

Continuum of Child Welfare: A Selective Time Line

1911	1912	1935	1962	1963	1967	1974	1974	1974	1975	1978	1980
First mother's pension law, Missouri, allowed counties to provide funds to poor mothers to care for children at home. By 1932 all but 3 states had passed similar laws.	Creation of Children's Bureau established by Congress to investigate and report the welfare of children. Now a subdivision of the Federal Department of Health and Human Services, the Bureau oversees the administration of federally funded foster care, adoption, and prevention programs.	Social Security Act, marked the beginning of federal income support program for poor families with children. Title IV-A established Aid to Dependent Children (now Aid to Families with Dependent Children), which replaced state mothers pensions with a combination of federal, state and local funds. Title V established Child Welfare Services designed to help state and local agencies with preventative and protective services for children including	Social Security Amendments established the Aid to Families with Dependent Children-Foster Care Program (AFDC-FC) on a temporary basis for children removed from unstable homes and placed with foster families.	Public Welfare Amendments to the Social Security Act, made the AFDC-FC program and expanded eligibility to cover children placed in private child care institutions.	Social Security Amendments moved the Child Welfare Services Program to Title IV of the Social Security Act and Doubled the Program's authorized funding level Required states to establish AFDC-FC programs, increase federal match for foster care benefits, broadened eligibility for the program and make permanent coverage of children in child care institutions.	Social Services Amendment established under Title XX of the Social Services Act, a program grants to states for social services directed at goals which include preventing or remedying abuse and neglect, preserving families, and preventing or reducing inappropriate institutional care by providing for community or home based care. The Title XX program was a block grant in 1981.	Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act, provides federal funds for alternatives to incarceration for juvenile delinquents, discourages the institutionalization of status offenders and provides grants for the development of community-based programs for runaway youth.	Child Abuse & Neglect Prevention and Treatment Act Assists states and other bodies to develop programs to identify and prevent abuse and to provide ameliorative services.	PL 94-142: Education for All Handicapped Children Act, encourages a free appropriate public education in the least restrictive setting possible for handicapped children, many of whom would normally be placed institutions.	Indian Child Welfare Act, in creases Indian Tribes control over the foster placement and adoption of Indian children. Attempts to encourage alternatives to unnecessary placement through limited funding of social services for Indian children and families.	PL 96-272 Adoption Assistance and Child Welfare Act, provides incentive funds that require states to institute practices and programs to prevent unnecessary placement. Continues Federal payment for the foster maintenance of poor children and offers adoption subsidies for children with special needs. This law required that reasonable efforts be applied to each case to prevent or eliminate the need for removal of children from their homes.