

June 8, 2016

Patrick O'Donnell, Clerk of the Legislature  
State Capitol, Room 2018  
P.O. Box 94604  
Lincoln, NE 68509

Dear Mr. O'Donnell:

Nebraska Revised Statutes § 81-3133(2)(b) requires the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Children and Family Services to report in writing to the Health and Human Services Committee of the Legislature and the Appropriations Committee of the Legislature on the progress toward the key goals identified pursuant to this subsection that occurred in the previous 12 months. Pursuant to this law, we are submitting our reports of the expenditures and related outcomes for the state fiscal years beginning July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2013, and beginning July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Douglas J. Weinberg, Director  
Division of Children and Family Services  
Department of Health and Human Services

Attachment

**REPORT TO:** Appropriations & Health and Human Services Committees

**REPORT DATE:** June 2, 2016

**STATUTE:** 81-3133 (2)(b)

**CONTACT PERSON:** Doug Kreifels, CFS Division Financial Officer, 402-471-3379

### **General Information**

Nebraska Revised Statutes § 81-3133(2)(b): "Not later than September 15, 2013, not later than September 15, 2015, and not later than September 15, 2017, the Division of Children and Family Services of the Department of Health and Human Services shall report electronically to the Health and Human Services Committee of the Legislature and the Appropriations Committee of the Legislature on the progress toward the key goals identified pursuant to this subsection that occurred in the previous 12 months. The division shall annually appear at a joint hearing of the two legislative committees and present the report."

In 2012, Budget Program 354 was established for child welfare.

- Attachment A provides the CFS child welfare expenditures for the period of July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2013.
- Attachment A-2 provides the CFS child welfare expenditures for the period of July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015.
- Attachment B provides the definitions of our outcome measures.
- Attachments B-1 through B-6 report outcomes relating to expenditures for the period of July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2013.
- Attachments B-7 through B-12 report outcomes relating to expenditures for the period of July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015.

### **Progress Summary**

This is the annual expenditure and outcomes report required by 81-3133. The next annual report as required by Neb. Rev. Stat. § 81-3133 is due September 15, 2017.

Outcomes reported are from COMPASS (Children's Outcomes Measured in Protection and Safety Statistics). These measures reflect federal performance measures for which DHHS is held accountable for by the federal Administration for Children and Families.

On-going updates of the COMPASS measures are posted on the Department website at: [http://dhhs.ne.gov/children\\_family\\_services/Pages/performancegauges.aspx](http://dhhs.ne.gov/children_family_services/Pages/performancegauges.aspx). Each outcome report identifies the outcome measurement, provides a brief description of the measurement, provides numerical data by month for the State and each of the DHHS Service Areas and provides the federal outcome measurement target. Each outcome report also provides a graph to depict data over time. Measurement definitions and definitions of composite scores are provided as part of Attachment B.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
Attachment A - Expenditures  
July 1, 2012 thru June 30, 2013 Child Welfare Expenditures

PROGRAM 354 <u>CHILD WELFARE</u>		July 1, 2012 thru Sept. 30, 2012 Expenditures	Oct 1, 2012 thru Dec 31, 2012 Expenditures	Jan 1, 2013 thru March 31, 2013 Expenditures	April 1, 2013 thru June 30, 2013 Expenditures
16	Predisposition Detention (program 316) GF	\$ 37,852.00	\$ 3,060.00	\$ 40,467.00	\$ 44,817.00
17	Post-Adoption Guardianship GF	\$ 215,884.00	\$ 154,273.00	\$ 206,549.00	\$ 219,618.00
18	Protection & Safety (program 039) GF	\$ 543,870.00	\$ 635,609.00	\$ 519,173.00	\$ 803,277.00
30	IV-E Foster Care	\$ 2,707,900.00	\$ 2,606,198.00	\$ 2,008,024.00	\$ 2,160,646.00
	GF	\$ 1,151,099.00	\$ 1,137,903.00	\$ 857,420.00	\$ 837,604.00
	CF	\$ 53,055.00	\$ 35,370.00	\$ 70,740.00	\$ 53,002.00
	FF	\$ 1,503,746.00	\$ 1,432,925.00	\$ 1,079,864.00	\$ 1,270,040.00
31	IV-E Adoption Assistance	\$ 3,042,445.00	\$ 4,583,381.00	\$ 4,720,609.00	\$ 4,757,909.00
	GF	\$ 1,321,601.00	\$ 2,032,156.00	\$ 2,093,859.00	\$ 2,109,924.00
	FF	\$ 1,720,844.00	\$ 2,551,226.00	\$ 2,626,750.00	\$ 2,647,985.00
32	IV-E Guardianship	\$ 7,934.00	\$ 15,566.00	\$ 22,490.00	\$ 28,682.00
	GF	\$ 3,907.00	\$ 7,561.00	\$ 10,902.00	\$ 13,617.00
	FF	\$ 4,027.00	\$ 8,005.00	\$ 11,588.00	\$ 15,065.00
34	Subsidized Adoption	\$ 1,090,427.00	\$ 1,610,800.00	\$ 1,608,055.00	\$ 1,598,555.00
35	Domestic Violence Program	\$ 7,500.00	\$ 418,100.00	\$ 521,978.00	\$ 472,288.00
	GF			\$ 446,600.00	\$ 434,600.00
	FF			\$ 75,378.00	\$ 37,688.00
36	Education Assistance for State Wards	\$ 2,341,475.00	\$ 2,559,424.00	\$ (696,575.00)	\$ 4,480,401.00
48	Child Welfare	\$ 21,234,605.00	\$ 30,787,931.00	\$ 32,033,214.00	\$ 35,957,329.00
	GF	\$ 20,604,036.00	\$ 27,199,502.00	\$ 30,415,844.00	\$ 32,281,825.00
	CF	\$ 630,569.00	\$ 420,380.00	\$ 840,759.00	\$ 630,569.00
	FF	\$ -	\$ 3,168,049.00	\$ 776,611.00	\$ 3,044,935.00
52	Adoption & Safe Families	\$ 91,224.00	\$ 9,632.00	\$ 90,631.00	\$ 154,941.00
	FF				
<b>Family Support Total</b>		\$ 31,321,116.00	\$ 43,363,974.00	\$ 41,074,815.00	\$ 50,678,463.00
	GF	\$ 27,317,651.00	\$ 35,758,388.00	\$ 35,577,672.00	\$ 42,824,238.00
	CF	\$ 683,624.00	\$ 455,750.00	\$ 911,499.00	\$ 683,571.00
	FF	\$ 3,319,841.00	\$ 7,169,837.00	\$ 4,661,022.00	\$ 7,170,654.00
<b>Family Support Total SFY 2013</b>		\$ 166,458,368.00			
	GF	\$ 141,477,949.00			
	CF	\$ 2,734,444.00			
	FF	\$ 22,321,354.00			

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Attachment A-2 Expenditures  
 July 1, 2014 thru June 30, 2015 Child Welfare Expenditures  
 PROGRAM 354  
 CHILD WELFARE

	July 1, 2014 thru Sept 30, 2014 Expenditures	Oct 1, 2014 thru Dec 31, 2014 Expenditures	Jan 1, 2015 thru March 31, 2015 Expenditures	April 1, 2015 thru June 30, 2015 Expenditures
16 Predisposition Detention (program 316) GF	\$ 377.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
17 Post-Adoption Guardianship GF	\$ 250,802.00	\$ -	\$ 163,766.00	\$ 703,515.00
18 Protection & Safety (program 039) GF	\$ 482,950.00	\$ 478,491.00	\$ 439,586.00	\$ 476,687.00
30 IV-E Foster Care GF	\$ 2,804,944.00	\$ 1,883,107.00	\$ 2,081,449.00	\$ 2,737,847.00
CF	\$ 2,751,889.00	\$ 1,831,110.00	\$ 2,030,697.00	\$ (1,464,833.00)
FF	\$ 53,055.00	\$ 53,055.00	\$ 53,055.00	\$ 53,055.00
	\$ -	\$ (1,058.00)	\$ (2,303.00)	\$ 4,149,678.00
31 IV-E Adoption Assistance GF	\$ 5,601,130.00	\$ 6,185,110.00	\$ 6,264,343.00	\$ 6,511,437.00
FF	\$ 3,162,639.00	\$ 3,865,210.00	\$ 2,929,465.00	\$ 3,816,033.00
	\$ 2,438,491.00	\$ 2,319,901.00	\$ 3,334,878.00	\$ 2,695,404.00
32 IV-E Guardianship GF	\$ 86,211.00	\$ 83,481.00	\$ 93,775.00	\$ (60,579.00)
FF	\$ 25,189.00	\$ 33,864.00	\$ 44,174.00	\$ (6,008.00)
	\$ 61,022.00	\$ 49,617.00	\$ 49,601.00	\$ (54,571.00)
34 Subsidized Adoption GF	\$ 1,537,529.00	\$ 1,554,457.00	\$ 1,641,839.00	\$ 1,600,016.00
35 Domestic Violence Program GF	\$ 430,309.00	\$ 682,082.00	\$ 808,685.00	\$ 644,660.00
FF	\$ 163,200.00	\$ 64,523.00	\$ 686,989.00	\$ 547,964.00
	\$ 267,109.00	\$ 617,559.00	\$ 121,696.00	\$ 96,596.00
36 Education Assistance for State Wards GF	\$ 1,450,131.00	\$ 4,578,775.00	\$ 1,727,308.00	\$ 4,727,817.00
48 Child Welfare GF	\$ 29,302,505.00	\$ 30,113,913.00	\$ 30,173,500.00	\$ 41,566,377.00
CF	\$ 27,723,517.00	\$ 28,457,521.00	\$ 26,702,040.00	\$ 39,115,109.00
FF	\$ 630,569.00	\$ 630,570.00	\$ 630,569.00	\$ 630,569.00
	\$ 948,418.00	\$ 1,025,822.00	\$ 2,840,891.00	\$ 1,810,699.00
52 Adoption & Safe Families FF	\$ 44,135.00	\$ 659,990.00	\$ 35,287.00	\$ 117,587.00
61 OJS Transition LB561 GF	\$ 281,969.00	\$ 173,824.00	\$ 85,750.00	\$ 147,810.00
FF				\$ (369,732.00)
				\$ 517,542.00
<b>Family Support Total</b> GF	\$ 42,272,992.00	\$ 46,219,452.00	\$ 43,429,528.00	\$ 59,163,072.00
CF	\$ 37,815,332.00	\$ 41,481,510.00	\$ 36,487,550.00	\$ 49,146,568.00
FF	\$ 683,624.00	\$ 683,625.00	\$ 683,624.00	\$ 683,572.00
	\$ 3,759,175.00	\$ 4,671,831.00	\$ 6,380,050.00	\$ 9,332,933.00
<b>Family Support Total SFY 2013</b> GF	\$ 191,085,044.00			
CF	\$ 164,930,960.00			
FF	\$ 2,734,445.00			
	\$ 24,143,989.00			

## COMPASS Measure Definitions

Measure	Definition
Absence of Maltreatment Recurrence	Of all children who were victims of abuse or neglect during the first six months of the reporting year, the percent that were <i>not victims</i> of another maltreatment within a six-month period.
Absence of Maltreatment of Children in Foster Care	Of all children who were in foster care during the reporting year, the percent that were <i>not victims</i> of maltreatment by a foster parent or facility staff member.
Reunification Composite	The Reunification Composite looks at timeliness and permanency of reunifications. The Reunification Composite includes four measures: Reunification in Less Than 12 Months, Median Time to Reunification, Entry Cohort Reunification in Less Than 12 Months, and Permanence of Reunification.
Reunification in Less Than 12 Months	For the reporting year, of all children discharged from foster care to reunification who had been in foster care for eight days or longer, the percent that met either of the following criteria: (1) the child was reunified in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from the home, or (2) the child was placed in a trial home visit within 11 months of the date of the latest removal and the child's last placement prior to discharge to reunification was the trial home visit.
Median Time to Reunification	For the reporting year, of all children discharged from foster care to reunification who had been in foster care for eight days or longer, the median length of stay in months from the date of the most recent entry into foster care until either of the following: (1) the date of discharge to reunification; or (2) the date of placement in a trial home visit that exceeded 30 days and was the last placement setting prior to discharge to reunification.
Entry Cohort Reunification in Less Than 12 Months	For the prior reporting year, of all children entering foster care in the second six months of the year who remained in foster care for eight days or longer, the percent who met either of the following criteria: (1) the child was reunified in less than 12 months from the date of entry into foster care, or (2) the child was placed in a trial home visit in less than 11 months from the date of entry into foster care and the trial home visit was the last placement setting prior to discharge to reunification.
Permanence of Reunification	Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification in the year prior to the reporting year, the percent that re-entered foster care in less than 12 months from discharge from a prior episode. A lower score is preferable.
Adoption Composite	The Adoption Composite is concerned with the timeliness of adoptions and includes the following five measures: Adoption in

### COMPASS Measure Definitions

Measure	Definition
	Less Than 24 Months, Median Time to Adoption, Children in Care for 17 Months or Longer Who Are Adopted by the End of the Year, Children in Care for 17 Months or Longer Who Are Legally Free for Adoption within Six Months, and Children Who Are Legally Free for Adoption Who Are Adopted within 12 Months.
Adoption in Less Than 24 Months	For the reporting year, of all children who were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, the percent that were discharged in less than 24 months from the date of the latest removal from the home.
Median Time to Adoption	For the reporting year, of all children who were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption, the median length of stay in foster care (in months) from the date of removal from the home to the date of discharge to adoption.
Children in Care for 17 Months or Longer Who are Adopted by the End of the Year	For the reporting year, of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in foster care for 17 continuous months or longer, the percent that was discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption before the end of the fiscal year.
Children in Care for 17 Months or Longer Who Are Legally Free for Adoption within Six Months	For the reporting year, of all children in foster care on the first day of the year who were in foster care for 17 continuous months or longer, the percent that became legally free for adoption within six months from the beginning of the reporting year.
Children Who Are Legally Free for Adoption Who Are Adopted within 12 Months	Of all children who became legally free for adoption in the prior reporting year, the percent discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption in less than 12 months.
Permanency Composite	Exits to Permanency Prior to the Child's 18th Birthday for Children in Care for 24 Months or More, Exits to Permanency for Children Free for Adoption, and Children Emancipated Who Were in Foster Care for Three Years or More.
Exits to Permanency Prior to the Child's 18th Birthday for Children in Care for 24 Months or More	Of all children in foster care for 24 months or longer on the first day of the reporting year shown, the percent that were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday and by the end of the reporting year. A permanent home is defined as having a discharge reason of adoption, guardianship or reunification.
Exits to Permanency for Children Free for Adoption	Of all children who were discharged from foster care in the year shown, and who were legally free for adoption at the time of discharge (there was a parental rights termination date reported to AFCARS for both mother and father), the percent that were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday. A permanent home is defined as having a discharge reason of adoption, guardianship, or reunification.
Children Emancipated Who Were in Foster Care for	Of all children who during the year shown, either (1) were discharged from foster care prior to age 18 with a discharge

### COMPASS Measure Definitions

Measure	Definition
Three Years or More	reason of emancipation, or (2) reached their 18th birthday while in foster care, the percent that were in foster care for three years or longer. A lower score is preferable.
Placement Stability Composite	Two or Fewer Placement Settings for Children in Care for Less Than 12 Months, Two or Fewer Placement Settings for Children in Care for 12 to 24 Months, and Two or Fewer Placement Settings for Children in Care for More Than 24 Months.
Two or Fewer Placement Settings for Children in Care for Less Than 12 Months	Of all children served in foster care during the 12-month target period that were in foster care for at least eight days but less than 12 months, the percent that had two or fewer placement settings.
Two or Fewer Placement Settings for Children in Care for 12 to 24 Months	Of all children served in foster care during the 12-month target period that were in foster care for at least 12 months but less than 24 months, the percent that had two or fewer placement settings.
Two or Fewer Placement Settings for Children in Care for 24 Months or More	Of all children served in foster care during the 12-month target period that were in foster care for at least 24 months, the percent that had two or fewer placement settings.























