

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.

A majority of children who have been abused are 5 years old or younger and are victims of denial of critical care.

In SFY12:

- 31,284 children were at risk and/or were abused. Of those 11,706 (37 percent) were the victims of abuse and received child welfare services.
- An average of 445 youth per year age out of the foster care system. An average of 286 youth have accessed Aftercare services for life skills training and limited financial support.

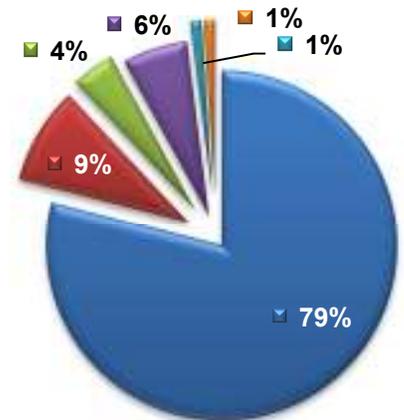
Juvenile Justice services are provided to children and their families if they are either at risk of continued delinquent behavior, have committed a delinquent act and have been adjudicated as a delinquent, or have been certified by the chief juvenile court officer as eligible for court-ordered services.

In SFY12,

- Juvenile Court Services received 20,949 referrals against juveniles.
 - Less than twenty-five 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.

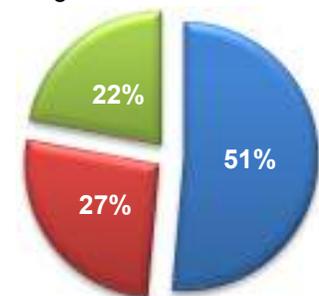
Type of Abuse SFY12

- Denial of critical care / neglect
- Physical
- Sexual abuse
- Presence of Illegal Drugs
- Exposure to manufacturing meth
- Allows access to registered sex offender

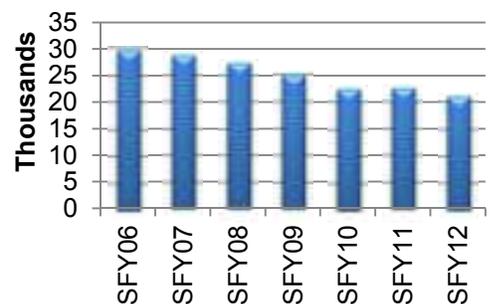


Abuse by Age SFY12

- 5 or Younger
- 6 to 10
- Older than 11



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 SFY12, 4 percent were sexual abuse, compared to 9.2 percent nationally (Child Maltreatment data 2010).*
- ✓ *Sixty-four percent of the youth who had violations on or before the beginning of the CY 2010-2011 school year had no new law violations by the end of the school year.*

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.

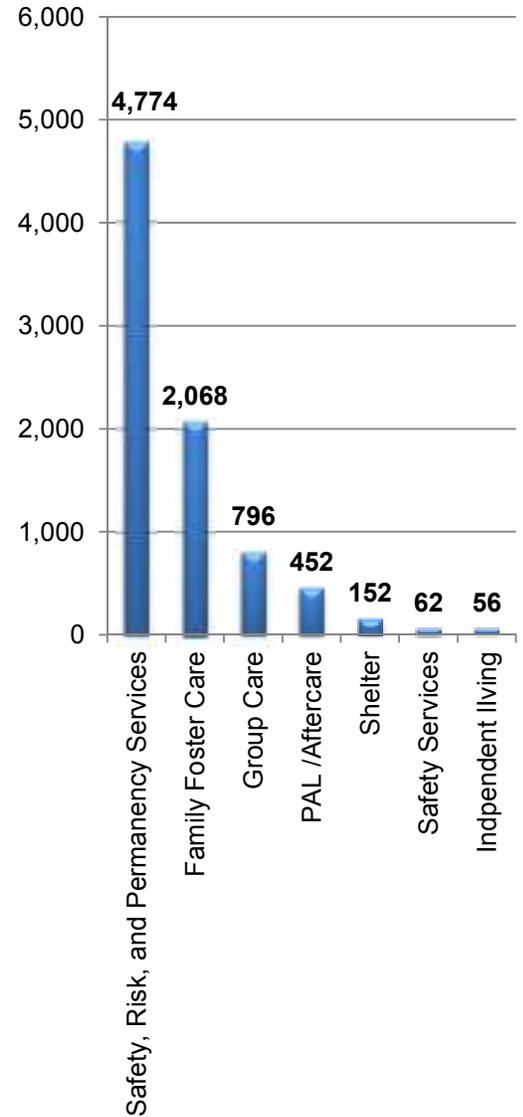
In-home services improve parenting skills in order to safely maintain the child in the home.

- There are 11 family centered providers that served 4,836 families in SFY12. The 4,836 included 62 Safety Services provided during child abuse assessments and 4,774 Safety, Risk, and Permanency Services provided to DHS eligible cases.

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. Currently, there is a parent partner presence in approximately two-thirds of the state.
- 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 2,246 foster families. In SFY12 2,068 children were served on average each month in family foster care. The average length of stay was 621 days.
- Group foster 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 15 group care contractors with a total of 1,238 available beds located across the state.

Average Monthly Served

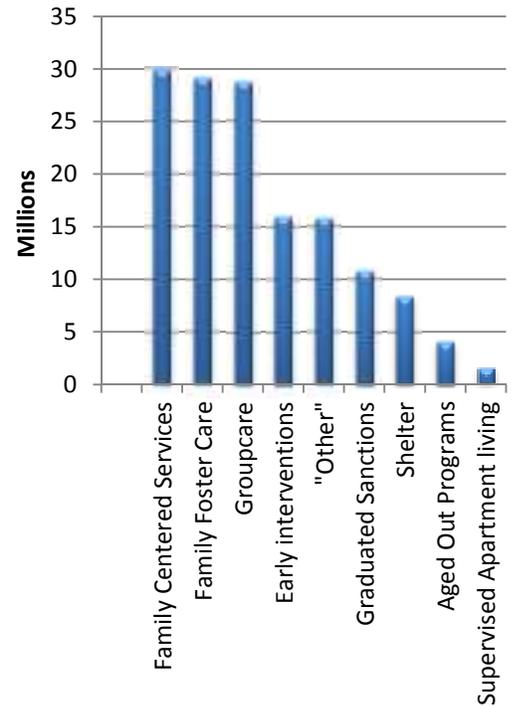


- Child Welfare Emergency Services (CWES) is an array of short term and temporary interventions that range from the least restrictive approaches that can be used to avoid out-of-home placement (e.g., family conflict mediations or in-home interventions) to more restrictive services including emergency juvenile shelter care.
 - There are 14 CWES contractors that offer 16 CWES juvenile shelters. These contracts provide for 286 beds although additional beds can be purchased up to the maximum number licensed (currently 355).
- 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 12 child welfare providers comprise the Iowa Aftercare Services Network, providing services to 452 youth monthly.
- 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, monitoring, and outreach.
 - There are 114 graduated sanctions contracts with community providers to provide the services listed above.
 - Juvenile Court/School Liaisons are located in 100 Iowa schools within 64 school districts.
 - Tracking and monitoring services are provided by 13 social service agencies.
 - 2,091 tracking and monitoring cases closed in SFY12.

Out of home services include detention, foster care, and the State Training Schools in Toledo and Eldora.

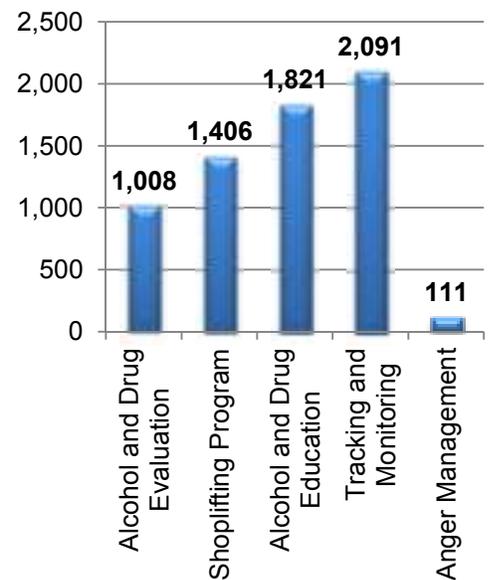
- Youth needing out of home care utilize the foster care services described in child welfare services above.
- Additionally, ten Iowa detention centers provide services to an average 88 youth per day and state training schools house an average 127 delinquent boys and 12 girls daily.

Child Welfare Dollars by Program SFY12



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

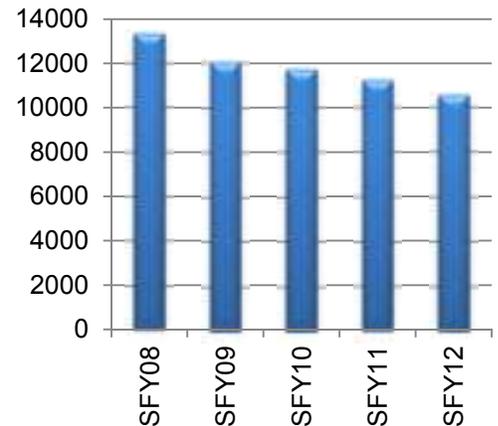
Top Five Juvenile Justice Services Completed in SFY12



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

- BHIS are provided by a network of 89 providers many of whom also provide other child welfare and juvenile justice services.

Total Children Served in Out of Home Services



- ✓ *In SFY12, 5,195 parents/adults received services targeted to children at-risk of abuse.*
- ✓ *In SFY12, 80 percent of child victims remain in their home while receiving services to ensure safety.*
- ✓ *Approximately 33 percent of children who are removed from their home are in the care of an extended family member.*
- ✓ *In SFY12, 95 percent of youth participating in aftercare report having a safe and stable place to live. 96 percent report having one or more supportive relationships.*
- ✓ *Increasingly, Juvenile Court Services is using research-proven family and community based services, oftentimes without the formality of a court order, to address the behavior in a community setting and avoid lengthy and costly court interventions and out of home placements.*
- ✓ *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.
- Continue to develop a differentiated response model to respond to abuse and neglect concerns.

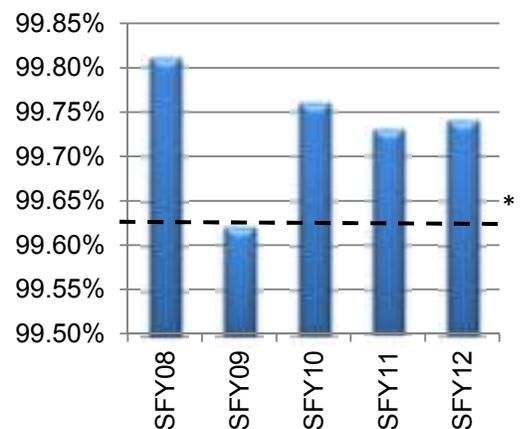
Goal: Children will achieve permanency.

Strategies:

- Provide staff training on how to safely reduce out-of-home placements
- Expand Parent Partners statewide to coach/mentor parents on what they need to address so their children can return home to a safe environment.
- If a child must be removed for safety reasons, attempt to reunify quickly to a safe environment.

Results:

Children Safe from Maltreatment in Foster Care



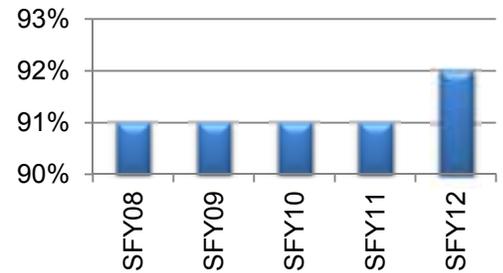
*National benchmark 99.68%

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

Strategies:

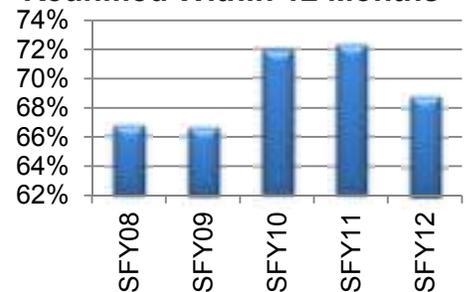
- Begin systemic training activities related to the effect of early childhood trauma on growth and development.
- Continue work on disproportionality of minority children and youth in the child welfare/juvenile justice system.

Children Safe from Re-abuse*



*National Benchmark 94.6%

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 recognize that collaboration and shared accountability will lead to positive outcomes for our children and families.*
- ✓ *In SFY12, 3 percent of Children and Family Services funding is used for prevention.*
- ✓ *In SFY12, 555 participants from diverse backgrounds were trained on Race: The Power of Illusion.*

Cost of Services

As described above, 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 projected costs for SFY13.

The average annual cost per family for Community Care service is \$624.

The average cost per child for Family Safety Risk and Permanency service is \$5,670. This cost is per average 10-month episode of service.

The average annual cost per child for Family Foster Care service is \$13,560.

The average annual cost per child for Group Care service is \$34,153.

The average cost per child for an average 15-day CWES/Shelter stay is \$1,386.

The average annual cost per youth for Preparation for Adult Living (PAL) is \$11,047.

The average annual cost per youth for Supervised Apartment Living (SAL) is \$20,443.

The average cost per child/youth for graduated sanctions adolescent tracking and monitoring service is \$247. This cost is per average three-month episode of service.

The average cost per child/youth for graduated sanctions supervised community treatment service is \$1,627. This cost is per average three-month episode of service.

Funding Sources

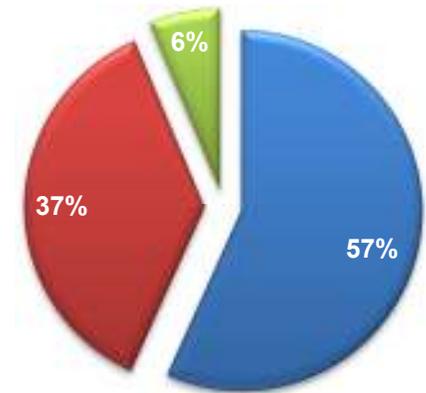
The total state general fund request for SY14 is about \$81.8 million. Here is a breakdown of funding for child welfare:

- SFY14 total budget is \$143,907,606
 - \$53,081,159 is federal
 - TANF: \$32,084,430
 - SSBG: \$ 954,464
 - Other: \$20,042,265
 - Has IV-E and IV-B parts 1 & 2
 - \$81,655,292 is State General Fund
 - \$3,734,069 is other State General Fund
 - \$5,437,086 is other Recoveries
- SFY15 total budget is \$143,594,647
 - \$52,583,973 is federal
 - TANF: \$32,084,430
 - SSBG: \$ 954,464
 - Other: \$19,545,079
 - Has IV-E and IV-B parts 1 & 2
 - \$81,839,519 is State General Fund
 - \$ 3,734,069 is other State General Fund
 - \$ 5,437,086 is other Recoveries

The FY13 FMAP is 59.87%. That rate declines to 58.80% in FY14.

SFY14 Funding

■ State General Fund ■ Federal
■ Other Funding



✓ *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 Quarter 4 of a Program Improvement Plan.*

SFY 2014 & 2015 Budget Drivers

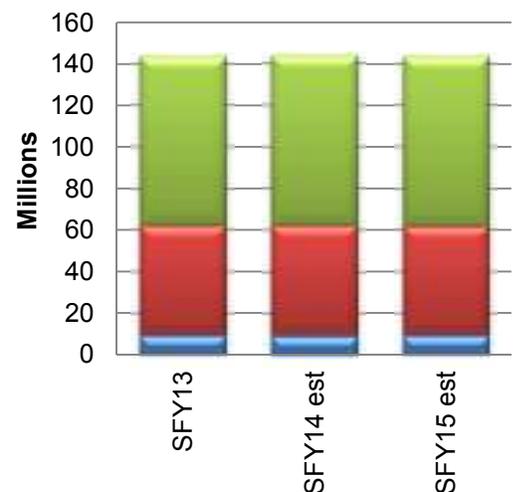
The total SFY14 Child and Family Services budget reflects a nominal \$423,731 (0.5 percent) general fund increase from the SFY13 total.

The key budget drivers of the SFY changes are:

- Change in the federal fund match rate (FMAP) will cause the state share to increase. The FY13 FMAP is 59.87 percent. That rate declines to 58.80 percent in FY14.
- The 2012 drought is expected to have some impact on the Iowa economy. Due to the uncertainty of the magnitude of this impact and if or how it may affect caseloads or costs for SFY14 and SFY15, the department has not factored any impact of the drought into its budget projections.

Total Budget Funding Mix

■ State General Fund
■ Federal
■ Other Fund



	<p>Improved Results, Parent Partners:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The department plans to expand the Parent Partner program. Parent partners are people with their own experiences in the child welfare system who coach and mentor other families. The strategy is designed to reduce length of out-of-home stays, to prevent repeat abuse, and to improve successful reunification. • There are currently 20 Parent Partner sites in 68 counties serving 600 parents, with a current average cost per parent receiving services of \$1,700. A stable funding source is needed to ensure program growth. • The goal for SFY14 is to increase the number of parents served to 866 with an estimated cost of \$1.8 million. • The goal for SFY15 is to expand the program statewide, serving 1,470 parents, at an estimated cost of \$2.8 million. <p>Improved Results, Differential Response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HF2226 directs the department to develop a “differential response” to complaints of child abuse that would provide services in cases of less-serious abuse without a formal investigation or finding. Other states have shown that this method yields fewer removals and improved family function over time. • The goal for SFY14 is to perform system changes. Federal dollars will be used. • The goal for SFY15 is to implement a differential response system in two of the department’s five service areas. Funds to support this initiative are available by reallocating funds within the child welfare appropriation. 	
<p>Legal Basis</p>	<p>Federal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 7 outcomes related to child safety, permanency, and well-being. (45CFR 1355.32-37) <p>State:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Iowa Code, Chapters 233, 232B, 233, 234, 235, 235A, 237, 237B, and 238. 	