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**STATE OF NEVADA
2004-2005 BIENNIAL BUDGET REQUEST
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES
DIVISION OF CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES**

Budget Account Title:	Children Welfare Integration
Budget Account Number:	3142
Executive Budget Book:	DCFS-11

The Child Welfare Integration budget account was created to administer the funds appropriated by AB1, 17th Special Legislative Session, and will continue to be used to reflect the costs of transferring Child Welfare services to Clark and Washoe Counties, as well as the costs associated with the new wrap-around service model of care for children with SED.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY

AB1, 17th Special Legislative Session

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

With the passage of AB1, 17th Special Legislative Session, Nevada adopted a new integrated child welfare service delivery model. Under this model, case management functions for foster care and adoptions, family preservation, centralized intake, family foster care and emergency care, foster care/group home licensing, eligibility, and foster care recruitment, would transfer from the Division of Child and Family Services to the counties whose population is 100,000 or more. Child welfare services transferring to the counties include:

SPECIALIZED FAMILY AND CHILD ASSESSMENTS: The Children's Resource Bureau (CRB) of the Division assesses nearly all children entering the custody of the Division by district court order as a result of abuse, sexual abuse, or neglect. The Children's Resource Bureau also evaluates juvenile sexual offenders. These specialized assessments assist regional staff in selecting the most appropriate services and placements for children and youths who can no longer live in their own homes. The CRB also assists in assessing the potential for parent-child reunification.

FAMILY PRESERVATION SERVICES: Family preservation services are delivered to families who are at immediate risk of dissolution or of having one or more of the children placed outside of the home. These treatment services are delivered by specially trained staff that is available to the family on a 24-hours/7-days per week basis. The services are delivered in the family home and focus on preventing removal of children.

FOSTER CARE/SUBSTITUTE CARE CASE MANAGEMENT: When a child cannot remain at home, a licensed social worker is assigned by the Division to arrange the necessary care and services for the child. The social worker provides direct counseling to the child, biological parent, and the foster/substitute care provider. The social worker is the accountability and communication link between district court, the child, the biological parent, and the foster/substitute care provider. The speed with which children are reunited with biological parents or placed in a permanent care setting is dependent, in a large part, on the actions of the assigned social worker.

ADOPTION CASE MANAGEMENT: When children cannot be raised by their biological parents, the Division often arranges an adoption to create permanency for the child. Licensed social workers are assigned to evaluate prospective adoptive families and to coordinate the counseling and legal activities that accomplish the adoption process.

Child Welfare Integration (BA 3142)

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Division of Child and Family Services

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SUBCOMMITTEE K-12/HUMAN RESOURCES
DATE: 3-18-03 EXHIBIT C
SUBMITTED BY: DCFS

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