

CIF ACCOUNTABILITY PROCESS RECOMMENDATIONS

June 3, 2022



Statutory Role of the Kansas Children's Cabinet

The responsibilities of the Kansas Children's Cabinet and Trust Fund are outlined in K.S.A. 38-1901(g)(1-7) as follows:

- (g) The Kansas children's cabinet shall have and perform the following functions:
 - (1) Assist the governor in developing and implementing a coordinated, comprehensive service delivery system to serve the children and families of Kansas;
 - (2) identify barriers to service and gaps in service due to strict definitions of boundaries between departments and agencies;
 - (3) facilitate interagency and interdepartmental cooperation toward the common goal of serving children and families;
 - (4) investigate and identify methodologies for the combining of funds across departmental boundaries to better serve children and families;
 - (5) propose actions needed to achieve coordination of funding and services across departmental lines;
 - (6) encourage and facilitate joint planning and coordination between the public and private sectors to better serve the needs of children and families; and
 - (7) perform the duties and functions prescribed by K.S.A. 38-2103, and amendments thereto.

Recommendations

Recommendation 1

Increase the transfer from the KEY Fund to the CIF, in an amount equal to 102.5% of the amount transferred during the immediately preceding fiscal year in accordance with K.S.A 38-2102(d)(4)

In accordance with the Kansas Children's Cabinet statutory responsibilities and to most efficiently align and coordinate Kansas's early childhood care and education mixed-delivery system, per the

All In for Kansas Kids Strategic Plan, we recommend increasing the transfer from the KEY Fund to the CIF, in an amount equal to 102.5% of the amount transferred during the immediately preceding fiscal year, pursuant to KSA 38-2102 (d)(4), which reads:

On July 1 of each fiscal year thereafter, or as soon thereafter as moneys are available, the director of accounts and reports shall transfer from the Kansas endowment for youth fund to the children's initiatives fund the amount equal to 102.5% of the amount transferred from the Kansas endowment for youth fund to the children's initiatives fund pursuant to this section during the immediately preceding fiscal year.

The proposed budget below represents a 102.5% (\$1,311,851) increase from FY23, for a total of \$53,785,921. Increases should be allocated to expanding access to early childhood literacy and education as follows:

1. Dolly Parton Imagination Library – increase of \$1,000,000 for a total of \$1,500,000
2. Early Childhood Block Grant – increase of \$319,590 for a total of \$21,049,438

CIF Budget

CIF Program	FY23 Actual	FY24 Cabinet Recommendation
Human Services		
<i>Department for Children and Families</i>		
Child Care Services	\$5,033,679	\$5,033,679
Family Preservation	\$3,241,062	\$3,241,062
Total -- Children and Families	\$8,274,741	\$8,274,741
<i>Health and Environment</i>		
Healthy Start/Home Visitor	\$1,650,000	\$1,650,000
Infants & Toddlers Program	\$5,800,000	\$5,800,000
Smoking Prevention Grants	\$1,001,960	\$1,001,960
SIDS Network Grant	\$96,374	\$96,374
Total -- KDHE - Health	\$8,548,334	\$8,548,334
Total -- Human Services	\$16,823,075	\$16,823,075
Education		
<i>Department of Education</i>		

Children’s Cabinet Accountability Fund	\$375,000	\$375,000
CIF Grants (ECBG)	\$20,729,848	\$21,041,699
Parent Education (PAT)	\$8,437,635	\$8,437,635
Pre-K Pilot Program	\$4,200,000	\$4,200,000
Early Childhood Infrastructure	\$1,400,773	\$1,400,773
Imagination Library (DPIL)	\$500,000	\$1,500,000
Total -- Dept of Education	\$35,643,256	\$36,962,846
State Employee Pay Plan	\$7,739	\$0
Total Expenditures	\$52,474,070	\$53,785,921

Additional Context

- FY 23 budget (governors rec) \$52,474,070
- On April 21, 2022, the Kansas Attorney General’s Office reported that Kansas had received \$61,332,865 from the annual tobacco settlement payout

Recommendation 2

Create a Dolly Parton’s Imagination Library Advisory Committee to assist the Children’s Cabinet in its role as the state lead for Dolly Parton’s Imagination Library. By adopting this recommendation, the Executive Director shall be charged with bringing a slate of members to the Children’s Cabinet at the August meeting for approval. The purpose of the DPIL Advisory Committee will be to assist the Cabinet in activities related to promoting, growing and sustaining the Imagination Library Program. The Advisory Committee will be tasked with providing input regarding the formation of a 501c3 nonprofit foundation for Dolly Parton’s Imagination Library of Kansas and identifying opportunities for growing private sector support for the program. Membership will include representatives of the business sector, philanthropy, education, elected officials and interested Children’s Cabinet members.

Recommendation 3

The Kansas Children’s Cabinet requests statutory authority to create a 501c3 nonprofit “Dolly Parton’s Imagination Library of Kansas” in order to meet the requirements set forth by the Dollywood Foundation. The Foundation framework requires all state and local partners to be organized as a 501c3 nonprofit. This is both to ensure the most favorable postage rates for the mailing of the books each month to contain costs, and to allow for private sector donors to receive the tax benefit of a charitable contribution for any financial contributions made to support the

program in Kansas. The Children’s Cabinet needs legislative approval to proceed with the formation of a 501c3 entity.

Over the past 20 years, the Dollywood Foundation has established best practices and expectations for program affiliates that include private sector fundraising to ensure that children enrolled in the program do not suddenly get cut off if an affiliate runs into financial difficulty. A 501c3 entity would have the authority to build a rainy-day fund to provide that cushion. Dollywood Foundation is temporarily serving in this role for Kansas but is working hand in hand to help put the building blocks in place needed for the Children’s Cabinet to be a full-fledged state affiliate.

Recommendation 4

Support the Every Child Can Read Act third grade literacy policy goal and the Kansans Can vision for public education goal of kindergarten readiness by increasing investments in programs that support the [Kansas Early Childhood Blueprint](#) vision which says, “All children will have their basic needs met and have equitable access to quality early childhood care and education opportunities, so they are prepared to succeed in kindergarten and beyond.”