









TRANSFORMATIONAL CHANGE: STABILIZING THE CHILD WELFARE SYSTEM

The child welfare system needs adequate and sustainable funding now and in the future to build strong families and communities.

PSYCHIATRIC MEDICAL INSTITUTE FOR CHILDREN (PMIC)	QUALIFIED RESIDENTIAL TREATMENT PROGRAMS (QRTP) <small>(AKA Foster Group Care)</small>	FAMILY CENTERED SERVICES
<p>Medicaid</p>	<p>Child Welfare/Juvenile Justice</p>	<p>Child Welfare</p>
<p>Residential-based treatment for children with intensive mental and behavioral health diagnoses.</p> 	<p>Temporary residential environment for children in foster care who are unable to live in a family situation due to social, mental, or emotional challenges.</p> 	<p>To move Iowa toward the requirements of the federal Family First legislation, a proposal for Family-Centered Services (FCS) began July 1, 2020. FCS are designed to be high-quality, evidence-based interventions that keep children safe, improve family functioning, and strengthen communities.</p>
<p>2,600 referrals from Iowa doctors, hospitals, clinics and DHS.</p>	<p>6,805 children were subject to abuse or neglect in SFY 2019 and received child welfare services. </p>	
<p>25% of referrals were declined by PMICs due to inadequate funding.</p>	<p>479 children were served in foster group care per month in SFY 2019 on a “no reject, no eject” basis.</p>	<p>5,333 families were served during SFY 2019 in the current family-centered service delivery system.</p>
 <p>On average, Iowa PMIC providers are losing \$40 per day/per child to provide critical services to children with some of the most intensive mental health issues in Iowa.</p> <p><small>*similar to the QRTP that the \$251 is based on 2019 cost reports</small></p>	 <p>On average, Iowa Foster Group Care providers are losing \$57 per day/per child to serve children in Iowa’s DHS and Juvenile Court systems.</p> <p><small>*based on 2018 cost reports (estimated today’s dollars \$215)</small></p>	<p>Iowa’s provider community analyzed current data and found there are two major gaps that will prevent Iowa from achieving positive outcomes for kids and families.</p> <p>TRANSPORTATION: Providers are required by FCS to travel to help client families maintain relationships. The current system faces a transportation funding gap of \$5.1 million.</p> <p>STAFF WAGES: Providers require an \$8.1 million investment to build, retrain, and retain a workforce that achieves positive outcomes.</p>
<p>Proposed Mean Rate: \$275</p>	<p>SFY 2022 Proposed Rate: \$195 SFY 2023 Proposed Rate: \$218</p>	
<p> INVESTMENT NEEDED: \$3.9 MILLION</p>	<p> INVESTMENT NEEDED: \$4.5 MILLION</p>	<p> INVESTMENT NEEDED: \$13.2 MILLION</p>

THE SYSTEM SERVING IOWA'S CHILDREN IS CRITICALLY UNDERFUNDED.

IOWA MUST RIGHT-SIZE THE EXISTING SYSTEM IN ORDER TO TRANSFORM FOR THE FUTURE.

Adequate funding will:

1

Allow greater access to additional federal funds.

2

Support a quality workforce in order to transform and enhance a trauma-informed, culturally competent, and family-centered child welfare/juvenile justice system to sustain healthy communities.

3

Help develop and fund the children's behavioral health system by providing prevention services to children and families who are at risk of removal.

OUR CHILD WELFARE FOUNDATION IS NOT STABLE.

Just like constructing a home on a strong foundation prevents structural damages and costly repairs, a weakened foundation in our child welfare system puts our children and families at risk, adds costs to the system, and risks key opportunities for federal Family First funding. The negative impacts of COVID-19 have exacerbated existing cracks in the foundation.

Failure to stabilize it will make the entire system more vulnerable. Iowa must act now to strengthen its foundational funding to our child welfare system!

STATEWIDE COVERAGE: THE COALITION'S PROVIDER NETWORK SERVES ALL 99 COUNTIES.

American Home Finding Association • Bethany Children Services of Northwest Iowa • Boys Town of Iowa • Children and Families of Iowa • Christian Home Association – Children's Square, USA • Clarinda Academy • Counseling and Family Centered Services, Inc. • Crittenton Center • Family Resources • Families First Counseling Services • First Resources • WYC: Forest Ridge • Foundation 2 • Four Oaks • Hillcrest Family Services • Lutheran Services in Iowa • Midwest Christian Services • Orchard Place • Quakerdale Family Services • Southwest Iowa Family Access Center • WYC: Woodward Academy • WYC: Woodard Community-Based Services • Youth Emergency Services & Shelter • Youth Homes of Mid-America • Young House Family Services • YSS • Youth Shelter Care of North Central Iowa



The Coalition for Family and Children's Services in Iowa is an alliance of member agencies that provide direct service to children and families in the child welfare, juvenile justice, and children's mental health systems.

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