ACF Overview

• The Administration for Children and Families (ACF) is a division of the Department of Health & Human Services. We promote the economic and social well-being of children, families, individuals and communities with leadership and resources for compassionate, effective delivery of human services.

• ACF administers more than 60 programs with a budget of more than $53 billion.

• Programs include: Child Care, Head Start, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, Child Welfare, Child Support Enforcement, and more.
OPRE Overview

• The Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation (OPRE) builds, and disseminates knowledge about effective approaches to helping low-income children and families through rigorous research and evaluation projects including:
  • Evaluations of existing programs and innovative approaches to help low-income children and families
  • Research syntheses
  • Descriptive and exploratory studies
• OPRE also leads performance management and the improvement and use of data.
ACF seeks to promote **rigor**, **relevance**, **transparency**, **independence**, and **ethics** in the conduct of evaluations. ACF’s Evaluation Policy, which was established in 2012, addresses these five key principles to govern ACF’s planning, conduct, and use of evaluation.

**Rigor**: ACF is committed to using rigorous methods to yield accurate findings.

**Relevance**: Our evaluations should address legislative requirements and congressional, federal, state, tribal, and local interests.

**Transparency**: We will make information about planned and ongoing evaluations easily accessible. We will release results regardless of the findings. Reports will present comprehensive results, including favorable, unfavorable, and null findings.

**Independence**: Evaluation should not be biased. To promote objectivity, we protect independence in the design, conduct, and analysis of evaluations.

**Ethics**: ACF-sponsored evaluations will be conducted in an ethical manner and safeguard the dignity, rights, safety, and privacy of participants.
Emily Schmitt
Deputy Director
Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation
Emily.Schmitt@acf.hhs.gov
acf.hhs.gov/opre

We’d love to connect.

Sign-up for the ACF OPRE News E-Newsletter
facebook.com/OPRE.ACF
@OPRE_ACF