

Right Home Right Time

Moving Forward Together
for Nebraska Children and families



Right Home
Right Time

NEBRASKA

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DEPT. OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Helping People Live Better Lives.

Purpose & Today's Focus



**CFSR Process
Recap & Federal
Changes**

Where we've been



Key Findings

What we learned



**Federal Changes
PIP Priorities &
Implementation**

Where we're going



**Ongoing
Engagement**

*How we move
forward together*

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CFSR Process Recap

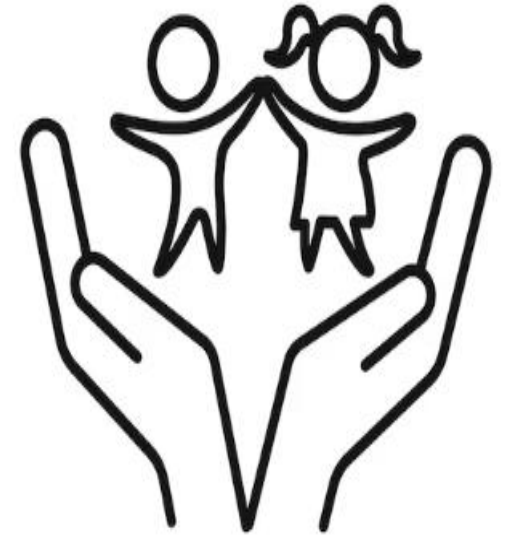


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CFSR Findings: Key Strength

Child Safety

- Timely Investigations of Abuse & Neglect
- Risk and Safety Assessment & Management
- Recurrence of Maltreatment



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CFSR Findings: Prevention

Preventing unnecessary foster care entry:



- Need for stronger prevention efforts
- Earlier identification of family needs
- Improved service coordination

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CFSR Findings: Relative & Kinship Placement

Placing children with relatives or kin:

- Improve timely identification of relatives
- Strengthen kin engagement practices
- Preserve family connections



CFSR Findings: Permanency

Achieving safe and timely permanency:

- Reduce delays in permanency
- Strengthen permanency-focused case practice
- Strengthen coordination with legal and community partners to improve access to services and address other barriers to timely permanency



Federal Changes “A Home for Every Child” Framework



“Our mission is straightforward: homes waiting for kids, not kids waiting for home. Every child grows best in family, and our A Home for Every Child initiative will ensure we are doubling down on prevention to keep families intact whenever it’s safe to do so, while ensuring there are enough loving foster homes available for any child who needs one.”

- Administration for Children and Families
Assistant Secretary Alex Adams.

Nebraska “Right Home Right Time” Plan

Our Central Goal: Right Home, Right Time

This means all youth receive safety and stability as quickly as possible. All strategies for CFS will flow through this one central goal, which aligns federal and state vision, strengthens our practice and family engagement, and ensures families thrive.



Nebraska’s Federally Approved Program Improvement Plan:

The federally approved *Right Home Right Time* Program Improvement Plan focused improvement efforts around 3 statewide priorities.



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3 Priorities - Shared Goals Moving Forward



Support at home first

Keeping families together whenever safely possible should remain the priority. By connecting families to prevention services and in-home supports early, we can reduce unnecessary foster care entry and strengthen long-term family stability.

Place in family settings with relatives or kin



When out-of-home placement is necessary, keeping children connected to family and supportive adults should remain the priority. Prioritizing relative and kinship placements helps maintain important relationships, minimize trauma, and support long-term stability for children.



Attain safe and timely permanency

When out-of-home care is necessary, achieving safe and timely permanency for children should remain the priority. Reducing delays in permanency supports stability, strengthens long-term well-being, and helps children build lasting connections.

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Stakeholder Engagement Shaped the PIP



- Stakeholder feedback informed goals and strategies
- Collaboration remains essential
- Shared priorities helped guide improvement efforts

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Measuring Progress & Sharing Updates

CORE MEASURE

Foster Home to Child Ratio

(# of homes approved for placement/
#of children who require placement)

LEAD (PIP) MEASURES

Prevention:

- # of eligible families referred to prevention (FFPSA) services
- Rate of Foster Care Entry

Placement with Relatives or Kin:

- Time from removal to relative/kin placement

Safe/Timely Permanency:

- % of children attaining permanency in 12 months
- % of children attaining timely reunification, guardianship, or adoption

WRAPAROUND MEASURES

Maintaining Family Connections:

% of children in care at the end of the month who are placed with relatives or kin.

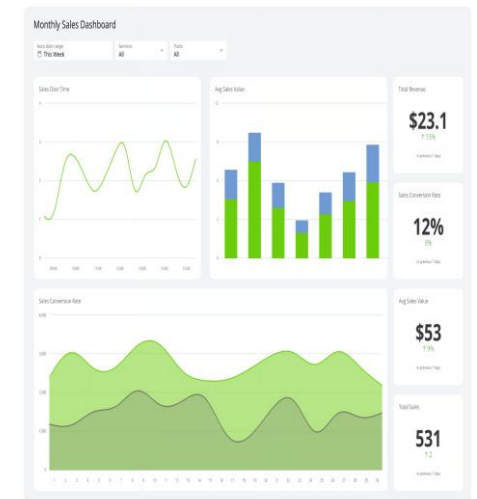
Congregate Care: % of days children are placed in group homes/settings instead of living with a family

Recent Maltreatment History: % of children harmed after child welfare agency has already confirmed abuse or neglect

Home Disruptions: % of homes where foster placement ends unexpectedly and children must move

Monthly Data Reporting

(Starting: July/Aug 2026)



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Continued Stakeholder Engagement



Focus Groups

- Prevention
- Placement w/Relative/Kin
- Safe and Timely Permanency

Scan QR Code to Sign up
for upcoming focus
groups

*Focus Groups will be
scheduled in late August or
early September 2026.*



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Right Home Right Time (RHRT) Website

The website will include:

- ✓ RHRT Overview
- ✓ RHRT PIP submitted to Children's Bureau
- ✓ Progress updates
- ✓ Monthly data
- ✓ Reports and resources
- ✓ Engagement opportunities
- ✓ FAQs
- ✓ Contact Us

SCAN ME



<https://dhhs.ne.gov/Pages/Right-Home-Right-Time.aspx>

Staying Connected

Submit Questions or feedback to:

DHHS.CQI@nebraska.gov

Visit the Right Home Right Time website for Updates:



SCAN ME

<https://dhhs.ne.gov/Pages/Right-Home-Right-Time.aspx>

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Closing & Thank You

Thank you for your continued partnership and commitment to achieving positive outcomes for Nebraska's children and families!



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