

Nebraska Revised Statute 43-4203.

Nebraska Children's Commission; duties; committees created; jurisdiction over committees; establish networks; organize subcommittees; conflict of interest.

(1) The Nebraska Children's Commission shall create a committee to examine the Office of Juvenile Services and the Juvenile Services Division of the Office of Probation Administration. **Such committee shall review the role and effectiveness of out-of-home placements utilized in the juvenile justice system, including the youth rehabilitation and treatment centers, and make recommendations to the commission on the juvenile justice continuum of care, including what populations should be served in out-of-home placements and what treatment services should be provided at the centers in order to appropriately serve those populations. Such committee shall also review how mental and behavioral health services are provided to juveniles in residential placements and the need for such services throughout Nebraska and make recommendations to the commission relating to those systems of care in the juvenile justice system.** The committee shall collaborate with the Juvenile Justice Institute at the University of Nebraska at Omaha, the Center for Health Policy at the University of Nebraska Medical Center, the behavioral health regions as established in section [71-807](#), and state and national juvenile justice experts to develop recommendations. **The recommendations shall include a plan to implement a continuum of care in the juvenile justice system to meet the needs of Nebraska families, including specific recommendations for the rehabilitation and treatment model.** The recommendations shall be delivered to the commission and electronically to the Judiciary Committee of the Legislature annually by September 1.

New workgroup name: Youth Justice Continuum of Care workgroup

Leadership: Tammy Sassaman co-chair

Focus: Residential treatment level of care and higher, including the Youth Rehabilitation and Treatment Center.

- Assess the current continuum of care
- Identify population served by placements
- Highlight intended program outcomes
- Identify gaps and needs
- Increase awareness of programs/services
- Develop recommendations to meet needs of youth and families