

Kansas Child Welfare

Enhancements and Improvements Progress Report

The Kansas Department for Children and Families is fully committed to its mission—to protect children, promote healthy families and encourage personal responsibility. Of the utmost importance is keeping children safe, especially when youth are in our care. In an ongoing effort to build upon our success as one of the safest child welfare systems in the country, DCF has developed an implementation plan that addresses the Legislative Post Audit recommendations.

| Response to LPA | Implemented | July 2017 | Jan. 2018 |
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| Monthly In-Person Visits <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review/revise policies. Create Child Welfare Compliance Unit for audit-level monitoring of contractors and staff. Implement best practices training on documentation. |  | | |
| Background Checks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete annual checks on everyone 10 and older in foster homes. Enact real-time notification of foster parent arrests/convictions. Implement fingerprinting/relative placement background checks. |  |  | |
| Kansas Protection Report Center <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review policies and implement procedures to ensure timely assessments. |  | | |
| Casey Family Programs Recommendations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use intervention practice model. Implement evidence-based family preservation. Hire skilled staff at KPRC. Review staffing levels at KPRC. Track investigations per case worker. Redefine abuse/neglect categories. Modify safety/risk assessment tools. Remove subjectivity from findings. |  |  |  |
| Capacity/Sleeping Space Exceptions in Foster Homes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve ability to match data on location/characteristics of children in foster care with location/capabilities of licensed homes. |  | | |
| Foster Parent Financial Resources <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review and assess financial documentation during licensing and renewal. |  | | |
| Safety Assessments <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Require Child Placing Agencies to assess safety of homes during visits. |  | | |
| Contractor Corrective Action <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Require foster care contractors to submit a corrective action plan. |  | | |
| Temporary Permit Reform <ul style="list-style-type: none"> End the practice of granting temporary permits to foster homes before statutory/regulatory standards are met. |  | | |

ADDITIONAL MEASURES