

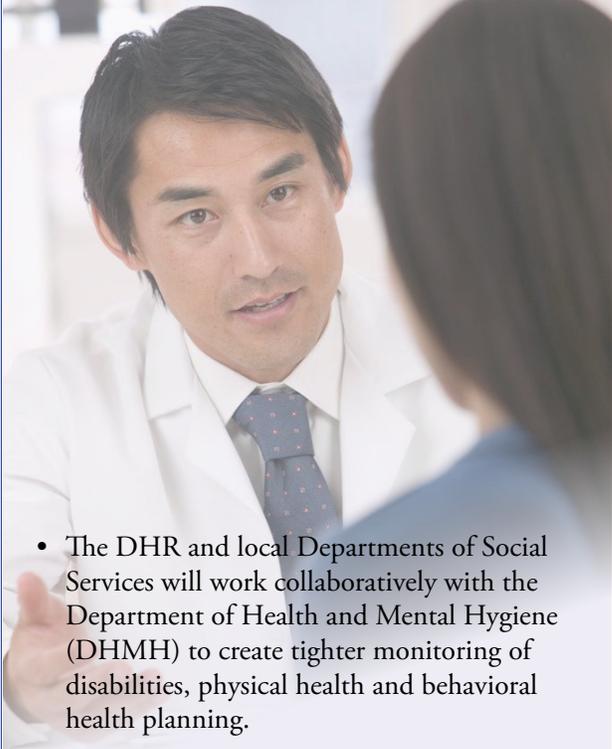
READY BY 21

Health Care



There are several key factors that contribute to helping youth to be on target and Ready by 21 to become strong, contributing members of society. The Department of Human Resources is focusing on five of those factors: **Safe and Stable Housing, Education, Financial Stability, Health Care** and linkages to **Mentors**.

Proposed Strategies:



Goal: Youth will be linked to appropriate services to address physical and behavioral health needs.

Physical health, mental health, and positive development are fundamental to a young person's ability to maintain stable housing, secure a job, and form healthy relationships.

Measurable Outcomes:

- A baseline measurement of the % of youth enrolled in the primary adult care (PAC) program will be established over the next year, and the % of youth with that coverage will increase.
- A baseline measurement of the % of youth engaged in substance abuse and/or mental health services will be established over the next year, and the % of youth receiving those services will increase.
- A baseline measurement of the % of youth served by the Developmental Disabilities Administration will be established over the next year, and the % of youth receiving those services will increase.

Outcomes of former foster youth in their early twenties compared to the general population of young adults

Outcome	Former Foster Youth	All Young Adults
Drug dependence ^a	8%	0.8%
Post-traumatic stress disorder ^a	25%	4%

Source: Midwest Study; a. Northwest Study.

- The DHR and local Departments of Social Services will work collaboratively with the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DHMH) to create tighter monitoring of disabilities, physical health and behavioral health planning.
- The DHR will work collaboratively to improve coordination with the DHMH administrations charged with the oversight and provision of services to citizens with developmental disabilities and behavioral health (substance abuse and mental health) needs, including prioritizing services for youth aging out of foster care.
- The DHR will work collaboratively with the DHMH to explore the continued provision of medical assistance to targeted youth through age 26 years.