



**DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN,
YOUTH, AND FAMILIES**

DCYF Modernization Update

March 9, 2026

System Modernization Update

To ensure Minnesota's children and adults have access to the resources they need to thrive, we are building a modern, connected technology ecosystem with new tools to handle intake, workflow, and eligibility decision support. Together, these systems will reduce manual work, improve data quality and accuracy, and enable faster, compliant eligibility decisions — so services can be delivered with dignity and care.

Using an iterative and human-centered approach, we will engage our partners and rebuild confidence in our systems. We will prioritize steady, visible improvements that reduce processing time and better support workers in the near term, while intentionally laying the foundation for more connected, sustainable systems in the future.

Our North Star: A long-term vision for system modernization

Aligning DCYF modernization to the whole family approach

DCYF recognizes families come to us as complete units and we must work together more intentionally to provide services.



Technology that connects

Integrated systems help **families access the right services** without repeating their story.

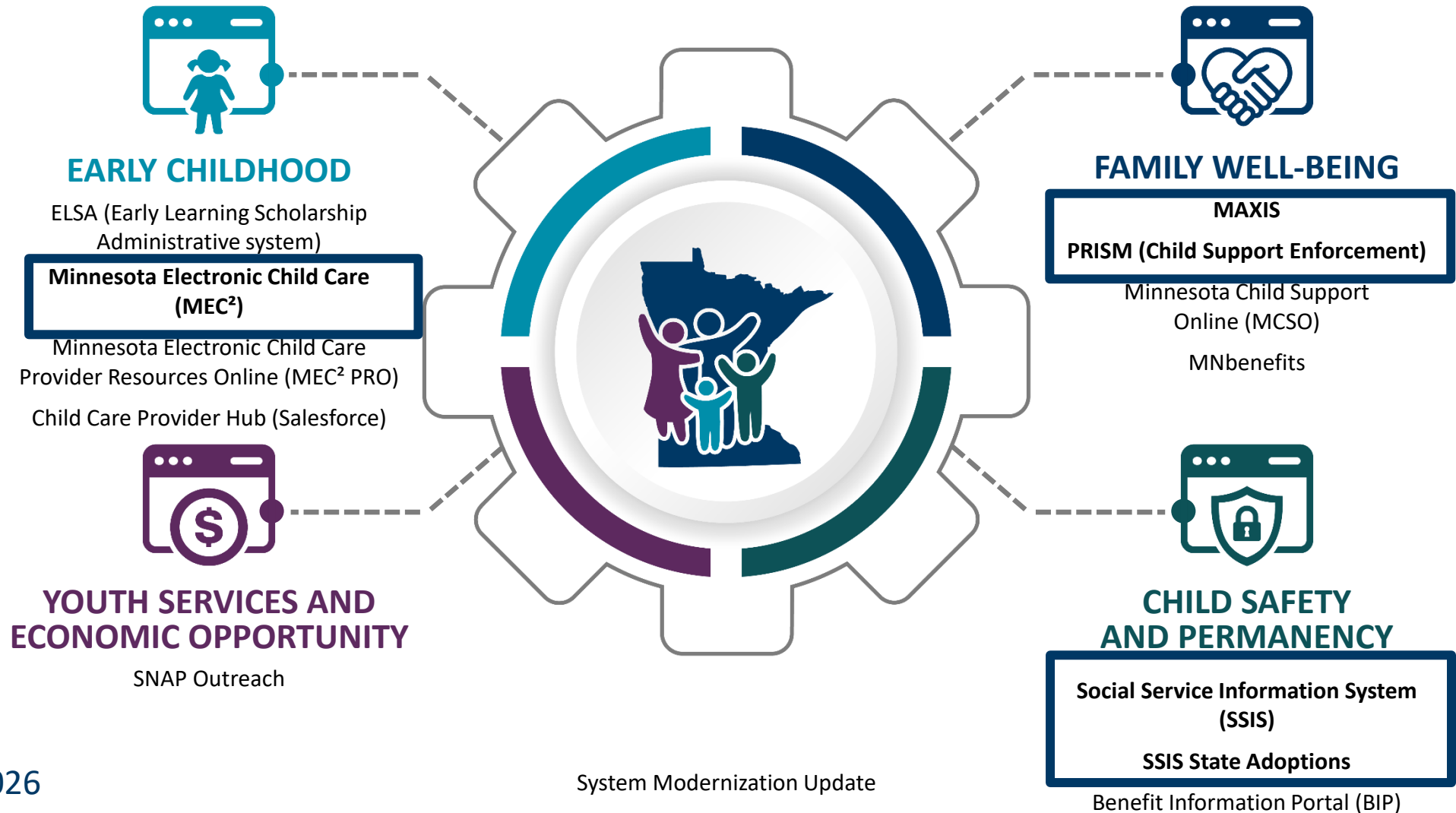
Operations that align

Shared processes make **service delivery consistent** no matter where or how families engage.

Policies that reflect real needs

Guidance is **shaped by lived experiences**, ensuring services are inclusive and relevant.

Technology That Helps Minnesota's Children & Families



DCYF Appropriations

Year	Description	State Appropriation
2023	Integrated Services for Children and Families (CF-41)	\$36,915,000
2024	SSIS Modernization	\$9,657,000
2025	Child Welfare IT Modernization	\$35,000,000

Social Service Information System (SSIS)

SSIS is a system that supports data entry, tracking, reporting, and fiscal claiming across child and adult social services programs.

- **Relevant Appropriations: Integrated Services for Children and Families (2023)**
 - **SSIS Reviews (\$2 million)**
 - **Project status:** Completed paperwork reduction review, implemented Time Entry Transformation project, and reviewed current system for performance improvement opportunities
 - **Funding status:** Fully allocated
 - **Support Compliance with Federal Child Welfare Regulations (\$5.7 million)**
 - **Project status:** This item consists of staffing for DCYF and MNIT.
 - **Funding status:** Fully allocated

County Partners are Responding

Comments on Time Entry Modernization

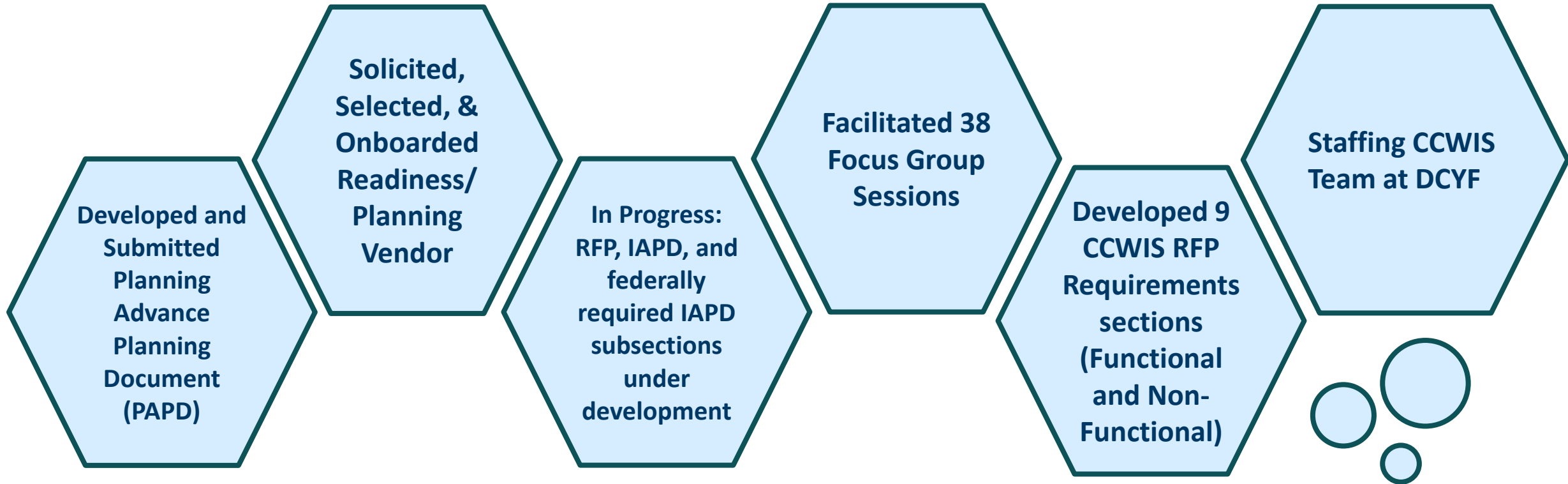
Modernization efforts are netting positive results!

“I’ve loved having a web-based version, and it has already started to save time in my day,”

“This work succeeded because we built it together—with counties, with partners, and with the people who use the system every day,”



Child Welfare Modernization Planning and Readiness Activities – Since July 1, 2025



Child Welfare System Modernization Scope

Child Welfare Programs

- Child Protection
- Child Welfare
- Parent Support Outreach Program
- Adolescent Services
- Minor Parents
- Adoption & Kinship
- Children's Mental Health (child foster care)
- Developmental Disabilities (child foster care)

Functionality Supporting

- Continuum of services - Intake, Screening, Assessment, Case Management, Permanency
- IVE program eligibility (MAXIS interface)
- IVE and IVB federal claims (\$89M annually)
- Federal & state data reporting
- Federal IVE and IVB Fiscal reporting
- Interfaces for CCWIS compliance: Medicaid, Courts, Education, Interstate compact for the Placement of Children

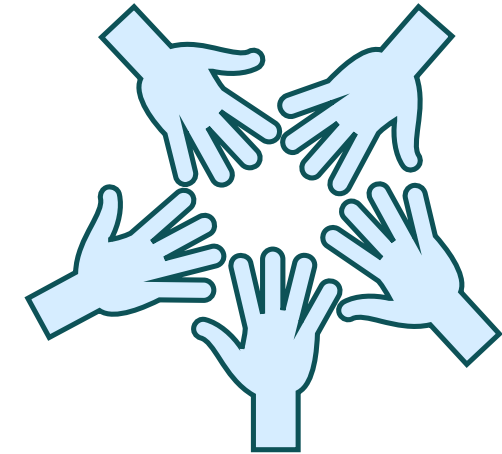
Next Steps



Finalize RFP,
requirements, and
IAPD – submit for
federal review



Data clean-up and
ongoing data
conversion readiness
work



Organizational change
readiness work with
local agencies, and
business processes
evaluation

MAXIS is the eligibility system used for cash and food benefits, as well as some Medicaid cases.

- Relevant Appropriation: Integrated Services for Children and Families (2023)
 - Reduce the MAXIS/MEC2 Backlog (\$2.4 million)
 - **Project status:** a team is in place working to update the system to reduce payment errors, reduce hardship for workers, and improve system reliability
 - **Funding status:** fully allocated
 - MAXIS Notices (\$3.85 million)
 - **Project status:** Encountered technical feasibility issue. A remedy has been identified and some funds from this project will be used in support of that work
 - **Funding status:** Not fully allocated

MAXIS Modernization

While no funding has been appropriated for MAXIS modernization, the state has identified a key first step: an integration layer that can connect MAXIS to modern applications.

Next steps:

- Technical implementation (Spring 2026)
- Pilot launch (late summer 2026)
 - Scope: Secure, automated data transfer of select MNbenefits data into MAXIS to reduce manual entry
 - Note: Ongoing funding is still needed to sustain our work

Providing Resources to Improve Support in Minnesota (PRISM) and Minnesota Child Support Online (MCSO) support the child support program

- Relevant Appropriation: Integrated Services for Children and Families (2023)
 - **PRISM Modernization(\$13.4 million)**
 - **Project status:**
 - Original approach is not technically feasible.
 - Utilized some funds for technical advice on how to proceed.
 - Identified opportunity to build on integration layer planned for MAXIS
 - Revised plan requires federal approval
 - **Funding status:** Not fully allocated, but will be upon approval of revised modernization approach

Summary and Opportunities

- DCYF has identified near-term improvements that align with a long-term strategic vision for modernization
- We are building an ecosystem of solutions that:
 - Fit together to provide a seamless experience for Minnesotans and the workers who administer programs
 - Can be used by multiple programs
- Additional investment is needed
 - Investments require ongoing funding to sustain the work

Thank You