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State of Wisconsin
Department of Health and Family Services

June 5, 2007

To: Interested Parties

From: John Tuohy, Office of Program Evaluation and Planning

Re: **Out-of-Home Care Caseload Statistics**

Attached are out-of-home care (OHC) caseload statistics for Wisconsin for the calendar year 2006. The caseload counts reflect the year-end (December 31) caseload as reported in eWiSACWIS. The caseload counts include both placement of children in licensed Foster Care (family foster care, treatment foster care, group homes and residential care centers) and Court-Ordered placements with relatives under the Kinship Care program. The OHC caseload counts include children placed for both child protective service and juvenile justice purposes, but the counts do not include placements of children in secure detention or juvenile correctional facilities.

2006 Caseload by County

The attached chart shows the 2006 year-end OHC caseload by county, including Foster Care and Court-Ordered Kinship Care counts. The Court-Ordered Kinship Care population represents 20% of the total OHC caseload. The counts include children served by the Bureau of Milwaukee Child Welfare (BMCW) and pre-adoptive children in out-of-home care under the guardianship of the Special Needs Adoption Program (SNAP).

Change in caseload: The 2006 OHC caseload statistics illustrate an overall 6.1% decrease in statewide placements compared with 2005. This decrease occurred primarily in Foster Care placements with a lesser decrease in Court-Ordered Kinship Care placements.

	12/31/2005	12/31/2006	Change	% Change
Foster Care	6,128	5,692	-436	-7.1%
Court-Ordered Kinship Care	1,496	1,469	-27	-1.8%
Total	7,624	7,161	-463	-6.1%

State share of caseload: In 2006, the BMCW accounted for 35% of the statewide OHC caseload, with 31% of the Foster Care population and 52% of the Court-Ordered Kinship Care population. Pre-adoptive children under guardianship of the SNAP accounted for 4.1% of the statewide OHC caseload.

Caseload Trends

Statewide the number of OHC placements decreased in 2006. The BMCW OHC placements declined 11.1% in 2006. The balance of state showed a 2.1% decrease in OHC placements.

	State Total	Balance of State	BMCW	State Adoption Program
12/31/2005	7,624	4,438	2,835	351
12/31/2006	7,161	4,343	2,521	297
Numerical Change	-463	-95	-314	-54
Percentage Change	-6.1%	-2.1%	-11.1%	-15.3%

Caseload Trends, continued

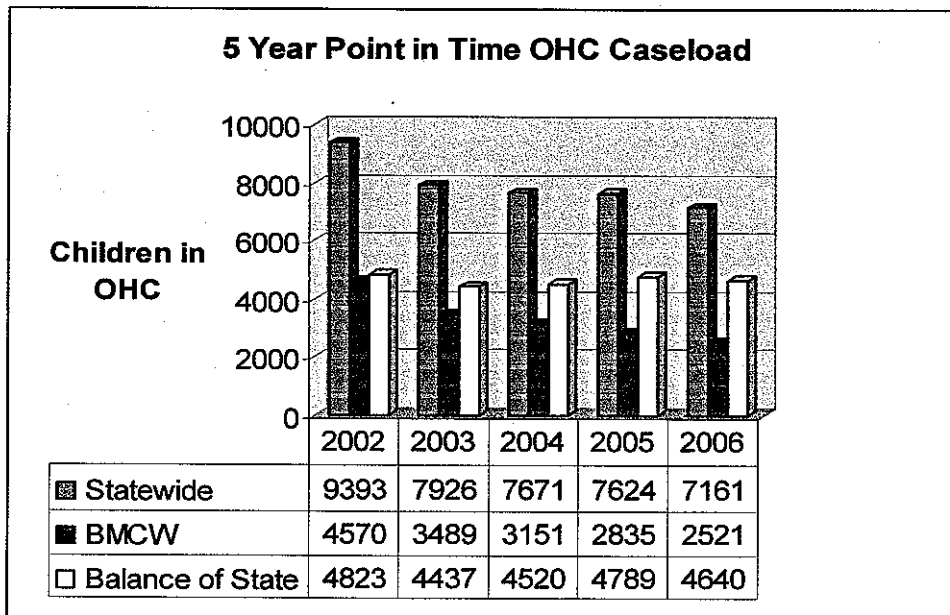
Across the state, individual county caseloads fluctuate from year to year. Several counties showed significant decreases in their OHC placements during CY 2006:

County	2005 caseload count	2006 caseload count	Decrease
Barron	79	62	22%
Brown	298	267	10%
Door	32	16	50%
Rock	241	190	21%
Sheboygan	117	99	15%
Washington	60	46	23%

Several counties showed significant increases in their OHC placements during CY 2006:

County	2005 caseload count	2006 caseload count	Increase
Crawford	13	24	84%
Eau Claire	162	189	16%
Jackson	17	27	59%
La Crosse	159	173	9%
Ozaukee	16	30	87%
Walworth	61	77	26%
Winnebago	189	205	8%

The five-year trend of OHC caseload counts continue to show a steady decrease in out of home care placements. However, a majority of the statewide decline can be attributed to the significant decrease in out-of-home care placements in the BMCW over the past five years.



Additional Information

For questions regarding the caseload information, please contact David Sorenson in the Office of Program Evaluation and Planning by telephone at 608-261-8896 or via email at sorendm@dhfs.state.wi.us.

OHC caseload counts by county for CYs 1999 – 2006 are available on the Department of Health and Family Services web site at: <http://dhfs.wisconsin.gov/cwreview/reports/OOHC.htm>