

Nebraska Children's Commission

Fact Sheet October 2018



Background

The Nebraska Children's Commission was a product of the 2011 LR37 (Campbell); an investigation by the Health and Human Services Committee that identified a number of gaps in the service delivery model for children and families.

Created in 2012, by the Nebraska State Legislature to provide a permanent leadership forum for the collaboration of child welfare and juvenile justice, and devise a strategic plan for child welfare and juvenile justice reform. The sunset date has been extended twice before in 2014 and 2016. *Learn more at www.childrens.nebraska.gov*

Who are we?

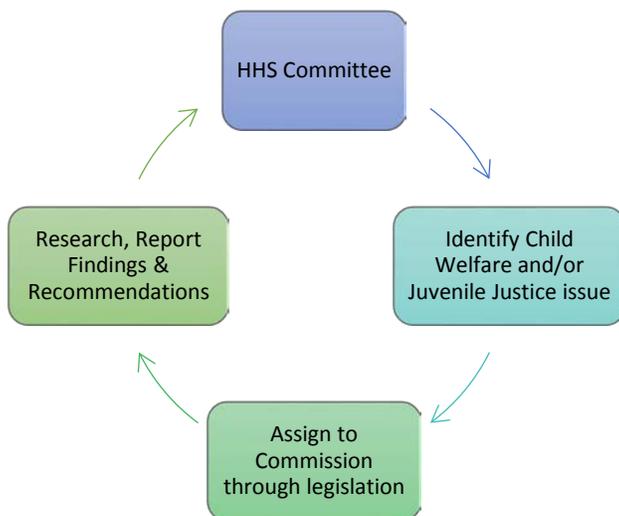
- 28 Members appointed by the Governor;
- Non-voting, ex-officio representatives from all three branches of government;
- Child Welfare and Juvenile Justice state, regional and community representatives;
- Private, public and community stakeholders; and
- Young adults who've aged out of foster care

Key Accomplishments

The Commission's work gave roots to major initiatives such as:

- Alternative Response
- Foster Care Reimbursement Rates
- Bridge to Independence Act
- Strengthening Families Act

What do we do?



Over 250 stakeholders and community members across the state participate in the Commission's initiatives, which have significant impact on child welfare and juvenile justice policy and legislation.

What are we?

- Umbrella Commission which informs, and coordinates the implementation of new state and federal child welfare and juvenile justice legislation;
- Preservation of child welfare and juvenile justice institutional history for term limits and executive and judicial branch turnover;
- Collaborative expert resource for the HHS Committee and Legislature; and
- Legitimate forum for community involvement and representation

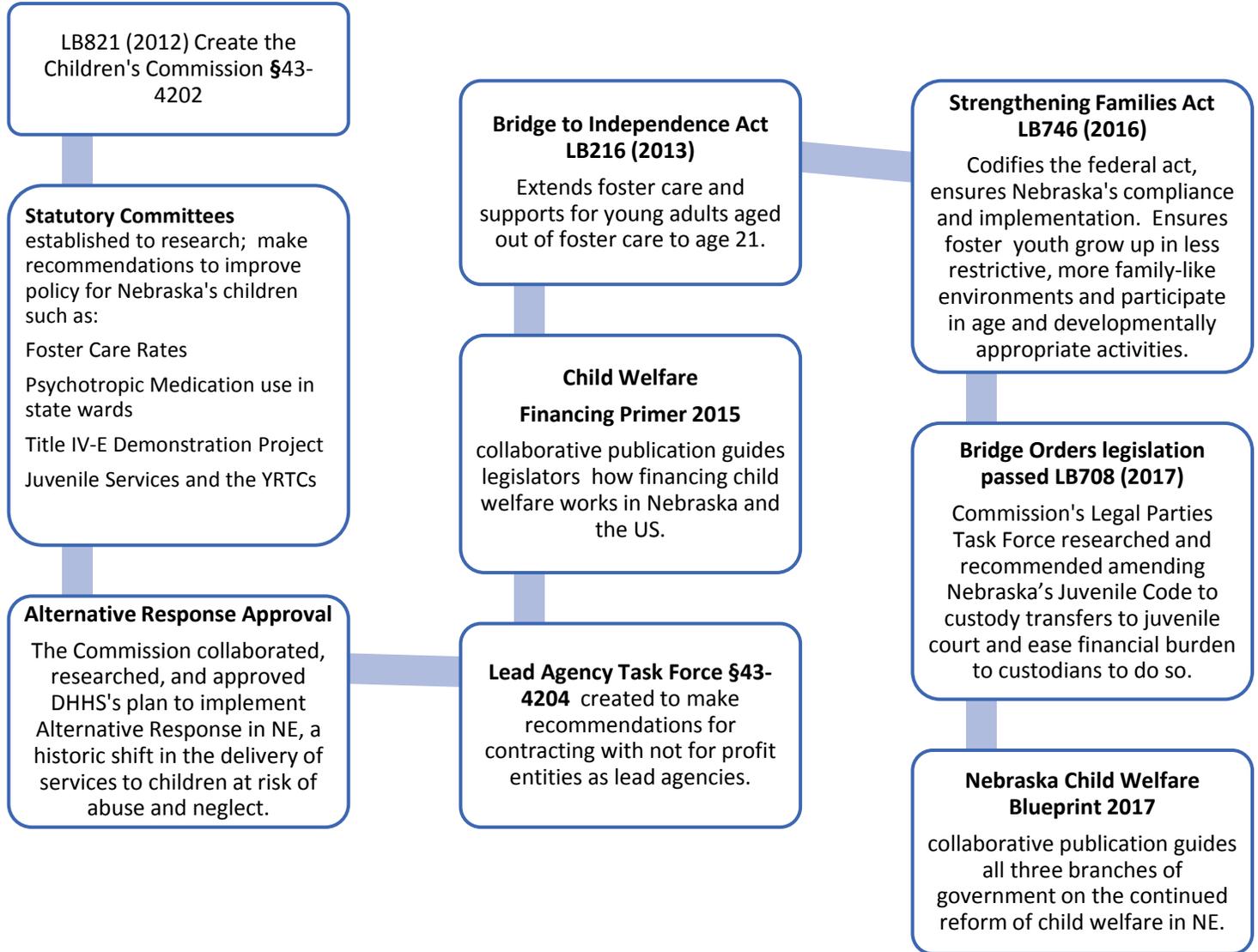
The Nebraska Children's Commission works as a high-level leadership body with membership from the legislative, executive, and judicial branches along with system stakeholders to improve the safety and well-being of all children and families in Nebraska.



What you need to know

- **Scheduled to sunset June 30, 2019 unless legislation is passed.**
- **This is the parent Commission to five statutory committees:**
 1. Foster Care Reimbursement Rate Committee NRS §43-4216
 2. Psychotropic Medications Committee NRS §43-4203(2)(a)
 3. Juvenile Services Committee NRS §43-4203
 4. Strengthening Families Act Committee NRS §43-4218
 5. Bridge to Independence Advisory Committee NRS §43-4513

Timeline of Key Initiatives



Key Deliverables of the Nebraska Children's Commission

1. Annual reports including recommendations for statutory, programmatic and systemic changes;
2. Education for stakeholders;
3. Coordination amongst related child welfare and juvenile justice parent groups, commissions and statutory groups; and
4. Testimony for proposed legislation.