial reimbursement to counties for community-based programming and placement costs for youth in child welfare or juvenile justice programs.
- In-Home Care programs are innovative and creative community-based programs that are developed locally as an alternative to out-of-home placement.
- Each FY the county/tribe must submit an annual plan and budget for approval prior to reimbursement of CCF-related expenses.



Juvenile Justice Funding

- County supervised and county administered.
- For Juvenile Justice Cases, the County Child Care Fund pays 100% cost of care and the state reimburses 50% of eligible expenses.
- Only what is outlined in the County/Tribe's approved annual budget can be reimbursed.
- Counties/Tribes may amend their budgets throughout the year if they deem additional funding is needed.

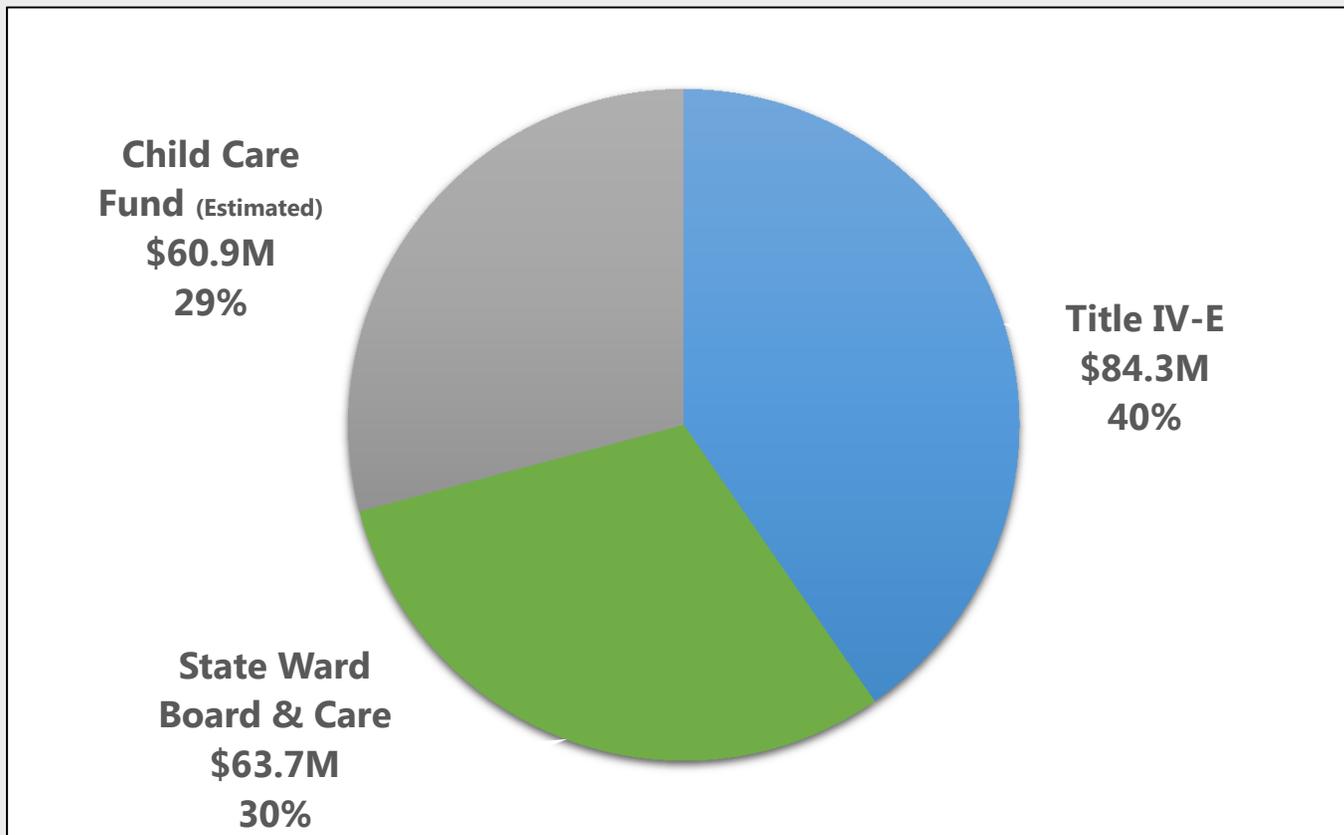


Child Welfare Funding

- State supervised and state administered.
- For County Child Care Funded child welfare cases, the county pays 100% of the cost of care and bills the state for 50%. The counties are currently held harmless for the private agency administrative rate.
- For Title IV-E funded child welfare cases, the federal government reimburses the state for 50-65% of the cost of care and the state pays the required matching funds.
- For State Ward Board and Care funded child welfare, the state pays 100% of cost of care and the counties reimburse 50%. The private agency administrative rate is paid 100% by the state.



FY2015 Child Welfare Out of Home Placements (by gross funding - millions)





Foster Care and Adoption Payments

- Currently, no major, technical barriers causing delays in payments in MiSACWIS.
- MDHHS advanced money to several agencies in 2014 to assist with expediting payments due to conversion issues from SWSS to MiSACWIS. 78% of the advances to agencies have been returned to the state.
- Many staff still learning the multi-stage process for payments.
- Began offering specific placement/payment trainings for public and private agency staff.
- Building capacity to conduct regular foster care payment reconciliation functionality.



Kent County Performance Based Funding Pilot

- Near completion of development of a data-driven draft Kent County case rate and payment methodologies.
- Collaboration to establish 501c status, West Michigan Partnership for Children.
- Licensure to become a Child Placing Agency is in process.
- Executed contracts for a project manager, actuary and evaluators.
- Established a dedicated, full time position within Children's Services.
- Aggressively working towards a July 1, 2016 begin date pending resolution of dependencies.
- Working to incorporate MiSACWIS data into Mindshare to provide the West Michigan Partnership for Children data analytics.



Federal Consent Decree

- On February 2, 2016, a federal court hearing took place in which MDHHS entered into a new agreement with plaintiffs.
- The new agreement is titled the Implementation, Sustainability and Exit Plan which replaces the Modified Settlement Agreement.
- The new agreement permits rolling exit of individual items which sets the state on a path toward exiting federal court oversight which will decrease spending on oversight.
- Reduction from 238 monitored requirements to 71 monitored requirements.



Federal Consent Decree

Key metrics include:

- Safety: Maltreatment in Care, Recurrence and CPS
- Health: Medicals, Dentals and Informed Consents
- Placements
- Caseloads

Key initiatives to address the 71 monitored requirements:

- Further enhancement of the Book of Business
- Development of 65 data reports to monitor progress
- Interface with Care Connect 360
- Policy changed requiring all relatives to be licensed



Challenges

- Incidents of maltreatment in care has continued to decline; however, further reduction remains a priority. MDHHS is committed to ensuring safe placements for all children in foster care.
- MDHHS is continuing work to gather statewide Juvenile Justice data.
- Increased social work visits and timely medicals and dentals.



Successes

- Renegotiated the Modified Settlement Agreement which has significantly reduced the number of monitored requirements.
- Successful roll-out of Juvenile Justice and County Child Care Fund functions in MiSACWIS.
- MDHHS has met ongoing training requirements for all child welfare workers.
- Implemented the Foster Parent Bill of Rights and the Foster Child Bill of Rights.



Governor Snyder's FY17 Recommendation



Budget Recommendation

	Gross	GF/GP
Children’s Services – Child Welfare	\$1,131.0	\$443.9
Children’s Services – Juvenile Justice	\$23.9	\$10.0
Total	\$1,154.8	\$443.9
One-Time Funding	\$10.0	\$0.0



Investments Provide Support to Youth and Families

Family Preservation and Support Services Expansion

- Three-year pilot to expand Parent Partner and Family Reunification programs to additional counties.
- Services prevent the need for foster care, shorten the length of time between foster care entry and reunification, and sustain parental progress following reunification.
- \$10.0 M one-time investment is entirely funded with federal TANF revenues.



MDHHS Contact Info and Useful Links

Legislative Liaison: Karla Ruest

Phone: (517) 373-1629

Website: <http://www.michigan.gov/mdhhs>

Legislative Service Bureau:

[http://www.legislature.mi.gov/\(S\(n4rbq4jwj2dfwz1qybtu01cu\)\)/mileg.aspx?page=home](http://www.legislature.mi.gov/(S(n4rbq4jwj2dfwz1qybtu01cu))/mileg.aspx?page=home)