

## Protecting the children of Washington State from abuse and neglect is the Children's Administration's top priority.

### FamLink

FamLink is the name of Children's Administration's (CA) new Statewide Automated Child Welfare Information System (SACWIS). The new name reflects the integrated support FamLink will give to our work providing services to children, families, service providers, and our partners.

FamLink will provide automated tools to:

- Increase social workers' productivity by making relevant information easily accessible.
- Increase compliance with required program and practice activities such as those in the Braam settlement agreement.
- Support managers and financial specialists by giving them tools to establish and manage budgets.
- Provide managers with meaningful data to evaluate the effectiveness of the CA service programs.

All of these tools support our primary goals for children--safety, well-being, and permanency.

### Major Accomplishments

Social workers, licensors, supervisors, clerical, program managers, and business analysts from all 6 regions and headquarters have completed an innovative 8-week "Boot Camp" to thoroughly learn the new SACWIS.

A streamlined decision-making process is now in place to facilitate the many decisions regarding FamLink's impact on CA's business practices. The Executive Project Advisory Group and the field Intelligence Team can rapidly review change recommendations, gather input from a broad cross-section of the agency, and record their decisions.

FamLink is entering the design phase. Design and Development teams are established with a working relationship between vendor and state staff. A technical boot camp is in progress to help each state developer become an expert in their area of responsibility.

CA business partners can expect opportunities to learn about the new system, ask questions, and make comments. Additional presentations are planned to keep stakeholders informed and prepare for the coming changes.

FamLink will be released statewide in 2008. For more information about FamLink email [FamLink@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:FamLink@dshs.wa.gov).

The Washington State Department of Social and Health Services Children's Administration works to help families, Tribes, and communities keep children safe from harm and provide them with stable homes.

This is not work which any government entity can undertake alone. Without the responsiveness of community members and collaboration of partners, we could not effectively intervene on behalf of the state's most vulnerable children.

We have a responsibility to the children and families we serve and to our community partners and lawmakers to report on the work we are doing and to demonstrate how young lives are impacted as a result.

This report, the eleventh annual Children's Administration Performance Report, documents the Administration's efforts towards child safety and permanency, and child and family well-being. This document includes all information contained in the [Children's Services Annual Quality Assurance Report](#), which features performance outcome data in compliance with RCW 43.20.870 and RCW 74.13.031(5). Additional performance outcome measures and information are provided to report progress on the Administration's four priority goal areas:

1. Safety
2. Permanency
3. Well-Being
4. Supporting Client Outcomes

The Administration has created and continues to develop and improve a series of performance measures designed to assess key areas of service delivery and the impact the Administration's interventions are having on children's quality of life.

Data in this document is for Fiscal Year 2007 from July 1, 2006, through June 30, 2007, except where specifically noted.

The data is primarily drawn from the Case and Management Information System (CAMIS), an automated system which stores data regarding referrals, placement, case activity, contracts, licensing, and other case-specific information. Additionally, the Administration relies upon regional hand counts for a few remaining measures that are important but are not tracked in CAMIS. In 2008, CAMIS will be replaced by the state's new Statewide Automated Child Welfare Information System (SACWIS), see box.

The Administration continually examines policies and practices so that our work ultimately results in improved lives for children and families.

## Children’s Administration Activities

More than three percent of the Washington state population is impacted by Children’s Administration activities. In Fiscal Year 2007, more than 197,500 individuals benefited either from direct or ancillary services provided by the Administration. Moreover, the Administration provided services to more than 32,200 children either in out-of-home care or post placement support services and over 12,000 children were eligible to receive adoption support at the end of the fiscal year.

On any given day during the most recent fiscal year, about 10,000 children were living in an out-of-home placement. Over 3,800 of those children were cared for by relatives, while 6,200 were placed with unrelated caregivers. An additional 2,500 children were cared for in guardianships supervised by the Administration, and over 1,500 of those children were in a guardianship with their relatives.

Annually, the Administration accepts referrals for investigation of alleged abuse or neglect regarding one out of every 36 children in Washington State. It is likely that someone in your community, your neighborhood, a classmate of your child, or maybe even someone in your own family has been impacted by services this administration provides.

In Fiscal Year 2007, the Administration continued to make concentrated efforts to improve service delivery, accountability, and stewardship of state resources.

### Fiscal Year 2006 Children’s Administration Service Delivery Activities\*\*



\*The number of children placed in out-of-home care consists of all children in an open out-of-home placement event, including children in guardianships and Tribal custody.

\*\*Source: EMIS report and September 2007 CAMIS download. All numbers are rounded to the nearest 100, with the exception of exits from out-of-home care.

†Unduplicated count of children in placement. Children may experience more than one placement during a fiscal year.

††Unduplicated number of children exiting from out-of-home care. Children may exit from out-of-home care more than once during a fiscal year, and previous Children’s Administration Performance Reports used duplicated counts.

\*Other exits include: reached age of majority, transfer of custody, no exit reason, or deceased.

## Comprehensive Service Delivery

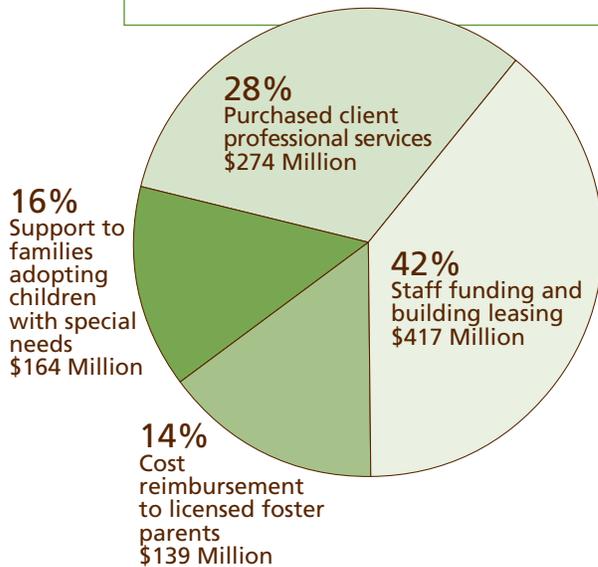
The Administration strives to provide services to children and families which are culturally competent and easily accessible in the communities where they live.

The state is divided into six geographic regions. Each region has a number of field offices based upon community need. There are 45 field offices statewide.

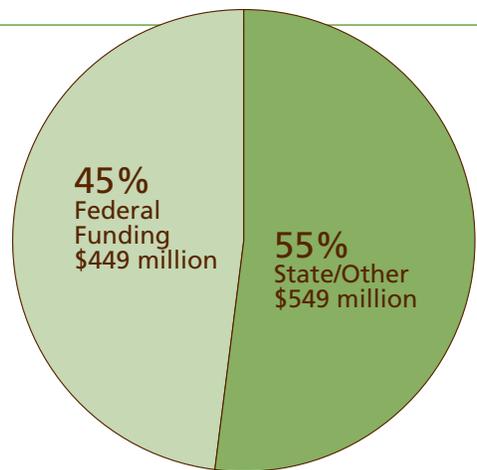
The Administration uses both paid personnel and community-based, contracted service providers throughout the state in an effort to provide the greatest array of services.

The 2005-2007 biennial budget provides \$1 billion\* for services to vulnerable children and their families. About 58 percent of those funds, or \$577 million, is used to provide maintenance payments to foster families and other state licensed care facilities and to adoptive families caring for children with special needs.

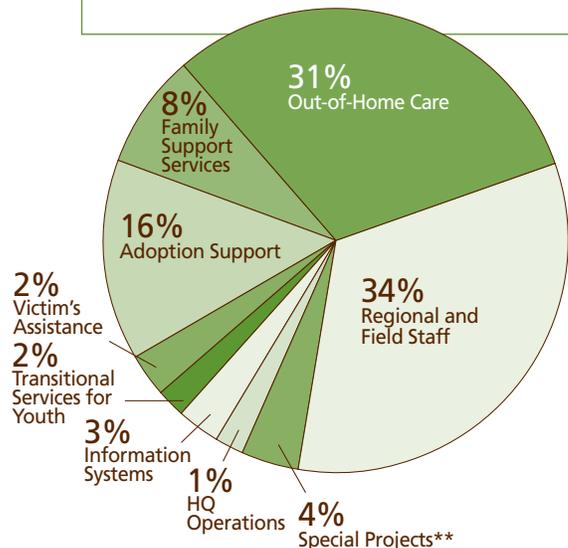
Fifty-eight percent of the Children's Administration budget funds services provided by non-employees



Forty-five percent of the budget comes from federal funds



Children's Administration funding provides a wide array of services



\*Includes Fiscal Year 2007 supplemental budget and unanticipated receipts.

\*\*Special projects include: Independent Living Services (ILS), Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA) and National Center on Child Abuse and Neglect (NCCAN) grants, Staff Development, Training Academy, Quality Improvement, Indian Child Welfare, and other federal, state, and private foundation grant-funded programs.

## Child Demographics

The problems of child abuse and neglect are not specific to any racial, ethnic, age, or socio-economic group. These issues are present in every cross section of society and the consequences of abuse and neglect may impact entire communities. There are some key disparities between children in the general population and those in out-of-home care. With respect to gender, there is little difference between those in the general population and those in out of home care.

There are significant differences between the racial distributions of children in out-of-home care and the general child population. African American children make up 4.3 percent of the general child population in Washington State, but 10.1 percent of children in out-of-home care. Native American children comprise 2.0 percent of the general child population, but 12.2 percent of children in out-of-home care.

## Cultural Competence

The Administration strives to create a workforce that is reflective of the ethnic identities of the children and families we serve.

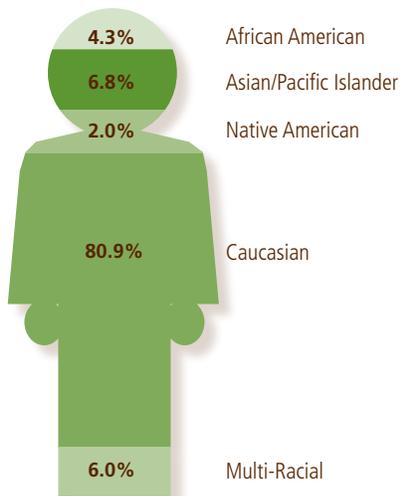
### Children's Administration Social Workers by Race/Ethnicity\*

- African American **7%**
- Asian **5%**
- Caucasian **76%**
- Native American **4%**
- Hispanic **8%**

\*Data as of June 30, 2007, provided by the Department of Social and Health Services Office of Diversity Affairs.

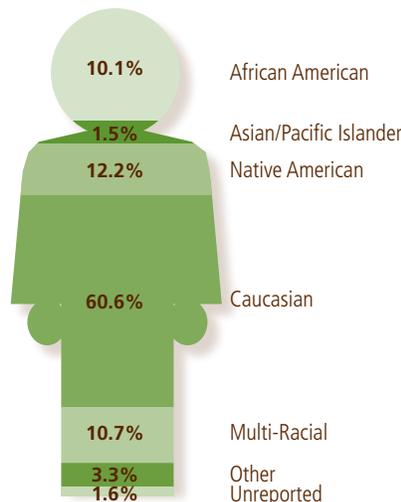
### Race

General Child Population\*



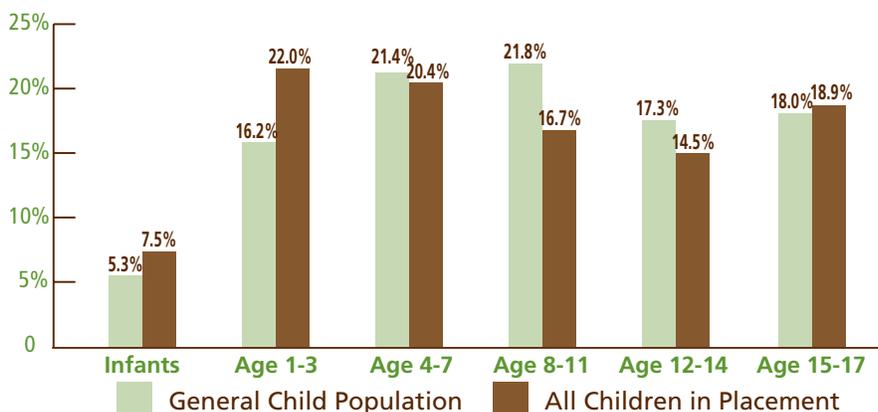
### Race

All Children in Placement\*\*



	General Child Population*	All Children in Placement**
<b>Ethnicity</b>		
Hispanic	14.6%	15.1%
<b>Gender</b>		
Male	51.3%	50.1%
Female	48.7%	49.9%

## Age General Child Population\* and All Children in Placement\*\*



\*The Washington State population of children ages 0 to 17 was estimated to be 1,850,300 (rounded to the nearest hundred) as of July 1, 2005. Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

\*\*The population of children ages 0 to 17 in out-of-home care during Fiscal Year 2007 was 19,400 (rounded to the nearest hundred). An additional 942 young adults ages 18 to 21 remained in out-of-home care during Fiscal Year 2007 to pursue their educational goals or due to developmental disabilities. Source: September 2007 CAMIS download.