



Children's Services Agency Fiscal Year 2019

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

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Children's Services Agency

- Oversees all child welfare services for children and their families.
- Employs approximately 3,663 staff including 3,179 field staff and 484 central office staff.
- Administers contracts to provide foster care, licensing and adoption services with approximately 1,093 private agency staff and 337 supervisors.



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.

FY 2017

- Complaints received: 167,160
- Complaints investigated: 90,760 (54% of complaints received)
- Cases with a preponderance finding: 26,017 - Category I, II & III (29% of assigned investigations, 15% of all complaints received)
- Number of children placed in out of home care: 7,429



Foster Care

- Delivered by MDHHS and private agency foster care staff with approximately \$176.7 million in foster care payments.
- As of December 31, 2017, MDHHS was responsible for care and supervision of 13,439 children.
- Provides placement and supervision of children who have been removed by the court from their home due to abuse or neglect.
- Ensures the safety, permanency 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.



Adoption Assistance

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

- More than 1,980 children were adopted in 2017.*
- Administers approximately \$213 million each year.
- 95% of all adopted youth from foster care are eligible annually.
- Population currently served is approximately 25,000 children.
- Eight regional Post Adoption Resource Centers continue to provide services statewide.

**Number is preliminary as the number of 2017 adoptions has not yet been finalized.*



Guardianship Assistance

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

- Administers approximately \$11 million in assistance.
- On average annually, 1000 youth exit the foster care to guardianship are served through the guardianship assistance program.
- Addresses financial needs through monthly ongoing assistance payments.
- Provides medical subsidy covered services such as orthodontics, therapy and tutoring.



Child Welfare Licensing

Protects vulnerable children by administering, monitoring and consulting with licensees.

The Division of Child Welfare Licensing monitors contracts and licenses the following:

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

The Division of Child Welfare Licensing administers, monitors and provides consultation for 6,338 agencies, facilities and foster homes, as well as 287 contracts.



Juvenile Justice

- Provides community-based programs and supervision for juvenile justice youth referred or committed to MDHHS.
- Provides technical assistance, consultation, assessment services and training for community-based and residential juvenile justice programs.
- MDHHS operates 2 secure, residential juvenile justice rehabilitative facilities: Bay Pines Center, located in Escanaba, and Shawono Center, located in Grayling (capacity of 40 beds for each facility).
- In fiscal year 2017, Bay Pines served 93 youth and Shawono served 57 youth.



Challenges

- Reduction of maltreatment in care and recurrence of abuse.
- Retention of foster families.
- Retention of front-line staff.
- Continued improvements to the MiSACWIS system.



Successes

- Launched the Kent County Performance Based Funding Pilot on October 1, 2017.
- Ongoing collaboration and feedback for changes with counties/tribes regarding the County Child Care Fund (CCF).
- Following the expansion of the family preservation and prevention services last year, the outcomes of the Family Preservation Programs for children and families all remain at 88% or higher.
- Partnered with the University of Michigan to develop an interactive dashboard to monitor progress towards meeting the federal permanency goals. <http://ssw-datalab.org/project/cfsr-in-michigan/>
- Increased timely medical and dental appointments for children in foster care.



Kent County Performance Based Funding Pilot

- Pilot implemented October 1, 2017 when MDHHS contracted with the West Michigan Partnership for Children (WMPC) for the care and supervision of all children under the foster care jurisdiction in Kent County.
- Contract allows the WMPC to sub contract for all necessary placements and services under the actuarial-established case rate which is paid prospectively, twice per year, for as long as the child is in foster care.
- Prospective payment allows `front-loading' of services with a goal of remediation of risks and early reunification or other permanency plan.
- The case rate decreases the longer a child remains in foster care.



County Child Care Fund (CCF)

- Provides financial reimbursement to counties/tribes for:
 - Community-based programming
 - In-Home Care programs
 - Placement costs for youth in child welfare or juvenile justice programs.
- Individualized annual plans and budgets are reviewed each year for approval prior to reimbursement of CCF-related expenses.
- MDHHS has fiduciary and administrative responsibility for this reimbursement program between the state and counties and tribes.
- MDHHS and relevant stakeholders successfully revised CCF policies and some procedures in 2017, which took effect 10/1/2017.



5 year history of major line item appropriations ***(in millions)***

Appropriation	FY 2015 Expenditures	FY 2016 Expenditures	FY 2017 Expenditures	FY 2018 Enacted	FY 2019 Executive Recommendation
Guardian Assistance Payments	\$8.3	\$9.4	\$11.2	\$11.5	\$12.7
Foster Care Payments	\$192.7	\$187.5	\$185.6	\$198.4	\$235.3
Adoption Subsidy Payments	\$226.9	\$218.7	\$222.8	\$210.4	\$204.7
Child Care Fund	\$184.9	\$180.4	\$183.4	\$192.5	\$194.6