

- The Governor's Child Welfare Action Committee made **36** recommendations.
 - Of these **36**, all were either completed, are on-going, or will soon be finalized.
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THE IMPLEMENTATION STATUS OF THE GOVERNOR'S CHILD WELFARE ACTION COMMITTEE'S RECOMMENDATIONS 1-26

1. **Mandatory Reporters of Child Maltreatment:** To allow professionals to receive status of the investigation unless waived. (Completed 10/2008 and new on-line training implemented on 2014.)
2. **Quality Assurance and State Leadership on Cultural and Diversity Issues:** To address disparities and reduce disproportional representation of minority children in the system. (Completed with the establishment of the Colorado Disparity Resource Center on 05/2009.)
3. **Pre-Service Training for Child Welfare Caseworkers, Supervisors and Case Aides:** To ensure that staff have required competencies before they take a case. (Completed and Child Welfare Training Academy opened 01/2010 with a new curriculum 10/2014. Funding was not allocated for pre-service Case Aide training, ongoing training is available.)
4. **Pre-Service Training for Child Abuse/Neglect Hotline Staff:** To ensure that staff have required competencies before they take a case. This recommendation required new funding. (Funding approved and training offered September to December 2014; 2015 offering TBD.)
5. **Expansion of the Child Welfare Educational Stipend Program:** To provide incentives for highly educated professionals to enter the child welfare workforce. (Ongoing; Stipends have already been expanded due to new funding. The expansion of stipend funds to DU and Metro are being explored. DU has a distance learning sites for rural communities, and Metro is establishing a program. CSU Fort Collins is working on establishing a Stipend Program for SFY 2016-2017. CSU Pueblo may also be interested in starting a Stipend Program.)
6. **Evaluation of Training Effectiveness:** To ensure that the Academy curriculum is congruent with current policy and practice standards. (Completed on 9/2011 and curriculum revised and improved in 2014.)
7. **Domestic Violence Representation in Collaborative Management Programs:** To enable case planning and service delivery to be more collaborative across systems. (Completed 09/2009)
8. **Assessing Domestic Violence in Child Abuse and Neglect Reports:** To address the co-occurrence of child maltreatment and domestic violence to ensure proper coordination of services. (Completed also new rules went to State Board adding DV on 9/14, with the final review set for 10/2014.)
9. **Utilizing Judicial Records:** To give county investigators information about existing criminal records to improve their assessments and safety of children. (Completed on 10/2008 and strengthen in rule on 9/14 with State Board for finalization scheduled for 10/2014.)
10. **Utilize Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Reserves to Support Domestic Violence Intervention and Prevention:** To provide additional resources for the prevention of domestic violence. (Completed 08/2009)

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11. Child Welfare Organizational Study and Workload Analysis: To understand the best organizational design and staffing resources needed for an ideal system. (Completed Organizational Study 09/2009 and Workload Study completed 8/14.)
12. Child Welfare Division Research and Performance Improvement Team: To make sure that program decisions and services are based on good research, analysis, and evaluation. (Completed 04/2010)
13. A - Task Force Recommendation # 5: Oversight of Counties Compliance and Workload Study: To ensure that an analysis of county-state relationship and workload study of CDHS, county departments of human/social services is completed; to create administrative rules and progressive disciplinary process; and to establish consistency throughout the state in the provision of child welfare services. (Workload Study was completed 8/2014.)

B - Task Force Recommendation # 11: Youth Will Be Adequately Prepared for Emancipation: To improve permanency outcomes for youth, ensure that youth have access to their vital records, access to Medicaid benefits when emancipating from foster care and have sibling visitation. (Completed 06/2009)

C - Task Force Recommendation # 13: Provide Increased Support and Services to Kinship Caregivers for Children in Out-of-Home Placements. (Completed 07/2010 and added IV-E Waiver for Kinship Supports and currently exploring option for additional funding for kin.)

D - Task Force Recommendation # 15: Develop a Funding Strategy to Support Casework Staff Training on the Colorado Safety Assessment Instrument: To ensure that casework staff understands, utilizes and implements the Colorado Safety Assessment Instrument. (Completed and Improvement pilot started in 2014.)
14. Centralized Call Center: To provide citizens one central place to call to report allegations of child abuse or neglect. (Statewide hotline will be up and running by 1/1/2015.)
15. Accountability Mechanisms (Office of Child Advocate): To provide an independent, impartial place to voice concerns regarding the response of the system to protect children. (Completed 07/2010)
16. Improve Child Welfare Data Quality and Evaluate Practice: To collect and report consistent information related to client demographics to address issues of disparity and disproportionality. (Completed 10/2010-11/2012 and ongoing 9/14. New CDHS Community Performance Center makes CW data transparent- rolled out on 4/2014.)
17. Differential Response: To engage families in an alternative approach to traditional investigations that keeps children safe and strengthens families. (Completed and expanding to more counties 11/2012, Ongoing 9/2014.)
18. In-Service Training for Child Welfare Caseworkers, Supervisors, Case Aides (not included) and Child Abuse/Neglect Hotline Staff: To ensure that key child welfare staff complete ongoing training related to their specific position. (Completed new rules 3/2010 and training on 3/2010, and required training on 05/2010; and revised and improved training 10/2014.)
19. Use of a Family Centered Engagement Method: To promote family leadership in culturally appropriate case planning and services delivery. (Completed – 10/2010)
20. Access to Services: To promote the consistent delivery of high quality services throughout all of Colorado. (Completed 2009-2010 and ongoing 9/2014)
21. Establish a Statewide Training Program to Address Concerns Around Cultural Competency: To promote and advance culturally competent child welfare practices. (Completed and ongoing 08/2010-11/2012 with a new and improved Academy curriculum developed in 2014.)

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22. Child Welfare System of Care: To provide a practice model that ensures quality, consistency, and accountability for a full comprehensive service system. (Ongoing 9/2014)
23. Increase the Number of Kinship Care Homes and Culturally Appropriate Foster Homes: To give placement staff more culturally appropriate options for children who must be placed outside their own homes. (Completed and ongoing 9/2014)
24. Feedback to Mandatory Reporters of Child Abuse/Neglect: To provide needed information to professionals who report abuse and maintain an ongoing relationship with the child. (Rule revision going forward to provide guidance; CDHS is also concluding a soft roll out of the new online mandated reporter training with a 9/18/2014 anticipated public announcement through media outreach.)
25. Corrective Action Plans and Sanctions: To develop progressive steps to bring counties into compliance with basic requirements of rules and regulations. (Completed and being implemented 12/2010)
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