



Topic Area: Child Welfare

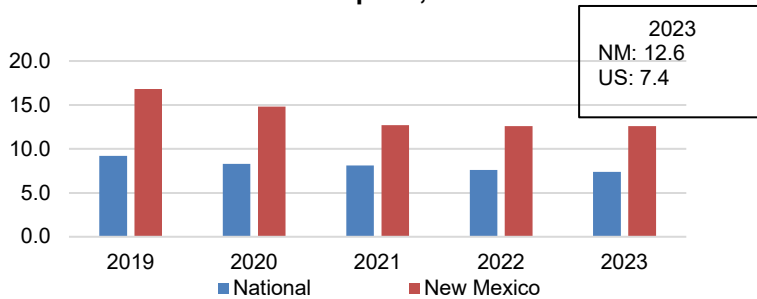
New Mexico’s child welfare system faces a variety of challenges, including high rates of child maltreatment and repeat maltreatment, high turnover and vacancy rates among child protective services workers, and insufficient numbers of resource homes (foster care providers) and treatment foster care (TFC) placements. Evidence-based options and programs may prevent maltreatment, and a professional, well-supported workforce can improve outcomes for children and families. In addition, both research and the *Kevin S.* settlement highlight the need to improve access to community-based services for system-involved children, including increasing numbers of resource homes. In recent years, New Mexico enacted legislation and significantly increased appropriations in support of these objectives, but the state has faced implementation challenges.

Key Takeaways

- New Mexico continues to be one of only a few states that still does not have an approved Family First Prevention Services Act (Title IV-E) plan, missing out on an opportunity to receive federal funding to implement evidence-based prevention programs.
- While CYFD made some hiring progress over the last year, turnover among Protective Services workers remains high and is increasing, potentially inhibiting system improvement.
- CYFD devoted resources to recruit foster families, and the number of resource homes has increased. However, the state continues to experience insufficient number of foster homes and community-based behavioral health services and is increasingly relying on congregate care settings.
- CYFD will end FY25 without fully using GRO appropriations to address systemic challenges, and inappropriately used the majority of a \$20 million appropriation intended to provide start-up costs for behavioral health services that would be eligible for Medicaid or other federal reimbursement.

Key Data

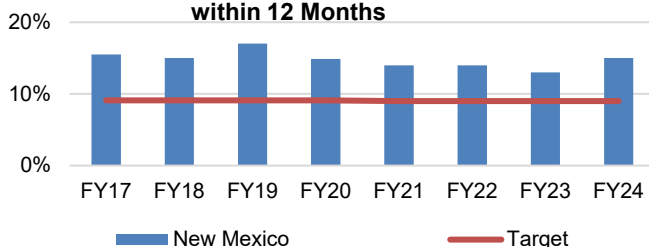
Child Maltreatment Rate per 1,000 Children



Source: 2023 ACF Child Maltreatment Report

- The rate of child maltreatment in New Mexico remains higher than the national average. In 2023, 12.6 children out of every 1,000 children experienced maltreatment, a total of 5,670 children.
- The state is investing to address root causes by increasing funding for behavioral health, substance use treatment, and other services.

Children Subject to Repeat Maltreatment within 12 Months



Source: CYFD

- In FY24, New Mexico’s repeat maltreatment rate was 15 percent, while the national benchmark was 9 percent.
- CYFD indicates the state’s rate of repeat of maltreatment has improved slightly in FY25 but remained 14 percent in the third quarter of FY25.

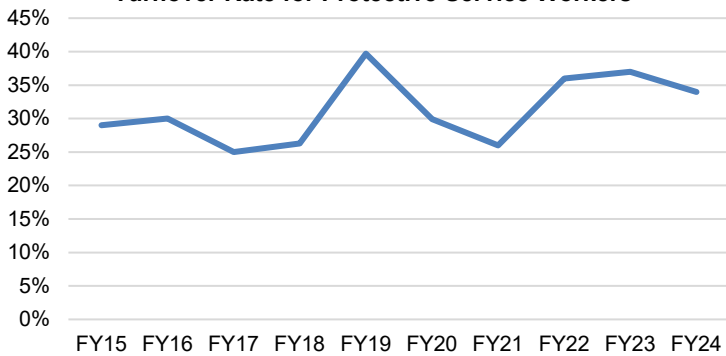
Protective Services Positions

	June 2024	Dec. 2024	June 2025
Filled	919	918	939
Vacant	280	338	338
Total	1,199	1,256	1,277

Source: SPO Data

- As of June 2025, CYFD had 939 filled positions in Protective Services, a 2 percent increase relative to the number of positions filled in December 2024.
- Between September 2020 and September 2024, average salaries at CYFD grew by 37 percent, or 8 percent annually.

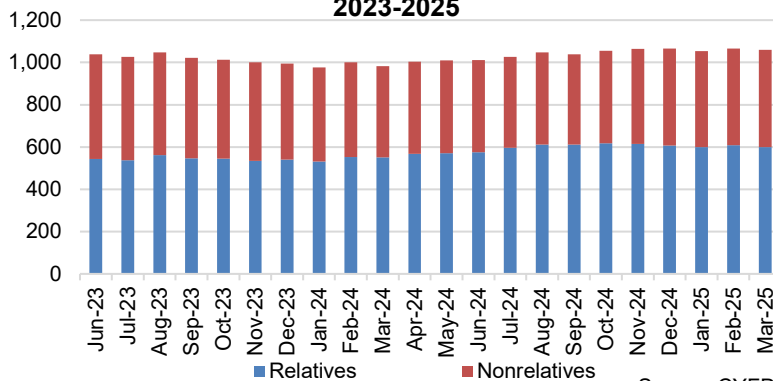
Turnover Rate for Protective Service Workers



Source: CYFD

- After a slight improvement in FY24, FY25 third quarter performance data indicates Protective Services staff turnover worsened to 39 percent.
- CYFD desktop reports indicate turnover was 54 percent in April 2025.
- According to the Annie E. Casey Foundation, turnover rates among child welfare workers average between 20 and 30 percent nationally, while turnover rates at or below 12 percent are considered optimal in healthcare and human services.

Resource Families 2023-2025



Source: CYFD

- As of April 2025, CYFD reported 1,062 active resource homes, an increase of 6 percent relative to April 2024. The increase was primarily driven by kinship placements, which increased by 52 families since April 2024.
- Despite increases in the overall number of resource homes, CYFD continues to experience churn among foster families. On average over the last year, CYFD reported 56 new foster families each month but a loss of 43 foster families each month.

Performance Challenge: Preventing Child Maltreatment and Repeat Maltreatment

LegisStat Recap

- The May 2023 LegisStat hearing focused on child maltreatment, and committee members asked about goals for reducing child maltreatment as well as the department’s plans for implementing and improving the Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act (CARA) program and plans of self-care and alternative response.
- In the December 2023 hearing, the agency reported the department had received feedback from the federal government regarding the submitted Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA) plan and intended to resubmit it. CYFD has reorganized the department and established a Family Services Division intended to focus on prevention but still does not have an approved FFPSA plan in place.
- In June 2024, the agency reported continuing to work on a resubmission of the plan.
- In September 2024, CYFD reported the agency was receiving technical assistance, provided by Casey Family Programs, to review the state’s FFPSA plan, and the plan had not yet been submitted. In FY24, CYFD spent 35 percent of a reported \$16.4 million of expenditures on evidence-and research-based prevention programming, and in December 2024 CYFD reported again submitting a FFPSA plan.

Action Plan

- The FFPSA plan submitted in December 2024 was not approved by the federal government. CYFD reports plans to review and revise plan.

Overview and Additional Context

Prevention and Early Intervention.

In September 2022, CYFD submitted a FFPSA plan for review, but the plan was not approved by the federal government. The purpose of the plan is to begin using federal funding to implement prevention and intervention programs identified in the federal Title IV-E (foster care) clearinghouse, such as Healthy Families America, Child First, and SafeCare. The FFPSA allows states to draw down federal Title IV-E funding at the state’s Medicaid match rate (roughly 75 percent in New Mexico). Without an approved plan, New Mexico is missing out on federal revenue that could be used to implement evidence-based prevention and early intervention programs.

As of summer 2024, the state’s plan had not been approved, but CYFD received feedback from the federal government and reported plans to resubmit it. To receive federal Title IV-E prevention funding, the state must have an approved plan and implement programs identified by the federal Administration of Children and Families (ACF) as proven to reduce child maltreatment. For FY25, the General Appropriation Act provided a special appropriation of \$200 thousand to CYFD to pay for technical assistance for revising and resubmitting the state's prevention program plan and to ensure the maximum draw down of federal funds within Protective Services. CYFD received technical assistance through Casey Family Programs, supported philanthropically. The agency has used the appropriation for technical assistance from a consultant who worked in the Washington D.C. child welfare agency and to hire a financial services firm to review financial control procedures within the agency. CYFD resubmitted a revised FFPSA plan in December 2024. The agency had received feedback from the federal Administration of Children and Families by the summer of 2025, but the plan was not approved.

Prevention-Related GRO Appropriations FY25
(in thousands)

Purpose	FY25 GRO	June 2025 Balance
Pilot multi-level/ alternative response	\$1,400.0	\$1,340.0
Pilot prevention and early-intervention programs	\$3,000	\$2,682.8

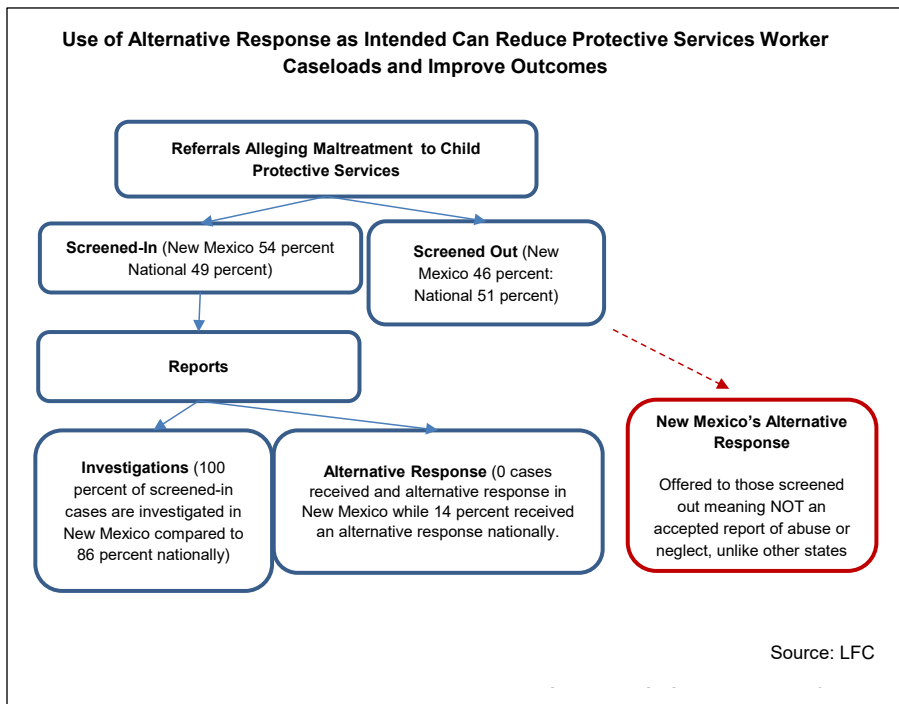
Source: SHARA data pulled 6/16/2025

Previous LFC reports have highlighted concerns that draft plans contained programs that were not eligible for FFPSA funding and included some programs that were not evidence-based.

For FY25, the Legislature maintained a relatively flat CYFD operating budget, including within Protective Services, but made significant targeted investments for prevention and early intervention programs through the Government Results and Opportunity (GRO) fund to pilot and implement programs over three years, including: \$9 million to implement evidence-based prevention and intervention programs. This GRO funding should provide an opportunity to expand evidence-based programs and evaluate their outcomes. Appropriations should also bridge funding until federal reimbursement is available, if CYFD chooses to implement programs eligible for federal reimbursement. As of June 2025, CYFD had encumbered and spent only \$317 thousand of the \$3 million FY25 GRO appropriation for prevention programs.

Alternative, Multi-Level, or Differential Response. In 2019, New Mexico enacted legislation to create a multilevel or alternative response model. In a traditional alternative or differential response model, reports of maltreatment are split into two tracks: investigation and assessment. In an alternative response to the traditional investigation model, in lower risk cases, protective services workers conduct an assessment of a family’s needs, connect the family to resources or in-home services if appropriate, and continue to monitor the family directly. New Mexico has been implementing a pilot model that refers some families for external services but does not follow evidence-based models with fidelity and only serves families who are screened out for investigation.

LFC analysis suggests alternative or differential response may have a positive return on investment, ranging between \$12 and \$16 for every \$1 invested. If implemented with fidelity, alternative or differential response can result in improved child safety and reduced instances of repeat maltreatment. However, several LFC reports have flagged concerns CYFD has not implemented with fidelity to evidence-based models or as outlined in state statute, but CYFD was instead implementing a model that focuses on referring screened-out cases to community services.



In 2024, the Legislature appropriated \$4.2 million through the GRO to pilot and evaluate implementation of differential response over three years, in accordance with statute. CYFD also reports differential response may be eligible for Title IV-E prevention funding if the state implements a program model listed in the federal clearinghouse and the overall state plan is approved. CYFD is receiving technical assistance from Casey Family Programs to prepare to expand alternative response statewide and to deliver the approach to low-to medium-risk cases, as research recommends. However, no timeline or specific plan for implementation has been shared, and the agency has not completed statutorily required reporting in the last two years. As of June, only \$60 thousand of the \$1.4 million FY25 GRO appropriation had been expended, and it is unclear how the agency will evaluate the effectiveness of the program and outcomes.

Senate Bill 42

Enacted during the 2025 legislative session, Senate Bill 42 made significant changes to the state’s implementation of the Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act (CARA) program, to address implementation gaps identified in a 2023 LFC program evaluation, including making the Health Care Authority (HCA) the lead agency, requiring

HCA provide an intensive, evidence-based form of care coordination for all children and families with a plan of safe care, requiring certain types of referrals in all plans of safe care, and clarifying the specific actions CYFD must take in cases of non-compliance with plans of safe care.

The bill also requires CYFD develop a plan to implement programs eligible for the FFPSA, demonstrate effort to maximize federal reimbursement for prevention programs, and annually report on progress and outcomes of prevention programs. In addition, the bill will require CYFD to implement alternative response as articulated in statute statewide by 2027.

Performance Challenge: Meeting Child Welfare System Workforce Needs

LegisStat Recap

- Previous LegisStat hearings included questions related to CYFD workforce development and whether the agency is implementing the workforce plan developed following the *Kevin S.* lawsuit. The committee also wanted to know more about whether the CYFD workforce is licensed and credentialed at a sufficient level and what might be done to improve the professionalization of the workforce.
- During the June 2024 LegisStat hearing, CYFD reported roughly 7 percent of the Protective Services workforce is composed of licensed social workers. Committee members also asked about other options for improving the effectiveness and efficiency of the existing workforce and if the department had plans for the \$3 million appropriation for the department’s workforce plan.
- During the September 2024 LegisStat, CYFD reported a variety of plans to recruit and train Protective Services workers, including media campaigns, recruitment events out-of-state, and a child welfare workforce training academy developed in partnership with New Mexico Highlands University (NMHU). However, CYFD did not share details about timelines or intended outcomes or performance targets related to these efforts.

Action Plan

- CYFD has partnered with NMHU and initiated training cohort. Outcomes unknown.
- CYFD has initiated workforce recruitment marketing campaigns. Outcomes unknown.
- CYFD has awarded temporary salary adjustments for case workers with master’s in social work, hoping to retain these workers. Outcomes unknown.

2023 CYFD Exit Survey Results: Most Frequently Reported Reasons for Leaving

Lack of support from leadership	19%
Overworked/ workload	8%
New Opportunity	8%
Too many cases/backlog	7%
Mental health	7%
Personal reasons	5%
Burn out	4%
Underpaid	4%
Not feeling valued	4%
Environment/ structure of the dept.	4%

Source: 2023 CYFD Exit Survey Report

Overview and Additional Context

Workforce shortages continue to hamper the state’s efforts at addressing childhood maltreatment. New Mexico faces high demand for social workers, caseworkers, and investigators, causing high caseloads and, in some cases, potential missed opportunities to prevent maltreatment. Recruitment and retention challenges impact the workforce because child welfare work is stressful, exposure to trauma is common, and the job is emotionally taxing. CYFD has not focused Protective Services recruitment on licensed social workers and has reduced education requirements for workers over time, citing social worker shortages. In June 2024, CYFD reported to LFC that 7 percent of Protective Services caseworkers are licensed social workers.

In 2023 and 2024, the department took several actions to address workforce shortages, such as increasing salaries for certain hard-to-fill front-line positions. In addition, the department held rapid-hire events to recruit staff and fill vacant

positions. However, turnover remains a significant challenge, and the agency’s annual turnover rate among Protective Services case workers was 34 percent in FY24. The FY25 Protective Services personnel budget (\$92.5 million) could fund roughly 962 employees at an average cost of \$98 thousand per employee. However, the agency relies heavily on overtime, which increases personnel costs significantly. As of June 2025, CYFD had 939 positions filled in Protective Services. CYFD exit survey data from 2023 indicates workload and cultural challenges, not compensation, drove exit decisions. CYFD has not publicly shared more recent exit survey data. The Legislature appropriated \$100 thousand to CYFD during the 2025 legislative session to allow the agency to conduct an organizational health survey and develop strategies to improve employee retention.

Also during the 2024 session, CYFD received a GRO appropriation of \$2 million for Protective Services personnel. As of June 2025, CYFD had not charged any expenses to this appropriation but reports plans to transfer expenditures to this appropriation at the close of FY25.

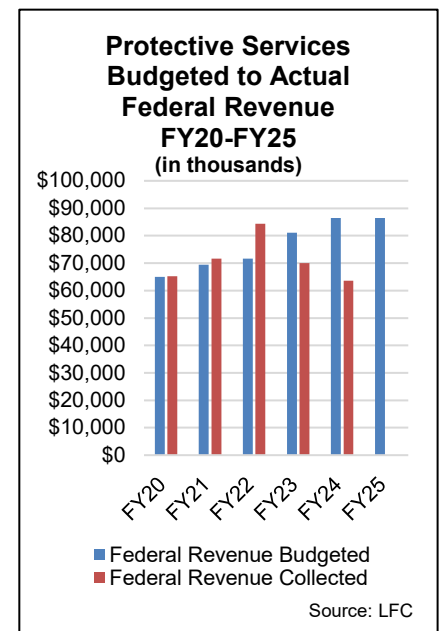
In 2023, the Legislature appropriated \$3 million to CYFD to implement a workforce development plan in response to the *Kevin. S* settlement agreement. The appropriation was intended to allow the department to do targeted recruitment of licensed social workers and provide trauma-informed training, among other activities. However, the appropriation largely went unused and was reauthorized for FY25. As of June 2025, CYFD has encumbered or spent a total of \$2.9 million from this appropriation, including spending \$400 thousand for a marketing campaign, roughly \$2 million in contracts to develop strategies to reduce caseloads and develop a trauma-responsive coaching plan, and providing some temporary salary increases totaling roughly \$200 thousand. The results of these efforts, however, are not known.

In addition, in 2024 the Legislature appropriated \$1.7 million through the GRO for a three-year pilot to incentivize attainment of masters-level social work licensure to develop and retain caseworkers in Protective Services. In 2024, CYFD reported the agency had begun to provide a 10 percent salary increase for licensed social workers in case worker positions using GRO appropriation funding. It is unclear how the agency will evaluate the impact of these efforts, as is intended for GRO funding.

In late 2024, the *Kevin S.* plaintiffs moved to arbitration, and the arbiter found CYFD had failed to meet commitments of the settlement agreement, including hiring sufficient Protective Services staff and reducing caseloads. The arbiter issued a remedial order, which required CYFD take a variety of steps, including requesting additional funding from the Legislature for Protective Services personnel. In response, the Legislature funded the following appropriations through the GRO fund during the 2025 session to enhance oversight and accountability, while providing funding to address personnel needs, including:

- \$30 million to fill 101 caseworker positions for three years;
- \$9.6 million to hire case aides for two years;
- \$7.4 million to pilot a child welfare training academy for three years; and
- \$5.6 million to hire regional on-call teams for two years.

Title IV-E Federal Funding. CYFD’s ability to fill positions up to the budget level is impacted by collecting federal revenue far below budgeted levels. Projected revenue shortfalls in federal Title IV-E revenue within Protective Services may hinder CYFD’s ability to recruit frontline workers. The agency requested a deficiency appropriation for FY24 and is projecting a shortfall in FY25. While the number of children in care increased between FY21 and FY24, federal revenue realized in Protective Services decreased, as did the ratio of federal funds to general fund revenue realized. Title IV-E allows state agencies to be reimbursed for 50 percent of eligible costs associated with the administration of foster care programs, with some administrative expenses eligible for higher reimbursement. During the 2025 session, the Legislature appropriated \$500 thousand to CYFD to seek technical assistance to review agency practices and provide assistance to reclaim federal funds in lieu of backfilling federal funds in the agency’s operating budget.



Performance Challenge: Ensuring Appropriate Placements for Youth in CYFD Custody

LegisStat Recap

- During the June 2024 LegisStat hearing, CYFD noted the state has insufficient numbers of resource homes, or foster care providers. CYFD reported holding over 120 resource home recruitment events that resulted in 19 new inquiries among potential resource home providers and acknowledged needing to rethink recruitment strategies. The department also reported moving forward with plans to open a multiservice (group home) for hard-to-place boys in Albuquerque with plans to open a similar facility for girls to alleviate the need for children to sleep in CYFD offices.
- During the September 2024 LegisStat, CYFD proposed a plan to implement Foster Care Plus, a model for intensive foster care support that aims to replicate a strategy implemented in Oklahoma. CYFD did not report a specific timeline or intended outcomes for the initiative.

Action Plan

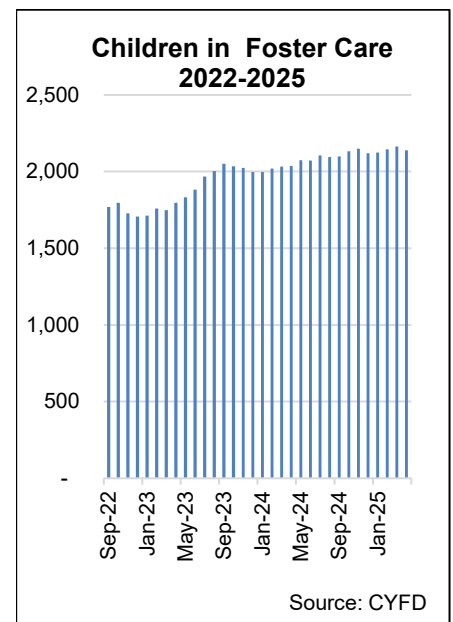
- CYFD planned to implement a program modeled after Foster Care Plus in Oklahoma. Outcomes and status unknown.
- CYFD planned to devote staff to foster care recruitment. Outcomes and status unknown.
- CYFD has now spent the \$20 million special appropriation to build capacity for evidence-based behavioral health services, however the majority of spending does not align with legislative intent.

Overview and Context

The number of children in foster care in New Mexico steadily declined from FY17 to FY23, when the trend reversed. In FY24, 872 youth entered foster care and 542 youth exited foster care. In April 2025 a total of 2,139 children were in CYFD care, an increase of 5 percent relative to April 2024. The percentage of children who achieved permanency within 12 months has also declined since FY22, which may further contribute to the current increase in children in care in any given month.

New Mexico consistently faces insufficient numbers of resource homes or foster placements, though New Mexico tends to perform better than other states when it comes to placing youth in foster care with relatives or kin, which has been shown to lead to better outcomes in many cases. The *Kevin S.* settlement agreement committed New Mexico to efforts to expand community-based family placements for youth in custody, increase the number of resource families, increase the use of treatment foster care, and reduce the use of congregate care placements unless medically necessary.

To address the need to increase resource home placements in the state, in FY24 CYFD taking steps to restructure Protective Services to include a dedicated team in each county office focused on recruiting and retaining foster families. However, the number of licensed resource homes in New Mexico remained roughly 1,000 through 2024, and resource homes often have multiple child placements. The number of licensed resource homes in New Mexico also experiences churn; over the last year, an average of homes were 56 licensed and an average of 43 homes stopped accepting placements each month. In April 2025, CYFD reported a total of 1,062 licensed resource homes, an increase of 6 percent compared to April 2024.



For FY25, the Legislature made several targeted special appropriations to pilot and implement strategies that may increase community-based placements, including \$3.75 million over three years to pilot initiatives to recruit, train, and support treatment foster care and foster care providers to support hard-to-place children. In September 2024, CYFD reported plans to pilot an intensive foster family support model, Foster Care Plus, aiming to replicate an Oklahoma program. The agency reports plans to use GRO funding for this purpose. Specific plans for this appropriation and how outcomes will be evaluated remain unclear. As of June 2025, CYFD had spent or encumbered \$1.1 million of the \$1.25 million available in FY25. The agency will again have \$1.25 million available in FY26, and during the 2025 session CYFD received \$5 million for two years to provide foster care rate increases.

According to Chapin Hall, a child welfare research institute at the University of Chicago, states rely on congregate care settings to address two challenges: the need for emergency or first placements for youth in custody, and the need to find placements for youth with complex behavioral or other clinical needs who are otherwise hard to place. Chapin Hall recommends a variety of evidence-based strategies to address these two needs and reduce the reliance on congregate care: build capacity of resource homes (foster families) for first-time placements to reduce the need for congregate care in emergency situations and build capacity to deliver clinically effective alternatives in home-based settings for youth with clinical and behavioral health needs.

Congregate Care. While many states have historically relied on congregate care, or group home, settings for youth in custody, research, federal guidance, and clinical recommendations now suggest congregate care settings should be reserved for short-term treatment of children with acute behavioral health needs to enable stability in subsequent community settings. As such, federal policies no longer encourage placement in congregate care settings. The Medicaid program will only cover medically necessary stays in accredited residential treatment centers, but not group homes, limiting stays to specific circumstances. Research suggests prolonged exposure to congregate care settings can place foster care youth at greater risk for negative life outcomes, including homelessness, incarceration, and substance use. According to Casey Family Programs, group and institutional settings for youth in foster care present roadblocks for timely permanency and cost up to 10 times more than placement in a family setting.

During the 2024 legislative session, CYFD shared plans to create a residential facility for hard-to-place youth in custody. At that time, LFC highlighted concerns, including potentially violating the *Kevin S.* settlement, which specifies CYFD shall place youth in the least-restrictive, community-based placement and shall not place youth in congregate care settings unless medically necessary. LFC also flagged concerns about funding sources because Medicaid will not cover costs associated with group homes but will only cover placements in highly specialized qualified residential treatment programs. Nevertheless, CYFD moved forward to open two congregate care facilities in Albuquerque during FY25.

According to FY24 performance data, 73 percent of youth over age 12 in Protective Services custody were placed in the least restrictive, community-based environment, a decline in performance compared to FY23, when the metric was 91 percent. The performance target for this measure is 85 percent. CYFD has not reported more recent data related to this measure to date in FY25.

In 2022, the Legislature appropriated \$20 million for start-up costs for behavioral health providers to establish evidence-based services that would be eligible for Medicaid or federal Title IV-E funding. For two years, these funds went unspent and were reauthorized for FY25. This appropriation aimed to address insufficient numbers of behavioral health providers able to serve children with complex needs and deliver services eligible for federal reimbursement.

CYFD spent less than \$5 million of the \$20 million appropriation for purposes aligned to the appropriation's intent (start-up costs for behavioral health services), though it unclear if the contracted services CYFD authorized will be Medicaid or Title IV-E eligible.

CYFD has spent over \$2.8 million of the \$20 million behavioral health appropriation on congregate care group homes, with contracts to AMI Kids and YDI. These facilities are not eligible for Medicaid or Title IV-E.

The department spent the rest of the appropriation on a variety of department activities and initiatives, including family resource centers and other direct services, that may have value but not in alignment with language of the \$20 million appropriation.

Hearing Questions

Child Maltreatment

- What is the status of the state's Title IV-E prevention plan, and what is the timeline for potential resubmission and approval?
- Which of the prevention programs being implemented will be eligible for Title IV-E or Medicaid reimbursement?
- Which programs and services will not be eligible, and how much is the state spending on these programs?
- How is CYFD planning to use the \$9 million in GRO appropriations for evidence-based prevention programs, and how will outcomes be evaluated?
- What are CYFD's plans related to implementing differential response statewide, and what is the timeline?
- How will CYFD evaluate the outcomes associated with the GRO appropriation to pilot and evaluate the implementation of alternative response?

Workforce

- What actions has the department taken to date to address workforce shortages?
- How did the department use the \$3 million reauthorized appropriation for workforce development, and what were the results?
- How does the department plan to use the \$1.7 million GRO appropriation to incentivize masters-level social work licensure, and what has the department spent the appropriation on to-date?
- How is the department planning to evaluate the outcomes associated with this appropriation and who will conduct this evaluation?

Placements for Children in Custody

- What actions has CYFD taken to increase the number of resource (foster) homes in the state, and what are the results to date?
- What actions have been taken to increase the number of treatment foster care (TFC) placements in the state, and what have been the results?
- How is CYFD planning to use the \$3.75 million GRO appropriation to recruit, train, support, and retain resource families and treatment foster care providers?
- How is the department planning to evaluate the outcomes associated with this appropriation and who will conduct this evaluation?
- Why did CYFD choose to spend the \$20 million intended for start-up costs for evidence-based behavioral health programs that would be eligible for federal reimbursement on expenses that conflict with the appropriation language? (Ex. congregate care facility operations and family resource centers)

Funding

- Have consultants identified reasons that federal revenue collected dropped? Has the consultant looked both at administrative claiming and claiming for maintenance payments (reimbursement for children in foster care, adoptions, or guardianship)?
- What specific actions has the department taken to increase federal funding realized, and what are the results? (ex. the department was not claiming for overtime.)

CYFD Non-Recurring Appropriation Balances

GAA Year	Section	Z-Code	Purpose	Source of Funding	Appropriation Amount	Spending as of June 2025		
						Expended	Encumbered	Balance
2024	5	ZI5156	For technical assistance revising and resubmitting the state's prevention program plan under Title IV-E of the federal Social Security Act and for review of children, youth and families department processes to ensure the maximum draw down of federal funds for the protective services program, delivered by a vendor with experience developing a state plan that has been approved by the federal administration for children and families.	GF	\$200.0	\$67.1	\$52.8	\$80.1
2024	5	ZI5157	For trauma informed training for staff and foster families through fiscal year 2027.	GF	\$1,500.0	\$796.7	\$0.0	\$703.3
2024	9	ZI9A007	To implement and evaluate outcomes of a pilot program to incentivize attainment of masters-level social work licensure to develop and retain caseworkers in the child protective services program.	OSF (Government Results and Opportunity Program Fund)	\$562.5	\$412.3	\$0.0	\$150.2
2024	9	ZI9A008	For a pilot to expand evidence-based implementation of multilevel response statewide in the child protective services program, pursuant to Section 32-4-4.1 NMSA 1978.	OSF (Government Results and Opportunity Program Fund)	\$1,400.0	\$60.0	\$0.0	\$1,340.0
2024	9	ZI9A009	For recruitment, training and support of treatment foster care and foster care providers to support hard-to-place children. e, out-of-state, congregate care or shelter setting.	OSF (Government Results and Opportunity Program Fund)	\$1,250.0	\$825.6	\$339.1	\$85.3
2024	9	ZI9A010	For a pilot to expand evidence-based prevention and intervention programs, including safe care home visiting, published in the federal Title IV-E prevention services clearinghouse or that may be reimbursed by medicaid.	OSF (Government Results and Opportunity Program Fund)	\$3,000.0	\$27.8	\$289.4	\$2,682.8
2024	9	ZI9D213	for personnel costs in the protective services program	OSF (Government Results and Opportunity Program Fund)	\$2,000.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$2,000.0
2023	5	ZH5160	For a community collaborative to support juvenile justice reform. The other state funds appropriation is from the juvenile continuum grant fund.	OSF	\$500.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$500.0
2023	5	ZH5161	To support the children, youth and families department's workforce development plan, including secondary trauma self-care support, training and professional development support, local recruitment campaigns, recruitment incentives for licensed social work graduates in New Mexico and other states to work for protective services, caseload improvement cross-training, evidence-based core competency model development, mentorship program development and leadership development.	GF	\$3,000.0	\$1,174.8	\$1,756.5	\$68.7
2023	5	ZH5162	For collaborative support to incentivize maintaining cultural connections between Native American children in state custody and their tribes, pueblos and sovereign nations.	GF	\$500.0	\$126.2	\$0.0	\$373.8
2022	5	ZG5092	For domestic violence treatment programs statewide.	GF	\$500.0	\$489.6	\$0.0	\$10.4

Source: SHARE data pulled 6/16/2025

	Exec Rec	LFC Rec	HAFC	SFC	GAA 2025	
1 Program Support (P-576)						1
2 FY25 OpBud	16,773.9	16,773.9	16,773.9	16,773.9	16,773.9	2
3 GSD rate increases (vehicles and Dolt)	105.1	105.1	105.1	105.1	105.1	3
4 GSD rate increased (employee liability)	115.9	-	-	-	-	4
5 Reduce vacancy rate to support Kevin S. (data and reporting)	100.4	-	-	-	-	5
6 <i>Subtotal - BFY25 Base</i>	<i>17,095.3</i>	<i>16,879.0</i>	<i>16,879.0</i>	<i>16,879.0</i>	<i>16,879.0</i>	6
7 FY26 Expansion	-	-	-	-	-	7
8 <i>Subtotal - Expansion</i>	-	-	-	-	-	8
9 FY26 Program Total	17,095.30	16,879.0	16,879.0	16,879.0	16,879.0	9
10 % Change from FY25 OpBud	1.9%	0.6%	0.6%	0.6%	0.6%	10
11 Juvenile Justice Facilities (P-577)						11
12 FY25 OpBud	71,886.9	71,886.9	71,886.9	71,886.9	71,886.9	12
13 Reorganization to Family Services (move 8 FTE to Family Services)	(518.1)	-	-	-	-	13
14 GSD rate increases (vehicle and Dolt)	469.7	-	-	-	-	14
15 Liability insurance	434.10	-	-	-	-	15
16 <i>Subtotal - FY26 Base</i>	<i>72,272.6</i>	<i>71,886.9</i>	<i>71,886.9</i>	<i>71,886.9</i>	<i>71,886.9</i>	16
17 FY25 Expansion	-	-	-	-	-	17
18 <i>Subtotal - Expansion</i>	-	-	-	-	-	18
19 Program Total	72,272.60	71,886.9	71,886.9	71,886.9	71,886.9	19
20 % Change from FY25 OpBud	0.5%	0.0%	-	-	-	20
21 Protective Services (P-578)						21
22 FY25 OpBud	125,050.0	125,050.0	125,050.0	125,050.0	125,050.0	22
23 Reorganization (Move \$18.7 million and 146 FTE)	(18,775.4)	-	-	-	-	23
24 General Fund to backfill decreased federal revenue	10,000.0	-	-	-	-	24
25 Increased GSD rates (Dolt and vehicles)	442.9	442.9	442.9	442.9	442.9	25
26 Increase in liability insurance	888.5	-	-	-	-	26
27 Related to Kevin S. Remedial Order: Fill 101 positions to meet Kevin S. caseload standards (HAFC in GRO)	2,500.0	-	-	-	-	27
28 Reduce overtime budget	(1,167.8)	-	-	-	-	28
29 Operating expenses for additional positions (\$23K per employee)	2,100.0	-	-	-	-	29
30 Two group homes (AMI Kids and YDI)	3,220.0	-	-	-	-	30
31 Cultural activities and incidental costs for foster youth (back-to-school, holiday payments, etc)	250.0	-	-	-	-	31
32 Kevin S. implementation and monitoring (fill vacant FTE)	-	-	-	-	-	32
33 24- hour staffing at the receiving center (office stays)	935.0	-	-	-	-	33
34 Mobile resource center (duplicates line 47)	-	-	-	-	-	34
35 Related to Kevin S. Remedial Order: Training academy at NMHU (HAFC in GRO)	1,000.0	-	-	-	-	35
36 Kevin S. Remedial Order: 6 New FTE to recruit foster families	-	-	-	-	-	36
37 Kevin S. Remedial Order: 50 new FTE (Case Aides) to assist caseworkers (SFC in GRO)	-	-	-	-	-	37
38 Kevin S. Remedial Order: 20 new FTE to create regional on-call emergency response team (primarily investigations) (SFC in GRO)	-	-	-	-	-	38
39 Kevin S. Remedial Order: 6 new FTE to provide data accuracy and meet data obligations (SFC in GRO)	-	-	-	-	-	39
40 Kevin S. Remedial Order: Doubling foster maintenance payments that are below \$900. Adding \$900 to any payment above (\$9.8 million GF and \$5.2 million FF: \$15M total). ~\$595 per kid/ month in foster care (SFC in GRO)	-	-	-	-	-	40
41 <i>Subtotal - FY25 Base</i>	<i>126,443.2</i>	<i>125,492.9</i>	<i>125,492.9</i>	<i>125,492.9</i>	<i>125,492.9</i>	41
42 FY26 Expansion	-	-	-	-	-	42
43 Regional protective services staff (45 FTE)	-	-	-	-	-	43
44 <i>Subtotal - Expansion</i>	-	-	-	-	-	44
45 Program Total	126,443.2	125,492.9	125,492.9	125,492.9	125,492.9	45
46 % Change from FY24 OpBud	1.1%	0.4%	0.0	0.0	0.0	46
47 Family Services Division (P-581) NEW PROGRAM						47
48 FY25 OpBud	-	-	-	-	-	48
49 Reorganization from BH (5 FTE and all domestic violence programs)	16,515.5	-	-	-	-	49
50 Reorganization from PS (146 positions and \$44.4 million)	18,775.4	-	-	-	-	50
51 Reorganization from Juvenile Justice (11 positions)	518.1	-	-	-	-	51
52 GSD rate increases (vehicles and Dolt)	231.0	-	-	-	-	52
53 Liability insurance increase	397.1	-	-	-	-	53
54 Mobile family resource center	360.6	-	-	-	-	54
55 Replace lost federal (ARPA) revenue for domestic violence programs	3,000.0	-	-	-	-	55
56 <i>Subtotal - FY26 Base</i>	<i>39,797.7</i>	-	-	-	-	56
57 FY26 Expansion	-	-	-	-	-	57
58 <i>Subtotal - Expansion</i>	-	-	-	-	-	58
59 <i>Subtotal - Expansion</i>	-	-	-	-	-	59
60 Program Total	39,797.7	-	-	-	-	60
61 % Change from FY25 OpBud	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	61
62 Behavioral Health Services (P800)						62
63 FY25 OpBud	47,258.2	47,258.2	47,258.2	47,258.2	47,258.2	63

64	Reorg. to Family Services (5 FTE and domestic violence services)	(16,515.5)	-	-	-	-	64
65	GSD rate increases (vehicle and Dolt)	45.0	45.0	45.0	45.0	45.0	65
66	Liability insurance increase	31.6	-	-	-	-	66
67	Backfill court fines and fees revenue (Domestic Violence)	-	200.0	200.0	200.0	200.0	67
68	Replace federal funding for domestic violence and increase services	-	1,000.0	1,000.0	1,000.0	1,000.0	68
69	Subtotal FY26 Base	30,819.3	48,503.2	48,503.2	48,503.2	48,503.2	69
70	FY26 Expansion	-	-	-	-	-	70
71	Subtotal - Expansion	-	-	-	-	-	71
72	Program Total	30,819.3	48,503.2	48,503.2	48,503.2	48,503.2	72
73	% Change from FY26 OpBud	-34.8%	2.6%	2.6%	2.6%	2.6%	73
74	Total	-	-	-	-	-	74
75	FY25 OpBud	260,969.0	260,969.0	260,969.0	260,969.0	260,969.0	75
76	FY26 Base Increase:	25,459.1	1,793.0	1,793.0	1,793.0	1,793.0	76
77	FY26 Expansion:	-	-	-	-	-	77
78	Total FY25	286,428.1	262,762.0	262,762.0	262,762.0	262,762.0	78
79	% Change from FY26 OpBud	9.8%	0.7%	0.7%	0.7%	0.7%	79

		Exec Rec.	LFC Rec.	H AFC	SFC	GAA 2025	
<u>Non-Recurring</u>		General Fund	General Fund/ GRO	General Fund/GRO	General Fund/GRO	General Fund/GRO	FF/OSF/ ISF
80	Section 5: Liability insurance increase	\$ -	\$ 1,471	\$ 1,471	\$ 1,471	\$ 1,471	\$ -
81	Section 5: For a foster care and TFC rate study	\$ -	\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
82	Section 5: To hire an external contractor to reclaim and maximize the drawdown of federal Title IV-E revenues from prior and current fiscal years	\$ -	\$ 200	\$ 500	\$ 500	\$ 500	\$ -
83	Section 5: An external contract for an organizational health and employee survey to develop recommendations for employee retention strategies	\$ -	\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ -
84	Section 9: GRO: A three-year pilot of a child welfare training academy in partnership with schools of social work (Exec. in special)	\$ 1,000	\$ 5,400	\$ 5,400	\$ 5,400	\$ 5,400	\$ 1,985
85	Section 9 GRO: Meet Kevin S. Caseload standards (fill 101 positions for 3 years)	\$ -	\$ 24,000	\$ 24,000	\$ 24,000	\$ 24,000	\$ 6,000
86	Section 9 GRO: For case aides to meet Kevin S. remedial order. Two years (\$4,800 per year)				\$ 9,600	\$ 9,600	\$ -
87	Section 9 GRO: To create regional on-call emergency response teams in Protective Services to meet remedial order requirements. (Two years: \$2,800 per year)				\$ 5,600	\$ 5,600	\$ -
88	Section 9 GRO: For personnel to provide data and meet data obligations, pursuant to the Kevin S. remedial order (Two years: \$900K per year)				\$ 1,800	\$ 1,800	\$ -
89	Section 9 GRO: For foster care maintenance payment rate increases. (Two years: \$2,500 per year)				\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	
90	Section 9 GRO: For operating expenses, contingent on enactment of Senate Bill 42 or similar legislation (Two years: \$2,600 per year)				\$ 5,200	\$ 5,200	
91	Section 9 GRO: For personnel to respond to inquiries from the Office of Child Advocate, contingent on enactment of House Bill 5 (Two years: \$300K per year)				\$ 600	\$ 600	\$ -
92	Section 7: C2: To continue the replacement of the family automated client tracking system	\$ 9,450	\$ 3,400	\$ 3,400	\$ 3,400	\$ 3,400	\$ 5,600
93	Section 10: Fund transfer: Children's Trust Fund	\$ 4,200	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000	\$ -
94	Section 10: Fund transfer: Next Gen Trust Fund	\$ -	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000	\$ -
95	Section 6: Supplemental: Protective Services FY25	\$ 20,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
96	Section 6: Deficiency: Correct negative in the FACTS child care fund.	\$ 50	\$ 50	\$ 50	\$ 50	\$ 50	\$ -
97	Section 6: Deficiency: Protective Services FY24	\$ 12,288	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
98	Section 6: Up to \$25 million for shortfalls in Protective Services in FY24 and FY25 for expenditure through FY26				-	-	\$ 25,000
99	Language Only: Reauthorize special appropriation to support getting a FFPSA plan approved and maximizing drawdown of federal funds	\$ -	Recommend	Recommend	Recommend	Recommend	\$ -
100	Language Only C2: Three reauthorizations for the replacement of the family automated client tracking system in Section 7. The combined balances total \$34.4 million		Recommend	Recommend	Recommend	Recommend	Recommend

FY26 Increases by GAA Section

		Exec	LFC	H AFC	SFC		GAA 2025	
		Recommendati	Recommendatio	General	General	FF/OSF/	General	FF/OSF/
		General Fund/ GRO	General Fund/GRO	Fund/GRO	Fund/ GRO	ISF	Fund/ GRO	ISF
101	Total Section 4 (Recurring Budget)	\$ 25,459.1	\$ 1,793.0	\$ 1,793.0	\$ 1,793.0	\$ (1,535.9)	\$ 1,793.0	\$ (1,535.9)
102	Total Section 5 (Specials) Excludes Reauth.	\$ 5,200.0	\$ 1,871.0	\$ 2,171.0	\$ 2,071.0	\$ -	\$ 2,071.0	\$ -
103	Total Section 6 (Supplemental and Deficiency)	\$ 29,500.0	\$ 50.0	\$ 50.0	\$ 50.0	\$ 25,000.0	\$ 50.0	\$ 25,000.0
104	Total Section 7 (Information Technology Specials) Excludes reauth.	\$ 9,450.3	\$ 3,400.0	\$ 3,400.0	\$ 3,400.0	\$ 5,600.0	\$ 3,400.0	\$ 5,600.0
105	Total Section 9 (GRO)	\$ -	\$ 29,400.0	\$ 29,400.0	\$ 57,200.0	\$ 7,985.0	\$ 57,200.0	\$ 7,985.0
106	Total Section 10 (Funds Transfer)	\$ -	\$ 10,000.0	\$ 10,000.0	\$ 10,000.0		\$ 10,000.0	
107	GRAND TOTAL	\$ 69,609.4	\$ 46,514.0	\$ 46,814.0	\$ 74,514.0	\$ 37,049.1	\$ 74,514.0	\$ 37,049.1

June 25, 2025

Emily Hilla

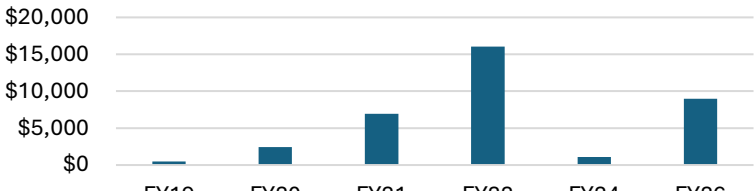
Comprehensive Child Welfare Information System Replacement Project/NM Impact Project

Agency: Children, Youth and Families Department **Total Cost: ~\$90,410,200**

The Children, Youth and Families Department (CYFD) is pursuing a new Comprehensive Child Welfare Information System (CCWIS) to help workers provide effective services and to meet federal requirements. The system will replace the 25-year-old legacy Family Automated Client Tracking System (FACTS) and service CYFD’s Protective Services, Children’s Behavioral Health, Family Services, and Juvenile Justice Services programs. In 2016, the federal Administration on Children and Families (ACF) announced new rules for states to replace their legacy IT systems, offering a federal funding match for development and operations. The new CCWIS rule aimed to improve the quality of data collected, emphasizing the need for modernization and integration across programs and systems. To meet these requirements, CYFD is pursuing a new modular, integrated system to provide enhanced tools to improve outcomes, increase confidence and data integrity, provide more accurate real-time program reports, and improve efficiencies and productivity at the agency. The system includes functions for data collection, case management, compliance, reporting, and analytics by integrating with other data systems and providing web-based access for caseworkers, service providers, and other stakeholders in the field to update and manage child welfare case information in real time.

The project started in November 2017 with an initial estimated end date of October 2022, with an initial estimated cost of \$36 million. Total cost has been revised three times since initial estimates, now estimated to cost \$90.4 million. The project end date has been revised two times since initial estimates, now estimated to end in November 2027, five years later than initially anticipated. The simplified cost allocation approved by federal partners designates 30.56 percent of total project costs as shared Medicaid costs, eligible for a 90 percent federal match, while the remaining 69.44 percent of project costs qualify for a 50 percent federal match from the ACF.

Though common among states developing CCWIS, CYFD has experienced significant project delays and cost increases. New Mexico began its CCWIS project in November 2017 with an initial estimated end date of October 2022 and a projected cost of \$36 million. Since then, the project cost has been revised three times to \$90.4 million, and the end date has been pushed back twice, now projected for November 2027—five years later than originally anticipated. As of October 2024, ACF data shows only three states—West Virginia, Maine, and Wyoming—have a functional CCWIS. Maine’s CCWIS, launched in 2019, cost \$36 million; Wyoming’s, also launched in 2019, cost around \$30 million; West Virginia’s total cost is unknown. Despite Maine’s implementation, state oversight reports note functionality issues for case workers, prompting legislative concern. California’s CCWIS, started in 2013, is expected to cost \$1.7 billion, an increase of \$1.3 billion from the project’s inception, and is expected to end by October 2028. Texas, which began compliance planning in 2024, estimates a \$215 million cost with completion between 2028 and 2032. New Mexico is also experiencing significant delays and cost increases, though it is still too early to determine the national average for CCWIS implementation.

Project Type	Fully Funded?	Currently Provides Public Benefit?	
Replacement	No	No	
<p>Balances of State and Federal Funding from GAA (in thousands)</p> 		Project Start Date	9/1/2017
		Estimated End Date	11/5/2027
		Amount Funded	\$74,878,393
		Amount Spent to Date	\$47,718,733
		Percent of Total Cost Funded	81.13%
		Percent of Funding Spent to Date	52.76%

Project Budget

In FY25, project costs are estimated at \$90.4 million—up from the initial estimated cost of \$36 million. The total estimated cost has been revised three times since initial estimates, now estimated to cost \$90.4 million, \$54.4 million more than originally anticipated. The project end date has been revised two times since initial estimates, now estimated to end in November 2027, five years later than initially anticipated. The simplified cost allocation approved by federal partners designates 30.56 percent of total project costs as shared Medicaid costs, eligible for a 90 percent federal match, while the remaining 69.44 percent of project costs qualify for a 50 percent federal match from the federal Administration on Children and Families (ACF).

CYFD has received \$38.3 million in state funds; federal reimbursements to date total \$20 million. The project has been appropriated state funds totaling \$38.3 million with an expected federal match of \$37.3 million in state General Appropriation Acts (GAA) since 2018. CYFD receives reimbursements by submitting its Advanced Planning Document (APD) to ACF and Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) through the Health Care Authority (HCA). CYFD has received reimbursements totaling over \$20 million, including \$11.2 million in ACF reimbursements and \$8.8 million in federal CMS revenue transferred from HCA. However, this includes \$147.1 thousand in expired funds from the CMS in FY20 that were received but not spent. CYFD is requesting \$5.6 million in federal revenue for FY26; \$2.4 million from HCA and \$3.1 million from ACF.

Due to various changes at the federal level, particularly due to staff loss and changes at ACF, there is potential for further delays in reimbursements due to federal capacity constraints. CYFD is working to submit reimbursement requests through HCA and CMS until further notice. The department has been instructed by ACF to operate as if the advanced planning documents have been approved until explicitly told otherwise. While CYFD does not have current concerns and is following the new federal guidance, LFC staff are concerned about the precedents of prior expenditure of state funding that became ineligible due to a lack of federal approval.

In New Mexico’s General Appropriation Act (GAA), Section 7 funding is dedicated to information technology projects for all state agencies. The GAA requires executive agencies to certify Section 7 funds through the Department of Information Technology’s Project Certification Committee, the oversight entity of the state’s IT projects. Section 7 funding allows for a longer period of expenditure of funding compared to other nonrecurring special appropriations

CYFD Budget History
(in thousands)

		ACTUAL FEDERAL REIMBURSEMENTS			
		STATE FUNDING (GAA)	FEDERAL BUDGET AUTHORITY (GAA)*	Center for Medicaid and Medicare Services	Administration on Children and Families
FY18	Laws 2018, Chapter 73, Section 7(27)	\$500.0	\$500.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
FY19	Laws 2019, Chapter 271, Section 7(28)	\$5,500.0	\$1,520.5	\$147.1**	\$0.0
FY20	Laws 2020, Chapter 83, Section 7(37)	\$7,000.0	\$10,900.0	\$12,950.0	\$1,781.6
FY21	Laws 2021, Chapter 137, Section 7(33)	\$3,523.7	\$17,095.9	\$1,507.3	\$2,519.5
FY22	CYFD did not receive new funding for FY22	-	-	-	-
FY23	Laws 2023, Chapter 210, Section 7(38)	\$18,439.4	\$11,044.6	--	--
FY24	Laws 2023, Chapter 210, Section 7(38) (CMS/HCA Transfer amount)	-	\$3,000.0	\$236.0	\$298.6
FY25	CYFD did not request new funding for FY25.	-	-	-	-
FY26	Laws 2025, Chapter 169, Section 7(31)	\$3,400.0	\$3,125.0	\$2,475.5***	\$3,125.0***
	Totals	\$38,363.1	\$47,186.0	\$17,168.8	\$7,724.7
				\$24,893.5	

*Federal budget authority includes amounts listed in the General Appropriation Act (GAA) as federal funding. Actual reimbursements may differ from the amount budgeted in the GAA each year.

** Amount received from CMS in FY20 has since expired.

***These amounts have not yet been reimbursed but have been appropriated through the 2025 GAA.

Current CCWIS Status

The department is anticipating the system will start being used in early 2026, though it had aimed for system utilization in late 2025. Since the project started in 2017, CYFD has experienced a loss of critical project staff and undergone various leadership changes, all of which have impacted CCWIS. At the end of FY24, the department reported the system was expected to go live in late 2025. Now, at the end of FY25, the anticipated system usage date is early 2026. This change in the system utilization date comes with delays in deploying a mobile system, which would allow case workers to connect to CCWIS on-site, as opposed to the current processes of only being able to access children and family information from a desktop, typically not during welfare visits. Current delays to the project are attributed to the conformity of the usage of modules for Protective Services and Juvenile Justice, which CYFD plans to implement at the same time. After the system is functional, CYFD plans to keep its project contacts open until 2027 to provide further maintenance and upgrades to the system.

While CYFD followed best practices by shifting to a competitive procurement process, the new vendor has a history of difficulty delivering CCWIS. In 2020, CYFD contracted with vendor Binti without following federal competitive procurement rules, making \$7 million that was spent on CCWIS in state funds ineligible for federal cost share. Due to federal concerns and leadership changes, CYFD shifted to a competitive procurement process and received federal approval for its APD in January 2022. The department’s new vendor, RedMane Technology, has contracts with other states implementing CCWIS, including the state of Arkansas and Mississippi. Through a similar competitive procurement process to New Mexico, Arkansas selected RedMane Technology as its CCWIS design and development vendor starting in 2023. After various issues with the vendor, Arkansas closed its contract with RedMane, marking Arkansas’ CCWIS as a failed project. LFC staff have concerns that New Mexico is experiencing similar issues with RedMane as Arkansas. Issues with the vendor include the vendor requesting an additional \$3 million to its \$33 million contract despite not completing deliverables and shifting the overall scope of the project, to which CYFD denied RedMane’s request. CYFD has implemented mitigation strategies with the vendor to prevent the state from ending in a similar position as Arkansas, implementing lessons learned from Arkansas, weekly risk reviews, and being transparent with LFC staff during monthly project updates; however, the success of CCWIS is largely based on RedMane’s ability to successfully build the system, which has proven to be difficult thus far. LFC staff have concerns with the selected vendor, though CYFD has implemented various efforts to mitigate any current and potential risk to the project, and frequently updates LFC staff on the project’s health.

New Mexico Impact Project

Overall Status

The Children, Youth and Families Department (CYFD) is on track to close the comprehensive child welfare information system (CCWIS) replacement project by November 2027, with system functionality anticipated by early 2026. Risk remains moderate given prior delays and leadership changes.

Measure	FY23 Rating	FY24 Rating	FY25 Q1	FY25 Q2	FY25 Q3	FY25 Rating
Budget	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Rating
Schedule	R	Y	Y	Y	Y	Rating
Risk	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Rating
Overall Rating	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Rating

Expected Benefits

According to LFC staff, CYFD has been delayed in submitting performance data as required by the Accountability in Government Act for FY25, hindering the state’s ability to measure the performance of the critical system serving vulnerable children and families. CYFD cites staff turnover as a contributing factor to an inability to provide quarterly performance data. By becoming CCWIS compliant, CYFD will be able to better track quarterly performance data, including time spent in the referral process, time to permanency, recidivism rates of incarcerated youth, and the percentage of children eligible for federal assistance, which ideally will promote the department to report on these critical measures on the appropriate timeline. CCWIS is also anticipated to reduce workload for case workers, which would align with the 2018 *Kevin S., et al. v. Blalock, et al* Settlement by supporting frontline staff. CCWIS can help improve efficiency at the agency and inform lawmakers on critical child welfare statuses to promote evidence-based approaches that lead to better outcomes for children and families of New Mexico.