



Presentation to the Select Committee on Child Protection

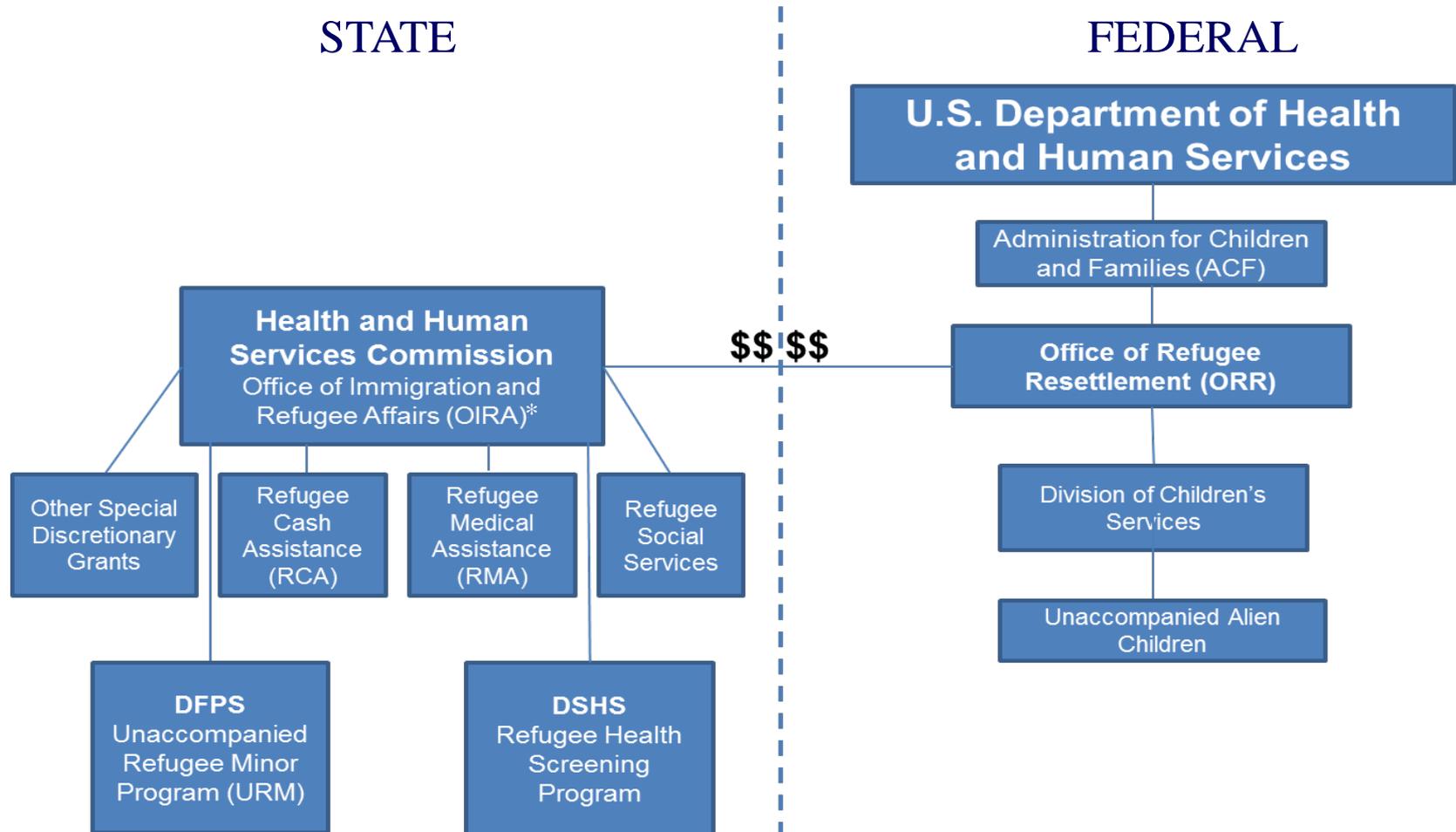
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Organizational Chart



*Program eligibility requires lawful immigration status.

OIRA Overview

- The Health and Human Services Commission's (HHSC) Office of Immigration and Refugee Affairs (OIRA) serves as the single point of contact for coordination of refugee services for the federal Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR).
- Although the federal ORR is involved in assisting the current influx of Unaccompanied Alien Children (UAC), the state program OIRA is not involved with this population, as these children are not considered refugees and do not have a lawful immigration status.
- OIRA assists lawfully present, program eligible participants in becoming self-sufficient as soon as possible after their arrival in the United States.

OIRA Participants

- OIRA program eligibility is limited to individuals who have received the following federally designated statuses:
 - Refugees;
 - Asylees;
 - Entrants and parolees from Cuba and Haiti;
 - Special Immigrant visa holders from Iraq and Afghanistan;
 - Certified international victims of trafficking and unaccompanied international children with a federally issued eligibility or certification letter;
 - Children with Special Immigrant Juvenile Status; and
 - U status recipients.

OIRA Programs

- OIRA is 100% federally funded, and its programs are defined by the federal ORR.
- OIRA provides services to eligible refugees to supplement and enhance initial refugee resettlement and placement in Texas through six main program components, specifically:
 - Refugee Cash Assistance (RCA);
 - Refugee Medical Assistance (RMA);
 - Refugee Social Services (RSS);
 - Special Discretionary Grants;
 - the Unaccompanied Refugee Minors Program (URM); and
 - the Refugee Health Screening Program.

Influx of Illegal Border Crossings

- Individuals intercepted at our border for not having legal status to be in the U.S. fall into three major categories:
 - **Adults with no children**
 - Required to be deported
 - **Adults with children**
 - Released with notice to appear before a court
 - **Unaccompanied Alien Children (UACs)**
 - Transferred from Border Patrol to the custody and care of federal ORR and placed in a shelter or released to family/sponsor

Unaccompanied Alien Children and their Federal Interagency Processing

Unaccompanied Children at the Southwest Border

At the direction of the President, a Unified Coordination Group is leveraging Federal resources to address the humanitarian situation associated with the influx of unaccompanied children entering the U.S. across the southwest border. This chart depicts the general process to enhance capacity resulting from federal coordination.



* Note: This chart only shows interagency process to address the humanitarian situation.

DoD is providing temporary shelter to assist HHS including JB Lackland, NB Ventura County and Ft. Sill.

U.S. Department of Homeland Security

Impacted Programs – DSHS

- **Texas Vaccines for Children (TVFC) Program**
 - Provision of 1,915 doses of flu vaccine for children in ORR custody; DSHS has invoiced the federal contractor, BCFS.
 - Processing of new TVFC provider locations and UAC-specific vaccine orders
- **Communicable Diseases**
 - Availability of a building at the Texas Center for Infectious Disease (TCID) for children in BCFS/ORR custody with communicable diseases of public health significance
 - Surveillance activities and communication with federal agencies about communicable disease incidence
- **Regional and Local Health Services**
 - Implementation of an Incident Command Structure
 - Provision of a mortuary trailer to the City of Laredo for contingency purposes.
 - Provision of Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) and training to Texas Game Wardens and Texas Military Forces
- **DSHS Laboratory**
 - Testing of specimens for infectious disease

Impacted Programs – DFPS

- Residential Child Care Licensing (RCCL)
 - Consistent with federal law, ORR places UACs through a network of state-licensed, ORR-funded providers, as well as placing UACs in federally operated facilities if no licensed capacity is available.
 - ORR contracted facilities are subject to state child care licensing laws and must be licensed by DFPS Residential Child Care Licensing (RCCL) program.
 - If there is an abuse/neglect allegation at a licensed ORR contracted facility, DFPS RCCL will investigate.
 - If the facility is federally operated, it is outside jurisdiction of DFPS RCCL Program.
 - During the influx, DFPS expanded licensed capacity for currently licensed residential providers through variance requests.
- Child Protective Services (CPS)
 - If a UAC is placed with a relative or a sponsor family here in Texas, any subsequent allegations of abuse and/or neglect would officially be within the jurisdiction of CPS.