



Statewide Information System

as area of strength - no improvement plans required



Case Review

Item 25		Process for developing a case plan and for joint case planning with parents <i>Action Steps</i>					
Goals		Action Steps/Benchmarks		Required Finish	Projected/ Actual Finish	Status	Cross-Reference Item to KCF II
25.1	Increase early and ongoing involvement of children, parents, resource families and Tribes in the assessment, development of case plans and major decisions.	25.1.1	Review and revise policy and procedure regarding when and how service plans are written and updated, the involvement of children and parents and Tribes in assessments, development of case plans for in-home cases and out-of-home cases, and major decisions, to include practice guidelines for engaging children, Tribes and fathers in the process.	(Refer to 17.1.1)		Complete	13.1.1
25.2	Increase quality and frequency of social worker contact with children, parents and caregivers.	25.2.1	For children placed in out-of-home care, develop and implement an <i>INTERIM</i> policy and practice guideline for 30-day visits between social worker and parents, and social worker and child.	(Refer to 19.1.4)	Deleted		14.1.1
		25.2.2	For dependent children and families receiving services in their own home (non-dependent), develop and implement an <i>INTERIM</i> policy and practice guidelines for 30-day visits between social worker and parents and social worker and child that address monitoring safety issues.	(Refer to 19.1.3)		Complete	14.1.4
		25.2.3	Implement case conferences prior to dispositional hearing, as required by 2004 legislation. a. Distribute interim practice guidelines b. Develop final practice guidelines for staff. c. Orient staff, caregivers and community partners to case conference requirements. d. Implement final policy and practice guidelines. e. Initiate quarterly reporting to the field.	9/04 10/04 11/04 12/04 1/05	Complete (9/04) Complete (10/04) Complete (1/05) Complete (1/05) --	Complete During the 1 st quarter the case conference guidelines were completed. Staff had previously been provided information on the interim guidelines. No changes were made to the guidelines from	13.1.6 (7.1.5)

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						<p>the "interim" version to the "final" version. An all-staff e-mail was sent on January 25, 2005 that included the finalized version of the guidelines. The final Case Conference Guidelines were attached to the 2nd quarterly report.</p> <p>Due to limitations in the CAMIS system we are not able to proceed with "e". In the 4th quarterly report we requested and ROX concurred with the deletion of this action step.</p>	
		25.2.4	Implement Family-Team Decision Making meetings (which include meetings to be conducted within 72 hours of a child's placement into care, and during placement moves).	<i>(Refer to 3.1.1)</i>		Complete	3.2.1

Item 26 Rated by CFSR as area of strength - no improvement plans required

Item 27 Rated by CFSR as area of strength - no improvement plans required

Item 28		Process for seeking TPR in accordance with ASFA <i>Action Steps</i>						
Goals		Action Steps/Benchmarks		Required Finish	Projected/ Actual Finish	Status	Cross-Reference Item to KCF II	
28.1	Increase conformity with Adoption and Safe Families Act (ASFA) requirements	28.1.1	In collaboration with the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC), Assistant Attorney General (AAG), and Office of Public Defense (OPD), update the model court order to indicate a finding including compelling reasons not to file TPR. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Participate in the workgroup to develop recommendations for updates to court order. b. Participate in the development of the report and presentation of recommendations to Court Improvement Plan (CIP) Steering Committee for review, feedback, and development of implementation plan. c. Implement training and communication plan for CA staff on any court order changes, or policy implications. d. Work with AOC, AAG and OPD to propose and make available model court order. 	10/04	Complete (9/04)	<p>Complete</p> <p>The AOC submitted the model court order in September 2004. The CIP Coordinator has advised this process of submittal, review and approval can take a minimum of 18 months. Given this information, we proposed adjustments to the dates of benchmark "c" and "d". However, the current model court order already includes language regarding the compelling reason not to file TPR. In the 4th quarter report we proposed removal of benchmarks "c" and "d" since the current model court order already includes this language and was already distributed and taught there is no need to train and make it available again.</p> <p>In the response to the 5th quarterly report, ROX asked for a report based on an evaluation of the language regarding compelling reasons. This report will be sent with the next quarterly report.</p> <p>7th quarter - Resubmitted Model Court order</p>	7.4.1	
				4/05	Complete (9/04)			
				7/05	Delete			
				12/05	Delete			

Item 28

Process for seeking TPR in accordance with ASFA
Action Steps

Goals	Action Steps/Benchmarks	Required Finish	Projected/ Actual Finish	Status	Cross-Reference Item to KCF II
	<p>28.1.2 Collaborate with CIP in the planning and implementation of specific projects, including Dependency and Termination Equal Justice Committee (DTEJC) recommendations for improvements within the court system.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Provide support and assistance and participate with the CIP in the development of the Judicial Leadership Forum on Dependency to focus leaders in the court system on strategies to implement improvements based on the CFSR findings. b. Develop process to communicate monthly with senior judicial officials, CIP staff, and others to implement strategies developed by the Judicial Forum. c. Support and assist the CIP in the incorporation of the CFSR findings relating to the dependency courts in the CIP reassessment process. 	<p>9/04</p> <p>10/04</p> <p>12/04</p>	<p>Complete (9/04)</p> <p>Complete (10/04)</p> <p>Complete (11/04)</p>	<p>Complete</p>	<p>7.3.1</p>
	<p>28.1.3 Identify the barriers and data gaps within each agency (Courts, CA, AAG) and develop strategies to address the barriers and gaps.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Establish workgroup between CA and AAG to examine the time from referral to AAG for TPR and completion of TPR. b. Complete draft report of recommendations. Develop plan for review of data and time from referral to TPR in Region 3 Implement strategies to reduce time to TPR in Region 3 c. Report relevant results to CIP Steering Committee and develop plan for implementation. Review every six months and report out to CIP. 	<p>9/04</p> <p>1/05</p> <p>--</p> <p>6/05</p>	<p>Complete (11/04)</p> <p>Complete (1/06)</p> <p>Complete (1/06)</p> <p>Completed (9/06)</p>	<p>The workgroup was established during the 1st quarter.</p> <p>In the 4th quarterly report we proposed and ROX concurred with a change to benchmarks "b-c" and the addition of benchmarks "d".</p> <p>During the last 12 months, staff from CA along the AAG and the local courts have met to reduce the backlog of cases waiting for TPR. Through this process the involved systems examined their internal practices and resource allocations. Both the AAG and CA</p>	<p>7.4.3</p>

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						<p>added additional staff. The number of kids waiting and the wait time has been significantly reduced.</p> <p>8th quarter - Increased resources have been provided which has resulted in a significant improvement in achieving permanency for children in Region 3.</p> <p>An additional judge was hired in Skagit County. CA has added additional staff to Region 3 through a rebalancing of FTE allocation between Region 4 and Region 3. Additional AAG capacity has also been provided. Increased defense representation has been provided in Skagit County through The Parents Representation Program.</p> <p>Reports attached in electronic file 28.1.3</p>	
		28.1.4	<p>Seek technical assistance from the National Child Welfare Resource Center on Legal and Judicial Issues pertaining to legal and judicial support, on how to impact change within the court system.</p> <p>a. Contact the resource center to determine availability and resources.</p> <p>b. Seek approval from Region X gatekeeper for use of resource center.</p>	12/04	Complete (1/05)	Complete	7.4.2
				12/04	Complete (1/05)	The summary of recommendations from the NRC was attached to the 2 nd quarterly report.	

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			c. Arrange for assistance (via meeting or conference call) from resource center.	2/05	Complete (3/05)		
		28.1.5	Further develop and fully implement concurrent planning throughout the state.	<i>(Refer to 8.4.2)</i>			7.1.7

Item 29		Process for notifying caregivers of reviews and hearings and for opportunity for them to be heard <i>Action Steps</i>					
Goals		Action Steps/Benchmarks		Required Finish	Projected/ Actual Finish	Status	Cross-Reference Item to KCF II

Item 29

Process for notifying caregivers of reviews and hearings and for opportunity for them to be heard
Action Steps

Goals		Action Steps/Benchmarks		Required Finish	Projected/ Actual Finish	Status	Cross-Reference Item to KCF II
29.1	Increase proper and timely notification of hearings to foster/relative placement caregivers and their right to be heard.	29.1.1	<p>Collaborate with the courts to review and revise policies to reflect:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Define "notice" • Define "right to be heard" • Define "input" <p>a. In collaboration with partners, establish policy workgroup to develop recommendations.</p> <p>b. Management team reviews and approves appropriate recommendations.</p> <p>c. Collaborate with the courts to implement policy changes.</p> <p>d. Educate staff, resource families and community partners on any policy revisions and definitions.</p> <p>e. Provide training to resource families regarding participation in hearings (<i>written and in-court</i>)</p> <p>f. Complete and implement CAMIS development of a process for tracking notification to foster parents.</p> <p>g. Implement statewide</p> <p>h. Initiate reports to the field every six months.</p> <p>Provide copy of draft Survey of foster parents to assess their experience with timely notification and participation in court hearings through the WSU survey required for Braam.</p>	1/05 5/05 7/05 8/05-10/05 10/05 12/05 --	Complete (1/05) Complete (10/05) Complete (12/05) 6/06 6/06 Delete 7/06 Deleted 6/07 Completed (9-06)	<p>Complete</p> <p>Due to limitations of the CAMIS system action step "f" and "h" are not possible at this time. In the 4th quarter we proposed and ROX concurred with the deletion of these steps and a modification to "i".</p> <p>In the response to the 4th quarterly report, ROX requested additional information regarding the policies. These will be finalized and attached to the next quarterly report.</p> <p>In the response to the 5th quarterly report, ROX requested additional documentation of policy/procedures specifically related to notice and the opportunity to be heard in court hearings. This will be finalized and submitted with the next quarterly report.</p> <p>7th Quarter - Caregivers were notified of the updated policy by various means. A mailing to approximately 3200 unlicensed relative caregivers with the letter to Caregivers from Cheryl</p>	7.5.1

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						<p>Stephani; the Fact Sheet Notice for Caregivers; and the <i>Caregivers Report to the Court</i> was completed June 29, 2006.</p> <p>The WSU Caregiver survey design is nearly complete. CA is working to finalize the survey with the Braam panel - Draft survey will be provided by 9/30. CA proposes to change benchmark "h" to reflect this.</p> <p>The survey of foster parents is expected to be complete in Spring 2007. The results from the survey will be included in the 2007 APSR. Please see "29.1.1 Notice" attachments.</p> <p>8th quarter - this item is complete. Copy of draft survey is provided in electronic file 29.1.1</p>	

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Process for notifying caregivers of reviews and hearings and for opportunity for them to be heard
Action Steps

Goals	Action Steps/Benchmarks	Required Finish	Projected/ Actual Finish	Status	Cross-Reference Item to KCF II
	<p>29.1.2 Require notification to all resource families and provide support to increase participation and provide input in all meetings, staffings (including CPT's) and hearings involving planning for the children in their care.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Establish policy workgroup, including CATS, to draft recommended policy revisions, including the automated process for notification, the tools for how that notification is to be conducted, and where notification is to be documented. Policy workgroup will further draft the cover letter for the ISSP which specifies date of hearing and definitions of "right to be heard" and "input" b. Workgroup reports out on draft recommendations. c. Begin development of an electronic process for tracking notification to foster parents of court hearings. d. Management team reviews and approves appropriate recommendations. e. Provide orientation to all resource families and staff. f. Implement policy statewide. g. Implement electronic system changes statewide. h. Establish baseline for notification compliance and set performance measure i. Initiate six month reports to the field on levels of compliance and participation c. Develop Shared Planning policy d. Obtain Braam panel comments of the draft policy e. Complete revisions to Shared Planning policy f. Orientate staff to the new Shared Planning policy g. Implement Shared Planning policy 	<p>12/04</p> <p>3/05</p> <p>4/05</p> <p>4/05</p> <p>5/05-8/05</p> <p>9/05</p> <p>10/05</p> <p>12/05</p> <p>6/05</p> <p>--</p> <p>--</p> <p>--</p> <p>--</p> <p>--</p> <p>--</p>	<p>Complete (12/04)</p> <p>Complete (3/05)</p> <p>Deleted</p> <p>Deleted</p> <p>Deleted</p> <p>Deleted</p> <p>Deleted</p> <p>Deleted</p> <p>Deleted</p> <p>Complete (12/05)</p> <p>Complete (2/06)</p> <p>4/06</p> <p>Complete (7/06)</p> <p>Complete (8/06)</p> <p>6/07-Complete 9/06</p>	<p>Complete</p> <p>Due to limitations of the CAMIS system action step "c" thru "i" are not possible at this time.</p> <p>In the 4th quarter we proposed and ROX concurred with alternative steps, including a foster parent survey.</p> <p>Notification of foster parents regarding all staffing meetings is addressed through the Shared Planning policy. We have received comments from the Braam panel and are finalizing the policy. This will be provided to ROX by the end of May, 2006.</p> <p>No additional status changes to report in the 6th quarterly report.</p> <p>7th quarter - Shared Planning is being implemented. Please see shared planning folder for complete attachments.</p> <p>Also see 29.1.1 regarding the survey of foster parents.</p>	<p>22.2.2</p>

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Goals		Action Steps/Benchmarks		Required Finish	Projected/ Actual Finish	Status	Cross-Reference Item to KCF II
			h. Provide copy of draft survey of foster parents to assess their experience with timely notification and participation in staffings		Complete 9/06	8 th quarter -Copy of draft survey provided and available in electronic file folder 29.1.1	