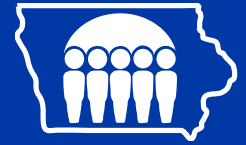


Child and Family Services



Purpose

Child welfare and juvenile justice services are services and interventions for children, youth, and families, designed to improve safety, permanency, well-being, and community safety.

Who Is Helped

Child welfare services are provided to children and families who are either at risk of abuse or who have experienced abuse and have been adjudicated a child in need of assistance. In addition, services are available to youth who have “aged out” of the foster care system and are employed or going to school.

The majority of children who have been abused are five years old or younger and are victims of denial of critical care.

In SFY16, 33,306 children were at risk and/or were abused. Of those 9,415 (28 percent) were the victims of abuse and received child welfare services.

Differential Response (DR) is a child welfare approach in which one of two pathways, family assessment or child abuse assessment, is assigned to accepted allegations of child abuse based on risk associated with child abuse and neglect.

- Safety and a recommendation for services occur in both types of assessments.
- Low risk families receive a family assessment. Families identified as having moderate to high risk are eligible for community care services.
- High risk families receive a child abuse assessment. Families with a founded abuse case or confirmed to be at high risk, are referred for child welfare services. Child abuse assessments may result in a finding of abuse and possible placement on the central abuse registry.

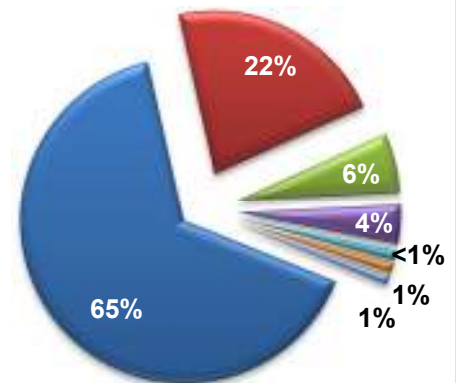
In SFY16, 19,462 (58%) of accepted allegations received a child abuse assessment and 13,844 (42%) received a family assessment.

An average of 388 youth per year age out of the foster care system. An average of 275 new youth access Aftercare services for life skills training and limited financial supports each year.

The Preventing Sex Trafficking and Strengthening Families Act, requires identification and services to victims and children at risk for sex trafficking. The Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act of 2015 requires states to categorize child sex trafficking as child abuse.

Type of Abuse SFY16

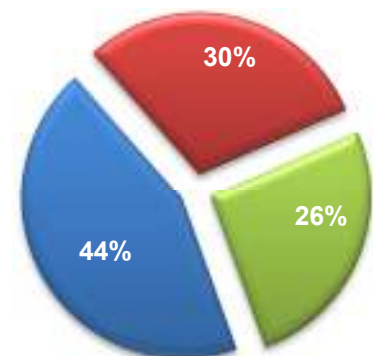
- Denial of critical care / neglect (66%)
- Physical abuse (22%)
- Sexual abuse (6%)
- Presence of illegal drugs (4%)
- Exposure to manufacturing meth (<1%)
- Allows access to registered sex offender (1%)
- Other* (1%)



*Includes child prostitution, sex trafficking, allowing access to obscene material, bestiality in the presence of a minor and mental injury

Abuse by Age SFY16

- 5 or younger (44%)
- 6 to 10 (30%)
- 11 and older (26%)



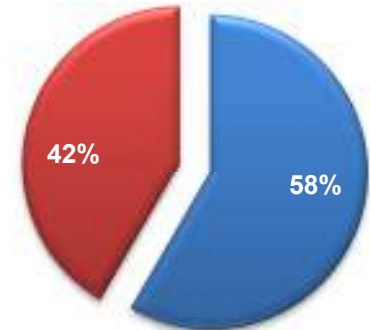
Juvenile justice services are provided to children and their families if they are either at risk of continued delinquent behavior, have committed a delinquent act and have been adjudicated as a delinquent, or have been certified by the chief juvenile court officer as eligible for court-ordered services.

In SFY16, Juvenile Court Services (JCS) received 14,376 referrals against juveniles. Less than 25 percent of these referrals resulted in a formal request for a delinquency petition. A vast majority were resolved through provision of services without court involvement.

In SFY16, approximately \$16.6 million was spent on foster care for children adjudicated delinquent. This represents approximately 31 percent of total child welfare expenditures for foster care.

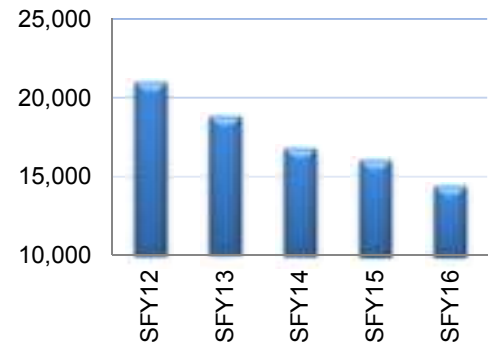
Differential Response Assessments SFY16*

- Child Abuse Assessment (58%)
- Family Assessment (42%)



*Note: Based on number of assessments completed rather than number of abuse allegations referred for each type of assessment

Referrals to Juvenile Court Services



- ✓ *Parents of children who are at risk and/or experience neglect often have mental health, substance abuse, or domestic violence challenges.*
- ✓ *Of founded abuse cases in SFY16, six percent were sexual abuse, compared to 8.3 percent nationally (Child Maltreatment data 2014).*
- ✓ *73 percent of the youth who had violations on or before the beginning of the 2015-2016 school year had no new law violations by the end of the school year.*
- ✓ *In SFY16, child prostitution and sex trafficking combined represented less than 0.05 percent of abuse types reported.*

Services

Child Welfare Services protect children, and preserve and strengthen families through the least intrusive, least restrictive means possible.

Services include:

Early intervention and prevention services such as Community Care and Decategorization services strengthen families by building on the family's resources and developing supports in the community. A single statewide Community Care contractor provided services to a monthly average of 319 families in SFY16.

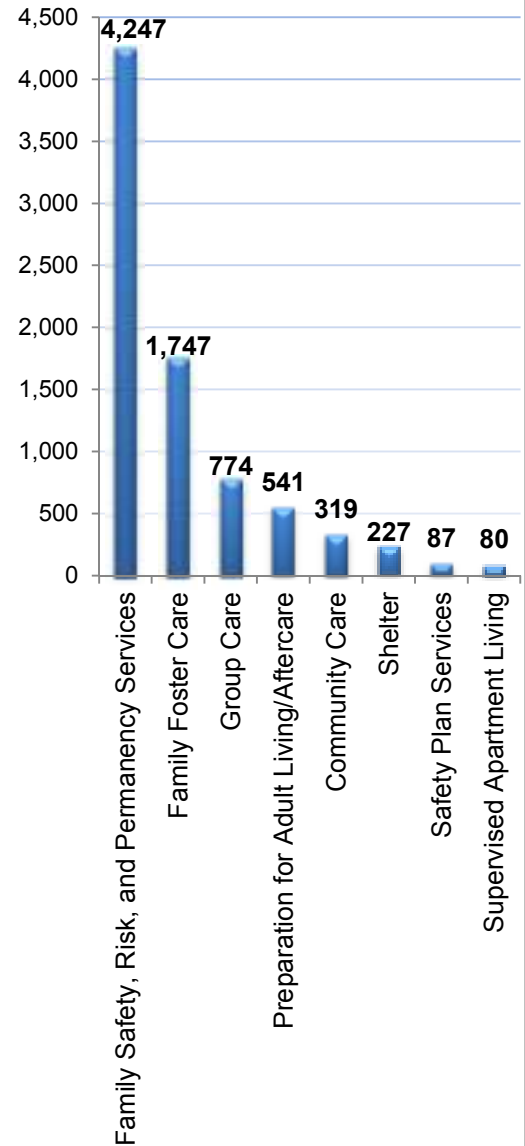
Family-centered child welfare services are designed to achieve safety, permanency and well-being for children.

- Safety Plan (SP) services maintain children safely in their own homes when possible. In SFY16, a monthly average of 87 families received SP services during a child abuse or child in need of assistance (CINA) assessment.
- Family Safety, Risk and Permanency (FSRP) services provide family-focused interventions and supports to improve parents' ability to keep their children safe. FSRP services are intended to achieve safety and permanency for children regardless of where the children reside. In SFY16, a monthly average of 4,247 families eligible for DHS services received FSRP services.
- There were eight SP/FSRP contractors in SFY16.

Out of home services provide a safe environment when a child is not able to remain in the home or able to live with an extended family member. Services are provided to address both the parents' needs and the needs of the child.

- The Parent Partners program provides peer mentoring for families in the child welfare system in order to improve engagement between families and the system, shorten lengths of stay for children in care, and maximize available community supports and services to reduce family re-entry into the child welfare system. Following program expansion in SFY14, there is now a parent partner presence statewide.
- Family foster care services are designed to provide a temporary safe environment while parents are addressing the issues that put the children at-risk.
 - There are 2,253 foster families. In SFY16, 1,818 children were served on average each month in family foster care.

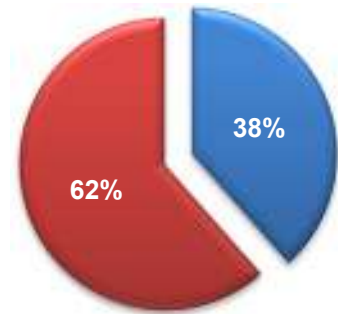
Average Number of Clients Served Monthly by Program in SFY16



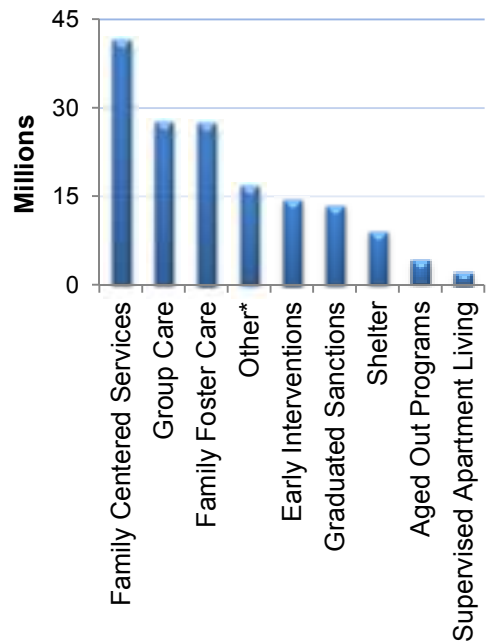
- Foster group care services are designed to treat children whose behavior is too severe to enable them to live safely in a less restrictive setting like a foster home.
 - There are 14 group care contractors with 1,207 available beds located statewide.
 - Both DHS and JCS utilize foster group care services.
 - In SFY16, DHS placed 660 children in group care, while JCS placed 931.
- Child Welfare Emergency Services (CWES) is an array of short term and temporary interventions that range from the least restrictive approaches that can be used to avoid out-of-home placement (e.g., family conflict mediations or in-home interventions) to more restrictive services including emergency juvenile shelter care.
 - There are 11 CWES contractors that offer 14 CWES juvenile shelters. These contracts provide for 256 beds although additional beds can be purchased up to the maximum number licensed (currently 357).
 - Both DHS and JCS utilize CWES.
- Transition services support youth age 18-21 who aged out of foster care. Emphasis is placed on life skills, housing, employment, education, budgeting, and relationships. Youth receive individualized services from case managers, called Self Sufficiency Advocates.
 - A network of nine child welfare providers comprise the Iowa Aftercare Services Network, providing services to 502 youth monthly.
- Since SFY15, aftercare services have also been available to youth aging out of detention and out of the State Training School (STS) for Boys. 114 newly eligible youth received services during 2015-16. Since SFY15, children placed at the STS campus can also be involved in the foster care youth council (Achieving Maximum Potential). The STS Council creates opportunities for youth leadership and support.

Group Care Total Served in SFY16

■ DHS (38%) ■ JCS (62%)



Child Welfare Dollars by Program SFY16



*Other expenditures include the child abuse hotline, medical exams for children potentially abused, & training

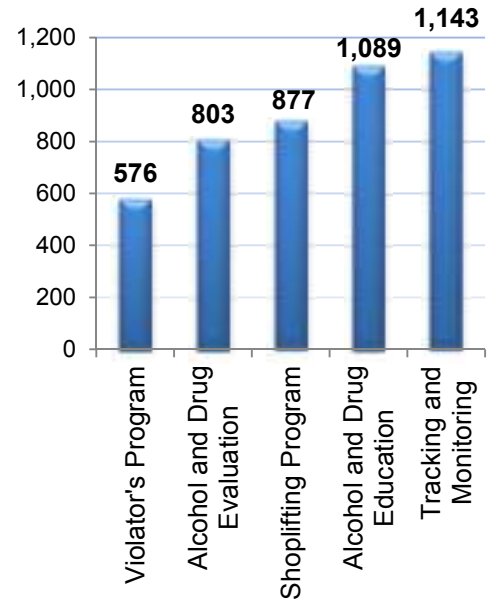
Juvenile Justice Services ensure public safety by addressing delinquent behaviors.

- Graduated Sanctions include four specific service programs: life skills; school-based supervision; supervised community treatment; and tracking and monitoring.
 - There are 115 graduated sanctions contracts with community providers to provide the services listed above.
 - Juvenile Court/School Liaisons are located in 200 Iowa schools within 80 school districts.
 - Tracking and monitoring services are provided by 13 social service agencies.
 - 1,143 tracking and monitoring cases closed in SFY16.
- Out of home services include foster care, detention, and the State Training School in Eldora.
 - Youth needing out of home care utilize the foster care services described in child welfare services above.
 - Ten Iowa detention centers provide services to an average 115 youth per day. These centers provide temporary care in a restrictive manner designed to ensure continued custody of the child until final disposition of the child's case.
 - The State Training School houses an average of 114 delinquent boys daily.

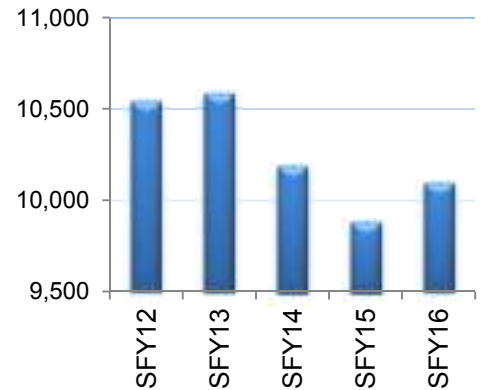
Medicaid Behavioral Intervention Services (BHIS) are available, in addition to child welfare and juvenile justice services, for eligible children to improve social and behavioral functioning.

- BHIS are provided by a network of 76 providers many of whom also provide other child welfare and juvenile justice services.

Top Five Juvenile Justice Services Completed in SFY16



Total Children Served in Out of Home Services



- ✓ In SFY16, 5,198 parents/adults received services targeted to children at-risk of abuse.
- ✓ In SFY16, 68 percent of child victims remained in their home while receiving FSRP services to ensure safety.
- ✓ Approximately 29 percent of children who are removed from their home are in the care of an extended family member.
- ✓ In SFY15, 93 percent of youth participating in aftercare reported having a safe and stable place to live. 94 percent reported having one or more supportive relationships.

- ✓ *A state law change in calendar year 2015 (SF 412) allows juvenile court services to continue past age 18, if a youth has not finished treatment by the time they reach that age and are no longer subject to the jurisdiction of the juvenile court.*
- ✓ *The number of group care beds is capped and the DHS Service Area Managers and the Chief Juvenile Court Officers jointly manage group care resources.*

Goals & Strategies

Goal: Children will be safe from abuse.

Strategies:

- Provide best practice information and training to keep children safe from abuse.
- Enhance engagement with families to increase service provision.

Goal: Children will achieve permanency.

Strategies:

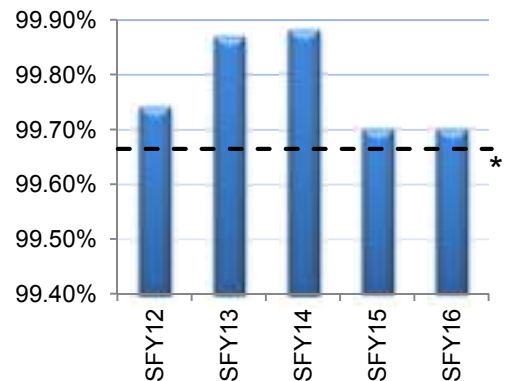
- Collaborate with court partners to align language and practices for ensuring child safety.
- Provide statewide family team decision making for all children who cannot remain safely in their home.
- If a child must be removed for safety reasons, attempt to reunify quickly to a safe environment.
- Provide supports to assist the family and child while empowering family decision-making.

Goal: Children will experience a positive sense of well-being.

Strategies:

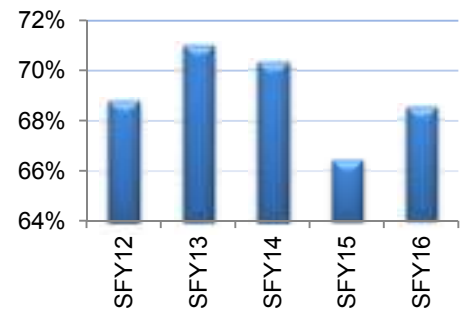
- Continue systemic training activities related to the effect of early childhood trauma on growth and development.
- Continue work on disproportionality of minority children and youth in the child welfare/juvenile justice system.
- Continue efforts to increase educational stability.

Children Safe from Maltreatment in Foster Care



*National Benchmark 99.68%

Reunified Within 12 Months*



*National Benchmark 75.2%

- ✓ *DHS has established performance based contracts with child welfare providers that align with Children and Family Services federal outcomes.*
- ✓ *Iowa has a strong public/private partnership who recognizes that collaboration and shared accountability will lead to positive outcomes for our children and families.*
- ✓ *In SFY16, 3 percent of Children and Family Services funding is used for prevention.*
- ✓ *In SFY16, 558 participants from diverse backgrounds were trained on Race: The Power of Illusion.*

Cost of Services

As described in earlier sections, Child and Family Services includes a broad range of services and interventions for children, youth and families at risk. The average cost of services and interventions also varies. Children, youth and families may receive multiple services and interventions over the course of a year. The following information provides actual costs for SFY15.

The average annual cost per family for Community Care service is \$610.

The average cost per child for Family Safety, Risk and Permanency service is \$4,677. This cost is per average 10-month episode of service.

The average annual cost per child for Family Foster Care service is \$14,056.

The average annual cost per child for Foster Group Care service is \$38,602.

The average cost per child for an average 15-day CWES/Shelter stay is \$2,089.

The average annual cost per youth for Preparation for Adult Living (PAL) is \$12,385.

The average annual cost per youth for Supervised Apartment Living (SAL) is \$29,206.

The average cost per child/youth for graduated sanctions, adolescent tracking and monitoring service is \$816. This cost is per average three-month episode of service.

The average cost per child/youth for graduated sanctions, supervised community treatment service is \$1,159. This cost is per average three-month episode of service.

DHS intends to facilitate the evolution of a child welfare system of care (SOC) that builds on the principles of:

- Mutual respect and partnership building with Iowa's families and private service providers and stakeholders;
- Promoting family unity by providing supports to families in their homes or to children in family-like, non-congregate settings, whenever possible;
- Preserving and encouraging permanency connections with siblings and with caring and supportive adults;
- Reuniting children with their families as soon as safely possible;
- Tailoring services to families and children to meet their unique needs; focusing on a stable workforce by supporting ongoing development, mentoring, and training; and,
- Focusing on a stable workforce by supporting ongoing development, mentoring, and training; and,
- Decision-making that is outcome based, resource-driven, and continuously evaluated for improvement.

Important child welfare services will be competitively re-procured to begin new contracts effective July 1, 2017. Services included are:

- Foster Group Care Services (FGCS)
- Child Welfare Emergency Services (CWES)
- Supervised Apartment Living (SAL)
- Foster and adoptive family licensing and approval
- Training and support

The Department will use this opportunity to build this system by phasing in approaches that focus on: keeping families together; keeping children close to home and community when they are served outside the home; maintaining family and community connections through face-to-face and other visitation options; paying attention to the educational needs of foster care youth; bringing uniformity to identify service needs and progress assessments that assure proper services at the proper time in the proper setting; and identifying promising evidence-based and other practices that will improve outcomes.

	<p>To achieve this, the child and family services appropriation will need to support the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transportation assistance for youth placed outside the home to maintain connections to family and community; • Identification and use of assessment tools that will be used across the system to bring uniformity in the approach and identification of the level of needed service; • Increased family conferencing at the beginning, during, and at the time of discharge from placement; • Adoption of evidence-based treatment methodologies; • Training that is timely and based on the needs of children in care in order to enhance the skills and strengths of caregivers; • Increased face-to-face support for foster and adoptive families that is intentional and individualized to enhance stability; • Expanding support services to relative and kin caregivers; • Transition costs for moving from one statewide contractor to five service area contractors who provide recruitment, retention, training and support services for foster and adoptive families. Transition costs would include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Training staff to deliver pre-service training; ○ Developing and delivering in-service training; ○ Hiring staff and supervisors to provide enhanced support services and expand support service to relatives. 									
<p>Funding Sources</p>	<p>The total state general fund appropriation for SFY17 is about \$84.5 million. Here is a breakdown of funding for child welfare:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SFY17 total budget is \$155,260,439 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ \$62,869,195 is federal <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ TANF: \$37,256,580 ▪ SSBG: \$ 7,696,317 ▪ Other: \$17,916,298 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has IV-E and IV-B parts 1 & 2 ○ \$84,482,419 is State General Fund ○ \$ 3,734,069 is other State General Fund ○ \$ 4,174,746 is other Recoveries 	<p style="text-align: center;">SFY17 Funding</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ State General Fund (54%) ■ Federal (41%) ■ Other Funding (5%) <table border="1"> <caption>SFY17 Funding Breakdown</caption> <thead> <tr> <th>Funding Source</th> <th>Percentage</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>State General Fund</td> <td>54%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Federal</td> <td>41%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Other Funding</td> <td>5%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Funding Source	Percentage	State General Fund	54%	Federal	41%	Other Funding	5%
Funding Source	Percentage									
State General Fund	54%									
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<p>SFY18 & SFY19 Budget Drivers</p>	<p>✓ <i>States are subject to financial penalties ranging from 1 percent to 5 percent of federal IV-B and IV-E funding if they fail to meet federal expectations, including annual targets for monthly visits with children in foster care. Iowa is currently in the 1st quarter of a Program Improvement Plan.</i></p> <p>This request includes \$5,478,098 to replace one-time TANF surplus funds appropriated in SFY17 that will not be available in SFY18 or SFY19.</p>									

Legal Basis

Federal:

- Title IV-B and IV-E of the Social Security Act, and under the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA)
- The Federal government sets specific requirements and performance expectations, which are measured through the Child and Family Services Review (CFSR). Under the CFSR, states are expected to meet national standards on seven outcomes related to child safety, permanency, and well-being. (45 CFR 1355.32-37)
- Public Law 113-183, the Preventing Sex Trafficking and Strengthening Families Act of 2014

State:

- Iowa Code, Chapters 233, 232B, 233, 234, 235, 235A, 237, 237B, and 238