

# Information Technology Authorization Committee

## Project Review

September 14, 2016

### Action Item

**Agency:** Arizona Department of Child Safety (DCS)  
**Project Name:** CHILDS Replacement Project  
**Project Number:** CH17002  
**ASET Oversight Manager:** James Dean

As part of the core functions, the Arizona Department of Child Safety (DCS) caseworkers spend time to ensure the safety of children, strengthen families, and achieve permanency. The current system used for case management, federal reporting, and provider management is the Children's Information Library and Data Source, known as CHILDS. CHILDS was originally implemented in 1997, and due to the age, complexity, and inefficiencies, DCS is unable to provide the best support for the caseworkers or the children and families that they serve.

CHILDS is unable to support and drive current and any future DCS business processes, suffers from poor usability due to being an aging mainframe application, and is difficult to search or provides data for analysis in a quick and efficient manner. Additionally, CHILDS does not have a mobility solution, which is critical to ensuring that the data gathered during visits, can be entered on location to increase efficiencies.

DCS is nearing completion of the planning phase of the program, which included the completion of a Feasibility Study, Cost-Benefit Analysis, the Federal Implementation Advanced Planning Document (IAPD), a product and services roadmap, an overarching budget forecast document, and the introduction of an iterative procurement model. The planning phase ensured that the replacement of CHILDS, known as Guardian, will be compliant with the current Federal Administration for Children and Families (ACF), and the Statewide Automated Child Welfare Information System (SACWIS). Additionally, the solution will align with the recently published (June 2016) ACF Comprehensive Child Welfare Information System (CCWIS) regulations.

The information being presented today is the overarching approach of the CHILDS Replacement Program, including projected timelines and costs for each part of the program. Today's presentation is for informational purposes only, as the first technology solution to be implemented is planned for ITAC review in October, 2016. Each subsequent technology implementation, will be presented to ITAC as the project progresses, to be reviewed and approved by the committee.

#### Motion Options:

**None: Informational Item only**