

September 30, 2013

Patrick O'Donnell, Clerk of the Legislature
State Capitol, Room 2018
PO Box 94604
Lincoln, NE 68509-4604

Dear Mr. O'Donnell:

Legislative Bill 530 of the 103rd Legislative Session of 2013 requires the Nebraska Children's Commission to provide a progress report regarding the pilot project to implement the standardized level of care assessment tools recommended by the Foster Care Reimbursement Rate Committee. The report is to be provided to the Health and Human Services Committee of the Legislature and the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services by October 1, 2013.

The attached report provides the progress that has been made from June 2013 through September 2013 on the pilot project to implement the standardized level of care assessment tools. The report was reviewed and approved by the Nebraska Children's Commission at the September 17, 2013, Commission meeting.

Sincerely,



Karen Authier
Chairperson
Nebraska Children's Commission

Enclosure:
LB 530 Pilot – Level of Care Assessments Report

LB 530 Pilot – Level of Care Assessments
Commission Meeting
9-16-2013

June, 2013

- The urban site selected for the pilot was Lincoln. The rural sites are Lincoln County-North Platte, Adams County-Hastings and Platte County-Columbus which represent the three service areas generally known as rural Nebraska. These sites were determined through discussion with QA and in order to reach statistical significance, a minimum of 350 assessments will be completed.

July, 2013

- John Lyons, PhD and author of the CANS completed an overview of the tool for CFS specialists, supervisors, administrators and quality assurance staff.
- CFS staff (comprised of Specialists, resource development staff, supervisors, administrators, central office staff) completed “train the trainer” certification.
- Cohort lists of children placed in foster homes for at least 90 days prior to July 15 were sent to the four sites.

August 2013

- Three webinar trainings were held to train staff in the Nebraska Caregiver Responsibility Tool. This webinar was recorded and is available to staff on an ongoing basis.

September 2013

- 75 CANS and NCRs have been completed in the four pilot areas.
- A QA tool has been developed to review the assessments completed, and a review of 100 assessments will be completed by November 10th.
- Additional lists sent to the sites of children placed in foster homes prior to July 2013, not on the original cohort list.

Currently the four areas are continuing to complete the assessment tools.