The federal Child Welfare Demonstration Projects, signed into law in 2011, allow states and tribes to apply for a waiver so that they may better target their share of Title IV-E foster care dollars. Demonstration projects can focus on improving child safety, providing prevention and permanency services designed to safely reduce the need for foster care, and making quality-of-care improvements for those in the child welfare system. The bulk of those dollars currently is spent to maintain children in foster care.

Today, communities in 25 states, the District of Columbia and one Native American tribe are testing a range of smart, effective investments in child welfare.

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services has approved new demonstration projects for 21 states—Arizona, Arkansas, Colorado, Hawaii, Illinois, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Nebraska, Nevada, New York, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Utah, Washington, West Virginia and Wisconsin—as well as the District of Columbia and the Port Gamble S’Klallam tribe.

In addition, four states—California, Florida, Indiana and Ohio—received extensions of Title IV-E waivers they had received under previous federal action.

These investments are allowing them to develop and implement innovative prevention and permanency services, including early childhood intervention and evidence-based programs, to improve outcomes for children and families. Initial data indicate that states implementing waivers are performing better in managing the number of children in care and on child safety measures than those without waivers.

At the same time, experience with the waivers is providing critical information to shape urgently needed changes to the federal child welfare finance system so that all states and tribes can make smarter investments to support more effective services for all children and families.
**Demonstration Project states**
Arizona | Arkansas | Colorado | District of Columbia | Hawaii | Illinois
Kentucky | Maine | Maryland | Massachusetts | Michigan | Nebraska
Nevada | New York | Oklahoma | Oregon | Pennsylvania | Tennessee
Utah | Washington | West Virginia | Wisconsin

**Demonstration Project tribe**
Port Gamble S’Klallam tribe

**Title IV-E extension states**
California | Florida | Indiana | Ohio

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