



Oregon

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ORS 418.485 and 418.580
Report to Legislative Assembly for 2014
Strengthening, Preserving and Reunifying Families Programs
Department of Human Services - Child Welfare
May 13, 2015

The Department of Human Services is submitting this report to the Legislature as required by Senate Bill 964 enacted in the 2011 Regular Legislative Session and now part of Chapter 418 of the Oregon Revised Statute. This report relates to the Strengthening, Preserving, and Reunifying Families (SPRF) programs being implemented throughout Oregon. The specific requirements of the report are as follows: The Department, in consultation with programs, shall report annually to the Governor and the appropriate interim committees of the Legislative Assembly that address child welfare issues on the progress toward and projected costs of full implementation of ORS 418.575 to 418.598. This report consists of updated information regarding implementation; program funds and allocation; and program outcomes and evaluation.

Status on Implementation of SPRF Contracts:

As of December, 2014, the Department executed SPRF contracts for services in all 36 counties statewide and those services were consistent with those outlined in ORS 418.580.

Each county has developed their individualized service array through facilitated meetings with county partners and program staff. The intent of the meetings was to identify gaps in current service provision and capacity issues in services already being rendered. Once the gaps were identified, proposals were written regarding the specific services identified in the community meetings. A variety of community partners had representatives at meetings in the counties and provided valuable input and planning of the service array for the individual counties including: Judicial Department, Tribes, law

enforcement, county employees, faith based organizations, school districts/education, drug and alcohol and mental health programs, parent programs, etc.

The following list provides themes in the service array across the state:

- **Navigators:** Specialists to help navigate social service agencies. Multnomah, Lane, Clackamas, Tillamook, Coos, Klamath, Lake, Grant, Harney, Morrow, Lincoln, Clatsop, Benton, Linn and Douglas
- **Parenting:** Father, Culturally Specific, and Intensive parenting classes. Multnomah, Lane, Klamath
- **Parent Mentoring:** Specialists to reinforce parenting behaviors, supportive services. Tillamook, Clackamas, Umatilla, Josephine, Jackson, Multnomah, Lane, Klamath, Deschutes, Coos, Lincoln, Columbia and Washington
- **Relief Nursery:** Daycare, parenting, support services. Umatilla, Jackson, Coos, Malheur, Clackamas, Polk, Curry, Josephine, Deschutes, and Marion
- **Alcohol and Drug Treatment:** Inpatient/Outpatient services that focus on multi-dimensional issues such as parenting, domestic violence services, and a relief nursery. Umatilla, Clackamas, Jackson, Tillamook, Lane, Deschutes, Polk, Marion and Yamhill
- **Housing:** Short-term and Emergency Housing services. Umatilla, Josephine, Jackson, Multnomah, Malheur, Clackamas, Tillamook, Lane, Columbia, Yamhill, Deschutes, Washington, Benton, Marion, Linn and Douglas
- **Front End Interventions:** Specialists (Alcohol and Drug, Mental Health, Domestic Violence, and human service generalists) responding with CPS workers. Clackamas, Umatilla, Josephine, Jackson, Malheur, Linn, Tillamook, Columbia, Lincoln, Coos, Hood River, Wasco, Sherman, Gilliam, Wheeler, Baker, Union, Wallowa and Lane.
- **Reconnecting Families:** Specialists used to engage families and conduct relative searches for additional familial resources/placements. Josephine, Jackson, Lane, Coos, Washington, Deschutes and Douglas
- **Trauma Services and therapeutic services:** Intensive services to trauma affected families and children. Multnomah, Columbia, Clackamas, Jackson, Tillamook, Clatsop, Douglas, Coos, Josephine and Lane
- **Family Visitation:** Josephine, Jackson, Umatilla, Tillamook, Deschutes, Lincoln, Crook, Jefferson and Douglas
- **Transportation Services:** Clatsop, Deschutes, Crook, Jefferson and Marion
- **Employment Related Services:** Marion, Polk, Yamhill, Lane and Coos

As of April 21, 2015 there were 135 active SPRF contracts statewide.

Program Budget and Allocation:

For the 2015-2017 biennium, we will continue to use the same allocation methodology as the previous biennium. Each county budget allocation is based on the population of families served by Child Welfare in the following proportion: 50% of their total account of families who are served in their home, 25% of substitute care/children in foster care cases and 25% of Child Protective Services assigned referrals/open assessments.

We have also allocated a 5% infrastructure differential increase in 16 identified counties to allow for additional funding to support the creation of an infrastructure to support the increased service array in those smaller communities. Those counties include: Clatsop, Tillamook, Lincoln, Curry, Josephine, Sherman, Gilliam, Wheeler, Crook, Jefferson, Lake, Morrow, Union, Wallowa, Grant and Harney.

Program Outcomes and Evaluation:

Child Welfare's overarching goal is the safe and equitable reduction of children in foster care. The four primary components of this work are the design and implementation of Differential Response; statewide implementation of the Strengthening, Preserving and Reunifying Families (SPRF) program; increased support for fidelity to our practice model (Oregon Safety Model) and hiring additional Child Welfare staff approved by the Legislature.

In an effort to understand outcomes associated with implementation of the SPRF program, we will measure the following data at the statewide level, quarterly for each county that has implemented. Those data are:

- Increased percentage of children reunifying with their legal parents.
- Reduction in length of stay of children in the foster care system.
- Reduction in the number of children entering the foster care system.
- Reduction in the percentage of repeat maltreatment within six months
- Reduction in the percentage of foster care reentry within 12 months
- Increased percentage of children maintaining in family home/keep family intact
- Decreased disproportionality in the foster care system of children of color

The Department is in the process of implementing Performance-Based Contracting which is a results-oriented contracting method that focuses on the outputs, quality, or outcomes that may tie at least a portion of a contractor's payment, contract extensions, or

contract renewals to the achievement of specific, measurable performance standards and requirements. This work is in process and is foundational for our overall ability to report on outcomes associated with the SPRF program.

As the first step toward a system of Performance-Based Contracting , in collaboration with our SPRF contractors, the Department is creating definitions of client-focused outcomes. We are in the process of amending current SPRF contracts to include new performance-based contract language and outcomes. Upon execution of the contracts, the contractor will begin submitting reports through the invoicing process which will identify one of three outcomes for each client:

- 1) Achieved
- 2) Partially Achieved
- 3) Not Achieved

This work began in January of 2015. As of April 21, 2015, there are 22 active performance based SPRF contracts in place. The target completion date for all contracts to be completed is June 30, 2015.

Please contact Stacy Lake at 503-945-5915 or stacy.l.lake@state.or.us if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you.