Community-Based Care (CBC) Lead Agency - Summary of New/Modified Duties resulting from 2014 Legislative Session

Chapter 2014-224, Laws of Florida, created section 409.988, Florida Statutes. This section outlines the Lead Agencies’ current duties and adds additional duties. The new duties include:

- Serve all children referred as a result of a report of abuse, neglect, or abandonment to the Department’s central abuse hotline including children subject of verified reports and not verified reports but are at moderate to extremely high risk of abuse, neglect or abandonment regardless of funding allocated
- May also serve children who are at risk of abuse, neglect, or abandonment to prevent entry into child protection or child welfare system
- Provide accurate and timely information necessary for oversight by Department as established in the child welfare results-oriented accountability system
- Follow financial guidelines developed by Department, provide regular independent auditing of financial activities, and provide financial information to the community alliance
- Post current budget for the CBC Lead Agency including the salaries, bonuses, and other compensation paid, by position for the agency’s chief executive, chief financial officer, and chief operating officer or their equivalents on its website
- Prepare all judicial reviews, case plans, and other reports necessary for court hearings (except those related to investigations), submit documents timely to Department’s attorneys, make staff available for preparation for dependency proceedings, and provide testimony and other evidence required for court proceedings
- Subcontracts must specify how the provider will contribute to meeting performance standards established pursuant to the child welfare results-oriented accountability system
- By the 15th of each month, post information regarding case management services including average caseload of filled positions, turnover rate for previous 12 months, percentage of required home visits completed and performance on outcome measures required for the previous 12 months on its website
- Serve dependent children through services that are research based or best child welfare practice; may provide innovative services, including family-centered, cognitive-behavioral, trauma-informed interventions designed to mitigate out-of-home placements