



Handout #3
FCRB Program Status Report
State Board Meeting – December 2021

1. Dashboard and Other Data

a. Number of Reviews Conducted

	Number of Youth Reviewed *	Number of Review Slots
FY 2018	2,055	1,364
FY 2019	1,876	1,243
FY 2020	1,867	1,289
FY 2021	1,566	1,093
FY 2022, Q1	383	306

(*) Not a unique number of children as some children have more than one review in a year.

b. IP Participation at Reviews

The Dashboard tracks on overall participation by Interested Parties at the reviews held in a given month. Quarterly reports are generated and provided to DHS SWAs and SAMs and available for ICAB staff.

	DHS			All Other Interested Parties		
	Attendance	Written or Recorded	Total	Attendance	Written or Recorded	Total
FY 2022, Q1	73%	21%	94%	24%	6%	30%

2. LFCRB Rationale Statements

Rationale statements are prepared by local program coordinators for new and reappointed local board members. For the current fiscal year to date, the State Board has reviewed and approved:



- New local board members – 15
- Reappointments – 7

3. Selection of Local Board Members

There has been a request for the state board to discuss whether the board needs to be provided more information about the diversity of each local board when a new application or reappointment is submitted for approval.

- At this time, it would require an additional tracking sheet for coordinators to complete as ICAB does not currently have a report that can be generated to display all members of a board with their demographic information and experience.

a) Background information on the state board's involvement in the approval of local board members:

- In September 2002, the state board delegated to the ICAB staff the responsibility to select, in consultation with the chief judge, five members and two alternate members to serve on each local board.
- In May 2017, a decision was made to add a selection process to Iowa Administrative Code 489—3.2(237) Membership, where rationale statements and documentation are provided to the members of the state board by program coordinators for new and returning local board members.
- In June 2021, members of the state board voted (6-2) for ICAB to include a legislative language change to align the FCRB process with the CASA approval process. At this time the ICAB leadership team is working with Daniel Gough on the wording of the proposed legislative language changes. Attorney Gough indicated that the definition of "state board" in the Iowa Code extends to the ICAB staff. Current language in 237.19, subsection 1, remains applicable, "...The state board shall select five members and two alternates to serve on the local board..."

b) Next steps:

- **Upon approval by members of the state board, FCRB policies for onboarding of new volunteers and reappointments to local boards will be modified to remove submission of rationale statements to members of the state board, effective January 1, 2022.**
- Proposed legislative change recommended by Daniel Gough, 237.19, subsection 1, ".....The members of each local board shall, to the degree reasonably possible, reflect the various racial and ethnic groups and various occupations of their district. ..."
- ICAB staff are working with Five Points to add data and filters to the CAMS Volunteer Directory report. This will allow for a snapshot view of a local board composition. The directory includes name, county, age, gender, race, occupation among other demographics. This will allow for better monitoring of the board composition by local and state staff.

c) ICAB is due for the five-year review of Iowa Administrative Code. This is the time to identify and eliminate rules that are old and inconsistent with our agency and programs.

4. FY22 Program Priorities - Updates

- a) Development of a new FCRB database.
 - A decision was made to add FCRB database needs to the existing system used by ICAB - Child Advocacy Match System (CAMS).
 - The project launched in mid-October with an expected completion date of April 2022.

- b) Proposed Chapter 237 changes.
 - ICAB was notified on 11/10/2021 that the Governor's office signed off on DIA submitting revisions to 237 for bill drafting. The changes have been submitted to the Legislative Services Agency (LSA) for drafting. ICAB staff is working with Legal Counsel Daniel Gough to finalize the draft legislation which has included consultation with DIA and DHS staff.

- c) Paperless Case Files for Local Boards.
 - All local boards have been transitioned to fully paperless processes for case file management. This project is now complete.

- d) Monitor Polk FCRB Pilot.
 - Local coordinator Carrie Phelps and Hoefer held a "check in" meeting with the DHS Service Area Manager, a DHS Social Work Administrator and the local DHS supervisor in October.
 - Overall, while DHS sees some benefits of holding citizen reviews, they question the age or population of the pilot. Parties agreed to continue to review cases of youth with the legal permanency goal of APPLA. In addition, the Department identified about 10 youth who fall in a "gray area" where the likelihood of them going to APPLA at age 16 is high.
 - A request was made by DHS to review the youth identified in the "gray area" to see if there is more benefit to reviewing youth prior to their goal changing to APPLA.
 - Reviews will be held in December for some of the identified youth.

- e) Citizen Review Panel (CRP)
 - The Iowa Child Advocacy Review Panel has been formally established. The panel has 13 members from around the state and they adopted bylaws at the October 2021 meeting.
 - The focus area for this group during the next one to two years is going to be guardian ad litem representation for children with juvenile court cases. CASA and CASA-GAL representation will also be looked at.