

October 25, 2023

Tony Green, Interim Director Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services PO Box 95026, 301 Centennial Mall South Lincoln, Nebraska 68508

Dear Interim Director Green:

Thank you for submitting Nebraska's Annual Progress and Services Report (APSR), including the annual report on the use of funds under the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act, and the CFS-101 forms requesting funding for fiscal year (FY) 2024 to address the following programs:

- Title IV-B, subpart 1 (Stephanie Tubbs Jones Child Welfare Services) of the Social Security Act (the Act);
- Title IV-B, subpart 2 (MaryLee Allen Promoting Safe and Stable Families Program and Monthly Caseworker Visit Grant) of the Act;
- Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA) State Grant;
- Chafee Foster Care Program for Successful Transition to Adulthood (Chafee Program); and
- Education and Training Vouchers (ETV) Program.

These programs provide important funding to help state child welfare agencies ensure safety, permanency, and well-being for children, youth and their families. The APSR facilitates continued assessment, development, and implementation of a comprehensive continuum of services for children and families. It provides an opportunity to integrate more fully each state's strategic planning around use of federal funds with its work relating to the Child and Family Services Reviews and continuous program improvement activities to ensure better, more equitable outcomes for all children, youth and families.

Approval

The Children's Bureau (CB) has reviewed your APSR for FY 2024 and the annual report on the use of CAPTA funds and finds they comply with applicable federal statutory and regulatory requirements. Therefore, we approve FY 2024 funding for the programs listed above. For the Chafee program, your state has elected to serve eligible youth up to age 23.

Counter-signed copies of the CFS-101 forms are enclosed for your records.

The Administration for Children and Families' Office of Grants Management (OGM) will issue a grant notification award letter with pertinent grant information, which will be sent to the email

address listed on the FY 2024 CFS-101s. Please note that OGM requires grantees to submit additional financial reports, using the form SF-425, at the close of the expenditure period according to the terms and conditions of the award.

Training Plan

This approval for the FY 2024 funding for title IV-B, subpart 1; title IV-B, subpart 2; CAPTA; Chafee; and ETV programs does not release the state from ensuring that training costs included in the training plan and charged to title IV-E of the Act comply with the requirements at 45 CFR 1356.60(b) and (c) and 45 CFR 235.63 through 235.66(a), including properly allocating costs to all benefiting programs in accordance with the state's approved cost allocation plan.

Additional Information Required

Pursuant to Section 424(f) of the Act, states are required to collect and report on caseworker visits with children in foster care. The FY 2023 caseworker visit data must be submitted to the Regional Office by December 15, 2023. States that wish to use a sampling methodology to obtain the required data must obtain prior approval from the Regional Office.

The CB looks forward to working with you and your staff. Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact Kendall Darling, Child Welfare Regional Program Manager in Region 7, at (816) 426-2262 or by e-mail at kendall.darling@acf.hhs.gov. You also may contact Debi Hatfield, Child and Family Program Specialist, at (816)426-2232 or by e-mail at debi.hatfield@acf.hhs.gov.

Sincerely,

Aysha E. Schomburg, Esq. Associate Commissioner Children's Bureau

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Enclosure(s)

cc: Gail Collins, Director; CB, Division of Program Implementation; Washington, DC Kendall Darling, Child Welfare Regional Program Manager; CB, Region 7; KC, MO Debi Hatfield, Child and Family Program Specialist; CB, Region 7; Kansas City, MO