

## Congressman Cuellar's Appropriations Language on Detention Centers

### FY 15

1. **Reimbursement language included in the FY2015 Appropriations bill**, Congressman Cuellar worked with Chairman Carter to ensure there was language to address state local governments and law enforcement are eligible for reimbursement due to funds expended to care for UACs.

**Report Language:** Section 572. A new provision is included making costs of providing humanitarian relief to unaccompanied alien children and to alien adults and their minor children an eligible use for certain Homeland Security grants to Southwest border recipients for fiscal years 2013 and 2014. State and local costs to include the costs of personnel, overtime and travel related to enhancing border security are already eligible expenses under the major Homeland Security grant programs; however, costs associated with the immediate care and transportation of UAC and families that were incurred by state and local jurisdictions would otherwise not be eligible. The influx of UAC and families that came across the Southwest border overwhelmed Federal resources and put a burden on state and local jurisdictions, particularly small counties along the border. This created not only a humanitarian crisis but also a greater vulnerability to terrorism and other security risks to our Nation.

**Bill Language:** SEC. 572. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, grants awarded to States along the Southwest Border of the United States under sections 2003 or 2004 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 604 and 605) using funds provided under the heading "Federal Emergency Management Agency, State and Local Programs" in division F of Public Law 113 76 or division D of Public Law 113-6 may be used by recipients or sub-recipients for costs, or reimbursement of costs, related to providing humanitarian relief to unaccompanied alien children and alien adults accompanied by an alien minor where they are encountered after entering the United States, provided that such costs were incurred during the award period of performance.

2. \$94 million for Alternatives to Detention

### FY16

1. Transparency in Family Detention Facilities:

*Report Language: With regard to those family units who are detained, the Committee is concerned by reports that ICE has not provided appropriate food, water, and medical care to families, as well as reports about inappropriate and demeaning treatment of detainees by contract guards at such facilities. Within 15 days of enactment, and monthly thereafter, ICE is directed to update the*

*Committee on family detention oversight activities of the ICE coordinator for family detention policy and the Office of Detention Oversight, including oversight of mechanisms for receiving and resolving complaints and responding to requests for medical care; providing all relevant and required information to detainees related to the removal process and their rights in detention; and for providing appropriate training and oversight for contract detention staff, including oversight related to staff qualifications. These updates shall also include data regarding family units in detention who are removed from the United States directly from detention; detained for longer than 30 days and longer than 60 days; issued a bond that has not been posted; and released on bond, recognizance, and parole, including data on compliance of those released with requirements for immigration court appearances. In addition, the updates should include descriptions and data on requests for medical care and response times; the average and median lengths of stay in family detention; the average, median and range for bond amounts, and improvements made as a result of recommendations by the family detention Advisory Committee or as a result of stakeholder outreach*

2. Reimbursement to States for costs of providing humanitarian relief to UACs

*Report Language: Notwithstanding any other provision of law, grants awarded to States along the Southwest Border of the United States under sections 2003 or 2004 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 604 and 605) using funds provided under the heading ‘Federal Emergency Management Agency, State and Local Programs’ in division F of Public Law 113 76 or division D of Public Law 113–6 may be used by recipients or sub-recipients for costs, or reimbursement of costs, related to providing humanitarian relief to unaccompanied alien children and alien adults accompanied by an alien minor where they are encountered after entering the United States, provided that such costs were incurred between January 1, 2014 and December 31, 2014 or during the award period of performance.*

3. Increase funding for Alternatives to Detention. \$11,608,000 above FY16.

*\$125,883,000*

4. Report on effectiveness of ATD program

*“ICE is directed to provide the Committee a statistical analysis for each type of alien supervision (electronic, GPS, and family case management) and category of enrollee (single adult/head of a family unit) to determine the effectiveness of the program with regards to compliance and removal and to better understand what characteristics uniquely support removal outcomes.”*

5. Increased funding for Criminal Alien Program. \$19,851,000 above FY16.

\$337,028,000

6. 55 new Immigration Judge Teams.

**FY17**

1. Disposition Goals – Detained cases by 60 days and non-detained by 365 days.

*Report Language: Assuring immigration regulation helps optimize strong enforcement.—The Committee is concerned with the pace of hiring and onboarding Immigration Judges funded in fiscal years 2015 and 2016, and expects the Department to accelerate the recruitment, background investigation and placement of IJ teams to areas that have the highest workload. The Committee is alarmed that despite the increased resources provided to EOIR in fiscal years 2015 and 2016, the median days pending for a detained immigration case is 71 days and the median days pending for a non-detained case is 665 days. While the Committee understands that factors outside the control of Immigration Judges can affect case length, these median case times are unacceptable. The Committee directs EOIR to establish a goal that by the end of the fiscal year 2017 the median days pending of detained cases be no longer than 60 days, and the median length for non-detained cases be no longer than 365 days. To monitor the progress in this effort, the Committee directs EOIR to continue to provide monthly reporting on EOIR performance and IJ hiring as specified in the statement accompanying the fiscal year 2016 Omnibus Appropriation Act.*

2. Transparency in ICE Detention Centers:

*Report language: “The Committee is concerned by reports of the separation of some family units after apprehension by CBP. ICE is expected to ensure that individuals being transferred from CBP to ICE custody, in ICE custody, or under ICE supervision have opportunities to report family separation incidents and to verify the status, location, and disposition of family members. ICE should also ensure that field officers are appropriately trained on the requirements of ICE’s Parental Interest Directive and on mechanisms to reunite family units.*

*The Committee has included language under the OIG heading directing updates on its ongoing review of ICE and CBP detention facilities, including unannounced inspections. The Committee notes that ICE is working collaboratively with OCRCL to improve detention facility conditions, standards, inspections, and healthcare services; provide guidance on the use of segregation; improve disability accommodations; and ensure the safety and well-being of*

*vulnerable populations. The Committee expects ICE to continue working with OCRCL to proactively improve detention facility conditions and oversight.*

*Within 30 days of the date of enactment of this Act, and semiannually thereafter, ICE shall provide an update on its oversight of family detention facilities, including recommendations for improvements made by the Advisory Committee on Family Residential Centers or as a result of ICE's community liaison initiative.*

*Within 45 days after the date of enactment of this Act, ICE shall report on its progress in implementing the 2011 Prison Based National Detention Standards (PBNDS) and requirements related to the Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA), including a list of facilities that are not yet in compliance; a schedule for bringing facilities into compliance; and current year and estimated future year costs associated with compliance. The Committee expects ICE to refrain from entering into new contracts or IGSA's that do not require adherence to the PREA and 2011 PBNDS standards. In addition, the Committee again encourages ICE to consider collaborating with the National PREA Resource Center, which is supported by the Department of Justice, to help facilitate PREA compliance.*

*House Report 114-215 directed ICE to brief the Committee on its policies and practices for ensuring the safety of vulnerable populations in immigration detention facilities, along with recommendations for further improvements to better protect these detainees. The Committee looks forward to receiving this overdue briefing as soon as possible."*

### 3. Reimbursement for providing humanitarian relief to UACs

*Bill language: "SEC. 311. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, grants awarded to States along the Southwest Border of the United States under sections 2003 or 2004 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 604 and 605) using funds provided under the heading "Federal Emergency Management Agency, State and Local Programs" in division F of Public Law 113 76 or division D of Public Law 113-6 may be used by recipients or sub-recipients for costs, or reimbursement of costs, related to providing humanitarian relief to unaccompanied alien children and alien adults accompanied by an alien minor where they are encountered after entering the United States, provided that such costs were incurred between January 1, 2014 and December 31, 2014 or during the award period of performance."*

### 4. 10 Additional Immigration Judge Teams

1. *This Act includes \$504,500,000 for the Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR), of which \$4,000,000 is derived by transfer from fee collections. With the funding provided in the Act, EOIR shall continue ongoing programs, and hire and deploy at least 100 additional Immigration Judge (IJ) teams, with a goal of fielding 484 IJ teams nationwide by 2019.*

*Immigration Adjudication Performance and Reducing Case Backlog. -The Department shall accelerate its recruitment, background investigation, and placement of IJ teams, and brief the Committees not later than 30 days after enactment of this Act on its plan to deploy or reassign IJ teams to the highest priority locations. The briefing shall cover training standards for new IJ s, and continuing IJ training and education. EOIR shall submit monthly reports detailing the status of its hiring and deployment of IJ teams in the format and level of detail provided in fiscal year 2017. The reports should include the performance and operating information at the level of detail provided in fiscal year 2017, to include median days pending for both detained and non-detained cases, and should include statistics on cases where visa overstay is a relevant factor. To the extent EOIR has adopted new performance measures related to the efficient and timely completion of cases and motions, statistics reflecting those measures should be included in the report.*

2. *\$125 million for Alternatives to Detention*

## **FY19**

1. *Programmatic Request: “The Committee recommends \$589,500,000 for the Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR), of which \$4,000,000 is from immigration examination fees. The recommendation is \$85,000,000 above fiscal year 2018. The recommendation will support a total of 524 Immigration Judge (IJ) teams, 75 more than funding in fiscal year 2018, which provided for 65 additional IJ teams. Funding is provided above the request to annualize costs associated with the new teams funded in fiscal year 2018 and continue enhancements provided in fiscal year 2018 for information technology and facilities. The recommendation sustains the current legal orientation program and related assistance, such as the information desk pilot. The recommendation does not include any funding to establish or fund a legal representation program.*

*EOIR Performance. – For several years, the Committee has been concerned with the slow pace of hiring and onboarding Immigration Judges and the unacceptable amount of time it takes to resolve immigration cases. The Committee understands that the Department is working to accelerate the hiring process and is deploying additional resources to those areas with the highest workload such as the Southwest Border. The Committee directs this continue and that the Department coordinate with the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to develop metrics, practices, and pilot programs to institute rapid court proceedings at holding facilities along the Southwest Border where individuals are detained for immigration violations to ensure their court appearance. The Committee continues its direction from fiscal year 2018 that the Department should*

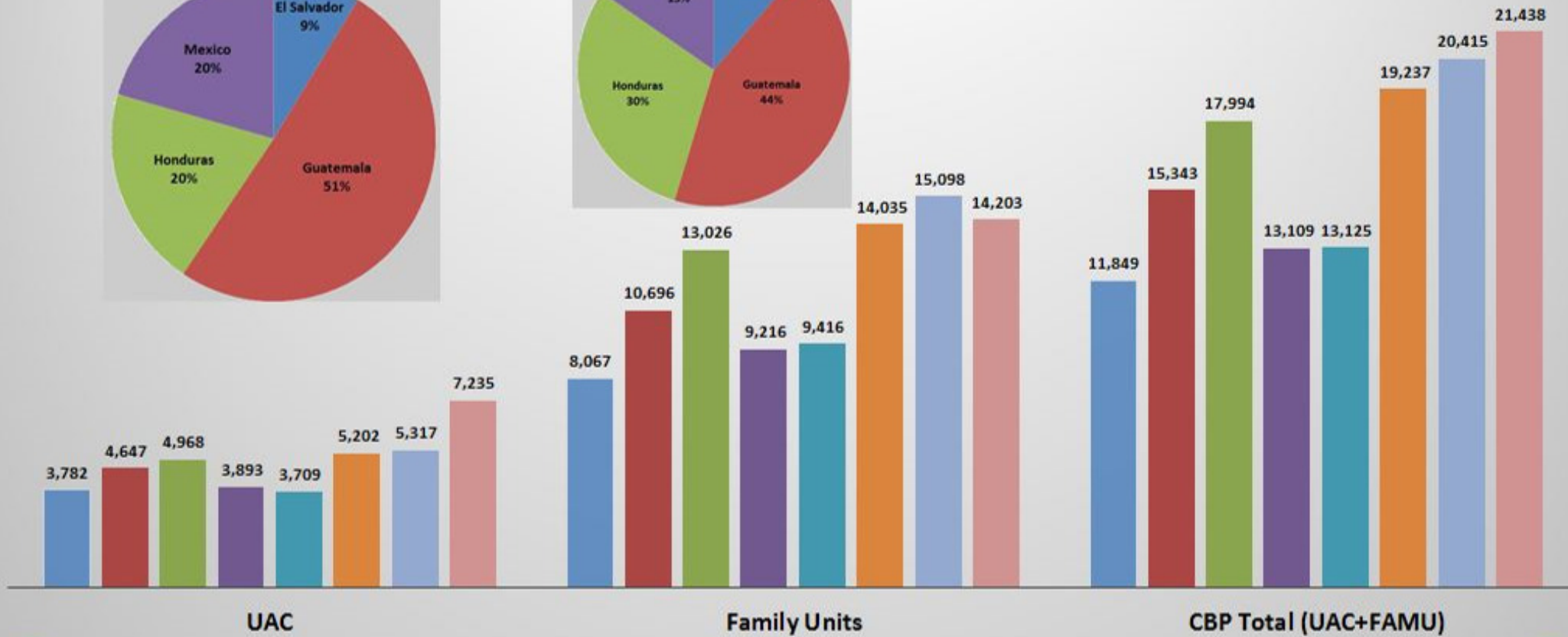
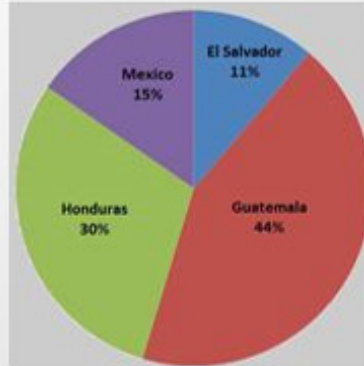
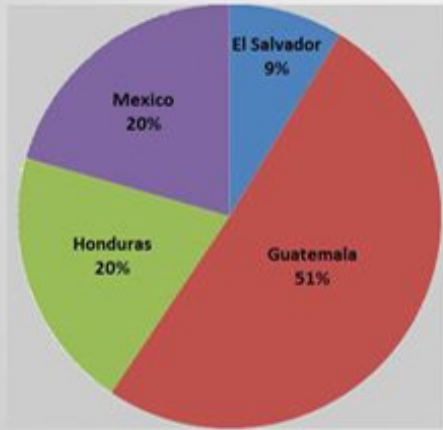
establish a goal that the median days pending of detained cases be no longer than 60 days and the median length for non-detained cases be no longer than 365 days. The Committee directs EOIR to continue to provide monthly reports on performance, IJ hiring and visa overstays as specified in the fiscal year 2018 Appropriations Act.

Minute Orders - The Committee is aware that EOIR is conducting a pilot program to decrease the time Immigration Judges take to render Oral Decisions using Minute Orders that would potentially increase substantially the number of hearings a Judge may hear per day. The current method used for Oral decisions includes a recitation of pertinent Circuit and BIA authority, detailed analysis of all testimony and exhibits, and their respective legal conclusions even for cases that do not present a novel issue. EOIR is encouraged to promptly expand this pilot nationwide. The Committee directs EOIR to report back to Congress on its efforts not later than 90 days after the enactment of this Act.

Preliminary Hearings – The Committee directs EOIR to establish a pilot for preliminary hearings to address frivolous filings. U.S. District Courts and other trial systems use preliminary hearings to ensure efficient operation of the courts. EOIR shall report back to Congress on its efforts not later than 90 days after the enactment of this Act.”

## FY2018 CBP Southwest Border Migration U.S. Border Patrol Apprehensions / Office of Field Operations Inadmissibles October 1, 2017 - May 31, 2018

■ Oct-17   
 ■ Nov-17   
 ■ Dec-17   
 ■ Jan-18   
 ■ Feb-18   
 ■ Mar-18   
 ■ Apr-18   
 ■ May-18



Prepared by the Office of Congressman Henry Cuellar;  
 Source: U.S. Customs and Border Protection ([www.cbp.gov/newsroom/stats/sw-border-migration](http://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/stats/sw-border-migration))



<b>HHS Contracted Unaccompanied Children Shelters</b>		
<b>Texas Cities</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Funded Capacity</b>
Brownsville	6	2,210
Houston	6	1,271
San Antonio	8	713
Corpus Christi	2	621
Harlingen	1	593
San Benito	2	513
Baytown	1	232
Conroe	1	187
El Paso	2	106
Canutillo	1	104
Clint	1	91
Combes	1	87
McAllen	1	60
Lyford	1	50
Manvel	1	32
Fort Worth	2	17
<b>State Total</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>6,887</b>
<b>Facilities by State</b>		
<b>State</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Funded Capacity</b>
Texas	37	6,887
Arizona	12	1,740
New York	15	1,331
Florida	3	1,257
Illinois	8	547
California	8	340
Virginia	3	175
Pennsylvania	2	162
Michigan	2	81
Oregon	2	66
Maryland	3	64
Washington	3	59
Kansas	1	50
New Jersey	2	28
Connecticut	1	12
South Carolina	1	8
<b>Comprehensive Total</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>12,807</b>

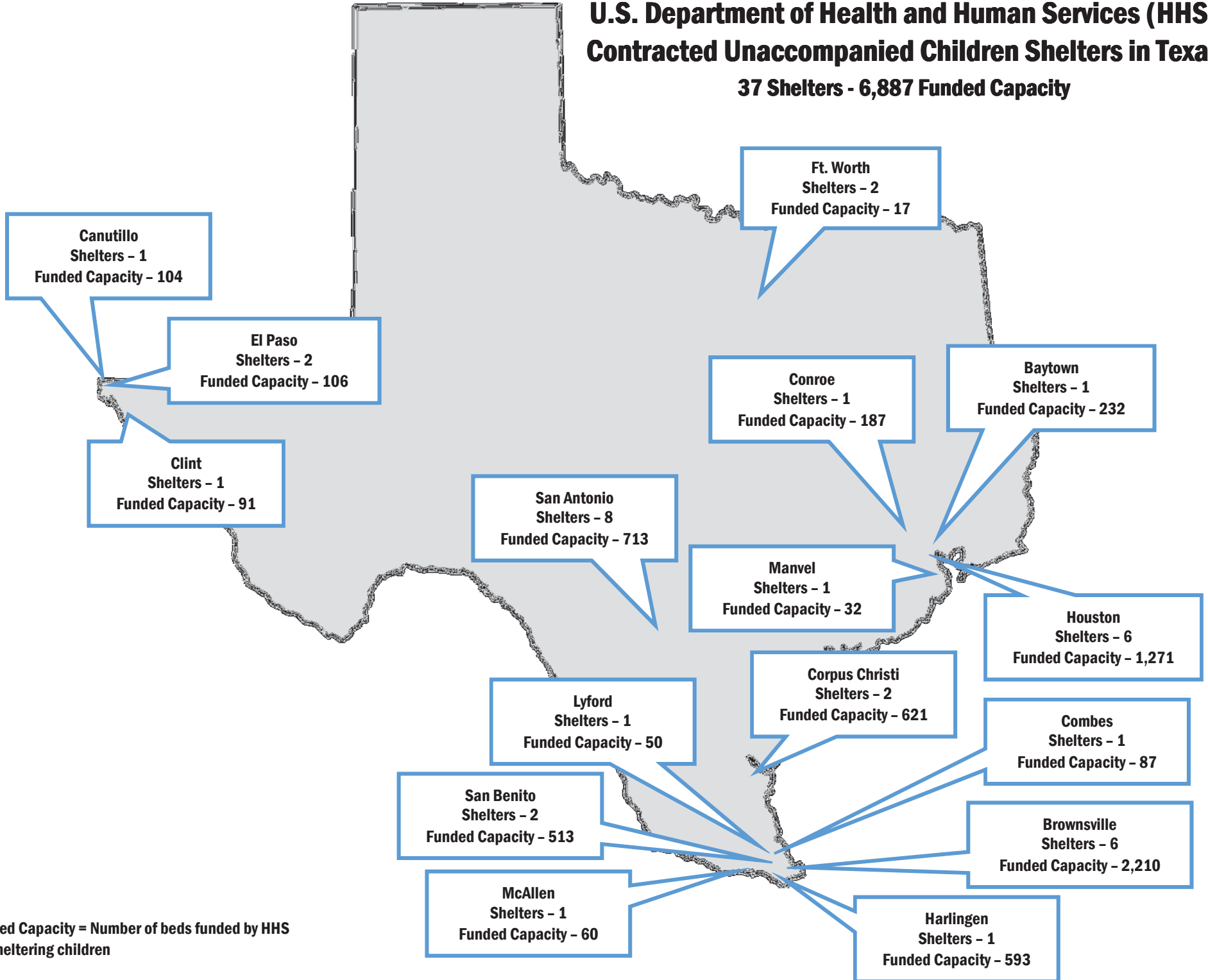
\*6.11.18 - Statistics from Health and Human Services Administration for Children and Families

\*Prepared by the office of Congressman Henry Cuellar - 6.22.18



# U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Contracted Unaccompanied Children Shelters in Texas

**37 Shelters - 6,887 Funded Capacity**

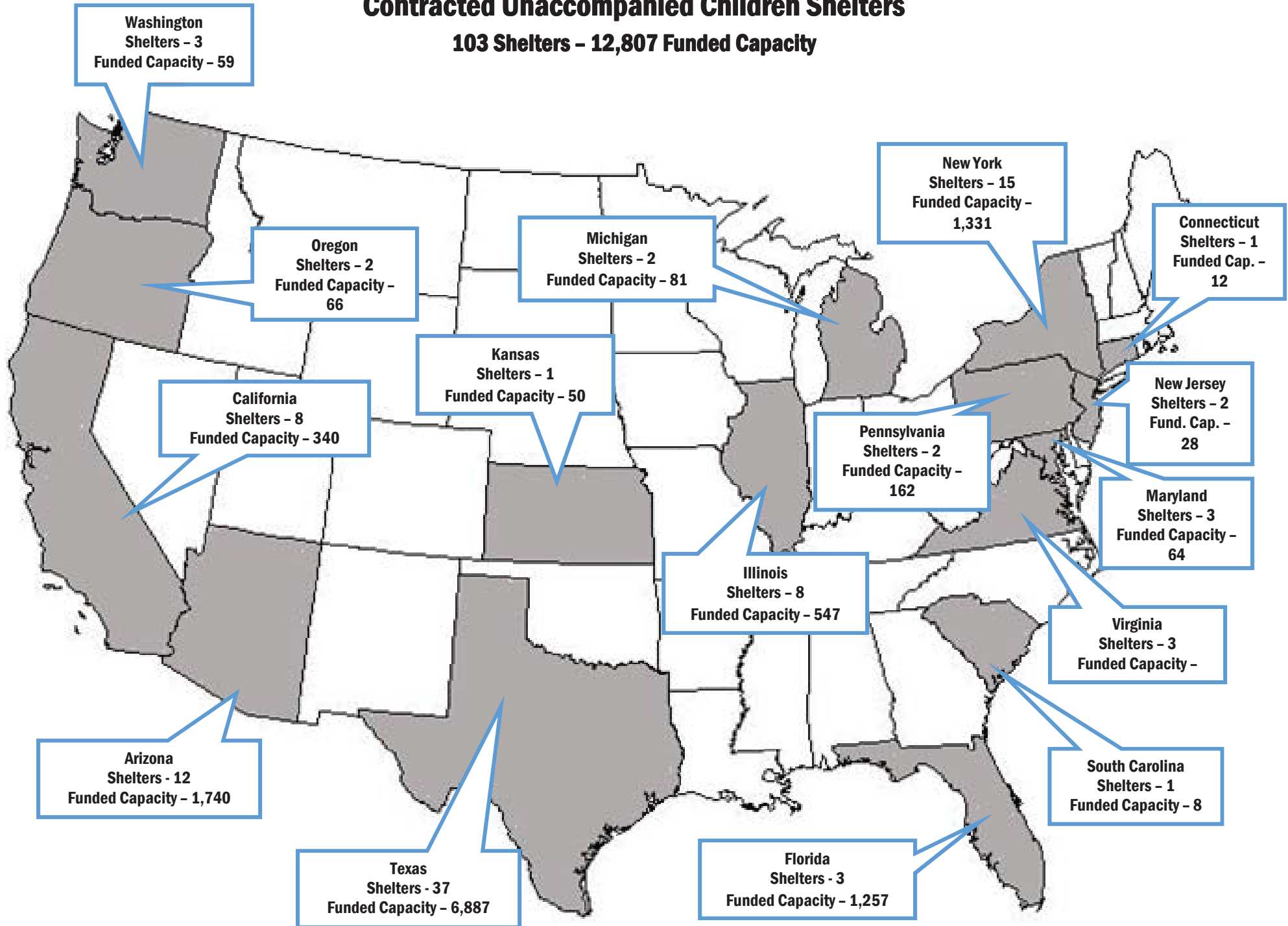


Funded Capacity = Number of beds funded by HHS for sheltering children

# U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)

## Contracted Unaccompanied Children Shelters

103 Shelters - 12,807 Funded Capacity



# 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.



After arrival in U.S., child is identified, undergoes initial health screening and immigration processing to initiate removal proceedings.

1



Child may be transferred to short term multi-agency center where HHS provides medical check, immunizations and shelter assignment.

2



Child travels to HHS shelter assignment. Transportation is provided by DHS.

3



Child remains in HHS shelter until a sponsor is identified on a case-by-case basis.

4



Child is placed with a relative or other sponsor in the U.S. pending outcome of the immigration process.

5

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

**Results of Office of  
Inspector General FY 2016  
Spot Inspections of U.S.  
Immigration and Customs  
Enforcement Family  
Detention Facilities**





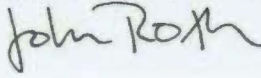
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Department of Homeland Security

Washington, DC 20528 / [www.oig.dhs.gov](http://www.oig.dhs.gov)

June 2, 2017

MEMORANDUM FOR: Thomas D. Homan  
Acting Assistant Secretary  
U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement

FROM: John Roth   
Inspector General

SUBJECT: *Results of Office of Inspector General FY 2016 Spot  
Inspections of U.S. Immigration and Customs  
Enforcement Family Detention Facilities*

Attached for your information is our report, *Results of Office of Inspector General FY 2016 Spot Inspections of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement Family Detention Facilities*. As part of our ongoing oversight of detention conditions, we completed unannounced inspections of three U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) family detention facilities. During these inspections, nothing came to our attention that warranted serious concerns about the health, safety, or welfare of the detained families. Specifically, we did not observe any conditions or actions that represented an immediate, unaddressed risk or an egregious violation of ICE's Family Residential Standards. The attached report contains details about the results of our inspections. We are making no recommendations in this report.

We received technical comments from ICE and the Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties; we incorporated these into the report as appropriate. Consistent with our responsibilities under the *Inspector General Act*, we will provide copies of our report to congressional committees with oversight and appropriation responsibility over the Department of Homeland Security. We will post the final report on our website.

Please call me with any questions, or your staff may contact Andrew Oosterbaan, Assistant Inspector General for Investigations or Laurel Loomis Rimon, Acting Assistant Inspector General for Inspections and Evaluations, at (202) 254-4100.

Attachment



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### Summary of Results

During our July 2016 unannounced spot inspections of ICE's three family detention facilities, we observed conditions that generally met ICE's 2007 Family Residential Standards. The facilities were clean, well-organized, and efficiently run. Based on our observations, interviews, and document reviews, we concluded that, at all three facilities, ICE was satisfactorily addressing the inherent challenges of providing medical care and language services and ensuring the safety of families in detention.

We interviewed ICE and contractor staff at the three facilities to evaluate the level of training and awareness of appropriate procedures for handling allegations of sexual assault or abuse and child abuse, as well as complaints and grievances. The staff at all three facilities said they had received training, and all staff interviewed could identify the appropriate steps to take if they received such allegations, complaints, or grievances.

We also observed surveillance cameras and perimeter security at the three facilities. Staff at all three reported they store camera footage for at least 3 weeks. At one facility, staff reported that surveillance cameras cannot see certain spots in public areas. In addition, we observed that the facility perimeters may not prevent unauthorized intrusion.



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### Background

In 2001, ICE Enforcement and Removal Operations (ERO) opened the Berks Family Residential Center (Berks) in Leesport, Pennsylvania, to accommodate alien families in ICE detention. In 2007, ICE approved Family Residential Standards for families in administrative immigration proceedings<sup>1</sup> and subject to mandatory detention. ICE uses the Family Residential Standards to govern all aspects of family detention, including medical care, nutrition, legal access, educational services, and grievances. In 2014, following an increase in families apprehended on the southern U.S. border, ICE opened two additional facilities, the South Texas Family Residential Center (Dilley) in Dilley, Texas, and the Karnes County Residential Center (Karnes) in Karnes, Texas.



Figure 1. Recreation field at Karnes  
*Source:* Office of Inspector General (OIG)



Figure 2. Classroom at Berks  
*Source:* OIG

At the time of our site visit Berks had 77 detainees (capacity 96); Karnes had 466 detainees (capacity 830); and Dilley had 1,190 detainees (capacity 2,400). As of July 7, 2016, or about 2 weeks prior to our inspections, based on detainee data in ICE's detention database, families at Karnes and Dilley had been detained for an average of 1 week to complete their administrative immigration proceedings; 25 percent of the families had been detained longer than 10 days. As of July 7, 2016, most families in Berks were detained for more than 6 months; many of these families had cases on appeal in administrative immigration proceedings. At the time of our visit, all three facilities held only mothers and their children. ICE makes separate arrangements for single fathers traveling with children. Unaccompanied children are sheltered by the Department of Health and Human Services' Office of Refugee Resettlement.

<sup>1</sup> ICE's Family Residential Standards govern the detention of families while awaiting the outcome of administrative immigration proceedings or return to home countries.



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### Key Observations

At the time of our unannounced spot inspections, all three family detention facilities generally met ICE Family Residential Standards. Nothing came to our attention that represented an immediate, unaddressed risk or an egregious violation of the Family Residential Standards. In addition to compliance with the Family Residential Standards, we evaluated ICE and contract staff's familiarity with reporting procedures for allegations of sexual abuse or assault and child abuse, as well as complaints and grievances; the general operability of the facilities' surveillance cameras; and perimeter security.<sup>2</sup> Based on our observations, interviews, and reviews of hard copy and electronic documents, we concluded that ICE had a reasonable approach to addressing the challenges inherent to managing family detention. Specifically:

Medical Care: Medical care at all three facilities was readily available, followed up on as needed, and was well documented. We did not identify any egregious errors in maintaining privacy, documenting care, or responding to medical grievances. At two facilities, a few detainees raised some concerns about the quality or promptness of medical care. After meeting with medical staff, reviewing medical records, and following up with medical staff on a complex case, we determined the facility provided adequate medical care. Although the Family Residential Standards do not require an onsite pediatrician, the contracts for the two larger facilities with many children require one. One of these two facilities had onsite medical and mental health staff, including a family practitioner but did not yet have a pediatrician; even though the facilities contract had been modified in the fall of 2015 to require one. Staff at this facility said they had been trying to hire a pediatrician since 2015 and were continuing recruiting efforts, but given the remote location of the facility, it has been difficult to recruit a suitable candidate.



Figure 3. Exam room at Karnes  
Source: OIG



Figure 4. Dental chairs at Dilley  
Source: OIG

<sup>2</sup> Attachment A contains more information about our scope and methodology, as well as the facilities we visited.





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- **Language Services:** We did not observe deficiencies in translation or interpretation during our site visits. We observed examples of materials written in Spanish and English; materials enabled detainees to show facility staff what language they spoke; and language services by phone were available for communication on medical, detention, and immigration processing issues. Staff at one facility told us ICE has also produced an orientation video for detainees who speak an indigenous Central American language, Quiché, and was translating written materials into Quiché. According to staff at two facilities, it may take longer to identify an interpreter for uncommon languages than for a common language like Spanish. At one facility, staff said detainees were not using mental health services that required language interpretation by phone for fear of sharing personal information with interpreters.



Figure 5. Notifications at Karnes  
Source: OIG



Figure 6. Telephone room at Berks  
Source: OIG

- **Safety Measures:** ICE balanced the need for detainee safety with appropriate conditions of detention for children. At all three facilities, staff told us that some detainees questioned the need for some of ICE's safety measures, such as requiring parents to be with their children in the residential areas, leaving lights on at night, and conducting welfare checks during the night. Although these safety measures are reasonable, we were not able to evaluate how well ICE and contract staff communicated the need for these measures to detainees.
- **Training:** ICE employees and facility contractors said they had been trained on reporting procedures for allegations of sexual assault or abuse and child abuse and knew how to report and document complaints and grievances. At each facility, we questioned ICE employees and contract staff to gauge



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compliance with the *Prison Rape Elimination Act of 2003* (PREA) and the *Victims of Child Abuse Act of 1990* (VCAA), as well as staff's knowledge about reporting and documenting grievances and complaints. Staff at all three facilities said they had PREA and VCAA training, knew their duty to report, and knew how to report, any allegation, grievance, or complaint. Staff said they received in-person, as well as online training, on managing disclosures of child abuse or sexual assault and said the training prepared them to respond to and report such disclosures. All three facilities had Department of Homeland Security OIG Hotline, Keep Detention Safe, PREA, and other rights notification posters prominently displayed.

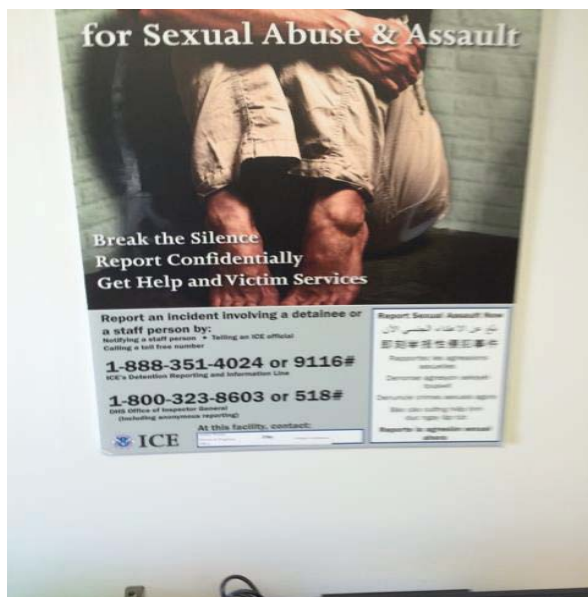


Figure 7. Report abuse poster at Dilley  
Source: OIG



Figure 8. Grievance box at Karnes  
Source: OIG

- Security Cameras and Perimeter Security: Security cameras and measures at facilities were adequate, but perimeter security may not be adequate. All three facilities had security cameras; staff reported they store footage for at least 3 weeks and save footage related to any incidents and allegations. As appropriate, at no facility were cameras focused on or able to view areas, such as showers and toilets, where detainees had a reasonable expectation of privacy. However, at one facility, staff reported there are spots in public areas that the cameras cannot view. Facility staff members are aware of this issue and said they patrol these areas in pairs to avoid the possibility of misconduct and allegations of misconduct. One facility did not have physical barriers protecting it, and at the remaining two, the physical barriers were incomplete; these conditions could leave detainees and staff vulnerable to unauthorized intrusion.



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Figure 9. Security fence at Dilley  
Source: OIG



Figure 10. Entrance gate at Berks  
Source: OIG



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### Attachment A

#### Objective, Scope, and Methodology

DHS OIG initiated this inspection program in response to concerns raised by immigrant rights groups and complaints to the DHS OIG Hotline regarding conditions for aliens in U.S. and Customs and Border Protection and ICE custody. We generally limited our scope to the ICE Family Residential Standards for health, safety, medical care, mental health care, educational services, grievances, classification and searches, use of force, language access, and staff training. We focused on elements of these standards that could be observed and evaluated without specialized training in medical, mental health, education, or corrections. Our visits to these facilities were unannounced so we could observe normal conditions and operations.

Prior to our inspections, we reviewed relevant background information, including:

- ICE Family Residential Standards
- OIG Hotline complaints from October 1, 2012, to June 17, 2016
- DHS Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties reports
- An ICE Office of Detention Oversight report
- Information from nongovernmental organizations
- Material related to ICE's implementation of the August 21, 2015, *Flores v. Lynch* order<sup>3</sup>
- Information in ICE's detention database on detainees currently housed in the three family detention facilities

During the inspections we performed the following activities:

- Inspected areas used by detainees, including intake processing areas; medical facilities; kitchens and dining facilities; residential areas, including sleeping, showering, and toilet facilities; legal services areas, including law libraries, immigration proceedings, and rights presentations; classrooms; recreational facilities; day care; and barber shops.
- Reviewed facilities' compliance with key health, safety, and welfare requirements of ICE's Family Residential Standards on classification and searches, use of force and restraints, medical care, mental health care, educational services, staffing, training, medical and nonmedical grievances, and access to translation and interpretation.

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<sup>3</sup> *Flores v. Lynch*, No. 85-4544 (C.D. Cal. Filed July 11, 1985), August 21, 2015



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- Reviewed the welfare of a sample of detainees in ICE's detention database who appeared potentially vulnerable, based on the mother's or child's age, length of detention, or country of origin.
- Reviewed detention, medical, and educational staff training on and compliance with PREA and VCAA, as well as staff's knowledge about reporting and documenting procedures for allegations, grievances, and complaints.
- Evaluated facility and perimeter security, including the operation of cameras and capacity for video storage.
- Reviewed documentary evidence, including electronic and paper medical files, educational files, and grievance logs and files.

We also interviewed ICE officers, medical staff, educational staff, chaplains, social workers, contract guards, and other contract personnel. We informally interviewed detainees who agreed to speak with us. We conducted these staff and detainee interviews to evaluate compliance with ICE's Family Residential Standards, grievance procedures, and grievance resolution.

Our inspection results are limited by the scope and methodology we employed; we used surprise visits to observe normal conditions and operations, but these observations represent a single point in time and cannot be used to verify past conditions or predict ICE's actions in the future. Our inspection results therefore should not be more broadly interpreted or generalized.

Our inspection results complement, and do not replace, essential family detention oversight conducted by the DHS Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties and ICE's Office of Detention Oversight. Our inspection teams did not include experts in specialized fields, such as medical and mental health care, education, or nutrition.

We conducted these inspections in July 2016, as part of our ongoing oversight of detention conditions. We conducted the inspections under the authority of the *Inspector General Act of 1978*, as amended, and according to the *Quality Standards for Inspection and Evaluation* issued by the Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AND COPIES

To view this and any of our other reports, please visit our website at: [www.oig.dhs.gov](http://www.oig.dhs.gov).

For further information or questions, please contact Office of Inspector General Public Affairs at: [DHS-OIG.OfficePublicAffairs@oig.dhs.gov](mailto:DHS-OIG.OfficePublicAffairs@oig.dhs.gov). Follow us on Twitter at: @dhsoig.



## OIG HOTLINE

To report fraud, waste, or abuse, visit our website at [www.oig.dhs.gov](http://www.oig.dhs.gov) and click on the red "Hotline" tab. If you cannot access our website, call our hotline at (800) 323-8603, fax our hotline at (202) 254-4297, or write to us at:

Department of Homeland Security  
Office of Inspector General, Mail Stop 0305  
Attention: Hotline  
245 Murray Drive, SW  
Washington, DC 20528-0305

# Karnes County Family Residential Center

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All photos publicly available – links below





The interior of the Karnes County center will hold a playground and soccer field.  
Credit Joey Palacios / TPR News



The interior of one of the residential suites for detained mothers and their children.  
Credit Joey Palacios / TPR News





The Intake Center is where detainees will be initially processed

JOEY PALACIOS / TEXAS PUBLIC RADIO



Detainees are given six changes of clothes after arriving at the facility

JOEY PALACIOS / TEXAS PUBLIC RADIO



Recreation: Gym



Recreation: Soccer

The outdoor field was refurbished as a place to let loose.



Recreation: Basketball

Residents can take part in several recreational activities including shooting hoops.



Recreation: Internet lab



Clinic - The facility staffs a medical clinic where treatment can be given for illness.



Classroom - School classes for children are taught by certified bilingual teachers.



Library - The library allows adults and children another form of recreation.



Cafeteria - The cafeteria provides three meals a day and offers a vegetarian option.







<https://www.cnn.com/2014/10/03/justice/texas-immigrant-detention-allegations/>  
<http://static01.nyt.com/images/2016/05/03/us/03texaschild/03texaschild-master768.jpg>  
<http://tpr.org/post/new-facility-immigrants-texas-trying-be-more-residence-detention-center>  
<http://interactives-origin.kxan.com/photomojo/gallery/13495/251865/karnes-county-residential-center/recreation-gym/>  
<https://www.geogroup.com/FacilityDetail/FacilityID/58>