



*Sedgwick County...  
working for you*

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## County Manager's Office

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Russell Leeds, Assistant County Manager

11/16/2022

Kansas Legislature  
State Capitol Building  
300 SW 10<sup>th</sup> Ave  
Topeka, KS 66612

Kansas Legislators,

This memo is sent on behalf of the Board Chair and the Sedgwick County Board of County Commissioners. Attached you will find the final recommendations report approved by the members of the Community Taskforce to Review Youth Corrections Systems Standards following the death of Cedric Lofton.

While we want to ensure you have the opportunity to review all recommendations, we want to emphasize those recommendations which are specific to the Legislature, and those that are applicable to State of Kansas Departments.

**Legislative recommendations from the Taskforce are:**

1. Supporting the passage of HB 2468 and HB 2469 (*2022 session*), which establishes the foster youth and foster parent bill of rights and requires distribution to each foster youth and foster family; ask Sedgwick County to add HB 2468 and HB 2469 to its 2023 Legislative Agenda. (p.5, item 9)
2. Supporting the enactment of SB 12 (*2022 session*), which requires DCF to develop an implementation plan for a set of performance-based contracts to provide an array of evidence-based prevention and early intervention services. (p. 5, item 12)
3. Requesting a Legislative post-audit be conducted to examine the implications of the “Stand Your Ground” laws, particularly as it relates to incidents involving law enforcement. (p. 10, item 6)

The Secretaries of Department of Children and Families (DCF) / Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services (KDADS) and Kansas Department of Corrections (KDOC) and their designated staff members have been continuously engaged since the beginning of the Taskforce's work.

Recommendations being managed primarily by the Department of Children and Families are located on pages 4 and 5 of the Recommendations Report under the heading of Foster Care.

Recommendations being managed primarily by the Kansas Department of Corrections are located on page 10 (item 4 Restorative Justice System) and page 11 (item 12 Crossover Youth Practice model) of the Recommendations Report under the heading of Youth Corrections.

**Dashboard Link:**

In the interest of transparency and accountability a dashboard has been developed which will provide real time status updates on the recommendations approved and published by the Taskforce. On the dashboard, recommendations are arranged in order as they appear in the Taskforce Final report. By clicking on those items which are designated as either “In Progress” or “Implemented,” the viewer will be taken to an “Implemented Community Taskforce Recommendations” page for more information. There is also a link on the dashboard that will take the viewer to the original Community Taskforce page <https://www.sedgwickcounty.org/community-taskforce/> with all documentation of the Taskforce’s work over the course of the many weeks they conducted their listening sessions and developed recommendations.

**Dashboard Link:**

[Community Taskforce Dashboard \(arcgis.com\)](https://www.sedgwickcounty.org/community-taskforce/)

Respectfully,

*Russell Leeds*

Russell Leeds  
Assistant County Manager