

Good Life. Great Mission.

DEPT. OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

September 1, 2023

The Honorable Ben Hansen
Members of the Health & Human Services Committee
Nebraska Legislature
State Capitol Room 1117
Lincoln, NE 68509

Subject: Normalcy Plans and Reports Received from Contracting Child-Care Institutions

Dear Chairman Hansen:

Pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. § 43-4706, attached are normalcy plans for all child-care institutions currently under contract with the department and all Youth Residential Treatment Centers (YRTC), as well as annual normalcy reports for all institutions that have accepted child placements. The Center for Independent Living, dba Indepence Rising, and Grace Childen's Home have not yet accepted child placements. The institutions submitting both a plan and annual report are as follows:

Care-RIE
CEDARS Youth Services
Child Saving Institute
Community Action Partnership of Western
Nebraska (CAPWIN)
Father Flanagan's Boys' Home
Heartland Boys Home
HopeSpoke
Nebraska Youth Center

Norfolk Group Home
Omaha Home for Boys
Optimal Family Preservation
Rite of Passage - Uta Halle Academy
The Blueprint Initiative
Women in Community Services (WIC)
YRTC - Hastings

Jim Pillen, Governor

YRTC – Hastings YRTC – Kearney YRTC – Lincoln

Please note that normalcy plans and reports are combined into one document for each institution.

Sincerely,

Tony Green

Interim Director, Division of Children and Family Services

Attachments (19)



Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services Nebraska Strengthening Families Act Normalcy Plan and Report

Reference: Nebraska Revised Statute 43-4706 https://nebraskalegislature.gov/laws/statutes.php?statute=43-4706 Normalcy Plan due within 30 days of sub award being signed and Normalcy Report due April 30 annually (send to your agency's contract monitor). * If no subaward with Nebraska DHHS, Normalcy Plan due October 31 and Normalcy Report due April 30 annually. Agency Name: Reporting Person, Title: Email contact: Date of Report: Reporting Year: General Instructions: Please use this template to: 1) Answer Normalcy Plan questions first. 2) Answer Normalcy Report questions when due, using the same copy that includes your Normalcy Plan answers. *If more room is needed for answers, please use a separate sheet of paper. Form continued next page

Requirement 1: Efforts to address barriers to normalcy that are inherent in a child-care institution setting
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Plan Question 5(a): What is your agency's plan for gathering a list of activities both onsite and in the community?
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Care-RIE shall maintain a written normalcy plan describing how the facility will ensure that all children have access to age or developmentally appropriate activities as well as a normalcy report regarding the implementation of the normalcy plan. In accordance with Nebraska Revised Statute 43-4706, the normalcy plan shall specifically address:

Care-RIE knows:

Normalcy refers to allowing young people in out-of-home care to experience childhood and adolescence in ways similar to their peers who are not in foster care. It means allowing—and encouraging— young people to spend time with friends, participate in school and community activities, learn hobbies, and be supported in exploring their identities. Normalcy is important for improving the quality of life for youth in foster care. Research also shows that having developmentally appropriate, normative experiences improves permanency and transition outcomes for young people by developing valuable social networks and connections in the community, building skills, and allowing them to identify their strengths and interests.

1. Efforts to address barriers to normalcy that are inherent in a childcare institution

setting; Care-RIE is aware of the barriers to normalcy, therefore Care-RIE uses the following to break down barriers by:

Asking questions about processes that don't make sense.

Make suggestions for improvement when opportunities arise.

Get involved with local foster parent advocates.

Advocate for children in your care

Be involved with the child's education and extracurricular activities.

When an activity requires spending money

Look for resources outside of the agency.

Checking child's school, or county's child welfare board, or local faith-based organizations.

Work with caseworkers to find solutions.

2. Normalcy efforts for all children placed at the child-care institution, including, but not limited to relationships with family, age, or developmentally appropriate access to technology and technological skills, education and school stability, access to healthcare and information, and access to a sustainable and durable routine;

Care-RIE:

- 1. Believes a child has the right to live a healthy, normal childhood is paramount.
- 2. A reasonable and prudent parent standard will be applied to decisions regarding a child's participation in normal childhood activities.
- 3. Normalcy focuses on enabling opportunities for social development, recreation, academic growth, and positive life experiences based on a child's desires and developmental, emotional, physical, and other needs.
- 4. Care-RIE shall not contradict any existing court order or care precaution plan. While Care-RIE have authority to make decisions about the normal activities of foster children in our care, Care-RIE will consider known parental wishes in these decisions.
- 5. The assigned child welfare professional will make diligent efforts to keep the parent(s) informed and involved, including the resolution of differences between the caregiver and parent.
 - 6. Overnight / Planned Activities and Outings.
- a. The out-of-home caregiver must determine that the activity or outing is safe and appropriate in accordance with the reasonable and prudent parent standard.
- b. Children shall be encouraged to participate in normal school, community, or social activities and outings such as employment, school field trips, dating, scout camping trips, and activities with friends, school, and church groups as appropriate for the child based upon a reasonable and prudent parent standard.
- c. Background screening is not required for the child's participation in normal childhood activities and outings like sleepovers with friends, participation in school lock-in's, or team sports.
- d. Care-RIE may take children placed in their care on vacations and must inform the assigned child welfare professional in advance of the travel. Travel must be in accordance with any existing court orders.
- e. Care-RIE shall notify the assigned child welfare professional in advance of overnight stays exceeding three (3) nights.
- f. The assigned child welfare professional shall make efforts to accommodate planned activities for the child's participation by assisting in coordination with the family and court, particularly as related to scheduled visitation.
 - 7. Social Media / Computer Usage / Cell Phones.

- a. Children are permitted to participate in social media, computer usage, and have a cell phone as long as permission has been given by Care-RIE.
- b. Care-RIE shall apply the reasonable and prudent parent standard to decision-making regarding social media usage. Care-RIE should be sensitive to the risks of the various forms of social media.
- c. Children have the right to self-disclose information about themselves on social media.

Care-RIE shall educate children regarding the potential impact and ramifications of such disclosure.

d. Care-RIE is permitted to post pictures on social media including children placed in their care. Care-RIE may not use the child's last name or identify the child as residing in out-of-home care. See Attachment

3. Procedures for developing goals and action steps in the child-care institution's case

plan and case planning process related to participation in age or developmentally appropriate activities for each child placed at the child-care institution;

"Reasonable and prudent parent standard" means the standard characterized by careful and sensible parental decisions that maintain the child's health, safety, and best interests while at the same time encouraging the child's emotional and developmental growth, that a caregiver shall use when determining whether to allow a child in out-of-home care to participate in extracurricular, enrichment, and social activities.

- (3) CARE-RIE'S REQUIREMENTS FOR DECISIONMAKING.—
- (a) Each child who comes into care under this chapter is entitled to participate in age-appropriate extracurricular, enrichment, and social activities.
- (b) Care-RIE must use a reasonable and prudent parent standard in determining whether to give permission for a child in out-of-home care to participate in extracurricular, enrichment, and social activities. When using the reasonable and prudent parent standard, the caregiver shall consider:
 - 1. The child's age, maturity, and developmental level to maintain the overall health and safety of the child.
 - 2. The potential risk factors and the appropriateness of the extracurricular, enrichment, and social activity.
 - 3. The best interest of the child based on information known by the caregiver.
 - 4. The importance of encouraging the child's emotional and developmental growth.
 - 5. The importance of providing the child with the most family-like living experience possible.

• 6. The behavioral history of the child and the child's ability to safely participate in the proposed activity, as with any other child.

Care-RIE will consult with the child or youth about their wishes in an age-appropriate manner.

- Involving youth in decisions about their participation in activities provides learning opportunities for the child.
- promotes independent living skills, and
- empowers the child to be involved in their own planning.

In the end, the caregiver gets to make the decision, but the decision is likely to be a better one—and one the youth can accept—if the youth has been involved.

4. Policies on staffing, supervision, permission, and consent to age or developmentally

appropriate activities consistent with the reasonable and prudent parent standard;

The law explicitly defines a caregiver to include a "designated official for a childcare institution in which a child in foster care has been placed." The law requires that a designated official be always onsite to exercise the reasonable and prudent parent standard. This ensures that children in group homes or other residential facilities have access to someone who is trained in making decisions using this standard and can consent to the youth's participation in activities. Care-RIE will always have a designated official onsite.

5. A list of activities that the child-care institution provides onsite and a list of activities

in the community regarding which the child-care institution will make children aware,

- promote, and support access; Community events and activities
- Most short trips or excursions.
- Camping/hiking
- Sports and clubs
- Swimming and water activities
- Day/sleep over camps
- Field trips
- School related activities
- Youth organization activities
- Attending a movie/mall or other social outing with friends
- Spending the night away from the caregiver's home at the home of friends or as part of a planned activity
- Volunteering and internships
- Dating
- Travel in cars with peers and/or the parents of peers
- Access to a telephone for phone calls
- Access to the internet and social media

6. Identified accommodations and support services so that children with disabilities and

special needs can participate in age or developmentally appropriate activities to the same extent as their peers;

The reasonable and prudent parent standard asks caregivers to make decisions for youth just as they would for their own children. It is characterized by careful and sensible decisions that maintain the health, safety, and best interest of the child, while also encouraging growth through participation in age and developmentally appropriate activities. Care-RIE will put the standard in place by ensuring that Care-RIE's staff have training in exercising the standard..

In applying the standard, Care-RIE should gather adequate information about the activity, think about the youth, and consider the following:

- The appropriateness of the activity, child/youth's age, and developmental stage
- Potential safety risks involved in the activity
- Supports, planning, or accommodations that can help manage the potential risks of the activity
- Determining if supervision will be provided or is needed
- Encouraging the child/youth's formation of healthy age-appropriate social relationships and bonds

- Allowing the child/youth to maintain an age-appropriate degree of personal privacy
- Helping the child/youth develop skills and nurtures an interest or talent
- Encouraging the emotional, developmental, or cultural growth of the child/youth
- Helping connect the child/youth to the community
- Helping the child/youth to use and develop age-appropriate autonomy and decision-making skills

Youth with Disabilities

a) Youth with disabilities and special needs should have access to the same opportunities for participation in age and developmentally appropriate activities as their peers without special needs.

Under federal and state law, individuals with disabilities cannot be excluded from services and benefits provided by Care-RIE based on their disability. The obligation to provide normalcy and access to age and developmentally appropriate experiences applies to all youth in the care of Care-RIE.

Care-RIE and its representatives will make reasonable accommodations for the youth if there are barriers to participation based on the youth's disability. Schools and the majority of providers of organized activities and public accommodations are obligated to refrain from discrimination based on disability and provide reasonable accommodations.

b) Care-RIE will make accommodations and supports that make age-appropriate experiences a reality for youth with disabilities. Sign language interpreters, physical modifications, and specialized instruction are among the most familiar types of accommodations. However, Care-RIE

will be as creative as possible in devising accommodations for youth that can help provide exposer to community and other activities. A youth's behavior related to a trauma history or other diagnoses will not preclude activities and access to the community. Rather, strategies will be devised to enable participation to the greatest extent possible. Accommodation may include increased supervision, deescalation and safety plans, and coordination with other service providers.

c) Care-RIE will seek assistance regarding accommodations and opportunities for youth with disabilities from community resources and experts.

7. The individualized needs of all children involved in the system.

Care-RIE will make decisions for each individual on a case-by-case situation. Using the standards: In applying the standard, a Care-RIE will gather adequate information about the activity, think about the youth, and consider the following:

- The appropriateness of the activity, child/youth's age, and developmental stage.
- Potential safety risks involved in the activity.
- Supports, planning, or accommodations that can help manage the potential risks of the activity.
- Determine if supervision will be provided or is needed.
- Encourage the child/youth's formation of healthy age-appropriate social relationships and bonds.
- Allow the child/youth to maintain an age-appropriate degree of personal privacy.
- Helps the child/youth develop skills and nurtures an interest or talent.
- Encourage emotional, developmental, or cultural growth of the child/youth.

8. Efforts to reduce disproportionate impact of the system and services on families and children of color and other populations; and,

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- Encourage emotional, developmental, or cultural growth of the child/youth.

- Helps connect the child/youth to the community.
- Helps the child/youth to use and develop age-appropriate autonomy and decision-making skills.

9. Efforts to develop a youth board to assist in implementing the reasonable and

prudent parent standard in the child-care institution and promoting and supporting

normalcy.

An important part of holding a normalcy conversation—a structured discussion and planning session to promote normal and developmentally appropriate experiences for youth in foster care—is ensuring that young people have the opportunity to participate.

In all efforts to develop a youth board to assist in implementing the reasonable and prudent part standard as apart of CARE-RIE will:

Notify and Invite youth Young people in foster care should be aware that:

- They have a right to normalcy, as well as a right to participate in discussions about their rights and potential changes to them.
- They should have opportunities to participate in any conversations about normalcy at local, county, and state levels.
- Their participation may include, but is not limited to, assisting with planning all sessions in which they will participate (i.e., round-table and panel discussions, policy meetings, committees drafting documents related to normalcy and/or foster care more generally).

To invite young people in foster care to participate in local, county, and state meetings about normalcy, organizations should provide:

- A formal invitation to meetings about normalcy at the agency or organization
- Information about the meeting content, names of participants and panels, and any necessary preparation material



Nebraska Strengthening Families Act Normalcy Plan and Report

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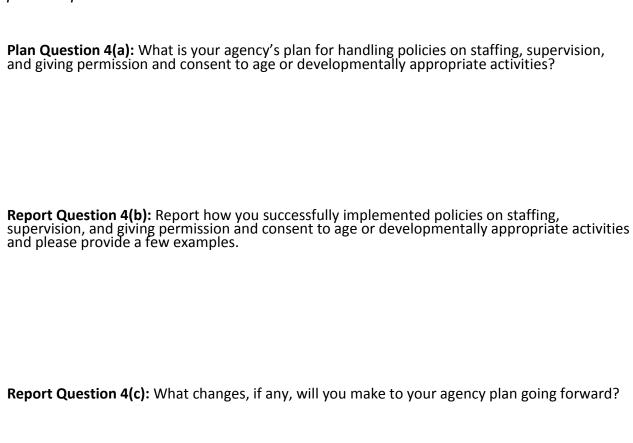
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Requirement 3: Procedures for developing goals and action steps in the child-care institution's case plan and case planning process related to participation in age or developmentally appropriate activities for each child placed at the child-care institution



Requirement 4: Policies on staffing, supervision, permission, and consent to age or developmentally appropriate activities consistent with the reasonable and prudent parent standard





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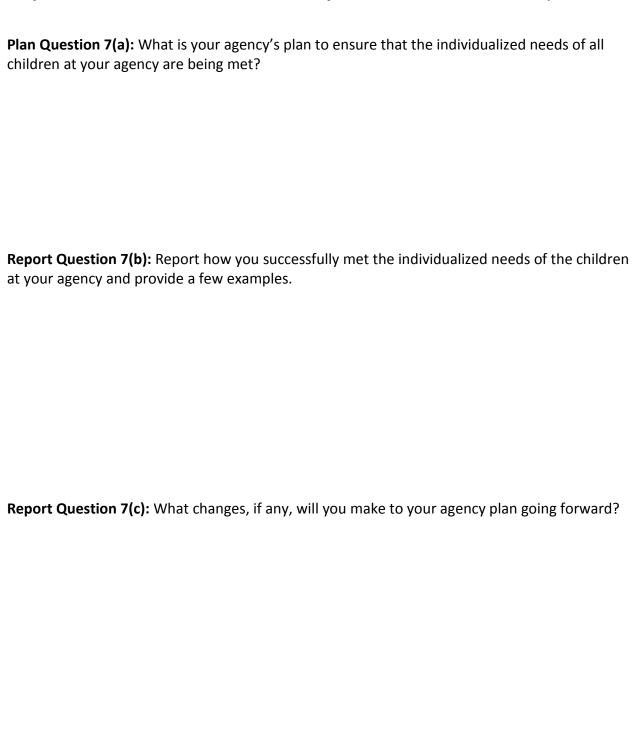


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Requirement 7: The individualized needs of all children involved in the system





Requirement 8: Efforts to reduce disproportionate impact of the system and services on families and children of color and other populations

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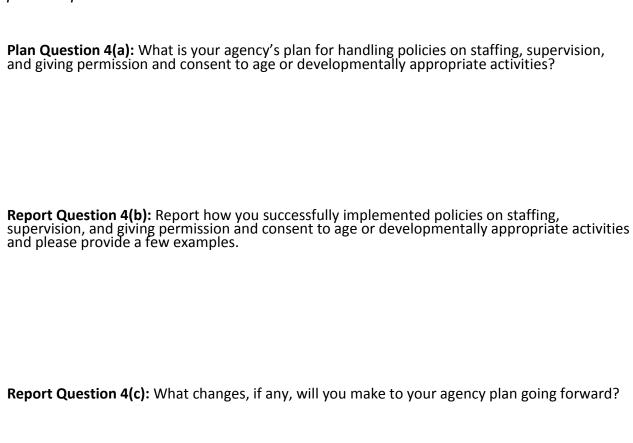


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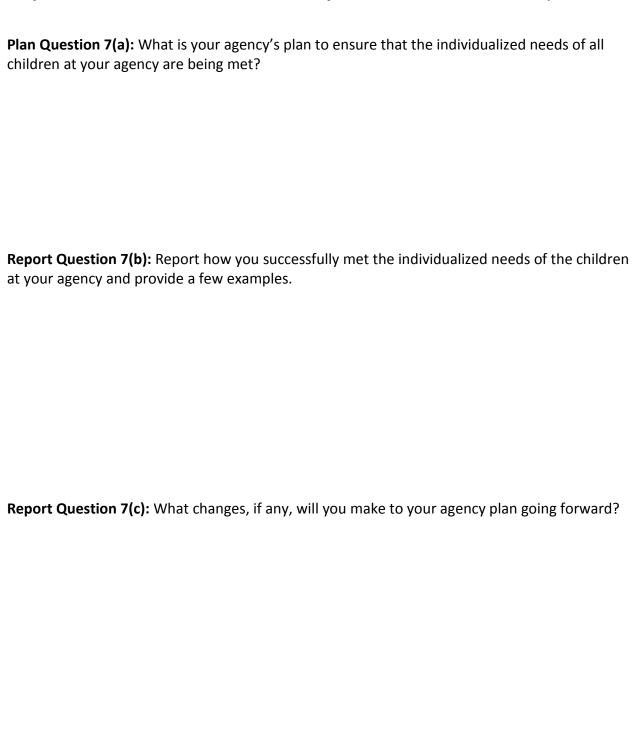


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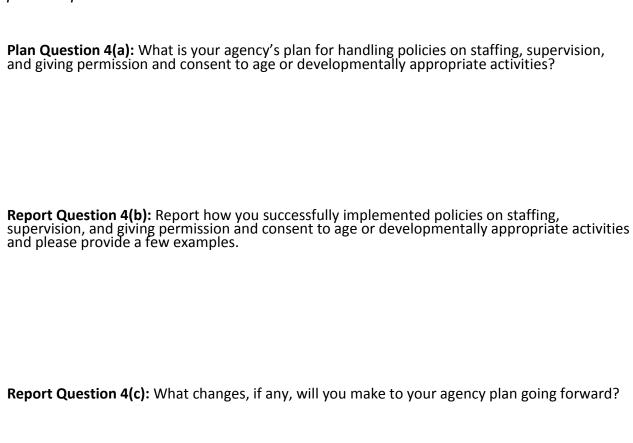
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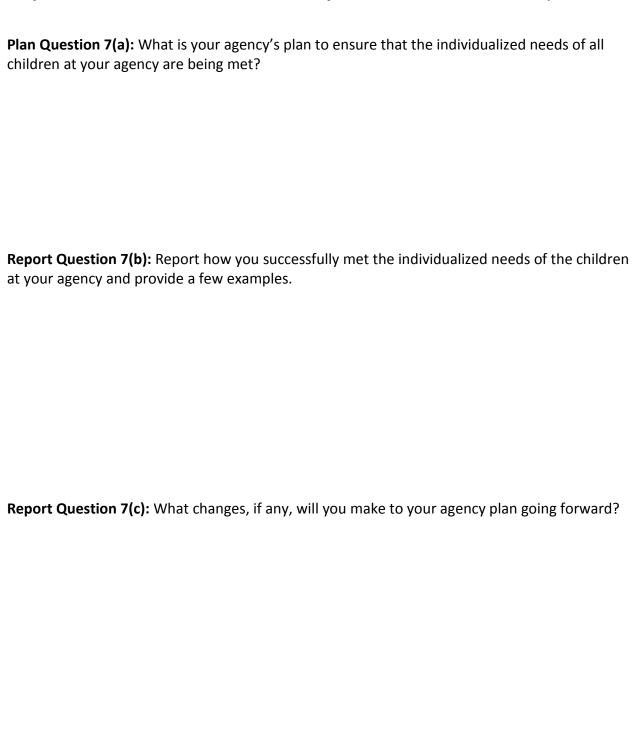


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Report Question 8(c): What changes, if any, will you make to your agency plan going forward?

Requirement 9: Efforts to develop a youth board to assist in implementing the reasonable and prudent parent standard in the child-care institution and promoting and supporting normalcy		
Plan Question 9(a): What is your agency's plan to put forth an effort in developing a youth board to assist in implementing the reasonable and prudent parent standard and promoting/supporting normalcy?		
Report Question 9(b): Report how your agency has success assists in implementing the reasonable and prudent parent see the examples:		
Report Question 9(c): What changes, if any, will you make	to your agency plan going forward?	
Electronic Signature of Person Completing Form:	Date of Electronic Signature:	



Reference: Nebraska Revised Statute 43-4706 https://nebraskalegislature.gov/laws/statutes.php?statute=43-4706 Normalcy Plan due within 30 days of sub award being signed and Normalcy Report due April 30 annually (send to your agency's contract monitor). *If no subaward with Nebraska DHHS, Normalcy Plan due October 31 and Normalcy Report due April 30 annually. Agency Name: Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Juvenile Services, YRTC-Hastings Reporting Person, Title: **Email Contact:** Camella Jacobe, Facility Administrator Camella.Jacobe@nebraska.gov Date of Report: Normalcy Plan Questions: 8/17/2022 Normalcy Report Questions: 3/6/2023 Reporting Year: FY 22/23 General Instructions: Please use this template to: 1) Answer Normalcy Plan questions first. Answer **Normalcy Report** questions when due, using the same copy that includes your Normalcy Plan answers. *If more room is needed for answers, please use a separate sheet of paper. Form Continue on next page

Requirement 1: Efforts to address barriers to normalcy that are inherent in a child-care institution setting.

Plan Question 1(a): What is your agency's plan to address barriers to normalcy?

Our agency continues to serve Nebraskan youth at various facilities, which are geared towards pointed needs of youth. Specialized treatment is even available for substance abuse and youth who have sexually harmed.

Hastings' plans to create opportunities that would allow youth to act and react in scenarios that they would encounter in the community and in family style settings. Some examples would include family style dining, opportunities for various religious services, group/team events, a fully accredited school program, and leisure activities. Hastings would also offer individualized and gender specific programming while also utilizing a unit based approach where our youth learn to work with and in a group setting, mimicking a family style culture. Hastings' plan is to develop a Community Advisory Board, with members from the Hastings and surrounding communities that could bridge the relationship between the community and the facility in order to offer opportunities for youth to be involved in community service projects, community volunteer projects, and community activities/events. Family engagement is critical to our youth's continued progress. In order to achieve more family engagement, the facility will look at more ways to offer family engagement beyond family team meetings, visitation, and phone calls.

Report Question 1(b): Report how you successfully addressed barriers to normalcy at your agency and provide a few examples.

YRTC Hastings has met barriers with some organizations in the community due to the type of population we serve. Some opportunities are not availabel due to our clientele having concerns with their background history. The facility was ablet to develop a Community Advisory Board to help with briding the gap betweent the facility and the communities perception of our program and the clientele we serve. With the Community Advisory Board being new and flucuation in members, we are just now getting to point where we can really work on utilizing them more for opportunities in the community and feedback to enhance our programming. YRTC Hastings is continuing to work on more family involvement. Our families struggle being able to visit youth on site due to lack of resources. YRTC Hastings has offered vouchers for families for fule and hotels. The facility also will set up transportation for families through a transportation service. Even with these being offered, there continues to be a struggle with family engagement, so YRTC Hastings will continue to offer virtual visits through webex to ensure our youth are able to at least have that type of face to face with their families.

Report Question 1(c): What changes, if any, will you make to your agency plan going forward? YRTC Hastings has been discussing the possibility of tablets for youth to have another means of contact with family members. This is just in early discussions and several variables would have to be considered, including safety/security, budget, and being able to maintain a tablet program.

Requirement 2: Normalcy efforts for all children placed at the child-care institution, including, but not limited to, relationship with family, age or developmentally appropriate access to technology and technological skills, education and school stability, access to health care and information, and access to a sustainable and durable routine.

Plan Question 2(a): What is your agency's plan for making normalcy efforts for all children placed at your agency, to address the items in requirement 2?

Hastings' plan is to establish a fluid daily schedule for youth to follow, including interests and ideas from the youth. The daily schedule will include, but isn't limited to daily hygiene, daily chores including laundry, cleaning, school (where they will have access to educational materials and a media center), recreation sports/activities, arts/crafts, gender specific and behavioral management groups, and leisure time. Hastings will have daily access to health care for the youth, with full-time medical staff who are available 24 hours, 7 days a week.

Relationships with family will be fostered through virtual visits, online visits, in person visits, furloughs, and through telephone calls and mail. Youth will be given 60 minutes per week to make phone calls to people who are of significance in their lives.

Report Question 2(b): Report how you successfully made normalcy efforts for all children at your agency and provide a few examples:

YRTC Hastings as a full daily schedule for all youth which includes: daily chores, school, recreation, evidence base and gender specific groups, leisure activities, individaul therapy, and family therapy. The youth have access to health care 24 hours, 7 days a week. Youth are offered contact with family through mail, telephone, virtual visits, on site visits, and recently through staggered furloughs home prior to release. YRTC Hastings offered a Christmas meal celebation for families to participate in a meal on campus with their child.

Report Question 2(c): What changes, if any, will you make to your agency plan going forward?

YRTC Hastings will continue to offer robust daily schedule for our youth as well as contact with families as much as possilbe. YRTC Hastings is looking into families being able to view their child's grades through Powerschool in order to be up to date on how they are doing in school. YRTC Hastings is also looking into more opportunities for families to come to campus to participate in some special activitie with their child like the Christmas meal.

Requirement 3: Procedure for developing goals and action steps in the child-care institution's case plan and case planning process related to participation in age or developmentally appropriate activities for each child placed at the child-care institution

Plan Question 3(a): What is your agency's procedure for developing goals and action steps in the case plan and case planning process, to address requirement 3?

Case Managers will be involved in developing case plans that involve input from the youth, the youth's treatment team, the youth's family, and their probation officer. Treatment plans will focus on areas of risk and need as identified by the Youth Level of Service/Case Management Inventory. Youth will also undergo an initial assessment upon arrival that aides in the development of the treatment plan. Recreational activities, treatment groups, individual therapy, and family therapy, and substance abuse treatment, if needed, will be part of the youth's case plan. Having positive pro-social activities to participate in is often a need for many youth. Having positive activities that youth enjoy is a factor that reduces recidivism.

Report Question 3(b): Report how you successfully developed procedures for goals and action steps related to the ages and developmental activities for the children at the agency and please provide a few examples:

The youth's treatment plan in developed by their Case Manager once all collateral information from the youth's outside team in obtained and all YRTC assessments are completed. The youth's YRTC Hastings treatment team participates in weekly clinical meetings where all youth are dicussed. The team looks at each individual youth and discusses their needs, how they are meeting their goals, and what needs to be done to move them forward to release. The youth also participate in pro-social activities and groups while at YRTC Hastings.YRTC Hastings Case Managers and Therapists also attend monthly meeting with the youth's outside team, which includes Parents/Guardians, Proabtion, Attorneys to discuss the youth's progress in their programming and reentry plans.

Report Question 3(c): What changes, if any, will you make to your agency plan going forward? YRTC Hasting will continue to work with the youth individually on their programming and meet weekly to discuss each youth. YRTC Hastings Case Managers and Therapist will continue to work meet monthly with the youth's outside team to ensure there is a continuity of servcies upon release.

Requirement 4: Polices on staffing, supervision, permission, and consent to age or developmentally appropriate activities consistent with the reasonable and prudent parent standard.

Plan Question 4(a): What is your agency's plan for handling policies on staffing, supervision, and consent to age or developmentally appropriate activities?

All activities, both on and off campus, will be supervised by YRTC staff members. The facilities are required by the Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) to maintain a one staff to eight youth ratio during wake hours, however our goal is to work within a one staff to four youth ratio, in order to work in smaller groups and offer more staff engagement with our youth. Youth will have input on activities they have interest in through group discussions and surveys. All activities will approved by the youth's treatment team.

Report Question 4(b): Report how you successfully implemented policies on staffing, supervision, and giving permission and consent to age or developmentally appropriate activities and please provide a few examples:

YRTC Hastings maintains a one staff to four youth ratio to enhance staff engagement. Youth are offered surveys for meals they prefer and recreation/liesure activities they enjoy. Youth meet weekly with their Case Managers and participate in the monthly meeting with their outsid team to enhanc their voice in their treatment and progress.

Report Question 4(c): What changes, if any, will you make to your agency's plan going forward? YRTC Hastings will continue to work on finding ways to ensure the youth are able to advocate for what works best for them in their programming and treatment.

Requirement 5: A list of activities that the child-care institution provides onsite and a list of activities in the community regarding which the child-care institution will make children aware, promote, and support access

Plan Question 5(a): What is your agency's plan for gathering a list of activities both onsite and in the community?

Recreation staff will provide at a minimum, one hour of large muscle activity and one hour of a leisure activity daily. Recreation activities will include however are not limited to; sports programs, art/craft projects, and volunteer activities. Youth will be afforded opportunities for leisure activities through the youth manual, communication from direct care staff, and incentives for on and off campus activities that are provided by the youth's Case Manager.

The Hastings Recreation staff and Activity Specialist will provide a wide variety of recreational opportunities for youth housed at the facility which will include youth input on activities of interest. Youth will be given the opportunity to participate in sports including flag football, ultimate football, volleyball, basketball, soccer, kickball, wiffle ball, dodge ball, four square, nine square, ultimate Frisbee, weight room circuits, indoor and outdoor free play, and off campus swimming. Recreation staff, the Activity Specialist, the Unit Managers, and Religious Coordinator will also offer a variety of leisure activities that include but are not limited to manicures, pedicures, word puzzles, puzzles, crocheting, drawing, scrapbooking, creating vision boards, creating future life stories, scratch art, diamond art, painting, clay sculpting, water play, walks, baking, and guitar lessons.

The Religious Coordinator and Activites Specialist will be responsible for gathering information from the community regarding activities/groups our youth may participate in. Our Community Advisory Board will assist with providing us agencies in the community where our youth may have opportunities to participate in.

Report Question 5(b): Report hour you successfully created a list of activities for onsite and the community and provide a few examples of these activities:

YRTC Hastings Recrational staff provide daily recreational activities. YRTC Hasting Religious/Volunteer Coordinator offers on/off campus religious and community/volunteer opportunties for youth. Recreational activities included but wasn't limited to basketball, volleyball, kickball, nine square, water play activities/swimming, obstacle courses/challenges, and indoor and outdoor free play. Youth were involve in community service and volunteer work which included but not limited to landscaping that the Big Foot Museum, helping with meals at Catholic Social Services, helping check in youth for bible school at the United Methodist Church, setting up at Prairie Loft for a music festival, delivering letters to thePony Express Riders Mental Health Awareness drive, toured the Hastings Museum, and assisted with painting and care of goats at Hewitt Acres.

Report Question 5(c): What changes, if any, will you make to your agency plan going forward?

YRTC Hastings will continue to explore off campus volunteer/community service opportunities for youth. YRTC Hastings is planning to change Stage criteria for Stage 4 youth to be afforded opportunities for more fun activities in the community.

Requirement 6: Identified accommodation and support services so that children with disabilities and special needs can participate in age or developmentally appropriate activities to the same extent as their peers

Plan Question 6(a): What accommodations and support services have been identified in your plan so that children with disabilities and special needs can participate in age or developmentally appropriate activities? Any accommodations for youth to participate in activities would be made on a case by case basis. All buildings on campus are ADA accessible. Hastings is also required to provide accommodations for disabled youth by the American Correctional Association (ACA). The YRTC facilities are required to maintain ACA accreditation.

Report Question 6(b): Report how you successfully put accommodation and support services in place so that children with disabilities and special needs can participate in age or developmentally appropriate activities and please provide a few examples:

YRTC Hastings will continue to evaluate any accommodations on a case by case basis. YRTC Hastings completed the initial Amercian Correntional Assocation (ACA) audit and received 100 percent complianc with all standards which include ADA accommodations when needed.

Report Question 6(c): what changes, if any, will you make to your agency plan going forward? YRTC Hastings will continue with ACA accreditation and will be audited again the summer of 2025

Requirement 7: The individualized needs of all children involved in the system

Plan Question 7(a): What is your agency's plan to ensure that the individualized needs of all children at your agency are being met?

Hastings will have individualized plans of care which will be made in conjunction with the youth's facility treatment team, the youth's family or guardian, and any other community support persons that the youth may wish to have involved. The youth's probation officer and reentry probation officer will be involved in this process and will provide input as to the youth's risks and needs as identified by Youth Level of Service/Case Management Inventory (YLS/CMI). Each area of risk/need will be addressed in the plan of care with individualized goals and objectives. A progress letter with be sent

monthly to the youth's judge, attorney, and parent/guardian on how they are progressing on their plan of care. An Initial Assessment will also be completed by mental health staff to identify any mental health or substance abuse treatment needs. Also, as things change with a youth, all of the above goals and objectives can change to make sure we are providing each youth with what would benefit them the most.

Report Question 7(b): Report how you successfully met the individualized needs of the children at your agency and provide a few examples:

YRTC Hastings staff participate in weekly clinical meetings each week to dicuss each youth individually and their progress in programming and treatment. YRTC Hasting staff also participate in monthly meetings with the youth and their outside team to ensure the youth has a voice in their treatment and programming and all parties are workign together to provide for the youth's individual needs and successful reetnry back into the community.

Report Question 7(c): What changes, if any, will you make to your agency plan going forward?

YRTC Hastings staff will continue with weekly and monthly meetings. YRTC has also implemented a furlough process that allows youth to go on day, overnight, and weekedn furloughs in order to transition back into the community while still having support of the facility.

Requirement 8: Efforts to reduce the disproportionate impact of the system and services on families and children of color and other populations

Plan Question 8(a): what is your agency's plan to reduce the disproportionate impact of the system and services on families and children of color and other populations?

There is no screening process to determine which youth will be admitted to the program. YRTC-Hastings accepts every youth that is committed and works with each youth and family on their individualized needs. YRTC Hastings' plan is to try to understand our youth's situations, what brought them to the facility, and how to best serve them so they can be reunited with their families as much as possible. If reunification is not possible with families, YRTC Hastings will work closely with probation to determine a placement the youth would have the most success in.

Report Question 8(b): Report how you successfully have reduced the disproportionate impact of the system and services on families and children of color and other populations and provide a few examples:

YRTC Hasting will continuet work individually with each youth that is committed to the facility. YRTC staff utilize collateral information prior to commitment and assessments gathered upon commitment to ensure the youth's plans of care, programming, and treatment meets their individual needs.

Report Question 8(c): What changes, if any, will you make to your agency plan going forward? YRTC Hastings will continue to work individually with each youth base off of their needs.

Requirement 9: Efforts to develop a youth board to assist in implementing the reasonable and prudent parent standard in the child-care institution and promoting and supporting normalcy

Plan Question 9(a): what is yout agency's plan to put forth an effort in developing a youth board to assist in implementing the reasonable and prudent parent standard and promoting/supporting normalcy?

In July 2022 YRTC Hastings began developing criteria for a youth council. Youth fill out applications to be on the youth council then interview and are selected based off of the application, interview, and leadership. The youth council was implemented in August 2022 with it's first meeting. Meetings will focus on youth input for programming and incentives.

Report Question 9(b): Report how your agency has successfully put forth the effort to develop a youth board that assists in implementing the reasonable and prudent parent standard to promote/support normalcy and please provide a few examples:

YRTC Hastings implemented a Youth Council that has met montly since August 2022. Youth fill out an application to be on student council to represent their Unit. One youth from each Unit is on student council. Each Living Unit youth representative brings issues, concerns, and ideas to the table to discuss with key staff members to better enhance programming and address issues/concerns.

Report Question 9(c): What changes, if any, will you make to your agency plan going forward? YRTC Hastings will continue to meet monthly with Youth Council members to ensure youth have a voice in their programming and are able to appropriately advocate for themselves and their unit.		
Electronic Signature of Individual Completing Form: Camella Jacobe	3/6/2023	
Camella Jacobe, Facility Administrator	Date:	



Reference: Nebraska Revised Statute 43-4706 https://nebraskalegislature.gov/laws/statutes.php?statute=43-4706 Normalcy Plan due within 30 days of sub award being signed and Normalcy Report due April 30 annually (send to your agency's contract monitor). *If no subaward with Nebraska DHHS, Normalcy Plan due October 31 and Normalcy Report due April 30 annually. Agency Name: Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Juvenile Services, YRTC-Kearney Reporting Person, Title: **Email Contact:** Cindy Krolikowski, Facility Administrator Cindy.Krolikowski@nebraska.gov Date of Report: Normalcy Plan Questions: 8/23/2022 Normalcy Report Questions: 2/24/2023 Reporting Year: FY 22/23 General Instructions: Please use this template to: 1) Answer Normalcy Plan questions first. Answer **Normalcy Report** questions when due, using the same copy that includes your Normalcy Plan answers. *If more room is needed for answers, please use a separate sheet of paper. Form Continue on next page

Requirement 1: Efforts to address barriers to normalcy that are inherent in a child-care institution setting.

Plan Question 1(a): What is your agency's plan to address barriers to normalcy?

YRTC-Kearney serves youth through individualized plans of care and evidence based programming, which includes family treatment and enhancement of personal life skills. Specialized treatment is also available for substance abuse and youth who have sexually harmed. Transition back to the community will require collaboration between the YRTC treatment team, Probation's re-entry unit, community providers and schools to ensure a smooth transition.

We incorporate opportunities to implementing change and keep the youth's adolescence in mind. This means we try to create opportunities that would allow youth to act and react in scenarios they may encounter in the community. Some examples include religious services, group/team events, school settings, and leisure activities.

Report Question 1(b): Report how you successfully addressed barriers to normalcy at your agency and provide a few examples.

The youth have the opportunity to work on their thinking and behavior daily while here as well as meeting and working with their therapist. Our youth attend school daily and work with out teachers on credit recovery to reach graduation. We work with Probation and the re-entry team to help the youth have graduated visitis and furloughs when they are nearing completion of the program. This helps the youth to have a smoother transtion back to their homes and community and address any concerns or issues that may arise before completeing the program and returning back home with tools and more confidence to help them work through difficult situations when they arise.

Report Question 1(c): What changes, if any, will you make to your agency plan going forward? Continue to work with Proabtion and re-entry to help the youth have a smoother transtion back to their home and communties, looking for ways to improve and help the youth. Continue looking for ways to help improve the transtion for the youth or looking for other areas needing improvement. We also have the parents give feedback about how they feel the visits, furloughs went and any areas of concern yet.

Requirement 2: Normalcy efforts for all children placed at the child-care institution, including, but not limited to, relationship with family, age or developmentally appropriate access to technology and technological skills, education and school stability, access to health care and information, and access to a sustainable and durable routine.

Plan Question 2(a): What is your agency's plan for making normalcy efforts for all children placed at your agency, to address the items in requirement 2?

YRTC-Kearney strives to offer recreational and personal growth activities both on campus and off. These opportunities include access to art/music materials and recreation opportunities. From an academic standpoint, YRTC-Kearney provides youth with traditional education and technological skills through an accredited high school.

Relationships with family are fostered through both in person and virtual visits. Kearney has increased the amount of visits (via virtual means) and phone calls a youth can have with their families. Kearney follows a daily schedule which includes specific times for bed, waking hours, school, and other activities. Programming meetings occur at the conclusion of the school day. Kearney offers evidence-based cognitive-behavioral programming (MRT and ART).

Report Question 2(b): Report how you successfully made normalcy efforts for all children at your agency and provide a few examples:

Our youth have the opportunity to complete community service out in the community where they can demonstrate their skills they are working on through programming or mental health services while here. The youth have the opportunity to call and speak with their families along with having on/off campus visits. We offer virtual visits, on/off campus visits, furloughs in an effort help foster the family dynamics and help the youth to make amends and re-establish trust within the family. This is an opportunity for the youth to demonstrate the skills they have been learning and adjust back to the schedule and activities of their families, by demonstrating what they are learning and working on.

Report Question 2(c): What changes, if any, will you make to your agency plan going forward?

We have the family and youth give feedback about how their visits, furloughs went and if there are any areas of concern. We will use that feedback to see what other services we could offer or how we could improve to help with the transtion back to their family be successful.

Requirement 3: Procedure for developing goals and action steps in the child-care institution's case plan and case planning process related to participation in age or developmentally appropriate activities for each child placed at the child-care institution

Plan Question 3(a): What is your agency's procedure for developing goals and action steps in the case plan and case planning process, to address requirement 3?

Youth undergo an initial assessment upon arrival that aides in the development of the treatment plans. Treatment plans focus on areas of risk and need as identified by the Youth Level of Service/ Case Management Inventory (YLS/CMI). Case managers at YRTC-Kearney are involved in developing case plans that involve input from the youth, the youth's treatments team, the youth's family, and their probation officer.

Recreational activities are often a part of the youth's case plan as a pro-social activity to participate in. At YRTC-Kearney, we view these types of positive activities as a factor that helps reducing recidivism.

Report Question 3(b): Report how you successfully developed procedures for goals and action steps related to the ages and developmental activities for the children at the agency and please provide a few examples:

The case managers/teams develop a plan of care for each individual youth to address the treatment needs identifed prior to placement by Probation. The youth is afforded many opportunties to work on an address the behaviors and treatment needs identified working alongside the youth and family to address any needs they may have identified.

The youth are offered many pro-social activities on and off campus where they have the opportunity to help others and give back. They have volunteered their time to help many different museums, and other business'. Youth have the opportunity to attend sporting events at the college and help volunteering there as well.

Report Question 3(c): What changes, if any, will you make to your agency plan going forward? We continue to strive to reach out and find new opportunities to give back to the community. We get feedback from the youth to try and see what others areas or activities they would be interested in. We have developed the Student Council to give the youth a voice to express ideas, change, or any other things they would be interested in or would like to see improve.

Requirement 4: Polices on staffing, supervision, permission, and consent to age or developmentally appropriate activities consistent with the reasonable and prudent parent standard.

Plan Question 4(a): What is your agency's plan for handling policies on staffing, supervision, and consent to age or developmentally appropriate activities?

All on and off campus activities are supervised by YRTC staff members. YRTC-Kearney is required by the Prison Elimination Act (PREA) to maintain a one staff to eight youth ratio during waking hours. All activities must be approved by the Facility Administrator or their designee.

Report Question 4(b): Report how you successfully implemented policies on staffing, supervision, and giving permission and consent to age or developmentally appropriate activities and please provide a few examples:

All activities on or off campus we ensure that we have the appropriate staffing ratio of at a minimum of one staff to eight youth during waking hours. Many times we will have extra staff that will attend the activities with the youth. We have had summer fun days wehre the entire campus will help to participate and supervise the youth.

Report Question 4(c): What changes, if any, will you make to your agency's plan going forward? We will continue to meet the minimum staffing ratio and will always add more to ensure the safety and security of each youth is or top priority.

Requirement 5: A list of activities that the child-care institution provides onsite and a list of activities in the community regarding which the child-care institution will make children aware, promote, and support access

Plan Question 5(a): What is your agency's plan for gathering a list of activities both onsite and in the community?

At YRTC-Kearney, leisure activities are provided by the Recreation Department. Recreation staff include activities based in sports and in the education of various sports. Kearney's Recreation staff provide a wide variety of recreational opportunities to all of our youth, which include softball, flag football, volleyball, basketball, soccer, and ultimate frisbee. In addition to these sports, Kearney's facility has a soccer field, an obstacle course, indoor pool, and weight room.

In Kearney, we also provide craft projects and volunteer activities that are designed and facilitated by Kearney staff. Youth are orientated to opportunities for leisure activities through the youth manual, communication from direct care staff, and incentives for on and off campus activities (through the youth's case manager).

Report Question 5(b): Report hour you successfully created a list of activities for onsite and the community and provide a few examples of these activities:

Youth have had a summer fun day where we have had inflatable water slides, obstacle courses, water balloons, slip and slide for the youth to enjoy. We have had a youth staff kick ball game for the youth and staff to participate in together.

Report Question 5(c): What changes, if any, will you make to your agency plan going forward?

Wea are always looking for new ideas for any activities that we can have for the youth on campus. The student council also will have a voice so we are looking for ideas that they will ask of their peers.

Requirement 6: Identified accommodation and support services so that children with disabilities and special needs can participate in age or developmentally appropriate activities to the same extent as their peers

Plan Question 6(a): What accommodations and support services have been identified in your plan so that children with disabilities and special needs can participate in age or developmentally appropriate activities?

Any accomodations for youth would be made on a case by case basis. YRTC-Kearney is required to provide accomodations for disabilities per standards of the American Correctional Association (ACA). Kearney has maintained it's accreditation for the last 9 years.

Report Question 6(b): Report how you successfully put accommodation and support services in place so that children with disabilities and special needs can participate in age or developmentally appropriate activities and please provide a few examples:

We would provide accomodations as needed for each youth to meet their needs and enusre that they would be able to participate.

Report Question 6(c): what changes, if any, will you make to your agency plan going forward? We will continue to provide accommodations for each and every youth that we receive on campus.

Requirement 7: The individualized needs of all children involved in the system

Plan Question 7(a): What is your agency's plan to ensure that the individualized needs of all children at your agency are being met?

Individulaized plans of care are made in conjunction with the youth's treatment team in Kearney, the youth's family/guardian, and any other community support that the youth may wish to have involved. The youth's probation officer is also highly involved in this process and provides input as to the youth's risks and needs as identified by their YLS/CMI. Each area of risk/need is addressed in the case plan with individualized goals and objectives. An Initial Assessment is also completed by mental health staff to identify any mental health or substance abuse treatment needs.

Report Question 7(b): Report how you successfully met the individualized needs of the children at your agency and provide a few examples:

When a youth arrives the assessment process is completed by the Mental Health, Nursing,School and Recreation. The case manager will develop and plan of care for each indivdual youth based off the YLS/CMI to address the identified needs. The plan will be a modified as needed to continue to address the needs and beahviors or each youth. The information will be discussed in Family Team Meetings, visits, furloughs or any other staffings.

Report Question 7(c): What changes, if any, will you make to your agency plan going forward?

We will continue the process and look to see if there are areas that we need to improve on or change to continue to meet the needs of the youth.

Requirement 8: Efforts to reduce the disproportionate impact of the system and services on families and children of color and other populations

Plan Question 8(a): what is your agency's plan to reduce the disproportionate impact of the system and services on families and children of color and other populations?

YRTC-Kearney has no say in which youth are adjudicated to the facility, as they are committed by the courts. We do not screen youth in any way, we accept all youth that are committed.

Kearney encourages family contact as much as possible through phone calls and visitation. Since COVID-19, we have added virtual visits as an additional means to achieve family engagement. Family therapy services are also available. For example, family involvement is an important component of the Adolescent Community Reinforcement Approach (ACRA), which is a SAMHSA recognized best practice for youth with substance abuse issues. Family therapy needs are determined by a youth's mental health counselor and treatment team.

Report Question 8(b): Report how you successfully have reduced the disproportionate impact of the system and services on families and children of color and other populations and provide a few examples:

We do not screen any youth coming to our facility. We offer virtual visists, gas vouchers,transport, phone calls and work to see how we can accommodate an encourage family engagement. Our teams work with families to work around their schedules for family team meetings, visits, phone calls looking for ways to best serve all our families.

Report Question 8(c): What changes, if any, will you make to your agency plan going forward? We will conitnue to access our services we have family feedback when youth are on furloughs or visits in hopes to met the needs of our families.
Requirement 9: Efforts to develop a youth board to assist in implementing the reasonable and prudent parent standard in the child-care institution and promoting and supporting normalcy
Plan Question 9(a): what is yout agency's plan to put forth an effort in developing a youth board to assist in implementing the reasonable and prudent parent standard and promoting/supporting normalcy? AT the YRTC-Kearney, youth may make requests and suggestions through their group meetings, Case Managers, Unit Managers, or letters to the Facility Administrator or Program Manager. Kearney also has a grievance process that is handled directly by a Compliance team which does not report to the Facility Administrator.
Report Question 9(b): Report how your agency has successfully put forth the effort to develop a youth board that assists in implementing the reasonable and prudent parent standard to promote/support normalcy and please provide a few examples:
The youth have the ability to report any concern or issue to any staff on campus. We also just began the Student Council which we have a youth from each unit on. This gives them a voice and they can bring concerns or issues from there peers and units to this meeting of youth and staff.
Report Question 9(c): What changes, if any, will you make to your agency plan going forward? We will continue with our current process and encourage the youth to advocate for themselves by utilitzing the skills they are learning.
Electronic Signature of Individual Completing Form: 2/24/2023 Cindy Krolikowski

Date:

Cindy Krolikowski, Facility Administrator



Reference: Nebraska Revised Statute 43-4706 https://nebraskalegislature.gov/laws/statutes.php?statute=43-4706 Normalcy Plan due within 30 days of sub award being signed and Normalcy Report due April 30 annually (send to your agency's contract monitor). *If no subaward with Nebraska DHHS, Normalcy Plan due October 31 and Normalcy Report due April 30 annually. Agency Name: Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Juvenile Services, YRTC-Lincoln Reporting Person, Title: **Email Contact:** Sarah Brownell, Facility Administrator Sarah.Brownell@nebraska.gov Date of Report: Normalcy Plan Questions: 8/30/2022 Normalcy Report Questions: 2/27/2023 Reporting Year: FY 22/23 General Instructions: Please use this template to: 1) Answer Normalcy Plan questions first. Answer **Normalcy Report** questions when due, using the same copy that includes your Normalcy Plan answers. *If more room is needed for answers, please use a separate sheet of paper. Form Continue on next page

Requirement 1: Efforts to address barriers to normalcy that are inherent in a child-care institution setting.

Plan Question 1(a): What is your agency's plan to address barriers to normalcy?

Increased community involvement with volunteering (religious, mentors, education).

Increased connection to the community via community service accessible within the facility.

Continued holiday/special event involvement with youth, staff, and families.

Report Question 1(b): Report how you successfully addressed barriers to normalcy at your agency and provide a few examples.

Youth were connected with mentors from UNO. Youth received routine visits and calls with mentors.

Increased religious services streaming for youth who are interested to attend service routinely on Sundays.

Youth participated in a end of summer party outside with water games, bounce house, dunk tank, and grilling. Youth participated in celebrating all major holidays. Youth received special visits and gatherings with their families for birthdays.

Report Question 1(c): What changes, if any, will you make to your agency plan going forward?

Continue to enhance youth experience with members of the community and outtings to prepare community transition.

Requirement 2: Normalcy efforts for all children placed at the child-care institution, including, but not limited to, relationship with family, age or developmentally appropriate access to technology and technological skills, education and school stability, access to health care and information, and access to a sustainable and durable routine.

Plan Question 2(a): What is your agency's plan for making normalcy efforts for all children placed at your agency, to address the items in requirement 2?

Daily/weekly access to calls, visits, and therapy with families (in-person and video).

Year-round education programing includes Chromebooks and virtual learning opportunities.

Access to current electronics (gaming, laptops, music devices)

Daily/weekly access to nursing and psychiatrist.

Report Question 2(b): Report how you successfully made normalcy efforts for all children at your agency and provide a few examples:

All youth were provided opportunities to participate in calls, visits, and family therapy. We also increased the amount of home visits for the youth.

Youth continue to have access to Chromebooks for virtual learning.

Youth continue to have access to electroncs (gaming, laptops, and music).

Full-time and on-call medical coverage by an RN. On-call and weekly psychiatric care by a Child and Adolescent Psychiatrist.

Continue to offer travel support for families either resistant or unable to visit due to fanancial burden or work obligations. Continue to acquire updated technology (gaming, laptops, music) for youth to feel connected to items consistent with other youth their age.

Requirement 3: Procedure for developing goals and action steps in the child-care institution's case plan and case planning process related to participation in age or developmentally appropriate activities for each child placed at the child-care institution

Plan Question 3(a): What is your agency's procedure for developing goals and action steps in the case plan and case planning process, to address requirement 3?

All case plans, programmatic goals, and education delivery is reflective of the youth's individual abilities, strengths, aptitude, and areas in need of improvement.

These are derived from collateral information (guardians, relatives, professionals, previous placement, current interactions, and clinical recommendations)

Report Question 3(b): Report how you successfully developed procedures for goals and action steps related to the ages and developmental activities for the children at the agency and please provide a few examples:

Case plans, program goals, and education delivery are based on individual stengths and needs. Collateral information (guardians, relatives, professionals, previous placement, current interactions, and clinical recommendations) is utilized to initiate and amend treatment recommendations.

Report Question 3(c): What changes, if any, will you make to your agency plan going forward? Ongoing enhancement to discharge planning and support for services in the community.

Requirement 4: Polices on staffing, supervision, permission, and consent to age or developmentally appropriate activities consistent with the reasonable and prudent parent standard.

Plan Question 4(a): What is your agency's plan for handling policies on staffing, supervision, and consent to age or developmentally appropriate activities?

Maintaining high ratio of staff to youth for individualized care.

Consistent clinical, medical, education and direct care staff collaboration.

Curriculum development based on current populations and evidence based, best practices.

Report Question 4(b): Report how you successfully implemented policies on staffing, supervision, and giving permission and consent to age or developmentally appropriate activities and please provide a few examples:

High ratio of staff to youth was maintained.

Daily, weekly, and monthly collaboration between clinical, medical, education, and direct care.

Increased psychoeducation groups and workbooks for additional therapeutic support for youth.

Report Question 4(c): What changes, if any, will you make to your agency's plan going forward? No changes.

Requirement 5: A list of activities that the child-care institution provides onsite and a list of activities in the community regarding which the child-care institution will make children aware, promote, and support access

Plan Question 5(a): What is your agency's plan for gathering a list of activities both onsite and in the community?

Due to the high acuity youth at YRTC-Lincoln, community based acitivies are limited.

Plan for increased furloughs prior to discharge

Activities onsite include, but not limited to: Education, visits with family, therapy, family therapy, therapy groups, life skills activities, special events/celebrations.

Report Question 5(b): Report hour you successfully created a list of activities for onsite and the community and provide a few examples of these activities:

YRTC-L increased home visits during this reporting period.

We continued to provide the youth with the following: Education, visits with family, therapy, family therapy, therapy groups, life skills activities, special events/celebrations.

Report Question 5(c): What changes, if any, will you make to your agency plan going forward?

Continue to enhance the community access for youth when in transition for discharge.

Requirement 6: Identified accommodation and support services so that children with disabilities and special needs can participate in age or developmentally appropriate activities to the same extent as their peers

Plan Question 6(a): What accommodations and support services have been identified in your plan so that children with disabilities and special needs can participate in age or developmentally appropriate activities? YRTC-Lincoln has not served a youth with disabilities or special needs beyond a below average IQ. Plan to utilize appropriate housing status (ADA room) and work with medical and clinical on appropriate interventions.

Report Question 6(b): Report how you successfully put accommodation and support services in place so that children with disabilities and special needs can participate in age or developmentally appropriate activities and please provide a few examples:

YRTC-Lincoln has not served a youth with disabilities or special needs beyond a below average IQ.

Plan to utilize appropriate housing status (ADA room) and work with medical and clinical on appropriate interventions.

Report Question 6(c): what changes, if any, will you make to your agency plan going forward? No changes.

Requirement 7: The individualized needs of all children involved in the system

Plan Question 7(a): What is your agency's plan to ensure that the individualized needs of all children at your agency are being met?

All treatment planning at YRTC-Lincoln is individualized and data driven. Goals and interventions are developed by the clnical team, external team, guardians, and individual youth. YRTC-Lincoln is also required to provide accommodations for disabled youth by the American Correctional Association (ACA). The YRTC facilities are required to maintain ACA accreditation.

Report Question 7(b): Report how you successfully met the individualized needs of the children at your agency and provide a few examples:

All treatment planning at YRTC-Lincoln is individualized and data driven. Goals and interventions are developed by the clnical team, external team, guardians, and individual youth. YRTC-Lincoln is also required to provide accommodations for disabled youth by the American Correctional Association (ACA). YRTC-L scored 100% during initial accredidation in 2022.

Report Question 7(c): What changes, if any, will you make to your agency plan going forward? No changes.

Requirement 8: Efforts to reduce the disproportionate impact and other populations	ct of the system and services on families and children of color
Plan Question 8(a): what is your agency's plan to reduce the families and children of color and other populations? YRTC does not have control over the commitments to the state the courts. YRTC-Lincoln will work with individual families to etc.	ate. YRTC-Lincoln accepts all youth who are adjudicated by
Report Question 8(b): Report how you successfully have reservices on families and children of color and other population YRTC does not have control over the commitments to the statched courts. YRTC-Lincoln works with individual families to me	ns and provide a few examples: ate. YRTC-Lincoln accepts all youth who are adjudicated by
Report Question 8(c): What changes, if any, will you make No changes.	to your agency plan going forward?
Requirement 9: Efforts to develop a youth board to assist in the child-care institution and promoting and supporting normal	implementing the reasonable and prudent parent standard in alcy
Plan Question 9(a): what is yout agency's plan to put forth a the reasonable and prudent parent standard and promoting/s YRTC-Lincoln serves a small census of youth for an average utilize the grievance system or two-way requests for program applicable) to report misconduct.	of 125 days for length of stay. Youth are encouraged to
Report Question 9(b): Report how your agency has success in implementing the reasonable and prudent parent standard examples: YRTC-Lincoln serves a small census of youth for an average utilize the grievance system or two-way requests for program applicable) to report misconduct.	e of 125 days for length of stay. Youth are encouraged to
Report Question 9(c): What changes, if any, will you make Discuss youth receiving special participation in meetings with provide feedback, ideas, and share the positives and negative	n staff/clinical team during the 60 day notice. Youth can
Electronic Signature of Individual Completing Form: Sarah Brownell, MA, LIMHP, CPC, PLADC	2/27/2023
Sarah Brownell,Facility Administrator	Date:



Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services Nebraska Strengthening Families Act Normalcy Plan and Report

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Report Question 1(b): Report how you successfully addressed barriers to normalcy at your agency and provide a few examples:

Report Question 1(c): What changes, if any, will you make to your agency plan going forward?
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Plan Question 2(a): What is your agency's plan for making normalcy efforts for all children placed at your agency, to address the items in requirement 2?

Report Question 2(b): Report how you successfully made normalcy efforts for all children at your agency and provide a few examples:
Report Question 2(c): What changes, if any, will you make to your agency plan going forward?
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Requirement 3: Procedures for developing goals and action steps in the child-care institution's case plan and case planning process related to participation in age or developmentally appropriate activities for each child placed at the child-care institution
Plan Question 3(a): What is your agency's procedure for developing goals and action steps in the case plan and case planning process, to address requirement 3?
Report Question 3(b): Report how you successfully developed procedures for goals and action steps related to the ages and developmental activities for the children at the agency and please provide a few examples:

Report Question 3(c): What changes, if any, will you make to your agency plan going forward?
Requirement 4: Policies on staffing, supervision, permission, and consent to age or developmentally appropriate
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Report Question 4(b): Report how you successfully implemented policies on staffing, supervision, and giving permission and consent to age or developmentally appropriate activities and please provide a few examples:
Report Question 4(c): What changes, if any, will you make to your agency's plan going forward?

Requirement 5: A list of activities that the child-care institution provides onsite and a list of activities in the community regarding which the child-care institution will make children aware, promote, and support access
Plan Question 5(a): What is your agency's plan for gathering a list of activities both onsite and in the community?
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Report Question 5(c): What changes, if any, will you make to your agency plan going forward?
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Plan Question 6(a): What accommodations and support services have been identified in your plan so that children with disabilities and special needs can participate in age or developmentally appropriate activities?

Report Question 6(b): Report how you successfully put accommodations and support services in place so that children with disabilities and special needs can participate in age or developmentally appropriate activities and please provide a few examples:
Report Question 6(c): What changes, if any, will you make to your agency plan going forward?

Requirement 7: The individualized needs of all children involved in the system
Plan Question 7(a): What is your agency's plan to ensure that the individualized needs of all children at your agency are being met?
Report Question 7(b): Report how you successfully met the individualized needs of the children at your agency and provide a few examples:
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Requirement 8: Efforts to reduce the disproportionate impact of the system and services on families and children of color and other populations
Plan Question 8(a): What is your agency's plan to reduce the disproportionate impact of the system and services on families and children of color and other populations?

Report Question 8(b): Report how you successfully have reduced the disproportionate impact of the system and services on families and children of color and other populations and provide a few examples:
Report Question 8(c): What changes, if any, will you make to your agency plan going forward?

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Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services Nebraska Strengthening Families Act Normalcy Plan and Report

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Report Question 8(b): Report how you successfully have reduced the disproportionate impact of the system and services on families and children of color and other populations and provide a few examples:				
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Report Question 9(c): What changes, if any, will you make to your agency plan going forward?				
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Plan Question 1(a): What is your agency's plan to address barriers to normalcy?	
Follow the Normalcy plan that has been established.	
Report Question 1(b): Report how you successfully addressed barriers to normalcy at your ager examples:	ncy and provide a few
The program at WICS Residence is a structured program that maintain a focus of consistency and Every client is informed and familiarized with the structure and behavioral goals, plus we include for every client. The expectations and consequences are clarified for each client to help them acconditional individual resident program.	at least 3 individual goals

Report Question 1(c): What changes, if any, will you make to your agency plan going forward?		
We modify our programming when it is necessary.		
Requirement 2: Normalcy efforts for all children placed at the child-care institution, including, but not limited to, relationships with family, age or developmentally appropriate access to technology and technological skills, education and school stability, access to health care and information, and access to a sustainable and durable routine		
Plan Question 2(a): What is your agency's plan for making normalcy efforts for all children placed at your agency, to address the items in requirement 2?		
Education is the paramount component to our program. Residents are all required to attend school or work daily. Each resident has a daily program. They have access to have medical appointments. They have access to their chrome books for school work.		

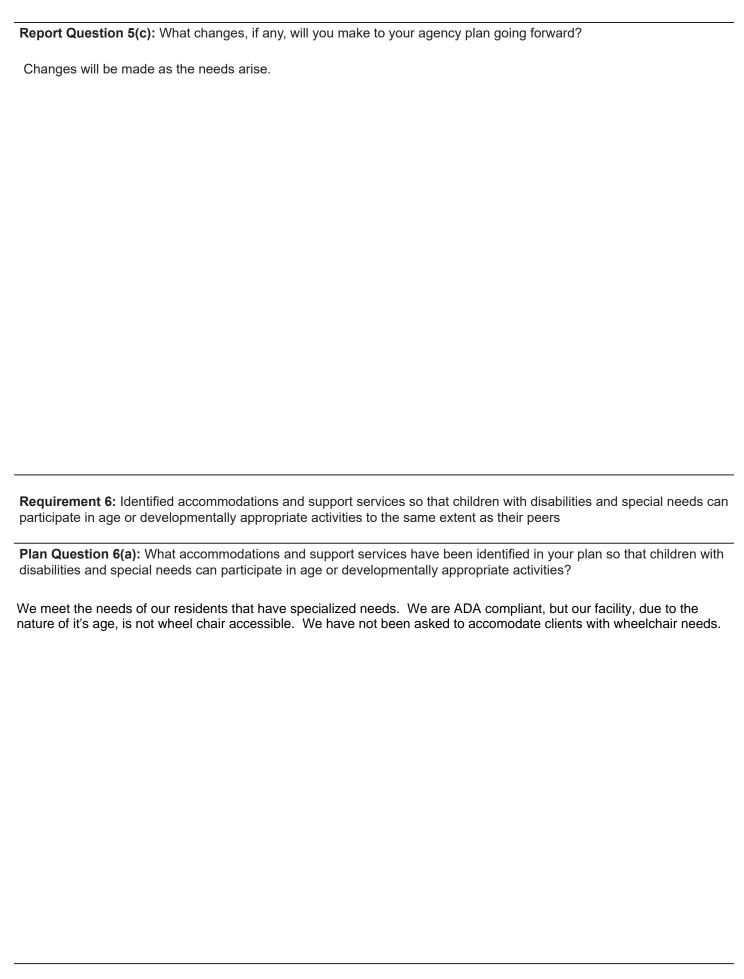
Report Question 2(b): Report how you successfully made normalcy efforts for all children at your agency and provide a few examples:		
Each resident has an individualized plan.		
Report Question 2(c): What changes, if any, will you make to your agency plan going forward?		
We will address any changes necessary as the need arises.		

Requirement 3: Procedures for developing goals and action steps in the child-care institution's case plan and case planning process related to participation in age or developmentally appropriate activities for each child placed at the child-care institution		
Plan Question 3(a): What is your agency's procedure for developing goals and action steps in the case plan and case planning process, to address requirement 3?		
Each resident has an individualized plan and their goals are established with their team and reviewed monthly (at a minimum).		
Report Question 3(b): Report how you successfully developed procedures for goals and action steps related to the ages and developmental activities for the children at the agency and please provide a few examples:		
Each residents goals are established and reviewed monthly in team meetings, and more frequently in staff meetings. Clients are expected to follow and are scored daily to follow at least 20 uniform behavioral goals, and up to 3 personal goals which are assigned to each client weekly, based on issues they may personally be struggling with. Each client knows their personal goals, and it helps each individual become accountable.		

Report Question 3(c): What changes, if any, will you make to your agency plan going forward?		
Changes will be made in the program as the need arises.		
Requirement 4: Policies on staffing, supervision, permission, and consent to age or developmentally appropriate activities consistent with the reasonable and prudent parent standard		
Plan Question 4(a): What is your agency's plan for handling policies on staffing, supervision, and giving permission and consent to age or developmentally appropriate activities?		
Due to the nature of placement of our programming there is 24 hour supervision. We follow the prudent parent standard with each resident on an individual basis.		

Report Question 4(b): Report how you successfully implemented policies on staffing, supervision, and giving permission and consent to age or developmentally appropriate activities and please provide a few examples:		
We follow Prudent Parenting standards in each individualized client planning. team to determine individual needs and goals as needed with each client.	We work with staff and other members of the	
Report Question 4(c): What changes, if any, will you make to your agency's p	olan going forward?	
Changes will be made in the program as the need arises.		

Requirement 5: A list of activities that the child-care institution provides onsite and a list of activities in the community regarding which the child-care institution will make children aware, promote, and support access	
Plan Question 5(a): What is your agency's plan for gathering a list of activities both onsite and in the community?	
We are normally involved in many community activities. While many activities have been cancelled due to the ongoing issues with the pandemic, we are slowly resuming participation in activities available, and determined to be safe for the clients, and our community.	
Report Question 5(b): Report how you successfully created a list of activities for onsite and the community and provide a few examples of these activities:	
We are involved in community activities as they arise such as Lied Center events, Jazz in June, Girl Scouts come in for weekly meetings, Stransky Park Concerts, weekly recreational activities in the community, local and national sporting events, Community art activities, tours of all colleges and universities in this area, both zoos, speakers, State games, community volunteering and many others.	



Report Question 6(b): Report how you successfully put accommodations and support services in place so that children with disabilities and special needs can participate in age or developmentally appropriate activities and please provide a few examples:
We work on an individualized basis and accommodate specialized needs on accordingly. This includes working with school administration for any individual behavioral / educational required by the client or working with individual therapists for specific coping skills that may be successfully implemented within the group living environment.
Report Question 6(c): What changes, if any, will you make to your agency plan going forward?
Changes will be made when they arise in the program.

Requirement 7: The individualized needs of all children involved in the system	
Plan Question 7(a): What is your agency's plan to ensure that the individualized needs of all children at your agency are being met?	
Each resident has an individualized plan and goals. Goals are established and reviewed in monthly team meetings with all team members. Team members may include: Case Manager, Probation Officer or DHHS Case Worker, Guardian Ad Litem, CASA Worker, Therapist, Parent or Legal Guardian, Attorney.	
Report Question 7(b): Report how you successfully met the individualized needs of the children at your agency and provide a few examples:	
We review and implement during monthly team meetings their individualized goals. i.e.: some clients attend weekly counseling sessions some, more often, or different sessions such as IOP, OP or MRT sessions. It is always based on individual needs of each client.	

Report Question 7(c): What changes, if any, will you make to your agency plan going forward?		
Changes will be made when they arise in the program.		
Requirement 8: Efforts to reduce the disproportionate impact of the system and services on families and children of color and other populations		
Plan Question 8(a): What is your agency's plan to reduce the disproportionate impact of the system and services on families and children of color and other populations?		
We have a very diverse staff and strive to maintain this diversity.		

Report Question 8(b): Report how you successfully have reduced the disproportionate impact of the system and services on families and children of color and other populations and provide a few examples:
Our clientele are multi-national, and multi-cultural in nature. We work diligently teaching respect for, and learning about the different cultures in Social Groups, and have even invited client families to come in and prepare cultural dishes for all to share and experience. We engage our residents in diversity activities in the community regularly.
Report Question 8(c): What changes, if any, will you make to your agency plan going forward?
We make changes as the needs arise to our program.

Requirement 9: Efforts to develop a youth board to assist in implementing the reasonable and prudent parent standard in the child-care institution and promoting and supporting normalcy		
Plan Question 9(a): What is your agency's plan to put forth an effort in developing a youth board to assist in implementing the reasonable and prudent parent standard and promoting/supporting normalcy?		
Our Case Manager / Supervisor meets with out residents regularly for group discussions.		
Report Question 9(b): Report how your agency has successfully put forth the effort to develop a youth board that		
assists in implementing the reasonable and prudent parent standard to promote/support normalcy and please provide a few examples:		
Our staff is trained in "reasonable and prudent parenting" aspects, and this reflects in modeling appropriate treatment/behavior to our clients. With the Therapy Liaison aspect, the girls gain skills that help modeling those same skills within their peer group itself. The Therapy Liason attends regular staff meetings, and reports client/peer issues, so that we can better address circumstances that improve staff development in working with an ever-changing population.		

Report Question 9(c): What changes, if any, will you make to your agency plan going forward?		
We make changes as the needs arise to our program.		
Electronic Signature of Person Completing Form:		
Tauni Waddington	4/17/2023	



Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services Nebraska Strengthening Families Act Normalcy Plan and Report

Reference: Nebraska Revised Statute 43-4706 https://nebraskalegislature.gov/laws/statutes.php?statute=43-4706 Normalcy Plan due within 30 days of sub award being signed and Normalcy Report due April 30 annually (send to your agency's contract monitor). * If no subaward with Nebraska DHHS, Normalcy Plan due October 31 and Normalcy Report due April 30 annually. Agency Name: Reporting Person, Title: Email contact: Date of Report: Reporting Year: General Instructions: Please use this template to: 1) Answer Normalcy Plan questions first. 2) Answer Normalcy Report questions when due, using the same copy that includes your Normalcy Plan answers. *If more room is needed for answers, please use a separate sheet of paper. Form continued next page

Requirement 1: Efforts to address barriers to normalcy that are inherent in a child-care institution setting
Plan Question 1(a): What is your agency's plan to address barriers to normalcy?
Report Question 1(b): Report how you successfully addressed barriers to normalcy at your agency and provide a few examples:

Report Question 1(c): What changes, if any, will you make to your agency plan going forward?
Requirement 2: Normalcy efforts for all children placed at the child-care institution, including, but not limited to, relationships with family, age or developmentally appropriate access to technology and technological skills, education and school stability, access to health care and information, and access to a sustainable and durable routine
Plan Question 2(a): What is your agency's plan for making normalcy efforts for all children placed at your agency, to address the items in requirement 2?

Report Question 2(b): Report how you successfully made normalcy efforts for all children at your agency and provide a few examples:
Report Question 2(c): What changes, if any, will you make to your agency plan going forward?
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Requirement 3: Procedures for developing goals and action steps in the child-care institution's case plan and case planning process related to participation in age or developmentally appropriate activities for each child placed at the child-care institution
Plan Question 3(a): What is your agency's procedure for developing goals and action steps in the case plan and case planning process, to address requirement 3?
Report Question 3(b): Report how you successfully developed procedures for goals and action steps related to the ages and developmental activities for the children at the agency and please provide a few examples:

Report Question 3(c): What changes, if any, will you make to your agency plan going forward?
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Requirement 6: Identified accommodations and support services so that children with disabilities and special needs can participate in age or developmentally appropriate activities to the same extent as their peers
Plan Question 6(a): What accommodations and support services have been identified in your plan so that children with disabilities and special needs can participate in age or developmentally appropriate activities?
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Electronic Signature of Person Completing Form:	Date of Electronic Signature:



Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services Nebraska Strengthening Families Act Normalcy Plan and Report

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