

October 31, 2012

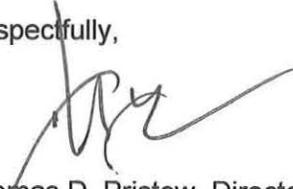
Patrick O'Donnell, Clerk of the Legislature
State Capitol, Room 2018
PO Box 94604
Lincoln, Nebraska 68509

Dear Mr. O'Donnell,

Legislative Bill 820 of the 102nd Legislative Session of 2012 requires the IV-E Demonstration Committee to report on its activities to the Health and Human Services Committee on or before November 1, 2012.

The attached report provides a progress summary regarding committee activities to date. The report also includes minutes from the meetings in September and October 2012.

Respectfully,



Thomas D. Pristow, Director
Children and Family Services
Department of Health and Human Services

REPORT FOR:	Nebraska Legislature, Health and Human Services Committee
REPORT DATE:	November 1, 2012
LEGISLATIVE BILL	LB 820, Sections 1, 2, & 3
COMMITTEE NAME	IV-E Demonstration Project
CONTACT PERSON:	Sara Goscha, DHHS CFS Special Projects 402-471-8404

General Information

LB 820 requires the Department to appoint a IV-E Demonstration Committee. The committee shall review, report and provide recommendations regarding the application for a demonstration project to apply for a IV-E Waiver. This effort may include hiring a consultant. The committee will review the current Title IV-E participation and penetration rates, review strategies and solutions for raising Nebraska's participation rate and reimbursement for Title IV-E in child placement, case management, replacement, training, adoption, court findings, and proceedings and recommend specific actions for addressing barriers to participation and reimbursement. The committee shall create an implementation plan and time line for making application for a Title IV-E waiver. The Implementation plan shall support and align with the goals of the statewide strategic plan requirement in LB 821.

Progress Summary

Since the September 1, 2012 IV-E Demonstration Project Committee Legislative report, the committee has met on:

- September 7, 2012
- October 10, 2012

Minutes are attached from each meeting.

The Nebraska Public Meeting Calendar continues to be used for meeting notices.

DHHS established public web pages for the Commission activity, and posts final minutes for this committee on-line. <http://dhhs.ne.gov/Pages/childrenscommission.aspx>

The two sub-committees continue to meet approximately once a month and address the IV-E Penetration Rate and the Implementation Plan.

Issues

Nebraska received a disallowance letter for IV-E funds paid through the lead agencies for 2010. Federal staff in Washington, DC are working with Nebraska to continue with the efforts to submit a waiver application.

Recommendations

Both sub-committees continue to develop and finalize recommendations regarding the penetration rate and waiver implementation and timeframe as defined in LB 820. The sub-committee recommendations will be voted on by the larger committee in November with the plan to submit these recommendations to the Children's Commission for consideration at their November 20, 2012 meeting.

Attachments:

1. September 7, 2012 minutes, final
2. October 10, 2012, minutes, draft

1. Welcome & Call to Order

Sara Goscha called the meeting to order at 9:01am.

2. Roll Call, Members Present:

Jim Blue	Sara Goscha	Gene Klein
Jerry Davis	Judge Inbody	Kevin Nelson
Sarah Forrest		Corey Steele

Absent: Sheri Dawson, Kennedy-Goergen, Bill Reay, Vicky Weisz.
DHHS Staff: Cynthia Brammeier

Sara welcomed Gene Klein as a new member, and co-chair, serving on and appointed by the Nebraska Children's Commission.

Sheri Dawson joined the meeting at this time.

3. Welcome / Comments

Sara welcomed members. Sara briefly covered the IV-E Disallowance for 2010. Nebraska received a disallowance letter for IV-E funds paid through the lead agencies for 2010. Director Pristow asked Sara to share that the disallowance will not have any impact on services to children and families. Federal staff in Washington, DC are working with Nebraska to continue with the efforts to submit a waiver application.

4. Approval of Agenda

It was moved by Kevin Nelson to approve the agenda as presented, it was seconded by Jerry Davis. Voting yes: Jim Blue, Jerry Davis, Sarah Forrest, Sara Goscha, Kevin Nelson. Abstaining: Gene Klein. Absent: Candy Kennedy-Goergen, Bill Reay. The motion carried.

5. Approval of Minutes

It was moved by Sarah Forrest to approve the minutes as presented, it was seconded by Jerry Davis. Voting yes: Jim Blue, Jerry Davis, Sarah Forrest, Sara Goscha, Kevin Nelson. Abstaining: Gene Klein. Absent: Candy Kennedy-Goergen, Bill Reay. The motion carried.

6. Public Comment: There was no public comment.

7. Old Business

a. Sub-Committee Reports:

- i. IV-E Penetration Rate Sub-committee, Sarah Forrest reported on sub-committee activities. Minutes from the August 15, 2012 meeting were distributed.
It was moved by Jim Blue to request data to either be provided by the next meeting or an estimate of when the data can be provided by the next meeting - regarding 1) SSI penetration rate and claims, and 2) to break down the disallowance statistics based on the removal disallowance, the placement disallowance, separated by OJS and HHS placements; Jerry Davis seconded the motion. Voting yes: Jim Blue, Jerry Davis, Sarah Forrest, Sara Goscha, Gene Klein, Kevin Nelson. Absent: Candy Kennedy-Goergen, Bill Reay. The motion carried.
 - ii. IV-E Plan Sub-committee, Sara Goscha reported on sub-committee activities. Wellbeing is a requirement in the IV-E Waiver plan. Trauma Informed Care is important, such as oversight of psychotropic medications, stability of children's placement, and how providers work with children in state custody. Other state waiver applications are online: http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/programs_fund/index.htm#child
This sub-committee or a group of participants may be extended beyond December 2012 in order to participate in the Waiver application.
 - b. Legislative Report:
Sara reported the Legislative Report was filed early. Reports are available online. <http://www.nebraskalegislature.gov/agencies/view.php>
8. **Adjourn:** It was moved by Kevin Nelson to adjourn the meeting, Jerry Davis seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 10:07am.

1. Welcome & Call to Order

Sara Goscha called the meeting to order at 9:06am.

2. Roll Call, Members Present:

Sheri Dawson	Sara Goscha	Vicky Weisz
Jerry Davis	Judge Inbody	Kevin Nelson
Sarah Forrest	Candy Kennedy-Goergen	Corey Steele
Absent: Jim Blue, Bill Reay, Gene Klein		
DHHS Staff: Allison Wilson		

3. Welcome / Comments

Sara welcomed members.

4. Approval of Agenda

Gene Klein arrived at this time.

It was moved by Kevin Nelson to approve the agenda as presented, it was seconded by Sarah Forrest. Voting yes: Jerry Davis, Sarah Forrest, Sara Goscha, Candy Kennedy-Goergen, Gene Klein, and Kevin Nelson. Absent: Jim Blue, Bill Reay. The motion carried.

5. Approval of Minutes

It was moved by Jerry Davis to approve the 9-7-12 minutes as presented, it was seconded by Kevin Nelson.

Discussion: Judge Inbody suggested that the minutes should reflect in section 3 Sara Goscha's statement on Director Pristow's behalf that the disallowance would not affect services to children and families be added to the minutes.

It was moved by Jerry Davis to include the additional comments; it was seconded by Sarah Forrest. Voting Yes on the Amendment: Jerry Davis, Sarah Forrest, Sara Goscha, Candy Kennedy-Goergen, and Gene Klein. Voting No: Kevin Nelson. Absent: Jim Blue, Bill Reay. The motion carried.

Voting yes on the minutes: Jerry Davis, Sarah Forrest, Sara Goscha, Candy Kennedy-Goergen, Gene Klein and Kevin Nelson. Absent: Jim Blue, Bill Reay. The motion carried.

6. Public Comment: There was no public comment.

7. Old Business

a. Sub-Committee Reports:

- i. IV-E Penetration Rate Sub-committee, Vicky Weisz shared the committee's draft recommendations. These draft recommendations will also be shared with the committee members via e-mail for comment. Vicky will bring final draft recommendations for vote at the November 8, 2012 meeting.

Sara Goscha reported that the November release for N-FOCUS will fix the issue of when claiming for SSI payments; the Department cannot claim for IV-E maintenance payments, but can for administrative costs.

- ii. IV-E Plan Sub-committee, Sara Goscha reported on sub-committee activities. A draft timeline was presented to the group. The timeline will be shared with the committee members via e-mail for comment. Sara will bring the final draft timeline for vote at the November 8, 2012 meeting. The goals will also be sent out by the November 8, 2012 meeting for the committee's consideration.

b. Legislative Report:

Sara Goscha reported that the next Legislative Report will be due November 1, 2012. Judge Inbody suggested including in the report information that draft recommendations, a timeline and goals have been developed by the sub-committees and that the large committee will take a final vote on the recommendations at the November 8, 2012 meeting. The plan is to submit the recommendations and timeline to the Children's Commission for consideration at their November 20, 2012 meeting.

8. **Adjourn:** It was moved by Jerry Davis to adjourn the meeting, Sarah Forrest seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 10:25am.