



## Child Welfare/Foster Care

### **Services for Birth Parents**

- Strengthen existing statutory language related to housing services
- Incorporate evidence based/promising practices into supervised parent-child visitation
- Promote Dependency 101

### **Support to kinship caregivers**

- Maintain/increase the number of Kinship Navigators
- Provide policy direction regarding implementation of the subsidized guardianship option (HR6893)

### **Family and dependency court proceedings**

- Increase accountability with respect to the dependency timeline

### **Legal representation for youth 12 and over in the dependency system**

- Specifics to be determined

### **Education outcomes of youth in foster care**

- Maintain/expand the education advocacy program

### **Services for youth aging out of care**

- Continue to fund IYHP and Foster Care to 21
- Continue to fund Medicaid to 21

### **Child welfare system reform**

- Strengthen partnerships between public and private sectors to best ensure that workload is manageable and services are provided in the best manner possible
- Support recommendations from the RD remediation plan

## Family Support

### **Reduce child/family poverty**

- Establish a WorkFirst Family Wage outcome measure
- Maintain 3% increase included in 2008 budget
- Modify pregnancy to employment statute with respect to sanctioning parents of babies under one year
- Focus on maternal depression among TANF families per WSIPP study
- Ensure that parents are not terminated from Medicaid while citizenship is being verified

## Early Learning

### **Home visitation**

- Maintain/increase funding for effective home visitation programs

### **Child care co-pay/subsidy (phase in over time)**

- Limit co-pays to no more than 10% of a family's gross income
- Change the authorization period from 6 months to 12 months
- Expand the number of paid absences allowed

### **Professional development/QRIS**

- Specifics to be determined

## Counseling/Mental Health

### **Post partum depression**

- Continue funding the Speak Up When You Are Down campaign

### **Children's mental health**

- To be determined

## Adoption

### **Post adoption services for families adopting children out of foster care**

- No specific request in 2009 due to budget