

Follow-Up on OPEGA's Child Development Services Report (2012)

Following issuance of this report, the GOC introduced legislation that was enacted as PL 2013 Chapter 338. The purpose of the bill was to require improved reporting to the Legislature on key financial and performance aspects of CDS and its programs in order to enhance transparency, accountability and legislative oversight. As a result, Title 20-A Part 4, Chapter 303, section 7209 now specifies an extensive list of financial, program and performance information and measures that are to be included in CDS' annual reports to the Education and AFA Committees. There is also specified financial information that is to be provided to Office of Fiscal and Program Review on a monthly basis. CDS issued its first annual report under the new reporting requirements in February 2014 and there are now three years of reports produced in this format.

Additionally, there are two recommendations from the report (Recs 5 and 8) that OPEGA still needs to gather additional information on in order to close out those recommendations. One of these involved documentation captured in computer systems and CDS had identified a need for updated systems at the time of our review. CDS was proceeding with trying to replace those systems.

Possible GOC follow-up on this review includes:

- Seeking feedback from CDS and Education and AFA Committees on the new annual reporting requirements in place since 2014, i.e. administrative burden and cost, usefulness of reports for the legislative committees, any unforeseen challenges that should be further addressed or unanticipated benefits that should be acknowledged.
- Inquiring on status of new computer systems for CDS, whether implementation of those has been as expected or whether there is additional support/action from the Legislature that would be helpful.
- Inquiring generally on challenges and benefits CDS has experienced in implementing the recommendations, or otherwise addressing the issues identified, in OPEGA's report.