

# 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](http://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?



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*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.*

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### 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

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*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.*

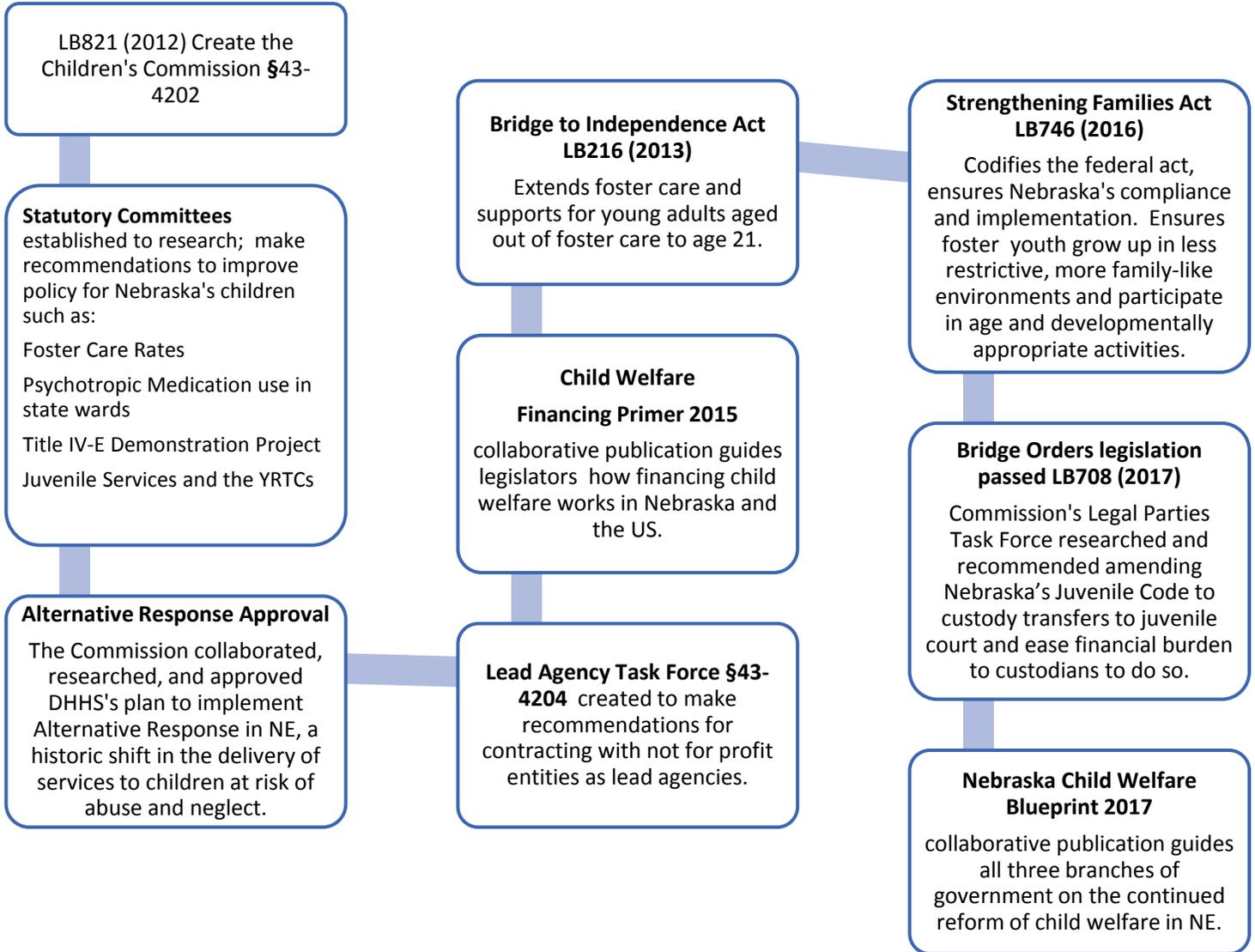
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### What you need to know

- **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.