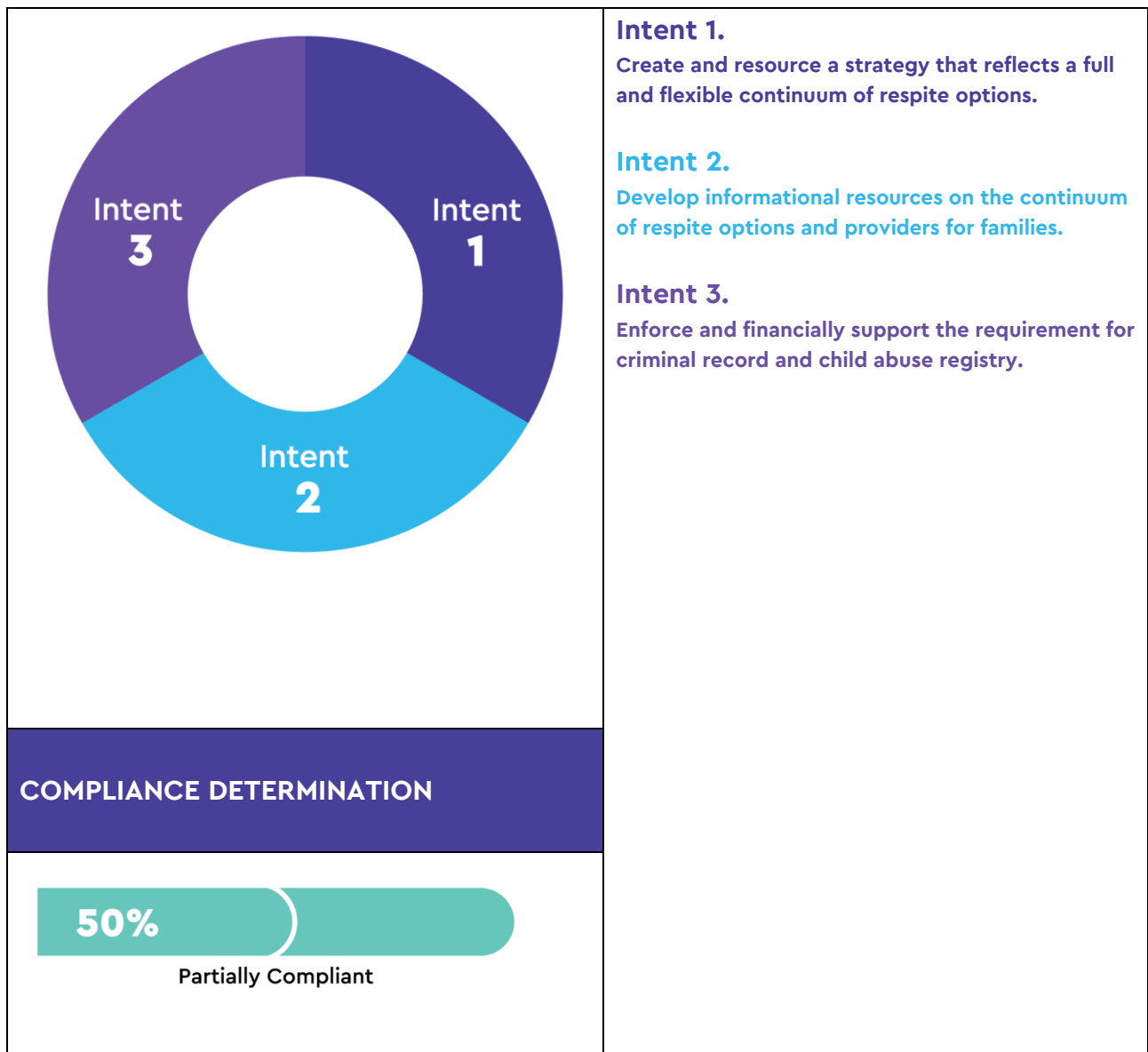


COMPLIANCE DETERMINATION

Disability – Recommendation 9

Recommendation Summary: Develop and resource a full continuum of flexible respite support.

Primary Public Body: Manitoba Families



Recommendation Compliance Summary



This form details the assessment of compliance with recommendations made under Section 27 and Section 31 of *The Advocate for Children and Youth Act*. MACY assesses recommendations for compliance once a year but receives updates from the public bodies every six months.

1. Recommendation Information	
Report Name:	Bridging the Gaps: Achieving Substantive Equality for Children with Disabilities in Manitoba
Date Released:	3/25/2021
Full Recommendation: (including details)	Recommendation Nine: The Manitoba Advocate for Children and Youth recommends that Manitoba Families and Children's disABILITY Services create and resource a strategy that reflects a full and flexible continuum of respite options from at-home respite to alternative care outside the home.
Intent(s) of Recommendation:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Create and resource a strategy that reflects a full and flexible continuum of respite options. 2. Develop informational resources on the continuum of respite options and providers for families. 3. Enforce and financially support the requirement for criminal record and child abuse registry.
Issue:	Disabilities
Public Body	Manitoba Families
Dates of Previous Official Updates from Public Body:	June 30, 2022
	May 31, 2023
2. Compliance Determination	
Partially Compliant 0.50	Actions taken only implement part of the recommendation. Important requirements have been met and the recommendation is acted upon, however, deficiencies remain.
Self-Assessment	Partially Compliant
Previous Compliance Determination	Partially Compliant
3. Rationale for Determination	
<i>(How did you reach this compliance determination)</i>	
Intent 1: Create and resource a strategy that reflects a full and flexible continuum of respite options.	
2023	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manitoba Families, through CdS, added some additional information to the resources discussed in the 2022 response. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Wage rates through the Self-Managed Respite Guidelines were increased to \$19.00 per hour to help families recruit and retain qualified staff. ○ The overnight respite homes pilot through St. Amant had its Winnipeg 	

home opening in February 2022, and Brandon home opening in May 2022. An evaluation of the first year of services under this pilot is underway.

- New Directions for Children, Youth, Adults and Families was chosen as the service provider for the Bridge Program for Children and Youth with Disabilities Pilot Project. The first home opened under this project follows the 7-day model, with three additional homes planned that will provide longer-term transitional supports for youth who are expected to be supported under CLdS once reaching age of majority.

2022

- Manitoba Families reported work to create a full and flexible continuum of respite options available – hourly, on evenings and weekends, 24-hours a day.
- Manitoba Families reported that the Self-Managed Respite Guidelines were issued in 2021 to assist CdS staff when assessing respite needs with families and children.
- The government also announced a two-year pilot in partnership with St. Amant to create two overnight respite homes (one in Winnipeg, one in Brandon).
- These facilities will offer proactive services outside of the formal child welfare system that are aimed at preventing children with disabilities from entering CFS care.
- The government has also announced the Bridge Program for Children and Youth with Disabilities Pilot Project which will provide out-of-home residential supports and in-home family supports for families who are no longer able to provide care because of the ongoing complexity of their children's care requirements. This program will provide stays of up to seven days at a time.
- A self-managed respite guide for families is in the latter stages of development.

Intent 2: Develop informational resources on the continuum of respite options and providers for families.

2023

- The guide identified in the 2022 response is expected to be released in June 2023. The parent-led, Family Advocacy Network, was consulted during the development of this resource.

2022

- Manitoba Families reported that a guide is currently in the final stages of design and development.

Intent 3: Enforce and financially support the requirement for criminal record and child abuse registry.

2023

- To further elaborate on the 2022 response, CdS reported that the Department

changed the Self-Managed Services Funding Agreement and Processes in December 2021. The agreement between families and the Department now includes details regarding expectations for personal references, a criminal reference check, and child and adult abuse registry checks. Self-managed services are not initiated until both parties sign the agreement. In addition, the agreement details the contractual obligations of both the family and CdS for self-managed services.

2022

- Manitoba Families reported on the development of a legal agreement between families and the department. The requirements under the agreement include personal references, a criminal reference check, and child and adult abuse registry checks.

Analysis Summary: The 2023 response from Manitoba Families, through Children's disABILITY Services, reinforces steps taken towards implementing this recommendation as reported in 2022. Evaluating the pilot projects, as well as finalizing the informational resources on respite options, will assist in moving this recommendation further towards completion. As further work is needed on the intents of this recommendation, it remains Partially Compliant.