

DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY SERVICES
Director's Report
DJJS/DFS Policy and Fiscal Affairs Board
August 23, 2012

The Department of Family Services (DFS) presents the following updates related to personnel and budgetary status, as well as activities related to current initiatives and programmatic activities:

Personnel/Budget:

- DFS concluded FY12 slightly over-budget (2%) in the State block grant, largely due to increases in finalized adoptions and the related adoption subsidies. DFS has, per statutory allowance, requested the State reimburse the department for this budget overage. DFS concluded the fiscal year under-budget in County expenditures. For FY13, DFS projects expenditures in both State and County funded programs will be similar to FY12. The department will continue efforts to secure additional reimbursement for adoption subsidy increases.
- DFS has continued to pursue grant funding. In late July, the department applied for a \$3 million federal grant specifically to augment mental health services for children and youth in care. If awarded, the grant will allow the department to explore and implement best practices in mental health screening and assessment, implement a more comprehensive mental health service array, and initiate targeted training for staff and foster parents.
- DFS has continued to receive approval to fill vacant front-line supervisory and case management positions. The State will initiate another new worker training academy on August 27, 2012, and 19 new case managers from DFS will participate in the training. We expect these new staff will be fully deployed and carrying cases by early December.

Major Program Efforts:

- *Development of a Therapeutic Foster Care Pilot Program:* During the 2011 Legislative Session, child welfare agencies were tasked with the development of a business case and proposal for redesigning therapeutic foster care. The proposed pilot is intended to include the possible realignment of Medicaid State general fund monies to the child welfare agencies to better support placement needs and coordination of services for children. The business plan was submitted to the Interim Finance Committee for review and approval, and will be heard on August 23, 2012. If approved, the department will be tasked with implementing the proposed pilot starting on October 1, 2012.
- *Implementation of Revised Safety Practice Model:* In collaboration with the State, the department is implementing revisions to the safety practice model. These revisions include the implementation of a more robust safety practice model, with emphasis on safety assessment throughout the life of a case (from initial intake to case closure). It will also allow the department to streamline family assessment processes and better support Court review of family issues. This implementation kicked-off in July, when the National Resource Center for Child Protective Services reviewed more than 400 DFS Hotline reports and initial CPS assessments. The results of the week-long review will establish a baseline for performance and help the department develop an implementation plan for rolling out revisions to the current Safety Practice Model.
- *Improved Partnerships with Medicaid:* The department has focused considerable effort on expanding communication and partnerships with Medicaid. These efforts have largely centered on improving coordination and communication around Medicaid-billable services and their related outcomes. Formal processes for sharing information (detailed Medicaid service reports, routine meetings, etc.) have been put in place. Our goal in doing this is to increase accountability for Medicaid providers and to improve the services delivered to children and youth.

The DFS Statistical Overview for July is attached.



DFS Statistical Overview Report for July 2012

All information in this report is from the DFS case management system as of **Aug 14, 2012**, unless otherwise noted.

Note: Data is dynamic and changes regularly. Different run dates will result in different totals.

Child Protective Services[^]

	July 2012 Total	2012 YTD Total	Monthly Average
Hotline Calls Answered - Community Line*	1,751	12,928	1,847
Hotline Calls Answered - Emergency Line*	1,072	7,685	1,098
Abuse and Neglect Referrals Received**	1,051	9,246	1,321
Differential Response Investigations	15	289	41
CPS Investigations	600	5,078	725
Substantiated CPS Investigations	131	1,552	222

[^] The data above represents multiple children and families. Also, some children and families have multiple referrals or investigations during the year.

* Non-case management system data. Not all calls warrant the creation of a referral, differential response or an investigation.

** DFS receives information of child abuse and neglect by various methods: phone, fax, in-person, police reports, email and mail.

Receiving Team, Emergency Reception Center and Visitation Center[^]

	July 2012 Total	2012 YTD Total	Monthly Average
Emergency Reception Center Child Count	307	2,044	292
Receiving Team Child Count	363	2,454	351
Released to Parent, Relative, or Fictive Kin	116	793	113
Released to Foster Parent	148	1,034	148
Released to Other	3	32	5
Scheduled Visitation Center Visits	2,504	16,203	2,315
Visitors to Visitation Center	7,009	47,269	6,753

Child Haven Population in July 2012

Average Daily Population: 23.3

Average Length of Stay (Days): 6.7

[^] All data items in this table, except for Child Haven Population averages, are from non-case management system sources.

Adoptions

	July 2012 Total	2012 YTD Total	Monthly Average
Finalized Adoptions	49	242	35
Children for whom DFS is actively seeking Adoptive Homes*	109	--	107

* Non-case management system data. YTD Total is not available at this time.



DFS Statistical Overview Report for July 2012

Licensed Homes

	Jul 31, 2012 Total
Regular Foster Homes	682
Relative Foster Homes	319
Treatment Foster Homes	256
Treatment Group Homes	13

Placements

	Jul 31, 2012 Total
Children in Parental Care	958
Children in Relative Care♦	1,458
Children in Foster Care*	1,134
Children in HLOC**	382
Children in Other Placement Types^	200

♦Unpaid and paid relative homes.

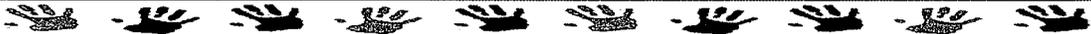
* In addition to regular foster care, this category includes Child Haven, shelter emergency homes, ICPC, non-relative and pre-adoptive homes.

** HLOC is Higher Level of Care. Examples include, mental health residential programs, psychological hospitals and treatment homes.

^ Other Placements Types include: runaway, absconder, detention, youth parole, nursing home, medical hospital and independent living.

Demographics of Children in Placement on Jul 31, 2012

Gender	Percent	Race	Percent	Ethnicity	Percent
Male	49.92%	African American	29.91%	Hispanic	26.23%
Female	50.08%	Asian	1.50%	Non-Hispanic	66.26%
Unknown	0.00%	Caucasian	57.45%	Unknown	7.51%
		Multi-Racial	9.45%		
		Native American	0.65%		
		Native Hawaiian	0.82%		
		Unknown	0.22%		



Contact the Quality Assurance and Improvement Data Analysis Team at DFSHelpDesk@ClarkCountyNV.gov.