

Presentation to the 2025 Health and Human Services Joint Appropriations Subcommittee

Child and Family Services Division
Human Services Practice



DEPARTMENT OF
**PUBLIC HEALTH &
HUMAN SERVICES**

Greg Gianforte, Governor | Charlie Brereton, Director

Non-Placement Services



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Non-Placement Services

- Substance use disorder treatment
- Drug and alcohol monitoring
- Mental health counseling
- Parenting education and skill building
- Stress and anger management
- Visitation
- Transportation
- Childcare/respice
- Home visiting services
- Family Based Services

Non-Placement Services (cont.)

Row Labels	2024 Expense	2025 Projected	2026 Request	2027 Request
Services	\$8,856,659	\$8,676,185	\$8,998,583	\$9,019,010
Chemical Dependency Care	\$37,150	\$37,150	\$37,150	\$37,150
Clothing	\$4,499	\$3,596	\$3,596	\$3,596
Counseling/Psychological	\$226,599	\$241,397	\$241,577	\$241,759
Court Costs	\$80,701	\$80,701	\$80,701	\$80,701
CWPSS Contracts	\$4,427,000	\$4,455,675	\$4,693,261	\$4,691,007
Day Care	\$645,800	\$510,424	\$510,424	\$510,424
Diapers	\$201,958	\$207,431	\$211,566	\$213,566
Drug Testing	\$842,449	\$801,895	\$801,895	\$801,895
Education	\$334,487	\$330,443	\$330,443	\$330,443
Forensic Interviews	\$83,700	\$91,400	\$91,400	\$91,400
Medical Support	\$330,089	\$313,473	\$313,507	\$313,542
Other Support Services	\$101,603	\$99,445	\$99,445	\$99,445
Personal Needs	\$113,582	\$107,643	\$108,106	\$108,571
Publications	\$66,954	\$68,623	\$68,623	\$68,623
Respite	\$920,662	\$920,662	\$1,000,662	\$1,020,662
Transportation	\$439,426	\$406,226	\$406,226	\$406,226
Grand Total	\$8,856,659	\$8,676,185	\$8,998,583	\$9,019,010

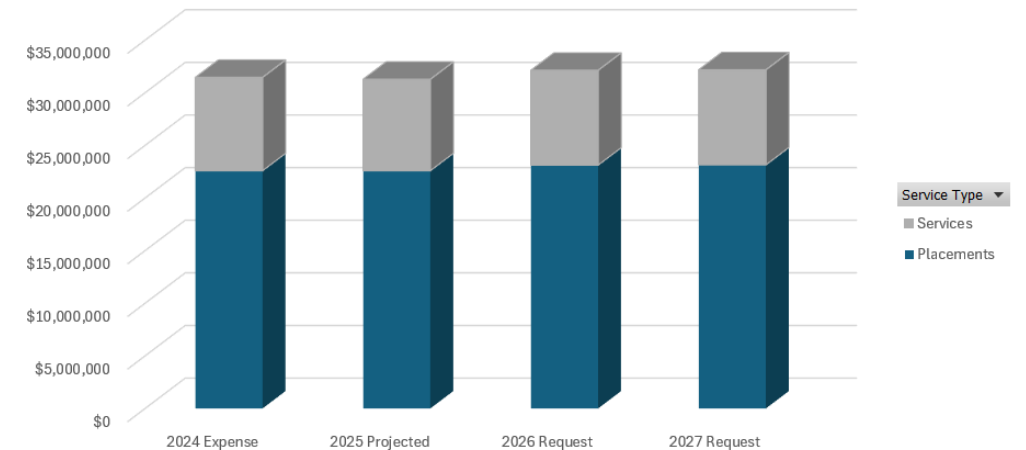
- Non-placement services attached to a child in out-of-home placement. These services are included in the Foster Care Reporting Level.
- Transportation and Diapers are IV-E eligible services.
- Respite utilization has grown due to rate modernization.
- CWPSS Contracts will be discussed in Prevention, Preservation and Support Services section.

Foster Care Reporting Level

Row Labels	2024 Expense	2025 Projected	2026 Request	2027 Request
Placements	\$22,598,993	\$22,599,828	\$23,129,586	\$23,152,920
Family Foster Care	\$8,192,730	\$8,202,848	\$8,219,500	\$8,233,847
Foster Care Group Home	\$866,232	\$870,947	\$876,441	\$882,154
Kinship Care	\$5,670,040	\$5,676,740	\$5,926,740	\$5,926,740
Out-of-State Services	\$4,772,395	\$4,772,395	\$4,872,395	\$4,872,395
Residential Treatment Centers	\$29,754	\$29,754	\$29,754	\$29,754
Shelter Care	\$1,110,033	\$1,129,657	\$1,165,026	\$1,173,335
Social Security Placement	\$302,312	\$302,312	\$302,312	\$302,312
Specialized Foster Care	\$132,952	\$0	\$0	\$0
Therapeutic Family Foster Care	\$324,446	\$355,199	\$385,127	\$393,625
Therapeutic Group Home	\$1,156,576	\$1,218,452	\$1,310,768	\$1,297,234
Transitional Living	\$41,524	\$41,524	\$41,524	\$41,524
Services	\$8,856,659	\$8,676,185	\$8,998,583	\$9,019,010
Chemical Dependency Care	\$37,150	\$37,150	\$37,150	\$37,150
Clothing	\$4,499	\$3,596	\$3,596	\$3,596
Counseling/Psychological	\$226,599	\$241,397	\$241,577	\$241,759
Court Costs	\$80,701	\$80,701	\$80,701	\$80,701
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Personal Needs	\$113,582	\$107,643	\$108,106	\$108,571
Publications	\$66,954	\$68,623	\$68,623	\$68,623
Respite	\$920,662	\$920,662	\$1,000,662	\$1,020,662
Transportation	\$439,426	\$406,226	\$406,226	\$406,226
Grand Total	\$31,455,652	\$31,276,014	\$32,128,169	\$32,171,930

Slide is intended to display entire Foster Care reporting level for reference to IBARS budget data.

- Foster care placements discussed yesterday.
- Non-Placement supports for children in out-of-home care are a component of the Foster Care reporting level.



Preservation, Reunification and Support Services

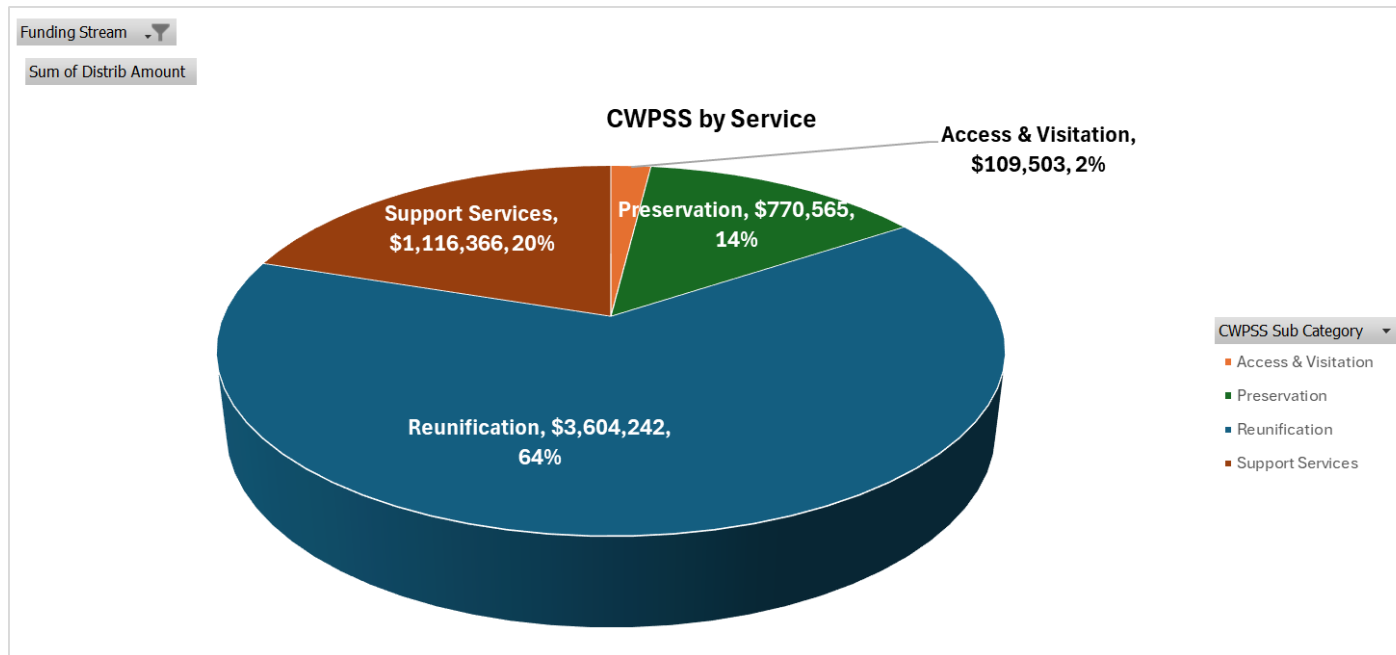


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IV-B Silos and Preservation, Reunification and Support Services

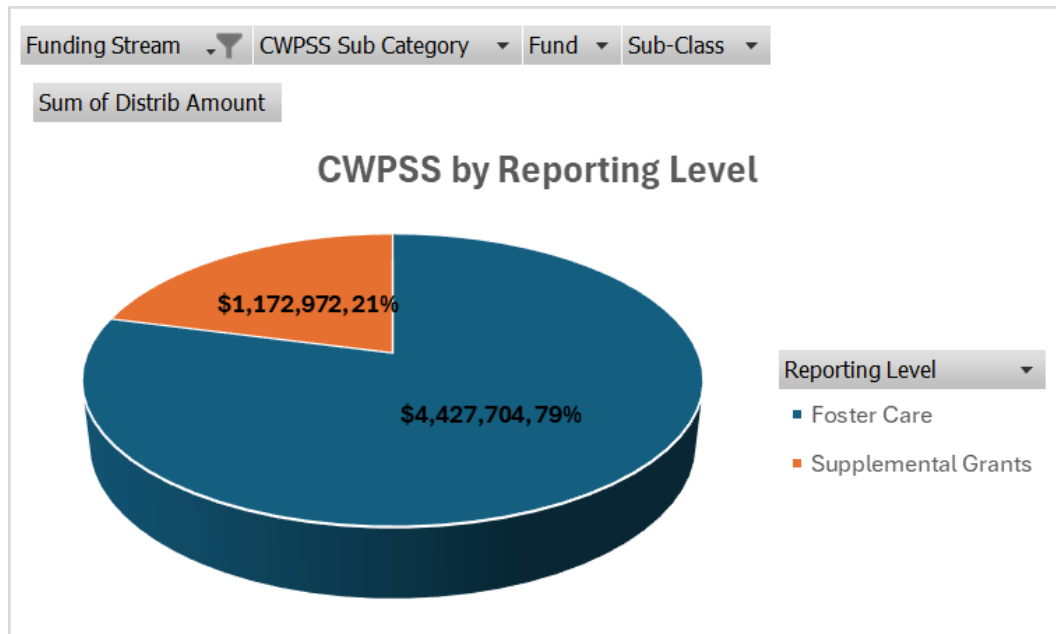
- **Family Preservation Services** (no removal): ◦ Services to prevent foster care ◦ Services to support reunification during or after a return from foster care ◦ Respite care ◦ Services for other types of permanency ◦ Services to improve parenting skills ◦ Infant safe haven programs ◦ Services to children and teens to promote preservation
- **Family Reunification Services** (removal): ◦ Counseling ◦ Substance abuse and mental health services ◦ Assistance to address domestic violence ◦ Respite care, including crisis nurseries ◦ Mentoring and support groups for parents and primary caregivers ◦ Services to facilitate visitation of children by parents and siblings ◦ Transportation to or from any of the services
- **Family Support Services** (removal or no removal): ◦ Promote the safety, well-being, and stability of children and families ◦ Increase the strength and stability of families (broadly defined, including foster families) ◦ Increase parental confidence and competence in parenting abilities ◦ Strengthen parental relationships and promote healthy marriages ◦ Enhance child development

Child Welfare Preservation, Reunification and Support Services



Funding Stream	SFY 2024 Amount
Access & Visitation	\$109,503
Preservation	\$770,565
Reunification	\$3,604,242
Support Services	\$1,116,366
Grand Total	\$ 5,600,677

Child Welfare Preservation, Reunification and Support Services (cont.)



Reporting Level	Fund	2024 Spend	2025 Budget	2026 Request	2027 Request
Foster Care	General Fund	\$4,427,704	\$ 4,455,675	\$ 4,693,261	\$ 4,691,007
Supplemental Grants	General Fund	\$359,050	\$ 657,405	\$ 576,156	\$ 576,156
Supplemental Grants	IV-B 03522	\$715,370	\$ 598,143	\$ 598,143	\$ 598,143
Supplemental Grants	A&V 03224	\$98,553	\$ 103,194	\$ 103,194	\$ 103,194
TOTAL		\$ 5,600,677	\$ 5,814,417	\$ 5,970,754	\$ 5,968,500

The Title IV-B grant and state general funds support prevention, preservation, and support services in the state's child welfare system.

- Title IV-B and the general fund match are budgeted in the Supplemental Grants RL, and the remaining general fund support for CWPSS is budgeted in the Foster Care RL.

Child Welfare Prevention Support Services

- Parenting classes provided in a group setting (Love and Logic, Circle of Security, Nurturing Parenting, etc.)
- Parenting education programs provided directly to families, most often in home (Attachment, Regulation, & Competency Trauma Treatment-ARC, Circle of Security Nurturing Parenting, etc.)
- Family Based Service is short-term services that work to restore positive functioning in the family. This could include coordination of services and employment and housing support.
- Some Medicaid services can be reimbursed to the provider if they normally bill Medicaid, but child does not have Medicaid - ex. Targeted Youth Case Management

Child Welfare Prevention Support Services (cont.)

- Reunification Family Visitation- Visit Coach or General Monitoring
 - There are incorporating models that some providers offer such as Nurturing Parenting, Common Sense Parenting, and Love & Logic. This applies the model to the visitation time to enhance expected effectiveness of the program.
- Therapeutic Services- Mental Health Counseling and Couple's Therapy (these are most often paid by Medicaid unless the child/family does not have Medicaid or private insurance).
- Preventative home and family visitation- Safe Care and Exchange Parenting Aide.
- Screenings and assessments- Adverse Childhood Experiences survey, Ages and Stages questionnaire, Protective Factor Survey.

Child Welfare Prevention Support Services (cont.)

Provider Referral and Expectations

It is recommended to contact provider contact and discuss services required and then complete referral form for provider.

Provider is required to let CFSD know within five calendar days of the receipt of referral if they will accept referral.

Provider is then required to make contact with the family within 72 hours of accepting referral (this does not mean provide direct service but to initiate contact and follow up if needed with family).

Providers are expected to maintain contact with CFSD, including updates with progress notes.

CFSD can request session notes from the provider at any time.

Child Welfare Prevention Support Services Contracts

Child Welfare Prevention and Support Services (CW PSS) Contracted Service Providers

Region	County / City	AGENCY NAME	Family Visitation					Therapy					Home Visiting				Parent Education							Support			Screenings							
			Monitoring	Incorporating Model	Visitation	Visit Coaching Supervised Visitation Network	Counseling	Cognitive Behavior [TF-Intervlewing]	Multisystemic Therapy [FFT]	Child Parent Interaction [PCIT]	Therapy	Healthy Families America	SafeCare	Nurse Family Partnership	Teachers	Active Parenting Exchange	All Babies Cry Attachment, Regulation, & Competency Trauma Security [COS]	Common Sense Parenting [CSP]	Love and Logic	1-2-3 Magic	Parenting 0-5	Parenting 5-12	Parenting Class	Co-Parenting	Parenting a Wrap Around Management	Family Based Services	Questionnaire and Screening	Healthy Families Parenting	Factor Survey	Adverse Childhood				
6	Lake Sanders-Thompson Falls Kalispell	CASA/Youth Connection	x			x											X																	
6	Kalispell Libby - PCIT only Lake (when staffed)	Cedar Creek	x	x								x - Libby																						
6	Flathead	CFSD SST's				x																												
6	Flathead	Oxytocin				x				x	x	x																						
6	Stillwater (Columbus)	Rochelle Beley	X	X		X				X	X																							X
6	Kalispell	Yellowstone Boys and Girls Ranch	x	x		X				X				X																				x
6	Kalispell *Will serve communities with 60 miles of City office location listed	Yellowstone Boys and Girls Ranch	x	x		x				x	x	x																						x

Adoption Support Request



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Adoption Support Request

Impact of having a comprehensive post-permanency program:

- fewer adjustment problems
- fewer disruptions
- improved parenting skills
- higher family functioning and cohesion
- fewer child emotional and behavioral problems
- better parent understanding of their children's challenges
- increased parent ability to cope with those challenges if they persist

Adoption Support Request (cont.)

National Center for Enhanced Post-Adoption Support

The Post-Adoption Center will serve as a hub for post-permanency expertise and evidence-informed training and technical assistance to support states in developing post-permanency services.

The Post-Adoption Center provides access to various resources that will enable sites to provide practical, responsive services to families that have achieved permanency through adoption and guardianship.



Adoption Support Request (cont.)

How a site benefits from this technical assistance:

- Comprehensive assessment completed of their post-permanency programming
- Assistance in development of an action plan to enhance/implement their post-permanency programming
- Access to a team of individuals who are experts in this area
- Assistance with Continuous Quality Insurance and data tracking
- Access to free TAC and TBRI® training
- Opportunity to participate in cultural climate assessment
- Implementation assistance
- Access to a community of other sites who are receiving technical assistance

Adoption Support Request (cont.)

	2026	2027
PB	1	1
Personal Services @ Market Rate	76,081	76,081
Personal Services at 85% of Market Rate	64,669	64,669
Non-Personal Services Costs	4,982	2,282
PB Cost	69,651	66,951
Respite	225,000	225,000
Non-Medicaid Services	100,000	100,000
Therapeutic Treatment	275,000	275,000
Benefit Costs	600,000	600,000
Total Cost	669,651	666,951

Adoption Support Request (cont.)

Roles of Post-Permanency Program Manager:

- Routine Check In Post-Permanency
- Crisis Management
- Case Management
- Connect families with Medicaid services
- Renegotiate assistance agreements
- Currently 94 children disrupted

Title IV-E Prevention Plan



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Non-Placement Service – Prevention

Title IV-E Prevention Plan (2021-2025)

- Long-term plan, reviewed every five years
- Focus on Families and Preventing Removal
- Defines Candidacy to Include Families
- Utilized approved Evidence-Base Models
- Data Collection & Analysis
- Child Welfare Workforce Training
- Prevention Caseload Management

Non-Placement Service – Prevention (cont.)

Title IV-E Prevention Plan (2021-2025)

Candidacy Definition:

- Children who have exited foster care through reunification (within the last 12 months), guardianship or adoption
- Children who have had a previous removal or report to Centralized Intake
- Children with Protection Plans (in-home and out-of-home)
- Children with in-home safety plans and no legal involvement
- Children born with positive toxicology
- Children born to mothers with a positive toxicology
- Pregnant adolescents and young adults (ages 18-26) or parenting youth (to age 18)
- Children of parents who have been in foster care
- Children who live in a household where substance abuse, domestic violence or mental health impacts the daily functioning of the caregivers and/or children
- Children with siblings in foster care

Non-Placement Service – Prevention (cont.)

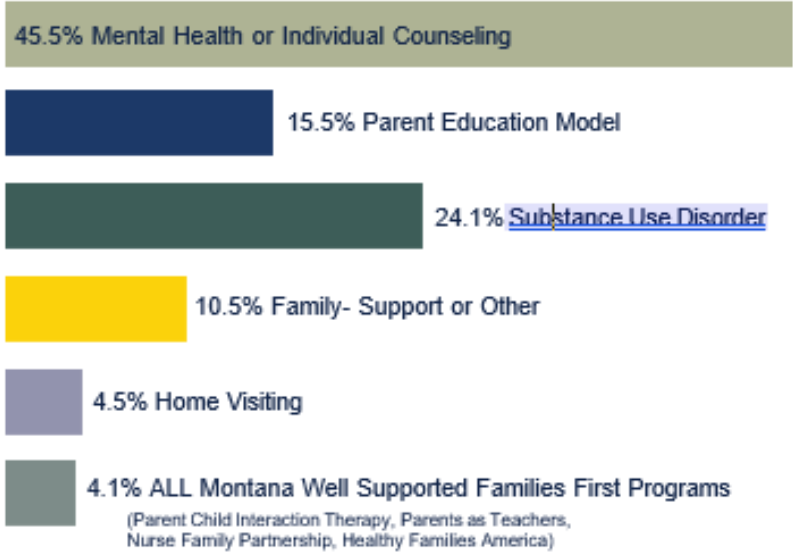
Title IV-E Prevention Plan (2021-2025)

- Parents as Teachers
- Nurse Family Partnership
- Healthy Families America
- Parent Child Interaction Therapy

Non-Placement Service – Prevention (cont.)

Families participating in Prevention Plans were referred to an average of three services or providers for additional supports.

220 Services Referred from 86 Prevention Plans open in 2024:



*Home Visiting Models: **Health Families America, Nurse Family Partnership, Parents as Teachers, and Safe Care** etc.*

*Parent Education Models: **Nurturing Parenting Program, Parenting Class, Circle of Security, Family Based Services** etc.*

*Mental Health Services: **Parent Child Interaction Therapy, Anger Management, Domestic Violence, Couples Therapy, Individual Therapy, Wraparound** etc.*

*Substance Use Disorder Services: **Chemical Dependency, Multisystemic Therapy***

*Family Support Referrals: **Medical, Community Resources (General), Part C** etc.*

Grants and IV-E Passthrough



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Grants and IV-E Passthrough

The following slides detail expenses and the budget request associated with the following RL's:

- Supplemental Grant Program
- Training

Fund Category	2024 Expense	2025 SP Budget	SFY 2026 Request	SFY 2027 Request
General Fund	\$ 1,581,647	\$ 1,742,275	\$ 1,661,025	\$ 1,661,025
State Special	\$ 137,924	\$ 21,125	\$ 21,125	\$ 21,125
Federal Fund	\$ 7,128,069	\$ 6,399,742	\$ 6,155,992	\$ 6,155,992
Grand Total	\$ 8,847,640	\$ 8,163,142	\$ 7,838,142	\$ 7,838,142

Activities included in the Supplemental Grant and Training RL's account for 6% of the department's budget request and include in part, grant funding for IV-E passthrough dollars, IV-B services and Tribal Administrative Contracts.

Promoting Safe and Stable Families (CW PSS)

The MaryLee Allen Promoting Safe and Stable Families grant, enacted in 2018, provides funding for preventative services to support families at risk of abuse or neglect, as well as direct funding to support and reunify families that have experienced removal due to abuse or neglect. The grant also includes funding to support building and promoting adoption options for children who are unable to be safely reunified with the families from which children were removed. A 25% state match is required for this federal grant.

- This budget request was previously summarized as a subset of the Preservation, Reunification and Support Services.

Grant Name	Fund	FY 2024 Expense	FY 2025 Budget	FY 2026 Request	FY 2027 Request
Safe and Stable - Match	01100	\$ 244,337	\$ 199,381	\$ 199,381	\$ 199,381
Safe and Stable - State Funded	01100	\$ 116,423	\$ 458,024	\$ 376,775	\$ 376,775
Safe and Stable	03522	\$ 733,011	\$ 598,143	\$ 598,143	\$ 598,143
TOTAL		\$ 1,093,771	\$ 1,255,548	\$ 1,174,299	\$ 1,174,299

Access and Visitation Grant (CWPSS)

The Access and Visitation grant, enacted in 1996, is used specifically to support and increase face to face visitation and interaction time between parents and their children that have been removed from parental care due to abuse or neglect. There is a 10% state match required for this federal grant.

Grant Name	Fund	FY 2024 Expense	FY 2025 Budget	FY 2026 Request	FY 2027 Request
Access and Visitation	01100	\$ 10,948	\$ 11,466	\$ 11,466	\$ 11,466
Access and Visitation	03224	\$ 98,553	\$ 103,194	\$ 103,194	\$ 103,194
TOTAL		\$ 109,501	\$ 114,660	\$ 114,660	\$ 114,660



Caseworker Visit Grant

- Title IV-B, subpart 2 of the Social Security Act passed in 2006, provides funding for formula grants to help states improve the quality of caseworker visits with children in foster care, with an emphasis on improving caseworker decision-making on the safety, permanency, and well-being of children in foster care and caseworker recruitment, retention and training. CFSD uses this grant to support monthly visitations with children who are placed in out-of-state residential treatment facilities.
- Federal funds for the Caseworker Visit are appropriated through a budget amendment. There is a 30% state fund match for the grant, which is appropriated through HB 2.
- The department spent \$28,742 in general funds as a match of \$62,211 in federal budget amendment dollars. This budget amendment has existed more than 5 years and could be considered for HB 2 appropriation.

CAPTA

The Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA) State Grant program, enacted in 1974, provides grants to help states improve child protective service systems. Under the program, Montana performs a range of child abuse and neglect prevention and training activities, including:

- Child welfare practice training in adherence to the Montana Child Protection Specialist Certification (41-3-127, MCA, through 41-3-130, MCA),
- Engagement with the University of Montana’s Children, Families, and Workforce Development Center
- Virtual Reality Investigation & Assessment Simulation training
- Strengthening of community partnership and training to mandated reporters through the Montana CFSD State Advisory Council
- Facilitate the annual Prevention of Child Abuse & Neglect Conference.

Grant Name	Fund	FY 2024 Expense	FY 2025 Budget	FY 2026 Request	FY 2027 Request
CAPTA	03532	\$ 211,743	\$ 443,290	\$ 443,290	\$ 443,290

John H. Chafee Successful Transition to Adulthood

The services offered by the Chafee Foster Care Program for Successful Transition to Adulthood are intended to support a successful transition to adulthood for Montana foster youth. Programs help youth obtain the life skills needed to make a successful transition into adulthood through help with education, employment, financial management, housing, emotional support, and assured connections to caring adults. By assisting youth in achieving self-sufficiency and obtaining future goals, the program enables youth in the foster care system to create a healthy lifestyle and a successful future.

CFSD has six contracts with providers, one in each region (Action, Inc., Developmental Education Assist Program, Kairos Youth Services, Tumbleweed Runaway Program, and Youth Homes), and the Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes to administer the Foster Care for Successful Transition to Adulthood Program. A 20% state match is required for this federal grant. The John H. Chafee Successful Transition to Adulthood grant was enacted in 1999.

Grant Name	Fund	FY 2024 Expense	FY 2025 Budget	FY 2026 Request	FY 2027 Request
Chafee Ind Living	01100	\$ 250,998	\$ 350,535	\$ 350,535	\$ 350,535
Chafee Ind Living	03536	\$ 1,003,990	\$ 1,414,439	\$ 1,414,439	\$ 1,414,439
TOTAL		\$ 1,254,988	\$ 1,764,974	\$ 1,764,974	\$ 1,764,974

John H. Chafee Education & Training Voucher (ETV)

The Chafee Education and Training Voucher (ETV) grant, enacted in 2001, provides resources to meet the educational and training needs of eligible current or former foster youth. The Chafee ETV program offers up to \$5,000 annually for post-secondary education and training to assist youth with the skill development needed to lead independent and productive lives. CFSD has one contract with the Montana Higher Education Student Assistance Corporation to administer the ETV program. A 20% state match is required for this grant, which is paid by the Montana Higher Education Student Assistance Corporation.

Grant Name	Fund	FY 2024 Expense	FY 2025 Budget	FY 2026 Request	FY 2027 Request
Chafee	03458	\$ 290,450	\$ 404,320	\$ 404,320	\$ 404,320

Big Brother Big Sisters Program

Big Brothers Big Sisters is a national nonprofit organization that mentors youth. Their mission is to create and support one-to-one mentoring relationships that ignite the power and promise of youth. The funds for Big Brothers Big Sisters were initially appropriated as a HB 2 budget line by the 2001 Legislature specifically to support Big Brothers Big Sisters of Montana and remain in CFSD's base budget. CFSD has contracts with all the Big Brothers Big Sisters organizations in Montana. Big Brothers Big Sisters is funded with \$50,000 in state general funds.

- Big Brothers Big Sisters Big Sky Country
- Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Montana
- Big Brothers Big Sisters NW Montana
- Big Brothers Big Sisters Butte

IV-E Passthrough – Training and Stipends

- Using Title IV-E for educational stipends or other allowable training costs for prospective staff to perform child protection services enhances the quality of the Title IV-E workforce and the associated case planning and management.
- CFSD has a contract with the Salish Kootenai College (SKC) and the University of Montana (UM) to access Title IV-E funding that provides stipends to prospective social services students and the costs to administer the program. Additionally, the UM creates a training curriculum for CFSD's use to train new staff.
- SKC and UM must provide the administrative match to draw the IV-E dollars.
- The department spent \$681,503 in SFY 2024 but has a base budget request of \$500,000 in each year of the biennium.

IV-E Passthrough – Legal Services

- The administrative costs for foster care legal representation is a Title IV-E eligible activity. All Montana county attorney offices are required by 41-3-422, MCA, to represent the department in Dependent Neglect (DN) cases. The Montana Department of Justice (DOJ) represents the state in complex or high-profile DN cases. CFSD currently has contracts with six counties; a seventh contract is being processed. In addition, DOJ has an agreement to access Title IV-E reimbursement for administrative costs required for legal services.
- Additionally, the administrative cost for quality legal representation for parents and children in a DN case is a Title IV-E eligible activity. Therefore, CFSD has an MOU with the Montana Office of Public Defender to access Title IV-E reimbursement for administrative costs required to provide quality legal representation for parents and children in DN cases.
- CFSD is the passthrough agency for Title IV-E funds to the County Attorney's Office, DOJ, and OPD.
- The budget request for this item is \$1,354,192 in Title IV-E passthrough funds.

Tribal Contracts

ICWA gives Montana’s federally recognized tribes authority to operate their own child welfare programs within their jurisdictions. Montana tribes can receive Title IV-E reimbursement for the administrative cost of operating their child welfare programs. CFSD has contracts with the tribes to access Title IV-E Administrative funds.

The state has historically provided an amount of state general funds to assist tribes with the match requirement for Title IV-E administration.

Grant Name	Fund	FY 2024 Expense	FY 2025 Budget	FY 2026 Request	FY 2027 Request
Tribal Admin Contracts	01100	\$ 880,205	\$ 644,127	\$ 644,127	\$ 644,127
	03530	\$ 1,123,638	\$ 1,285,077	\$ 1,285,076	\$ 1,285,076
TOTAL		\$ 2,003,843	\$ 1,929,204	\$ 1,929,203	\$ 1,929,203

CCWIS, Data and Operations



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Comprehensive Child Welfare Information System (CCWIS)

Comprehensive Child Welfare Information System promotes:

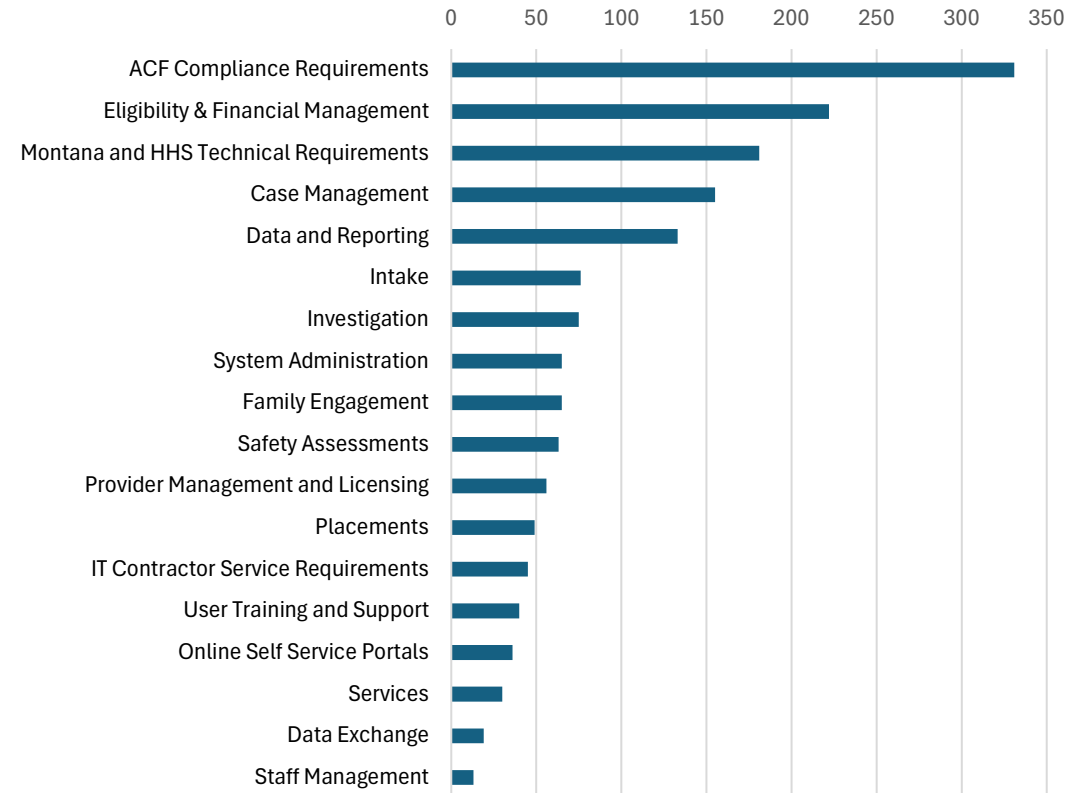
- improved delivery of child welfare services, leading to better outcomes for children and families
- consistent and coordinated service delivery
- streamlined administrative processes that will reduce the administrative burden for child welfare staff
- quality data, reporting, and analytics to inform decision making
- improved accuracy and timeliness of child welfare reporting
- improved performance, scalability, availability, and security

CCWIS (cont.)

The CCWIS RFP included a detailed list of requirements that will be tested during Design, Development and Implementation.

These requirements hold the CCWIS contractor accountable for delivering specified program functionality.

CCWIS REQUIREMENTS BY CATEGORY



CCWIS (cont.)

Agencies are encouraged to use the self-assessment tools to regularly assess and document system development to identify and resolve potential compliance issues.

Agencies can use the last section of each tool to highlight examples of best practices, resources, or additional considerations. ACF also encourages agencies to document “lessons learned” and engage CCWIS users as part of their ongoing self-assessment process to ensure the CCWIS is user-friendly and meets program and policy expectations.

TA self-assessment tools are divided into two categories. The first category includes tools that address overarching CCWIS requirements that include but are not limited to:

- Administration
- Child Welfare Contributing Agencies (CWCAs)
- Data Exchanges
- Data Quality
- Design
- Finance
- Reporting
- User Experience
- Security

The second category includes tools that address child welfare program requirements that include but are not limited to:

- Adoption
- Case Management
- Eligibility
- Foster Care and Service Provider Management
- Intake
- Investigation

Conclusion

