

DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY SERVICES
Director's Report
DJJS/DFS Policy and Fiscal Affairs Board
August 7, 2014

The Department of Family Services (DFS) presents the following department updates:

Major Program Efforts:

- **Child Haven Population:** A licensing increase for Child Haven was finalized in July. The campus is now licensed for 70 children. The population at Child Haven has leveled out over the last few weeks and ranges from 35-45 children daily. We continue to struggle with placement options for young children, however. To address the population issues DFS continues to work with community stakeholders, including those participating on the Quality Parenting Initiative (QPI) workgroups to address foster parent recruitment and retention and to re-evaluate internal processes that may be contributing to placement challenges.
- **Increased Service Demand:** Since 2012, Intake calls are up 13 percent, CPS investigations are up 14 percent and the number of children served by CPS is up 37 percent. This can be attributed to economic factors, statute changes in mandatory reporting, and intake service alignment and retraining. In order to address the increased workload, utilizing the 47 new position authorized by the BCC in May, DFS will be adding 3 new investigative units. We are also in the process of redistributing geographic zone coverage to create more balanced case assignments and rotations. A majority of the new staff will enter the new hire training academy on September 2.
- **QPI Update:** The QPI subcommittees continue to work on the development of policy and practice changes that will benefit children and caregivers. In particular, they plan to launch the Foster Friends program at a conference in September. The purpose of the program will be to increase community awareness and support of foster parenting and children involved in the child welfare system. A summary of activities is as follows:

Child Welfare Services:

- Identify sustainable changes in practice to support the new vision of QPI in many program areas.
- Partnership agreement – foster home retention, understanding expectations.
- Working with families, agencies to identify how to improve services to ensure a child's stability.
- Respite analysis.

Communication:

- Create a comprehensive QPI communication plan on how to educate stakeholders and infuse QPI across programs.
- Promote a promise to prospective and existing caregivers that they will be respected, well trained and skilled partners in providing high quality parenting.

Recruitment:

- Modify recruitment materials to reflect new vision and needs.
- New information session to recruit for quality foster families.
- Ensure foster parents/caregivers are an integral part of recruitment efforts.
- Develop a model for foster parent recruitment, retention and support that can be used in general and targeted recruitment activities.

Community Partnerships:

- Develop an effective public/private and nonprofit partnership for local implementation.
- Educate and involve private philanthropy and business in child welfare reform efforts.

The DFS Statistical Overview for June 2014 is attached.



DFS Statistical Overview Report for June 2014

All information in this report is from the DFS case management system as of **Jul 9, 2014**, unless otherwise noted.

Note: Data is dynamic and changes regularly. Different run dates will result in different totals.

Child Protective Services[^]

	June 2014 Total	2014 YTD Total	Monthly Average
Hotline Calls Answered - Community Line*	1,990	13,706	2,284
Hotline Calls Answered - Emergency Line*	1,072	5,840	973
Abuse and Neglect Referrals Received**	1,472	10,915	1,819
Differential Response Investigations	23	334	56
CPS Investigations	764	5,318	886
Substantiated CPS Investigations	76	1,049	175

[^] The data above represents multiple children and families. Also, some children and families have multiple referrals or investigations during the year.

* Non-case management system data. Not all calls warrant the creation of a referral, differential response or an investigation.

** DFS receives information of child abuse and neglect by various methods: phone, fax, in-person, police reports, email and mail.

Receiving Team, Emergency Reception Center and Visitation Center[^]

	June 2014 Total	2014 YTD Total	Monthly Average
Emergency Reception Center Child Count	301	1,821	304
Receiving Team Child Count	355	2,173	362
Released to Parent, Relative, or Fictive Kin	97	581	97
Released to Foster Parent	93	503	84
Released to Other	3	27	5
Scheduled Visitation Center Visits	2,067	12,184	2,031
Visitors to Visitation Center	6,065	36,008	6,001

Child Haven Population in June 2014

Average Daily Population: 60.6

Average Length of Stay (Days): 12.0

[^] All data items in this table, except for Child Haven Population averages, are from non-case management system sources.

Adoptions

	June 2014 Total	2014 YTD Total	Monthly Average
Finalized Adoptions	25	153	26
Children for whom DFS is actively seeking Adoptive Homes*	115	---	119

* Non-case management system data. YTD Total is not available at this time.



DFS Statistical Overview Report for June 2014

Licensed Homes

	Jun 30, 2014 Total
Regular Foster Homes	630
Relative Foster Homes	310
Specialized Foster Homes	243
Specialized Group Homes	11

Placements on Jun 30, 2014

	Jun 30, 2014 Total
Children in Parental Care	524
Children in Relative Care♦	1,286
Children in Foster Care*	1,167
Children in Therapeutic Care**	362
Children in Clark Voluntary Jurisdiction	277
Children in Other Placement Types^	58

♦Unpaid and paid relative homes.

* In addition to regular foster care, this category includes Child Haven, shelter emergency homes, ICPC, non-relative and pre-adoptive homes.

** Examples include, mental health residential programs, psychological hospitals and specialized homes.

^ Other Placements Types include: runaway, absconder, detention, youth parole, nursing home, medical hospital and independent living.

Demographics of Children in Placement on Jun 30, 2014

Gender	Percent	Race	Percent	Ethnicity	Percent
Male	50.39%	African American	30.20%	Hispanic	26.60%
Female	49.61%	Asian	1.30%	Non-Hispanic	63.06%
Unknown	0.00%	Caucasian	57.15%	Unknown	10.33%
		Multi-Racial	9.15%		
		Native American	0.71%		
		Native Hawaiian	0.76%		
		Unknown	0.73%		



Contact the Quality Assurance and Improvement Data Analysis Team at DFSHelpDesk@ClarkCountyNV.gov.