



Washington State

(Title IV-B)

Annual Progress and Services Report
FY 2012-FY 2013

Children's Administration
Department of Social and Health Services

June 29, 2012

Amended September 14, 2012

Table of Contents

Section I – Introduction	4
Description of State Agency	5
Vision – Mission – Values	5
Strategic Initiatives	6
Section II – Annual Report and Plan-	25
Part 1: Safety	26
Outcome 1: Children are first and foremost, protected from abuse and neglect	27
Outcome 2: Children are safely maintained in their homes whenever possible and appropriate	29
Part 2: Permanency	33
Outcome 1: Children have permanency and stability in their living arrangement	34
Outcome 2: The continuity of family relationships and connection is preserved for children	42
Part 3: Child and Family Well-being	48
Outcome 1: Families have enhanced capacity to provide for their children	51
Outcome 2 and 3: Children receive appropriate services to meet their physical mental and educational need	56
Part 4: Systemic Factors	61
Systemic Factor A: Statewide Information System	61
Systemic Factor B: Court Case Review System	64
Systemic Factor C: Quality Assurance	72
Systemic Factor D: Staff and Provider Training	75
Systemic Factor E: Service Array and Resource Development	75
Systemic Factor F: Responsiveness to the Community	77
Systemic Factor G: Foster and Adoptive Homes Licensing, Approval and Recruitment	78

Section III Chafee Foster Care Independence Program/Education and Training Vouchers	82
Section IV Training Plan	98
Section V Inter Country Adoptions	106
Section VI Foster and Adoptive Parent Recruitment	109
Section VII Adoption Incentive Payments	114
Section VIII Coordination with Tribes	116
Section IX – Update to Health Care Coordination and Oversight Plan	122
Section X – Financial Information	128
▪ CFS-101, Part 1: Annual Budget Request for Title IV-B, Subpart 1 & 2 funds, CAPTA, Chafee Foster Care Independent Program and Education and Training	134
▪ CFS-101, Part II: Annual Summary of Child and Family Services	135
▪ CFS-101, Part III: Annual Expenditures for Title IV-B, Subpart 1 & 2 funds, CFCIP & ETV	136
Section XI Program Description	137
Section XII Washington State Disaster Plan	140
Attachment List	142

SECTION I: Introduction

- **Description of State Agency**
- **Vision – Mission – Values**
- **Strategic Initiatives**

Introduction

The Washington State Annual Progress and Services Plan is an annual report of progress the Washington State Department of Social and Health Services has made toward meeting goals for the past fiscal year and a prospective look at what is planned for the year ahead. In addition to satisfying a federal mandate, the plan describes daily efforts that reflect our agency's commitment to provide quality child welfare services to every child and their family every time.

DSHS submits this report by June 30 each year prior to submitting the state's application for federal funds to support the efforts of state child welfare agencies in providing child welfare services. This report outlines *Updates and Progress* for the period of July 1, 2011 – June 30, 2012, and *Planned Activities* for the period of July 1, 2012 – June 30, 2013.

Description of State Agency

The Washington State Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) is an integrated organization of high-performing programs working in partnership for statewide impact to help transform lives. The Children's Administration is one of five administrations within DSHS and has the primary responsibility for the public child welfare system, child maltreatment prevention, intervention and promoting child and family well-being.

The activities of Children's Administration impact approximately three percent of the state's population. Each year approximately 200,000 individuals benefit from direct or ancillary services provided by Children's Administration; these individuals represent ten percent of the entire DSHS client population.

DSHS Vision – Mission – Values

Vision

Safe, healthy individuals, families, and communities

Mission

The Department of Social and Health Services will improve the safety and health of individuals, families and communities by providing leadership and establishing and participating in partnerships

Values

Excellence in Service, Respect, Collaboration and Partnership, Diversity, Accountability

Orientations

Early childhood development, person and family centered, strength-based

Strategic Initiatives

Public child welfare is a shared responsibility in partnership with our local communities, service providers, tribes and families. Government cannot and should not ensure child welfare alone. The Department is committed to serve the state's children by acting as One Department, aligning services and leveraging resources within the department and throughout the community, to meet the multiple needs of the children and families we serve.

It is not enough for DSHS to be a transactional organization. Our work must be transformative; helping individuals and families transform their lives in ways that lead to decreased poverty, increased health status and educational and employment success.

The Children's Administration goals for 2013 continue to focus on *safely*:

- Maintaining children in their own homes, preventing out-of-home placement
- Serving and supporting children in temporary out-of-home care
- Returning children home as quickly as possible
- Supporting children in the homes of fit and willing relatives, both maternal and paternal
- Achieving permanent families for children who cannot safely return home
- Decreasing the over-representation of children of color in the child welfare system; and
- Fully complying with the federal Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) and the Washington State Indian Child Welfare Act (WSICWA)

In FY 2012, Children's Administration implemented the following strategic initiatives that continue to support the themes of quality service, consistent best practice, collaboration and partnership, diversity, accountability and quality outcomes. The first five initiatives are based on child welfare legislation passed during the 2012 supplemental legislative session:

- ***Performance Based Contracting***
- ***Evidence Based Practice/Services***
- ***Family Assessment Response***
- ***Reinvestment of Foster Care Savings***
- ***Expansion of Foster Care to 18-21 year olds***



Performance Based Contracting House Bill 2264

Purpose: Reform the delivery of family support and related services to children and families by creating a flexible, accountable community-based system of care that uses performance-based contracting, maximizes the use of evidence-based, research-based, and promising practices, and expands the capacity of community-based agencies to leverage local funding and other resources to benefit children and families served by the department

Summary

Children’s Administration (CA) will enter into performance-based contracts with one or more network administrators to develop a provider network offering family support and related services by December 1, 2013.

A workgroup of CA staff and stakeholders will prepare a Request for Proposal for network administrators to provide services, which must be issued by December 31, 2012. In developing the procurement, CA will consult with a variety of internal and external stakeholders to assist in defining categories of family support and related services. Stakeholders include: CA social workers, the employee bargaining representative, Tribal representatives, parents formerly involved in the child welfare system, youth currently or previously in foster care, child welfare services researchers and the Washington Institute for Public Policy

Contracts will use performance-based payment methodologies and may include a shared savings methodology. Performance measures will be tied to successful engagement of a child or parent in services included in their case plan and result in improvement of identified problem behaviors and interactions. Services will support the mitigation of child safety concerns, and promote permanency, reunification, and child well-being.

Activity Updates FY 2012	Status
1. Convene workgroup to prepare a Request for Proposal for release by December 31, 2012.	<i>In progress</i>
Planned Activities FY 2013	Target Date
1. Consult with CA social workers, Washington Federation of State Employees, tribes, veteran parents, youth, child welfare researchers, and Washington State Institute for Public Policy to define family support and related services.	July 15, 2012
2. Issue RFP for network administrators to provide family support and related services.	December 31, 2012
3. Announce successful bidders.	June 30, 2013



Evidence Based Practice/Services
House Bill 2536

Purpose: Increase the use of Evidence Based Practices

Summary –

New legislation passed in 2012 will enhance the work of Children’s Administration by increasing the use of Evidence Based Practices (EBPs) and the efficiency of supporting these services.

The legislation requires Children’s Administration to consult and collaborate with stakeholders and partners to define Evidence Based Practices and Research Based Practices, to develop baselines of Evidence Based and Research Based Practices, and to assess federal funding impact. A report to the Governor and legislature by the Children’s Administration and the Health Care Authority with recommendations to implement this legislation is due December 30, 2013.

Activity Updates FY 2012		Status
1. Consult with community partners to publish descriptive definitions and prepare an inventory of evidence-based, research-based, and promising practices for child welfare services		Completed: June 2012
Planned Activities FY 2013		Target Date
1. Complete a baseline assessment of the use of evidence-based and research-based practices.		FY2013
2. Work with other agencies and DSHS administrations to create a report for the Governor and Legislature on recommended strategies, timelines, and estimated costs for increasing the use of evidence-based and research-based practices.		December 30, 2013: Report due





**Family Assessment Response
Implementation of Differential Response for Child Protection
Senate Bill 6555**

Purpose: Implement alternative response to screened in reports of child abuse and neglect

Summary:

New legislation signed into law on March 30, 2012, requires DSHS to design and implement a Family Assessment Response (FAR) as an alternative to child protective services investigations of child abuse and neglect. Screened-in reports of sexual abuse, physical abuse, and severe neglect will continue to be directed to investigation while reports alleging that a child is at lower risk, not in danger, will be referred for Family Assessment Response. CA will not name subjects in Family Assessment Response intakes and will not make findings of abuse or neglect. The Family Assessment Response provides the family with an assessment for treatment services and supports relating to child safety and risk of subsequent abuse or neglect. These supports strengthen and provide basic needs for families lacking housing, transportation, clothing, food, medical care, and other needs. CA provides services to the family on a voluntary basis.

Washington state’s Family Assessment Response is a form of Differential Response, which is a non-investigatory practice model focusing on assessment for services and concrete supports. In many states, evaluation of the practice model has shown, if there is fidelity to the Differential Response model, the practice results in positive impacts on child safety, budget reduction, placement rates and re-referral rates.

Activity Updates FY 2012	Status
1. Coordinate work for development of implementation plan.	Completed: June 2012
Planned Activities FY 2013	Target Date
2. Review current intake and CPS process and protocols to determine modifications and adjustments necessary for FAR implementation	July 2012
3. Complete business design of Intake and FAR FamLink tools.	September 2012
4. Implement quality assurance and training plan outlines. Identify funding for services and concrete resources.	October 2012
5. Submit implementation plan to legislature.	December 31, 2012





Reinvestment of Foster Care Savings House Bill 2263

***Purpose:** Use savings achieved through reductions in foster care placements to improve outcomes for children and families*

Summary –

New legislation signed into law on March 30, 2012, allows DSHS to create The Child and Family Reinvestment Account and use the reinvestment to build capacity and purchase services that:

- 1) Safely reduce entries and prevent re-entry into the foster care system
- 2) Safely increase reunifications
- 3) Achieve permanency for children unable to reunify, and
- 4) Improve outcomes for youth who age out of care.

Revenues for this the account will consist of savings from safe reductions in the foster care caseload and per capita costs.

Activity Updates FY 2012	Status
1. Collaborate with the Office of Financial Management and the Caseload Forecast Council to develop a methodology for calculating savings. Methodology must include any relevant provisions of the Title IV-E Waiver.	<i>In Progress</i>
Planned Activities FY 2013	Target Date
2. Report the proposed methodology to the Legislature.	December 1, 2012





Expansion of Foster Care to 18-21 year olds House Bill 2592

Purpose: Provide more opportunity for youth in foster care to complete their secondary education

Summary –

In 2011, the Washington State Legislature created the legal foundation for youth to remain in care after their 18th birthday. This legislative action supports the Federal Fostering Connection Act of 2008 and is designed to expand as Washington’s fiscal resources increase. This legislation allows Washington to claim federal Title IVE funding to support these youth in placement.

The second phase of the Extended Foster Care program, enacted during the 2012 legislative session, allows youth to remain in care to complete their post secondary education.

Through the Extended Foster Care program, youth can remain in a dependency action from age 18 -21. The 2011 phase of this legislation targeted youth who have not completed their secondary education or an equivalency program by the time they turn 18 years old. To qualify the youth must be a dependent of Washington state, in foster care and enrolled in a secondary education program on their 18th birthday. Youth may elect to participate in the program on their 18th birthday or may be granted a six-month trial independence period if they do not initially elect to participate. During the trial independence period the youth’s dependency remains open but services are not offered or provided. The youth may elect to participate in the program at any time during the trial independence period. At the end of six months, the dependency action is dismissed if the youth has not elected to participate.

Historically, Washington state allowed youth to remain in care after age 18 through a voluntary placement agreement or the Foster Care to 21 program. State funds supported these programs after the youth reached age 19. The federal Fostering Connections act allows Washington state to support these youth with a combination of state and federal dollars.

Activity Updates FY 2012	Status
1. Implement legislative requirement for youth remaining in care to complete secondary education or an equivalency program (phase one).	Completed: July 2011
2. Make necessary changes in the SACWIS system to support legislation.	Completed: October 2011
3. Work with stakeholder and policy makers to address challenges encountered during deployment of phase one.	Completed: October 2011
4. Provide follow up training on phase one of legislative requirement	Completed: April 2012
5. Implement legislative requirement for youth who wish to remain in care for post secondary education or vocational program (Phase two)	Completed: June 7, 2012 and on-going
FY 2013 Planned Activities FY 2013	Target Date
1. Create Rules to support phase one and two	October 2012

The following initiatives are not a result of the Washington state 2012 supplemental legislative session although some were developed from legislation in previous years. These initiatives are designed to address specific or emerging issues and will help lead to better services to children and families in the Washington state child welfare system.



Office of Family and Children's Ombudsman 2011 Report

***Purpose:** Implement recommendations to address findings in the Office of Family and Children's Ombudsman (OFCO) 2011 Annual Report*

Summary –

The Office of Family and Children's Ombudsman (OFCO) 2011 Annual Report identified key findings and recommendations based on specific case reviews and OFCO's participation in efforts to address public child welfare issues. Children's Administration works closely with OFCO to address immediate safety concerns on individual cases, as well as patterns or themes identified through case reviews that result in legislative, rule and policy changes, or the identification of targeted areas for training for CA staff and community partners involved in the child welfare system.

The 2011 Annual OFCO findings address:

- **Severe abuse and neglect in adoptive, pre-adoptive and other permanent placements** – The 2011 OFCO report showed a cluster of very concerning situations involving starvation or severe abuse of children in adoptive families. These abuse and neglect cases involve in-state, out-of-state and private adoptions as well as other permanent planning cases. CA shares OFCO's concerns and as a result, CA and OFCO are co-chairing a special workgroup, which began meeting in February 2012, to address the critical issues regarding domestic and international adoption policies, protocols and quality assurance. The workgroup includes representatives from CA, private adoption agencies including Children's Home Society, World Association for Children and Families, tribes, UW School of Medicine, courts, pediatricians specializing in abuse/neglect of children, foster parents, the Office of the Secretary of DSHS and the Office of the Attorney General. The workgroup plans to submit a report of its findings and recommendations to the Governor by June 1, 2012.
- **Completion of CPS Investigative Assessments within 45 days** – The OFCO report identified issues related to the timely completion of CPS Investigative Assessments within the required policy timeframe of 45 days. To address this, CA is working to develop monthly statewide data reports to monitor this requirement and provide monthly data to supervisors. CA is also reviewing the current policy and considering extending the timeframe as the 45-day requirement in policy is a shorter timeframe than is required in statute.
- **Unsafe Sleep Environment** – Unsafe sleep environment continues to be a critical concern as this is a factor in many child fatalities reported to the Department. Hospitals and Children's Administration social workers provide information to families of newborns about safe sleep. The information outlines what parents and caregivers can do to ensure a safe sleep environment for their baby. The Department also provides safe sleep information to foster parents during required "Stages of Family Life" training. The OFCO report also raised the issue of a disproportionate number of child fatalities of Native children. CA and our tribal partners formed a statewide workgroup with tribes and Indian organizations, the Department of Health and Children's Hospital to address this issue in Native communities.

Activity Updates FY 2012		Status
1. Review of case situations and current practice and protocols by sub workgroups for the Severe Abuse of Adopted Children. Develop recommendations for consideration and implementation by the department and community partners to address these areas of concern.		Completed: February 2012 through June 2012
2. Review by sub workgroups of Unsafe Sleep Environment case situations, current practice and protocols. Develop recommendations for consideration and implementation by the department and community partners.		In progress: Workgroups began reviews in January 2012
3. Review current policy requiring completion of the CPS Investigative Assessment within 45 days. Develop technology to provide monthly statewide data to monitor this practice requirement.		Completed: February 2012 In progress
4. Provide educational materials regarding safe sleep to tribes, Indian Organizations, parents, caregivers and social workers.		Completed: March 2012
5. Provide training to CA social workers on how to evaluate infant sleep environments for safety while conducting home visits and how to engage caregivers in discussions about safe sleeping practices.		Ongoing
6. The child fatality ad hoc workgroup consisting of members from CA, OFCO, Department of Health (DOH), nine tribes and an intertribal planning agency, completed a list of resources to help mitigate child fatalities with a focus on Native American children. Distribute list of resources to tribes, Recognized American Indian Organizations, DOH, and the Children's Hospital tribal liaison.		Completed: Workgroup met monthly from January 2011 to May 2012
FY 2013 Planned Activities FY 2013		Target Date
1. Review recommendations from workgroups for possible implementation.		FY 2013
2. Develop technology to provide monthly statewide data to monitor completion of the CPS Investigative Assessment within 45 days.		FY 2013



Title IV-E Waiver Demonstration Projects

Purpose: Obtain federal approval for a Title IV-E Waiver demonstration project

Summary –

Public Law 112-34 amends section 1130 of the Social Security Act to allow the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to approve up to ten new child welfare waiver demonstration projects in each of the federal fiscal years 2012 to 2014.

Children's Administration convened a statewide workgroup that includes community partners and stakeholders to provide input and recommendations for a child welfare waiver demonstration application. This waiver will provide the flexibility to use Title IV-E funds for services not normally allowable for Title IV-E Reimbursement. This may include services that will help keep more children safely at home, avoid placements, and safely reunify children with their families.

Activity Updates FY 2012	Status
--------------------------	--------

1. Establish and convene Title IV-E Statewide Advisory Committee meetings to share information and collect input from a broad spectrum of stakeholders. Meetings held : December 21, 2011, February 16, March 13, May 8, May 24, and June 18, 2012.	Completed: June 18, 2012
2. Contract with consulting firm to conduct a financial analysis and help write the waiver application.	Completed: contract effective February 1, 2012
3. Develop an evaluation design - by DSHS Research and Data Analysis Administration	In Progress



Planned Activities FY 2013	Target Date
1. Consulting firm conduct a financial analysis and help write the waiver application.	July 9, 2012
2. Submit a written application.	July 9, 2012
3. Complete successful negotiation with federal partners on the terms and conditions of the Title IVE waiver demonstration proposal.	September 28, 2012
4. Provide services under the authority of a Title IV-E Waiver.	FY 2013



The Washington State Indian Child Welfare Act

Purpose: *Ensure Children’s Administration staff are trained on the new requirements in the Washington State Indian Child Welfare Act (WSICWA)*

The Washington State Indian Child Welfare Act (WSICWA) became law on June 22, 2011. Tribes and tribal leaders requested and supported the development and passage of this legislation because of their concern that a disproportionate number of Indian children are involved in Washington state’s child welfare system and have longer stays in care than other children. Tribal leaders saw this as an opportunity to ensure compliance and help courts enforce provisions of the federal ICWA, not only in cases involving the state but in private non-parental custody and adoption actions. The Washington Racial Disproportionality Advisory Committee (WSRDAC), which includes tribal members, recommended in their Racial Disproportionality Remediation Plan of December 2008 that Washington state enact a state ICWA.

Children’s Administration is committed to improving outcomes for tribal children and families and to full compliance with the spirit and letter of the WSICWA. Children’s Administration values and respects the government-to-government relationship with tribes and appreciates the opportunity to collaborate with tribes to keep children safe and improve the quality of life for children and families in Washington state.

To ensure compliance with the WSICWA, Children’s Administration is updating and adding new training content to the ICW training curriculum. CA is also updating the case review tool to measure compliance with the new state law.

Activity Updates FY 2012	Status
1. Conduct training of CA staff using curriculum developed by the Attorney General’s Office on the WSICWA, with input from CA staff. Curriculum includes why the act was passed, differences from the federal ICWA, and how to implement the law into practice. CA participates in delivery of training to help address CA practice and policy components.	Ongoing: Training began in September 2011

2. Update ICW module at the Training Academy and three-day post Academy ICW training to include components of the Washington State Indian Child Welfare Act.	Completed: Training updated January 2012.
3. Update case review tool in FY 2012 to measure compliance with the state and federal ICWA requirements.	Completed: Tool update completed January 2012.
4. Monitor progress of ICW case review implementation plans. Regional staff report quarterly at the CA Indian Policy Advisory Committee Subcommittee meetings as well as submit written reports.	Ongoing: Last report occurred January 2012; next report is in July 2012
FY 2013	Planned Activities FY 2013
	Target Date
1. Conduct case reviews specific to Indian Child Welfare (ICW) cases to measure compliance with the state and federal ICWA's.	August through November 2012
2. Training on WSICWA will continue in FY2013. CA ICW staff will collaborate with the Attorney General's Office to coordinate training dates.	FY2013



Training, Education and Professional Development System

Purpose: *Strengthen consistency of practice by enhancing the delivery of education, training, and professional development opportunities*

Summary

The Children's Administration entered into a partnership that will dramatically change the training and professional development of Children's Administration staff, relatives, and foster and adoptive parents in Washington state. The partnership includes the University of Washington Seattle School of Social Work, Eastern Washington University, and the University of Washington Tacoma Social Work Program, and will expand and deepen the current social work education and child welfare training program. The University of Washington child welfare research and evaluation office known as Partners for Our Children (POC) has also joined this partnership to enhance the training program with current research and best practice information. The governance and infrastructure of the new partnership is called the Alliance for Child Welfare Excellence.

The primary goal of the Alliance for Child Welfare Excellence is to enhance the delivery of education, training, and professional development for social work staff, supervisors, administrators, and managers at Children Administration, as well as foster, adoptive, and relative caregivers and private agency community partners. The university-based service alliance works through partnerships to strengthen knowledge and skills that will result in a highly skilled workforce and well-prepared caregivers with the competencies needed to serve Washington's children and families.

The cost allocation methodology used to allocate training costs will provide the capacity for expanding and enhancing the social work education and child welfare training. Children's Administration currently uses an approved Random Moment Time Study to allocate training costs. Children's Administration will request approval to allocate training costs based on a curriculum analysis methodology from the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Cost Allocation. This methodology will enhance Title IV-E dollars based on the proportionate share of Title IV-E eligible training topics. The additional Title IV-E funding will provide the resources to achieve the training goals set by the Alliance for Child Welfare Excellence.

The Executive Team, which includes the dean and directors from each university, POC, and the

Children’s Administration Assistant Secretary, developed a comprehensive approach to training. This includes social work education, pre-service, in-service and advanced training, supervision, and management level professional development training for Children’s Administration social workers.

The new training design will integrate the current training programs to increase effectiveness and efficiency, and create a comprehensive and coherent learning continuum for Children’s Administration employees. *See Attachment 3 – Training Master Agreement*

Activity Updates FY 2012		Status
1. Gather information and lessons learned from other state/university training partnerships, including examples of effective child welfare training systems.		Completed: September 2011
2. Formalize partnership by developing mission, vision, values, and guiding principles that underscore the collaborative relationship.		Completed: December 2011
3. Complete Master Agreement creating the Alliance for Child Welfare Excellence. The University President and Dean for the School of Social Work, the DSHS Secretary and Children’s Administration Assistant Secretary signed the agreement.		Completed: December 2011
4. Transfer 30 Professional Development Training employees from Children’s Administration to the University of Washington.		Completed: January 16, 2012
5. Form Regional Advisory Groups in the three regions, made up of members from the universities, CA, and key community partners.		Completed: April 2012
6. Created two statewide standing committees, “Competencies and Curriculum” and “Evaluation” in FY2012. These committees provide the in-depth content expertise for continuous improvement of competencies, curriculum and overall training.		Completed: May 2012
FY 2013	Planned Activities FY 2013	Target Date
1. Complete and adopt all competencies related to the statewide continuing education and training of CA workforce, foster and relative caregivers, and trainers or instructors.		September 2012
2. Design an evaluation of all training components.		October 2012
3. Provide staff and other supports to launch new pre-service orientation for new CA social workers. Newly adopted competencies will determine content for pre-service orientation.		FY 2013
4. Develop new training for supervisors and administrators to include professional development, continuing education and other learning opportunities.		December 2012
5. Develop a workforce projection model to collect and track information on CA workforce including demographics, hiring trends and turn over.		FY 2013



Early Childhood Orientation

Purpose: *Incorporate into child welfare practice an early childhood developmental orientation that reflects the best of brain science research to keep young children safe at home and to improve outcomes for infants and young children in foster care, ages birth through five*

Summary –

Children’s Administration is incorporating an early childhood orientation to improve day-to-day child welfare practice for infants and young children served in the public child welfare system. In 2010, Children’s Administration established a Birth to Five Framework that focuses on the specialized needs of infants and young children. The framework includes trainings, policies and procedures consistent with the early brain science research with a specialized focus on babies of pregnant and parenting teens who are in out of home care.

In FY2012, Children’s Administration partnered with Casey Family Programs who made a three year funding commitment to implement all aspects of the Birth to Five Framework.

Activity Updates FY 2012		Status
1. Hire key staff to implement the Birth to Five Framework.		Completed: June 2012
Planned Activities FY 2013		Target Date
1. Review and evaluate critical policies to ensure alignment with early child development research and brain science. Gather input from key staff in regions, including Regional Administrators, Family Team Decision Meeting Facilitators, Supervisors, Area Administrators, and Placement Coordinators. Make recommendations to management regarding policy and practice changes.		December 2012
2. Revise Children’s Administration Academy and Resource Family Training Institute (RFTI) trainings for social workers and caregivers.		FY 2013
3. Work with the Department of Health, Department of Early Learning, Thrive by Five, and Casey Family Foundation to expand training opportunities around the state regarding executive functioning and the best of brain science.		FY 2013
4. Develop critical data and quality assurance measures and implement identified Quality Assurance activities.		FY 2013



Education Initiatives

Purpose: Increased collaboration and coordination between child welfare, education and the courts to strengthen educational success of children and youth in foster care

Summary –

By invitation of the US Department of Education and the Administration for Children and Families, key staff from Children’s Administration, the Office of the Superintendent for Public Instruction and the Administrative Office of the Courts participated in a summit in Washington DC. The summit highlighted national best practices regarding the educational success of children and youth in foster care. The event resulted in the creation of short and long- term action plans that include activities and strategies Washington has committed to move forward on.

In addition, the 2012 Legislature passed the Foster Care – Educational Success Act. This bill focuses on improving educational attainment of children and youth in the K-12 and higher education systems. It specifically focuses on improving high school graduation, credit retrieval, post-secondary enrollment and completion, data sharing and harnessing technology to promote educational stability and success.

Children’s Administration staff work hard to help foster youth succeed in school including keeping children in their original schools when placed out of home.

- In Washington state, for the class of 2009, including the extended graduation and GED completion, 77% of foster students received a high school diploma or equivalent, higher than the 76% of all students in Washington state.
- The percent of children placed with non-relatives who changed schools has decreased since the 2007-2008 school year, from 21.8% to 12.8% in the 2009-2010 school year.

Activity Updates FY 2012	Status
1. Complete a Geomap showing licensed foster care homes by school district. This is a tool used by placement desk coordinators to assist with placing children in their same school district.	Completed: March 2012
2. Align the action plan created at the summit in Washington DC with the 2012 Foster Care Educational Success act.	Completed: June 2012
3. Convene a core team to meet every other month to focus on implementing goals identified in the action plan created at the Summit. Goals include improving the transfer of school records, increasing the understanding of transportation options and removing barriers to school continuity.	Completed: and ongoing in FY 2013
Planned Activities FY 2013	Target Date
1. Create a comprehensive cross-administration youth engagement strategy to improve youth voice, adult action and positive outcomes.	FY 2013

Racial Disparity and Disproportionality

Purpose: Reduce over-representation of children of color in the public child welfare system

Summary:

An administration wide effort continues to address racial disproportionality in every area of our work and in all of our initiatives. This can be seen in our Practice Model training and ongoing consultation which provides social workers and supervisors continuous opportunities for skill development in the area of cultural competence. Solution Based Casework training challenges and teaches social workers to factor in issues of disproportionality and disparity in their decision-making throughout the life of a case.

As found in earlier years, disproportionality at intake is high and Children’s Administration continues to focus its efforts on training using recently developed Mandated Reporter materials. CY 2010 data shows that Racial Disproportionality and disparity outcomes are still apparent for Native American, African American and multiracial children in the areas of removal from home, placements lasting longer than thirty days, and placements lasting longer than two years. However, there have been improvements over the last two years. For instance, between 2008 and 2010, disproportionality in overall intakes declined significantly for Native American (-.46%), Multiracial (-.57%) and Hispanic (-.37%) children, and stayed constant for Black and Asian children. A similar pattern appears when looking only at screened-in intakes. Disproportionality declines for Native American (-.41%), Multiracial (-.52%) and Hispanic (-.32%) children.

Children’s Administration will address this issue through training and use of data reports that highlight areas of racial disparity and disproportionality, as well as by increasing family engagement and focused permanency efforts.

Children’s Administration is developing recommendations for the implementation of four new racial disproportionality reduction initiatives: (1) increased recruitment of foster caregivers of color; (2) increased documentation of racial, ethnic, and tribal affiliation data; (3) elimination of long-term foster care as a permanent plan, and; (4) mandatory racial disproportionality awareness training.

Evaluation of strategies and activities to reduce racial disproportionality and disparity is ongoing, and the Washington State Racial Disproportionality Advisory Committee continues to monitor progress in reducing racial disproportionality across the child welfare system.

Activity Updates FY 2012	Status
1. Add information and examples to training for social work supervisors and staff that emphasizes racial disproportionality, its history, current efforts at remediation and specific examples of what staff should think about and ask children and families throughout the life of a case. New policy and updates will include language addressing racial disproportionality.	Completed: July 2011 and ongoing
2. Train Children’s Administration leadership, policy developers, disproportionality staff and policy reviewers, on Annie E. Casey Foundation Racial Equity Impact Analysis tool. The tool provides a set of guiding questions to determine if existing and proposed policies, programs, and practices are likely to close the gap for specific racial disparities.	Completed: Training provided June 29, 2011 Developed Supervisory Tip Sheets on application of the tool for use in field
3. Expand focus to include disparity related to services. In FY 2012, CA and Economic Services Administration staff formed a workgroup to ensure families of color have equal access to concurrent TANF benefits that support reunification.	Ongoing

<p>4. Integrate racial disproportionality into everything we do and all of our initiatives.</p> <p>In FY 2012, CA continued its focus on increasing the occurrence of Family Team Decision Making meetings for children of color. In addition, Permanency Roundtables were held, focusing on children with the longest length of stay in out-of-home placement, a group in which children of color are overrepresented.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	
<p>5. Integrate racial disproportionality into our Program Improvement Plan (PIP) in response to our federal Child and Family Services Review.</p>	<p>Completed: November 2011</p>	
<p>6. Monitor outcomes by race and ethnicity at the office and unit level.</p> <p>Request made and work began to develop report for race data at the office/unit level to enable leadership and supervisors to monitor at the local level.</p>	<p>Ongoing: Data request and development started for new data report</p>	
<p>7. Expand distribution of Mandated Reporter Toolkit to include external partners such as law enforcement, public schools, and medical personnel.</p> <p>Distribution to Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction, public schools, and Office of Public Defense began In January 2012.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	
<p>8. Expand partnership with King County Coalition on Disproportionality by participating in projects such as the 98118 Zip Code Referral Reduction Committee and Immigrant/Refugee Resources Committee.</p>	<p>Ongoing: Assist in the development of strategies</p>	
<p>9. Develop recommendations to implement four racial disproportionality reduction initiatives: (1) increased recruitment of foster caregivers of color; (2) increased documentation of racial, ethnic, and tribal affiliation data; (3) elimination of long-term foster care as a permanent plan, and; (4) mandatory racial disproportionality awareness training.</p>	<p>Ongoing: Recommendations completed and presented to CA Assistant Secretary in June 2012.</p>	
<p>FY 2013</p>	<p>Planned Activities FY 2013</p>	<p>Target Date</p>
<p>1. Develop recommendations for training and best practices informed by the results of an agency assessment that evaluates social, systemic and individual factors that may contribute to disparate treatment of children of color in the child welfare system.</p>	<p>Begin summer 2012</p>	
<p>2. Assist in the development of strategies to reduce racial disproportionality in the implementation plan for Family Assessment Response.</p>	<p>FY 2013</p>	
<p>3. Implement the recommendations from the racial disproportionality reduction initiatives workgroups.</p>	<p>FY 2013</p>	

Strengthening the Response to Child Safety throughout the Life of a Case

***Purpose:** Safely maintain children in their own homes and in out-of-home care and provide ongoing assessment of safety throughout the life of the case*

Summary –

During the past year, Children’s Administration, working closely with the National Resource Center for Child Protection, revised and strengthened our safety assessment and planning framework, trained our staff on the new Child Safety Framework and implemented new tools and policies that support a stronger assessment of child safety throughout the life of the case. These revisions will improve child safety by identifying and controlling present and impending safety threats to children.

The new Safety Framework includes an improved comprehensive Family Assessment that guides decision-making to achieve the right match of services to address the identified needs of children and families and focuses on child safety *throughout the life of the case*. The Safety Framework emphasizes child safety as the driver for all key decisions for children in their own homes and children in out-of-home placement, from the first referral through case closure. The new Safety Framework focuses on the following:

- Use of child safety rather than risk as the defining principle for Child Protective Services involvement
- Defining the differences between safety and risk in ways staff and the community can understand
- Reliance on precise language in the application of safety threat analysis
- Analysis of a safety threat focuses on the collection and assessment of discrete information rather than evaluating/intervening into every aspect and detail of each family member’s life
- Formalizing our practice concerning visits with parents
- Identifying present and impending danger threats to help determine if a child is safe or unsafe in the family home or in out-of-home care
- Maintaining children/youth safely at home when safety threats can be managed and controlled
- Identifying and responding to concerns about well-being or risk factors for the child and family but not basing decisions on these concerns

See [Safety Section](#) for FY 2012 and 2013 Activities and Performance

Consultation and Collaboration

***Purpose:** Ensure ongoing collaboration, coordination and consultation with partner agencies, tribal representatives, community stakeholders, caregivers, youth, juvenile courts and other public and private child and family service provider*

Summary -

Children’s Administration continues to increase its efforts to involve stakeholders and community partners to ensure those impacted by child welfare work are included in the substantive discussions about that work. Throughout this document, we describe our consultation and collaboration with tribes, community stakeholders, caregivers, youth, juvenile courts and other public and private child and family service providers to:

- Develop our Child and Family Services Review Program Improvement Plan
- Review the APSR

- Create the Child Welfare Training Partnership with the Schools of Social Work and the University of Washington and Eastern State University as well as Partners for Our Children
- Develop and implement the new Safety Model Framework
- Continue to implement the Washington State Racial Disproportionality Remediation Plan
- Address the findings from the Indian Child Welfare case review and conduct another review in FY2013
- Continue to coordinate on the development and implementation of Integrated Case Management and wraparound services
- Continue to Implement and expand the Fostering Well-Being Program
- Continue cross system work with other administrations and agencies to provide seamless service delivery to children

In the last year, Children’s Administration sought and received technical assistance and consultation from the National Resource Centers, Partners for Our Children, Gates Foundation, Casey Family Programs, and the Stuart Foundation.

Activities FY 2012 and 2013

1. See Technical Assistance received in [Systemic Factor E: Service Array and Resource Development](#)
2. See Consultation with stakeholder groups and coordination with other agencies and state partners in [Systemic Factor F: Responsiveness to the Community](#).

Wraparound Approach

Purpose: *To integrate services across systems and providers to increase communication and coordination of services and supports and increase family engagement and motivation for change. Tailors services to family needs that reduce threats to child safety and increases family hope.*

Summary –

Children’s Administration is incorporating the principles of the wrap around approach to service delivery into the Practice Model. This will strengthen our ability to individualize services to each child and family. CA also is providing coaching to CA staff on the Practice Model, integrating the safety framework and the Wraparound approach.

Children’s Administration continues to partner with the Juvenile Rehabilitation Administration to integrate the wraparound approach through the implementation of [Integrated Case Management](#).

Activity Updates FY 2012	Status
1. University of Washington /Evidence Based Practice Institute provided initial technical assistance through the end of December 2011.	Completed: December 2011
2. Develop curriculum on wraparound principles and practices with assistance and feedback from Portland State consultants. The training has four modules, 1) wraparound principles, 2) how wraparound principles interface with solution based casework, 3) how to apply the principles and 4) how to be a good participant on a wraparound team.	Completed: March 2012
Planned Activities FY 2013	Target Date
1. Provide training on wraparound principles and practices to Children’s	FY 2013

FY 2013

Administration staff.	
On-line training scheduled to be completed and available to the regions in July 2012.	

Integrated Case Management (ICM)

“For youth Involved in the Child Welfare and Juvenile Justice Systems”

Youth and Family Goals:

- | | |
|---|--|
| ▪ Health and wellness | ▪ Safe and stable housing |
| ▪ Education, high school completion | ▪ Safe and stable in-home care and natural supports |
| ▪ Job Readiness, employment and life skills | ▪ Seamless transitions between placement and community |

System Goals:

- Seamless care management to provide holistic care and best practices
- Streamline services and remove barriers
- Use data to inform practice decisions

Summary –

Integrated Case Management is a multisystem infrastructure that guides the process of coordinating services to vulnerable youth with complex needs and their families served in the child welfare and juvenile justice systems. Through Integrated Case Management, youth and families receive improved holistic services across multi-systems by embedding wraparound principles, sharing information, and coordinating services to better serve youth. The target population includes youth and young adults who have a history of child abuse and/or neglect with current criminal justice involvement.

Children’s Administration and the Juvenile Rehabilitation Administration continued their collaboration to develop the framework for Integrated Case Management through the development of a Memorandum of Understanding. Four Integrated Case Management implementation sites are developing goals and outcomes and funding options to sustain this effort are being explored.

Activity Updates FY 2012	Status
1. Steering Committee and Executive Team continue to meet monthly to refine the plan and direct on-going work.	Ongoing
2. Continue Wraparound training with implementation sites.	Completed: August 2011
3. Implementation sites develop local goals and outcomes. Two sites, Skagit and Pierce have completed the development of local goals and outcomes	Ongoing Completed: October 2011
4. Explore expansion of implementation sites. Decision made not to expand at this time until current sites were more developed.	Completed FY2012

<p>5. Develop a sustainable funding plan for ICM. Juvenile Rehabilitation Administration (JRA) received a one-year grant to fund a position to support implementation of the ICM effort. The position is hired and housed in JRA. We continue to explore alternative funding options.</p>	<p>Completed: FY 2012</p>
<p>FY 2013</p>	<p>Planned Activities FY 2013</p>
<p>1. Develop on-line training for Wraparound principles that will be available to field staff FY 2013.</p>	<p>July – December 2012</p>
<p>2. Two sites, Okanagan and Thurston Counties, continue to identify the target populations, establish local protocols, and develop local goals and outcomes.</p>	<p>July-August 2012</p>
<p>3. Development of Memorandum of Understanding between Children’s Administration and Juvenile Rehabilitation Administration will help augment coordinated case management across the state. This will in turn help support integrated case management between the two administrations.</p>	<p>July 2012</p>

SECTION II: Annual Report and Plan

Part 1: Safety

Part 2: Permanency

Part 3: Child and Family Well-being

Part 4: Systemic Factors

Part 1: Safety

Washington continues to improve its child protection system. The Child and Family Services Review State Assessment notes significant progress in timeliness of initial face-to-face contact with alleged victims of child maltreatment. The recent FamLink data reports indicate Children's Administration (CA) improved performance to 99% in face-to-face contacts with children in both emergent referrals and non-emergent referrals. Please see page 136 for a description of Child Protective Services.

Washington Data Profile shows that Washington has not yet met the national standard of 94.6% or more for absence of repeat maltreatment within six months. Our performance has improved from 93.7% in FFY 2010 and FFY 2009 to 94.2% in FFY 2011. We have exceeded the national standard of 99.68% or more for absence of child abuse and/or neglect in foster care with a rate of 99.81%. We continue to monitor this data as key indicators of child safety and as the core mission of the Children's Administration.

While CA has made progress, we must continue to improve child safety at investigation, during an in-home placement, while in out-of-home care, and throughout CA's involvement with the family. The focus on and implementation of the Safety Framework will continue to improve child safety, including the areas of ongoing assessment, quality of assessment, and services targeted to safety issues.

In the past year, safety improvement highlights include:

- *Developed, trained and implemented the New Safety Framework with our workforce and key stakeholders.* CA continues to strengthen its assessment of safety and safety plan development and monitoring through the Child Safety Framework. The new Child Safety Framework focuses on safety rather than risk, brings a precision of language that will help all parties involved in a case understand the safety threat(s) that have been identified, and provides a focal point throughout the life of the case. All CA staff are trained in the Safety Framework and tools that support the Framework are developed and launched in the SACWIS system. CA is developing the quality assurance (QA) process to establish baselines in areas of Safety Plans, Safety Assessments and Case Planning. We are implementing and monitoring QA plans for compliance on the safety framework and adherence to the safety of children. In the coming year, CA will provide detailed information on how the safety model is working throughout the state.
- *Continued using Monthly Performance Data Reports to provide real time data on the Initial Face-to-Face contact (IFF).* This report, designed for staff and managers, allows them to manage their cases proactively and improve performance.
- *The Office of Risk Management reviewed critical incidents over the past several years, including those occurring in 2011.* This review was conducted to identify common risk factors and practice trends in critical incidents and high profile cases. The information was compiled into a revised Lessons Learned curriculum to be presented to social work staff to improve practice around the state. The first presentation of the revised Lessons Learned training was held at the Children's Justice Conference in May 2012. Lessons learned include:
 - Infants and toddlers are most vulnerable to serious injury or death from abuse. In 2011, 69% of children who died were three years old and younger.
 - Communication and collaboration on child welfare cases results in well-informed decision-making, better case planning, improvements in child safety and permanency planning.
 - Cases that include thorough assessments with consideration of all pertinent elements, including history and verification of information, are often not found in critical incident cases. Incident-focused work is frequently seen in critical incident cases.

- Documentation of casework must include rationale for decision-making and recommendations rather than solely on activities and tasks.
- Social workers cannot rely solely on child interviews to determine whether abuse has occurred or children are safe.

Children’s Administration also addresses child safety by using data and tracking information of child maltreatment fatalities and tracking of our most vulnerable children. CA uses the following sources of information relating to child maltreatment fatalities and reports this data to NCANDS:

- Washington state’s SACWIS system (FamLink)
- Children’s Administration’s Critical Incident Reporting System (CAAIRS). CAAIRS is a standalone database of information regarding all critical incidents involving Children’s Administration clients and staff, including information on child fatalities
- Child Death Review Teams
- Coroner’s Offices
- Medical Examiners Offices
- Law Enforcement agencies
- Washington State Department of Health, which maintains vital statistics data, including child deaths

Using information gathered through the Administrative Incident Reporting System and FamLink, we identified that children under five years are most vulnerable to maltreatment. Of those, children under one year old die at an increased rate due to Sudden Infant Death Syndrome and Sudden Unexpected Infant Death. Several strategies were implemented to strengthen safety assessment of children, including strategies focused on young children. These include:

1. Safe Sleep interventions with parents of newborns, including home visits to observe sleep environments and provide instruction on back-to-sleep and the risks of co-sleeping
2. Safe Sleep training provided to some tribes
3. Administrative policy directing intake screening on reports from medical providers about children under five years old
4. Implementation of Safety Framework that, with the 17 Safety Threats, provides clarification and more specific identification threats to children
5. Strengthening training and supervision of in-home safety plans through the Safety Framework
6. Structured-decision making, a child protective services risk assessment tool that assesses risk of maltreatment.
7. Implementation of 30 day visits with children and their caregivers.

Safety Outcome 1: Children are first and foremost protected from abuse and neglect

- **Timeliness of initiating investigations of reports of child maltreatment**
- **Repeat maltreatment**

UPDATES AND PROGRESS (FY 2012)

Activity	Status
----------	--------

Activity	Status
1. Use Monthly Performance Data Reports to improve practice of Initial face-to-face contact.	Ongoing
2. Implement new legislation that narrows the scope of child fatality reviews. The legislation also stipulates that CA will conduct reviews of near fatality and serious injury cases that are suspicious of abuse and neglect.	Completed: July 2011
3. Centralize the critical incident review process so the region where the incident took place does not conduct the review.	Completed: FY 2012
4. Develop and implement Regional FamLink Sexually Aggressive Youth/Physically Assaultive/Aggressive Youth (SAY/PAAY) quarterly reports to review quality and compliance with policy and increase safety and well-being of children.	Completed: December 2011
5. Assess ongoing opportunities to integrate required Child Protection Team (CPT) meetings with Family Team Decision Making (FTDM) meetings All staffing requirements were reviewed and revised where possible. A new Staffings section was created in the policy manual to put all staffing requirements in one place. Work continues to seek a revision to a Governor's Executive Order that drives CPT requirements.	Completed: June 2012
6. Enhance supervisor support by developing the FamLink supervisor's review desktop screen. This will save time in conducting a more thorough monthly 100% social worker case review.	In process: due August 2012

FY 2013

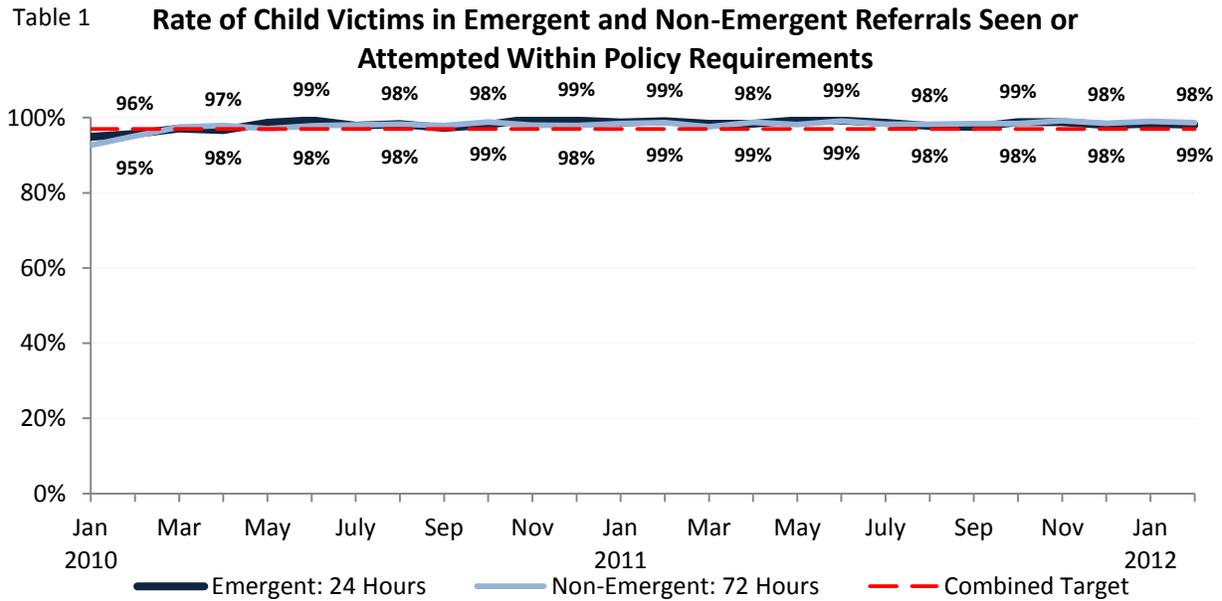
PLANNED ACTIVITIES (FY 2013) - Outcome 1 - Children are first and foremost, protected from abuse and neglect

Activity (2013)	Target Date
1. Design of Supervisory Review Tool by FamLink staff and supervisors.	August 2012
2. Develop the framework, tools, policies and procedures to support the new Family Assessment Response track.	FY 2013
3. Plan for program changes to Intake, Child Protective Services and Family Voluntary Services as a result of the new Family Assessment Response.	FY 2013
4. Work collaboratively with the Governor's office to revise the Executive Order that supports Child Protection Team (CPT) staffings. Revision to order will allow CPT teams to focus on cases where safety and risk are greatest and the teams input is most impactful.	FY 2013
5. Provide Lessons Learned training to social work staff across the state developed through a review of critical incidents and designed to improve practice.	FY 2013 and Ongoing

DATA – Item 1

Timeliness of initiating investigations of reports of child maltreatment

Table 1 - Visits or attempts for timely face-to-face visits by social workers were accomplished for 99 percent of alleged victims in CPS referrals (emergent and non-emergent combined).



Data source: FamLink run data 3/28/12

**Data – Item 2
Repeat Maltreatment**

Washington Data Profile

FFY 2007	FFY 2008	FFY 2009	FFY 2010	FFY 2011
92.7%	93.9%	93.7%	93.7%	94.7%

Data Source: FFY2011 Data Profile

Maltreatment in Foster Care

Washington Data Profile

FFY 2007	FFY 2008	FFY 2009	FFY 2010	FFY 2011
99.77%	99.62%	99.82%	99.80%	99.81%

Data Source: FFY2011 Data Profile

Safety Outcome 2: Children are safely maintained in their homes whenever possible and appropriate.

- Services to families to protect children in the home and prevent removal into foster care
- Risk assessment and safety management

UPDATES AND PROGRESS (FY 2012) - Safety Outcome 2: Children are safely maintained in their homes whenever possible and appropriate.

Activity Name	Status
1. Continue to monitor and train supervisors and managers on child safety assessment practices (Child Safety Framework) to monitor quality assurance benchmarks at the region and office level. Update policy and staff training as needed to improve safety outcomes for in home and out of home cases.	Ongoing
2. Develop quality assurance procedures to sustain updated child safety assessment practices.	Completed: FY 2012



PLANNED ACTIVITIES – Safety Outcome 2: Children are safely maintained in their homes whenever possible and appropriate.

Activity (FY 2013)	Target Date
1. Incorporate a focus on child safety throughout Performance Based Contracting.	FY 2013
2. Implement Quality Assurance plan	FY2013

Data – Item 3

Services to families to protect children in the home and prevent removal into foster care

Central Case Review Question

Q: *Were efforts made to provide or arrange appropriate services to protect the child(ren) and prevent removal, or was the child(ren) removed from the home to ensure the child(ren)'s safety?*

Services to prevent removal	CY 2007 Statewide Results	CY 2008 Statewide Results	CY 2009 Statewide Results	2010* Statewide Results	CY 2011 Statewide Results
Central Case Review	80%	76%	87%	79%	86%

Data Source: Children's Administration's Central Case Review

*The 2010 case review data for Item #3 - based on 71 cases completed during 1st quarter CY2010.

Central Case Review Questions

Q: <i>Were actions taken to provide or arrange appropriate services to the family targeted at the safety threats to the child?</i>	2010** Statewide Results	2011 Statewide Results
--	---------------------------------	-------------------------------

	65% 34 cases	86% 97 cases
--	-----------------	-----------------

Q: If a child(ren) returned home, or remained in the home, were services offered or provided? (2010 data)	2010** Statewide Results	2011 Statewide Results
	90% 20 cases	93% 41 cases

**During 2nd quarter 2010, CA redesigned the Case Review Tool. Case Review continues to measure services to the family to protect the child and prevent placement.

Data – Item 4

Risk Assessment and Safety Management

Central Case Review Questions (prior to the revision of the Case Review Tool during the 2nd Quarter – Spring 2010).

Were efforts made to adequately assess and address the risk and safety concerns for the child(ren)?

Q: If the child was in out-of-home care, was there adequate response to the risk of harm or safety concerns in the child's out-of-home placement?

Q: If the child was in out-of-home care, was there an adequate response to the risk of harm or safety concerns during visitation with family members?

Risk of Harm	CY 2007 Statewide Results	CY 2008 Statewide Results	CY 2009 Statewide Results	2010* Statewide Results	2011 Statewide Results
Central Case Review	71%	70%	79%	75%	87%

Data source: Children's Administration Central Case Review

*The 2010 case review data for Item #4 - based on 95 cases completed during 1st quarter 2010.

Revised Central Case Review Questions

Q: During the time the case was open in CPS, were safety threats adequately addressed?	2010 Statewide Results	2011 Statewide Results
	79% 85 cases	87% 213 cases

Q: During the time the case was open in FVS, were safety threats adequately addressed?	2010 Statewide Results	2011 Statewide Results
	74% 35 cases	89% 65 cases

Q: During the time the case was open in CFWS, were safety threats	2010 Statewide	2011 Statewide
---	---------------------------	---------------------------

adequately addressed?	Results	Results
	88% 65 cases	91% 166 cases

Q: Were safety threats regarding the child's out of home caregiver adequately addressed?	2010 Statewide Results	2011 Statewide Results
	88% 16 cases	82% 33 cases

Part 2: Permanency

Washington State made progress in achieving more timely permanence for children. In federal fiscal year (FFY) 2010, Washington achieved the national standard for all four Child and Family Services Review (CFSR) composite measures of permanency. While Children's Administration (CA) has done well in meeting the national standards, work continues with the implementation of more focused efforts to address challenges related to achieving permanency for children in care.

Highlights of performance and activities related to permanency in the past year include:

- Washington ranked 18th out of 47 on the national ranking of state composite scores for *timeliness and permanency of reunification*. This includes ongoing advanced Solution Based Casework (SBC) training to help better engage families, providers and caregivers in the process of developing permanent plans.
- *Exits to reunification* decreased in FFY 2011, with 70.4% of all children discharged from foster care reunified in less than 12 months from 73.4% in FFY2010; however this is still higher than 69.3% in FFY 2009 and above the national median of 69.9%. The median stay was 5.1 months in FFY 2011, an increase over 4.4 months in FFY 2009; but continues to be above the national median of 6.5 months. Washington continues to struggle with children entering foster care for the first time and reunifying in less than 12 months. Performance in this area in FFY 2011 was 32.7%, which is below the national median of 39.4%, but CA has seen a performance improvement of over 6% since FFY 2007 (25.2%). CA continues to increase its focus on family engagement using Family Team Decision Making meetings (FTDMs) to engage families at the beginning of a case, and SBC for ongoing engagement of families.
- *Foster Care Re-entry* performance improved in FFY 2011 to 13.8 from 14.3% in FFY 2009 due to our increased focus on FTDMs.
- *Timeliness to Adoption* performance improved with Washington ranked 3rd out of 47 in the national ranking of state composite scores. Performance improved on all exits to adoption measures. CA focused efforts on expediting adoptions for children who are legally free by implementing the Expedited Adoption Project. This project concentrated staff resources to complete pre-adoption work, including adoption home studies, and the Child's Medical and Family Background Report for children who were legally free and in the home expected to adopt them. CA also increased the use of Permanency Round Tables focused on children in care the longest.
- *Placement Stability* performance in Washington ranks 13th out of 47. Of children in foster care, at least 8 days but less than 12 months, 83.2% had two or fewer placements in FFY 2011, compared to 85.3% in FFY 2009. Over the past year, Children's Administration has seen improvements in the support and information provided to caregivers (licensed and unlicensed) as demonstrated in the Annual Foster Parent Survey. The 2011 survey showed the highest level of support to foster parents (77.3%) and the highest level of adequate information (82.7%) reported since the annual survey began in 2007, which showed 74.9% and 73.5% respectively. CA implemented a Statewide Caregiver Support Improvement Plan in FY 2011 to work on systemic issues which included individual support plans to support newly licensed foster parents. CA also continues to improve and monitor FTDMs to strengthen consistency and participation in the placement decisions of children in care.
- In June 2011 Washington State received four Family Unification Program (FUP) grants totaling 1.4 million to serve 199 families. HUD awarded four grants to the Housing Authorities of Seattle and Snohomish, Clallam and King Counties to assist families whose lack of adequate housing prevents

them from remaining together. The grant awards are the result of the Department’s collaborative partnerships with Public Housing Authorities statewide in applying for FUP grants.

The Department is continuing this strong collaboration through the development of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with participating Public Housing Authorities statewide that will formalize our partnership in serving families involved in the public child welfare system. The goal of these partnerships is to strengthen families to safely care for their children when lack of housing is a barrier to maintaining children in their home or reunifying families. The MOU will also address services for youth who are transitioning from the foster care system.

Permanency Outcome 1: Children have permanency and stability in their living arrangement

- **Foster care re-entries**
- **Stability of foster care placement**
- **Permanency goal for child**
- **Reunification, guardianship or permanent placement with relatives**
- **Adoption**
- **Permanency goal of other planned living arrangement**

UPDATES AND PROGRESS (FY 2012)

Activity	Status
1. Increase staff and caregiver awareness of Foster Parent Critical Support and Retention Program.	<p><i>Completed and Ongoing</i></p> <p>Foster Parent Critical Support/Retention Contractors attended staff meetings with social workers and supervisors in each region to discuss supports and benefits offered through the Foster Parent Critical Support and Retention Program. They also met with foster parent support and hub homes* across the regions.</p> <p>CA will continue work to develop greater awareness and use of this support service, and will incorporate it into the new statewide foster care recruitment and retention contract in the fall of 2012.</p> <p>*Hub homes are a part of the Mockingbird Society’s Mockingbird Family Model. They are a group of six to ten foster homes who live close to a central foster family whose role is to provide support and respite to these foster families.</p>
2. Provide supervisors information, training, & expectations for achieving timely permanency.	<p><i>Completed: December 2011</i></p>

Activity	Status
<p>3. Increase adherence to FTDM policy through quality assurance activities. Review and assess statewide practices for use of FTDMs by determining training and support needs and policy requirements to improve quality of practice.</p> <p>Develop and use a management report to ensure CA staff schedule and convene FTDMs according to requirements and timelines.</p> <p>Create a consistent and uniform infrastructure to support, supervise and provide technical assistance to FTDM facilitators, social work staff and family engagement efforts statewide.</p>	<p>Completed and Ongoing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A standardized observation tool for facilitator observation has helped standardize FTDM practice throughout the state. Facilitators attend quarterly meetings and receive targeted training to address specific practice areas such as domestic violence, background checks, and documentation. <p>Tribes will receive FTDM facilitator training in June 2012. CA will schedule other trainings throughout 2012 and 2013.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The development and implementation of quarterly FTDM reports is in progress. The report was released to FTDM managers in March 2012. Release to all FTDM staff is scheduled by midsummer 2012. Two regions and half of the third region have a consistent infrastructure to support FTDM facilitators and family engagement efforts. The last region is expected to have the same infrastructure in place in FY2013.
<p>4. Provide in-service training to Placement Coordinators and all staff with responsibility for matching children with licensed placement resources.</p>	<p>Completed: December 2011 – March 2012</p>
<p>5. Use technical assistance from the National Resource Center for Adoption to develop capacity for MEPA training.</p> <p>Use training curriculum provided by the NRCA to provide Multi Ethnic Placement Act training for staff statewide.</p>	<p>Completed: NRCA Consultation during FY2012</p> <p>Completed: Training of Trainers occurred May 16 – 17, 2012</p>
<p>6. Increase number of Permanency Planning Partnership projects with courts and child welfare partners.</p>	<p>Ongoing:</p> <p><i>Permanency Round Tables –</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Statewide Permanency Round Tables (PRT) were implemented in FY 2012 in partnership with Casey Family Programs. PRT sessions addressed the permanency needs of 206 children/youth with the longest time in care across the state. PRTs developed action plans and implemented a monitoring system to ensure plans were enacted. CA staff and the community received a summary report on the strengths and barriers to permanency. Planning is in process for FY 2013 Statewide PRT sessions. Community partners joined the permanency values, skill building, and family engagement trainings that continue in FY 2012. More engagement of judges, Tribal Court, and other key decision makers will further enhance the intensity and urgency of this permanency focus, which should translate to increased reduction of foster care and length of stay in all regions.

PLANNED ACTIVITIES (FY 2013) - Permanency Outcome 1: Children have permanency and stability in their living arrangement

Activity (2013)	Target Date
<p>1. Partner with Casey Family Programs to conduct Permanency Round Tables for 100 children or sibling groups who meet the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Children / Youth with the longest time in care who have not been previously staffed at a PRT b. Children / Youth in care at least 15 months and do not have a petition filed for the Termination of Parental Rights c. Difficult cases of local concern <p>CA will continue to monitor PRT Action Plans to determine the effectiveness of the PRT process and highlight both successes and barriers in achieving permanency</p>	FY 2013
<p>2. Implement ongoing improvements to statewide practices for Family Team Decision Making Meetings (FTDMs):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Work with the Alliance for Child Welfare Excellence (Alliance) to add FTDM on-line training as a requirement for completion of Social Worker Academy. b. Continue to increase consistency of FTDM meetings by identifying and training back up facilitators in each office and by using ongoing facilitator observation and feedback using a consistent statewide observation tool. c. Provide consistent and uniform infrastructure to support, supervise and provide technical assistance to FTDM facilitators, social work staff and family engagement efforts throughout the state. d. Increase adherence to FTDM policy through quality assurance activities. 	FY2013
<p>3. Use curriculum provided by the NRCA to provide Multi Ethnic Placement Act (MEPA) training to CA staff statewide.</p>	July – October 2012
<p>4. See Chafee section for ongoing activities related to the stability of youth in foster care.</p>	

Data – item 5

Foster Care Re-Entries

Washington Data Profile reports in federal fiscal year 2011, only 13.8% of all children discharged from foster care to reunification re-entered foster care within 12 months, well below the national median of 15.0 %.

FFY 2007	FFY 2008	FFY 2009	FFY 2010	FFY 2011
18.8%	16.0%	14.3%	15.5%	13.8%

Data Source: FFY2011 Data Profile

Data – Item 6

Stability of foster care placement

Washington Data Profile reports the stability composite for federal fiscal year 2011 is 98.3, which decreased from previous years and is below the national standard of 101.5.

FFY 2007	FFY 2008	FFY 2009	FFY 2010	FFY 2011
95.4	95.8	100.6	100.9	98.3

Data Source: FFY2011 Data Profile

The stability composite has three individual measures based on the percent of children with two or fewer placement settings and their length of time in care. Washington’s performance for federal fiscal year 2011 continues to exceed the national median for children placed 12 to 24 Months and 24 Months – or more, and just missed the national median for children placed Less than 12 Months. Stability declined for children placed less than 12 Months and 24 Months – or more, impacting the stability composite.

Placement Stability: Percent of Children with 2 or fewer placement settings			
Time in Care	National Median	Washington's Performance	
		FFY 2010	FFY 2011
Less than 12 Months	83.3%	85.5%	83.2%
12 to 24 Months	59.9%	67.4%	67.5%
24 Months - or more	33.9%	39.3%	37.4%

Data Source: FFY2011 Data Profile

1st Quarter 2010 - Central Case Review Question (prior to the revision of the Case Review Tool during the 2nd Quarter – Spring 2010).

(Case Review Tool no longer measures this item)

Q: The child was in a stable placement, or if moved, the change in placement was in the best interest of the child or consistent with achieving permanency.

Cases included in the sample achieved stability of placement if:

- The child remained with the same caregiver in the last 12 months
- The child moved from a non-relative to a relative home, or moved from a foster home to an adoptive home
- The child’s move was based on the child’s need for a higher level of care or a less restrictive level of care

Stability of Foster Care Placements	CY 2007 Statewide Results	CY 2008 Statewide Results	CY 2009 Statewide Results	2010* Statewide Results
Central Case Review	82.0%	81.0%	79.0%	81%

Data Source: Children’s Administration Central Case Review and FamLink

*The 2010 Central Case Review data for Item# 6 - based on 69 cases completed during 1st quarter 2010.

Data - Item 7

Permanency goal for child

Central Case Review Question

Two Central Case Review questions were rolled into item #7 measurement:

1. *Were all permanency goals appropriate to the child’s individualized needs, and were they established in a timely manner?*
(Case Review Tool no longer measures question # 1)
2. *Was a petition to terminate parental rights filed if the child was in out-of-home placement for 15 of the most recent 22 months, or compelling reasons were documented in the current ISSP?*

Permanency Goal for Child	CY 2007 Statewide Results	CY 2008 Statewide Results	CY 2009 Statewide Results	2010* Statewide Results
Central Case Review	84.0%	85.0%	79.0%	85%

Data Source: Children’s Administration Central Case Review

**The 2010 case review data for Item #7- based on 69 cases completed during 1st quarter 2010.*

Central Case Review Questions *(The current tool no longer measures question #1 above, but continues to measure question #2)*

Q: Was a petition to terminate parental rights filed if the child was in out-of-home placement for 15 of the most recent 22 months, or compelling reasons documented in the current ISSP?	2010 Statewide Results	2011 Statewide Results
	84% 50 cases	81% 73 cases

Data - Item 8

Reunification, guardianship or permanent placement with relatives

Washington Data Profile reported that in federal fiscal year 2011 performance declined for returning children home timely. The timeliness of reunification composite is composed of three timeliness measures and Washington’s performance is above the national median on two of those measures.

Measure	FFY 2007	FFY 2008	FFY 2009	FFY 2010	FFY 2011
Percentage of exits to reunification in less than 12 months (national median: 69.9%)	63.8%	63.8%	69.6%	72.3%	70.4%
Median length of stay (national median: 6.5 months)	5.6 Months	7.0 Months	4.4 Months	2.4 Months	5.1 Months
Percentage of all children entering foster care for the first time and reunified in less than 12 months	25.2%	36.0%	32.7%	30.6%	31.7%

Measure	FFY 2007	FFY 2008	FFY 2009	FFY 2010	FFY 2011
(national median: 39.4%)					

Data Source: FFY2011 Data Profile

Central Case Review Question

Q: Were actions taken to achieve the permanency goal of reunification, guardianship or third party custody or guardianship timely?

Exits to Reunification, Guardianships, and Third Party Custody	CY 2007 Statewide Results	CY 2008 Statewide Results	CY 2009 Statewide Results	2010* Statewide Results	2011 Statewide Results
Central Case Review	72.0%	71.0%	67.0%	69%	76%

Data source: Children's Administration's Central Case Review and FamLink

*The 2010 case review data for Item #8 - based on 49 cases completed in the first quarter of 2010.

Revised Central Case Review questions

The Case Review Tool measures data for Item #8 by asking the following two questions.

Q: If the primary permanency goal was reunification, were actions taken to achieve the goal in a timely manner?	2010 Statewide Results	2011 Statewide Results
	74% 42 cases	87% 71 cases
Q: If the primary permanency goal was third party custody or guardianship, were actions taken to complete the goal in a timely manner?	2010 Statewide Results	2011 Statewide Results
	20% 5 cases	29% 17 cases

Data – Item 9

Adoption

Washington Data Profile: Timeliness of Adoptions shows Washington's performance in completing timely adoptions exceeded the national standard. This composite has three components, two of which directly measure the timeliness of adoptions.

- **Component A: Timeliness of Adoptions of Children Discharged from Foster Care;** has 2 measures:

Measure	FFY 2007	FFY 2008	FFY 2009	FFY 2010	FFY 2011
Percentage of exits to adoption in less than 24 months (national median: 26.8%)	27.1%	24.5%	18.4%	24.2%	29.3%

Measure	FFY 2007	FFY 2008	FFY 2009	FFY 2010	FFY 2011
Median length of stay (national median: 32.4 months)	31.3 Months	31.8 Months	33.4 Months	32.6 Months	31.5 Months

- **Component B: Progress Toward Adoption for Children in Foster Care for 17 Months or Longer;** has 2 measures:

Measure	FFY 2007	FFY 2008	FFY 2009	FFY 2010	FFY 2011
Percentage of children in care 17 months or more, that are adopted at the end of the year (national median: 20.2%)	21.3%	20.6%	25.0%	27.9%	31.4%
Percentage of children in care 17 months or more achieving legal freedom within 6 months (national median: 8.8%)	14.8%	15.3%	12.8%	14.5%	14.6%

Data Source: FFY2011 Data Profile

Central Case Review

Q: If the primary goal was adoption, were actions taken to achieve the goal in a timely manner?

Adoptions Within 24 Months	CY 2007 Statewide Results	CY 2008 Statewide Results	CY 2009 Statewide Results	2010* Statewide Results	CY 2011 Statewide Results
Central Case Review Adoptions within 24 months	44.0%	43.0%	61.0%	59%	68%

Data source: Children's Administration's Central Case Review

*The 2010 case review data for item #9 - based on 41 cases completed in the 1st, 3rd and 4th quarters 2010.

Data – Item 10

Other planned living arrangement

Washington Data Profile: *Permanency for Children and Youth in Foster Care for Long Periods of Time;* Washington's performance is ranked eighth of the 51 states. This composite has two components that measure permanency for children and youth in foster care for long periods of time.

- **Component A: Achieving Permanency for Children in Foster Care for Long Periods of Time;** has two measures:

Measure	FFY 2007	FFY 2008	FFY 2009	FFY 2010	FFY 2011
Percentage of children in care for 24 months or more exiting to permanency prior to their 18 th birthday (national median: 25.0%)	30.0%	31.9%	32.9%	35.7%	40.5%
Percentage of children with parental rights terminated exiting to permanency (national median: 96.8%)	93.8%	93.3%	95.0%	97.0%	95.7%

- **Component B: Growing up in Foster Care;** has one measure:

Measure	FFY 2007	FFY 2008	FFY 2009	FFY 2010	FFY 2011
Percentage of children who age out of care without a permanent plan (national median: 47.8%; lower score is preferable)	52.0%	49.9%	47.5%	53.8%	54.1%

Data Source: FFY2011 Data Profile

Central Case Review Question

Q: Were timely efforts made to achieve the permanency goal, or a concurrent goal of long-term foster care, or a plan for independent living for youth 14 years and older?

Other planned living arrangements	CY 2007 Statewide Results	CY 2008 Statewide Results	CY 2009 Statewide Results	2010* Statewide Results	CY 2011 Statewide Results
Central Case Review	76.0%	67.0%	50.0%	60%	100%

Data source: Children's Administration Central Case Review

*The 2010 case review data for Item #10 - based on a sample size of 10 cases completed during 1st quarter 2010

Revised Central Case Review Questions

Q: Were services offered to successfully transition the youth from out-of-home care to adulthood in a developmentally appropriate way for youth 15 years and older?	2010 Statewide Results	2011 Statewide Results
	100% 5 cases	72% 25 cases

Data reported from Independent Living Providers

The total number of children receiving Independent Living and Transitional Living services has increased each year until 2011 where there is a decrease from 2010.

Youth Services by *Contracted Year					
	2007 Statewide	2008 Statewide	2009 Statewide	2010 Statewide	2011 Statewide
Number Children That Received Independent Living Services	911	1,091	1,124	1,076	970
Number Children That Received Transitional Living Services	690	882	1,098	1,441	1,333

Data Source: Data from Independent Living Providers for the *contracted year (September 1st – August 31st)

Permanency Outcome 2 – The continuity of family relationships and connections is preserved

- **Visiting with parents and siblings in foster care**
 - **Proximity of foster care placement**
 - **Placement with siblings**
 - **Relative placement**
 - **Relationship of child with parents**
-

UPDATES AND PROGRESS (FY 2012)

Activity	Status
<p>1. Strengthen partnership with caregivers through training:</p> <p>Training provided statewide on “So You Have Your First Placement. Now What?” This training, on the nuts and bolts of foster caregiving, is provided to newly licensed foster parents.</p> <p>FY2012 training in partnership with Annie E. Casey on building relationships with foster parents has been held in all areas of the state except for Region 2 South and Region 3 South. These areas will receive training by the end of summer 2012.</p>	<p>Completed and ongoing</p> <p>In progress: Summer 2012</p>
<p>2. Expand licensed placement options for large siblings groups through training of Placement Coordinators and afterhours social workers who place children.</p> <p>Training focus is on placing siblings together, identifying placement options in FamLink, and use of Placement Protocol Guidelines to improve consistency of placement practice.</p>	<p>Completed: Train the Trainers held November 15, 2011</p> <p>Regional trainings occurred January through March 2012 for all social workers who place children</p>
<p>3. Strengthen existing relative placement practices by targeting relative search efforts and resources, the quality and timeliness of home studies, and services to relative caregivers.</p> <p>Use the Unified Home Study, which includes relatives who will care for children, statewide.</p> <p>Staff using Accurint, a national data based search system, will be able to identify relatives as placements more effectively when this new practice is fully implemented.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completed the initial implementation in Region 2 North. Statewide training anticipated to be complete by the end of September 2012. • A new Relative Caregiver Fact Sheet and Home Study Checklist was released in April 2012. • CA increased use of Accurint system to search for relatives. Two regions have units devoted to this; other regions have individuals assigned to the work. <p>In FY2012, the number of staff using Accurint continued to increase and now includes DLR staff.</p>

Activity	Status
	Statewide training on Accurant held in May and December 2011 to keep staff updated on changes and introduce new staff to use of the tool.
4. Develop and implement plan to increase the number of licensed relative caregivers by identifying barriers to licensing.	<p>Ongoing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The CA DLR Administrator met with Kinship Navigators, relative caregivers, foster parents and other stakeholders in regional meetings held across the state to identify barriers to licensing. Through CA's Foster Family Recruitment and Retention RFP, the contractor is required to help relatives find resources to meet safety issues that are barriers to licensing. Safety issues are addressed on a case-by-case basis. CA staff continue to use the Accurant national data base as a tool to locate fathers and paternal relatives.
5. Expand licensed placement options for large sibling groups through targeted foster parent recruitment activities and Foster Family Recruitment and Retention contract.	<p>Ongoing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Foster parent recruitment activities continue in the regions. CA issued an RFP in May 2012 to procure one statewide contractor to perform recruitment duties. CA solicited input from community members regarding the content of this contract. Incentive money will be provided in the contract for meeting specified performance targets for sibling groups larger than three.
6. Develop Placement Coordinator Guidelines and Protocols.	Complete and Ongoing: Training provided to social workers, including specific training for Placement Coordinators and all social workers who place children. Completed in March 2012
7. Develop online FamLink management report for staff and managers that documents siblings who have twice-monthly visits/contacts.	Ongoing: Scheduled release for FY2013

FY 2013

PLANNED ACTIVITIES (FY 2013) - Permanency Outcome 2 – The continuity of family relationships and connections is preserved

Activity (2013)	Target Date
<p>1. Statewide caregiver support plan – focus on improving communication and notice to caregivers of hearings and shared planning meetings.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Plans delayed because of budget to update “Tips for Caregiver” card to include a section to document the next court hearing. Local offices are printing as needed. b. Develop online FamLink management report for participation in Shared Planning meetings. 	FY 2013

Activity (2013)	Target Date
c. Emphasize through the monthly Caregiver Connection newsletter the Notification of Caregivers about court hearings and discuss at the quarterly statewide Foster Parent Consultation Team meetings.	
2. Review by statewide quality assurance team, created in May 2012, of sibling visit data and provide recommendations to leadership to increase sibling connection between siblings separated in out-of-home care.	FY2013
3. Review by statewide quality assurance team created in March 2012 of efforts to place siblings together when entering out-of-home care. Make recommendations to leadership that align placement practices and increase outcomes.	FY2013
4. Determine need to request technical assistance to assist with the Unified Home Study implementation.	FY 2013

Data – Item 11

Proximity of foster care

Children’s Administration continues to keep children in their original school when placed in out-of-home care. There has been a nine percent decrease from 2009 to 2011 in the number of foster youth enrolled in school that had to change schools when:

- placed during the school year; or
- he/she moved while in placement during the school year

Changes in School Placement	2008 (SY2006/2007)	2009 (SY2007/2008)	2010 (SY2008/2009)	2011 (SY2009/2010)
OSPI and FamLink Information	20.0%	21.8%	17.3%	12.8%

Data Source: OSPI & FamLink

Data – Item 12

Placement with siblings

Since 2007, there has been a four percent increase of siblings placed together and a slight increase in siblings placed with at least some other siblings. There has been a slight decrease in sibling placed together from FY 2010 as the number of sibling coming into care has increased seven percent.

Sibling Placement					
	FY 2007 Statewide	FY 2008 Statewide	FY 2009 Statewide	FY 2010 Statewide	FY 2011 Statewide
Percent of Siblings Placed With All Other Siblings	58.3%	56.7%	60.9%	64.5%	62.3%

Sibling Placement					
	FY 2007 Statewide	FY 2008 Statewide	FY 2009 Statewide	FY 2010 Statewide	FY 2011 Statewide
Percent of Siblings Placed With At Least Some Other Siblings	79.3%	79.0%	80.9%	81.2%	79.4%

Data source: FY2011 Braam Settlement Agreement Annual Performance and Informational Race Report, Page 39-44.

Data – Item 13

Visiting with parents and siblings in foster care

Central Case Review Question: *(Case Review Tool no longer measures this item.)*

Two Central Case Review questions were rolled into the Item#13 measurement:

- *Were visits between the child and parents of sufficient frequency and quality to maintain or promote the continuity of the child and parent relationship?*
- *Were visits between the child and siblings of sufficient frequency and quality to maintain the continuity of the sibling relationship?*

Child/parent, child/sibling visits in foster care	CY 2007 Statewide Results	CY 2008 Statewide Results	CY 2009 Statewide Results	2010* Statewide Results
Central Case Review	82.0%	83.0%	81.0%	85%

Data source: Children’s Administration Central Case Review

*The 2010 case review data for item#13 - based on 61 cases completed during the 1st quarter.

3rd and 4th Quarter 2010– Revised Central Case Review questions

Q: Were the visits between the child and the parents of sufficient frequency and quality to maintain the child and parent relationship?	2010 Statewide Results
	89% 47 cases
Q: Were the visits between the child and all siblings of adequate frequency and quality to maintain the continuity of the sibling relationship?	2010 Statewide Results
	80% 15 cases

Data - Item 14

Preserving connections

Central Case Review Questions:

There were four Central Case Review questions rolled up for the Item # 14 measurement:

Q: *Were efforts made to discover the child(ren)’s American Indian/Alaska Native/ Canadian Indian status?*

Q: If the child(ren) was believed to have American Indian/Alaska Native/ Canadian Indian status, was the tribe(s) or the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) contacted to determine the child(ren)'s Indian status?

Q: If the child(ren) was determined to be American Indian/Alaska Native/ Canadian Indian, were there active efforts to include the child(ren)'s Tribe(s) in case planning including placement preference?

Q: If this was a Limited English Proficiency (LEP) or American Sign Language (ASL) family, were translation and/or interpretive services provided?

Preserving connections	CY 2007 Statewide Results	CY 2008 Statewide Results	CY 2009 Statewide Results	2010* Statewide Results	CY 2011 Statewide Results
Central Case Review	63.0%	54.0%	78.0%	82%	74%

Data source: Children's Administration Central Case Review

*The 2010 data is based on 68 cases completed during the 1st quarter of 2010.

Please note, beginning in 2009 the results were calculated differently and no longer included inquiry with the parents of possible Native American ancestry.

Central Case Review questions (Preserving the child's connections is no longer measured in the revised tool. The revised tool continues to measure ICW practice and providing translation and interpreter services).

Q: Was inquiry made with both sides of the family to discover if the child had American Indian/Alaska Native/Canadian Indian status?	2010 Statewide Results	2011 Statewide Results
	84% 129 cases	85% 319 cases
Q: If the parent or relative indicated American Indian/Alaska Native/Canadian Indian status, was the Tribe(s) or the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) contacted to determine the child's Indian status?	2010 Statewide Results	2011 Statewide Results
	71% 49 cases	73% 97 cases
Q: If the Tribe determined the child to be American Indian/Alaska Native/Canadian Indian, were there ongoing active efforts to include the Tribe(s) in case planning?	2010 Statewide Results	2011 Statewide Results
	85% 20 cases	82% 28 cases
Q: If this was a Limited English Proficiency (LEP) or used American Sign Language (ASL) family, were translation and/or interpreter services provided?	2010 Statewide Results	2011 Statewide Results
	73% 11 cases	55% 20 cases

The 2011 Central Case Review found that of 326 cases reviewed, 20 were applicable to LES/ASL services. Eleven cases were fully compliant, seven were partially compliant and two were non-compliant. CA reviewed details from the Case Review feedback sheets provided to the offices for these nine cases to understand why they were partially or non compliant. We are developing statewide and office plans to address the issues in these cases and to address practice around LES requirements. We will forward a summary of the plans by November 30, 2012.

Data – Item 15
Relative Placements

1st, 3rd and 4th Quarters 2010 - Central Case Review Question: *(Case Review Tool no longer measures this item.)*

Q: Were actions taken to identify and assess relatives as a placement resource?

Relative Placement	CY 2007 Statewide Results	CY 2008 Statewide Results	CY 2009 Statewide Results	2010* Statewide Results	CY 2011 Statewide Results
Central Case Review	77.0%	76.0%	78.0%	88%	
FamLink (State Fiscal Year)	38.4%	38.7%	37.8%	37.2%	38.1%

Data source: Children’s Administration Central Case Review and FamLink

**The 2010 Case Review data for Item #15 - based on 117 cases completed in the 1st 3rd and 4th quarters 2010.*

Data – Item 16
Relationship of child in Care with parents

1st Quarter 2010 - Central Case Review Question (prior to the revision of the Case Review Tool during the 2nd Quarter – Spring 2010). *(Case Review Tool no longer measures this item.)*

Q: Were efforts made to promote, support, and maintain a positive and nurturing parent/child relationship?

Relationship of child in care with parents	CY 2007 Statewide Results	CY 2008 Statewide Results	CY 2009 Statewide Results	2010* Statewide Results
Central Case Review	88.0%	87.0%	81.0%	89%

Part 3: Child and Family Well-Being

The healthy development of children in out-of-home care is a fundamental priority of the Children's Administration (CA). *The Final Report: Washington Child and Family Services Review for the State of Washington* recognized high performance in the area of Child Well-Being. The report noted physical health as a strength for Washington state. In the past year, CA has continued to make improvements in multiple areas affecting child and family well-being.

Highlights of the past year include:

- *Monthly social worker visits with children* – On September 30, 2011 the Child and Family Improvement and Innovation Act was signed that revised requirements relating to the submission of data and performance standards for monthly caseworker visits with children in foster care. Using the new method of calculating visits, our performance for calendar year 2011 is 95%, exceeding the national target of 90%. Using monthly FamLink reports, CA continues to communicate performance and follow up with regions, offices, supervisors, and social workers. Recent FamLink data shows CA at 95% performance in social worker monthly visits when measuring performance based on a calendar month snap shot.
- *Meeting the physical health needs of children* – The 2011 Annual Case Review Report showed that in 88% of the cases, CA assessed and addressed the physical health needs of the child; this is an improvement from 75% in 2009.
- *Timely receipt of EPSDT examinations* – Data from the CA's Child Health and Education Tracking (CHET) Database shows continued improvement in the timely receipt of EPSDT examinations completed within 30 days of a child entering out-of home care. The latest annual data show an overall completion rate of 93% in FY 2011, an increase from 72% in FY2009.
- *Meeting the educational needs of children in care* - The 2011 Case Review Report showed that in 91% of the cases reviewed, CA assessed and addressed the education needs of the child, an increase from 89% in 2010. Efforts include establishment of school district agreements, increase use of education advocates and contracting to recruit and retain foster parents in local school districts with the highest removal rates to maintain consistency in a child's education.
- *Extended foster care* – Established in 2011 and expanded in 2012, the Washington State Legislature created the legal foundation for youth to remain in care after their 18th birthday to complete secondary education and participate in postsecondary education up to age 21. This extended foster care legislative action supports the Federal Fostering Connection Act of 2008.

Challenges to child and family well-being include:

- *Cultural awareness and competencies when working with families* - CA intends to increase cultural awareness and competencies in social workers through increased efforts to address racial disproportionality (as noted in the [Racial Disparity and Disproportionality](#) strategic initiative) and education regarding cultural awareness through statewide workshops called Building Bridges. In addition, CA developed on-line training including Cultural Competence, Disproportionality, ICW and monthly visits with parents, to enhance the Safety Framework training. These trainings were available in May 2012 for all direct service staff to complete by June 30, 2012.
- *Involvement of families and caregivers in the case planning process* - CA expects to see further improvement in involving families, youth, and service providers in case planning and service

development as we improve our Family Team Decision Making model. Case planning meetings will be restructured based on a set of specific principles and stakeholder input.

- *Engaging fathers* – CA acknowledges that engagement of fathers has been a challenge for our administration; however, we continue our efforts to improve in this area. As part of this effort, CA implemented the Father Engagement Project. CA initiated this project in Region 2 (previously Region 4 – Seattle area) in collaboration with the University of Washington School of Social work, Catalyst for Kids, DSHS Division of Child Support, King County Juvenile Court, Department of Defense, and Divine Alternatives for Dads Services (D.A.D.S.). This project identifies, contacts, and engages nonresident fathers who have children placed in out of home care. CA will use the information, data and recommendations from the Father Engagement Project to assess and improve policy, practice, and training to better engage fathers early in the case and maintain that engagement throughout the life of the case.
- *Improving high school graduation outcomes* – This area also continues to be a challenge. The FY 2010 Annual Performance and Informational Race Report shows approximately 48% of youth in out-of-home care who remained in placement from ninth through 12th grade graduated on time, which is similar to performance on this outcome in FY2009. CA continues to partner with local school districts, the Office of the Superintendent for Public Instruction, Treehouse and other community partners and advocacy groups to improve foster youths’ education success. In FY 2012 CA began implementing recommendations from An Education Success Strategy for Washington State’s Youth in Care & Alumni report.

Services for children under the age of five:

Children’s Administration is committed to providing services that are developmentally appropriate for the children we serve. Below is specific information on demographics and developmentally appropriate services focused on younger children.

1. The number of children under the age of five years old in foster care has been fairly stable over the past few years and we expect it will continue in FY2012 and FY2013 at approximately 6000 children.
2. FamLink data is used to track demographics and characteristics of children birth to five years old, including:
 - Region/Office child was placed from
 - Age
 - Gender
 - Race/ethnicity
 - Placement Type
 - Length of stay in out-of-home placement
3. Children’s Administration requires social workers to assess and identify the child’s overall well-being needs while placed in out-of-home care. The social worker’s on-going assessment is used to match children to a permanent family who have the skills and abilities to meet the short and long-term needs of the child.

CA staff use the Child Health and Education Tracking (CHET) Program to assess children from birth to five years old to identify short and long-term well-being needs of the child when initially entering out-of-home care. This program uses validated standardized assessment tools to determine if the child is in need of more comprehensive developmental or mental health services. If developmental or mental health concerns are identified, a direct referral is made to local service providers. Information is shared with caregivers and social workers and is used by social workers to identify an appropriate placement for the child.

Social workers use the following services to identify and address the well-being needs of the child that can support the child's plan for permanency:

- Early Support for Infants and Toddlers – Washington State's IDEA Part C Program that serves children birth to three
- ChildFind – Referrals are made for children age three to five when developmental concerns are identified. 34 CFR 300.111 (a)(1)
- Head Start/Early Head Start – Federally funded program available to children age three to five that addresses children's social-emotional and developmental needs
- Early Childhood Education Assistance Programs – State funded program for services for children birth to three. Provides a comprehensive assessment for children when developmental concerns are identified, and provides support and interventions as needed
- Medicaid Treatment Child Care (Title XIX) – Provides assessment and therapeutic interventions for developmental and mental health needs in a daycare environment
- Fostering Well-Being Care Coordination Program – Provides care coordination services to children with complex health, mental health, and developmental needs
- Foster Care Assessment Program – Provides a comprehensive assessment for children experiencing challenges to permanency
- Evidence Based Programs that support permanency and reunification of the family
 - Parent Child Interactive Therapy
 - Incredible Years
 - Nurse Family Partnerships
 - Promoting First Relationships
 - Triple P (Positive Parenting Program)
 - Homebuilders
 - SafeCare

4. Healthy attachments influence a child's experiences and set the foundation for positive stable long-term relationships that shape the architecture of a young child's brain and early development and throughout their adulthood. Children's Administration is dedicated to providing safe, permanent, healthy, social, and emotional attachments for all children served by CA, including small children under the age of five.

Children's Administration's framework that specifically focuses on children under five years old includes:

- Embedding a set of values in policy and practice with an early learning orientation that reflects the best of current science concerning brain development of young children from birth through five.
- Building on existing policy, practice, and training that reflect the best of scientific research for this population.
- Collaborating with external early childhood experts and our partners to expand staff and caregivers skill base in order to ensure that safety, permanency, and the social emotional well being needs of children in out-of-home care are met at critical developmental junctures.

CA strengthened its assessment of safety and safety plan development and monitoring through the Child Safety Framework. We implemented new tools and policies that support a stronger assessment of child safety throughout the life of the case. These revisions will improve child safety by identifying and controlling present and impending safety threats to children, including infants, toddlers and young children.

DLR uses the home study as an assessment to determine for what age groups foster families can provide the best care. When there is an allegation involving inappropriate care of small children, the licensor reassesses the license to be sure that the children the family is licensed to care for best match the ability of the foster family.

The department may restrict the number, age, range, or gender of children a foster home is licensed to serve up to the maximum allowed. The maximum foster parent to child ratio for children age 0 – 2 is two children under the age of two. This includes foster children and the foster parents own children. The foster parent to child ratio for children over the age of two is, in a two-person household, a maximum of six children, including the foster parents’ children.

CA partners with the University of Washington to provide training to social workers, supervisors, and caregivers on social work practice and various issues related to children in out-of-home placement, including early childhood development. We are reviewing Academy Curriculum to provide more detailed training about caring for infants/toddlers. Training offered includes:

- Stages of Family Development, including infants through pre-school development, for social workers and supervisors.
- Pride Pre-service training for foster parents includes “Meeting Developmental Needs: Attachment”. This includes stages of normal human growth and development including birth to five; how physical abuse, sexual abuse, neglect, and emotional maltreatment affect child growth and development; and conditions and experiences that may cause developmental delays and affect attachment.
- Training for foster parents, called PARENTING PLUS, goes into detail about Early Childhood Development with a focus on Infants & Toddlers and Early Brain Development; Brain Development Research; Developmental Windows of Opportunity; and Attachment.

Outcome 1: Families have enhanced capacity to provide for their children’s needs

- Needs and services of child, parents, foster parents
- Child and family involvement in case planning
- Caseworker visits with child
- Worker visits with parents

UPDATES AND PROGRESS (FY 2012) *Outcome 1: Families have enhanced capacity to provide for their children’s needs*

Activity	Status
1. Provide Adult Mentors for Youth in Foster Care.	On-going: An expanded mentoring network is in place through multiple agencies. These agencies presently serve foster children in the following counties: Snohomish, King, Spokane, Clark and Thurston.
2. Develop audit reports to inform managers of staff’s use of FamLink in key practice areas, including monthly visits with children and youth.	Completed and Ongoing: Continue to develop and refine s on-line management reports. Developing checklists for supervisors to use during case reviews. Scheduled for release in FY2013.
3. Increase engagement of parents in monthly visits or	Completed: March 2012

Activity	Status
<p>contacts by revising policy requiring monthly visit/contacts with parents and require social workers to document the visits/contacts.</p> <p>Developing SACWIS functionality to track social worker visits/contacts with parents.</p>	Also included in the Child Safety Framework trainings is the importance of engaging the parent in the case planning process.
4. Implement Statewide Caregiver Support Plan and individualized support plans for caregivers caring for children with special needs (e.g. Medically Fragile).	Ongoing – See Permanency Section- Outcome 2
<p>5. Increase social worker monthly visit performance to achieve federal standard of 90% by October 2011:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Address FamLink data integrity issues (e.g. visit coded incorrectly, legal status inaccurate, duplicate child) ○ Provide monthly lists of children requiring visits so supervisors and social workers can be more proactive in ensuring these children receive a monthly visit. ○ Make the monthly visit monitoring report more user friendly for field staff to identify reasons visits are not occurring and develop ways to resolve patterns and case specific issues. 	Completed: CA also instituted strategies to clean up current data and ensure accurate future documentation within FamLink. These include development of a report for visit data requiring clean-up and development of a supervisory review tool that gives the supervisor quick access to the date of the last health and safety visit information.
<p>6. Expand the Region 2 Father Engagement Project:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Expand the project from King County to include all of Region 2 ○ Provide Father Engagement training to all staff ○ Engage the tribes by discussing the feasibility of developing Father Engagement programs within the tribes 	<p>Completed</p> <p>Completed: June 2012</p> <p>Ongoing</p>

FY 2013

PLANNED ACTIVITIES (FY 2013) - Outcome 1: Families have enhanced capacity to provide for their children's needs

Activity (2013)	Target Date
1. Region 2 Father Engagement Project - Complete a written report on the effectiveness of fatherhood activities in Region 2 and determine the feasibility / next steps for expanding the Project to other areas of the state.	FY 2013
2. Keep siblings connected when separated in out of home care by using the placement coordinator quality assurance workgroup created in March 2012. This workgroup will review sibling placement data and make recommendations to CA leadership on ways to increase sibling connections.	FY2013

Data - Item 17

Needs and services of child, parent and foster parent

Central Case Review Questions:

Five Central Case Review question were rolled into the Item#17 measurement:

- Q: Were efforts made to identify and locate all parents? (Case Review Tool no longer measures this item.)
- Q: Were efforts made to assess the father and the mother's needs?
- Q: Were appropriate services offered or provided to address the identified needs?
- Q: If the child was placed, were efforts made to assess the caregiver's needs and appropriate services were offered or provided to address the identified needs? (Case review tool no longer measures this item)
- Q: Were efforts made to assess if the child had needs (excluding education, physical health, and mental health) and appropriate services offered or provided to address the identified needs?

Needs and services of child, parents and foster parents	CY 2007 Statewide Results	CY 2008 Statewide Results	CY 2009 Statewide Results	2010* Statewide Results
Central Case Review	63.0%	57.0%	63.0%	55%

Data source: Children's Administration Central Case Review

Central Case Review questions

The current tool continues to measure questions #2, #3.

Q: Were actions taken to assess the mother's needs and offer or provide appropriate services to address her needs? Q: Were actions taken to assess the father's needs and offer or provide appropriate services to address his needs?	2010 Statewide** Results	CY 2011 Statewide Results
	Overall average: 74% Mothers: 82% Fathers: 64%	Overall average: 79% Mothers: 86% Fathers: 71%

**The 2010 case review data for these questions are based on 152 cases.

Foster Parent Survey

The annual [Foster Parent Survey](#) conducted by Washington State University measures whether caregivers (licensed and unlicensed) feel they receive adequate information about the children in their care. It also measures whether caregivers (licensed and unlicensed) feel they receive adequate support from the department for their role as a foster parent. As noted in the table below, CA continues to improve on both measures.

Foster Parent Survey - Washington State University	CY 2007 Statewide Results	CY 2008 Statewide Results	FY 2009 Statewide Results	FY 2010 Statewide Results	FY 2011 Statewide Results
Percent of caregivers (licensed and unlicensed) reporting adequate information about foster children	73.5%	71.7%	75.4%	81.4%	82.7%
Percent of caregivers (licensed and unlicensed) reporting adequate	74.9%	75.3%	71.1%	75.7%	77.3%

Foster Parent Survey - Washington State University	CY 2007 Statewide Results	CY 2008 Statewide Results	FY 2009 Statewide Results	FY 2010 Statewide Results	FY 2011 Statewide Results
support for their role					

Data - Item 18

Child and family involvement in case planning

Central Case Review Question:

Three Case Review questions rolled up to the Item#18 measurement:

Q: Were efforts made to involve the mother in the case planning process on an ongoing basis?

Q: Were efforts made to involve the father in the case planning process on an ongoing basis?

Q: Were efforts made to involve the child in the case planning process on an ongoing basis?

Child/family involvement in case planning	CY 2007 Statewide Results	CY 2008 Statewide Results	CY 2009 Statewide Results	2010* Statewide Results
Central Case Review	63.0%	50.0%	46.0%	44%

Date Source: Central Case Review

**The 2010 case review data for Item #18 - based on 95 cases completed during 1st quarter 2010.*

3rd and 4th Quarter 2010– Revised Central Case Review questions

The current tool continues to measure questions #1 and #2, to engage the mother and the father(s) in the case planning.

	2010 Statewide** Results	2011 Statewide Results
<i>Q: Were efforts made to involve the mother in the case planning process on an ongoing basis?</i>	Overall average: 74% Mothers: 82% Fathers: 64%	Overall average: 76% Mothers: 83% Fathers: 66%
<i>Q: Were efforts made to involve the father in the case planning process on an ongoing basis?</i>		

******The 2010 case review data for ongoing efforts to engage the mother, father(s) in the case planning - based on 150 cases

Data - Item 19

Case worker visits with child

Children’s Administration continues to make progress towards the *Case Worker Visits with Child* goal of 90% by 2011. September 30, 2011, the Child and Family Services Improvement and Innovation Act was signed that revised requirements relating to submission of data and performance standards for this measure. Using this new method of calculating caseworker visits with child, our performance for CY 2011 is at 95%, exceeding the national target of 90%.

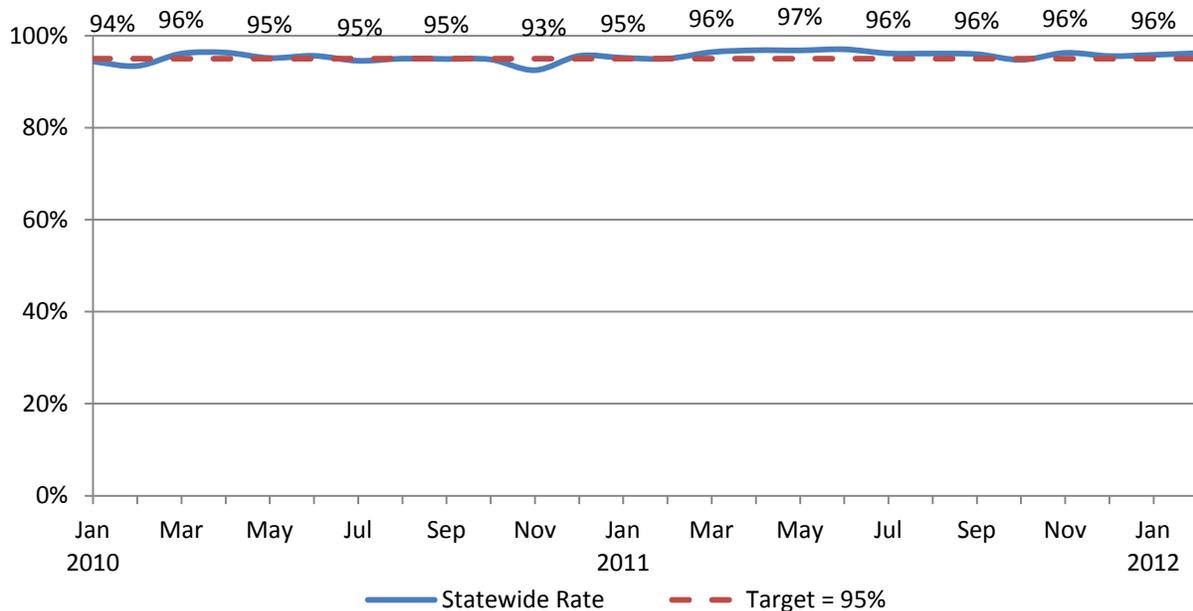
FamLink Data

Monthly Visits	FFY 2007	FFY 2008	FFY 2009	FFY 2010	FFY 2011
State Performance	8.7%	13.0%	17.9%	72.9%	81.3%

Data source: FamLink as reported to ACF in December 2011.

When viewing the data with a **month-to-month** look, for the period of January 2010 through January 2012 FamLink data continued to show improvement to 96 % of children who received a monthly visit by their social workers.

Rate of Children/Youth Visited by Social Workers During the Calendar Month



Data Source: FamLink run date 3-20-12

Central Case Review Question

Two Central case review questions continue to roll up to the Item #19 measurement:

Q: Was there a monthly in-person visit between the social worker and the child?

Q: Was the quality of the visits sufficient for ongoing assessment of the safety, permanency, and well-being of the child?

Social Worker Visits with Child	CY 2007 Statewide Results	CY 2008 Statewide Results	CY 2009 Statewide Results	2010* Statewide Results	CY 2011 Statewide Results
Central Case Review	39.0%	35.0%	53.0%	80%	93%

*The 2010 case review data for Item #19 - based on 186 cases

Data - Item 20

Case worker visits with parents

Central Case Review Question

Central Case Review questions: (Case Review Tool no longer measures this item)

Q: Was there a monthly in-person visit between the social worker and the mother and the father?

Q: Was the quality of the visits sufficient to address issues pertaining to the safety, permanency, and well-being of the child?

Social worker visits with parent	CY 2007 Statewide Results	CY 2008 Statewide Results	CY 2009 Statewide Results	2010* Statewide Results
Central Case Review	30.0%	20.0%	21.0%	21%

*The 2010 case review data for Item #20 - based on 85 cases completed during 1st quarter 2010.

Well-Being Outcomes 2 and 3: Children receive appropriate services to meet their educational, physical, and mental health needs

- Educational needs of the child
- Physical health needs of the child
- Mental/behavioral health of the child

UPDATES AND PROGRESS (FY 2012)

Activity	Status
1. Based on the recommendations from the <i>An Education Success Strategy for Washington State's Youth in Care & Alumni</i> report, CA worked with the Court Improvement Training Academy on education stability to identify and ensure the training needs for judges are met.	Completed: Presentations on the <i>Education Success Strategy for Washington State's Youth in Care & Alumni</i> report were made to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commission on Children in Foster Care in May 2011 • Juvenile & Family Law Committee of the Superior Court Judges Association in late summer 2011 The Administrative Office of the Courts also completed an update of the Dependent Child's Education Judicial Checklist in March 2012.
2. Increase timely receipt (completed within 30 days of entry into care) of education and health records (Child Health and Education (CHET) Program).	Ongoing: CA continues to show improvement - overall completion rate of 91% in FY2011, up from 78% in FY2010.
3. Increase the number of school district agreements.	Ongoing: In the past year, CA completed 9 school district agreements for a total of 204. Seventy-six of these agreements include 91 schools identified as having high placements of children in foster care.
4. Increase the number of children given an Early	Ongoing: CA continues to show improvement in this area. The

Activity	Status
Periodic Screening Diagnosis and Treatment (EPSDT) exam within 30 days of entry to care.	overall completion rate in FY2011 is 93%.
<p>5. Work with OSPI and Washington State Institute for Public Policy (WSIPP) to access comprehensive data on education outcomes for foster youth, including on-time graduation and extended graduation (+5 years).</p> <p>Continue Education Advocacy Program services.</p>	<p>Ongoing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CA education workgroup convenes every other month to address education outcomes for youth in care including issues related to collecting comprehensive data. The workgroup will look at the current action plan and align with Legislation passed in 2012. • Next WSIPP report on graduation rates due June 2012. • CA is implementing three prioritized recommendations from <i>An Education Success Strategy for Washington State's Youth in Care & Alumni</i> report. These priorities align with the above referenced workgroup and action plan. • Increased staff capacity in the contracted Education Advocacy program resulted in a 37% decrease in wait list time for youth referred to this program by their social worker, when compared to the previous school year.
<p>6. Implement the Birth to Five Early Childhood Development framework.</p>	<p>Ongoing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding is procured for a three year Early Childhood Program Manager position to implement Children's Administration Early Childhood Framework and Guiding Principles. • Children's Administration and the Department of Early Learning continue to collaborate to increase referrals of young foster children to Head Start, Early Head Start, and Early Childhood Education and Assistance Program (ECEAP).
<p>7. Implement case review process for medically fragile children in out-of-home placement to ensure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child receives ongoing and appropriate health care. • Child's caregivers have a plan to address training and support needs related to caring for the medically fragile child. 	<p>Completed: January 2012 and ongoing</p>
<p>8. Develop on-line report of Medicaid billing data through collaboration of Fostering Well-Being Program and Health Care Authority (HCA), Washington's Medicaid state agency. Report will be available to health care providers, and only for children in out-of-home placement.</p>	<p>Completed: November 2011 and ongoing</p>
<p>9. Implement Education Report in FamLink so staff can monitor the education status of children and youth in care.</p>	<p>Completed</p>
<p>10. Update Washington's plan for oversight of prescription medications as required by the Fostering Connections to Success Act of 2008.</p>	<p>Completed</p>

Activity	Status
The Washington State plan relies upon the partnership between DSHS and the state's Medicaid agency to maximize expertise and resources to safely, adequately, and appropriately address the health and mental health care needs of foster children.	



PLANNED ACTIVITIES (FY 2013) - *Outcomes 2 and 3: Children receive appropriate services to meet their educational, physical, and mental health needs*

Activity (2013)	Target Date
Practice, Program, and Service Enhancements	
1. Continue efforts to increase the number of children provided Early Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment (EPSDT) exams within 30 days by assisting caregivers to identify a medical provider to complete the EPSDT exam on time. Continue efforts to increase timely annual EPSDT examinations by implementing a case review of children who receive an annual EPSDT to identify trends and target efforts to improve statewide performance.	Ongoing
2. Continue efforts to Increase the number of school district agreements	Ongoing
3. Based on the recommendations from the <i>An Education Success Strategy for Washington State's Youth in Care & Alumni</i> report, CA will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update the Social Worker Guide for Youth Transitioning from Care to include information on high school completion requirements, college eligibility requirements and options for post secondary success. The update was delayed due to budget issues and is now scheduled for early FY2013. 	July 31, 2012
4. Implement Quality Assurance activities for the Education Report to support staff in documenting education strategies, current educational status and efforts towards educational success.	Ongoing
5. Continue implementation of the Birth to Five Early Childhood Development framework, including building on existing training for CA staff and caregivers by incorporating early childhood information on childhood development and the consequences of not providing nurturing, secure attachments for children placed in out-of-home care. Activities include: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Evaluate current policy, practices, and recommendations. b. Provide extensive targeted training for social workers and caregivers. c. Develop quality assurance activities. 	Ongoing

Data - Item 21

Education needs of the child

Q: Were actions taken to assess the child’s educational needs and offer appropriate services when needs were identified?

Educational needs of child	CY 2007 Statewide Results	CY 2008 Statewide Results	CY 2009 Statewide Results	2010* Statewide Results	2011 Statewide Results
Central Case Review	85.0%	85.0%	86.0%	89%	91%

**The 2010 case review data for Item #21 - based on 128 cases completed*

Child Health & Education Tracking (CHET) - Education Domain

The data below represents the number of children whose *educational* needs were assessed and documented within 30 days of entering care.

FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011
72.0%	86.0%	93.0%

Data source: CHET Statewide database

Data – Item 22

Physical health of child

Central Case Review Question

Q: Were actions taken to assess the child’s physical health needs and offer appropriate services?

Physical health of child	CY 2007 Statewide Results	CY 2008 Statewide Results	CY 2009 Statewide Results	2010* Statewide Results	CY 2011 Statewide Results
Central Case Review	80.0%	75.0%	76.0%	82%	88%

Data Source: Children’s Administration Central Case Review

**The 2010 case review data for Item #22 - based on 166 cases*

EPSDT within 30-days

Child Health & Education Tracking (CHET) - Physical Health Domain

The data below represents the number of children whose *physical health* needs were assessed and documented within 30 days of entering care.

FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011
72.0%	82.0%	93.0%

Data source: CHET Statewide database

Annual EPSDT

Children’s Administration FamLink and Health Care Authority (HCA) Data - In FY2011 65.5% of children received an annual Early Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment (EPSDT) screen, which is an 8.5% increase over 2009.

Physical health of child	CY 2008 Statewide Results	CY 2009 Statewide Results	CY 2011 Statewide Results
Percent of children with annual EPSDT Screening**	56.5%	57.5%	65.5%

Data source: **EPSDT claims and encounter records from RDA based on HCA records and billing

Data – Item 23

Mental/behavioral health of the child

Central Case Review Question

Q: Were actions taken to assess the child’s mental/behavioral health needs and offer appropriate services?

Mental Health of child	CY 2007 Statewide Results	CY 2008 Statewide Results	CY 2009 Statewide Results	2010* Statewide Results	CY 2011 Statewide Results
Central Case Review	86.0%	81.0%	84.0%	83%	80%

*Data Source: Children’s Administration Central Case Review data for Item #23 - based on 108 cases

Child Health & Education Tracking (CHET) – Emotional/Behavioral Domain

The data below represents the number of children whose *emotional/behavioral* needs were assessed and documented within 30 days of entering care.

FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011
91.0%	93.0%	97.0%

Data source: CHET Database

Part 4: Systemic Factors

Systemic factors directly affect Children’s Administration’s (CA) ability to deliver quality services that help achieve excellent outcomes for children and families. Outlined below are CA’s ongoing efforts, for quality, consistency, accountability and partnerships.

Systemic Factor A: Statewide Information System

CA’s FamLink system is an effective tool to assist management in improving performance outcomes. CA continues to refine and improve the FamLink system to support staff and management. Highlights of the past year include:

- Successful submission of the 2012A AFCARS submission for the 37 Adoption elements and 66 Foster Care elements. This submission continues to lower the error rates to new historic lows.
- Development and implementation of a new Data Request process with staff assigned as Data Request Facilitators in all regions and headquarter divisions. This new process provides Children’s Administration management with their data needs within a clear structure.
- Ten additional on-line management reports to assist field managers in the day-to-day management and improvement of practice and performance.
- Successful submissions of the 2012A [National Youth in Transition Database \(NYTD\)](#) reports meeting all compliance standards for NYTD. See [CHAFEE](#) section for more information.

UPDATES AND PROGRESS (FY 2012)

Activity	Status
Data System Enhancements and Accountability Tools	
1. Design and implement FamLink tools, i.e., Safety Assessment, Safety Plan, Family Assessment, and Assessment of Progress and Case Plan, that integrate the Practice Model and Child Safety Framework concepts.	Completed
2. <i>Public Reporting Site</i> - The University of Washington - School of Social Work, Partners for Our Children (POC) and the Washington State Department of Social and Health Services - Children’s Administration (DSHS-CA), continue the development and implementation of a web based Washington State Child Welfare Public Reporting Tool. The University of Kansas and Partners for Our Children conducted a Pilot in October 2011. The pilot raised the interest of potential funders to support further the efforts of this multi-year project.	Ongoing: Develop a prototype site for testing and develop a plan for bringing up a fully functional site available for viewing by the public. Plan completed FY 2012. Projected completion is for early FY2013.

<p>3. <i>Revise and automate CA's Court Report</i> – CA is revising its current court report document, the Individual Safety and Service Plan (ISSP). CA is working with stakeholders to design a new court report that will meet the needs of our courts partners, stakeholders, and clients. Participants in this workgroup include representatives from the Administrative Office of the Courts; Guardian Ad Litem/CASA; Office of Public Defense; CA regional staff and federal partners.</p> <p>Phase I of the Court Report Redesign includes a checklist of the required and optional attachments to the ISSP that a worker can view and print.</p> <p>Phase II will begin after completion of the work of the Court Report redesign workgroup. This will include the detailed design, development, and implementation of a fully automated Court Report and Case Plan to replace the existing ISSP.</p>	<p>Reprioritized: CA leadership requested the automation of the new Safety Model Framework take priority over development of the Court Report. Changes made in the Safety Framework, which include a new Family Assessment and Case Plan, will have direct impact on design of the new Court Report. This made it necessary to address the Safety Model Framework prior to completing the work on the Court Report.</p> <p>Phase I is scheduled for release on July 22, 2012.</p> <p>Phase II is scheduled for completion in FY 2013.</p>
<p>4. <i>Phase1 Aging and Disability Services Administration (ADSA)</i> – Consolidate some of the DSHS Adult Protective Services data into FamLink. ADSA must consolidate multiple data applications into one data system to support accurate federal reporting requirements. FamLink was identified as the data system for ADSA to use because of the similarities in CA and ADSA's protection services.</p> <p>Phase I incorporates the Residential Care Service Intake process into FamLink.</p>	<p>Phase 1 began in May 2011 to incorporate Residential Care Service Intakes into FamLink. Design and development were completed and functionality is currently in System Test. User Acceptance Testing begins May 30, 2012 with a schedule date of June 25, 2012 for production implementation.</p>
<p>5. Develop new FamLink Production Report to monitor FTDM use against the standard of a meeting for every placement decision with the capacity to separate data by race and ethnicity</p>	<p>Completed: March 2012</p>

FY 2013

PLANNED ACTIVITIES (FY 2013) - Systemic Factor A: Statewide information system

Activity (2013)	Target Date
Data System Enhancements and Accountability Tools	
1. Continue work to enhance and create on-line management reports in FamLink and ad-hoc reports	Ongoing in FY 2013

Activity (2013)	Target Date
<p>2. <i>Public Reporting Site</i> - The University of Washington - School of Social Work, Partners for Our Children (POC) and Children’s Administration committed to the development and implementation of a web based Washington State Child Welfare Public Reporting Tool.</p> <p>This multi-year project includes the design, creation, and implementation of a Washington State longitudinal database for the purposes of providing public access to data concerning the analysis of child welfare outcomes related to safety, permanency, and well-being; with the goal of improving these outcomes for the children and families served in the Washington State child welfare system.</p>	<p>Ongoing in FY 2013 - develop a plan for a fully functional site available for viewing by the public.</p>
<p>3. <i>Performance Based Contracting (PBC)</i> - New legislation has modified language to clearly define the scope of PBC and remove case management from the PBC legislation. Network Administrators will be selected through the RFP process. Modifications to the FamLink system to support PBC and payment methodologies will be completed and implemented in 2013. The new legislation also amended previous dates for Demonstration Sites for Case Management services to be performed by private agencies. The Demonstration Sites work in FamLink will move out to 2014-2015.</p>	<p>FY2013 – PBC modifications</p> <p>FY 2015 – FamLink changes related to Demonstration Sites due.</p>
<p>4. <i>Family Assessment Response (FAR)</i> - Legislation passed in FY2012 that moves Washington toward use of a differential type response on some cases which includes a complete new assessment to determine needs of the family and does not involve an investigative response or findings. A workgroup is reviewing existing tools from other states and looking at consultation opportunities with national organizations. This new response includes collaborating with private, philanthropic organizations to secure funding for services and systems changes.</p>	<p>FY 2013</p>
<p>5. <i>Phase 2 ADSA Incorporation of Department of Social and Health Services Adult Protective Services into FamLink.</i> Phase 2 incorporates the agency’s Adult Protective Service Intakes and Investigation functionality into FamLink.</p>	<p>Phase 2 - begin May 2012. Implementation scheduled for June 2013.</p>
<p>6. <i>Port Gamble Tribe IVE</i> - Port Gamble is the first tribe in the nation to engage in a Federal Partnership with the IV-E responsibilities of child welfare services. Port Gamble will work with CA to determine the roles and responsibilities each will have in this new process for child welfare reporting.</p>	<p>FY2013 and On-going</p>
<p>7. <i>The Individual Safety and Service Plan (ISSP)</i> - The Court Report and Case Plan (ISSP replacement report) Phase II work will begin after completion of the Court Report redesign workgroup. This will include the detailed design, development, and implementation of a fully automated Court Report and Case Plan to replace the existing ISSP.</p>	<p>FY 2013</p>
<p>8. Develop tools in FamLink to alert the social worker that there is an upcoming court hearing and notice needs to be sent to caregiver. FamLink will generate the letter to be sent to the caregiver U.S. Postal Mail or email. Develop FamLink report to track compliance with CA policy Notification to Caregivers of Court Hearings, with the capacity to separate data by race and ethnicity</p>	<p>December 2012</p>
<p>9. Design and develop FamLink report to track visits with fathers and mothers (for children who remain in the home and those in out-of-home placement) with the capacity to separate data by race and ethnicity</p>	<p>December 2012</p>
<p>10. Develop technology to provide monthly statewide data to monitor completion of the CPS Investigative Assessment within 45 days</p>	<p>FY 2013</p>

Systemic Factor B: Court Case Review System

Results from the CFSR statewide assessment indicate strengths in collaboration with partners on the development of a new ISSP/court report, review hearings occurring timely, improvement in tracking timeliness of permanency planning hearings and improved performance in notification to caregivers of court hearings.

Challenges include resources to develop the new court report in FamLink (delayed due to re-prioritization), court scheduling and sufficient time for hearings, and timely notification to caregivers.

Washington courts have seen a dramatic increase in dependency filings, while termination filings decreased. Five thousand one hundred sixty (5,160) dependency cases were filed in Washington's courts in 2010, a 33% increase from 2009 and the highest on record. Termination filings decreased 12% to 1,697. However, even with the increased workload, 94% of review hearings were held within six months of the petition or the previous review hearing. Further analysis is required to determine the cause of the increase in filings. CA believes dependency filings will decrease and more children will remain safely at home as we implement our new Safety Framework and strengthen Family Team Decision Meetings throughout the state.

Over the past year, activities include:

- *Ongoing work to develop a new court report to replace the ISSP* -- While this activity was delayed in FamLink, CA completed a considerable amount of work with the Administrative Office of the Courts and other stakeholders over the past year to define the needs for a quality court report and help design the functional needs in the FamLink System.
- *Piloting a training called "So you Have Your First Placement, Now What?"* to provide caregivers with updated information to complete the Caregiver's Report to the Court. Initially piloted in fall 2011, this training is now available to all caregivers.
- *Continued focus and improvement in caregiver notification of hearing* – Data from the 2011 Foster Parent Survey shows a continued increase in caregiver (licensed and unlicensed) notification of hearings within 10 working days of the hearing for FY 2010. The 2011 Survey Report shows 72% of foster parents indicated they received notice within the required timeframes. The 2011 survey also shows caregivers (both licensed and unlicensed) report they receive information about their right to be heard at the hearing 71% of the time. FamLink staff are developing tools to help ensure notice is given to caregivers and track compliance, training is provided to judicial officers and caregivers receive information on the importance of participating in meetings.
- *Ongoing work with the Administrative office of the courts to improve the timeliness of filing for Termination of Parental Rights* – includes verifying the accuracy of timeliness, clarifying definitions and links to information to assure accurate reporting of timeliness of filing, and developing training for judicial officers and court clerks based on assessments of information and reporting.
- *Case Planning meetings* - Case planning meetings will be restructured based on a set of specific principles and stakeholder input. Implementation is scheduled for September 2012. Under the current plan, Child Protection Team staffings (which are required under Executive Order) and Local Indian Child Welfare Advisory Committee staffings will not be modified.
- *Ongoing collaboration and partnership* on the APSR, CFSR and IV-E program improvement plans.

UPDATES AND PROGRESS (FY 2012)

Activity	Status
<p>1. Provide training to caregivers on updated information to complete the Caregiver's Report to the Court.</p> <p>The training, "So You Have Your First Placement, Now What?" provides a copy of the "Caregiver's Report to the Court" form to caregivers and includes information about the importance of sharing information about the child with the court. A brief review of this form is included in the training.</p>	<p>Ongoing: This training is regularly scheduled in each regional area, both days and evenings.</p>
<p>2. CA and Administrative Office of the Court (AOC) work with FamLink to produce routine data exchanges. AOC will use data to develop management reports for individual courts.</p>	<p>Completed: and ongoing in FY2013</p>
<p>3. <i>Workgroup on "Timeliness of Dependency Case Processing: Annual Report 2010"</i>- The Washington State Center for Court Research convened a workgroup that included representatives from the courts, CA, the Office of the Attorney General, the Office of Public Defense and Washington State CASA . The report is now published every year. Work on the CY2012 report is underway to include information on racial disproportionality.</p>	<p>Completed: and ongoing in FY2013</p>
<p>4. Development of FamLink functionality that alerts social workers 30 days prior to scheduled court hearing and generate the Caregiver's Court Notification letter notifying the child's caregiver of the date, time and location of the upcoming court hearing and their right to be heard at the hearing.</p> <p>Development of FamLink functionality that allow social workers to document the date the Caregiver's Court Notification Letter was provided to the caregiver and the delivery method used.</p> <p>The Caregiver's Report to the Court (English and Spanish) is available in every local office, ensuring caregivers who are not able to access electronic forms have access to this document.</p> <p>The importance of caregiver notification and right to be heard at court hearings has been discussed at the Foster Parent Consultation Team meetings, both regionally and statewide.</p>	<p>Ongoing: Planning, development and User Acceptance Testing is completed. Plan for launch is Fall 2012.</p> <p>Ongoing: Development is in process with User Acceptance Testing scheduled for June 2012. Launch is set for Winter 2012.</p> <p>Completed: Report made available in each office in April 2012</p> <p>Ongoing</p>
<p>5. An all staff memo was sent reminding social workers of the importance for caregivers to have timely notice of court hearings, their right to attend court hearings and the importance of timely information about upcoming shared planning staffings.</p>	<p>Completed</p>
<p>6. Court Improvement Training Academy (CITA) will provide multidisciplinary training for Reasonable Efforts Symposia (RES) to include judges, CA and other child welfare partners. Children's Justice Conference will include workshops that address the case review process.</p>	<p>Completed: and ongoing FY 2013.</p>
<p>7. Analyze increase in dependency filings and decline of termination activities</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>

PLANNED ACTIVITIES (FY 2013) - Systemic Factor B – Court Case Review System

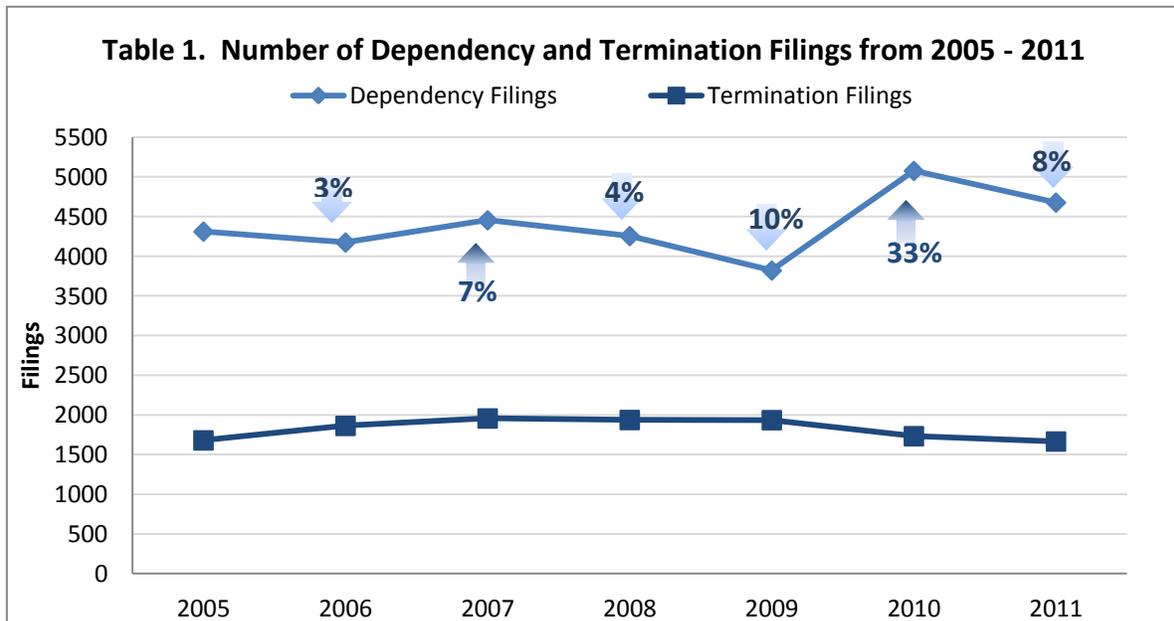
Activity (2013)	Target Date
Practice, Program, and Service Enhancements	
1. Ongoing work to develop a new court report	FY 2013
2. Work with AOC will continue regarding the feasibility of caregivers sending reports directly to juvenile court or a central location for review by the court. Because of concerns about the ability to inform all caregivers statewide, and variations of court rules about submission protocols for documents, a pilot is being assessed.	FY 2013
3. FamLink will implement the 30 Day Social Worker Alert, notifying the worker of a child’s pending court hearing. The alert also launches the Caregiver’s Notice letter regarding the date, time and location of the upcoming hearing, their right to attend the hearing and their right to be heard at the hearing. FamLink developed capacity to document the delivery date and method of delivery of the Caregiver’s Notice letter. Projected launch of this application is in winter 2012.	FY 2013

Systemic Factor Data - Coding changes occurred in 2009 which impacts the data for items 26, 27 and 28 in the annual report: *Timeliness of Dependency Case Processing 2010*

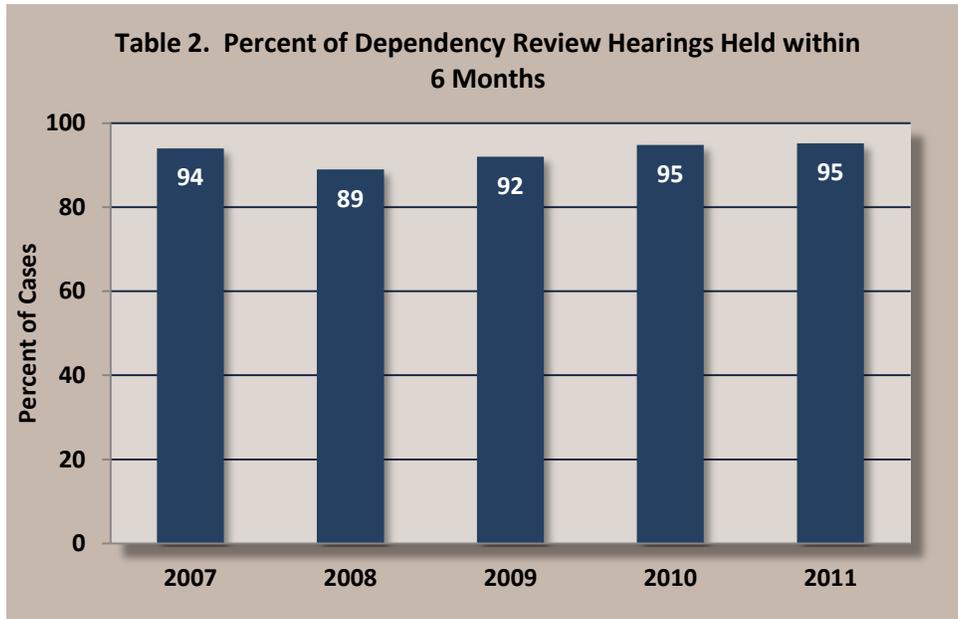
Data – item 26

Periodic reviews

Washington courts filed 4,677 dependency cases in 2011, an 8% decrease from 2010. Termination filings decreased 9% to 1,667.



Ninety-five percent of review hearings were held within six months of the petition or the previous review hearing (see Table 2). An analysis of the trend over time suggests the rate improved slightly starting in 2010 and is the highest rate on record.

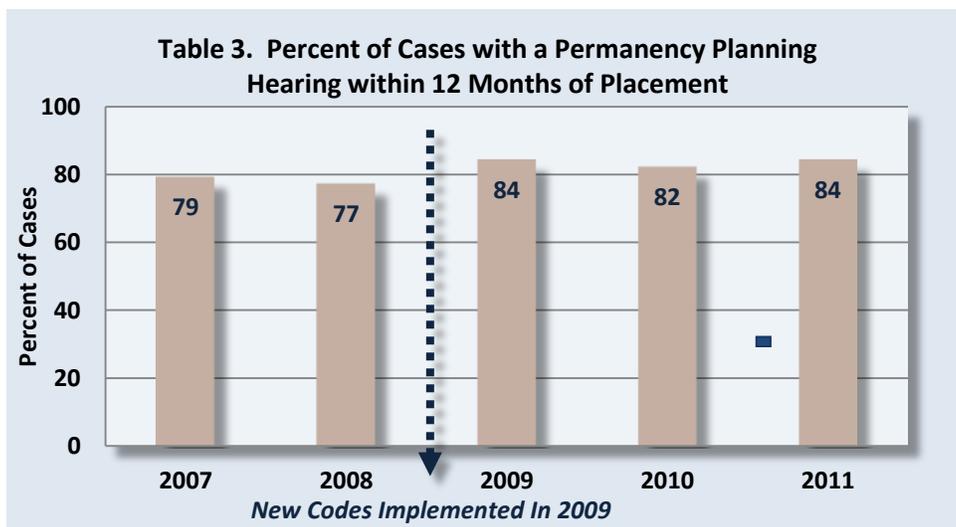


Data Source: *Timeliness of Dependency Case Processing 2011*

Data – Item 27

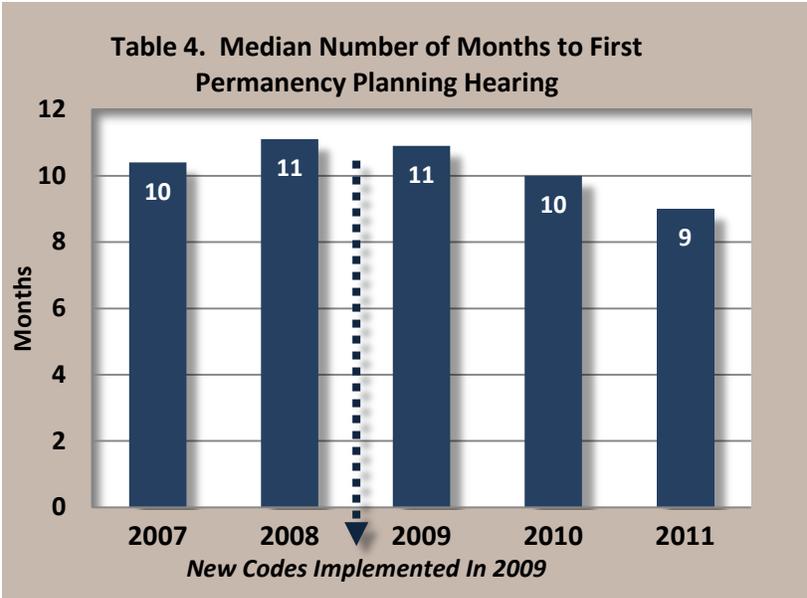
Permanency Hearings

Table 3 shows the percentage of cases where the first permanency planning hearing occurred within 12 months of the first placement episode (meeting the statutory requirement). Using data from all counties, 84% of permanency planning hearings due in 2011 were held in a timely manner. For the sample of 12 counties with historical data, the data suggest an improvement in timely hearings over the past two years. The percentage of timely hearings fell to 77% in 2008, but improved to 84% in 2009 and 82% in 2010 for these counties.



Data Source: *Timeliness of Dependency Case Processing 2011*

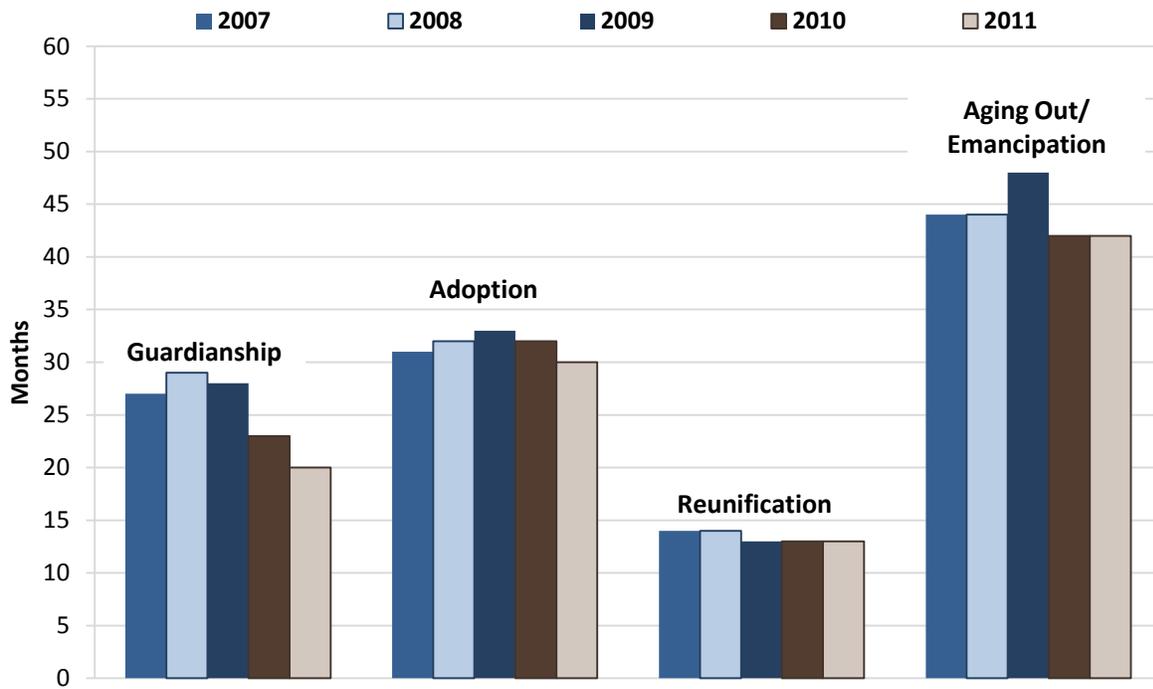
Table 4 (below) shows the median number of months to the permanency planning hearing also improved in 2011 for the 12 counties with historical data. On average, the hearing took place 10.2 months after the beginning of the first placement episode. Using data available for all counties in 2011, the average length of time was 9.9 months.



Data Source: Timeliness of Dependency Case Processing 2011

The length of time in out-of-home care differs considerably depending upon the type of outcome (see Table 5). For reunifications, the average length of time was 13 months for the last five years. For guardianships and adoptions, the length of time was considerably longer (20 months and 30 months, respectively, in 2011). Those children who reached the age of majority without permanency were in out-of-home care for an average of three and a half years (42 months) in 2011.

Table 5. Median Number of Months in Out-of-Home Care Until Permanency Outcome

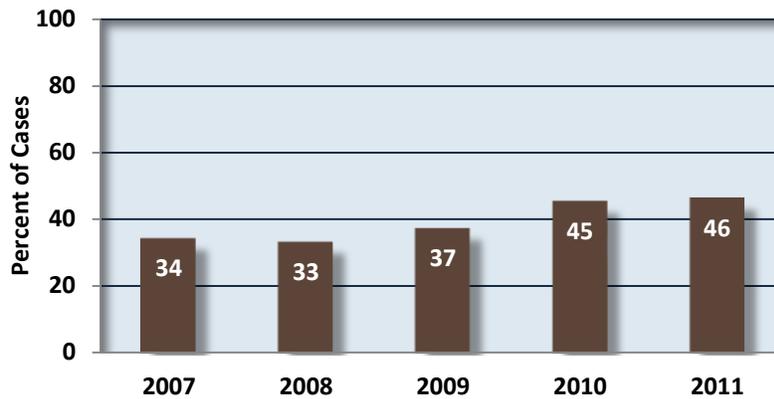


Data Source: *Timeliness of Dependency Case Processing 2011*

Termination of parental rights

Report Data - According to the *Timeliness of Dependency Case Processing in Washington 2011 Annual Report*, “Termination of parental rights (TPR) petitions before 15 months in out-of-home care” has increased over the last four years. While the majority of children spent more than 15 months in out-of-home care prior to the TPR petition, many cases are exempt from the statute as they involve relative placements, Native American children, or have other documented compelling reasons why a TPR petition was not filed. Of the non-exempt cases, 46% achieved the time standard in 2011. (Table 6)

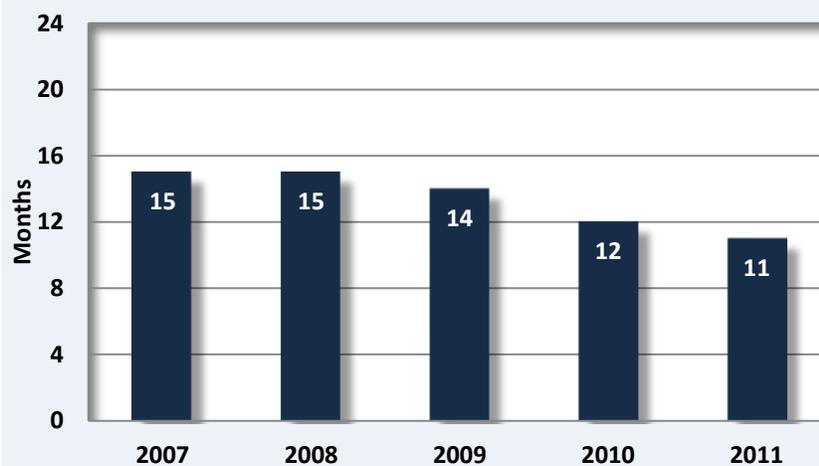
Table 6. Percent of Cases with TPR Petition Filed Before 15 Months in Out-of-Home Care



Data Source: *Timeliness of Dependency Case Processing 2011*

Table 7 shows the median number of months of out-of-home care to the TPR petition has steadily decreased since 2008 to 11 months.

Table 7. Median Number of Months in Out-of-Home Care Prior to TPR Petition



Data Source: *Timeliness of Dependency Case Processing 2011*

**It is important to note that beginning in 2009, changes to the dependency coding system included new docket codes to identify cases in which there were compelling reasons for not filing a termination petition. The need to identify “good cause exceptions” was based on anecdotal reports from judicial officers that such exceptions were often involved in dependency cases. However, analysis of the use of these codes indicated that only about 5% of cases were noted as having good cause exceptions. Further investigation is needed to determine if this low percentage is an accurate indicator of cases with exceptions or if it is due to implementation issues with the new codes. It is possible that a significant portion of cases, which fail to meet the time standard, do in fact involve exceptions and should be excluded from analysis.*

Data – Item 29

Notice of hearings to caregivers

The Foster Parent Annual Survey continues to demonstrate growth in caregivers reporting they have received notice of the hearing within 10 working days of the child’s court hearing. The survey also reports consistent improvement in caregivers confirming they were advised of their right to be heard at the hearing. Data from 2011 is extracted from [FY 2011 Annual Foster Parent Survey](#).

In state fiscal years 2007 – 2009, the survey had a five-point response to these questions (ranging from Always to Never); In state fiscal years 2010 and 2011 the same questions were asked, however the survey response options changed to require a yes/no response. The tables below calculate the performance percents for 2007 – 2009 by adding the responses “Always” and “Most of the Time” and calculated performance for 2010 and 2011 are based on the percent of “Yes “responses. For all years, responses of “there were no court hearings in (given year)” were removed from the total population. For 2011, the responses of “don’t know” or those that refused to answer also were removed from the total population.

The results of the survey:

- *Notification of court hearing within 10 working days prior to court hearings*

SFY 2007	SFY 2008	SFY 2009	SFY 2010	SFY 2011
67%	66%	66%	71%	72%

Data source: [FY 2011 Annual Foster Parent Survey](#) pg. 81 and [FY 2010 Annual Foster Parent Survey](#) pg. 23, and [Comparison of 2007, 2008, 2009 Foster Parent Survey Outcomes](#). pg. 18

- *Agency advised the caregiver they would have a right to be heard at these hearings*

SFY 2007	SFY 2008	SFY 2009	SFY 2010	SFY 2011
57%	60%	58%	70%	71%

Data source: [FY 2011 Annual Foster Parent Survey](#), [FY 2010 Annual Foster Parent Survey](#) pg. 23 and [Comparison of 2007, 2008, 2009 Foster Parent Survey Outcomes](#) pg. 18 and [FY 2011 Annual Foster Parent Survey](#), pg. 23.

1st Quarter 2010 - Central Case Review Question (prior to the revision of the Case Review Tool during the 2nd Quarter – Spring 2010). The revised tool no longer measures notice of hearings to caregivers.

Q: Was the caregiver notified of the most recent court hearing within required timeframe?

Notifying Foster Parents about court hearings within 10 working days prior to the hearing	CY 2008 Statewide Results	CY 2009 Statewide Results	2010* Statewide Results
Central Case Review	33%	37%	21%

Data Source: Children’s Administration Central Case Review

**The 2010 case review data for Item #26 - based on 44 cases completed during 1st quarter 2010.*

Systemic Factor C: Quality Assurance

The CFSR Statewide Assessment notes the Central Case Review system as a strength that helps improve and implement consistent practice across the state. *The Final Report: Washington Child and Family Services Review – February 2011* also notes this area as being in substantial conformity with the systemic factor of Quality Assurance System.

Quality Assurance and Research highlights in the past year include:

- *Redesigning the Central Case Review Tool* – CA completed a revision of its Central Case Review tool in November 2011. The new tool contains 78 questions that measure compliance and quality of practice in key elements of CA policy with a primary focus on safety. The redesign includes questions to measure eight CFSR data measures for the PIP. Case Reviews track compliance and quality of practice in the areas of Child Protective Services (CPS) investigations, implementation of the new Safety Framework and Solution Based Casework.
- *Ongoing Quality Assurance Activities* – CA leadership received detailed office and statewide reports that identified practice trends including strengths and areas needing improvement. Reports included recommendations based on strategically selected practice areas needing improvement. CA developed action plans to address recommendations and target areas of practice identified for improvement in the Central Case Review reports.
- *Planning for the Indian Child Welfare (ICW) Case Review* – In collaboration with Tribal partners, the ICW Case Review tool was updated to include new elements of the Washington State Indian Child Welfare Act (WSICWA) passed in May 2011. Planning activities included identifying reviewers from CA, tribes and Recognized American Indian Organizations (RAIO) to participate in the ICW review and provide training to CA, tribal and RAIO reviewers.
- *Conducting Statewide Central Case Review of Timeliness and Comprehensiveness in DLR/CPS Investigations of Children in Licensed Care* – One finding of the DLR/CPS review was that safety threats to children in licensed care were comprehensively addressed in a timely manner.
- *Completed Statewide Child Protective Services (CPS) Intake Review* – A team of reviewers including representatives from CA headquarters and Regions completed the CPS Intake Review. CA management requested the Intake review as a proactive step to identify Intake practice trends regarding the quality of information gathered at Intake and the accuracy of screening decisions. The review also identified

systemic factors that impact Intake practice. We developed recommendations for practice improvement based on the Intake review results. Please see the attached CPS Intake Case Review Report (Attachment 8) for complete information about the review and recommendations.

CA developed a Case Review Statewide Action Plan in November 2011. Examples of changes made to increase the consistency of intake screening decisions across the state are:

- Regional CPS Program Managers and intake leads meet monthly as part of an ongoing quality assurance process for the Intake and CPS program. They discuss intakes, including screening decisions, policy and procedures, and process.
- Updated Post Academy Specialized intake training with case review recommendations for how to perform quality intakes. This includes how to gather comprehensive information on child safety, caregiver characteristics, documenting prior involvement and other information, and expectations regarding domestic violence. Training also includes information related to disproportionality issues at intake. Specialized intake training was held in July and another is scheduled for December 2012.
- Developed the Intake Training Guide in conjunction with the updated Post Academy Specialized intake training. This guide includes examples of quality intakes and guidance in completing comprehensive intakes and improving decision-making.

Although not a result of the CPS Intake Case Review, CA also made the following changes in CY2011 to Intake screening decisions in policy:

CA Intake staff must screen in intake reports meeting the following criteria:

1. A child (birth to 5 years old), reported by a licensed physician or medical professional on "the physician's behalf"
2. A non-mobile infant (birth to 12 months) with bruises, regardless of the explanation for how the bruises occurred
3. An Intake Supervisor must consult with local Area Administrator or regional CPS Program Manager when they are recommending the intake be screened out. All screening decisions made as a result of a consultation must be documented in FamLink

The Child Safety Framework is different from the changes made to intake. The Child Safety Framework strengthens child safety assessments and planning and guides appropriate placement decisions. The Child Safety Framework applies to all programs and all staff were trained in the gathering, assessing and analyzing of information available, throughout the life of a case.

Although the Central Case Review does not look at disproportionality specifically, some recommendations would address disproportionality by helping staff get as accurate an assessment of safety as possible based on the information available so that bias does not drive the decision.

- Implement a statewide continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) board in FY2013 – This will include a process to review and highlight areas of program and practice identified as strengths and challenges. The CQI board creates a formal CQI loop on a statewide level that includes representatives from the field, region and HQ leadership. The board will review reports highlighting various data and trends and will track progress, make recommendations for improvement and review the status of previous action steps as part of an ongoing continuous quality improvement process. The CQI process will include a quarterly review of identified performance measures and various initiatives designed to improve the system.

PROGRESS AND UPDATES (FY 2012) - Systemic Factor C: Quality Assurance

Activity	Status
Practice, Program, and Service Enhancements	
1. Improve response to critical incidents	Completed: and ongoing– See Safety Section
2. Redesign of Central Case Review- Office Reviews	Completed: November 2011
3. Central Case Review of DLR/CPS and statewide intake review	Completed: January 2012
4. Implement new full-time Program Evaluation Managers positions to determine compliance with policy and required practice and provide consultation, evaluation and data for specific program areas.	In Progress: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program Evaluation Manager (PEM) position descriptions were finalized by the DSHS Human Resources Division (HRD) • Positions to be filled through reassignment in late 2012 • In service training will occur when positions are filled
5. Form special QA teams to develop QA plans, monitor data and track progress.	Completed: FY 2012 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formed special QA teams for Safety Framework, Practice Model, FTDMs, Unified Home studies, Case Planning Meetings and Notification to Foster Parents of Court Hearings
6. Develop and use FamLink on-line management and ad-hoc reports to manage performance and staff use of FamLink.	Ongoing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CA is using the reports to help manage and improve performance. See also Statewide Information System



PLANNED ACTIVITIES (FY 2013) - Systemic Factor C: Quality Assurance

Activity (2013)	Target Date
Practice, Program, and Service Enhancements	
1. Implement a statewide Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) board and process to review and highlight areas of program and practice identified as strengths and challenges.	FY2013
2. Continue use of Central Case Reviews to track compliance and quality practice with a focus on child safety, engagement, child well being, permanency, monthly visits with children and parents and supervisory reviews.	FY2013
3. Develop Quality Assurance Plans to support strategies in the Program Improvement Plan. These plans include a process for data collection, analysis, reporting, and changes to reflect the analysis. Plans will be reviewed by designated QA teams and by the CQI Board.	FY2013
4. Conduct a statewide Central Case Review of compliance and quality of DLR/CPS practice of children in licensed care.	January 2013
5. Conduct statewide Indian Child Welfare Case Reviews in collaboration with tribal representatives in six locations in Washington state.	August - October 2012

Systemic Factor D: Staff and Provider Training

Children's Administration's comprehensive training plan is located in [Section IV](#), and provides the details of our training program and services for staff and caregivers.

Systemic Factor E: Service Array and Resource Development

Inventory of Purchased Services by Area of the State

In FY 2012 CA conducted an inventory of services that safely support children remaining in their own homes, to understand the availability of core services necessary to each Children's Administration office. This emphasis supports our efforts to control safety threats early in a case, before out-of-home placement is necessary. These services are the most important to be available in local areas for families to access and the need for these services is expected to increase as we implement the Child Safety Framework. Language and cultural needs will be included in the inventory.

Children's Administration will work with stakeholders and community partners to take a fresh look at what families need to keep their children safely at home or to facilitate and maintain reunification as a step in the process to building the RFP for services.

Children's Administration will implement [Engrossed Second Substitute House Bill 2264](#), which became law on June 7, 2012. It requires the department to issue a request for proposal for Family Support and Related Services by December 2012, and to contract for these services under a performance based contract by December 2013.

Family Support and Related Services are not defined in the legislation. The legislation requires the department to consult with Children's Administration social workers, tribal representatives, parents formerly involved in the child welfare system, youth currently or previously in foster care, the employee bargaining representative (Washington Federation of State Employees), child welfare researchers, and the Washington State Institute for Public Policy. These groups will assist Children's Administration to identify categories of Family Support and Related Services by July 15, 2012. This consultation will occur through focus groups, in-person meetings, and on-line surveys tailored to each group's unique perspective.

In addition to this required consultation, Children's Administration is seeking input from our other child welfare partners through regularly scheduled in-person meetings, two public meetings, and an on-line survey.

This consultation requirement provides Children's Administration with an opportunity to consider carefully what families need as we develop these service categories, including needs we are not able to address today. The service categories identified as a result of this input will be contracted for under a performance based contract. The contractors will serve as network administrators to provide Family Support and Related Services through its provider network. The contract will include standards for adequate service capacity, culturally competent service providers, use of family engagement approaches, use of evidence-based practices,

compliance with intergovernmental agreements and ICWA, and use of veteran parent and foster youth alumni as mentors.

The network administrator may provide services directly or through a subcontract, and will be responsible to provide the Family Support and Related Services that are included in the family’s case plan within the funds available. Children’s Administration social workers will choose service providers from a network administrator based on geographic proximity and provider performance. In working with network administrators, social workers will retain all case management responsibilities, will continue to have responsibility to select services and service providers, and will work with tribes as they do now.

UPDATES AND PROGRESS (FY 2012) - Systemic Factor E: Service Array and Resource Development

Activity	Status
1. Receive technical assistance from the following National Resources Centers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child Protective Services • Permanency and Family Connections • Adoptions 	Completed
2. Receive input through in-person meetings, focus groups, on-line surveys and two public meetings (held on May 22, 2012 and May 29, 2012) regarding services and concrete resources families need to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce the likelihood of abuse and neglect • Keep their children safely at home • Promote permanency more quickly, including facilitating and maintaining safe reunification 	Completed: June 15, 2012



PLANNED ACTIVITIES (FY 2013) - Systemic Factor E: Service Array and Resource Development

Activity (2013)	Target Date
1. Identify categories of Family Support & Related Services based on input received through June 15, 2012.	July 15, 2012
2. Issue RFP for Family Support & Related Services to be provided by network administrators.	December 31, 2012
3. Notify successful bidders.	June 30, 2013

Systemic Factor F: Responsiveness to the Community

The CFSR Statewide Assessment indicates strength in engagement of tribes and stakeholders, and use of tribal and stakeholder feedback to inform policy and practice. *The Final Report: Washington Child and Family Services Review – February 2011* also notes this area as being in substantial conformity with the systemic factor of Responsiveness to the Community.

Challenges include differing approaches across DSHS administrations, sharing information efficiently, and budget reductions that affect Children’s Administration’s ability to meet the needs expressed by communities and stakeholders.

In the past year, CA continued to improve and strengthen collaboration by focusing on:

- Providing ongoing opportunities for a wide range of stakeholders, court and tribal representatives to provide input in a timely and meaningful way. This includes input into policy and practice changes, Program Improvement Plan, and the Annual Progress and Services Report (APSR).
- Careful consideration when developing policy and program changes as to who is impacted and how those who are impacted can effectively have a say in the process.

Collaboration efforts in Fiscal Year 2012 include:

- Increase the use and support of [Evidence Based Practices](#)
- Implement recommendations to address findings in the [Office of Family and Children’s Ombudsman \(OFCO\) 2011 Annual Report](#) through workgroups with community partners and stakeholders
- Develop application for [Title IVE Waiver Demonstration Project](#)
- Implement the [Expansion of Foster Care to 18-21](#)
- Strengthen consistency of practice by enhancing the delivery of education, training, and professional development opportunities through the new [Training and Education partnership](#)
- Implement the [Birth to Five Framework](#)
- Strengthen educational success of children and youth in foster care through [Education Initiatives](#)
- Redesign of the Indian Child Welfare case review tool in collaboration with Washington state tribes and Recognized American Indian Organizations [FY2013 ICW Case Review](#)

The following committees or advisory groups provide regular and ongoing collaboration and consultation to Children’s Administration:

- Children, Youth and Family Services Advisory Committee
- Indian Policy Advisory Committee
- Washington State Racial Disproportionality Advisory Committee
- Foster Parent 1624 Consultation Team
- Supreme Court Commission on Children in Foster Care
- Foster Parent Hubs and Regional Foster Parent Meetings
- Foster Parents Association of Washington
- Transformation Design Committee
- Court Improvement Advisory Committee
- IV-E Waiver Advisory Committee
- University of Washington Partners for Our Children

- University of Washington School of Social Work and Eastern Washington School of Social Work Statewide Education Committee
- The Casey Family Program and Annie E. Casey Foundation
- National Resource Centers of the Children’s Bureau
- Catalyst for Kids
- Superior Court Judges Association sub-committee for children and families
- Passion to Action Youth Advisory Committee
- Provider groups
- Private Agencies
- Veteran Birth Parents Advocacy Committees

CA used the work of stakeholders to inform and develop the Annual Progress and Services Report; many of these same stakeholders were part of the review of the APSR before its finalization.

Ongoing coordination of services and benefits with other DSHS administrations and partners continue to be an area of focus, including:

- *Models for Change*¹ is a national initiative funded by the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation to accelerate reform of the juvenile justice system across the country. Focused on efforts in select states, the initiative aims to create replicable models for reform that effectively hold young people accountable for their actions, provide for their rehabilitation, protect them from harm, increase their life chances, and manage the risk they pose to themselves and to public safety.

Continuing DSHS’s on-going efforts to collaborate across systems , we have partnered with Models for Change to focus on specific areas of improvement, which include:

- Expanding alternatives to formal processing and secure confinement primarily focusing on offenders/truant youth, specifically CA and Juvenile Rehabilitation administration (JRA) are working:
 - To sustain and increase Crisis Family Intervention funding for At-Risk Youth who are going through the At Risk Youth/ Child in Need of Services process. (*Contingent on Washington’s emergence from fiscal crisis*)
- Reducing racial and ethnic disparities
- Improving the way the system identifies and responds to youth with mental health needs
- Improving coordination and collaboration of care for youth served by multiple systems, especially in child welfare and juvenile justice, through integrated case management by:
 - Removing barriers that inhibit services to youth and families
 - Maximizing funding through shared resources
 - Streamlining services to create efficiencies that reduce duplication of work and services
 - Providing seamless case management
- *Memorandum of Understanding* between CA and JRA is being revised to enhance discharge planning for youth. The MOU will provide clarification of roles and responsibilities, including
 - Clearly identify who has lead responsibility
 - Begin discharge planning at entry to JRA facilities and county detentions
 - Create opportunities for joint involvement in shared planning meetings

¹ See Models for Change – System’s Reforms in Juvenile Justice (<http://www.modelsforchange.net>)

- *Ongoing joint DSHS meetings between Economic Services Administration (ESA), JRA, CA, Aging and Disability Services Administration (ADSA) to more fully collaborate across administrations, work on systemic level issues such as policy and practice that cross administrations and impact one another. For example:*
 - Joint staffings across administrations to ensure cross system linkages.
 - Cross-administration group meets monthly and to work on real and perceived policies and barriers that interfere with necessary services for children and their families.
 - ICM pilots include a staffing model for service provision. The current System of Care Grant also will include a plan to embed Child and Family Teams across systems for complex children and their families.
 - Work with Medical Purchasing Administration on the Fostering Well-Being Program to build medical provider capacity to provide EPSDT exams for foster children, and coordinate services for children who are medically fragile or have special needs. The Fostering Well-Being Program has expanded its program by an additional nurse to increase capacity in care management and quality assurance reviews of medically fragile children entering our system.
 - The Fostering Well-Being Program transferred to the Aging and Disabilities Services Administration. They implemented many activities around EPSDT/well-child exams for foster children. Current activities include a focus on Medically Fragile children who come into care and their care coordination needs.

Systemic Factor G: Foster and Adoptive Home Licensing, Approval and Recruitment

- Standards for foster homes
- Standards applied equally
- Requirements for criminal background checks
- Diligent recruitment of foster and adoptive homes
- State use of cross-jurisdictional resources for permanent placement

Children’s Administration’s standards for foster family homes and child-placing agencies meet or exceed recommended national standards. *The Final Report: Washington Child and Family Services Review – February 2011* also notes this area as being in substantial conformity with the systemic factor of Foster and Adoptive Home Licensing, Approval and Recruitment.

Children’s Administration is committed to safety, quality and one practice standard for relative, foster and adoptive home studies that balance safe quality care for children and flexibility for relative caregivers to safely meet licensing standards.

UPDATES AND PROGRESS (FY 2012)

Activity	Status
1. Implement non-safety standards licensing waiver.	Ongoing: DLR continues to work with relatives to identify non-safety waivers on a case-by-case basis to help facilitate the licensing process.
2. Use of web-based background checks for DSHS agency-wide.	Ongoing: Training continues for CA staff to use the CA Background Check Web Application.

<p>Currently DLR uses a web-based system for their background checks for licensed facilities. This system is integral to DLR's success with efficient background checks.</p> <p>DLR has used this application since 2007. It ensures accuracy (97%) and immediate results (within five minutes) and eliminates faxing Background Authorization Forms to the DSHS Background Check Central Unit (BCCU) to process.</p>	<p>In late 2012, BCCU anticipates the Background check online system will be in production for all of DSHS and will replace the CA Background Check Web Application. In June 2012, CA and the BCCU project team will discuss the new system and view a demonstration.</p>
<p>3. Revise minimum licensing standards.</p> <p>CA met with tribal representatives in each region to review proposed WAC changes to the licensing standards. A draft will be provided to Child Placing Agencies, Group Care Facilities, child welfare professionals, other community partners and the Rules and Policy Assistance Unit prior to finalization of WAC revision.</p>	<p>In Process: CA staff met with tribes in FY2012. After review and finalization, the WACs will be submitted through the Rule process for permanent adoption.</p>
<p>4. Combine home study positions under the Division of Licensing Resources to ensure practice continuity statewide. This supports completing home studies in a timely manner and provides one system of approval.</p>	<p>Completed: September 2012</p>
<p>5. CA continues to work with three foster care recruitment and retention contractors who provide on-going recruitment of foster families statewide.</p>	<p>Ongoing: Current Contractors operate through August 2012. New Contractor begins effective September 2012.</p>

FY 2013

PLANNED ACTIVITIES (FY 2013) - Systemic Factor G: Foster and Adoptive Home Licensing, Approval and Recruitment

Activity (2013)	Target Date
<p>1. See Unified Home study under Permanency.</p>	
<p>2. Contract with a new foster care recruitment and retention contractor.</p> <p>CA released a Request For Proposal (RFP) for the Foster Home Recruitment and Retention three year contract in May 2012. This RFP seeks one qualified contractor to partner with CA in statewide recruitment and retention of quality foster families. The contractor must have the skills needed to meet the diverse needs of children in CA's child welfare system. This is a 3 year contract.</p>	<p>October 2012</p>
<p>3. Determine need to request technical assistance to assist with the Unified Home Study implementation.</p>	<p>FY2013</p>

Data - Item 41

Standards for Foster Home

Children’s Administration has exceeded the state requirement of ten percent of state-licensed foster homes monitored for the past six years.

	SFY 2005	SFY 2006	SFY 2007	SFY 2008	SFY 2009	SFY 2010
% of Homes Monitored	12.8%	13.4%	13.4%	13.9%	15.8%	15.3%
Number of State Foster Homes as of July 1	4,055	3,881	3,801	3,957	3,826	3,730
Number of State Foster Homes Monitored	519	520	508	550	605	571

Data source: FamLink

The Foster Home Recruitment and Retention Request for Proposal (RFP) is for a statewide contract to increase the number and quality of foster families. Released in May 2012, the RFP requires that Recruitment and Retention Services create a public/private partnership focused on general, targeted, and child specific recruitment activities. The new contractor will begin work in October 2012. The contractor will implement strategies to increase the number of foster families in communities of color and for targeted recruitment of foster families for, among others, racially and ethnically diverse children, youth ages 12 and older, including adolescents with behavioral / emotional needs, children ages 0-3, medically fragile children, and gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and questioning children and youth. In addition, the contractor will increase the number of foster families by twenty percent (20%) for Native American, African American and Hispanic caregivers.

Data – Item 45

State use of cross-jurisdictional resources for permanent placement

Data:

In FY 2011, CA referred 54 children to the program, which resulted in 53 child specific contracts for the adoptive placement of 53 children.

Adoption Purchase of Service Contracts		
	Referrals	Executed Contracts
FY 2007	46	35
FY 2008	61	43
FY 2009	64	47
FY 2010	71	31
FY 2011	54	53

SECTION III:
Chafee Foster Care
Independence Program
Education and Training Vouchers

Chafee Foster Care Independence Program Education and Training Vouchers

State Agency overseeing the CFCIP programs

In Washington State, the Department of Social and Health Services, Children's Administration, administers, supervises and oversees the Title IV-E program and the Chafee Foster Care Independence Program (CFCIP). Washington participates in national evaluations on the impacts of the programs in achieving the purposes of CFCIP.

The two Chafee funded programs; *Independent Living (IL)* and *Educational and Training Vouchers (ETV)* are part of an array of services available to youth transitioning from state foster care.

INDEPENDENT LIVING PROGRAM

Children's Administration currently serves approximately 2,300 youth/young adults (not including Tribal youth) in the contracted IL program.

IL Eligibility

To be eligible for the Independent Living Program youth must be at least 15 years old or older (through their 21st birthday) and currently in foster care in an open dependency action through DSHS or a tribal child welfare agency for at least 30 days after their 15th birthday. Once youth meet initial eligibility, they remain eligible until age 21. The program also serves youth who have achieved permanence (such as adoption, kinship guardianship, and return home) provided they meet the initial IL eligibility.

IL Service Provision

There are 11 contracted Independent Living providers and 24 Tribal Independent Living providers in all regions in Washington state to provide ease of access to youth who participate in the program.

Independent Living (IL) programs are available to all eligible youth across the state. Currently, most of the state has contracted IL services although there are a few remote areas where services are limited and the local DSHS Children's Administration office provides IL services.

Social workers refer youth at age 15 or older to the IL program, and must make at least three attempts to engage the youth in this voluntary program. If efforts to engage the youth fail, the social worker and caregiver are contacted and a letter is sent to the youth informing them that if they decide to participate in the program later they may contact the program at any time.

The IL contract outlines services required by the federal Chafee Act, including the National Youth in Transition Database elements, which became effective October 1, 2010. Contracted IL, Tribal IL providers and Responsible Living Skills (RLSP) providers have access to input services into our SACWIS system (FamLink) which allows Children's Administration to collect better data and report on outcomes for youth in care.

IL Services

- *Casey Life Skills Assessment (CLSA)* – Children’s Administration uses the nationally recognized web-based CLSA tool provided by Casey Family Programs. The tool assesses various life domains and calculates a score based on the youth’s answer to the assessment questions. CLSA score reports populate immediately after the assessment, showing the youth’s greatest strengths and challenges.

Once the youth completes the assessment, a learning plan is developed to address the individual needs of the youth. The assessment is administered annually to youth participating in the program.

- Youth age 15 - 16 are administered the CLSA tool and receive training on a variety of skills including life skills and educational services.
 - Youth age 16 – 18 are administered the CLSA tool and receive training on a variety of skills including life skills, educational services and transition planning.
 - Young adults age 18 through 20 are administered the CLSA tool and receive training on a variety of skills including life skills, education supports and services, housing assistance, and employment supports and services.
- *Transitional Living Services (TLS)* - The Washington State legislature established statutory authority to serve former foster youth ages 18 through 21 in June 2001. The Independent Living Program delivers Transitional Living Services (TLS) through contracts with community service providers and tribes.

Funding is available to eligible youth ages 18 to 21 on an individual basis for housing and incidental expenses. “Room and Board” is defined as assistance provided to a former foster care youth from age 18 to 21 in the form of payment for rent, utilities, deposits and housing costs. Room and board or housing costs are budgeted and tracked separately by Children’s Administration to ensure that no more than 30% of the state’s Chafee Independent Living funds are used. *In FY 2011, CA spent 10.13% of the CFCIP grant on room and board assistance.*

TLS case managers help youth locate affordable housing, negotiate leases and make rent and utility payments. Rent subsidies are available as long as the youth is employed or seeking employment, or enrolled in an educational or vocational program. If a contracted service agency is not readily available, youth may still apply for transition funds for housing through a local Children’s Administration office.

- *Responsible Living Skills Program (RLSP)* - The RLSP program was developed in 1999 for dependent youth, ages 14 to 18 in the custody of the state or tribe who are not returning to their families, and who have been unsuccessful in traditional foster care. This program provides long-term housing, assessment, and life skills training to youth to help transition into adulthood. This program currently has 32 beds statewide.
- *Extended Foster Care program* - This program was implemented in 2011 as a result of SSHB 1128. This allows youth to remain in foster care to complete high school or equivalency program. This is a program authorized under RCW 74.13.031 and applies to dependent youth in foster care who are enrolled in a high school or General Equivalency Diploma (GED) program on their 18th birthday. If the youth qualifies for the program and elects to participate, Children’s Administration (CA) will provide youth ongoing foster care

services while they pursue their High School Diploma or GED up to age 21. It requires dependencies to stay open for all qualifying youth.

- *Foster Care to 21* - Washington State offers foster care and support services to a limited number of youth age 18 to 21 pursuing post-secondary education. This program will be phased out over the next three years and will be replaced with the new Extended Foster Care program. During the 2012 legislative session, ESHB 2592 was passed extending the current Extended Foster Care program to also include youth pursuing post secondary education in Washington state. This will become effective on July 1, 2012.

Seven Purpose Areas

1. Assist youth in transition from dependency to self-sufficiency

UPDATE AND PROGRESS (FY 2012)

Activity	Status
1. Convene Annual Foster Youth and Alumni Leadership Summit.	Completed: June 27-29, 2011. This summit brought together 64 youth and alumni of foster care who presented their specific recommendations to state policy makers on ways to improve policies and procedures in the foster care system. Participants also learned about ways to use their voice effectively.
2. Convene Annual Passion to Action Retreat.	Completed: July 5-7 th , 2011. Passion to Action members received leadership and strategic sharing training as well as worked on goals for 2012.
3. Regional Activities – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Region 1 - Independent Living “Real World” conference for foster youth age 15-18 to provide them with trainings and information on resources needed to help promote self-sufficiency. – Region 3 - Annual Summer event for Youth – Region 4 - Annual Independent Living Conference 	<p>Completed: March 17, 2012. This conference brought together 77 youth from the eastern part of WA state</p> <p>Completed: June 21, 2011. This summer event brought together 22 youth to celebrate their graduations.</p> <p>Completed: April 18, 2011. The YMCA hosted their annual IL conference and had 115 participants.</p>

PLANNED ACTIVITIES (FY 2013)

Activity	Target Date
1. Convene Annual Foster Youth and Alumni Leadership Summit.	June 25 – 27, 2012
2. Convene Annual Passion to Action Day Retreat.	July 2012
3. Regional Activities – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Region 1 – Real World Conference o Region 3 - Annual Summer event for Youth o Region 4 - Annual Independent Living Conference 	Spring 2013 Summer 2012 Summer 2012

2. Help youth receive the education, training and services necessary to obtain employment

Activity	Status
1. <i>Employment Services</i> - Contracted Independent Living program staff incorporate employment modules and workshops into their day-to-day work with youth and link youth to existing community resources. IL providers provide employment services all year and specifically coincide with the summer and holiday hiring, school breaks, and near the end of the school year. Youth receive: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coaching on activities related to employment readiness, interviewing, resume writing and appropriate dress • Assistance gaining and retaining employment • Assistance obtaining or securing items needed to gain or maintain employment, such as, a social security card, dress attire, and transportation (if possible) • Assistance using community employment resources to gain employment • Information on how to enroll in available Workforce Investment Act youth programs or to register with the Employment Security One Stop Career Centers (if available) 	Ongoing
2. Partner with the Department of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR) In May 2011 to create a six month pilot Peer to Peer Mentoring Program. This program hired foster youth alumni to educate CA staff, contracted Independent Living (IL) providers and foster youth transitioning from care on the DVR program. It should also increase referral and participation of youth transitioning from care into DVR services.	Completed: December 2011
3. Educated 691 youth, CA staff and providers on the DVR program and referred 164 youth in care to DVR services as a result of the Peer to Peer Mentoring Program. CA staff and contracted IL service providers have increased knowledge and understanding of the DVR program and will continue to identify and refer youth and young adults to DVR services.	Completed: December 2011 and ongoing

3. Help youth prepare for and enter post-secondary training and educational institutions

UPDATES AND PROGRESS (FY 2012)

Activity	Status
1. Develop school district agreements with remaining schools identified with high rates of removals	Ongoing See description at OSPI website - School District Agreements
2. Independent Living providers continue to prepare and mentor foster youth ages 15 to 18 to complete high school or a GED program, and enter post-secondary education programs. The Supplemental Educational Transition Planning (SETuP) provides foster youth age 14-18 with educational planning, information, links to other services/programs and coordination with high school counselors to ensure youth have an educational transition plan.	Ongoing: In FY 2011, the IL program served 970 youth and the SETuP Program served 415 youth.
3. Continue the Passport to College Promise Program Scholarships.	Ongoing: In 2011-2012 this program served 328 former foster youth entering post secondary educational programs
4. Children’s Administration, in partnership with the College Success Foundation and the Higher Education Coordinating Board, held four regional education summits in March/April 2012.	Ongoing: Participants included social workers and community partners, including representatives from colleges and universities.
5. Continue the Governor’s Scholarship.	Ongoing: Governor’s Scholarships awarded scholarships to 41 foster youth in 2012. Scholarships ranged from \$2000 - \$4000.
6. Develop a FamLink Education Report to monitor the education status of children and youth in care.	Completed: Implemented and trained July 2011
7. Provide training on the Casey Life Skills Assessment (CLSA).	Completed: In November 2011 trained 16 social workers on the CLSA tool during a four day intensive adolescent track training.

FY 2013

PLANNED ACTIVITIES (FY 2013)

Activity	Target Date
1. Continue developing school District Agreements with remaining schools identified with high rates of removals	Ongoing See description at OSPI website - School District Agreements
2. Continue the Governors’ Scholarship.	Fall 2013
3. Provide trainings on the revised Casey Life Skills Assessment.	Ongoing

Activity	Target Date
4. Continue the Passport to College Promise Program Scholarships.	Ongoing

4. Provide personal and emotional support to youth through mentors and the promotion of interactions with dedicated adults

Contracted IL providers, SETuP providers, foster parents and community service providers link youth with dedicated adults as the youth transitions out of care. The required 17.5 year old staffing also helps youth identify important adults in their life who can help support them through their transition from foster care and beyond into adulthood.

UPDATES AND PROGRESS (FY 2012):

Activity	Status
1. Continue Mentoring for Foster Children.	Ongoing See Well-Being
2. College Success Foundation, in partnership with Children’s Administration and the Higher Education Coordinating Board will hold three regional summits bringing professionals from the child welfare and education systems together to address educational needs of foster youth.	Ongoing: Passport Summits were held in Spokane, Pasco, Everett and Tacoma during April and May with a wide participation from educators, post-secondary programs, social workers, CASA’s, youth and foster parents.



PLANNED ACTIVITIES (FY 2013)

Activity	Target Date
1. Mockingbird Society will conduct a transitions training to youth/young adults attending the Annual Youth and Alumni Leadership Summit	Summer 2012

5. Provide financial, housing, counseling, employment, education and other appropriate support and services to former foster care recipients between 18 and 21 years of age. Please refer to IL services above which addresses services provided to youth age 18 through 21.

UPDATES AND PROGRESS (FY 2012):

Activity	Status
1. Independent Youth Housing program (IYHP) provides housing vouchers to youth exiting foster care.	Ongoing: This program is available in nine counties and served 127 young people in FY 2011.
2. Continue Transitional Living Services (TLS).	Ongoing: TLS assisted 1333 eligible youth in FY 2011 in securing housing and employment.

PLANNED ACTIVITIES (FY 2013)

Activity	Target Date
1. Implement 2SHB 2592 Extended Foster Care for youth pursuing post secondary education.	Begin June 2012 and ongoing

6. *Make available vouchers for education and training, including post secondary education and to youth who have aged out of foster care.*

See [ETV Section below](#)

7. *Provide Services to youth who, after attaining 16 years of age, have left foster care for kinship guardianship or adoption*

Once a youth is determined eligible for IL services, he/she remains eligible regardless of his/her permanent plan.

Coordination of Services with other Federal and State Programs

Coordination of Services with other Federal and State Programs for youth, including Transitional Living and School-to-Work program offered by high school or local workforce agencies

Community collaboration continues to be a vital part of Children’s Administration’s efforts to strengthen its delivery of services to foster youth, former foster youth, and with the community as a whole. Some of these efforts include:

Statewide Collaborations –

1. *Collaboration with Casey Family Programs* - The Washington State Independent Living Program Manager and other Children’s Administration staff are closely aligned with Casey Family Programs. They are currently working on:
 - The annual Foster Youth and Alumni Leadership Summit
 - The revision of the Casey Life Skills Assessment tool
 - Permanency Roundtables

2. *Ready to Rent* is a program of United Way’s “Out of the Rain” Homeless Initiative in partnership with Mutual Interest and the Rental Association of Puget Sound. This program enables former foster youth to obtain housing and avoid homelessness.

3. DSHS- Children’s Administration is one of four successful recipients nationwide to receive a two year infrastructure building grant from the **Center for the Study of Social Policy** focusing on pregnant and parenting teens in foster care in Washington state. This funding opportunity allows CA to strengthen its policies, practices and educational materials when working with this population. Children’s Administration collaborates with multiple state and private agencies in this effort including DSHS Aging &

Disability Services Administration, DSHS Research & Data Analysis, Health Care Authority, Department of Health, West Sound Youth for Christ, Office of Attorney General, Passion to Action and Mockingbird Society. **Ongoing through December 2013.**

4. In June 2011, Washington state was one of the successful recipients of a funding opportunity through the National Governor's Association, Three Branch Institute. This was a collaborative effort between the Executive branch (DSHS-Children's Administration and the Governor's office), the Legislative branch and the Judicial branch of Government. Representatives from each branch participated in the "Three Branch Institute on Adolescents in Foster Care: Increasing Permanency and Reducing Entries" convening in Colorado. This grant provided an opportunity for our state to build momentum and solidify our efforts to better meet the permanency needs of youth in foster care. Three focus groups were held around the state to develop a work plan to coordinate efforts between the three levels of government and educate each about the issues being encountered. **This work is ongoing.**

Regional Collaborations –

5. *The Transition Collaboration in Region 2S* consists of public and private agencies who meet regularly to share resources and identify gaps in service to youth transitioning out of care. This brings local agencies together to look at the issues facing youth in transition to learn from each other and use each other as a resource when working with this vulnerable population.
6. *Living Interdependently for Tomorrow's Success (LIFTS)* is funded through donations to Catholic Family & Child Services. This is an ongoing collaboration in Region 1S of Independent Living Services and Transitional Living Services providers. Each contribute funds primarily for individual youth assistance, based on the youth's Ansell Casey Life Skills Assessment learning plan needs.
7. *The Region 1S Transitions Collaboration Network*, chartered in 2005 by Children's Administration, Casey Family Program-Yakima, and Catholic Family and Child Services, meets periodically to discuss Federal and Children's Administration policies regarding youth who transition to adulthood from care. Inter-agency planning for upcoming activities will target housing, health care, education, and employment needs for these youth. Participants include representatives from Education Service Districts, Economic Services Division, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, Division of Developmental Disabilities, and contracted Child Placing Agencies.
8. *YMCA Young Adult Services* in Region 2S operate the young adult community resource center (The Center) which opened in February 2007. The Center is the gateway to YMCA services for foster youth, foster alumni and other transitioning youth ages 15-25. The YMCA provides supportive housing, case management and referral services through its three core programs: Independent Living Program, Transitions, and Young Adults in Transition.
9. *Treehouse* is a private non-profit agency serving foster youth in Region 2S by providing clothing, school supplies, funding for enrichment activities, summer camp and in-school tutoring. It offers an outreach program to foster youth in middle school and a coaching to college mentoring program to youth who are college bound.
10. *Individual Development Accounts* - Treehouse, United Way of King County and the YMCA Independent Living Program collaborate to provide Individual Development Accounts to 132 foster youth and alumni of care in King County.

IL Training

UPDATES AND PROGRESS (FY 2012):

Activity	Status
1. Pilot Adolescent Specialized Track training for CA field staff.	Completed: Sixteen staff attended this four day training.
2. Provide Casey Life Skills Assessment trainings to IL providers and CA staff. The training covers information on how to administer the CLSA tool and understand the assessment in order to assist youth with the development of a learning plan.	Completed and Ongoing –Trained 16 social workers in November 2011. On-line training became available in March 2012.
3. Participate on the Youth in Transition and Mental Health Transformation Workgroup.	Completed - Spring 2011

FY 2013

PLANNED ACTIVITIES (FY 2013)

Activity	Target Date
1. Provide Casey Life Skills Assessment on-line trainings to IL providers and CA staff.	Ongoing in FY2013

Trust Funds

Washington State does not have established trust funds for youth receiving independent living or transitional living services.

Youth Involvement in State Agency Efforts

Statewide Youth Advisory Board "Passion to Action" - This Statewide Youth Advisory Board called "Passion to Action" consists of 20 current and former recipients of Children's Administration services - representing all three regions. The Board has been in operation for seven years and is a vital part of shaping change in our child welfare system. The Board, serving in an advisory capacity, reviews and provides feedback to Children's Administration on all of its policies and practices in an effort to provide better services to youth in care. The Board ensures that as a child welfare system we are using authentic foster youth voice to help improve the foster care system. Members of the Board serve on many of CA's workgroups and CA relies on them for feedback on planning for changes to the foster care system, including:

- Children's Administration program development and service delivery models, as well as ongoing quality assurance activities. Youth review and provide feedback on policies and procedures as they are

implemented throughout the year. Examples include the Extended Foster Care program and the credit check policy.

- The statewide and regional CFSR meetings and planning committees to improve foster care for youth. Youth attended all CFSR statewide meetings and PIP planning meetings to represent the youth voice in the process.
- Child Welfare Transformation Design Committee regarding the use of performance-based contracts for the delivery of child welfare services.
- Active participants in the development of a Youth Transition Health Summary report for youth leaving foster care.

Medicaid

Washington state continues to offer the Medicaid to 21 program. Since implemented in 2007, there has been an increase from 187 youth enrolled in CY 2007 to 1346 in CY 2011. Medicaid coverage applies to youth who:

- Are currently under 21 years of age.
- Were in foster care on or after July 22, 2007, under the legal responsibility of DSHS or a federally recognized tribe located within the state.
- Were in foster care on their 18th birthday, under the legal responsibility of DSHS or a federally recognized tribe located within the state.

Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act

Children's Administration's youth transition plan incorporated information required by Chafee Foster Care Independence Program (CFCIP) and Fostering Connections changes per Program Instruction dated June 7, 2010. CA implemented the transition plan statewide on October 2010, and included information on:

- Designating another individual to make health care treatment decisions on behalf of the youth if the youth does not have, or does not want, a relative who would otherwise be authorized under state law to make such decisions.
- Executing a health care power of attorney, health care proxy, or other similar document recognized under state law.

Tribal Participation

Tribal youth are assured access and availability of Independent Living (IL) services across the state. Tribal youth may choose tribal IL contracted services or non-tribal providers, assuming space availability. Once the

tribal youth ages out of foster care (18), s/he is eligible for Transitional Living Services (TLS) across the state until age 21.

Agreements with the tribes regarding allocation of the Chafee Foster Care Independent Living Program (CFCIP) funds were reached in the year 2000. A solicitation process occurs yearly where all federally recognized tribes in Washington State have an opportunity to apply for CFCIP funding. Each tribe received a letter offering an IL contract for this fiscal year. To date, every tribe that requested Chafee funds for their own IL program received approval for funding. This year Children's Administration has contracts with 24 tribes. Ten percent of the total IL allocation is designated for tribal contracts.

Addressing "State Funded" IL programs versus "Direct Federally Funded" IL programming to tribes.

There is currently one tribe in Washington state receiving direct federal funding for their IL program as a result of the Fostering Connections legislation. If the tribe's direct federal award is less than the state award for IL programming, Children's Administration will offer that tribe a contract to make up the difference. This is offered to maintain our agreement of providing tribes with 10% of the total Chafee grant.

National Youth in Transition Database (NYTD)

Children's Administration continues to communicate with tribes about the federal NYTD requirement. This includes providing regular updates at the monthly Indian Policy Advisory Council (IPAC) meetings and incorporating this requirement into our contracts.

As part of the NYTD rollout in Washington state, all contracted tribal Independent Living providers were given access and input capabilities to the IL page, education page and person id pages in FamLink. CA continues to offer ongoing training to both tribal and non-tribal Independent Living providers when needed or requested.

Each tribe has a designated IL program staff person who works with their tribe to identify youth who are eligible for IL/NYTD services and provides education to the tribe and their youth on the program.

Outreach to Tribes regarding the Independent Living Program

Outreach to tribes regarding CFCIP programs continues on a regular basis. The IL Program Manager and/or Education and Training Voucher (ETV) Program Manager attend the monthly Indian Policy Advisory Committee (IPAC) to provide information on the perspective programs. They also attend various tribal meetings to educate tribes about IL and ETV services and meet with individual tribes upon request to train on IL and ETV related topics.

Several IL Coordinators in each of the regions meet regularly with the tribes and discuss IL issues and collaboration. Each region is also active in training tribal members on FamLink and the IL page.

Implementation of National Youth in Transition Database (NYTD)

In October 2010, Washington State implemented the *National Youth in Transition Database (NYTD)*. Children's Administration incorporated all the NYTD elements (including the survey) into the SACWIS system (FamLink). As part of this process, contracted IL and Responsible Living Skill providers were given access to FamLink to input IL services. Children's Administration has successfully met the federal requirements for the first three submissions.

Implementation of Annual Credit Checks

In March 2012, Washington state implemented the new federal requirement that each youth age 16 and older will receive copies of their consumer credit reports annually until they transition from care into young adulthood. Policy and procedures were rolled out to staff on this new requirement.

EDUCATION AND TRAINING VOUCHER PROGRAM (ETV)

The ETV program supports eligible current and former foster youth in pursuing their post-secondary education. ETV provides support and funding to help youth successfully navigate the college system and graduate. Supports may include referrals to designated support staff on college campuses who help youth who are struggling academically or financially.

ETV Eligibility

To be eligible for the ETV program, youth must be enrolled in, or accepted for, a post-secondary degree or certificate program and meet any one of the following criteria:

- Youth is 16 years old or older, currently involved in dependency action in a Washington State or tribal court, in the custody of the Department of Social and Health Services or a tribal child welfare agency, and in foster care.
- Youth is age 18 to 20 and exited state or tribal foster care because youth reached the age of majority at age 18. Youth who exited foster care in a state other than Washington may be eligible for the Washington ETV program.
- Youth is age 16 to 20 and left Washington State or tribal foster care at age 16 or older for an adoptive or relative guardianship placement.
- Youth is age 21 up to age 23 and received ETV funds before their 21st birthday.

Once youth are qualified to receive an ETV award, they may receive funds each year as long as they are enrolled in school at least half time, maintain a 2.0 cumulative grade point average, are eligible for financial aid and are less than 23 years old.

Education and Training Voucher (ETV) Service Provision

	Total ETVs Awarded	Number of New ETVs
Final Number: 2010-11 School Year (July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011)	356	118

2011-2012 School Year (July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012)	233	73
--	-----	----

2010-11 School Year

Thirty-three percent of the students awarded ETV were new participants (no prior award) and 66% of the students had previously participated in the ETV program. The average award for new and renewal students was \$3,928. The three main expense categories youth used their funds for were:

- Housing/Rent 42%
- Tuition 19%; and
- Books 9%

2011-12 School Year (as of May, 2012)

Thirty-one percent of the students awarded were new participants (no prior award) and 69% had previously participated in the program. The decrease in students served is intentional in an effort to respond to tuition increases at public and private colleges, which has a direct impact on the funds available to award students. The average award for new and renewal students is \$2,312. The three main expense categories are:

- Housing/Rent 44%
- Books 12%; and
- Tuition 9%

Other changes to program administration include:

- A priority application cycle between January 1 – April 30; youth who apply between May and July 31 are placed on a waitlist and no further applications are accepted after July 31.
- Aligning access of award funds with how other forms of federal and state aid are disbursed.
- Implemented a six term termination policy from the program for lack of progression/failure to meet Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP). This was done in consultation with the Passion to Action Youth Advisory Board.
- Reduction of the maximum award amount to \$3,000.

ETV Services

UPDATES AND PROGRESS (FY 2012):

Activity	Status
1. Develop training for social workers and caregivers, to address financial aid programs available to foster youth.	Completed: March 2012 – training hours are available and the training can be accessed at http://www.dshs.wa.gov/video/ca/federalaid/player.html
2. Explore Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) payments to students to reduce state expenses.	Ongoing: FY 2012/13 – We have received approval to move youth to this process and will work with Passion to Action for input on next steps starting April 2012

Activity	Status
3. Coordinate with Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe to serve youth who are eligible for both the State and Tribal ETV program.	Ongoing: April 2011 – An agreement was reached between the State ETV program and Port Gamble S'Klallam to ensure youth who exhaust their Tribal ETV award and still have a need, are eligible to apply and access State ETV funds
4. Revise and update ETV publications for students and professionals.	Completed: June 2012



PLANNED ACTIVITIES (FY 2013)

Activity	Description/Purpose	Target Date
Practice, Program, and Service Enhancements		
1.	Collaborate with Passion to Action Youth to develop trainings on how to access ETV funds and host on independence.wa.gov.	Spring 2013
2.	Re-explore use of technology (Facebook/Twitter/Skype) to communicate with students.	Winter 2012
3.	Outreach to Northwest Indian College to increase awareness of ETV as a potential funding source for eligible tribal youth.	Spring 2013

Education and Training Voucher (ETV) Collaboration Efforts

- *Peer-to-Peer Mentoring Program* - Due to increased tuition costs and enrollment demand this contract was not renewed. Funds have been re-allocated and made available as direct awards to students.

Status: *contract was not renewed due to budget*

- *College Success Foundation* - Children’s Administration continues to coordinate with the College Success Foundation, the Washington State Higher Education Coordinating Board, and other agencies in an effort to maximize former foster care youth access to financial aid assistance (e.g., federal student financial aid programs, grants, scholarships, and ETV services). Staff from these agencies often “triage” student financial aid awards, and on a case-by-case basis have successfully helped students receive a full financial aid award to pay their cost of attendance. They also connect students to staff on campus who can help a student file a financial aid appeal in the event they are suspended from financial aid participation.

Status: *Ongoing. Passport Summits were held in Spokane, Pasco, Everett and Tacoma during April and May with wide participation from educators, post-secondary programs, social workers, CASA’s, youth and foster parents.*

- *Ongoing Community Partner Collaboration* - ETV program staff continue to collaborate with community partners statewide to coordinate youth access and promote education success. Activities include participation in regional college consortiums to educate college campus staff about the unique needs of foster care youth pursuing their post-secondary education. This includes information on how to verify if

youth are eligible for the different programs and how to engage youth so they focus on their education and reach out for help when they struggle to succeed.

Status: *Ongoing*

SECTION IV: Training Plan

Children’s Administration Training Plan

The Children’s Administration partnered with the University of Washington Seattle School of Social Work, Eastern Washington University, the University of Washington Tacoma Social Work Program, and Partners for Our Children, which is part of the University of Washington, School of Social Work, to assist in expanding and deepening the current social work education and child welfare training program. This past year they fully defined the governance and infrastructure of a new partnership, called the Alliance for Child Welfare Excellence (Alliance). The primary goal of this partnership is to enhance the delivery of education, training, and professional development opportunities for social work staff, supervisors, administrators, and managers at Children Administration, and for the foster, adoptive, and relative caregivers and private community agency partners. The five partners committed to develop a comprehensive continuum of child welfare professional development and training across the state. This includes social work education, pre-service, in-service and advance, supervision, and management professional development training.

Overview of the Alliance Infrastructure and Governance

- The Alliance for Child Welfare Excellence includes the following partners:
 - *Children’s Administration* - is a primary partner in the Alliance, and will share their own knowledge, skills, and resources. CA will actively participate in competencies and curriculum development as well as routinely relay information regarding training needs, priorities, and federal and state policy changes.
 - *University of Washington, Seattle School of Social Work* - is the lead partner for coordinating and supporting the partnership. They are responsible for assuring that a full continuum of professional development and training occurs across the state.
 - *University of Washington, School of Social Work, Partners for Our Children* - Partners for Our Children conduct relevant and applied research and policy analysis that positively impacts families and children involved in the child welfare system. The Alliance will have the best and most current research results and best practice information to be communicated to child welfare staff.
 - *Eastern Washington University, College of Social & Behavioral Sciences and Social Work, School of Social Work* –has agreed to join the Alliance to assure professional development and training occurs in the Children’s Administration, Region 1, encompassing the east side of the state.
 - *University of Washington, Tacoma, Social Work Program* -- has agreed to provide professional development and training in the Children’s Administration, Region 3 area.
- A governing body, called the Executive Team, is comprised of representatives from each partner. The Executive Team is responsible for the overall coordination, development and monitoring of all professional development training for the entire child welfare workforce in Washington.
- The Executive Team may create standing committees to advise them on such decisions regarding competencies, curriculum, trainers, and evaluation.

The information below outlines the Alliance’s values, and guiding principles.

Values

- *Focus on the Child*

- *Social Work Values and Ethics*
- *Culturally Responsive*
- *Evidence and Outcome Informed*
- *Combined Expertise*
- *Comprehensive*

Guiding Principles

- *Competency Based.* Competencies, or knowledge and skills, for successful job performance will be used in determining and developing training, education and professional development opportunities.
- *Continuum of Learning.* Social work education and child welfare pre-service and in-service training are integrated to provide a consistent and relevant continuum from foundation to advance proficiency to gain efficiencies and workforce excellence.
- *Accessible.* Accessible training is delivered in areas close to where the work occurs, and considers community and regional differences.
- *Evaluation.* Evaluation is a constant and integral component of the partnership and demonstrates a commitment to being accountable for the impact and outcomes of the partnership.
- *Responsive and Timely.* Evaluation results and other lessons learned are used proactively to improve our own learning.
- *Policy and Practice.* Learning opportunities will link to policy, practice and quality assurance. Children’s Administration sets out a practice model that the partnership, in turn, is responsible for building the skills required to implement it successfully by training staff, supervisors, administrators, and external partners.
- *Quality Improvement.* A strong connection is built between the partnership and Children’s Administration Quality Improvement efforts to receive critical feedback about the state of practice and to help guide training content.
- *Delivery Methods.* Methods and formats for delivering training will use state-of-the-art knowledge and technology in order to ensure successful transfer of learning.
- *Supervisors and Administrators.* Supervisors are essential to professional development and the success of the training program. Supervisors’ competencies will be a companion set to direct service social workers, as well as their own set of competencies. Their role in transfer of learning is considered in all training.
- *Nimble.* Our work is nimble enough to shift and respond according to the changing needs and achieve change when required.

Highlights of Alliance Accomplishments

- Formed a Design Team to help develop the new partnership and begin planning for the professional development training program.
- Hired a project manager to facilitate and further develop the Alliance.

- Gathered information and lessons learned from other states to learn from many other state-university training partnerships, bringing in specific examples of effective child welfare training systems.
- A Master Agreement was completed and signed by the University President and Dean for the School of Social Work, and the Secretary and Assistant Secretary for DSHS. *(See Attachment 3)*
- Transferred 30 Professional Development Training Employees to the University of Washington to build upon the current training and assure a continuum of learning.
- Formed two statewide standing committees in FY2012 - Competencies and Curriculum and Evaluation. These committees provide the in-depth content expertise that shape the continuous improvement of competencies, curriculum and overall training
- Formed Regional Advisory Groups in the three regions. Members are from the universities, CA and key community partners. Their role is to gather regional information on local training needs and gaps to incorporate into a statewide plan, and to oversee the implementation of the statewide training plan in their region.

Update and Progress (FY 2012)

Additional training activities conducted in FY 2012.

Activity	Status
1. In partnership with Partners for Our Children (POC), EWU and UW develop and implement new training system and curriculum to provide comprehensive and quality staff training that promote ongoing professional development and skill building.	Ongoing - Partnership started in January 2012 and new training system is being developed through 2013.
2. Use site technical assistance from the National Resource Center for Child Protective Services to help Children’s Administration develop a training curriculum to train supervisors and social workers on the Child Safety Framework.	Completed : FY2012 Children’s Administration provided training for all supervisors and managers on child safety assessments, developing and monitoring comprehensive safety plans, and conducting case staffing from August through November 2011. Practice Model Coaches helped develop the curriculum and provide classroom training for the 3 day training of the Child Safety Framework. This training incorporates SBC in the Safety Assessment, Family Assessment, Case Plan, and Assessment of Progress.
3. Provide training to integrate Solution Based Casework case consultations into practice	Completed: FY2012 Statewide training occurred with supervisors on a method for case consultation, which integrated SBC and the Safety Framework. This training assisted supervisors to oversee practice according to specific guidelines.
4. Revise and strengthen the Academy training curriculum for social workers and supervisors on SBC and implement a co-training model using a practice model coach.	Ongoing -- Practice Model coaches continue teaching the SBC topics in the new social worker and supervisor’s academy.

Activity	Status
<p>5. Integrate SBC Practice Model in Post Academy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop online curriculum incorporating SBC skills and elements into specific topics such as Family Assessment, Case Plans, and Skill Acquisition. • Provide Family Assessment Computer Labs to enhance practice in use of the new tool. • Provide classroom presentations to key Community Stakeholders regarding SBC and Child Safety Framework. 	<p>Completed: January 2012 Practice Model coaches developed 3 online presentations which complement the classroom training of the Child Safety Framework</p> <p>Ongoing - Computer labs facilitated by Practice Model Coaches started in February 2012.</p> <p>Ongoing</p>
<p>6. Enroll 200 students in Child Welfare Training and Advancement Program (CWTAP).</p>	<p>Completed: For the first time in CWTAP's 20 year history in Washington state, students had to bear some financial responsibility for tuition, due to a continued budget shortfall. The amount, \$681 per quarter for part-time students and \$907 per quarter for full-time students, did not bring about a strong reaction from students who seemed to understand the economic reality.</p>
<p>7. Implement a new Caregiver Training Policy.</p>	<p>Completed: October 15, 2011</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Requires 3 hour <u>So You Have Your First Placement</u> course within first year of licensing. • Requires 36 hour <u>Parenting Plus</u> course within first 2 years of licensing which includes Sexually Aggressive Youth/Physically Assaultive/Aggressive Youth (SAY/PAY) training. • Training hours decreased to 30 hours for second licensing period. • Training hours decreased to 24 hours for third and all subsequent licensing periods. • A total of 12 training hours can be rolled over into next licensing period.
<p>8. Pilot the Intensive Adolescent Track</p>	<p>Completed: Developed curriculum October 2011; completed pilot February 2012</p>
<p>9. Review, redesign, and strengthen Supervisor Academy</p>	<p>Completed: March 2012</p>
<p>10. Upgrade current version of the DSHS Learning Center to match that of the Department of Personnel's Learning Center.</p>	<p>Completed: August 2011</p>
<p>11. In partnership with the Court Improvement Training Academy (CITA) and Partners for our Children (POC) develop and implement judicial training to court staff (judges, court officers, commissioners, CASA, AAGs, family attorneys, etc) on SBC and Child Safety Framework, case plans, and court orders.</p>	<p>On-going</p> <p>Training on SBC, case plans and court orders provided to Skagit, Whatcom, Grays Harbor, King, Island, Yakima, Clark, and Benton/ Franklin court personnel. Training will continue around the state as needed or requested.</p> <p>Training on the Child Safety Framework provided to various local courts following training of CA staff in the fall of 2011, and is ongoing.</p>

PLANNED ACTIVITIES (FY 2013)

These activities are in addition to ongoing training listed in Attachment 1- Training Matrix

Activity	Target Date
1. Identify Alliance Statewide Standing Committees and members Assign specific work and goals to provide input on education and training system.	July 2012 FY2013
2. Assess training contracts using performance based contracting measures and new competency-based training system.	July-September 2012
3. Develop new pre-service orientation and training academy based on new competencies and deliver in the regions.	July- September 2012
4. Implement new training curriculum to provide comprehensive and quality staff training. New curriculum includes Early Childhood Development (Born Learning), Multi-Ethnic Placement Act, Family Team Decision Making and Wrap-around.	FY 2013
5. Receive technical assistance from the National Resource Center for Organizational Improvement to work with the newly formed Training Partnership.	FY2013

Training Cost Allocation

Children's Administration conducts the social worker and resource family (foster parent and relative caregiver) training through the newly established Alliance for Child Welfare Excellence (Alliance). The Alliance is a partnership with CA, the University of Washington Seattle School of Social Work, Eastern Washington University, the University of Washington Tacoma Social Work Program, and Partners for Our Children, which is part of the University of Washington, School of Social Work.

The Public Assistance Cost Allocation Plan outlines the cost allocation methodology for training, as approved by the Division of Cost Allocation (DCA) within the Department of Health and Human Services. The plan is referenced here for purposes of explaining how training costs are allocated. It is a separate plan from this Annual Services Progress Report.

The newly created Alliance will provide training for all levels of Children's Administration staff. All new Children's Administration social workers, licensors and investigators are required to attend Academy training, which is provided by the Alliance. Staff costs for the Alliance are allocated through CA Staff Training Base 608, which is based on the Random Moment Time Study (RMTS) cost allocation methodology and allocates to Title IV-E at 75% FFP. In addition, other training in support of child welfare programs is allocated through Base 608.

Administrative staff that provide training is allocated through CA RMTS Indirect Base 590. Social workers, who provide training and administrative costs associated with Children's Administration staff attending training, are allocated through CA RMTS Direct Service Staff Base 592. Bases 590 and 592 are based on the RMTS, which includes Title IV-E at 50% FFP.

The allocation of contracted training costs is identified in the Attachment 1 - Training Matrix. Contracted training costs are allocated through Bases 608, Foster Parent Training Base 595, and Title IV-E Foster Care Population Base 599. Bases 595 and 599 are allocated to Title IV-E at 75% FFP based on the non-combined penetration rate. CA reviews its training contracts based on federal guidance to determine if they are properly allocated by IV-E topic to either 50% or 75% FFP. If not properly allocated to 50% they will be changed.

Higher Education Program/Title IV-E Training supports the education of the current and potential child welfare workforce. Administrative costs associated with the higher education program are allocated as follows: direct charged to the Foster Care Grant (Title IVE) (CFDA 93.658) and for the stipend program, allocation is calculated at the point of payment and the resulting allowable amount is direct charged to Title IV-E training.

Foster Parent Training and activities associated with the training (including trainer travel expense) of current providers of foster care and potential providers of foster care (pre-service training) are allocated through Foster Parent Training (Base 595), which uses Participant Days.

Technical Assistance

In 2012, CA used technical assistance from the following National Resources Centers:

- Child Protective Services
- Permanency and Family Connections

- Adoptions

For 2013, CA has requested technical assistance from the National Resource Center for Organizational Improvement to work with the newly formed Training Partnership. The NRCs on Adoption and Recruitment and Retention of Foster and Adoptive Parents may be asked to assist with our Unified Home Study implementation.

IV-E Reimbursement

For training conducted in FY2012, the applicable IV-E reimbursement rate (i.e., 50% or 75%) will be assigned to each training activity entitled to Federal Financial Participation (FFP). The cost allocation base is cited directly below the training title in each of the tables in Attachment 1- Training Matrix. Further, the Title IV-E training topics identified as eligible for claiming at the 75% and 50% FFP rates in the Child Welfare Policy Manual in Section 8.1H, titled “Title IV-E Administrative Functions/Costs, Training” are referenced under the syllabus column of the tables in the Training Matrix to support the FFP rate CA uses to allocate and claim training costs. The total number of training episodes for FY 2012 is shown in parentheses under the column entitled “Length”.

CA plans to submit an amendment to the Public Assistance Cost Allocation Plan through the HHS, Division of Cost Allocation to request approval to change the cost allocation methodology for the allocation of the costs associated with the Academy, Post Academy, Supervisors Academy, and Resource Family Training Institute from the current RMTS cost allocation methodology to a curriculum analysis methodology. The proposed curriculum analysis methodology would allocate training costs to Title IV-E at the eligible FFP rate based on the proportionate share of training hours eligible for Title IV-E based on training topic.

See Attachment 1 – Training Matrix - Statewide Staff Training Conducted in FY 2012 and Ongoing

SECTION V: Inter Country Adoption

Inter-Country Adoptions

- **Number of children adopted from other countries who entered into state custody in FY 2011 as a result of the disruption of a placement for adoption or the dissolution of an adoption:** Ten (10) children. The children reported in FY 2011 came into care during the state fiscal year and were previously reported.
- **The agencies handling the placement or the adoption:**
 - Adoption Advocates International (4)
 - WACAP (1)
 - Unknown (5)
- **The plan for the children:**
 - Long Term Foster Care –2 children
 - Adoption – for 5 children (adoption finalized on 2 children)
 - Return Home – for 3 children
- **The reasons for the disruption or dissolution:**
 - Abandonment by adoptive parents
 - Physical abuse and starvation
 - Sexual abuse
 - Sibling death (suspected child abuse with criminal case pending and trial set for October 2012)

Country	Agency	Reason for Disruption/Dissolution	Plan
Ethiopia	Unknown	Youth sexually assaulted his sister. Parents asked that he be removed as he could no longer be in the home since his sister was the victim and lived in the home.	Long term foster care. Youth will sign himself into care until he finishes High School and then enter Foster Care to 21 Program.
Ethiopia	Adoptive Advocates International	Child was removed due to allegations that adoptive parents caused the death of his adopted 13 year old sister.	Case is currently dependent. Plan will be adoption.
Ethiopia	Adoptive Advocates International	Child is deceased as a result of suspected child abuse. Criminal case still pending, trial set for October 2012.	N/A
Ukraine	Unknown	Child's challenging behaviors and parent's inability to cope with this behavior	Adoption
Ethiopia	Unknown	Family conflict. Child was in Youth Care Services and had come to the end of her allowable time. Youth requested a Child in Need of Services (CHINS) petition, but then withdrew because she did not want to go to group care. She has behavioral issues, but there were	Permanent plan: Youth is 17 and remains in contact with her family. Since leaving the Crisis Residential

Country	Agency	Reason for Disruption/Dissolution	Plan
		also problems with rigidity and rejection by the adoptive mother. Child also wanted more exposure to Ethiopian culture.	Center, she has been in two different "suitable adult" placements. The permanent plan is a long-term placement agreement.
Ukraine	Unknown	Child's challenging behaviors and parent's inability to cope with this behavior	Adoption
Haiti	Adoption Advocates International did the adoption; CA is now involved with placement/custody	Four children placed into foster care due to allegations of starvation and physical abuse by adoptive parents.	Dependency hearing 5/7/12; current plan is return home
Russia	WACAP	Sexual abuse by older adoptive brothers. Adoptive parents subsequently relinquished their rights.	Adoption by relatives in Utah where child is currently placed.
Haiti	Unknown	Adoptive parents divorced; Child sexually acting out against younger adopted sibling. Adoptive parents refused to pick him up when he was released from detention. The Court placed him with the department.	Legally free, in potential permanent home with licensed suitable-persons who child knew prior to the disruption.

SECTION VI:

Foster & Adoptive Parent Recruitment

Foster & Adoptive Parent Recruitment Plan

Diligent Recruitment of Foster and Adoptive Homes

Children’s Administration endeavors to continuously strengthen, improve and diversify recruitment efforts to seek potential foster and adoptive families. We seek families who will reflect the ethnic and racial diversity of children in care, as well as families who are interested in caring for children of varying age, gender, large sibling groups and children with special developmental, behavioral or medical needs

Children’s Administration uses both contractors and agency staff in recruitment efforts in the three DSHS regions. We use recruitment strategies from the neighborhood of focus model, designed to recruit resource families across the state and in the local neighborhoods where data shows the greatest number of child removals. Each contract provides general consistency in recruitment but allows for regionally tailored, specific recruitment needs. Contract staff providing recruitment and retention work must be either current or former foster parents. These “ground troops” are located in their own communities across the state.

Children’s Administration bases much of its recruitment philosophy on the premise that satisfied and supported foster and adoptive parents make the best recruiters of other foster and adoptive parents. This premise was reinforced in summer 2011 during meetings held around the state by CA staff with foster parents, kinship care providers and other stakeholders in child welfare. Support groups, hub groups and foster parent liaisons were identified as strengths of the current system. A Request For Proposal (RFP) for a Recruitment and Retention contract was issued in May 2012. The RFP will focus recruitment on the urgent and critical need for safe, quality foster families to meet the needs of the diverse populations of children in out of home care.

Highlights of the past year include:

- Children’s Administration improved support provided to foster parents as demonstrated in the [Annual Foster Parent Survey](#). The 2011 survey, released in February 2012, showed a satisfaction level of for foster parents of 79.2%. This is an increase from 76.6% in 2010. In the first five years of the survey, the satisfaction level for support averaged 74.4%.
- Development of a [Statewide Caregiver Support Improvement Plan](#) to work on systemic issues related to caregiver support. Development of caregiver support is included in the Foster Care Recruitment and Retention RFP issued in the May 2012.
- The training, “So You Have Your First Placement. Now What?”, was expanded statewide in FY 2012 to help foster parents better understand the daily nuts and bolts of caring for children at the time of the first placement.
- Implementing [individual support plans for caregivers](#) based on the needs of the child, for example children who are medically fragile. Plans will address caregivers who are caring for a sibling group and newly licensed foster parents.
- Activities to increase the number of licensed relative caregivers by identifying barriers to licensing continued in FY2012 - See [Permanency Outcome 2](#)
- Expediting Adoptions – [See Permanency Section – Outcome 1](#)

Foster Care and Adoption General Recruitment

UPDATES AND PROGRESS (FY 2012)

Activity	Status
1. Obtain technical assistance from the National Resource Center for Permanency and Family Connections. This will help improve and increase recruitment efforts for foster and adoptive families who accept placement of children who meet identified demographics, including large sibling groups.	Postponed - pending new RFPs for both recruitment and support.
2. Develop protocol and guidelines for placement decisions, Including emphasis on family, sibling, and community connections	See Permanency Outcome 2
3. Work to ensure data is available in FamLink to help direct recruitment activities for populations of children who most need placement resources.	Completed: FY 2012
4. Support National Adoption Month: In FY 2012, “flag banners” were donated and distributed to various offices to support National Adoption Day celebrations around the state. Nineteen counties held events this year.	Completed: November 2011
5. Annual “We Are Family Day” with the Seattle Mariners at Safeco Field. Children’s Administration and other foster care and adoption agencies across Washington come together to celebrate and support caregivers as part of National Foster Care Month.	Annually
6. Statewide Foster Parent Recruitment Information Center (1-888-KIDS-414): Children’s Administration posts recruitment information on its foster parent internet page. A contract with Northwest Resource Associates provides consistency for inquiries and supports the receipt of 300+ electronic inquiries each month from families and individuals interested in becoming foster parents.	Ongoing: FY 2013
7. Children’s Administration Web Site on Adoption – Children’s Administration maintains its web site offering information to individuals interested in adoption of children who have a permanent plan of adoption and who often have special needs related to their history.	Ongoing: FY 2013
8. National Adoption Month: Children’s Administration partners with Washington’s Administrative Office of the Court to highlight National Adoption Month and National Adoption Day in November. Local office adoption staff with support from Children’s Administration and the local courts, help families celebrate the finalization of children’s adoptions in November.	Annually

FY 2013

PLANNED ACTIVITIES (FY 2013)

Activity	Target Date
1. Annual “We Are Family Day” with the Seattle Mariners at Safeco Field. Children’s Administration and other foster care and adoption agencies across Washington come together to celebrate and support caregivers as part of National Foster Care Month.	Annually

Activity	Target Date
2. Statewide Foster Parent Recruitment Information Center (1-888-KIDS-414): Children's Administration posts recruitment information on its foster parent internet page. A contract with Northwest Resource Associates provides consistency for inquiries and supports the receipt of 300+ electronic inquiries each month from families and individuals interested in becoming foster parents.	Ongoing: FY 2013
3. Children's Administration Web Site on Adoption – Children's Administration maintains its web site offering information to individuals interested in adoption of children who have a permanent plan of adoption and who often have special needs related to their history.	Ongoing: FY 2013
4. National Adoption Month: Children's Administration partners with Washington's Administrative Office of the Court to highlight National Adoption Month and National Adoption Day in November. Local office adoption staff, with support from Children's Administration and the local courts, help families celebrate the finalization of children's adoptions in November.	Annually

Foster Care and Adoption Targeted Recruitment

UPDATES AND PROGRESS (FY 2012)

Activity	Status
Practice, Program, and Service Enhancements	
1. Using regional data, state staff and recruitment contractors continue to identify those areas and populations of children where the need is the greatest for placement resources. This will continue as a new statewide recruitment contract is developed. At that time, data collection will be standardized and provide specific detailed information on the results of the recruitment efforts.	Ongoing
2. Develop and begin Implementation of the Caregiver Support Improvement Plan . Implementation ongoing through 2012.	See Permanency Outcome 2
3. Expedited Adoption Project – concentrates staff resources on completing the pre-adoption work including adoptive home studies, Child Medical, and Family Background Report, for children who are legally free and in the home expected to adopt them.	See Permanency Outcome 1 <i>Total Adoptions completed in project: 920</i>
4. Target specific zip codes – The Spokane recruitment and retention contractor, working with the local foster parent association, is running ads on Facebook, which can target specific zip codes. Facebook provides a regular report on people who have viewed the site, with thousands of views every week. The contractor is determining how many of those targeted became foster parents.	Ongoing
5. Develop and implement plan to Increase the number of licensed relative caregivers by identifying barriers to licensing.	Ongoing
6. Implement individual caregiver support plans for caregivers caring for sibling groups	Ongoing

Activity	Status
Practice, Program, and Service Enhancements	
and for new caregivers.	
7. Conduct targeted foster parent recruitment activities and contract to expand licensed placement options for large sibling groups.	Ongoing
8. Implement Unified Home Study.	Ongoing: implementation continues in FY 2013
9. Special Adoption Recruitment Program (SARP) – Children’s Administration collaborates on its targeted adoption recruitment efforts through a contract with the Northwest Adoption Exchange. The SARP has a successful placement rate of 65-70% with adoptive families. This program will see a reduction in the number of children recruited for because of budgetary cutbacks.	Ongoing
10. Regional Adoption Consortium – The consortium meetings are monthly or quarterly regional recruiting and networking opportunities that bring together CA staff, private adoption workers, and staff from the Washington Adoption Resource Exchange (WARE) and the North West Adoption Exchange.	Ongoing: Monthly/Quarterly



PLANNED ACTIVITIES (FY 2013)

Activity	Target Date
1. Implement individual caregiver support plans for caregivers caring for sibling groups and for new caregivers.	See Permanency Outcome 2
2. Review sibling visit data and provide recommendations to leadership to increase sibling connection.	See Permanency Outcome 2
3. Review efforts to place siblings together when entering out-of-home care.	See Permanency Outcome 2
4. Special Adoption Recruitment Program (SARP): Children’s Administration collaborates on its targeted adoption recruitment efforts through a contract with the Northwest Adoption Exchange. The SARP has a successful placement rate of 65-70% with adoptive families. This program will see a reduction in the number of children recruited for because of budgetary cutbacks.	<i>Ongoing in FY 2013</i>
5. Regional Adoption Consortia: The consortium meetings are monthly regional recruiting and networking opportunities that bring together DCFS, private adoption workers, and staff from WARE and the North West Adoption Exchange. Some parts of the state hold the meetings quarterly due to weather and demographics.	Monthly/Quarterly

SECTION VII:

Adoption Incentive Payments

Adoption Incentive Payments

Children's Administration received \$1,913,420 in adoption incentive money from the Federal Health and Human Services Children's Bureau for adoptions completed in FY 2010 and awarded to Washington State in August 2011.

CA allocates the Adoption Incentive funds to state only foster care maintenance payments in accordance with PL 105-989, which addresses that incentive funds may be used for allowable activities under Title IV-B and Title IV-E.

Title IV B and Title IV-E of the Social Security Act authorizes use of the adoption incentive funds for a variety of services, including but not limited to:

- Technical assistance to promote more adoptions out of the foster care system, including activities such as pre and post adoptive services and activities designed to expedite the adoption process and support adoptive families
- Training of staff and adoptive and foster families on adoption issues to support increased and improved adoptions
- Recruitment of foster/adoptive homes
- Services that fall under the Children's Administration's Child Welfare Plan

Section VIII: Coordination with Tribes

Tribal Annual Progress and Services Review 2009-2010

Washington state's primary Indian Child Welfare goals are to ensure compliance with the state and federal Indian Child Welfare Act's and improve outcomes for Indian children and families. Children's Administration recognizes a government-to-government relationship between the state and Indian tribes/nations through the maintenance and support of the:

- The Washington State Indian Child Welfare Act
- The federal Indian Child Welfare Act
- Washington State Centennial Accord
- Washington State Basic Tribal State Agreement
- Washington State Localized Tribal State Agreements
- DSHS Administrative Policy 7.01

There are 29 federally recognized tribes in Washington.

- | | |
|--------------------------------|------------------------|
| ▪ Colville Confederated Tribes | ▪ Quinault Nation |
| ▪ Chehalis Confederated Tribes | ▪ Samish Nation |
| ▪ Cowlitz Indian Tribe | ▪ Sauk-Suiattle Tribe |
| ▪ Hoh Tribe | ▪ Shoalwater Bay Tribe |
| ▪ Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe | ▪ Skokomish Tribe |
| ▪ Kalispel Tribe | ▪ Snoqualmie Tribe |
| ▪ Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe | ▪ Spokane Tribe |
| ▪ Lummi Nation | ▪ Squaxin Island Tribe |
| ▪ Makah Nation | ▪ Stillaguamish Tribe |
| ▪ Muckleshoot Tribe | ▪ Suquamish Tribe |
| ▪ Nisqually Tribe | ▪ Swinomish Tribe |
| ▪ Nooksack Tribe | ▪ Tulalip Tribes |
| ▪ Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe | ▪ Upper Skagit Tribe |
| ▪ Puyallup Tribe | ▪ Yakama Nation |
| ▪ Quileute Nation | |

In addition to Federally Recognized Tribes/Nations, Children's Administration also recognizes, through policy, American Indian Organizations, and American Indian participants.

DSHS provides support through the Office of Indian Policy (OIP) who serve all administrations of DSHS in each of the three regions. The OIP promotes communications between DSHS programs and all Indian people while recognizing the unique government-to-government relationships with federally recognized tribes.

The Children's Administration Assistant Secretary works closely with the Office of Indian Policy to meet with Washington state tribes at their tribal communities. At these meetings, the Assistant Secretary provides Children's Administration updates and solicits feedback and input. She also works closely with tribes to discuss concerns they may have and ensures a timely and effective response.

CA maintains an email listserve of tribal social service directors that includes all tribes with whom we regularly communicate information. CA has two ICW program managers at the headquarters level and regional program managers who partner with tribes to resolve issues of concern.

Children’s Administration values the government-to-government relationship with the 29 federally recognized tribes in the State of Washington. Children’s Administration regularly consults with all tribes during the development of policies and procedures. Representatives from Children’s Administration work with the tribes through the Indian Policy Advisory Committee (IPAC), a body of tribal representatives delegated by their tribal councils. CA meets with a subcommittee of the IPAC on a monthly basis and IPAC representatives participate in policy and procedure workgroups, including those mandated by legislation. During this last year, IPAC representatives were on workgroups addressing the child fatality review, the Title IVE waiver demonstration project application, performance based contracting implementation, the Indian Child Welfare case review, disproportionality initiatives, and implementation of the Washington State Indian Child Welfare Act into practice and policy. CA and tribes also collaborated to develop a template for government-to-government agreements. At this time, six local agreements are complete and CA continues to outreach to all tribes to develop more.

The State of Washington is proud to be the first state in the nation to have a federally recognized tribe apply and receive approval for direct title IV-E funds for foster care, adoption assistance, and guardianship assistance. The Port Gamble S’Klallam Tribe signed the agreement on March 29, 2012. The tribe has always been innovative in its programs and has once again raised the bar for the other federally recognized tribes in the nation. Children’s Administration has been a very supportive partner during this process and will continue to support the transition for the Port Gamble S’Klallam Tribe. As of May 2012, Children’s Administration was notified of at least three other tribes and tribal organizations in Washington that are in the application process for the direct Title IV-E funds. Children’s Administration will continue to support and collaborate with these tribes and organizations throughout the process.

The following matrix provides an overview of the tribal/state meetings with the 29 federally recognized tribes. The matrix below provides a high-level snapshot of activities to:

- collaborate
- seek input on new policies
- share information related to policy changes
- improve compliance with ICWA
- reduce disproportionate representation of Indian children in the child welfare system

(All tribes regardless of their availability to attend the above meetings receive packets and/or meeting minutes. tribes have the ability to provide feedback and input on all issues addressed).

Tribal/State Centennial Accord			
Attendees	Occurrence	Intent and Purpose	Activities and Updates for FY 2012
Governor and tribal leaders	Annually	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Implement government to government relations on a state level 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Provided briefing on E2SHB 2264, Performance Based Contracting and ESSB 6555, Family Assessment Response (differential response in CPS investigations) and informed them of tribal

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Consultation on issues identified by the Governor or Tribal Leaders 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ participation by IPAC delegates. ▪ Developed and implemented training on the Washington State Indian Child welfare Act. Training provided to CA staff, tribal and Recognized American Indian Organizations (RAIO) staff, and state court personnel. ▪ Began negotiations with the Port Gamble S’Klallam Tribe to implement an agreement that will allow them to enter data into the CA data system to support direct Title IVE access and compliance.
--	--	---	---

**Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS)
Indian Policy Advisory Committee**

Attendees	Occurrence	Intent and Purpose	Activities and Updates for FY 2012
Delegates appointed by tribal governments or Recognized American Indian Organizations and state DSHS Secretary and Assistant Secretary	Quarterly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Government to government relations on a DSHS level ▪ Collaboration on issues identified by the DSHS Secretary and Assistant Secretaries or Tribal Delegates 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Explained E2SHB 2264 and ESSB 6555 and invited and secured tribal participation. ▪ Appointed tribal representatives to the Title IVE waiver workgroup ▪ Initiated in a Native American Child Fatality workgroup and secured tribal participation

**Indian Policy Advisory Committee
Children’s Administration Indian Child Welfare/ Juvenile Rehabilitation Administration
Sub-Committee**

Attendees	Occurrence	Intent and Purpose	Activities and Updates for FY 2012
IPAC delegates, tribal and state administrators	Monthly (in person or through video or telephone conference)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Implementation of government to government relationship on statewide policy and practice level ▪ Collaboration on identified issues related to policy and practice on a statewide level 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ongoing collaboration with CA in the CFSR related PIP ▪ Updated the Children’s Administration ICW Case Review tool in collaboration with tribes and RAIO’s. ▪ Teamed with Casey Family Program, tribes, RAIO’s, and OIP to begin planning an ICW conference scheduled for fall 2013.

Children’s Administration Regional 7.01 Policy meetings

Attendees	Occurrence	Intent and Purpose	Activities and Updates for FY 2012
Regional tribal and regional	Quarterly (individually)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Implementation of government to 	Examples of Regional 7.01 Plan activities include: <i>(link to CA Regional 7.01 Plans)</i>

Children’s administrators	or through regional group meetings)	<p>government relationship on regional policy and practice level</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Collaboration on identified issues related to policy and practice on a regional level 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Continued to improve communication with our partners and tribes by providing information regarding trainings, program updates, service availability, etc. ▪ Implemented strategies to address compliance issues with the Indian Child Welfare Act and state policy based on the ICW Case Review ▪ Safely reducing the number of Indian children in placement by implementing various strategies including local office reviews of individual cases, FTDM facilitation and increasing participation in local disproportionality groups ▪ Keeping Indian children safe at home by focusing efforts on access to home based services in underserved areas ▪ Increasing supports for relatives caring for Indian children involved in the child welfare system by coordinating with Economic Services to access Child-Only grants, etc. ▪ Teamed with Casey Family Program, tribes, RAIO’s, and OIP to begin planning an ICW conference scheduled for FY2013.
---------------------------	-------------------------------------	--	--

Children Administration consults with the tribes on the APSR and the Child and Family Services Plan throughout the year. CA shares the draft plan before final submission to Region 10 to obtain tribal input and provides access via the internet to the plan once finalized.

The following highlights more detail of the statewide **Activities and Updates** (noted in the matrix) relating to Indian Child Welfare practice in Washington State.

Tribal Title IVE

Currently three tribes have pass through IVE Agreements with Children’s Administration and one tribe has signed an agreement for a direct IVE agreement with the federal government.

- Port Gamble S’Klallam Tribe (PGST) successfully signed an Agreement with the federal government for federal direct IVE funding. CA and the PGST are negotiating an agreement to support the Tribe’s use of the CA SACWIS system for data input to support their IVE compliance.
- CA supports Title IV-E pass through agreements with the Makah, Lummi, and Quinault Tribes.
- Lummi Nation submitted and received federal start up dollars to prepare their tribal IVE plan for direct federal funding.
- South Puget Intertribal Planning Agency, a tribal consortium consisting of 5 federally recognized tribes, is in the planning stages to represent four of their member tribes in applying for startup federal funding

Indian Child Welfare Case Review

CA collaborated with tribes and Recognized American Indian Organization's (RAIO) to update the CA ICW case review tool. The ICW case reviews usually occur every two years but was postponed for one year. This was in order to update the ICW case review tool to ensure that components of the Washington State Indian Child Welfare Act were included. This tool will help ensure compliance with the Indian Child Welfare Act of 1978 as well as the Washington State Indian Child welfare Act of 2011. The next ICW case review will occur in six different sites around the state in August, September and October 2012.

Training on the Washington State Indian Child Welfare Act (WSICWA)

The Attorney General's Office developed training on the WSICWA, which became law on July 22, 2011. Training on the WSICWA began in fall 2011 and will continue until all regions are trained and will be on going as needed. Participants include CA staff, tribal and Indian organization staff, judges, assistant attorneys general and deputy prosecutors. CA assists in the training to ensure issues specific to ICW policy and procedures are addressed.

The elements of the WSICWA have also been integrated into the new social worker Training Academy and the post Academy training that all new staff are required to take within their first year of employment.

FamLink (SACWIS) Tribal Access

CA made progress in providing tribes' access to the SACWIS system, FamLink. FamLink data access allows tribes to view all Indian children in the care and authority of their tribal court, and data access to all their tribal members who CA staff serve. Access to FamLink allows tribes to ensure accurate information in FamLink on cases under their care and authority and helps ensure correct identification of tribal membership. Data access supports collaborative working relationships between CA and tribes and more timely communication, which leads to better outcomes for children and families.

Currently, of the 29 tribes:

- 28 tribes have requested access,
- 25 have a signed data access agreement, received training and have access;
- 45 individual tribal employees have tribal FamLink access

CA continues outreach to tribes who have not yet completed the data access agreement.

Tribes and Youth Participation – See [CHAFEE Section](#)

Section IX:

Health Care Oversight and Coordination Plan Update

Health Care Oversight and Coordination Plan Update

In 2011, the Children's Administration worked with our partners to implement and expand the health care services available to children in out-of-home care. The following provides an update to progress we made over the past fiscal year. (To access the complete Health Care Oversight and Coordination plan, click [here](#).)

- Oversight/Coordination of Health Care
 - In May 2011, the Children's Administration implemented a policy to address specifically the identification and ongoing health care needs of medically fragile children in out-of-home placement. The policy requires CA staff to refer medically fragile children to the Fostering Well-Being Care Coordination Unit to review the child's care coordination needs and develop a plan for access to ongoing and appropriate health care. Additionally, caregivers and social workers of medically fragile children jointly develop a Caregiver Support Plan. The Caregiver Support Plan addresses the training and support needs of the caregiver and outlines a plan for planned and emergency respite care for the medically fragile child.
 - In January 2012, DSHS and the Health Care Authority (HCA), Washington's Medicaid state agency, established a cross-system team to identify areas of improvement needed regarding prescribing psychotropic medications and mental health and trauma related care for children in out-of-home placement.
 - In April 2012, the Fostering Well-Being Care Coordination Unit (FWB CCU) began the hiring process for a nurse who will focus specifically on the health care oversight and coordination of medically fragile children. This position is in addition to the FWB CCU staff who will continue providing care coordination services to children with complex health care needs.
 - Beginning July 2012, children in out-of-home placement will have the option to enroll in one of Washington's managed care plans. This option will support continuity of care for children who already are enrolled in one of these plans prior to entering out-of-home placement. In addition, the managed care plans will offer care coordination services for enrolled children.

- Fostering Well-Being Care Coordination Unit (FWB CCU)
 - The Fostering Well-Being Care Coordination Unit (FWB CCU) provides care coordination services for children in out-of-home placement to assure access to effective and comprehensive healthcare. Care coordination addresses interrelated medical, dental, mental health, substance abuse, and developmental needs to achieve optimal health and wellness outcomes. Medically fragile children and children with complex health needs receive coordinated healthcare. The unit also provides consultation to social workers and caregivers about a child's health care needs.
 - The FWB CCU is centrally located in the DSHS Aging and Disabilities Services Administration (ADSA) however, the program works with staff in all regions.
 - All children and youth in out-of-home care may be referred to the FWB CCU if they are under age 18, in out-of-home placement through tribal or state dependency (adoptions and guardianships are not eligible), and are Medicaid eligible. Children receiving coordinated healthcare through their placement, such as Behavior Rehabilitation Services or Child

Placing Agencies where Children's Administration pays for case management, may be eligible for FWB CCU. Social workers may consult with the FWB CCU to determine if care coordination is appropriate for the child/youth.

- FWB CCU services are available to any child in out-of-home placement. Services are not limited to children with serious/complex medical issues. Social workers and caregivers may contact the FWB CCU for care coordination services, general questions regarding health care and Medicaid, and assistance to identify appropriate providers to meet a child's health and mental health needs.
 - There are no psychiatric nurses associated with FWB at this time. Children with mental health needs are seen through the Regional Support Network in their community if the child meets the access to care standards. CA continues to request the guidance and input of the Regional Medical Consultants (RMC) regarding policy and practice changes that affect the health and mental health of children in out-of-home placement. The FWB nurses and RMCs also refer prescribers to the Partnership Access Line (PAL) which is staffed by child psychiatrists who offer consultation regarding prescribing of psychotropic medications.
- Health Needs Monitored and Treated
 - As of May 2011, Children's Administration policy requires social workers to refer medically fragile children to the Fostering Well-Being Care Coordination Unit (FWB CCU). The FWB CCU provides consultation, coordination, and oversight for all medically fragile children in out-of-home placement.
 - The FWB CCU provides care coordination related services to children referred to the program. In addition, FWB CCU answers health care related questions for social workers and caregivers when a child does not require care coordination but assistance is needed to understand a health concern or diagnosis or to identify a primary health care provider for the child.
 - Children's Administration continues to use Regional Medical Consultants (RMC) physically located in six CA offices around the state to provide information and guidance to social workers regarding individual child cases related to ongoing and appropriate health and mental health care. The RMC's are pediatricians who are active in practice in the local community and work part-time to consult with Children's Administration concerning the complex medical needs of children entering the foster care system.
 - In July 2011, Children's Administration included information in the Transition Plan for Youth Exiting Care regarding the importance of having a durable power of attorney. This information is also discussed at the 17.5 year old staffing.
 - In July 2011, all former foster youth became eligible for Medicaid coverage until their 21st birthday under the Washington State foster care fee for service program.
 - CA is in the process of reviewing validated standardized tools that screen for trauma in children. Once a tool is decided on, CA will determine how to incorporate it into our practice. Issues identified during the screening will be referred to appropriate services and treatment.

- The DSHS Division of Behavioral Health and Recovery (DBHR) developed capacity throughout the Washington mental health network to provide Trauma Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (TF CBT). Other trauma focused evidence based treatments such as Alternatives for Families (AF-CBT) are being implemented at this time.
- Trauma is addressed throughout Academy training. Examples include:
 - Dynamics of abuse and neglect – small piece on resilience and on EBT’s related to supporting children and families
 - Dynamics of Sexual Abuse (outside trainer Jordan Royal from the Harborview Center for Sexual Assault and Traumatic Stress) – significant discussion related to trauma, Trauma focused CBT, working with non-offending parents
 - Reunification Decisions & Transition planning – how trauma impacts children’s behavior in care and during transitions home, impact of grief and loss, impact of transition on minimizing disruption/trauma to child
 - Adolescent Issues – issues in adolescence including suicide and self harm, internalizing and externalizing behaviors, and how to support youth with a variety of these concerns
 - Supporting Children and Youth in care – activity about essential connections explores the grief and loss/trauma of initial placement and subsequent moves. Trainees brainstorm on avoiding/minimizing these issues and supporting kids through the unavoidable ones.

The Regional Medical Consultants, who are available to staff statewide, are also available to answer questions regarding trauma.

- Medical Information and Health Records

- In October 2011, the Fostering Well-Being program implemented a change to the ProviderOne system that allows Medicaid health care providers to see the most recent two years of Medicaid billing data for children in out-of-home placement. Access to the information is through a secure portal available only to health care providers and DSHS staff.
- In March 2012, CA consulted with caregivers, youth in foster care, and social workers regarding changes needed to the Child Information/Placement Referral form (DSHS 15-300). This form contains health and mental health information and is provided to caregivers at the time of placement, when new information is obtained, and if there is a placement change.

- Oversight of prescription medications

- Social workers are required to document all prescribed medication information in FamLink which populates the Child Information and Placement Referral Form provided to caregivers and on the child’s ISSP.
- Children’s Administration policy (Practice and Procedures Manual Chapter 4000, [Section 4541](#)) outlines expectations regarding the role of the social worker and the consent process when psychotropic medications are prescribed.
- DSHS and the Health Care Authority (HCA) established a cross-system team to identify areas of improvement related to mental health and psychotropic medications. The team is

addressing prescription oversight of poly-pharmacy for psychotropic medications. In addition, the team supports the use of evidence-based programs that address mental health and trauma in conjunction with medication for children in out-of-home placement. The Washington State Medicaid Director is a key member of this team and is available for participation and frequent consultation.

- The CA training academy provides training on psychotropic drugs to social workers and supervisors. This includes the requirements for parents or the court to approve giving psychotropic medications, and social workers and caregivers cannot consent to these medications without parent/court approval.
- The Regional Medical Consultants, who are available to staff statewide, are also available to answer questions regarding psychotropic drugs.
- The FWB program provides Care Coordination services, which include the identification of medications that require oversight. Children who have a mental illness and are prescribed psychotropic medications are eligible to receive care coordination.
- Children’s Administration has a population of legally free children and youth who remain in the care and custody of the Department. When a legally free child is prescribed a psychotropic medication, the Judge is the primary consenter. In after hours or emergency circumstances the legally free child’s caseworker, after consulting with their local CA management, may consent to the medication. CA is updating Practice and Procedures Manual 4541- Psychotropic Medication Management in response to the recent GAO report and recommendations. We will revise our policy in conjunction with the DSHS cross-administration workgroup who is looking at this issue.
- Children’s Administration partners with Health Care Authority and other DSHS administrations to coordinate oversight of Medicaid funded health care services including psychotropic medications for children in foster care. Fostering Well-Being staff use FamLink and Medicaid billing data in ProviderOne, a claims and payment system, to guide activities related to the coordination of health and mental health services for children in Foster care who are referred to the program.

Additionally, the FWB CCU uses the Predictive Risk Intelligence System (PRISM), developed by the WA DSHS Research and Data Analysis Division (RDA), to identify clients most in need of comprehensive care coordination based on risk scores developed through the predictive model. PRISM pulls billing information from ProviderOne and produces reports that contain the most recent two years of Medicaid billing data. These reports may be shared with foster parents and relative caregivers and are uploaded into FAMLINK for social worker access.

- Consultation in Determination of Medical Treatment

- The Fostering Well-Being Care Coordination Unit continues to develop care coordination summaries for children with complex health issues. Input from health care providers, caregivers and social workers is included in the summaries to ensure all parties understand the health needs of the child and how those needs will be addressed.
- Children’s Administration and the Fostering Well-Being Program continue to consult with former and current foster youth from Passion to Action regarding the development of a Health Summary Report for youth aging out of foster care. The youth are advising the

department on information to include in the Health Summary Report that will be helpful to them in assuming responsibility for their health and mental health care as they transition out of foster care.

- Children’s Administration continues to request the guidance and input of the Regional Medical Consultants regarding policy and practice changes that affect the health and mental health of children in out-of-home placement.



PLANNED ACTIVITIES (FY 2013)

Activity	Target Date
1. Convene a workgroup and consult with child mental health and trauma experts. The group will review tools and select a validated standardized tool to screen for trauma in children who enter foster care.	FY 2013
2. Determine process for inclusion of trauma screening into social work practice.	FY 2013
3. Train staff to use tool.	FY 2013
4. Implement trauma screening tool and roll-out policy statewide.	FY 2013

Section X: Financial Information

- **Title IV-B Sub-Part 1 and 2 Expenditures**
- **Examples of Key Service Providers (Subpart 2 Services)**
- **CFS 101, Part I**
- **CFS 101, Part II**
- **CFS 101 Part III**

Title IV-B Sub-Part 1 and 2

Payment Limitations - Title IV-B Subpart 1

- Washington State expenditures of Title IV-B subpart 1 funds in FFY 2005 for child care, foster care maintenance, and adoption assistance payments was \$0 and we will not be expending any of these funds in these areas in FFY 2013.
- The amount of non-federal funds expended by Washington State for foster care maintenance payments that may be used as match for Title IV-B, subpart 1 award in FY 2005 was \$0 and we will not be expending any of these funds in these areas in FFY 2013.

Non-Supplantation Requirement - Title IV-B Subpart 2

- The 1992 base year amount was \$24.257M.
- The state and local share expenditure amounts for IV-B subpart 2 for FY 2010 was \$24.408M.

Federal Law Changes - Title IV-B, Subpart 2

- Washington State does not plan to revise the use of Title IV-B, subpart 2 funds based on the amendment to P.L. 112-34.

Title IV-B Subpart 2 Services: Examples of Key Service Providers

Service Category	Family Preservation (30% of grant)	Community-Based Family Support (20% of grant)	Time-Limited Family Reunification (20% of grant)	Adoption Promotion and Support (20% of grant)	Administrative (10% of grant)
A1441 - Family Preservation Services (FPS)	Children's Administration contracts with providers throughout Washington State for FPS. Key service providers include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Catholic Community Services • Community Youth Services • Institute for Family Development 	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Service Category	Family Preservation (30% of grant)	Community-Based Family Support (20% of grant)	Time-Limited Family Reunification (20% of grant)	Adoption Promotion and Support (20% of grant)	Administrative (10% of grant)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Martin Luther King Family Outreach Center • Spokane Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Center • YouthNet 				
A1493 – Early Family Support Services	N/A	Children’s Administration contracts with providers for EFFS throughout Washington State. Key service providers include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brigid Collins House • Catholic Community Services • Family Connection • Institute for Family Development 	N/A	N/A	N/A
A1962 - Evaluations and Treatment	N/A	N/A	These medical services are provided by various medical providers in local communities. Children’s Administration contracts with more than 700 providers to provide evaluations and treatment for its clients throughout Washington State. Key service providers include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community 	N/A	N/A

Service Category	Family Preservation (30% of grant)	Community-Based Family Support (20% of grant)	Time-Limited Family Reunification (20% of grant)	Adoption Promotion and Support (20% of grant)	Administrative (10% of grant)
			Resource Group <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Martin Luther King Jr. Family Outreach Center • Pioneer Human Services • Spokane Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Center 		
A1441 - Family Preservation Services	N/A	N/A	Children's Administration contracts with providers for time limited FPS throughout Washington State. Key service providers include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Catholic Community Services • Community Youth Services • Institute for Family Development • Martin Luther King Family Outreach Center • Spokane Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Center 	N/A	N/A
A1461 - Intensive Family Preservation Services	N/A	N/A	IFPS is provided on a statewide basis by the following service providers:	N/A	N/A

Service Category	Family Preservation (30% of grant)	Community-Based Family Support (20% of grant)	Time-Limited Family Reunification (20% of grant)	Adoption Promotion and Support (20% of grant)	Administrative (10% of grant)
(IFPS)			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Auburn Youth Resources • Brigid Collins House • Institute for Family Development 		
A1633 - Adoption Medical	N/A	N/A	N/A	Qualified providers in local communities provide adoption medical services. Services include counseling, psychological and neuropsychological evaluations for legally free children who are the most needy and difficult to adopt.	N/A
A2123 - Social Workers (CWS Local Workers - Adoption Services)	N/A	N/A	N/A	Adoption services are provided by: Adoption Social Workers who facilitate adoptions and perform home studies.	N/A
A2181 - Adoption Program Staff	N/A	N/A	N/A	Adoption services are provided by Adoption Support program staff who negotiate adoption support agreements, and provide case management for about 17,000 children and families.	N/A
Administrative	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Lease costs
Administrative	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Title IVB-2 is allocated its share of indirect administrative costs through

Service Category	Family Preservation (30% of grant)	Community-Based Family Support (20% of grant)	Time-Limited Family Reunification (20% of grant)	Adoption Promotion and Support (20% of grant)	Administrative (10% of grant)
					base 619, some of these cost include: Finance and Performance Evaluation Division (FPED) salaries, benefits, goods, and services.
Administrative	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Assistant Secretary's Office salaries, benefits, goods, and services.
Administrative	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Children's Administration's Technology Services (CATS) (does not include staff working on FamLink) salaries, benefits, goods, and services.

CFS-101, Part I

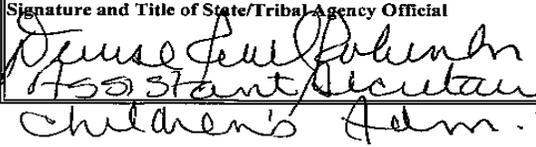
Annual Budget Request for Title IV-B, Subpart 1 & 2 Funds, CAPTA, CFCIP, and ETV

CFS-101, Part I
U. S. Department of Health and Human Services
Administration for Children and Families

Attachment B
OMB Approval #0980-0047
Approved through October 31, 2014

CFS-101, Part I: Annual Budget Request for Title IV-B, Subpart 1 & 2 Funds, CAPTA, CFCIP, and ETV

Fiscal Year 2013, October 1, 2012 through September 30, 2013

1. State or Indian Tribal Organization (ITO): Washington State		2. EIN: 91-6001088
3. Address: Department of Social and Health Services, Children's Administration, PO Box 45710, Olympia, WA 98504		4. Submission: [X] New [] Revision
5. Total estimated title IV-B Subpart 1, Child Welfare Services (CWS) Funds		\$5,253,453.00
a) Total administration (not to exceed 10% of title IV-B Subpart 1 estimated allotment)		\$525,345.30
6. Total estimated title IV-B Subpart 2, Provides Safe and Stable Families (PSSF) Funds. This amount should equal the sum of lines a - f.		\$6,338,347.00
a) Total Family Preservation Services		\$1,901,504.10
b) Total Family Support Services		\$1,267,669.40
c) Total Time-Limited Family Reunification Services		\$1,267,669.40
d) Total Adoption Promotion and Support Services		\$1,267,669.40
e) Total for Other Service Related Activities (e.g. planning)		\$
f) Total administration (FOR STATES ONLY: not to exceed 10% of title IV-B subpart 2 estimated allotment)		\$633,834.70
7. Total estimated Monthly Caseworker Visit (MCV) Funds (FOR STATES ONLY)		\$400,426.00
a) Total administration (FOR STATES ONLY: not to exceed 10% of estimated MCV allotment)		\$
8. Re-allotment of title IV-B subparts 1 & 2 funds for States and Indian Tribal Organizations:		
a) Indicate the amount of the State's/Tribe's allotment that will not be required to carry out the following programs: CWS \$ _____, PSSF \$ _____, and/or MCV(States only)\$ _____.		
b) If additional funds become available to States and ITOs, specify the amount of additional funds the States or Tribes requesting: CWS \$500,000 _____, PSSF \$500,000 _____, and/or MCV(States only)\$50,000 _____.		
9. Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA) State Grant (no State match required): Estimated Amount plus additional allocation, as available. (FOR STATES ONLY)		\$546,834.00
10. Estimated Chafee Foster Care Independence Program (CFCIP) funds		\$3,305,814.00
a) Indicate the amount of State's or Tribe's allotment to be spent on room and board for eligible youth (not to exceed 30% of CFCIP allotment)		\$
11. Estimated Education and Training Voucher (ETV) funds		\$1,102,296.00
12. Re-allotment of CFCIP and ETV Program Funds:		
a) Indicate the amount of the State's or Tribe's allotment that will not be required to carry out CFCIP Program		\$
b) Indicate the amount of the State's or Tribe's allotment that will not be required to carry out ETV Program		\$
c) If additional funds become available to States or Tribes, specify the amount of additional funds the State or Tribe is requesting for CFCIP Program		\$350,000
d) If additional funds become available to States or Tribes, specify the amount of additional funds the State or Tribe is requesting for ETV Program		\$260,000
13. Certification by State Agency and/or Indian Tribal Organization. The State agency or Indian Tribe submits the above estimates and request for funds under title IV-B, subpart 1 and/or 2, of the Social Security Act, CAPTA State Grant, CFCIP and ETV programs, and agrees that expenditures will be made in accordance with the Child and Family Services Plan, which has been jointly developed with, and approved by, the Children's Bureau.		
Signature and Title of State/Tribal Agency Official		Signature and Title of Central Office Official
 Denise Furr Johnson Assistant Secretary Children's Admin.		

CFS 101, Part II

CFS 101, Part II
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Administration for Children and Families

CFS-101 Part II: Annual Estimated Expenditure Summary of Child and Family Services
State or Indian Tribal Organization (ITO) Washington State

For FY: OCTOBER 1, 2012 TO SEPTEMBER 30, 2013

Attachment B
OMB Approval #0990-0047
Approved through October 31, 2014

SERVICES/ACTIVITIES	(a) Subject ICWS	TITLE IVA			(d) CAPTA*	(e) CFCP	(f) ETV	(g) TITLE IV-E	(h) STATE LOCAL & DONATED FUNDS	(i) NUMBER TO BE SERVED	(j) POPULATION TO BE SERVED	(k) GEOG. AREA TO BE SERVED
		(b) Subject IHSSE	(c) Subject II-MCY*	(c) Subject II-MCY*								
1) PREVENTION & SUPPORT SERVICES (FAMILY SUPPORT)	1,576,035.90	1,901,504.10							1,159,180.00	3197	Families to safely maintain their child(ren) in their own home	Statewide
2) PROTECTIVE SERVICES	2,101,381.20							700,480.40	78935	Reports of Abuse and Neglect	Statewide	
1) CRISIS INTERVENTION (FAMILY PRESERVATION)											Families whose children are substantially likely or at imminent risk of placement or to reunify child(ren) with their family	Statewide
4) TIME-LIMITED FAMILY REUNIFICATION SERVICES	1,050,690.60	1,267,669.40						772,786.67	2257		Families with children returning home less than 15 months in placement	Statewide
5) ADOPTION PROMOTION AND SUPPORT SERVICES		1,267,669.40						422,556.47	9465		All Eligible Children	Statewide
6) FOR OTHER SERVICE RELATED ACTIVITIES (e.g. phoning)								422,556.47			All Eligible Children	Statewide
7) FOSTER CARE MAINTENANCE												Statewide
(a) FOSTER FAMILY & RELATIVE FOSTER CARE								10,402,486.00	33,544,755.00	5458	All Eligible Children	Statewide
(b) GROUP/INSTR CARE								10,250,601.00	21,367,479.00	988		Statewide
8) ADOPTION SUBSIDY PAYS								41,530,027.00	48,110,946.00	15419	All Eligible Children	Statewide
9) GUARDIANSHIP ASSIST. PAYS												Statewide
10) INDEPENDENT LIVING SERVICES											Dependent youth age 15 and older likely to remain in foster care until age 18 and former foster care recipients up to age 21	Statewide
11) EDUCATION AND TRAINING VOUCHERS									826,453.50	2300	Eligible current and former foster youth pursuing their post-secondary education	Statewide
12) ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS	625,346.30	633,834.70				1,102,296.00		275,574.00		360		Statewide
13) STAFF & EXTERNAL PARTNERS TRAINING								62,330,854.00	52,330,854.00			
14) FOSTER PARENT RECRUITMENT & TRAINING								3,801,857.00	1,267,296.00			
15) ADOPTIVE PARENT RECRUITMENT & TRAINING								1,233,202.00	1,388,541.00			
16) CHILD CARE RELATED TO EMPLOYMENT/TRAINING								318,807.00	431,659.00			
17) CASWORKER RETENTION, RECRUITMENT & TRAINING								2,736,051.00	2,897,411.00			
18) TOTAL	5,253,463.00	6,398,347.00	400,426.00	400,426.00	546,834.00	3,305,814.00	1,102,296.00	122,803,895.00	165,918,498.51			

* States Only; Indian Tribes are not required to include information on these programs

CFS 101 Part III

Attachment B
OMB Approval #0980-0047
Approved through October 31, 2014

CFS-101, Part III
U. S. Department of Health and Human Services
Administration for Children and Families

CFS-101, PART III: Annual Expenditures for Title IV-B, Subparts 1 and 2, Chafee Foster Care Independence (CFCIP) and Education And Training Voucher (ETV) : Fiscal Year 2010: October 1, 2009 through September 30, 2010

1. State or Indian Tribal Organization (ITO): Washington State	3. Address: Department of Social and Health Services, Children's Administration, PO Box 45710 Olympia, WA 98504				
4. Submission: <input type="checkbox"/> X <input type="checkbox"/> New <input type="checkbox"/> Revision	2. EIN: 91-6001088				
Description of Funds	Estimated Expenditures	Actual Expenditures	Number served		Geographic area served
			Individuals	Families	
5. Total title IV-B, subpart 1 funds	\$ 5,354,158.00	\$ 5,354,158.00			
a) Total Administrative Costs (not to exceed 10% of title IV-B, subpart 1 total allotment)	\$ 388,541.88	\$ 388,541.88			
6. Total title IV-B, subpart 2 funds (This amount should equal the sum of lines a - f.)	\$ 5,879,720.00	\$ 5,879,720.00			
a) Family Preservation Services	\$ 1,763,916.00	\$ 1,763,916.00			
b) Family Support Services	\$ 1,175,944.00	\$ 1,175,944.00			
c) Time-Limited Family Reunification Services	\$ 1,175,944.00	\$ 1,175,944.00			
d) Adoption Promotion and Support Services	\$ 1,175,944.00	\$ 1,175,944.00			
e) Other Service Related Activities (e.g. planning)	\$ -	\$ -			
f) Administrative Costs (FOR STATES: not to exceed 10% of total title IV-B, subpart 2 allotment after October 1, 2007)	\$ 587,972.00	\$ 587,972.00			
7. Total Monthly Caseworker Visit Funds (STATE ONLY)	\$ 349,144.00	\$ 349,144.00			
a) Administrative Costs (not to exceed 10% of MCV allotment)	\$ -	\$ -			
8. Total Chafee Foster Care Independence Program (CFCIP) funds	\$ 3,199,303.00	\$ 3,199,303.00			
a) Indicate the amount of allotment spent on room and board for eligible youth (not to exceed 30% of CFCIP allotment)	\$ -	\$ -			
9. Total Education and Training Voucher (ETV) funds	\$ 1,072,572.00	\$ 1,072,572.00			
10. Certification by State Agency or Indian Tribal Organization (ITO). The State agency or ITO agrees that expenditures were made in accordance with the Child and Family Services Plan, which has been jointly developed with, and approved by, the Children's Bureau.					
Signature and Title of State/Tribal Agency Official	Date	Signature and Title of Central Office Official		Date	
<i>Annemette K. Johnson</i> Assistant Secretary	6/29/12				

Section XI: Program Description

Program Description

Children’s Administration provides direct services to children and families statewide through services provided by state employees and by contracted service providers. State staff provide Children and Family Services and Licensed Resources.

Program Description

Children and Family Services

Children and families enter Children’s Administration through four primary program areas: Child Protective Services, Family Voluntary Services, Child and Family Welfare Services and Family Reconciliation Services. These programs are responsible for the investigation of child abuse and neglect complaints, child protection, family preservation, family reconciliation, foster care, group care, in-home services, independent living, and adoption services for children age 0 to 18 years.

Child Protective Services (CPS) provides 24 hour, seven day a week intake, screening and investigative services for reports of alleged child abuse and neglect. CPS social workers investigate allegations of child abuse and neglect to assess the safety and protection needs of children. Law enforcement, courts, tribes, and community teams are also critical members of the child protection system. Each has a distinct role and is integral to the checks and balances designed to protect children from abuse and neglect and to safeguard families from unnecessary disruption.

When it appears that a child is in danger of being harmed or has already been seriously abused or neglected, CPS, with a police officer or court order placing the child in protective custody, places the child with a relative or in foster care. By law, a child can be kept in protective custody for no more than 72 hours, excluding weekends and legal holidays. If the child is not returned to the parents or some other voluntary arrangement made within 72 hours, the matter must be reviewed by a court. If risk warrants ongoing placement, dependencies must be established in court within 75 days.

Family Voluntary Services (FVS) support families on a voluntary basis and focus on early engagement. Services with families are designed to help prevent chronic or serious problems that interfere with their ability to protect or parent children. This program serves families where the children are safe to remain in the home while the family engages in services through a Voluntary Service Agreement (VSA) or for children who are temporarily placed in an out of home setting through time-limited Voluntary Placement Agreement (VPA).

Child and Family Welfare Services (CFWS) provides both permanency planning and court-ordered intensive treatment services to children and families who need help with chronic or serious problems that interfere with their ability to protect or parent children, such as on-going abuse and neglect or intensive medical needs. Services oversee the health and wellbeing of children in out of home placements and provide ongoing assessments of safety and risk to children. Children served in this program are dependents of the state (in-home or out-of-home care) or legally free for adoption.

Family Reconciliation Services (FRS) is a voluntary and family focused in-home service that relies on the family’s participation. The goal of FRS is to preserve, strengthen, and reconcile families in conflict.

The range of services provided is designed to help families find solutions to their conflicts by developing skills and supports to maintain the family unit. Service delivery begins with the least intensive, least intrusive intervention appropriate in the individual case circumstance.

Licensed Resources

The Division of Licensed Resources licenses, supports, and monitors child foster homes and group residential facilities. The Division of Licensed Resources also licenses child-placing agencies, and provides assistance to those agencies that certify private agency foster homes. The Division of Licensed Resources collaborates with Children and Family Services and private contractors to recruit foster families.

The Division of Licensed Resources Child Protective Services (DLR/CPS) investigates allegations of child abuse and neglect by caregivers in homes and facilities licensed, certified or operated by DSHS or the Department of Early Learning to care for children (including the biological and adopted children of licensees).

DLR/CPS has five main goals:

- 1) ensure the immediate safety of alleged child victims and other children determined to be at risk during the course of an investigation;
- 2) investigate allegations of child abuse and neglect and make determinations regarding whether abuse or neglect occurred;
- 3) assess whether the child victim or other children in the setting have been abused or neglected in ways that were not alleged;
- 4) identify risk factors within the facility which create a substantial risk of harm to children; and
- 5) ensure consistency and fairness toward providers during the investigation.

Service Description

*See Detailed Service Description of Children's Administration Services in **Attachment 2***

Section XII:

Washington State Disaster Plan

Washington State Disaster Plan

The Washington State Disaster Plan outlines the Children's Administration preparedness, response, and recovery plan to sustain vital services defined as Child Protective Services, Medically Fragile Children, and Child and Family Welfare Services.

The plan enables the Children's Administration to assure continuity of planning, response, and recovery activities for worksites and programs. The plan responds to the Child and Family Services Improvement Act of 2006 that requires states to have in place procedures to respond to a disaster, including:

- Identifying, locating, and sustaining availability of services for children under state care or supervision who are displaced or adversely affected by a disaster
- Responding, as appropriate, to new child welfare cases in areas adversely affected by a disaster, and provide services in those cases
- Remaining in communication with social workers and other essential child welfare personnel who are displaced because of a disaster
- Preserving essential program records
- Coordinating services and share information with other states

As part of the Annual Progress and Services Report for FY 2012, states are required to review previously submitted disaster plans to determine if changes are needed. *Children's Administration reviewed the disaster plan, updated contact information and made some minor changes to the document.*

Fortunately, Washington state was not affected by a disaster in FY 2012. The Washington State Disaster Plan is posted on the Children's Administration website and may be accessed at the following link:
<http://www.dshs.wa.gov/ca/pubs/reports.asp>

Attachment List

- **Training Matrix** (Attachment 1)
- **Service Description** (Attachment 2)
- **Training Master Agreement** (Attachment 3)
- **Child Welfare Workforce Information** (Attachment 4)
- **Caseload Average by Major Program Area** (Attachment 5)
- **Direct Services Position Type** (Attachment 6)
- **CA Social Worker Demographics** (Attachment 7)
- **CPS Intake Central Case Review Report** (Attachment 8)