



**Administrative
Office of the Courts
and Probation**



Clarity and Collaboration: The Different Roles of Child Welfare and Juvenile Justice

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Children's Summit

Objectives

- Identify the juvenile reform changes that passage of LB561 and LB464 created
- Define the roles of Child Welfare and Juvenile Justice
- Understand the different activities during the “Intake” process for both child welfare and juvenile justice
- Outline how child welfare and juvenile justice utilize out-of-home placement for youth
- Demonstrate collaboration when working with youth in both the child welfare and juvenile justices systems

LB561

Legislative changes

LB464

The implementation of juvenile justice reform

Key Changes in Nebraska

- Youth involved in the Court System no longer need to become a state ward to receive services
- Child Welfare focus is expertise in abuse and neglect
- Delinquent and Status Offense Youth are solely supervised by probation
- The Office of Juvenile Services focused role is management of the Youth Rehabilitation and Treatment Centers (YRTC) in Kearney and Geneva
- The court plays a key role in the re-entry process
- Family Engagement with the legal guardian is empowered

Child Welfare and Juvenile Justice

Clarification of the different roles



Focus

Juvenile Justice

- Delinquency, Community Safety, and Behavior Change
- Supervision of probation conditions and targeted case management with the focus of youth remaining in the family home, services utilized are least intrusive and within local communities

Child Welfare

- Child Safety, Permanency, and Well-being
- Completing assessments related to safety and risk of child abuse and neglect, coordinating community services to safely maintain or return children to the home and providing services to children and families in the least restrictive manner

Assess Risk and Need

Juvenile Justice

- Future delinquent acts or status behaviors prohibited by law due to status as a minor

Child Welfare

- Future harm to children, improve well-being, secure permanency



Initial Involvement /Intake

Juvenile Justice

- Focused on new law violations or run away
- Probation Officers utilize a standardized screening tool for youth who receive new law violations to determine if detention is necessary.

Child Welfare

- Focused on protection of children from abuse and neglect
- CPS Hotline utilizes a standardized tool that screens for allegations of maltreatment and the potential of risk of harm to children.

Placement

Juvenile Justice

- Use of detention is limited to continued law violations or fleeing the jurisdiction
- Placement of a youth in an out-of-home only with an order of the court.

Child Welfare

- Child and Protective Services (CPS) cannot place children in detention
- Placement of a child out-of-home only with an order of the court.

Successful Termination

Juvenile Justice

- Completion of probation conditions
- Behavior change, and
- Reduction of recidivism

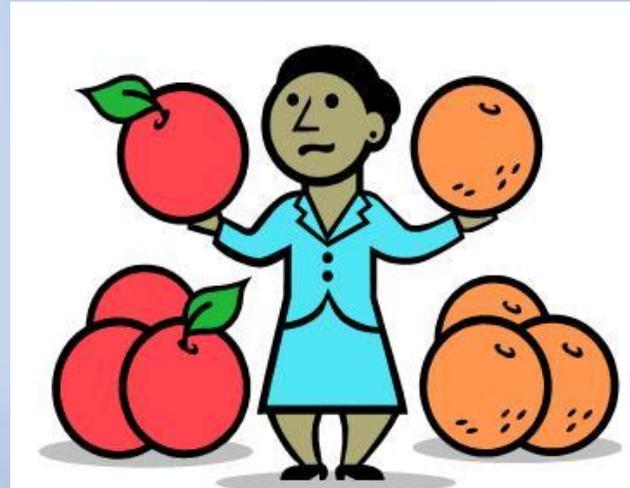


Child Welfare

- Safety assessment determined the child to be safe
- Reduction in the future risk of child abuse and/neglect, and
- Permanency is achieved through reunification, adoption, guardianship, independent living or self-sufficiency with supports.

Intake

Same term different meaning



DHHS Role at Intake

- Child/Adult Abuse/Neglect Hotline or Law Enforcement is contacted
- Utilization of the Structured Decision Making (SDM) standard assessment tool to determine if report meets criteria for an investigation
 - Allegation of abuse and/or neglect
 - Additional child and family information (substance abuse, domestic violence, etc.)
- Accepted reports will receive a prioritized response
 - Priority 1-immediate up to 24 hours
 - Priority 2-up to 5 calendar days
 - Priority 3-up to 10 calendar days
- Accepted report is assigned to CFS Specialist for SDM assessment. Court or non-court interventions or services can be offered when:
 - Child has been determined to be unsafe (by the parent or caretaker)
 - Risk is high or very high for future abuse and/or neglect
 - CFS cannot place out-of-home without law enforcement removal or court order

Probation Role at Intake

- New Law Violation or Runaway and law enforcement requests detention
- Criteria for detention
 - Risk to the community
 - Risk to flee the jurisdiction
 - Fail to appear for court
- Utilization of the Nebraska Juvenile Intake Screening Risk Assessment (also known as RAI) as the standardized assessment tool
- Intake screening options:
 - Release without restrictions
 - Detention alternative
 - Detain in staff secure or secure placement
- Community Based Aid grant funds support expansion of detention alternatives statewide

Out-of-Home Placement

Utilization of placement by Child Welfare and Juvenile Justice

Out-of-Home Utilization

Juvenile Justice

- Law Enforcement initiated due to new law violation or runaway (intake) Probation Officer temporary placement
- Court Order
 - Juvenile justice system Involved:
 - Delinquent
 - Status youth

Child Welfare

- 48 Hour Law Enforcement Removal
- Court Removal
 - 3(a)-Abuse/Neglect
 - 3(c)-Mentally Ill and Dangerous

Dually Adjudicated Youth

Working with youth involved in the Juvenile Justice and Child Welfare Systems

Dually Adjudicated Youth

- Collaborative Plan created by both the Probation Officer and Case Worker
- Intervention to support both adjudications:
 - Probation = target risk and need
 - DHHS = target safety, well-being and permanency
- Youth and Family is the focus
- Crossover Youth Practice Model (CYPM) and Local Collaboration is key





How does this really work?

Kelli Schadwinkel, Probation Juvenile Justice Resource Supervisor

Casey Smith, CSA Children and Family Services Administrator

- ❖ Local Kearney experiences of how to work together

Local Collaboration

- Positive Team Work
- Challenges Overcome
- Together Everyone Achieves More!