



[This Photo](#) by Unknown Author is licensed under [CC BY-NC-ND](#)

BAYFIELD COUNTY CHILD SUPPORT AGENCY 09

2023 BUDGET OVERVIEW AND HIGHLIGHTS: The projected revenue for 2023 is estimated at \$277,112 with expenses are estimated at \$301,760. The increase in expenses is due to the office relocation to the current Register of Deeds space (planned in 2023) and wage adjustments with the new wage scale and move to 40 hours. Everyone in the Child Support Agency will move to 40 hours. As of August 2023, Bayfield County Child Support Agency is serving 498 *minor* children.

FUNCTION: The Bayfield County Child Support Program contributes to the well-being of children through the establishment of paternity and the establishment and enforcement of court-ordered child support and medical support obligations. This mandated program operates pursuant to Wisconsin Statute 59.53 (5) which directs the County Board and the Department of Workforce Development to enter into a contract to implement and administer the services under Title IV-D of the Federal Social Security Act.

MAIN RESPONSIBILITIES: The Bayfield County Child Support Agency has three main areas of program responsibilities including;

- Child support enforcement
- Paternity establishment
- Medical support liability

CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT: Responsibilities include locating absent parents, establishing court orders for payment of child support, enforcement of existing orders for support, issuing and monitoring income withholding with employers regarding payroll deductions, collecting support on interstate cases, reviewing support orders for appropriate modifications, intercepting income tax refunds for payment of past-due support and providing payment and collection information to both custodial and non-custodial parents.

PATERNITY ESTABLISHMENT: Requirements include identifying and obtaining a legal determination of the father of a child born to unmarried parents. If genetic testing is necessary to determine a contested case, our Agency arranges and assists with the testing. Testing is conducted in our agency and specimens are sent to LabCorp in Burlington, NC, for determination. Paternity must be established before a court will order support. Establishing paternity provides a child a right to receive financial support, medical support, and inheritance from the father.

MEDICAL SUPPORT LIABILITY: Program responsibilities include the establishment and enforcement of court orders requiring parents to provide health insurance coverage for their minor children.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- The Department continues to collect approximately \$1.3 million dollars annually in support collections for families. Actual collections for the calendar year of 2021 totaled \$1,368,884 a decrease of \$205,807 from 2020. Through July 31, 2022, collections total \$790,245. This same time last year collections were at \$817,577, a reduction of \$27,332. This reduction is due to a shrinking caseload and right-sizing child support orders.
- The Agency continues to work diligently in pursuing support, reaching out to participants to discuss their cases, offer employment resource referrals and to provide access to local, state and national resources.
- Created alternative methods for the payers to be able to meet their obligation by working with DWD, Criminal Justice and FSET and NWCEP, North Lakes Clinic. AllPaid was implemented as an option for debit/credit card payments for child support. Through July 2022, receipts of \$22,400 in child support and other debt payments were recorded for year-to-date 2022. The agency has implemented a texting program called TxtPage Pro through Contact Wireless to better communicate with our clients.
- The Child Support Director, Jen Jones continues her work on the Child Support Modernization workgroup as a representative to the Business Functional Team. This Team has representatives from one tribal child support agency and four county child support agencies in addition to state staff. Jen represents the small counties of the State and how changes to the child support modernization will impact them. It is an honor for both Bayfield County and Jen to be involved in the planning process of the future of Child Support for Wisconsin.
- For the second year in a row, Bayfield County Child Support Agency received the Certificate of Outstanding Achievement Award by DFES/BCS based on their performance for FFY2021. We are so proud of the hard work that was done for the families of Bayfield County.

2023 GOALS:

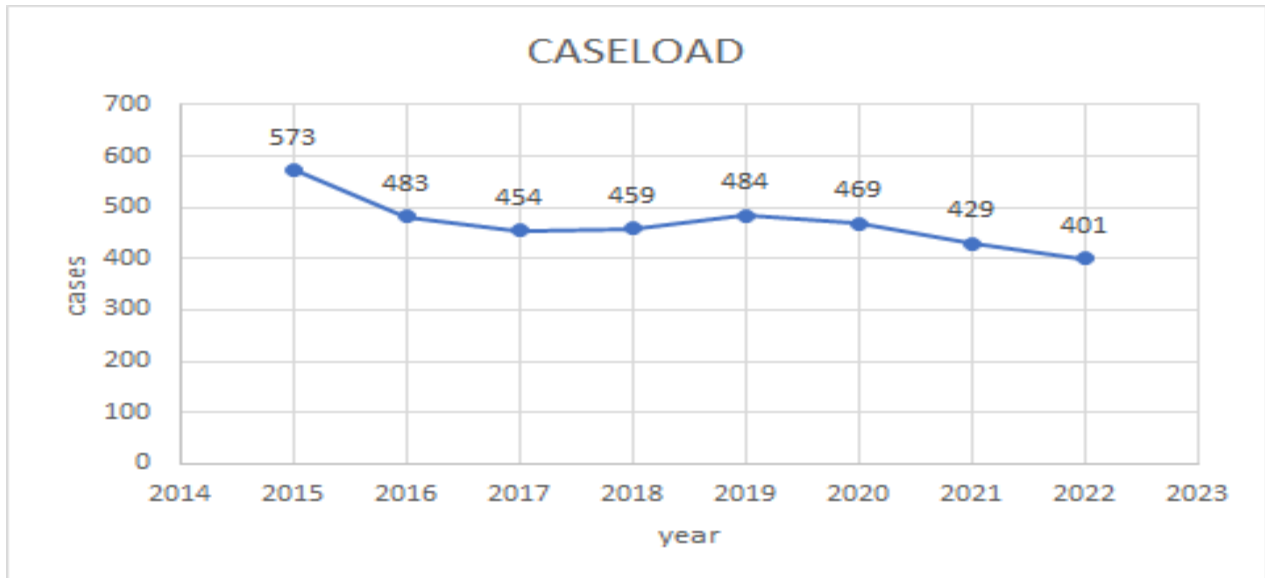
- Continue to enforce and collect approximately \$1.3 million dollars in support.
- Continue operation of satellite office to better serve clients throughout the county.
- Continue to work with Criminal Justice, DVR programs, North Lakes, FSET and Workforce Resources to help participants gain confidence, provide information and referrals and find employment.
- Will continue to attend the UW Extension’s Co-Parenting classes to inform parents about child support services and partner on outreach programs to the local jails where child support information is provided to inmates.
- Continue involvement in the ‘big picture’ of the child support program by attending WCSEA Fall Conference, WCSEA Board Meetings, WCSEA Day at the Capital, meeting with state representatives to keep them informed of our program needs and continuing education as needed.
- Strive to meet the performance levels during the full fiscal year to maximize funding.
- Seamless transition to new office space in Spring 2023 in old Register of Deeds space. Relocating to this space brings departments aligned with the Court in closer proximity.

ANNUAL COLLECTIONS OVER THE PAST 13+ YEARS

2008	\$2,228,971	2014	\$1,924,308	2020	\$1,574,692
2009	\$2,169,032	2015	\$1,749,836	2021	\$1,368,884
2010	\$2,086,082	2016	\$1,745,397	2021	\$817,576 - <i>thru July 31</i>
2011	\$1,198,173	2017	\$1,660,962	2022	\$790,244 – <i>thru July 31</i>
2012	\$1,974,065	2018	\$1,711,246		
2013	\$2,094,480	2019	\$1,709,662		

CASELOAD:

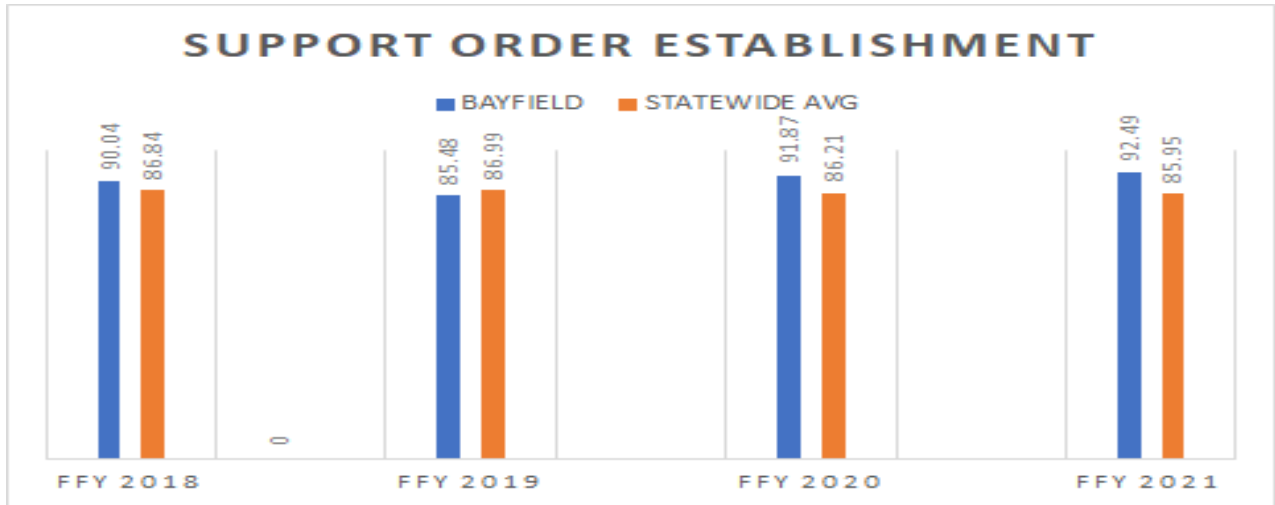
Bayfield County transferred approximately 130 cases to Red Cliff Tribal Child Support Agency starting in May 2015 through January 2017. The department continues to reach out to NIVD cases to offer our services to increase current caseload. The current IVD caseload is 467, last year at this time we had 429. More cases = more funding for Bayfield County families.



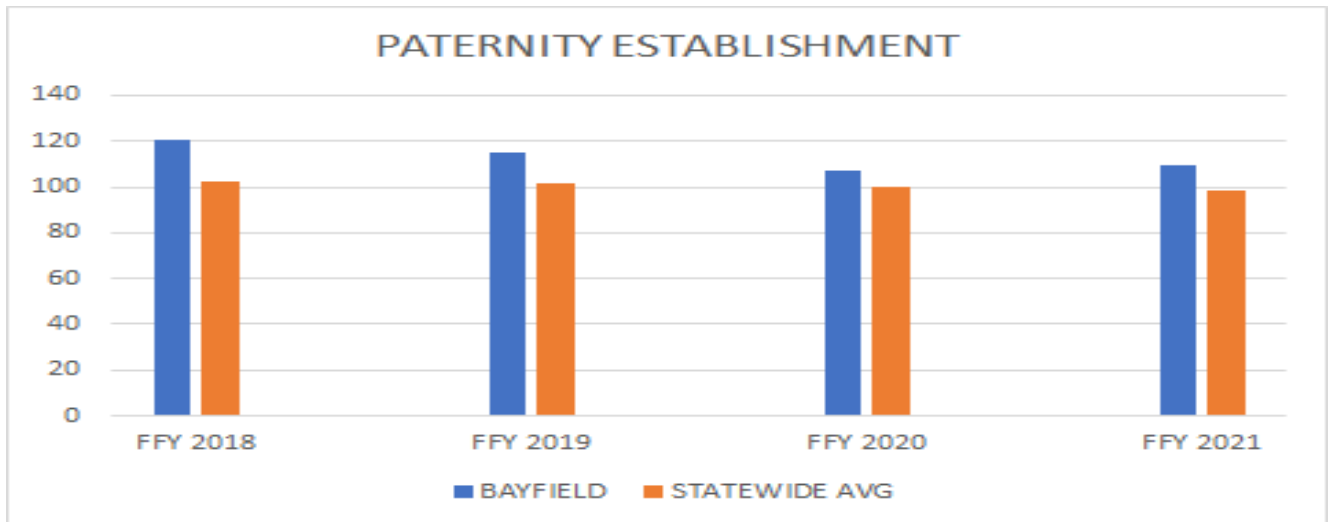
PERFORMANCE INDICATORS:

The Child Support Contract between the State and the County specifies that certain funds will be awarded based on performance. In calendar year 2021, the Bureau of Child Support changed the contract allocation methodology, with recommendations from the WCSEA Contract Committee, from five measures to three measures: Cases with Current Support Ordered, Cases with Arrears Balances, and IV-D Caseload. This current allocation approach provides greater stability in the funding allocations, while continuing to reward performance that meets or exceeds federal performance standards. *Bayfield County is consistently above the State average in these categories.*

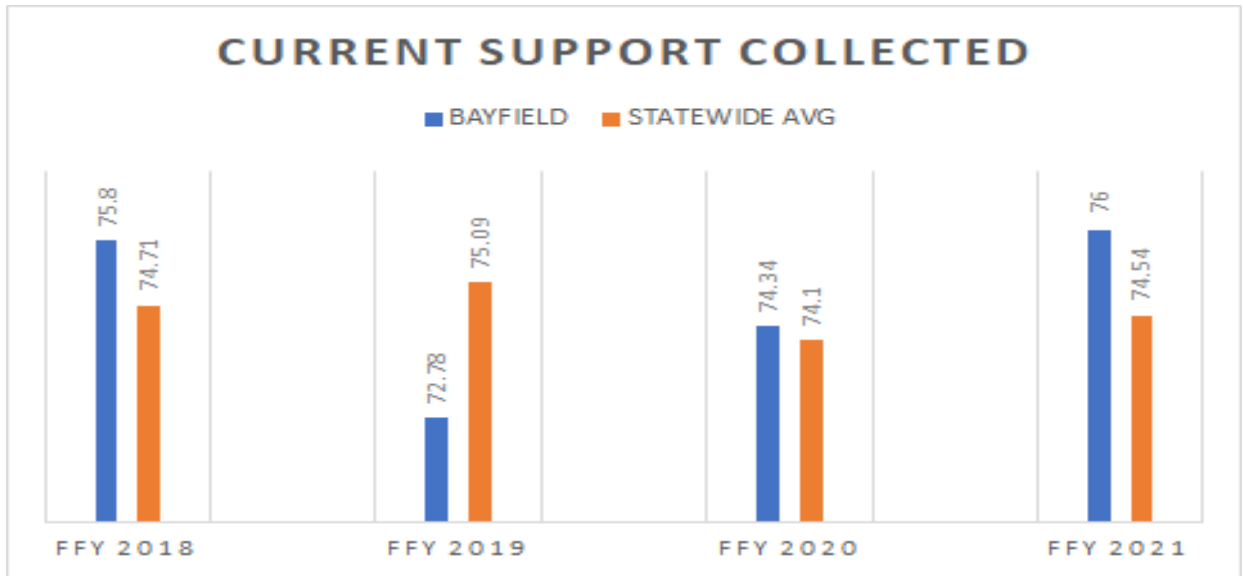
1. CASES WITH CURRENT SUPPORT ORDERED: One of the factors the State evaluates our Agency on is the percentage of court ordered support established in our caseload. The State’s baseline for 100% funding is to have court orders in 80% of our caseload. Through July 2022, we are at 93.02%. This means we receive maximum State revenue funding available for our county for this category. The statewide average for this category is 85%. Figures below are for Federal Fiscal Years.



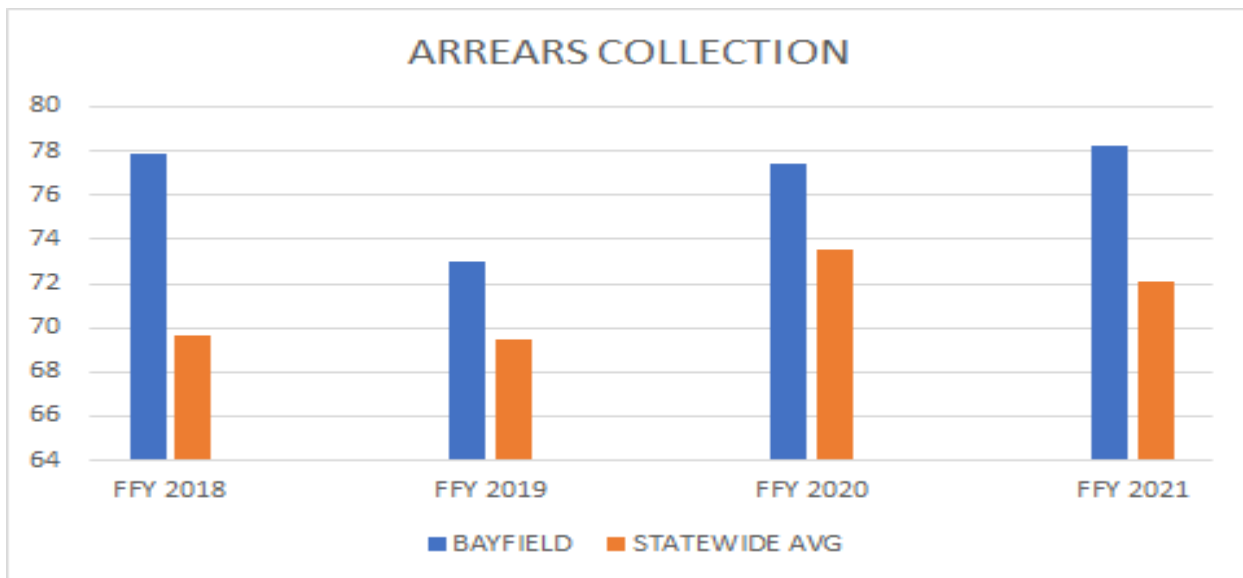
2. PATERNITY ESTABLISHMENT: It is our Agency’s responsibility to establish paternity. The State requires that we establish paternity in 90% of cases needing this service. Our paternity establishment rate through July 2022 is 109.22% with the state average being 96.14%. Figures below are for Federal Fiscal Years.



3. CURRENT SUPPORT COLLECTION RATE: This rate measures the ratio of the total amount of current support due in the 1V-D caseload during the federal fiscal year to the total amount of current support disbursed during the year. The baseline goal is 80%. Through July 2022 our support collection rate is 77.16%. We are near the baseline rate of 80%; however, we are above the statewide average of 73.56. Figures below are for Federal Fiscal Years.



4. ARREARS CASE COLLECTION RATE: This rate is the ratio of the number of IV-D cases present in the caseload during the fiscal year with an arrearage balance to the number of arrearage cases with a qualifying payment disbursed toward arrears at any time during the federal fiscal year. The target baseline for this measure is 80%. Through July 2022, our agency arrearage collection rate is 71.68%. The target baseline is 80%. Bayfield County remains above the statewide average of 66.42%. Figures below are for Federal Fiscal Years.



Bayfield County Child Support Agency
Organizational Chart

