



Mike Braun, Governor | Jennifer Dorfmeier, Director

INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF CHILD SERVICES

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DCS to receive grant from ACF to advance the use of predictive risk modeling tools

INDIANAPOLIS (Aug. 17, 2026) – The [Administration for Children and Families](#) (ACF) at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services has chosen the Indiana Department of Child Services (DCS) as one of 10 child welfare jurisdictions to receive roughly \$600,000 in grant money.

The one-time grant supports ACF’s directive to expand the state’s use of technology solutions, including predictive analytics, aimed at helping caseworkers make faster, more informed decisions to protect Hoosier children and families.

“DCS is always looking for new and innovative ways to ensure Indiana children and families are safe and supported,” DCS Director Jennifer Dorfmeier said. “Family case managers are tasked with making incredibly hard decisions every day. This grant will support caseworkers by giving them the tools and information to make quicker, more data-informed decisions to assess a family’s needs, provide necessary resources to help them thrive and, most importantly, keep children safe.”

The one-time grant will support DCS in the following ways:

- Developing and implementing predictive risk models tailored to local data and needs.
- Training staff on responsible use of predictive analytics tools.
- Establishing governance structures and quality assurance processes.
- Engaging communities and stakeholders in implementation.
- Evaluating outcomes and share lessons learned from the field.

The grant award also supports ACF’s [A Home for Every Child](#) – an initiative that aims to improve the ratio of foster homes to children in need of care and keeping children with

their family when it's safe to do so. Indiana joined A Home for Every Child in May of this year.

As the grant's three-year pilot project begins on Sept. 30, DCS looks forward to working with ACF to start implementing this new technology and being a pioneer in child welfare best practices.