

Michigan Statewide Automated Child Welfare Information System Transition to the Comprehensive Child Welfare Information System

(FY 2020 Appropriation Act - Public Act 67 of 2019)

January 1, 2020

Sec. 1906. (1) The workgroup, in collaboration with the Michigan Federation of Children and Families and the Association of Accredited Child and Family Agencies, shall issue a report to the house and senate appropriations subcommittees on the department budget, the house and senate fiscal agencies, the house and senate policy offices, and the state budget office no later than November 1, January 1, March 1, May 1, July 1, and September 1 of the current fiscal year that must consist of, but is not limited to, the following:

- a) Recommendations for the future funding and operations of MiSACWIS and the replacement state child welfare information system.***
- b) Recommendations for any remedial actions that the workgroup considers necessary for the department to implement in order to improve the functions of MiSACWIS and the subsequent state child welfare information system, and measures established to determine the success of MiSACWIS and the replacement state child welfare information system.***
- c) Any other information the workgroup would like to provide regarding MiSACWIS and the replacement state child welfare information system.***

(2) As used in this section, "workgroup" means the workgroup established by the department to facilitate the transition from the use of MiSACWIS to a replacement state child welfare information system, according to the independent assessment of Michigan's statewide automated child welfare information system and child welfare data reporting infrastructure submitted to the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan on February 25, 2019.



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The MDHHS' Children's Services Agency (CSA) continues preparations for the transition to a comprehensive child welfare information system (CCWIS).

Recommendations for the future funding and operations of MiSACWIS and the replacement state child welfare information system:

The department is pursuing the incremental, modular replacement of MiSACWIS, beginning calendar year 2020. MiSACWIS will be maintained throughout the development of the new CCWIS in order to continue to support child welfare operations. As functions are implemented in CCWIS, corresponding functions will be retired in MiSACWIS. Further changes or enhancements to the MiSACWIS application will be closely scrutinized and strictly monitored to assure they are necessary.

Recommendations for remedial actions to improve MiSACWIS functionality and CCWIS, and measures established to determine the success of MiSACWIS and CCWIS:

Modifications were made to MiSACWIS this quarter to improve usability and address key user needs. The focus, in addition to the state or federal mandated changes, will be on usability, data quality, and fixes that will reduce the need for users to call in help desk tickets. Measures to determine success of MiSACWIS and the new CCWIS have not been finalized but are in progress.

Close communication with the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) continues regarding the CCWIS planning. Human Centered Design approaches have been assessed and will be a priority in the design, development, and implementation of the CCWIS. The department has committed to assuring there is a review of the current policies and practice to streamline workflow and increase efficiency that will then be supported by the new technology.

Any other information the workgroup would like to provide regarding MiSACWIS and the replacement state child welfare information system.

The CCWIS executive committee established previously continues to work closely with the initial CCWIS Planning Team. The initial CCWIS planning team has been developing federal reporting documents and working through the procurement process. The federal reports are currently under review by ACF. The next steps in the procurement process, which will include publishing of the initial CCWIS Request for Proposal (RFP), can occur once ACF approves the reports. Additional stakeholders will be incorporated as next steps are taken in the process. Efforts are underway to establish a CCWIS workgroup that will involve the proper stakeholders including private agencies, court, county and tribal representatives. Additionally, MDHHS has established a partnership with Foster America specific to improving child welfare across the country. This partnership will offer insights to the CCWIS Licensing Module planning and development and also include potential participants to the workgroup.