



Service Array Program Statement

Through a range of grants and contracts with community based service providers, the Service Array Programs provides a wide variety of services for children and families including assessment, early intervention, family support, youth development, and residential services. While each individual program may serve a unique function, in combination these services aim to ensure the safety, permanency and well-being of children, enhance the protective capacities of caregivers, and strengthen families.



Child Advocacy Centers (CAC's) provide services to child victims of alleged sexual and severe physical abuse. The centers use a multidisciplinary team approach where forensic investigations are conducted in a protective, safe, child friendly environment during a single visit.

The Infant Learning Program (ILP) is dedicated to supporting families and children from birth to age three with or at risk of developing developmental delays or other health conditions. With recognition of the published evidence that children who suffer abuse and neglect are at extraordinary risk for developmental delay, ILP works closely with child protection workers in the implementation of the Child Abuse Protection and Treatment Act (CAPTA), which requires all children under age three who experience maltreatment to receive a referral to ILP where family support, therapy services and other critical linkages are provided to assist families in meeting their goals and support the optimal development of their children.

Family Support services are provided to families with children when there have been allegations or concerns of child abuse or neglect that do not meet the safety threshold to require an OCS intervention. Referrals are made when OCS does not have an open case and families need support to meet basic needs and crisis stabilization assistance to prevent future risks to their children. Families can also be referred by schools or early education programs, medical services, other community agencies, or clients may request services on their own.

Family Preservation services provide in-home support and rehabilitation services for families identified as having high risk of future maltreatment. Referrals are made by OCS workers or families who have an in-home case open. OCS staff and the community agency work as a team with the families to determine the best approach to resolving problems and ensuring child safety.

Time Limited Family Reunification services help assist family and child functioning, decrease repeat maltreatment, and reduce the need for out-of-home care. OCS workers make referrals to Time Limited Family Reunification Services when it is determined through



the Safety Assessment process that current family circumstances are not safe for the child at home, and out-of-home placement is necessary. Services to families may include supervised family contact, service coordination, skill development, and transportation.

Rural Social Services programs work to help families in rural areas when the Initial Assessment process identifies safety threats or children are at risk of future maltreatment. Rural Social Services incorporates the same service and goal as the Family Preservation and Time Limited Family Reunification and provides services to help families resolve problems and ensure child safety.

The Family Contact Service Center's goal is to enhance the child-parent relationship and support reunification in a safe, supervised environment. The center provides visitation and transportation services to families with children in out-of-home care. The service is only available in Anchorage at this time.

The Independent Living Program works to develop the skills young people in foster care need for self-sufficiency in adulthood. The program provides active planning, support, skill development and financial assistance for youth in foster care age 16½ and older and for qualified young adult alumni of foster care.

Emergency/Crisis Shelters provide 24-hour care to vulnerable children in need of emergency placement. When a child arrives at the shelter, shelter staff make a preliminary assessment of the child's needs and work with the child, parents and others when appropriate to stabilize the crisis.

Residential Care for Children provides therapeutic interventions for youth who have severe complex behavioral needs. Treatment services are provided in facilities located in a variety of environments from small homes in residential neighborhoods to larger treatment facilities.

Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) grants with tribes and tribal organization assist OCS in improving compliance with the ICWA. The purpose of the grants is to increase the number of state licensed Alaska Native foster and adoptive homes and to provide services necessary to retain and support these homes.

The Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children (ICPC) guides the service delivery for children placed across state lines for foster care or adoption. The Compact is enacted by all 50 states and assigns responsibilities and timelines for those involved in placing the children.

