

## Who Are We?

The DCYF Oversight Board was created by [HB 1661](#) in 2017 and was fully formed in March 2019. The Oversight Board is an independent body consisting of up to 21 members housed in the Office of the Governor.

The Board exists for the purpose of monitoring and ensuring that DCYF achieves the stated outcomes as intended by the legislation, and to ensure that the department complies with administrative acts, relevant statutes, rules, and policies pertaining to early learning, juvenile rehabilitation, juvenile justice, and child and family services.

## Board Co-chairs

### [Dr. Diane Liebe](#)

Developmental Behavioral  
Pediatrician  
Yakima Valley Farm Workers  
Clinic & Children's Village

### [Senator Claire Wilson](#)

30th Legislative District  
Washington State Senate

## Learn More

<https://dcyfoversight.wa.gov>

# Department of Children, Youth, and Families Oversight Board



## 2025 Annual Legislative Report Summary and Board Overview

### Evolving the Oversight Board's Reporting and Collaboration Approach

- The Annual Report has long been the Oversight Board's primary tool for sharing oversight findings with DCYF leadership, the Governor, the Legislature, and the public.
- This year's report centers on proposed changes to future reporting practices, pending a minor statutory update, and introduces the "Oversight Board 2.0" approach to better align with statutory intent, adapt to agency needs, and improve outcome monitoring.
- Oversight Board 2.0 aims to strengthen collaboration with DCYF, including jointly identifying a small set of annual outcome priorities.

### High-Level Takeaways

DCYF achieved improvements for:

- Increasing the available supply of licensed childcare in childcare centers and family homes, including providers not receiving subsidies

Improvements are needed for:

- Increasing the number and proportion of children kindergarten-ready as measured by the Washington kindergarten inventory of developing skills (WaKIDS) assessment

Mixed findings were detected for:

- Developing strategies to show foster parents and kinship care families that their service and involvement are valued by DCYF

No change was detected for:

- Reducing the discharge of youth from institutional settings (i.e., foster care, juvenile rehabilitation, and residential behavioral health) into homelessness

*For a detailed breakdown of outcomes, including background information, data, and recommendations, see the full Annual Report [here](#).*

### Summary and Next Steps for the DCYF Oversight Board

- Data for many indicators were not available in time for this report, which hindered a full assessment of DCYF's performance. Available outcomes show both successes and areas needing improvement.
- In 2026, the Oversight Board plans to significantly change the Annual Report to provide a more focused, impactful, and topic-driven assessment of the agency's work.
- The Board remains committed to monitoring performance as required by [RCW 43.216.015](#), and pursuing collaboration, innovation, and better outcomes for children, youth, and families statewide.

## Staff

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