

**REPORT TO THE TWENTY-THIRD HAWAII STATE
LEGISLATURE 2006**

**IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF ACT 178,
PART III, SECTION 37, RELATING TO THE STATE
BUDGET, OF THE TWENTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE OF
THE STATE OF HAWAII, 2005**

**DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
SOCIAL SERVICES DIVISION
NOVEMBER 2005**

REPORT ON ACT 178, PART III, SECTION 37, RELATING TO THE STATE BUDGET, HAWAII STATE LEGISLATURE, 2006

Section 37, Act 178, Part III provided funding to the Department's Social Services Division, Child Welfare Services Branch for Multi-Agency Case Coordinators and Case Support Aides. The Act requires a report to include (1) the availability of federal funding in support of this initiative, including the amount and requirements that the Department of Human Services (DHS) must fulfill to receive this funding; (2) the number of children aided by the services and the capacity of service provided by this initiative; (3) the caseload per employee; and (4) the status of any court mandates that the child welfare services branch is subject to.

(1) Report on the availability of federal funding in support of this initiative, including the amount and requirements that DHS must fulfill to receive this funding.

Since this is a State initiative, there are no Federal funds specific to it, nor are there any specific Federal requirements to be met. However, it is the policy of the Department to claim Federal funds that are allowable for Child Welfare positions. These positions are part of our Title IV-E administrative cost allocation and are funded by a combination of State and Federal funding with approximately 25% of the total cost of the positions, or \$151,701, paid for with Federal funds.

(2) The number of children aided by the services and the capacity of service provided by this initiative.

The role of the Multi-Agency Case Coordinators (MACCs) is to provide case coordination, attend Individualized Educational Plan meetings, and to collaborate with the Department of Education, the Department of Health, and the Judiciary.

The role of the Court Support Aides (CSAs) is to provide essential support to social workers by transporting children to visit their parents and siblings, transporting children to their therapy appointments, arranging physical examinations, delivering documents, filing, taking phone messages, and entering data into the Child Protective Services System database. These tasks are necessary to ensure the Department complies with Federal and State statutes and court orders.

As of July 31, 2005, the Department has identified 514 Felix children in its caseload, for which the MACCs and the CSAs provide vital services, as described above. In addition, there are far more special needs, non-Felix children in our active, out-of-home placement caseload, which averages around 2,700 children statewide at any one time. The support that the MACC and CSA provide to the social workers is essential to address the pressing requirements of special needs children.

(3) The caseload per employee.

The MACCs have, minimally, a caseload of 65 children and they are not accountable for all casework for these children, only that which is inter-agency in nature.

The CSAs do not have caseloads.

(4) The status of any court mandates that the child welfare services branch is subject to.

On August 2, 2000 the Department was court-ordered to hire eight MACCs to comply with the Felix consent decree.

At the same hearing, the Department was court-ordered to hire an additional 21 CSAs to add to the existing 10 CSAs.