

DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY SERVICES
Director's Report
DJJS/DFS Policy and Fiscal Affairs Board
November 7, 2013

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

Personnel/Budget:

- Budget projections show that DFS is running right at budget. We are pending Interim Finance Committee approval (December 9) to move additional monies from the Medicaid budget to the child welfare budget to support therapeutic foster care pilot efforts.
- DFS is currently in the process of filling ten (10) front-line case management positions. Interviews and hiring assessments are scheduled for November 2013. These positions will begin training in January 2014 and will fill all current, front-line vacancies.

Major Program Efforts:

- **Federal Grant Application:** In partnership with the Department of Social Service, the SNRPC Regional Initiative Office, and 10 other major community partners, DFS applied for and was awarded an Administration for Children and Families (ACF) planning grant aimed at reducing homelessness for at-risk youth, including current and former foster youth. The grant provides DFS and partners approximately \$700,000 over a 2-year period to build a comprehensive plan for programming to meet the needs of these youth. At the end of the planning period, and if approved by ACF, the department would then be eligible for \$5 million over a 5 year period to implement the plan and to fund necessary changes. The first grantee meeting is scheduled next week in Washington DC.
- **Building Connections Child Welfare Summit:** On August 7, 8, and 9, DFS hosted a community-wide summit; nearly 150 child welfare partners attended. The focus of each meeting was to help educate our partners about the department's two major initiatives (the Safety Intervention and Permanency System and the Quality Parenting Initiative) and to solicit their feedback and ongoing participation. A final report out and next steps plan is being developed now.
- **Legislative Change Coordination and Implementation:** In partnership with the State and Washoe County, DFS developed implementation plans for operational changes required to come into compliance with legislative and statute changes. DFS began meeting with treatment agencies/partners on October 4 to discuss foster care licensing statute/regulation changes and related contract modifications. Meetings will continue through December.
- **National Adoption Month Celebration:** November is National Adoption Month, and DFS will be hosting its annual Adoption Day Celebration on Thursday, November 21, at 8:00 AM at the gymnasium adjacent to Child Haven. The department will finalize 90 adoptions that day.
- **Holiday Celebrations:** The attached document provides a brief summary of all the holiday events and activities that are currently being planned to support our foster children.

The DFS Statistical Overview for September 2013 is attached.

Clark County Department of Family Services: Holiday Celebrations 2013



Event	Community Partner	Date	Time	Location	Description
Stuffed Animal Drive	Fred Meyers Jewelers	10/21/13 thru end of Dec.	N/A	All Fred Meyers Jewelers	Fred Meyers Jewelers will sell stuffed animals and ask customers to donate the toy to children served by DFS. A donation box also will be in the store.
Donation Drive for Child Haven	Akers & Assoc, Safe SB, BOWD	10/23/13	1-4:30 p.m.	Sammy's Woodfired Pizza	This is a donation drive for Peggy's Attic at Child Haven.
Vaping for Charity	Vaping for Children	10/26/13	8 p.m. - 12 a.m.	Little Macau 3939 Spring Mountain Rd	The group will raise money through a raffle to purchase Christmas presents for children at Child Haven.
Toys for Tapas	Firefly	11/1/13-12/20/13	N/A	3824 Paradise Rd., Las Vegas Summerlin 9560 W. Sahara Ave., Las Vegas 11261 S. Eastern Ave., Henderson	Firefly will be accepting donations of new, unwrapped toys at all three Firefly locations. The toys will be donated to DFS. Donating patrons will receive one free food or drink voucher good through Jan 31.
Cheryl Kosewicz Memorial Golf Day	Koz's Kloset (At Child Haven)	11/2/2013	7:30 a.m.	Shotgun Stallion Mountain Golf Course 5500 E. Flamingo Rd LV, NV 89122	The proceeds from the benefit will go to Koz's Kloset.
Wendy's 3-Tour Challenge	Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption: Wendy's Wonderful Kids	12/11/2013	2p.m. -4:30p	Rio Secco Golf Club	Children waiting for adoption will play miniature golf with professional golfers.
Heart Gallery Display	The Adoption Exchange	11/12/13 (for approx 6 weeks)	N/A	Clark County Government Center	The traveling Heart Gallery will be at the center through December. Displayed are professional photos and information cards of waiting children.
I Am Silent No More	Commissioner Lawrence Weekly	11/19/13	5 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.	Pearson Community Center	Commissioner Weekly and DFS will raise awareness about the need for quality foster and adoptive parents through the eyes of youth and caregivers.
Adoption Day	The Adoption Exchange, Olive Crest, and CASA	11/21/13	8 a.m.	Child Haven/JJ Gymnasium	The annual Adoption Day program is designed to finalize a large amount of adoptions on one day and to raise adoption awareness.
Thanksgiving Dinner for IL Youth	Rachel's Kitchen, CASA Foundation, and FCAA	11/28/13	TBD	TBD	IL Youth ages 15 to 21 will participate. More info. to come!
DFS Holiday Party	N/A	12/7/13	7 p.m.	UNLV-MSU Ballroom	A holiday party for employees.

Clark County Department of Family Services: Holiday Celebrations 2013



Gift of Giving	Child Focus	12/7/13	10:30 a.m – 2:30 p.m.	Spring Preserves	Invite Only – for separated sibling groups.
FAAYT Holiday Party	FAAYT	12/13/13	4:00 p.m. – 8 p.m.	Child Haven Gym (TBD)	This event celebrates youth and increases awareness of FAAYT meetings and events. The goal also is to raise awareness of the Foster Care Alumni Association (FCAA) and other support services.
CASA Angel Tree Celebration	CASA	12/14/2013	The time slots are 10-11:30 a.m. 12-1:30 p.m. or 2-3:30 p.m.	Wirtz Beverage Nevada, 1849 W. Cheyenne Avenue North Las Vegas, NV 89032.	Each year the CASA Foundation hosts an Angel Tree Holiday Party for foster children. Each child is provided \$50 in gifts or a gift card and will celebrate at a party.
Valley Auto Mall Holiday Event (for IL Youth)	Valley Auto Mall	12/15/2013	8 a.m. - 2 p.m.	Towbin Dodge Superstore, 275 Automall Drive, Henderson	The Valley Auto Mall continues its holiday shopping tradition for Independent Living Program youth, who each receive a \$100 gift card.
Peggy's Attic Toy Distribution	Peggy's Attic	12/16/2013 – 12/24/2013	10 a.m. – 5 p.m. including Saturdays	Peggy's Attic	Peggy's Attic will distribute toys to case workers for the children on their caseload.
Build-a-Bear	DFS, Build-A-Bear and California Pizza Kitchen	12/19/13	8:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.	Fashion Show Mall	Build-A-Bear is providing in-home children with the opportunity to build a teddy bear. Lunch also will be provided.
Santa Cop	LV Metro Bolden Area Command	TBD	Early a.m.	Target, 278 S. Decatur Blvd. near Meadows Mall	Every year, the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department selects children (3-12 yo) to participate in the annual Santa Cop program. Santa Claus helicopters in to greet the 100 children who are paired with an officer for a holiday shopping spree at Target.



DFS Statistical Overview Report for September 2013

All information in this report is from the DFS case management system as of **Oct 14, 2013**, unless otherwise noted.

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

Child Protective Services[^]

	September 2013 Total	2013 YTD Total	Monthly Average
Hotline Calls Answered - Community Line*	2,136	17,779	1,975
Hotline Calls Answered - Emergency Line*	1,027	9,624	1,069
Abuse and Neglect Referrals Received**	1,640	12,261	1,362
Differential Response Investigations	36	393	44
CPS Investigations	853	6,285	698
Substantiated CPS Investigations	88	1,780	198

[^] 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[^]

	September 2013 Total	2013 YTD Total	Monthly Average
Emergency Reception Center Child Count	333	2,740	304
Receiving Team Child Count	389	3,371	375
Released to Parent, Relative, or Fictive Kin	79	839	93
Released to Foster Parent	171	1,339	149
Released to Other	5	29	3
Scheduled Visitation Center Visits	2,296	20,660	2,296
Visitors to Visitation Center	6,658	60,003	6,667

Child Haven Population in September 2013

Average Daily Population: 17.4

Average Length of Stay (Days): 3.7

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

Adoptions

	September 2013 Total	2013 YTD Total	Monthly Average
Finalized Adoptions	18	327	36
Children for whom DFS is actively seeking Adoptive Homes*	110	---	88

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



DFS Statistical Overview Report for September 2013

Licensed Homes

	Sep 30, 2013 Total
Regular Foster Homes	629
Relative Foster Homes	346
Treatment Foster Homes	267
Treatment Group Homes	13

Placements on Sep 30, 2013

	Sep 30, 2013 Total
Children in Parental Care	640
Children in Relative Care♦	1,357
Children in Foster Care*	1,218
Children in Therapeutic Care**	373
Children in Clark Voluntary Jurisdiction	217
Children in Other Placement Types^	42

♦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.

** 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 Sep 30, 2013

Gender	Percent	Race	Percent	Ethnicity	Percent
Male	50.20%	African American	30.05%	Hispanic	27.18%
Female	49.80%	Asian	1.37%	Non-Hispanic	63.99%
Unknown	0.00%	Caucasian	57.90%	Unknown	8.83%
		Multi-Racial	8.85%		
		Native American	0.60%		
		Native Hawaiian	0.89%		
		Unknown	0.34%		



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