

Florida's Department of Children and Families

Family Safety Program



Child and Family Services Report Annual Progress and Services Report

**for Service Period
October 1, 2005 to September 30, 2006**

June 2007

Florida's 2007 Child and Family Services Annual Progress & Services Report

Covering Period October 1, 2005 to September 30, 2006

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Introduction, Background And Progress Summaries

Including Specific Program References to Child Welfare Services in Florida

Background of Child Welfare Programs and Services in Florida as incorporated into the Child and Family Services Plan and the Department of Children and Families, Family Safety Program Business and Strategic Plan.

The enclosed report is in reference to the federally required Child and Family Services Annual Progress and Services Report that is required from each state that receives related funds from the Administration for Children and Families. This report follows federal program instructions outlining specific topics and financial information covering October 1, 2005 to September 30, 2006. This report also serves as an application for FFY 2008 funds.

Florida's Annual Progress and Services Report includes:

- A summary report from the Department and its partners on the services, activities, partnerships, and challenges related to the goals and performance measures included in Florida's Child and Family Services Five-Year Plan and similar to the Department's Business Plan for the 2006 federal fiscal year.
- A description of the programs, services, stakeholder involvement, and performance improvement strategies.
- Plans for program or service changes during the 2007 federal fiscal year including revisions to the program goals, population to be served, or service delivery enhancements.
- Other supporting information such as items related to program support, quality assurance, child welfare best practices, training, and stakeholder involvement during planning, implementation, and review activities.

The Department's Five Year Strategic and Annual Business Plan, as related to Child Welfare serve as Florida's federally required Child and Family Services Plan for the Administration for Children and Families. The mission, vision, goals, and performance objectives related to the Department's state plans are a perfect fit for Florida's federal plan.

The Department of Children and Families, Family Safety Program is herein referred to as the Department.

The Department's Mission, Vision, Goals, and Performance Objectives has driven and influenced each action, policy, activity, review/audit, legislative proposal, improvement plan, initiative, contract, system of care framework, partnership commitment, and management decision and is incorporated into its Strategic and Business Plans. The mission, vision and goals become the driving force of each strategy and activity implemented to meet the performance goals to improve the lives of each child and family it serves.

The Integration of the Performance and Resource Management Teams (PaRTs)

While structuring the activities and partnerships to be in the optimal position to meet the performance goals in each county, the Department chartered Performance and Resource Management Teams (PaRTs) to integrate performance and expenditure decision-making by:

1. Reviewing and directing performance improvements on Strategic Plan measures and Business Plan action steps that affect delivery of services to customers; and
2. Reviewing expenditure projections to ensure that resources are planned wisely to support those services.

The PaRTs teams are responsible for:

- Identifying performance and resource gaps,
- Providing corrective action strategies. and
- Monitoring implementation impact.

Core team membership consists of representatives from all sectors of the Department in headquarters, regions, and districts. The teams publish a monthly report that includes:

- A status report with QIC stories as necessary;
- Monthly expenditure projection,
- Analysis with proposed budget amendments;
- Team actions; and
- Major issues for Executive Performance and Resource Management Team decision or direction.

The frequent monitoring and subsequent analysis of statewide performance with the PaRTs teams was the catalyst for detailed drill downs of related events, environmental influences, resource availability, best practices, challenges, and other factors that had an effect on the level of performance.

The on-going attention and focus of outcomes and performance resulted in an increase in productive activities geared toward improvements. This report provides examples of the integration of the performance measures of the Department's Business Plan, the Child and Families Services Plan, the PaRTs process, and the related collaborative activities with its stakeholders.

The foundation for the description of the progress and services related to the welfare of children and their families in this report is based on the Department's mission and vision as stated below.

MISSION of the Department of Children and Families

Protect the vulnerable, promote strong and economically self sufficient families, and advance personal and family recovery and resiliency

VISION

The Department of Children and Families will be recognized as a world class social services system, delivering valued services to our customers. The Department is committed to providing a level and quality of service it would want for its own families.

The Department's mission and vision will:

- Be driven by the needs and choices of our customers.
- Promote family and personal self-determination and choice.
- Be ethically, socially, and culturally responsible.
- Earn the trust and respect of our partners, customers, and the public by providing exceptional customer service while practicing sound fiscal stewardship.
- Partner with community and faith-based organizations to foster open and collaborative relationships.
- Be innovative and flexible.
- Be transparent and accessible.
- Be dedicated to excellence and quality results
- Maintain an analytic and systematic approach to planning and performance management.

The following performance objectives are included in the Department's Strategic and Business Plan and in each Community-Based Care Lead Agency contract. The Addendum to Chapter One in a separate notebook includes local progress updates to each objective.

Department and Lead Agency Performance Objectives

1. The percentage of children not abused or neglected during services will be at least 95%.
2. No more than 1% of children served in out-of-home care shall experience maltreatment during services.
3. No more than 9 % of children are removed within 12 months of a prior reunification.

4. The percentage of children reunified who were reunified within 12 months of the latest removal shall be at least 76.2%.
5. The percentage of children with finalized adoptions whose adoptions were finalized within 24 months of the latest removal shall be at least 32%.
6. No more than ___children will be in out-of-home care 12 months or more on June 30, 200_.
7. The percentage of adoption goal met will be at least 85%.
8. 100% of children under supervision who are required to be seen each month shall be seen each month.

Stakeholder Input

Seven critical Family Safety performance measures included in the Department's Business and Strategic Plans and in Community-Based Care Lead Agency contracts serve as the frame of reference for headquarters and local responses as reflected in the Addendum to Chapter One, attached in a separate notebook. Department, Lead Agency, Protective Investigator staff along with review and feedback from many advocacy and stakeholder groups statewide responded to local and state performance to each of the seven objectives.

This includes a description of the documented work and related activities of the Performance and Resource Management Teams (PaRTS).

For local staff and partners, this report serves as an assessment of the community's collaborative activities and commitment towards preventing abuse and improving outcomes for their children and families.

For Headquarters staff and its collaborative partners, this report serves as an assessment and planning guide for the coming year.

The Department's State and Federal Plans were collaboratively developed with a wide range of its customers, and stakeholders including community and faith-based organizations, educators, advocates, law enforcement professionals, federal and state agencies and is consistent statewide. Florida's Governor, Legislature, county and city governments, state agencies and major advocacy groups are keenly aware of the Department's commitment to the improvement strategies it has adopted for each objective and its daily management of statewide and local performance.

Performance reports related to the outcome measures of the Business Plan are available on the Department's internet web site and are continuously updated and reviewed. Refer to the following link: <http://dcfdashboard.dcf.state.fl.us/>
The objectives are included in each Community-Based Care Lead Agency contract and are the core of the Department's day-to-day operations and management. With this

partnership, each citizen and customer and the vast number of involved stakeholders have the opportunity to become a significant partner to bolster the success of the Department's mission.

References to the following documents on the Department's website are located below.

STRATEGIC PLAN

- <http://www.dcf.state.fl.us/admin/strategicplan/strategicplan.pdf>

BUSINESS PLAN

- http://www.dcf.state.fl.us/os/docs/fy0506businessplan_v2.pdf

ADDITIONAL LINKS AND INFORMATION

- [2004-2005 Annual Report \(http://hsn2.dcf.state.fl.us/Reports/04-05 Child Welfare Annual Reports/2004-2005 Annual Report Complete.pdf\)](http://hsn2.dcf.state.fl.us/Reports/04-05%20Child%20Welfare%20Annual%20Reports/2004-2005%20Annual%20Report%20Complete.pdf)

Child Welfare Services

Description of Child Welfare Services available statewide in Florida to each eligible child and family

To provide a foundation and a common frame of reference for Florida's 2007 Child and Family Services Annual Progress and Services Report, a brief review of the required services and activities under the appropriate sections of Title IV-B and Title IV-E are presented.

As permitted by federal regulation, the Department of Children and Families promotes its flexibility in the development and expansion of a coordinated child and family services program that utilizes its partnerships with community-based agencies to ensure children grow up in safe, loving families by:

- Protecting and promoting the welfare of all children;
- Preventing the neglect, abuse, or exploitation of children;
- Supporting at-risk families through services which allow children, where appropriate, to remain safely with their families or return to their families in a timely manner;
- Promoting the safety, permanence, and well-being of children in foster care and adoptive families; and
- Providing training, professional development and support to ensure a well-qualified child welfare workforce.

In compliance with federal and state regulations, Child Welfare Services refers to services that:

1. Protect and promote the welfare and safety of all children, including individuals with disabilities; homeless, dependent, or neglected children;
2. Prevent or remedy, or assisting in the solution of problems which may result in the neglect, abuse, exploitation, or delinquency of children;
3. Prevent the unnecessary separation of children from their families when desirable and possible by identifying and assisting in resolving family problems.
4. Restore children to their families who have been removed and may be safely returned, by the provision of services to the child and the family;
5. Assure adequate care of children away from their homes, in cases where the child cannot be returned home or cannot be placed for adoption; and
6. Place children in suitable adoptive homes, in cases where restoration to the biological family is not possible or appropriate.

Promoting Safe and Stable Families

Promoting Safe and Stable Families program allows the Department to develop, expand, and operate coordinated programs of community-based family support services, family preservation services, time-limited family reunification services, and adoption services to:

- Prevent child maltreatment among families at risk through the provision of supportive family services.
- Assure children's safety within the home and preserve intact families in which children have been maltreated, when the family's problems can be addressed effectively.
- Address the problems of families whose children have been placed in foster care so that reunification may occur in a safe and stable manner in accordance with the Adoption and Safe Families Act of 1997.
- Support adoptive families by providing support services as necessary so that they can make a lifetime commitment to their children.

Family Preservation Services

Family Preservation Services are developed to help families (including adoptive and extended families) at risk or in crisis, including:

1. Service programs designed to help children-

- where safe and appropriate, return to families from which they have been removed; or
 - be placed for adoption, with a legal guardian, or, if adoption or legal guardianship is determined not to be safe and appropriate for a child, in some other planned, permanent living arrangement;
2. Pre-placement preventive services programs, such as intensive family preservation programs, designed to help children at risk of foster care placement remain safely with their families;
 3. Service programs designed to provide follow-up care to families to whom a child has been returned after a foster care placement;
 4. Respite care of children to provide temporary relief for parents and other caregivers (including foster parents); and
 5. Services designed to improve parenting skills (by reinforcing parents' confidence in their strengths, and helping them to identify where improvement is needed and to obtain assistance in improving those skills) with respect to matters such as child development, family budgeting, coping with stress, health, and nutrition; and
 6. Infant safe haven programs to provide a way for a parent to safely relinquish a newborn infant at a safe haven designated pursuant to a State law.

Family Support Services

Family Support Services are community-based services that promote the safety and well-being of children and families. These services are designed:

- To increase the strength and stability of families (including adoptive, foster, and extended families),
- To increase parents' confidence and competence in their parenting abilities,
- To afford children a safe, stable and supportive family environment,
- To strengthen parental relationships and promote healthy marriages that support child development.

Family Support Programs in Florida include:

1. Services, including in-home visits, parent support groups, and other programs designed to improve parenting skills (by reinforcing parents' confidence in their strengths, and helping them to identify where improvement is needed and to obtain assistance in improving those skills) with respect to matters such as child development, family budgeting, coping with stress, health, and nutrition;
2. Respite care of children to provide temporary relief for parents and other caregivers;

3. Structured activities involving parents and children to strengthen the parent-child relationship;
4. Drop-in centers to afford families opportunities for informal interaction with other families and with program staff;
5. Transportation, information and referral services to afford families access to other community services, including child care, health care, nutrition programs, adult education literacy programs, legal services, and counseling and mentoring services; and
6. Early developmental screening of children to assess the needs of such children, and assistance to families in securing specific services to meet these needs.

Time-Limited Family Reunification Services

Time-Limited Family Reunification Services are services and activities such as the ones described below that are provided to a child that is removed from his/her home and placed in a foster care and to the parents or primary caregivers. These services are designed to support the reunification of the child safely and appropriately within the 12-15 month time period.

Time-Limited Family Reunification Services are:

- Individual, group, and family counseling,
- Inpatient, residential, or outpatient substance abuse treatment services,
- Mental health services,
- Information and referral services including assistance to address domestic violence,
- Designed to provide temporary child care and therapeutic services for families, including crisis nurseries, and
- Transportation to or from any of the services and activities described above.

Adoption Promotion and Support Services

Adoption Promotion and Support Services are services and activities designed to encourage more adoptions out of the foster care system, when adoptions promote the best interests of children, including such activities as pre- and post-adoptive services and activities designed to expedite the adoption process and support adoptive families.

Adoption Promotion and Support Services help children where safe and appropriate, to return to their families or be placed for adoption, with a legal guardian. If adoption or legal guardianship is not safe and appropriate for a child another planned, permanent living arrangement may be secured.

Adoption Promotion and Support Services include:

- Child-specific or targeted population recruitment efforts,
- Adoptive parent support group,
- Individual and family counseling for adopted children and/or family members (must be of 12-month duration or less),
- Adoption workshops/seminars for adopted children and their families and professionals on topics relevant to on-going issues facing adoptive families; and
- Follow-up support services to adoptive families

Service Descriptions

Adoption Promotion/Support Services: Services and activities designed to encourage more adoptions from the foster care system, when adoptions promote the best interests of children, and to support children and adoptive parents during the adoptive placement process and after finalization.

Information and Referral: Activities that provide families with needed information about community and statewide services and agencies that provide specific services and, if necessary, provide referral information.

Mentoring/Tutoring Services: Activities provided to children to enhance their self-esteem, self-confidence, and provide a positive adult role model. Tutoring allows the child to achieve additional educational support and training.

Parent Support Groups: Activities related to creating new adoptive and foster parent support groups and supporting and maintaining existing parent support groups. The support groups seek to reduce the social isolation of families by developing a peer support network.

Recruitment/Support Services: Activities related to child-specific and targeted population recruitment efforts. In addition, activities designed to support foster and adoptive parents that increase retention of these two groups.

Chapter 1

Progress Report for Child Welfare Services

FFY 2005 – 2006

Background to the Development of the 2007 Child and Family Services Annual Progress Report

A consistent and wide array of stakeholders statewide as highlighted in the Introduction section are closely and intimately involved with the Department's Annual and Five Year Plans. They have invested time, ideas, experience, and support to strengthen Florida's families and provide children with a safe and healthy place to grow up. Florida's stakeholders continue to demonstrate by their involvement and ownership that they accept the responsibility to be the State's partner in improvement activities and strategies.

As it may seem at times that for a particular critical outcome, performance improves, then levels off, and may even decline that no performance issue goes unnoticed for very long. The stakeholders, without being critical are back at the table with the Department to drill down the data, circumstances, and other variables to get back on track. In the past few years this level of partnership has strengthened and is bound to make a continuous positive impact.

Strengthening and Increasing Collaborative Efforts and Partners

It is apparent that there is a notable difference in amount of positive press that scans daily newspapers and news programs. The Department's Community-Based Care Lead Agencies and those responsible for Protective Investigations with close involvement with their local Alliances, United Way, Neighborhood Partnership Projects, Schools, Health Programs, primary prevention service providers and funders, local Children Services Councils, Judges and other legal representatives, Guardian ad Litem, local legislators, faith-based providers, law enforcement, Foster and Adoptive Parents Association members, and Youth Advisory Groups have changed how a community approaches child abuse and neglect. You know this to be true when a serious abuse report hits the media and a part of the news story includes other community stakeholders pledging their support to the child welfare providers and refer to the welfare and safety of local families as everyone's responsibility.

Many collaborative initiatives to improve child well being, safety, and permanency were local “good news” items and managed to circulate to other communities across the state as a way of sharing improvement strategies. Reducing the number and time away of runaways in one community and for another working diligently all summer to ensure 100% of children in out of home care attend the first day of school in one of the largest counties are impressive accomplishments. You have to be close and involved with the local child welfare system to appreciate the long and tedious efforts to achieve even the slightest improvement. When local advocates celebrate even a half of a percentage point improvement in a critical performance objective you can not help but sense the community support. They know that the half of percentage point may represent 20 to 50 children and for them it was worth everything.

Finding and Sharing Excellence and Experience

With the growing number of active and committed collaborative partnerships, it has become more apparent that there are “pockets of excellence” and innovative practices throughout the state. Even when onsite reviews and performance data indicate problems and areas in need of improvement, community groups for the most part re-group and are back at the table with the Department, Sheriffs Offices conducting Protective Investigations, and Community-Based Care Lead Agencies. As this positive momentum spreads still cautiously throughout this fourth largest state, the Department understands that it can only go forward with each community, each advocate, each provider, and each family working every day believing they can make a difference.

Chance to Review and Appreciate Local Progress and Challenges

The strategy for local staff from the Department, Community-Based Care Lead Agencies, Sheriff’s Office and their partners to efficiently report their annual activities proved to be a positive experience and was forwarded with pride and a sense of accomplishment.

Strategy for Statewide Input

- Seven critical performance outcomes included in each Lead Agency contract, the Department’s Five Year and Annual Business Plan and now Florida’s Child and Family Services Plan for our federal office were forwarded for local response statewide.
- Contractual performance measures were matched to those included in Florida’s Program Improvement Plan and to specific Child Welfare program references as described in the Introduction and Background section.
- Instructions were given according to the specifications from the Administration for Child and Families.

- Local staff responded to this assignment by demonstrating another example of their active collaborative partnerships by involving the community in their progress summaries. Evidence of this is documented in an addendum to Chapter 2 found in a separate notebook containing responses on local progress, activities, and services related to the performance measures from the Department and Community-Based Care Lead Agencies.
- Local reports were reviewed and a statewide summary for each objective was prepared.
- The collection of local reports from each Lead Agency and many of their Protective Investigative partners are included in the addendum.

The Department is refocusing its quality assurance and quality improvement activities toward achieving standards of excellence in service. A statewide effort will create a child welfare quality management plan by September 30, 2007 that addresses responsibilities at the state, regional, and local levels. Phased implementation of the plan will begin on October 1. Current processes that have proven effective will continue; for example, joint reviews by department and provider quality staff, and directed "Florida CFSR" reviews modeled around the national outcome assessment. Increased emphasis on statewide consistency and data-driven management will be supported by developing an expanded set of tools and techniques. Particular focus will be placed on defining, measuring, and tracking of a set of key service-based standards that can be monitored by management on a frequent basis and that drive toward the federal outcomes. Systemic factors that affect outcome achievement, particularly system of care capacity and family engagement capability, will be included in the quality management design. Quality information will be captured in a system complementary of, and eventually incorporated into, the overall child welfare data system. Reporting will be strengthened by defining a cumulative set of products that result in an annual state child welfare performance assessment. The design of child welfare quality management will emphasize the use of information to drive service delivery improvements as well as assure accountability for excellence in service provision. Finally, the linkage and alignment among quality assurance, quality improvement, policy and law, service array, resources, and staff development and training will be closely analyzed and enhanced.

Chapter 2

Collaborative Activities and Initiatives with Programs, Agencies, the Courts, and other Stakeholders for FFY 2005 – 2006

Collaborative Partners, Activities and Initiatives across Child Welfare

In April 2005, Florida successfully completed the legislative mandate to transition all foster care and related services statewide to Lead Agencies and their community partners. Twenty Lead Agencies and thirty-three active Community Alliances are serving the 67 counties. In the process of implementing Community Based Care and as it matures, collaboration between the Department and numerous other entities has and continues to be the order of the day.

All the Lead Agencies contract with the Department to provide services to children and families. The Department provides technical advice, training, and support in many different ways to the providers, such as:

- Training, particularly regarding new or revised federal regulation, administrative rules, state legislation, and innovative case practices and pilot projects,
- Management reports and data from Florida's automated child welfare information system, and
- The Family Safety monthly training bulletin on a wide variety of subjects via the Internet and email distribution.

Collaborative Activities with the Courts in the Development of the Child and Family Services Report (CFSR) and the Annual Progress and Services Report (APSR)

1. Florida's Dependency Court has a similar report to the Department's APSR. An exchange and comparison of local and state responses to the perspective agency outcomes and plans for improvement will generate efficiencies. This will prompt streamlined and cooperative planning for improvement strategies. The sharing of best practices and lessons learned will be invaluable.
2. The Court staff are major participants in the entire process of the federal Child and Family Service Reviews both at the state and local planning and assessment levels.

3. Staff from the court has a leadership role with the Department in the planning workgroups and share in the operational responsibilities to collaborate with a wide variety of state and local stakeholders.
4. Early in 2007 activities focused on the upcoming CFSR will increase dramatically and become a major focus and effort.

On going Collaborative Initiatives with the Dependency Court

- The Department works in close partnership with the state court system in reference to judicial processes to improve critical aspects of child welfare case practice which leads to improved outcomes related to safety, permanency, and well-being.
- The Florida courts and Department share responsibility for the planning, developing, and staffing of the Dependency Summit Conference for Florida's Child Protection communities that will bring the legal and judicial, protective investigation, Department and community based care providers together to work in closer partnership for the welfare of children and families. The Summit event will further stakeholder education, understanding, commitment and support.
- The Courts and the Department facilitate many of their collaborative efforts with the state and local Guardian ad Litem program to ensure that the best interests of the child remain the top priority from their similar but different vantage points.
- As the Administration for Children and Families has encouraged and the Department supported, child welfare related programs, Family Safety and the Dependency Court have intensified their commitment and collaborative efforts to work on similar priority activities that are the focus of each agencies mission and goals.
- The following is an update of initiatives during the FFY 2005-2006 that Family Safety and Dependency Court staff has committed their combined efforts. These updates are reported on quarterly conference calls with ACF/ National Resource Team and other Southeast Region states. The projects include:
 - Planning and workshop content development for the Annual Dependency Improvement Summit especially designed for supervisory and direct service staff, judges, guardian ad-litmes, and child welfare attorneys.
 - Advocating for improvements and enhancements to all aspects of the judicial process for dependency cases while reviewing and duplicating best practices in this regard.
 - Resource development focusing on web-based including self-instructional materials, train-the-trainer, and stand-up training options that will reflect current Administrative Rules, best practices, recent legislation, and other national resource availability.
 - Exploration of the legal and operational issues associated with court staff obtaining access only to the Department's child welfare information systems.

- Court staff actively participating in the federal Child and Family Service Reviews in community settings,

Other Collaborative Partners

The Department in its on-going “way of work” collaborates with several state and local agencies and programs that connect their individual agency mission, goals, and activities to strengthen and support children and families. Strong and productive partnerships and close working relationships exist between the:

- Department of Health, Offices of Injury Prevention, Children’s Medical Services, Health Promotion,
- Children’s Mental Health,
- Substance Abuse
- Department of Education,
- Early Learning
- Child Care,
- Economic and Self Sufficiency,
- Medicaid,
- Juvenile Justice,
- Legislature,
- Child Support Enforcement,
- Florida Department of Law Enforcement,
- Sheriff’s Offices,
- Local County Government,
- State Universities,
- County schools, and
- Community Alliances

The **Department of Revenue** has responsibility for the of child support as mandated by the Family Court that helps many family meet their children’s needs.

The Mass Care Team organized by the **Division of Emergency Management** within the Department of Community Affairs collaborates with communities and other agencies to head this state’s response to disaster and emergency situations.

The Department and contracted providers collaborate with the auditing arms of the **Florida Legislature, the Auditor General of Florida, and Federal Child Welfare Agencies** to assure services are funded within the appropriate regulations.

The first **Child Welfare Substance Abuse & Mental Health Forum** brought a wide variety of critical stakeholders including the Dependency Court and Domestic Violence providers together to review, evaluate, plan, and continue the efforts to strengthen the “trauma informed system of care” in Florida’s child welfare system.

The Department is actively involved with the **Children's Medical Services**. One of the main initiatives is developing and implementing an Interagency Agreement and operational plan based on Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA) requirements. The directive is to provide assessments and services to children in the birth through age 3 populations who are victims of verified abuse or neglect. The services will be delivered from Children's Medical Services Early Steps Program.

The Department has a history of collaborating with the State Mental Health Planning Council.

The Agency for Persons with Disabilities is the Department's partner to ensure that children who have developmental disabilities receive the evaluation and appropriate services while ensuring the families and/or relatives also receive the supports to provide for the child's well-being and safety.

The Department's Family Safety Program and the **Children's Mental Health program** along with the state's Medicaid Office developed and implemented the Child Welfare Pre-paid Mental Health program that serves all children in the child welfare system state wide. The Department, Children's Mental Health and Medicaid are also developing psychotherapeutic medications programs for statewide application.

The Department and the **Florida Substance Abuse Strategic Planning Committee** are partnering with the Substance Abuse Program Office developing strategies to deal with critical issues involving the adolescents and their parents.

Faith-Based and Community Initiatives FFY 2005-2006

Program Goals

- Strengthen relationships between the State of Florida and faith-based and community organizations.
- Build service capacity within faith-based and community organizations.
- Mobilize service providers in communities that serve Hispanic and African-American populations.

Accomplishments

- Hosted a series of Strengthening Families: African American Healthy Marriage Initiative trainings. This multi-site training project prepared 217 participants from faith-based and community-based organizations to deliver strengthening families services to African American couples.
- Hosted a series of Strengthening Families: Hispanic Healthy Marriage Initiative trainings. This multi-site training project prepared 225 participants from faith-based and community-based organizations to deliver strengthening families services to Hispanic couples.
- In May 2006, Florida sent a delegation of nine representatives from faith-based and community-based organizations to the National Hispanic Healthy Marriage conference in San Antonio, Texas.
- The Department, in collaboration with Family and Children Faith Coalition (<http://fcfcfl.org/v5/index.html>) and National Hispanic Healthy Marriage Initiative co-hosted a relationship and healthy marriage showcase for Hispanic couples in Miami.
- Co-sponsored the annual statewide Strengthening Families Conference in Orlando that featured grant writing training and Compassion Capital Fund information.
- Served as liaison to the Florida Faith-Based and Community-Based Advisory Council (s. 1431, F.S.).

Strengthening Families Initiative

Goals of Initiative

Florida Strengthening Families Initiative focuses on child well-being by:

- Supporting healthy family formations;
- Preventing family disruptions; and
- Securing permanent families for children.

By offering voluntary relationship skills and pre-marital education to those who cannot afford them, the Strengthening Families Initiative aims to prevent painful, costly and often lifetime social problems for children. When families disintegrate, become unstable or end in divorce, they impact social service organizations, communities and government in myriad ways at great cost both economically and socially. Strengthening Families before they begin to falter can serve as an ounce of prevention to help temper demand for more costly interventions later.

Research indicates that what separates stable and healthy relationships from unstable and unhealthy ones is not the frequency of conflict, but how couples manage it. Such management and relationship skills were taught at three ACF Healthy Marriage and Family Formation research and demonstration sites:

- **The Florida Marriage and Family Research Institute Project** provided individual and group counseling to couples and families, pre-marital counseling, and training to social services staff. (University of Central Florida – Orlando)

A total of 569 individuals (283 couples and 3 individuals) received direct service during this three-year project. 181 individuals were served (89 couples and 3 individuals) in the 16-hour weekend couple enrichment workshops, 63 couples in premarital counseling, 113 couples in brief couples counseling, and 18 couples received other services. At the close of the grant on September 30, 2006, 54 couples were referred to the University of Central Florida (UCF) Community Counseling Clinic for services.

- **The Big Bend Strengthening Marriages & Relationships Project** provides in-home support, counseling and referral services to participating families. (Big Bend Community-Based Care - Tallahassee, FL)

161 couples were referred to the Big Bend Strengthening Marriages and Relationships program during the three-year grant period. Of these, 56 couples declined to voluntarily participate in the program. The remaining 105 couples participated in at least one session of the 12 session program. Among these 105 couples, only 49 couples completed all 12 sessions.

- **The Building Local Capacity for Healthy Marriage and Family Formation Project** expanded the capacity of the Department and Community-based Care (CBC) providers to work with couples in promoting healthy family formation and marriage using PAIRS curriculum. National Partnership for Community Leadership (NCPL) in Washington, D.C. - Ft. Lauderdale & Jacksonville, FL)

During the three-year grant period, 239 Department and CBC staff completed PAIRS 2-day training. 21 CBC staff completed the PAIRS 6-week certification process; and 359 CBC staff completed PAIRS JumpStart classes. Moreover, 561 client referrals were made to the project. Of these: 1) 337 individuals participated in PAIRS Relationship Skills for Strong Families training; and 2) 160 individuals completed the program.

Other relationship skills and marriage education projects include:

- **Building Strong Families - Healthy Families Plus** project evaluates relationship skills education directed to romantically involved, unwed parents around the time of the birth of a child to learn whether these services can help couples fulfill their aspirations for a healthy marriage.

3306 assessments were conducted to assess couple eligibility to participate in this project between October 1, 2005 and June 30, 2006. Of these, 307 couples were eligible for random assignment. 148 couples were randomly assigned to the control group and 159 were assigned to the intervention group.

- Children's Home Society of Florida has implemented the **Post-Adoption Services and Marriage Education Project** for families that have adopted special needs children and want assistance with the challenges of transitioning into a new home.
- The City of Jacksonville's Network for Strengthening Families project is a **Community Healthy Marriage initiative** funded through the Office of Child Support Enforcement with Section 1115 authority. The evaluation examines outcomes related to marital quality/stability, parenting behaviors and child support. The project aims to improve outcomes for children, adults, and the greater community through innovative programs.
- Statewide **Strengthening Families/Head Start Connection Memorandum of Understanding** builds capacity for relationship skills and healthy marriage education to increase the awareness of parents served by Community Action Agencies, Head Start Programs and the broader community. Partners in this project include: Florida Department of Children and Families, Florida's Head Start State Collaboration Office, Florida Head Start Association, Florida Department of Community Affairs and Florida Association for Community Action, Inc.
- **African American Families** is a multi-site training project on capacity building within faith-based and community-based organizations to **Strengthening Hispanic**

Families is a multi-site training project on capacity building within faith-based and community-based organizations to deliver strengthening families services to Hispanic couples. As of September 30, 2006, 225 participants have attended strengthening families capacity building training sponsored by the Department, NPCL, PAIRS, enFamilia, UCF Marriage and Family Research Center, the Florida Coalition Against Domestic Violence and the Tampa, Miami and Orlando Strengthening Families Hispanic Coalitions.

- **Strengthening** deliver strengthening families services to African American couples. As of September 30, 2006, 217 participants have attended strengthening families capacity building training sponsored by the Department, DCF, NPCL, PAIRS, UCF Marriage and Family Research Center, the Florida Coalition Against Domestic Violence and the City of Jacksonville, Pensacola and Broward Strengthening Families African American Coalitions.

Accomplishments

- During September 2006, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services awarded nearly \$33 million to 13 organizations in Florida for services to help strengthen families during the next five years. Florida's grant awards went to ten programs to promote healthy marriage and three programs to promote responsible fatherhood, providing 13 organizations across the state with additional funding for education, outreach, and awareness activities. Florida was among the top three states in the nation in total grant dollars, along with California and Texas.
- Presented Strengthening Families and exhibited displays at numerous national and state conferences, regional meetings and trainings.
- Served as liaison to the Florida Commission on Marriage and Family Support Initiatives (s. 383.0115, F.S.).

Planned Activities

- Florida will use Title IV-B funds to provide services to families enrolled in the Supporting Healthy Marriage (SHM) Program targeting low-income married families. The services will be provided by the Together Project at the Marriage and Family Research Center in Orlando, Florida.
- Florida will also use Title IV-B funds to provide training to child welfare staff, economic self-sufficiency staff, community-based care providers, and other service providers on the benefits of Strengthening Families services to develop and enhance the referrals of families to Strengthening Families services. The curriculum and training will be provided by one of the Children's Bureau Healthy Marriage University Curriculum Development grantees.

Additional Links & Information

[\(http://www.myfloridafamilies.com/\)](http://www.myfloridafamilies.com/)

Commission on Marriage & Family Support Initiatives

Purpose

Created in 2003, the mission of the Commission on Marriage and Family Support Initiatives is to strengthen marriages, support parents and families, and promote child well-being by raising public awareness, developing sound public policy, and advocating for promising practices throughout Florida.

Goals

- Increase public awareness of the problems of families, including failing marriages, violence, poverty, substance abuse, lack of access to community systems and support that families needs.
- Develop sound public policy related to parenting, marriage, and the effects of poverty, violence, and abuse on children and their families.
- Develop a community awareness campaign to promote community collaboration and coordinated grassroots programs supporting efforts to promote strong families in Florida.
- Develop a clearinghouse for collecting and disseminating information related to research findings on poverty, violence, and other social forces and their effects on families and innovative approaches to the delivery of services.

Alliances

- Community-based organizations, including those that are faith-based.
- Schools, courts, certified local domestic violence centers, adult and juvenile criminal justice systems, and agencies providing social welfare, welfare transition, and child support services.
- Any appropriate research and policy development centers.

Additional Links & Information

- (<http://www.floridafamilies.org/>)
- **Marriage & Support Initiatives Annual Report 2005**

Ounce of Prevention Fund of Florida

Goals

In accordance with s. 383.0115, Florida Statutes, the [Ounce of Prevention Fund of Florida](http://www.ounce.org) (www.ounce.org) provides administrative support to the Commission on Marriage and Family Support Initiatives. The Commission comprises eighteen commissioners; six appointed by the Governor, six by the President of the Senate, and six by the Speaker of the House. Commissioners have experience in one or more of the following areas: mental health, health care, substance abuse, domestic violence, faith, education, business, legal, and judicial, with nearly 80 percent representing the private sector.

Commission Demographics, n=18					
Gender			Sector		
Men:	13	72 percent	Private Sector:	14	78 percent
Women:	5	28 percent	Public Sector:	4	22 percent
Ethnicity			Profession (duplicated count)		
Caucasian:	14	78 percent	Faith-Based:	6	33 percent
African American:	3	17 percent	Education:	4	22 percent
Hispanic-American:	1	6 percent	Legal/Judicial:	3	17 percent
			Mental Health:	4	22 percent
			Domestic Violence:	3	17 percent
Geography			Substance Abuse:	2	11 percent
North Florida:	5	28 percent	Child Welfare:	1	6 percent
Central Florida:	10	56 percent	Engineering:	1	6 percent
South Florida:	3	17 percent	Government:	1	6 percent

Programs

In partnership with the State of Florida, the Commission currently funds three programs that work with fathers to enhance: responsible fatherhood behavior, positive relationships with children, and shared parenting relationships with mother(s) of children.

The Commission on Marriage and Family Support Initiatives is developing a clearinghouse to share program information, its public awareness campaign, research, innovative practices, reports, and resource links that may be useful that may be useful to policy makers, program developers, researchers, service providers, the press, and the general public. The major sections of the clearinghouse include Education and Public Awareness, Research and Innovative Approaches.

Additional Links and Information

- **Florida's Faith Based Initiative:** HB 599 effective July 1st, 2006

Chapter 3

Program Support

Training Quality Assurance Technical Assistance

FFY 2005- 2006

2005-2006 Child Welfare Training Plan

The Training Program objective has been realigned to support Florida's child welfare system that includes responding to reports of child abuse, abandonment and neglect, and providing services through locally outsourced child welfare services systems. The Department will transition its role to one that provides technical assistance and quality assurance to enable all public child welfare services staff to meet child welfare education and training requirements per Florida Statute 402.40.

Background

The Department:

- Recognized the need to significantly redesign the existing child welfare training system's administrative, organizational and programmatic structure;
- Explored best practices and innovative approaches to the administrative and organizational structure of the redesigned training system;
- Requested that the redesign include core competencies reflecting Adoptions and Safe Families Act (ASFA) requirements, Child and Family Services Review criteria, state law, needs identified in Florida's programs, and best practices across the country.

It is expected that Florida's redesign of the Child Welfare Training Program will:

- Positively impact the quality of decisions made on behalf of children reported to have been abused, abandoned, or neglected.
- Improve assessment skills of professionals intervening on behalf of children and families.

- Positively impact the quality of care of children who require intervention through either removal or in-home supervision (either court ordered or voluntary) due to abuse, abandonment, or neglect.
- Support the state's achievement of the goals of the Adoption and Safe Families Act, the Child and Family Services Review, and Florida's Performance Improvement Plan.
- Support the state's transition to the provision of community-based child welfare services through the development of a single integrated pre-service curriculum that can be delivered to reflect the local culture of the state and the system of care of the employer.
- Maximize federal financial participation funding through the appropriate design and delivery of the state's Child Welfare Pre-Service Certification Training Program.

Key Elements of the redesigned training program

- Pre-service and certification programs,
- In-service and advanced training programs,
- Clinical supervision training, (The Department is developing companion supervisory training.)
- Professional development,
- Technological enhancements to maximize performance,
- University and college partnerships, and
- Recruitment and retention programs.

Updates

- The Child Welfare Training Task Force composed of Department staff, Community Based Care Lead Agencies, Sheriff Offices, and other providers seek additional input to the curriculum's design.
- During the summer, a statewide multi-disciplinary review of the redesigned curriculum was field-tested.

Department and Community-Based Care Lead Agencies

Various workgroups addressed on-going implementation issues facilitated by Lead Agency Directors, Sheriffs' representatives, and Department managers. The Child Welfare Training Excellence Task Force continues as an active workgroup.

The Out-of-Home Care Workgroup addressed staff training requirements as part of the child placing agency rule (Florida Administrative Code 65C-15) review and revisions effort.

The redesign of the pre-service curriculum includes the following components:

- Flexible delivery methods to ensure compatibility with local systems of care,
- Content based on core competencies to ensure statutorily mandated minimum standards are met for consistency of service delivery statewide, and

- Revisions and updates based on the Adoptions and Safe Families Act, and other federal requirements.

Training Academy

The Training Academy has provisionally certified over 100 trainers across the state. These trainers are contracted to, or are employed by, Lead Agencies, Sheriffs' Offices, or the Department. It is anticipated that the Academy will offer train-the-trainer sessions for the redesigned curriculum in October, 2007. By that time, the material will have been piloted twice and substantive feedback incorporated.

Supervisory Training

The nine day clinical model for supervisory training has been developed and piloted.

Performance and Resource Management Teams (PaRTs) Skill Building

Quality Management staff teamed with the statewide Protective Investigations/Hotline PaRTs and the Child Welfare PaRTs staff to deliver problem solving training to build capacity for performance improvement and data analysis.

Development of Field Activities to Support Transfer of Learning

A menu of structured field activities is being developed to ensure effective transfer of learning from the pre-service classroom setting to the "on-the-job" experience.

Quality Assurance

Three-Tier Quality Assurance Review System:

During FFY 2005-2006 the Department shifted its approach to performance review from a procedural or compliance focus to one that develops, supports, and emphasizes the qualitative aspects of interventions that can more likely result in long-term, positive outcomes for citizens served. While the Department's role continues to change from being a provider of services in several program areas to a purchaser of services, the philosophical shift toward quality review is an important factor that should be cultivated among and between the and its contracted providers.

The framework for reviewing performance in this environment is based on a three tier model. This approach is designed to ensure quality management activities are defined, implemented and reviewed at various levels within the service delivery system from the most discrete level to the highest level.

The three tier model ensures Florida's service delivery professionals use current information to engage all involved parties in the process of examining data and mutual collaboration to improve the quality of services provided.

The assessment of the service delivery of child welfare programs relative to the qualitative dimensions of three outcomes:

- Safety,
- Permanency, and
- Well-being.

Quality assurance activities also include assessment of seven systemic factors:

- Statewide information system,
- Case review system,
- Quality management system,
- Training,
- Service array,
- Agency responsiveness to the community,
- Foster and adoptive parent licensing, recruitment and retention, and
- Compliance with state and federally prescribed eligibility standards related to federal funding.

Goal

The goal is to strengthen practice, services and supports to children and families.

Overview of Quality Assurance Process for Child Protective Investigations

The Child Protective Investigation (CPI) program is responsible for investigations of alleged abuse, neglect, and/or abandonment reports accepted at the Florida Abuse Hotline as meeting statutory criteria for a child abuse investigation. Child protective investigations are conducted by both Department staff and, where authorized, the local Sheriff's Office. Investigative activities include:

- Conducting abuse history and criminal history checks;
- Interviewing and observing alleged victims, other children, subjects of the report and all household members;
- Determining if maltreatment(s) occurred;
- Identifying possible caregiver(s) responsible;
- Conducting relevant collateral interviews;
- Assessing safety and risk(s) to the child(ren);
- Protecting victims through appropriate decision-making and interventions;
- Identifying prescriptive service needs.

Least restrictive intervention strategies range from general information and referral services to voluntary protective service supervision.

More restrictive intervention strategies include court intervention ranging from in-home Protective Services Supervision to emergency removal from caretakers, and in some situations pursuing expedited Termination of Parental Rights.

Review of Work

The purpose of reviewing child protective investigations is to ensure:

1. Child protective investigative activities met the statutory requirements of Chapter 39, Florida Statutes (F.S.), and federal mandates, and,
2. Investigative intervention resulted in child safety with service needs identified.

Operational unit supervisors and management staff are required to review investigations at various points during the investigative process and prior to authorizing case closure. Additionally, the Sheriffs' Offices conduct annual peer reviews of investigations handled by Sheriffs' Offices, and the Department's central office conducts semi-annual review of child protective investigations handed by the local administrations.

The review process is designed to provide strength-based quantitative and qualitative feedback related to performance measures to administration, managers and operations staff. Feedback related to opportunities for improvement and best practice is provided through entrance, exit and management conferences.

SummaryThe three tier model used for reviewing child protective investigations is summarized below.

Tier 1: The CPI supervisors complete a Tier 1 quality review on cases submitted and approved for closure.

Tier 2: A validation review is performed by Quality Assurance for 50% of the Tier 1 cases submitted by the Child Protection Investigator Supervisors. For the remaining cases, Quality Assurance staff review selected reports that were approved for closure to ensure consistent application for closing an investigation was used.

Tier 3: Tier 3 reviews, also performed by Quality Assurance, include:

- Semi-annual case reviews of randomly selected case files,
- Review of data from the Statewide Automated Child Welfare Information System (SACWIS), and
- Surveys completed by key community stakeholders.

Case File Reviews

Staff conducting semi-annual reviews also participates in monthly reviews. This is for the purpose of ensuring that staff responsible for reviewing investigation files has working knowledge and experience in applying the federal review elements. Once the reviews are completed, Quality Assurance staff selects one review completed by each child protection investigator and conducts a subsequent validation review. This review determines the degree of agreement and disagreement with the review findings entered by the child protection investigations staff.

Overview of Quality Assurance Process for Case Management Services

Tier I: There are two Tier 1 components for Community Based Care (CBC) Lead Agencies. The first is that the Lead Agencies are required to develop and comply with their individually designed Quality Management Plan that includes the following minimum standards.

The Community-Based Care Lead Agency Quality Assurance plan must:

1. Describe the Lead Agencies quality management structure and functions.
2. Include the services that are provided to children and their families by the Lead Agency and its sub-contracted providers.
3. Include specific activities related to case file reviews.
4. Describe a process for collection, validation, analysis and reporting of SACWIS data.
5. Describe how the CBC consults and coordinates with external stakeholders.
6. Describe the local training capacity.

7. Address how the CBC will recruit and maintain foster family and adoptive homes and child care institutions.
8. Address how the CBC will ensure federal funding eligibility claims are determined and processed.
9. Include how the CBC will address performance outcome measures.

The second Tier 1 component: To determine if core elements are met, Community-Based Care Lead Agencies conduct a proportionate number of case reviews per population served.

Tier 2: Activities at this level are conducted by the Department using an integrated approach whereby the offices of Contract Oversight, Family Safety Quality Assurance, and Foster Home Licensing, concurrently conduct required onsite review activities to enhance efficiency and reduce duplication.

The Tier 2 reviews conducted by the Department validate Tier 1 case review findings and evaluate the extent to which the Community-Based Care Lead Agency has implemented its Quality Improvement Plan.

Tier 3: Activities at the Tier 3 level are also conducted by the Department using a modified Child and Family Services Review (CFSR) process that focuses on qualitative performance in achieving the best outcomes for children and families.

Tier 3 activities also include:

- Identification of best practices,
- Analysis of statewide data and technical assistance, and
- Validation of compliance with federal guidelines.

Quality Assurance: Local Example of Quality Assurance within a Community-Based Care Lead Agency

Process for Continuous Quality Assurance and Practice Improvement

Local Department, Sheriff, and Lead Agencies implemented a unique quality assurance initiative and formed Child Welfare Practice Committees that involved key community, consumer, and interagency staff.

The committees formed workgroups that address the ongoing and often changing systemic issues and contractual performance outcome measures.

Practice Committee Workgroups:

- Participated in training on root cause analysis and countermeasure development in addition to root cause / countermeasure project development addressing the re-abuse of clients.

- Developed safety plans in the areas of risk, substance abuse, domestic violence, and hazardous conditions.
- Provided ongoing training on assessment of safety and risk of harm to children.
- Provided training on family engagement in assessment and protective planning.
- Implemented a joint staffing process with Child Protection Investigations and CBC Lead agency staff when re-abuse occurs.

Some of the challenges were:

- Allowing data to lead to the root problem and not attempting to pre-guess the cause and solution.
- Involving the right community providers, disciplines, and child welfare staff for countermeasure development.

The workgroups influenced policy, procedures, and outcomes by evaluating the barriers to top performance outcomes.

Technical Assistance

Please note that several examples of technical assistance activities both provided and received are cited throughout this report.

Technical Assistance Received

- Administration for Children and Families and FRIENDS the National Resource Center for Community Based Child Abuse Prevention (CBCAP) provided training and technical assistance to Florida's CBCAP programs and staff in the following areas:
 - Placement Stability Performance, Analysis, Review, Recommendations, and Improvement Strategies
 - Techniques and training to develop outcome performance measures for each of Florida's CBCAP projects
 - Maintaining collaborative activities and initiatives with the courts with quarterly follow-up reports and calls with southeastern region.
 - National conference calls from federal, national, and state groups on child welfare to improve practice explain new regulations or provide tutorials.
- National Resource Centers, *AdoptUsKids*, *National Center for Organizational Improvement*, *National Resource Center for Family Centered Practice and Permanency Planning* provided training and technical assistance in reference to Florida's recruitment, retention, and placement stability plan

Technical Assistance Offered

- Conference calls, hard copy training materials, and summary articles in Family Safety Training Bulletin explaining revisions and practice implications for legislative changes to Chapter 39, Florida Statutes.
- Separate monthly conference calls (more often if necessary) to discuss current issues, legislation, monitoring results, best practice sharing, federal and state rules and regulations, etc., with staff from :
 - District/Region Family Safety,
 - In-home and Out-of Home Program staff with local Department and Community-Based Care,
 - Adoption,
 - Contract Management,
 - Quality Assurance,
 - Florida Safe Families Network,
- Monthly Family Safety Training Bulletins distributed statewide and placed on Department's internet website, and
- Foster Parent Association

Anticipated Technical Assistance Requests for FFY 2006-2007

While implementing current or new Federal requirements, the Department anticipates requesting technical assistance in the following areas:

- Clarification of Removable Home with consideration to Relative Placement
- CFSR assessment and review process including stakeholder interviews, local readiness, committee workgroup goals,
- Alternative Response System implementation issues, and
- Clarification of Authorization Act program, data, and reporting requirements.

Chapter 4

Tribal Consultation

Update on Florida's collaboration with the Tribes in reference to the Indian Child Welfare Act.

The collaborative process of developing the procedures, protocols, training, resource materials, and a plan for a "way of work" for coming years with the Tribes in Florida was completed in the last two years. The following activities summarize the refinement of this work during the FFY 2005-2006.

Activities

- Language to reinforce and support compliance with the Indian Child Welfare Act was added to Florida Administrative Code effective May 2006 and Florida Statute effective July 1, 2006. Florida Administrative Code Chapter 65C-28 now includes a sections specifically relating to the protections of the Indian Child Welfare Act.
- Technical assistance regarding the Indian Child Welfare Act was delivered to the field by the Family Safety Program Office, as requested, during this period. Technical assistance was delivered to the Suncoast Region and to the Southeast Zone during this time period.
- In October 2005, the Department of Children and Families and the Seminole Tribe of Florida met at the Seminole tribal headquarters on the Hollywood Reservation. A draft protocol was developed to guide interaction between the Department and the Seminole Tribe of Florida in matters relating to child welfare, specifically child protective investigations and case management on reservations.
- The Department and the Seminole Tribe of Florida continue to engage in active negotiations toward a state-tribal agreement, including receiving approval from the Administration for Children and Families for consultation with the National Indian Child Welfare Association. A joint work group meeting between the Seminole Tribe and the Department originally scheduled for summer 2006 was rescheduled for March 2007.
- A Seminole Tribal representative is included on the monthly In-Home Care and Out-of-Home Care Statewide Conference Call facilitated by the Family Safety Program Office.
- The Indian Child Welfare Act Specialist at the Family Safety Program Office facilitates a monthly, now quarterly, Indian Child Welfare Act Statewide Conference Call to provide technical assistance, disseminate information and address issues, as needed. Technical assistance is provided to the field by telephone and email on an ongoing basis. The Program Office Indian Child

Welfare Act Specialist regularly addresses concerns and issues raised by the tribes to ensure timely and responsive feedback.

- Indian Child Welfare Act data and functionality for assuring compliance is addressed in design sessions for Florida's Child Welfare Information System, the *Florida Safe Families Network*.

Indian Child Welfare Act addendum:

Working in collaboration with Florida's two federally recognized tribes, the Department of Children and Families has established and implemented statewide policy and procedure consistent with the protections of the Indian Child Welfare Act. In 2004, a State ICWA Program Manager and six Zone ICWA Specialists were appointed to oversee and ensure statewide practice consistent with provisions of the Act, to develop and deliver statewide training and education to field staff and to provide ongoing technical assistance. The ICWA Program Manager, Zone Specialists and legal staff receive training from national ICWA experts, both in-state and at national conferences and training institutes. A monthly statewide conference call facilitated by the State ICWA Manager is held with the ICWA Specialists and other staff. Florida has a written statewide comprehensive plan for ensuring ICWA compliance (attached).

Recognizing that consistent and accurate identification of children eligible for the protections of the Act at the initiation of services would be the essential key to compliance, a training curriculum has been developed by the State ICWA Manager. Training is delivered statewide to child protective investigators, case managers, legal staff, and quality assurance and quality management. A training resource manual has also been developed, and is distributed at training (see attachments) to provides staff the forms, tools, resources and step-by-step procedures for assuring proper notification of ICWA Tribal Agents, adherence to required placement preferences, documenting active efforts and working in collaboration with tribal courts in Florida and in other states. The training curriculum was developed with the input and review of the Seminole Tribe of Florida, who has participated in the training. A copy of the training PowerPoint was provided to the Seminole Tribe of Florida, the Miccosukee Tribe of Indians of Florida, the National Indian Child Welfare Association, Richard Acevedo (the State Tribal Liaison from Oregon) and Kathy McCulley (State ICWA Specialist from Idaho) for review and suggestions for legal accuracy and verification of historical and cultural content. Training resource manuals have also been shared with the Seminole Tribe.

A Verification of ICWA Eligibility form has been developed and is completed by child protective investigators at the initiation of a new case. Sample formats for inquiry/notification correspondence to the tribes and ICWA Compliance Checklists are provided to staff.

Additional specific steps taken to assure compliance with the Act include:

- Identification of ICWA eligibility at the initiation of a case, notification requirements and adherence to placement preferences are a part of statewide Quality Management reviews.
- Florida's ICWA training curriculum has been approved by the Florida Bar for 3.5 hours of Continuing Legal Education credits for Florida attorneys.
- ICWA specific findings are recommended at all shelter hearings and language is being added to standardized shelter and other dependency orders to assure ICWA eligibility is addressed at the first hearing in a state court and in subsequent hearings.
- The National Indian Child Welfare Association has been secured for technical assistance in practice and policy development and the development of a state-to-nation agreement with the Seminole.
- Collaboration between the department and the Seminole Tribe of Florida on the development of a state-to-nation agreement that further guides our interaction in matters of child welfare.
- ICWA standards and requirements have been added to Florida Administrative Code Chapter 65C-28, Out-of-Home Care.
- DCF Operating procedure 175-36 "Reports and Services Involving Indian Children" is being updated to reflect the current policies, procedures and standard forms.
- The 2006 legislature enacted that the department shall develop a separate Florida Administrative Code for ICWA.

Responsibility for providing protections to tribal children in Florida as outlined in Section 422 (b) (10) of the Social Security Act has been established over time through both formal, written agreements and by unwritten, traditional working relationships with Florida's two federally recognized tribes, the Seminole and the Miccosukee. Both have extensive tribal lands in Florida. At this time, we do not have a written state-to-nation agreement with either tribe, but do have draft interim protocols with the Seminole Tribe that guides our work with them in matters of child welfare. Florida is a PL 280 state and has both criminal and civil jurisdiction on Florida reservations.

The Miccosukee Tribe of Indians of Florida has a tribal court and the capacity to provide child protective services on their reservations. At their request, tribal sovereignty is respected in matters of child welfare. Cases called to the Florida Child Abuse Hotline are referred to social services on the reservation, then closed to the department as "no jurisdiction". Enrolled families living off-reservation are handled as ICWA cases and the Miccosukee typically assume court jurisdiction.

The Miccosukee Tribe has, historically, not indicated a desire to interact with non-tribal members or government entities in matters related to child welfare and their interest in engaging in mutual partnerships, such as training or state-to-nation agreements, has been minimal. The Miccosukee regard their position as sovereign and autonomous in matters of child welfare. Contact with the Miccosukee on specific issues has been cordial and productive.

The Seminole Tribe of Florida does not have a tribal court or the capacity to investigate child protection cases. They have historically requested that the department provide investigations on their reservations and case management supervision, as indicated. Their dependency cases are heard in state courts in adjacent jurisdictions. The department has a longstanding working relationship with the Seminole in child welfare matters and works in collaboration with them to assure child protection services are provided on their tribal lands and that ICWA protections are provided for tribal members living off-reservation. Child Protective Investigators from adjacent state jurisdictions work in collaboration with tribal staff on investigation, placement and supervision of cases. If shelter is indicated in an investigation, the department work with tribal staff to determine a placement that adheres to ICWA placement preferences.

Chapter 5

Consultations with Physicians

Consultations with Physicians and other Medical Professionals

Florida Statutes and Florida Administrative Code provide for the initial assessment and ongoing care and treatment for children in out-of-home care. Further direction regarding the requirements and procedures for assuring appropriate medical care is found in Children and Families Operating Procedure 175.40.

- Chapters 409 and 39, Florida Statutes, specifically include language requiring initial screening and assessment and ongoing medical evaluation and treatment of children in the care of the Department. Chapter 39.407, Florida Statutes, specifically addresses initial medical screening for children entering out-of-home care and the ongoing provision of medical services while the child is in care.
- Florida Administrative Code Chapter 65C-28.003, effective May 2006, establishes the requirement to provide medical care and treatment for children in out-of-home care and the responsibility of caregivers and caseworkers to secure that care. Florida Administrative Code 65C-29.008 establishes the requirement for an initial health care assessment by a licensed health care professional within seventy-two hours of a child entering care.
- Florida Administrative Code 65C-30.006 establishes the requirement for assuring medical care for children is a part of the court approved case plan and making specific medical information a part of the court record, pursuant to Section 39.6012, Florida Statutes.
- Florida Administrative Code 65C-30.011 establishes the requirement to include documentation of the child's medical, dental, psychological, psychiatric and behavioral services, including health check-ups provided by Medicaid, in the child's individual Child Resource Record, and requires this record be accurately maintained and remain current. This section of code further requires that, to the extent possible, the child's medical care and treatment is not disrupted by changes in placement.
- Further direction provided in Children and Families Operating Procedure 175.40 addresses initial screening and ongoing care and includes securing treatment for sexually transmitted disease, family planning services, and voluntary substance abuse treatment.

Florida has fully privatized its child welfare case management services. This has created 22 lead agencies which are addressing the physical health issues of the children that they serve in slightly different ways. Children are receiving preventative physical health assessments and treatment for identified needs. These are provided through the Medicaid funded physical health system either by a local HMO or through fee for services funding of local providers.

In February '03, the Florida Dental Association continued their pledge of support in assisting to identify dentists that would provide in-kind dental services specific to our children in care. In February 2004, a Medicaid locator link, <http://ahca.myflorida.com/Medicaid/Areas/index.shtml> , was added to the MyFlorida.com website. The site assists families in finding contact information on Medicaid doctors, dentists, and specialists in every Florida community that serves Medicaid patients.

As an example of our collaboration with the medical community, Our Kids, Inc., serving Dade and Monroe Counties, has begun to build a new system of medical care with recommendations from their stakeholders. Based on responses to a poll of recommended pediatricians, they have established a list of network providers. These physicians have been strongly committed to children in foster care throughout their careers. These physicians not only complete the initial screening, but can also serve as "medical home" providers for the child. As "medical home" providers, they ensure ongoing comprehensive primary care until permanency is established, and beyond, if desired.

Another example of our partnership with the medical community is ChildNet, Inc., serving Broward County. ChildNet, Inc. has within its organizational structure a Medical Intake Placement Advocate person who performs functions vital to accessing health care for children. The staff member is responsible for scheduling and arranging all medical and health screenings for every new client that comes into care. ChildNet, Inc. coordinates with Colonial Health Services for the provision of 7 day a week prescription fill and home delivery of medication for our children. ChildNet, Inc. also continues to work closely with Broward's North Hospital District for a dental screening and check-up program and with Nova Southeastern University for a vision program that provides free eye screenings and visits to a pediatric optometrist where medically indicated. ChildNet, Inc. proudly cites its creation of a "one stop shop" medical center for children in care, The William Dandy Clinic. The Clinic was established through a partnership with Children's Medical Services, the North Broward Hospital District, and the Ounce of Prevention Fund of Florida.

Chapter 6

Plans for Child Welfare Clients During Emergencies and Disasters

Florida's Emergency and Disaster Plans for Child Welfare

Background

- The Florida Department of Children and Families provides child welfare services through a community-based care system. Six Sheriff Offices and numerous Department Protective Investigation Units statewide provide protective investigation services. There are also twenty Lead Community-Based Care Agencies (CBCs) providing case management services in twenty-two service areas. Each of these providers has developed a child-welfare disaster plan based on local resources and needs.
- The Child and Family Services Improvement Act of 2006 (Public Law 109-288) requires that states have in place procedures for how the state programs assisted under the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 620-628b) would respond to a disaster. Disaster plans must include:
 1. Identifying, locating, and continuing availability of services for children under state care or supervision who are displaced or adversely affected by a disaster;
 2. Responding, as appropriate, to new child welfare cases in areas adversely affected by a disaster, and provide services in those cases;
 3. Remaining in communication with caseworkers and other essential child welfare personnel who are displaced because of a disaster;
 4. Preserving essential program records; and
 5. Coordinating services and share information with other states.

Development and Review of Plans

- A policy directive was issued to Department District Offices and Community-Based Care Lead Agencies to review child welfare disaster plans to ensure they meet the requirements.
- A best practice tool, "Servicing Child Welfare Client Needs: Emergency and Disaster Preparedness Activities", was developed and disseminated as a guide

of critical points that should be addressed in each plan. The guide included plan development, managing a disaster, and rebuilding in the aftermath.

- Department contract managers reviewed updated child welfare disaster plans to ensure that federal requirements were met. Plans reviewed also contain additional critical components of disaster preparation plans, such as: staff education; evacuation plan development and update for caregivers of children under care or supervision of the Department; staff phone trees; alternate operations locations; responding to varied expected and unexpected threats; servicing displaced staff, etc.

Collaboration with the Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children Office

- The Florida Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children (ICPC) Office carries the responsibility of collecting information and documentation, reporting, coordinating services and sharing information with other states and national organizations when there are children impacted that are in an out of state placement or who become displaced between states. The ICPC Office developed a Disaster Preparation and Response plan, effective February 2007. The plan outlines the activities of the ICPC Office as a single point of contact for communications between states. The ICPC plan has been discussed with ICPC Specialists statewide and is posted in the ICPC Library on the web.

Contractual Obligation and Provider Plans

- The Community-Based Care Lead Agency contract template for the next fiscal year is being amended to include requirements that all Lead Agencies, within 30 days of executing a contract with the Department and thereafter on a yearly basis, submit to the contract manager, an emergency preparedness plan that addresses the requirements of the Act.
- The plan must also address:
 - provisions for training of staff;
 - pre-disaster records protection;
 - alternative accommodations for clients in substitute care;
 - supplies; and
 - recovery plans that will allow the provider to continue functioning in compliance with the executed contract in the event of an actual emergency.

Administrative Rule Revision

- Florida Administrative Code 65C-13, related to foster home licensing, has been revised and is in the process of adoption. The code addresses requirements for evacuation and disaster preparedness plans and includes caseworker review and discussion with licensed caregivers. The code also requires that updated evacuation and disaster preparedness plans be obtained as part of the annual re-licensing process. Plans must include where the family intends to go and information as to how the family may be reached. Evacuation plans must be

posted in the home and be shared with all children as appropriate to their age and level of understanding upon placement in the home.

Abuse Hotline Plans for Operation during Emergencies and Disasters

- The Florida Abuse Hotline, responsible for receiving, analyzing, processing and distributing reports of abuse, neglect and exploitation of children, has also developed a Continuity of Operations Plan in order to ensure that they are able to receive and process reports during and after any disaster. If the disaster or threat occurs without warning, relocation procedures are provided. The plan also addresses: securing the Hotline; modified work schedules; continual staff notification; power disruption; resuming normal operations; phone disruptions; and a recovery plan.

Disaster Recovery Action Plan for Department's Information System

- The Department maintains child welfare case information in HomeSafenet, which is currently being converted to Florida's Safe Families Network. The purpose of this record system is to provide an information technology solution that supports the success of multiple community-based organizations partnering with the State of Florida to identify child victims of abuse and neglect, and to provide the services necessary to achieve child safety, permanency and well-being. The team has developed a Disaster Recovery Action Plan. The plan addresses pre-disaster responsibilities (backup criteria, restoration plans, periodic testing); disaster responsibilities (input into an evolving disaster recovery plan, establishing a community liaison and communications with leadership); and critical applications (restoration procedures, reverse system changes made during disaster phase, communication).

Continuity of Operations

- The Department has a statewide Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP). The plan includes a section dedicated to "Child Welfare Disaster Plans". The plan is a "good business practice" -- part of the fundamental mission of all government agencies to be responsive to the needs of the residents of Florida, particularly in times of emergency.

Future Training Exercise

- The Department will host a "tabletop exercise" where hurricane conditions will be simulated so that the Department and community partners can assess our ability to prepare and recover from such an event and apply lessons learned.

Florida has fully privatized its child welfare case management services. This has created 22 lead agencies, each of which has locally driven Continuity of Operations Plans and Child Welfare Disaster Plans. The disaster plans address how the lead agency, along with any subcontracted case management agencies, would assist families in maintaining uninterrupted services if displaced or adversely affected by a disaster.

In case of a disaster, one of the aftermath activities of local agencies responsible for case management services is to quickly begin to contact families that care for children under state custody or supervision. During these contacts, the child's case manager (primary case manager) explores if there are any services to the child interrupted by the disaster. The case manager will explore with the family expected duration of interruption, alternative service providers, transportation considerations, etc.

In addition, local agencies are making determinations as to the extent of damage and interruption of services. If the agency identifies that certain services to children may be interrupted, such as speech therapy, mental health services, educational supports like tutoring, etc., they will work with local community providers and volunteers to address the provision of alternative services and ensure that the case manager supervisors make the staff aware of the alternative services available.

If a family relocates intrastate due to a disaster, the child's primary case manager will request, through the Courtesy Supervision mechanism, that a secondary case manager be assigned in the new county. The secondary case manager will be responsible for conducting visits, identifying new needs based on the relocation, providing stabilization services to the family, and completing referrals that would ensure the child is provided services for previously identified needs. The primary and secondary worker would also work with each other and with the local providers in their respective areas to ensure that new providers have current, relevant information as to the child's needs and status in service provision prior to leaving their originating county.

If the family relocates interstate, the primary worker will immediately notify the Florida Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children Office and will forward a packet of information to be sent to the receiving state so that notification and a request for services can be made. The packet will include a Child Social Summary that will contain information as to service needs and will request that once a local case manager is assigned, that case manager make contact with the child's Florida case manager to discuss service needs. The receiving state's case manager will be asked to effect continued services to address the child's previously identified needs as well as any new needs identified in their own contacts with the family.

Chapter 7

Caseworker Visits

Caseworker Visits

Children Seen Monthly

Several years ago the Department made it a priority that all children in out-of-home and in-home care are seen by their caseworker every 30 days.

The Department challenged each Community-Based Care Lead Agency to develop action plans and then created management reports to allow caseworkers, supervisors and leadership access to the necessary information. The Department also negotiated strict contract performance requirements with the Lead Agencies and posted performance on the Department's internet site.

Because Florida has defined monthly visits as once every 30 days, we will see an increase in travel costs in order to adhere to this minimum standard. The state is also redesigning the child welfare quality assurance system. Through the redesign emphasis is being placed on supervisory reviews and contacts with the child and family as it is such an integral piece of practice that impacts safety, permanency, and well-being. Technical assistance and training on the new QA system will be provided and available on an as needed basis. We are planning to expand the use of the Center for Child Welfare Best Practice as a virtual training repository. Additionally, the Florida Safe Families Network (SACWIS) is under development for release 2 (case management). The case management module will be modified to reflect reporting needs for child visits.

Florida plans to implement, measure, and monitor the following best practice standards.

1. 100% of children will be visited at least every 30 days in their homes or placements by the case manager or person responsible for visitation of the child to work on the case plan goals. Each visit includes:

- review and assessment of the case plan progress;
- progress to achieving a permanent home;
- case plan updates and corrections based upon health care assessments, educational progress, developmental status, mental health, and if required, the pre-independence or independence living plan;

documentation as to whether the array of services being provided is consistent with the case plan and meets the goals of the case plan and whether the child was spoken to privately.

For children who are placed out of state, the ICPC office informs the receiving state of Florida's requirement for face-to-face contact once every 30 days at the child's residence or other location, critical to the life of a child. The caseworker must contact the supervising caseworker every 30 days to obtain an update on the child and family's progress.

2. 100% of families of children with goal of family preservation or reunification will be visited in their homes at least once every 30 days by the case manager or person responsible for visitation. Each visit includes:

- documentation of a review and assessment of the case plan progress including whether the array of services provided is effectively improving family capacity and is consistent with the case plan;
- documentation of progress to achieving permanency
- case plan updates based on assessments of the improvement in family capacity;

3. 100% of children in out of home care with a goal of reunification visit with their parents at least monthly or more frequently if required by the case plan and with siblings weekly or as required by the case plan.

- Visits occur on schedule
- Conditions of visit (including necessary supervision) are prescribed based on family functioning and the Safety Assessment.
- Results of each visit are documented.

Results

The result is that for the last 2 years over 99% of the 45,000 children in care have been seen each month.

Best practices have been shared throughout these past two years through conference calls, monitoring reports, and meetings in order to develop strategies to increase the quantity and quality of child and family visits.

Florida Administrative Code effective May 2006 established additional requirements and standards for;

- Content and quality of visits
- Visitation every 30 days as opposed to monthly

- Types of visits including unannounced visits

Technical assistance on quality child-caseworker visits is provided statewide through monthly conference calls and is available on-site, as requested.

Chapter 8

Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA) State Grant Citizens Review Panels Criminal Background Checks

This chapter references Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA) state grant in Florida.

Each Community-Based Care Lead Agency under contract with the Department uses CAPTA funds to support case management, service delivery, and ongoing case monitoring in its service area. Lead Agencies service array include a variety of in-home supports, counseling including support groups, parent education, Family Team Conferencing, homemaker services and support groups.

Update FFY 2005-2006

The Florida Department of Children and Families, Family Safety Program Office, continues to be the lead agency designated to administer the Child Abuse and Prevention and Treatment Act grant funds. The Family Safety Program Office is also the designated lead agency for the Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention (CBCAP) federal grant and the Children's Justice Act (CJA) grant.

Florida funds community-based services that target child abuse and neglect prevention statewide that address the needs of our multi-ethnic and multi-cultural state population.

- The Office of Adoption and Child Protection will establish a Child Abuse Prevention Advisory Council comprised of representatives from each state agency and appropriate local agencies, and organizations to serve as the research arm of the office and assist in the development of an action plan for better coordination and integration of the goals, activities and funding pertaining to the prevention of child abuse, abandonment and neglect conducted by the office. The plan of action shall be included in the state plan and shall provide the districts with technical assistance in the development of local plans of action.
- Florida's collaborative efforts in the prevention of child abuse and neglect have been supported by the Inter-program Prevention Task Force and soon will be working collaboratively with the Governor's Office for Adoption and Child Protection.

- Florida's CAN Prevention efforts were strengthened when selected members of the multi-disciplinary task force were selected to participate in a specialized workshop to implement a state project under the guidance of the PREVENT Institute.
- The Team, including members from the Department of Children and Families, the Department of Health, The Florida Coalition for Children and Families, and the Ounce of Prevention will develop a system to define and describe the continuum of programs that are designed to prevent child maltreatment.
- Sessions at the Institute provided guidance and technical information that will assist the team in completing the project. The team is receiving active support through 2007 from national experts. This project will contribute valuable information to the Office of Prevention and providers statewide as it will identify available prevention programs and gaps in services.
- All districts have a local Child Abuse, Abandonment and Neglect Prevention Plan. Objectives in local plans are related to 86% of the objectives in the statewide plan.

Other Positive News

- The Department continues to vigorously implement the Road to Independence Act.
- The percentage of children living in poverty has decreased in Florida since 2004.
- The High School graduation rate has increased.
- Local funding has placed Health professionals in many of Florida's public schools.
- Family Team Conferencing model is used as a supportive model to strengthen families and meet their needs before they enter the child welfare system.
- Child Protection Teams (DOH, CMS) provide medical, psychological, and psychosocial assessments that assist investigators in plans for initial safety, and in the identification of long term risk factors and the development of case plans.
- Programs like drop-out prevention programs, tutoring, and after school education programs in targeted neighborhoods meet needs of students facing academic challenges.
- Local methamphetamine taskforce(s) train community social service professionals.
- The needs of children with serious emotional disturbances are being addressed with an integrated care system that provides wraparound services involving the Department of Children and Families, Mental Health Services, and SEDNET.
- Life Skills programs are offered in many communities.

Citizen Review Panels

Florida's designated Citizen Review Panels listed below remain the same as reported in the 2005-2009 plan. Each panel submits an annual review report with recommendations for improved service delivery, outcomes, and system of care modifications.

- Florida Statewide Advocacy Council and the
- State Child Abuse Death Review Team (CADRT),
- Children's Justice Act Task Force, and
- Foster Care Review, Inc.

Most recently, Citizen's Foster Care Review Board of Collier County Inc. and the Florida's Task Force on Children's Justice have become involved as a designated Citizen Review Panel.

The Family Safety Program Office has received three reports as of June 2007 for the FFY 2005-2006. The reports are from the State Child Abuse Death Review Team (CADRT), Miami/Dade Foster Care Review Report and Citizen Foster Care Review Board of Collier County, Inc.

The Death Review Team has eight recommendations which relate to confidentiality, drowning deaths, training needs, facilitation of communication subsidized child care, voluntary placements, co-sleeping/unsafe environment and child abuse and neglect prevention efforts.

The Miami/Dade Foster Care Review Report has seven recommendations for the review process and three recommendations for system improvements. The recommendations relate to Legislative support for review boards, and communication and training needs of the department in working with the review boards.

Citizen Foster Care Review Board of Collier County has four recommendations. The recommendations relate to drug testing, case manager performance, case planning, and representation for parents.

Miami-Dade County Florida Foster Care Review Project

Annual Report Fiscal Year 2005-2006

Summary report

The following summary report does not include the accompanying charts, tables or graphs.

Foster Care Review Project

Mission

Foster Care Review's mission is to motivate prompt, positive and permanent outcomes for dependent children. FCR fulfills this mission through case review and advocacy, specifically:

- Providing independent oversight of the safety, wellbeing and permanency of children in the dependency system. FCR reviews assess the safety of the child, the continuing necessity for and appropriateness of the child's placement, the extent of compliance with statutory and practice requirements by the child welfare agency managing the child's case, and the extent of progress being made to place the child in a permanent placement.
- Quality Assurance. Through its case reviews and data collection, FCR assesses casework practice, compliance with statutory requirements, the provision of services to the child and family, and provides feedback to the agency regarding areas in need of improvement.
- Civic Engagement. Citizen review involves the community in the care of dependent children and empowers them to advocate for improvements in their lives.

Fiscal Year 2005 – 2006 overview

Children Reviewed

Foster Care Review is charged with conducting case reviews of children in licensed foster care in Miami-Dade. In 2006 our volunteers reviewed a total of 1338 children. The characteristics of children reviewed are summarized in this report.

Characteristics

The disproportionate representation of black children in the foster care system is a national concern and a special concern in Miami-Dade. Sixty-seven (67%) percent of children reviewed were non-Hispanic black. Three hundred and eighty-eight (388) were male and 358 were female.

Over 72% of children reviewed were over the age of 12. This age group also has a high rate of delinquency. Forty-four (44%) percent of girls and fifty-six (56%) of boys reviewed have a history of delinquency.

Special education

A testimony to the fragility of these children: over 50% have been identified as having special education needs. From this group, the three main areas of special need were emotional handicaps (21%), specific learning disabilities (20%), and severe emotional disturbance (27%).

Entry into care

There is no good way for children to come into the foster care system. The chart below shows the reasons why children are removed from their homes. While these removals are necessary protections for children, the trauma of removal shows up in later statistics on mental illness and emotional disorders.

Monitoring Safety and Care

Federal and state laws require that children in foster care be reviewed every six months to determine the safety and appropriateness of the child's placement, to determine whether reasonable efforts are being made to find a permanent home for the child and to identify the barriers to finding permanent homes. Volunteers with Foster Care Review carry out these reviews for children in licensed foster care and write recommended orders for the judges. In addition, they identify concerns that are not related to legal non-compliance or barriers to permanency.

Case plan goals and length of stay

Foster Care Review data on case plan goals and length of stay tell an important and frustrating story about foster care. Statistics on length of stay vary greatly across agencies. However, the story the data details is not a subtle one. All children in foster care must have a goal for having a safe permanent home. For 70% of children reviewed by Foster Care Review, this goal is adoption. However, 61% of the children with a goal of adoption have been in care for more than 3 years. This is primarily due to the age of the children that we review, the majority of which are in the 12 to 17 year age range, the most challenging age for recruiting adoptive parents.

While small reductions or increases in the assessments of length of stay are critical for measuring systemic progress, it is also critical for those working in the system to remember how long a month, and every month, may be to a child waiting for home.

Type of placement

For children reviewed in licensed foster care, 55% were in foster homes, 3% were in shelter, 9% were in a therapeutic foster home, 7% were in a medical foster home and 15% percent were in a group home or therapeutic group home, and 3.6% were identified as runaways. While adoption is the case plan goal for 70% of the children, only 1.1% of children reviewed were living in a pre-adoptive home.

Safety and appropriateness of placement

During reviews, panel members assess the safety and appropriateness of the child's current placement. For 19% of the children reviewed this year, the panel identified concerns. Here are the top 5:

- Safety of the child cannot be assured
- Placement does not meet emotional needs
- Placement is not a step toward permanency
- Placement is interfering with permanency
- Placement does not meet physical needs

Barriers to permanency

One of the mandated functions of the citizen review panels is to identify the factors that are keeping children from finding permanent homes. For 2006, statistics are similar to the previous year. The top five barriers follow.

Issues related to the child: 55%

Many of the children reviewed have problems from the impact of abuse and neglect, and the trauma of removal that, in a painful irony, make it difficult for them to achieve the permanent homes they so desperately need. Special mental health needs tops the list of these problems, along with medical needs, delinquent behavior, pregnancies, runaway status and an expressed desire not to be adopted.

Gaps in resources: 61%

This includes a lack of foster homes and especially foster homes to meet the needs of children with emotional and behavioral problems. The largest gap of concern is a lack of adoptive homes, especially adoptive homes for special needs children, and concerns about potential adoptive families not getting the support services they need.

Legal Issues: 10%

The biggest legal barrier to permanency was identified in reviews as being the lack of legal action to pursue permanency. Court delays were also identified as a problem, along with problems in the adoption finalization process, and conflicts between the child's rights and the parent's rights.

Issues related to the parents: 14%

While reunification is the first goal to be considered for children, the parents are often barriers to this goal. Unwillingness to parent or to participate in visitation after removal,

failure to pay child support, resistance to services are among the issues. In addition, the inability to contact the parents was a critical factor.

Resets

While most statistics from 2006 were similar to the previous year, there continued to be a disturbing increase in resets. “Resets” refers to judicial reviews that have to be rescheduled for a variety of reasons. This past year showed a 33% increase in cases being reset, from 652 to 866. Every reset is another factor delaying progress of the child toward permanency. In this case, the resets also reflect wasted time for Foster Care Review staff and volunteers, who prepare and come for reviews that never take place.

There are several reasons behind the delays. The most significant ones are 1) no judicial social study report was filed, 2) failure to notify the case management agency the clerk’s office and 3) case manager did not appear. High staff turnover and low morale in these positions have been a factor in resets for several years.

Recommended orders

The power of the citizen review panels comes from the recommendations to the judges who have the power to order compliance and make changes to improve the child’s life. In 2006, the panelists made almost 6000 recommendations to judges relating to the cases of 746 children reviewed.

The greatest number of orders related to 1) independent living, 2) permanency plans for adoption, 3) educational needs of the child, 4) needs for services of the child’s physical and mental health and 5) case management documentation related to mental health.

In addition to recommended orders that relate to compliance with the law, the panels also identified other concerns relating to the child’s well being. These concerns reflected the same areas as the recommended orders.

Citizen Review Panel Recommendations

Our citizen review panel recommendations do not vary significantly from year to year—in itself a significant statement. Our volunteers are greatly concerned about the number of resets and the quality of case management.

1. For FY 2006, there was a 33% increase in the number of cases that had to be reset because of failure of the agency to appear, incorrect notice, or failure to pre-file the JRSSR. This increase is a major flaw in the system. It represents years in the lives of children waiting for a permanent home. There should be strict penalties for agencies and case managers who do not file the JRSSR on time, do not show up at reviews or who are not prepared for reviews.
2. FCR is in its second year of implementation of its independent living reviews, a project funded by the Children’s Trust. The findings from these reviews indicate that youth are exiting the foster care system without the needed preparation for adult life.

Starting in 2007, FCR has started hearing these cases when the youth turn 14, with the goal of ensuring service provision earlier in their lives. We recommend stricter compliance with independent living statutes and increased program funding.

3. Citizen review panels perform an excellent job of hearing judicial reviews. Not only do they spend a considerable amount of time per child, but the various views and perspectives of panel members help the courts make better decisions regarding safety wellbeing and permanency of the child. This is a program that should be promoted and fully funded by the State.
4. Every child in the dependency system should have a guardian ad litem to speak for the child.

Appropriateness of Placement: an issue for 19% of the children reviewed

Federal and state laws require a review of the status of children at least every six months to determine the safety and appropriateness of the child's placement. F.S. 39.701; Section 475(5)(B) of SSA.

For 2006, 19% of the children reviewed (173), were found to be in placements with issues that affected their safety, well being and permanency. These issues included:

- 55** Safety of child cannot be assured (includes instances where child is a runaway)
- 27** Placement is not a step towards permanency
- 22** Placement does not meet emotional needs
- 10** Placement does not meet educational needs
- 7** Placement is interfering with permanency

Both FY 2005 and FY 2006, more than 50% of children were affected by barriers related to (1) gaps in services and (2) issues related to the child. Also significant were (3) management issues, (4) legal issues and (5) implementation.

Citizen review panel orders

Total number of children reviewed during this period: 1338

Total number of orders recommended: 4525

Ages of the children at the time of this report:

- 0-5 years = 129
- 6-11 years =235
- 12-17 years = 784
- 18+ years = 190

The top 5 Citizen Review Panel recommended orders for FY 2006 included:

1. Permanency plan – Independent Living (507)
2. Permanency plan – Adoption (489)
3. Educational needs of the child (398)

4. Medical services for the child (285)
5. Case management documentation - Mental Health (238)

Citizen review panel concerns

Total number of children reviewed during this period: 1338

Total number of orders recommended: 4525

Ages of the children at the time of this report:

0-5 years = 129

6-11 years = 235

12-17 years = 784

18+ years = 190

The top 5 Citizen Review Panel Concerns for FY 2006 included:

1. Permanency plan – Adoption (524)
2. Permanency plan – Independent Living (469)
3. Educational needs of the child (436)
4. Dental services for the child (269)
5. Emotional or mental health services for the child (260)

Judicial Reviews of Children by Citizen Review Panels

F.S. 39.701 requires a judicial review at least every six months for each child in the dependency system. The purpose of the review is to monitor the child's safety, wellbeing and progress towards permanency. After each review, recommended orders must be based on the information provided to each citizen review panel and limited to the dispositional options available to the court: to return the child to the parent, continue the child in out of home care for a specified period of time, or initiate termination of parental rights for subsequent placement in an adoptive home. Any party objecting to the panel's findings and recommended orders may request an exception hearing before the court.

In Miami-Dade, only those cases of children placed in out-of-home licensed facilities are referred to FCR; children placed with their parents or relatives are reviewed by the Dependency Court or General Master. Review hearings are set by the Clerk of the 11th Judicial Circuit Court on the fifth and tenth month after the child enters foster care. A permanency hearing is scheduled on the twelfth month before the Court.

Each of FCR's 18 citizen review panels meets one day per month to conduct 10 to 12 reviews. Each review takes approximately 40 minutes, depending on the number of children in a case. Hearings are held 18 days out of the month at the Citizen Review Courtroom located on the grounds of the Juvenile Justice Center. Staff support is provided by FCR review specialists, who compile the documentation for review, facilitate the review process, enter individual case information into the FCR database, and prepare the findings and recommendations submitted to the Court for approval.

The review serves as a barometer of case management, continually stimulating progress and improvements to ensure that needed services are provided, that the child is appropriately and safely placed and that the tasks identified in the case plan are being performed.

Upon suspicion of risk to a child, or in the event of serious noncompliance with orders, the citizen review panels request a post-judicial review before the Court for immediate remedy of the situation.

- Monitor the extent to which policy and practice are being implemented according to laws, regulations and expectations in a timely fashion;
- Determine compliance with requirements of the Adoption and Safe Families Act (ASFA), monitoring case by case the safety and well being of children in care, their progress toward permanency, and timeframes for permanency decision-making;
- Monitor casework performance to determine if reasonable efforts and critical casework activities are occurring timely and in accordance with federal and state laws and local standards and expectations;
- Inform decision-makers about potential case and systemic problems; and
- Hold agencies and professionals accountable for the care and treatment of children by monitoring quality and delivery of services.

Criminal Background Checks

Criminal Background Checks in Florida

The Department deleted Florida Statute 435.045, the background screening laws for adoptive parents, relative and non-relative placements, and amending Chapter 39 F.S. to include the background screening processes for adoptive parents, relative, and non-relative placements.

The change was made because the permanency element of ASFA requirements were missing in the Florida Statutes, as explained in Florida's Federal Child and Family Services Review (CFSR). By adding the background screening language into Chapter 39 regarding permanency to the statute covering dependency, the federal requirements are now being addressed as it relates to screening for adoptive parents, relative and non-relative placements. Other statutory requirements regarding foster parents still remain part of Florida Statute 435.045.

Completed criminal history checks for the purpose of investigations include subjects of the investigation and other adult household members, and for the purpose of placement. Criminal history is completed by individual subjects using demographic information searching the following systems:

- Florida Crime Information Center (FCIC) for subjects 12 years and older
- Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) for subjects ages 12 to 26
- Florida Department of Corrections (DOC) for subjects 12 years and older
- Florida Sexual Predator Website for subjects 12 years and older

Conduct criminal history checks for the purpose of placement of a child within 72 hours of the actual placement being made is called an Emergency Placement. This access authorizes the Department to conduct both Florida and National criminal history checks for subjects identified as a potential placement which requires fingerprint submissions for subjects in the potential home over the age of 18 within 10 days of the criminal history request being completed.

Criminal history is completed by individual subjects using demographic information searching the following systems:

Florida Crime Information Center (FCIC) for subjects 12 years and older
National Crime Information Center (NCIC) for subjects 18 years and older
Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) for subjects ages 12 to 26
Florida Department of Corrections (DOC) for subjects 12 years and older
Florida Sexual Predator Website for subjects 12 years and older

Florida is in the process of implementation of the Adam Walsh Child Protection Safety Act of 2006. When completing and approving home studies for foster and adoptive

parents, the background screening process must include a abuse and neglect registry check from other States when they lived in other States within the five year period preceding the application to foster or adopt. Recent legislation also gave the state the ability to conduct NCIC checks on all child abuse investigations subjects.

Chapter 9

Chafee Foster Care Independence Program

Chafee Foster Care Independence Program

Independence Program Goal

- Assist youth to transition to self-sufficiency.

Current Program Design

- Assessments
- Service array of life skills classes, education support, employment training, counseling and support services
- Educational field trips
- Subsidized Independent Living
- Educational and career goal setting beginning in 9th grade
- Annual independent living staffings for youth age 13 –14 (Specifies youth involvement)
- Independent living staffings every six months for youth age 15-17 (Specifies youth involvement)
- Special judicial review specific to transition within 90 days after the 17th birthday and at 17 years 6 months
- Annual training conference for youth
- Youth advocacy board made up of youth in foster and young adults formerly in foster care

Independence Program Improvement Strategies

- Consultation with the National Resource Center for Youth Development for training and technical assistance in delivering life skills and developing outcome measures.

Future Independence Program Initiatives

New legislation will require:

- A written plan with the child and foster parent for engaging in age appropriate activities.
- The child's case plan at age 13 and older to include an educational and career path.
- Assistance for youth to receive education, training and services necessary to obtain employment.

Newly promulgated Administrative Rules regarding services for youth and young adults:

- **65C-28 contains a section on “Adolescent Services.”**
- **65C-30 contains a section on “Normalcy for Adolescents and Teenagers in the custody of the Department.”**
- **65C-31 is an entire rule devoted to “Services to Young Adults Formerly in the Custody of the Department.”**

Collaboration with the National Governor’s Association Policy Academy on Youth Transitioning Out of Foster Care:

Florida was selected to participate in this policy academy in May 2006.

Current Chafee Program includes:

- Assessments
- Service array of life skills classes, educational support, employment training, counseling and support services
- Educational and career goal setting beginning in 9th grade
- Annual independent living staffings for youth age 13 –14 (Specifies youth involvement)
- Independent living staffings every six months for youth age 15-17 (Specifies youth involvement)
- Special judicial review specific to transition within 90 days after the 17th birthday and at 17 years 6 months
- Annual training conference for youth
- Computer camps
- Interagency agreement between the department, workforce agencies and the school system in order to enhance services for children in foster care.
- Chafee Program mandates are contained in Section 409.1451(1-3), F.S.
- In addition to Florida law, DCF references the federal policy documents, best practice materials, and consultation with stakeholders and the National Resource Center for Youth Development to implement the Chafee program.

Future Chafee Program Initiatives

- Continued collaboration with the Independent Living Advisory Council made up of representatives from a variety of agencies including workforce, education, child advocates, foster parents and youth. This board serves to strengthen independent living services in Florida.
- Assistance to youth to prepare and enter post-secondary training and educational institutions.
- Transition from the Road to Independence Scholarship Program to the Road to Independence Program. Removing “scholarship” in order to eliminate future tax issues for recipients.

Expansion of Medicaid benefits to all youth exiting licensed care until age 20.

Current program in Florida includes:

- Participation in school staffings
- Provision of tutoring services
- College tours
- Computer camps
- Educational and career goal setting beginning in 7th grade
- Assistance in locating scholarships and grants
- Tuition and fee exemption at state universities and community colleges
- Road to Independence Scholarship for high school, vocational and college full-time enrollees
- Extended Medicaid benefits for young adults in the Road to Independence Program.

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

Current program in Florida

- Florida continues to promote the development and maintenance of relationships between foster teens and adults. This continues to be an area that can be improved. Several of the local Independent Living programs have instituted mentoring programs. Some examples are career mentoring, youth mentoring and established mentoring programs such as Big Brothers/Big Sisters. Youth are also encouraged to participate in extra-curricular and community activities placing them in situations to meet people and develop relationships.
- The annual statewide youth summit for youth in foster care provides opportunities for youth to interact with mentors and role models by providing motivational speakers and workshop presenters with messages specifically for youth and young adults.
- The Department's Headquarters Office facilitates a quarterly statewide leadership meeting for Independent Living staff. During these meetings discussions focus on best practices and ideas for assisting youth in developing and maintaining long term relationships.
- Florida's Youth Shine advocacy group made up of young adults formerly in foster care who advocate for improvements in the foster care system.

Future program initiatives:

The Department's Leadership is dedicated to promoting permanency for all children in foster care while ensuring staff are committed to find permanent families for teens.

- Florida is aware that other states are also struggling with the development of successful mentoring programs and plans to research successful strategies in this area.
- Deliberate efforts need to be included in case planning and services to provide children in foster care with opportunities to meet people and develop positive and lasting relationships.

- Provide financial, housing, counseling, employment, education and other appropriate support and services to former foster care recipients between 18 and 21 years of age.

Current program in Florida includes:

- The Road to Independence Scholarship
- Transitional Support Services
- Aftercare Support Services
- Tuition and fee exemptions
- Medicaid for Road to Independence Scholarship recipients
- Assistance in locating and applying for other scholarships and grants
- Coaching and guidance
- Extended court jurisdiction until age 19 for youth that submit a petition to the court.
- Road to Independence Scholarship recipients are eligible to remain in their foster homes or another licensed home arranged by the department after reaching age 18.

Future program initiatives:

Implementation of new legislation that:

- Requires the department to advertise the RTI program to specific parties including the youth in care and those involved in education and guidance.
- Expands population eligible to reside in foster homes after age 18 to include those receiving aftercare support and/or transitional support services.
- Allows the flexibility to purchase services such as housing, employment and transportation for young adults in lieu of providing a direct payment.
- Provides Medicaid to young adults eligible for aftercare and/or transitional support services until age 20.
- Removes disability of nonage for youth in foster care for the purpose of leasing residential property prior to reaching age 18.
- Expands tuition and fee exemptions to all young adults exiting foster care and attending state educational institutions.

Service Collaboration Activities

- The Independent Living Advisory Council is mandated by Florida Statute. This council consists of representatives from a wide variety of agencies and organizations including, Department of Education, Agency for Workforce Innovation, Florida Network for Youth, Department of Juvenile Justice, the Office of Homelessness, Housing Authority, DCF, youth, foster parents, business community, Guardian ad Litem and other child advocacy organizations.
- The purpose of the council has been to assess the independent living program and services and make recommendations to the department and the legislature for change. Rather than operating as a part of the department this council's leadership has come from outside the department and created the independent group specified in law that is committed to improving services for adolescents in foster care. It

should be noted that transitional living projects representatives have been invited to these meetings but have not attended over the past couple of years.

- The advisory council has been in existence in some form since October of 2002. This has created an environment in which the department has been able to collaborate and maintain contacts with people from other agencies. Central Office staff has been involved in workgroups with workforce organizations, children, and adult mental health groups.
- The Department currently has a working statewide interagency agreement with workforce and education. These collaborations are designed to improve services to youth.

Future activities planned:

Continue the collaborations mentioned above.

- Continue to support the work of the Independent Living Advisory Council. Meetings will be planned on a quarterly basis.
- Collaboration with the National Governor's Association Policy Academy on Youth Transitioning Out of Foster Care. Florida was selected to participate in this policy academy in May 2006.

Current Training Activities:

- The Department Headquarters Office staff continued to facilitate quarterly leadership meetings for statewide independent living staff. These leadership meetings included trainings on assisting youth with transition to adulthood, statewide resource availability, immigration issues, proposed bill updates, life skills assessments (Daniel Memorial and Ansell-Casey), needs assessment, services manual training, budget issues and other topics. Also discussed during these meetings were programmatic training and issue clarification and implementation of new statutory revisions.
- Central office staff also provided on-site technical assistance as well as responding to questions by telephone and email. Considerable resources from Central Office were dedicated to assisting staff in Florida's largest urban area address significant issues in the service delivery system. The department designated and hired a fiscal expert to focus on independent living issues.

Activities planned:

- Continue the facilitation of quarterly leadership meetings.
- Resume conference calls 4 to 6 times per year.
- Provide web-based information, training materials, and other documents.
- Provide training and/or materials on revised administrative rule.
- Provide training and/or materials on statute revisions.
- Arrange trainings through the National Resource Center for Youth Development.

Trust Funds Program

The state of Florida has not chosen to implement a statewide policy of trust funds for youth receiving independent living assistance or transition assistance.

Activities achieved that involve youth (up to age 21) in Florida's efforts such as the CFJR/PIP process, agency improvement planning efforts, or others.

- Youth in the state of Florida are currently involved in the Independent Living Advisory Council meetings and have taken leadership roles in the development of a report submitted to the legislature.
- The State of Florida was recently selected as one of the states to be involved in the National Governor's Association (NGA) Policy Academy, Youth Transitioning Out of Foster Care. This is an opportunity to work with NGA experts and policy analysts to channel the knowledge and energy in our state to maximize resources and implement best practices for youth transitioning out of foster care. Youth have been appointed to this important core team.
- The State of Florida's young advocacy board, Florida's Youth SHINE, influenced legislation that was passed during the legislative session.

Planned activities

- Continue to encourage and support the involvement and activities mentioned above.
- Expansion of Medicaid to provide services to youth ages 18 to 20 years old who have aged out of foster care.

Current Program:

- Florida is utilizing the Medicaid option by providing Medicaid coverage to all young adults formerly in foster care who are eligible for the Road to Independence Scholarship until his or her 21st birthday.

Planned activities:

- Implement legislation to expand Medicaid coverage to young adults eligible for aftercare and transitional support services up to age 20.

Indian Tribe consultation as it relates to determining eligibility for benefits and services and ensuring fair and equitable treatment for Indian youth in care:

- The Indian tribes of Florida were notified of the planning for the development of the 2005-2009 Chafee State Plan but were not on attendance.
- The tribes have also been appointed to the Independent Living Advisory Council by the Secretary of the department, but have not appointed an individual member or been in attendance for any of the meetings.
- It is hoped that in the future the tribes will be in participation for many of these events because of the work of our ICWA Specialist in the Central Office.
- The tribes have not taken advantage of available services.

Chapter 10

Education and Training Vouchers

Education and Training Vouchers (ETV)

Accomplishments and progress to establish, expand, or strengthen post-secondary educational assistance program to achieve the purpose of the ETV program:

- The ETV funds are primarily used to fund the Road to Independence Scholarship Program. Although this scholarship is available to high school students who have aged out of foster care, ETV funds are used to help fund the scholarships provided to students in higher education.
- Florida has increased the total number of scholarship recipients from 1330 on August, 31, 2005 to 1459 as of September 30, 2006. Although these numbers do not reflect only those receiving ETV funds, it does show a rise in the number of students receiving the scholarship.
- After receiving technical assistance from federal staff, Florida was able to determine that students under the age of 18 but in institutions of higher education would be eligible for ETV funds. Florida has expanded eligibility to include this population.
- Florida continues to improve outreach for the children adopted at age 16 or 17 and have identified students eligible for ETV funding. More work is planned in this area.

Florida's plans to establish, expand, or strengthen its post-secondary educational assistance program to achieve the purpose of the ETV program:

- The ETV funds are primarily used to help fund the Road to Independence Scholarship Program. Although this scholarship is available to high school students who have aged out of foster care, ETV funds are used to help fund the scholarships provided to students in higher education.
- Florida has increased the total number of scholarship recipients from 1330 on August, 31, 2005 to 1459 as of September 30, 2006. Although these numbers do not reflect only those receiving ETV funds, it does show a rise in the number of students receiving the scholarship.
- After receiving technical assistance from federal staff, Florida was able to determine that students under the age of 18 but in institutions of higher education would be eligible for ETV funds and have expanded eligibility to include this population.
- Florida continues to try to improve outreach for the children adopted at age 16 or 17 and have identified some students eligible for ETV funding. More work is needed in this area.

- 2004 legislation mandated that the scholarship award be based on an assessment of the students living and educational needs. Florida has developed a “needs assessment” tool and process and has spent most of the past year implementing its use. This needs assessment is still in a somewhat experimental stage and the effectiveness may not be known for several more months.

Service Description for the Chafee Foster Care Independence Program and Education and Training Vouchers

Accomplishments and progress towards improved outcomes and a more comprehensive, coordinated, effective child and family services continuum;

- Florida has recorded an increase in the number of young adults participating in services after reaching age 18.
- These services are available to young adults who wish to be supported in their own efforts to achieve self-sufficiency.
- Effective strategies are assisting the youth in their transition and preparing them for educational and career training once they reach adulthood.

Planned activities, strategies for improvement, and the method(s) to measure progress for both Foster Care Independence and ETV programs:

Planned activities involve strengthening current policies and practice as well as implementing revisions made during the recent legislative session includes:

- Expanded Medicaid population up to age 20.
- Development and oversight of outcome measures
- Projected budget plans
- Development of plans to purchase services for young adults.
- Involvement in the National Governor’s Association Policy Academy, Youth Transitioning Out of Foster Care.
- Independent Living Advisory Council
- Youth Advocacy Board
- Quarterly Independent Living Coordinator Leadership Meetings

Revisions to the goals and objectives

Revisions are not anticipated.

Goals and objectives incorporating areas needing improvement that were identified in a CFSR, Title IV-E, or other PIP findings.

N/A

Updates to the Program design

- Assessments
- Service array of life skills classes, education support, employment training, counseling and support services
- Educational field trips

- Subsidized Independent Living
- Educational and career goal setting beginning in 7th grade will begin at age 13.
- Annual independent living staffings for youth age 13 –14 Independent living staffings every six months for youth age 15-17
- The Road to Independence Scholarship
- Transitional Support Services
- Aftercare Support Services
- Tuition and fee exemptions will be expanded to include all youth in foster care or young adults exiting foster care who attend state post secondary schools.
- Medicaid will be expanded to include recipients of aftercare support services and transitional support services.

The services described above are available in all areas of the state of Florida and are available to youth in licensed foster care age 13 through 17 and young adults formerly in foster care 18 up to the 23rd birthday.

Approximately 7,500 youth and approximately 2,000 young adults will be served.

There are no planned changes to the program.

Collaboration:

- The Independent Living Advisory Council composed of representatives from a wide variety of agencies and organizations including, Department of Education, Agency for Workforce Innovation, Florida Network for Youth, Department of Juvenile Justice, the Office of Homelessness, Housing Authority, DCF, youth, foster parents, business community, Guardian ad Litem and other child advocacy organizations.
- The purpose of the council has been to assess the independent living program and services and make recommendations to the department and the legislature for change.
- Rather than operating as a part of the department this council's leadership has come from outside the department and created the independent group specified in law that is committed to improving services for adolescents in foster care.
- The advisory council has been in existence in some form since October of 2002. This has created an environment in which the department has been able to collaborate and maintain contacts with people from other agencies.
- Central Office staff has been involved in workgroups with workforce organizations, youth, and adult mental health groups.
- The department currently has a working statewide interagency agreement with workforce and education. These collaborations are designed to improve services to youth.
- Governor's Association Policy Academy, Youth Transitioning Out of Foster Care. This is another opportunity for collaboration and system improvement.

Program Support

- Planned updates to the training plan, technical assistance, research, evaluation or management information systems and quality assurance systems that will be updated or implemented in the upcoming fiscal year.
- There are no planned changes in this area with respect to Chafee and/or ETV.
- Additions or changes in services or program design due to the State's own evaluation of programs that the State has found particularly effective or ineffective.
- There are no planned changes in this area with respect to Chafee and/or ETV.

Financial and Statistical Information Reporting

Actual Expenditures of Chafee allocated funds for:

Federal Year 2005 (final)

- \$9,861,553
 - \$7,889,242 – Federal Funding
 - \$1,972,311 – State Funding

Federal Year 2006 (final)

- \$8,903,864
 - \$7,419,887 – Federal Funding
 - \$1,483,977 – State Funding

The percentage of Chafee funds used to provide room and board for youth ages 18-21 in both Federal Year 2005 and Federal Year 2006, since both have been fully reported is 30%. Final Financial Status Reports have been submitted to Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Title IV-E Chafee Foster Care for Federal Year 2005 and Federal Year 2006.

This funding was used to provide services for youth ages 13 up to their 21st birthday, who are in foster care or have aged out of foster care, to facilitate successful transition into adulthood. These services are:

- Pre-independent living services, which include life skills training, educational field trips, preparation for post-secondary training and education, and conferences.
- Life Skills services, which include independent living skills training, i.e. training to develop banking and budgeting skills, interviewing skills, parenting skills, educational support, substance abuse prevention, and employment training.
- Other services, which include assistance in obtaining a high school diploma, career exploration, job placement and retention, counseling, mentors, and developing community resources.

Also, this funding was used to assist 18, 19, and 20 year olds, that have aged out of foster care, with room and board, books, educational support equipment and/or supplies, vocational training and tutoring/mentoring. Other types of expenses are employment service fees, clothing and supplies for job interviews, child care, tools for vocational purposes, as well as temporary assistance to prevent homelessness.

In essence, this funding is used to assist former foster youth/young adults in their efforts to continue to develop the skills and abilities necessary for independent living, as well as current foster care children with their preparation to becoming self-sufficient.

There are no changes planned for the use of Chafee funds.

**Actual Expenditures of ETV allocated funds for:
Federal Year 2005 (final)**

- \$2,917,641
 - \$2,334,113
 - \$ 583,528

Federal Year 2006 (as of March 31, 2007)

- \$1,777,756
 - \$1,422,205
 - \$ 355,551

In FFY 2006 there were 585 recipients of ETV awards, and in FFY 2006, as of April 30, 2007, there have been 386 recipients of ETV awards.

Although the department must stay within the federally provided ETV allocation of funds, for FFY 2007 it is quite possible that the potential population of youth, if eligible (meaning attend a post-secondary institution), could be 1,385. This count is estimated by taking the June 2006 "At A Glance" Report for number of 16 and ½ of the 15 year olds (1,655) less the number of 21 and ½ of the 20 year olds from the "Quick Facts" Road To Independence count for June 2006 (270).

Chapter 11

Child and Family Services Reports and Maintenance of Effort

Statewide Summary of Child and Family Services Report

The attached report provide critical information of Child Welfare Services for FFY 2005-2006 including number of children and families served, funding sources, service provided, duration of service, etc.

Maintenance of Effort

This second attachment contains a table listing the estimated state and federal expenditures for FY 2005-2006 for family preservation, family support services, time-limited reunification, and adoption and support services. Expenditures for the four service categories are reported separately.

The maintenance of effort identifies non-federal funds expended for family preservation, family support, time limited family reunification and adoption promotion and support services.

Funds have not been supplanted to meet this federal requirement to equal or exceed the amount spent in 1992 for family preservation and family support services as stated in 45 CFR 1357.32(f).

**Number of Children and Families Receiving Family Support & Prevention Services
October 1, 2005 through April 30, 2006***

District	Children			Families		
	Total	I & R/Public Awareness and Education	Does not Include I & R/Public Awareness/Education	Total	I & R/Public Awareness and Education	Does not Include I & R/Public Awareness/Education
1	2,136	55	2,081	1,194	46	1,148
2A	430	0	430	219	0	219
2B	2,828	0	2,828	1,243	0	1,243
3	1,431	0	1,431	1,016	0	1,016
4C	0	0	0	0	0	0
4D	2,454	0	2,454	1,269	0	1,269
4N	81	0	81	50	0	50
4NP	5,288	0	5,288	3,087	0	3,087
4S	876	0	876	512	0	512
7B	437	365	72	334	188	146
7F	3,186	381	2,805	3,090	326	2,764
7S	318	0	318	206	0	206
8	140	26	114	966	821	145
9	571	146	425	332	63	269
10	1,275	632	643	914	430	484
11A	1,204	247	957	514	94	420
11B	283	122	161	281	193	88
12	515	0	515	430	0	430
13	330	5	325	166	3	163
14	4,666	2,212	2,454	1,183	933	250
15	392	0	392	160	0	160

23H	552	0	552	437	0	437
23YN	637	0	637	333	0	333
23YS	174	0	174	80	0	80
30	1,624	143	1,481	926	92	834
Total	31,828	4,334	27,494	18,942	3,189	15,753

**The chart represents potentially duplicated numbers-counting the services provided.*

**Number of Children and Families Receiving Family Preservation
Services by District
October 1, 2005 through April 30, 2006***

District	Children			Families		
	Total	Includes Information and Referral/Public Awareness and Education	Does not Include Information and Referral/Public Awareness and Education	Total	Includes Information and Referral/Public Awareness and Education	Does not Include Information and Referral/Public Awareness and Education
1	2,543	0	2,543	1,298	81	1,217
2A	588	0	588	306	0	306
2B	307	0	307	240	0	240
3	1,343	0	1,343	560	0	560
4C	142	0	142	71	0	71
4D	4,062	0	4,062	2,137	0	2,137
4N	234	4	230	125	2	123
4NP	514	0	514	200	0	200
4S	353	0	353	225	0	225
7B	291	0	291	355	0	355
7F	739	226	513	1,005	310	695
7S	380	0	380	214	0	214
8	459	0	459	347	76	271
9	0	0	0	141	0	141
10	1,038	0	1,038	480	0	480
11A	3,352	380	2,972	1,526	333	1,193
11B	144	0	144	80	0	80
12	530	28	502	233	9	224
13	992	0	992	484	0	484

14	1,426	30	1,396	646	11	635
15	176	0	176	82	0	82
23H	253	0	253	134	0	134
23YN	32	0	32	17	0	17
23YS	1	0	1	16	0	16
30	11,166	968	10,198	6,597	634	5,963
Total	31,065	1,636	29,429	17,519	1,456	16,063

**The chart represents potentially duplicated numbers-counting the services provided.*

**Number of Children and Families Receiving Adoption Promotion and Support
Services by District
October 1, 2005 through April 30, 2006***

District	Children			Families		
	Total	Includes Information and Referral/Public Awareness and Education	Does not Include Information and Referral/Public Awareness and Education	Total	Includes Information and Referral/Public Awareness and Education	Does not Include Information and Referral/Public Awareness and Education
1	68	0	68	27	0	27
2A	34	0	34	34	0	34
2B	202	0	202	189	0	189
3	0	0	0	0	0	0
4C	0	0	0	0	0	0
4D	86	0	86	50	0	50
4N	39	0	39	24	0	24
4NP	0	0	0	0	0	0
4S	168	0	168	154	0	154
7B	42	0	42	30	0	30
7F	0	0	0	0	0	0
7S	0	0	0	0	0	0
8	0	0	0	0	0	0
9	0	0	0	0	0	0
10	96	0	96	56	0	56
11A	500	121	379	261	57	204
11B	28	0	28	17	0	17
12	200	0	200	163	0	163
13	0	0	0	0	0	0

14	91	0	91	51	0	51
15	80	0	80	81	0	81
23H	263	0	263	11	0	11
23YN	0	0	0	0	0	0
23YS	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	1,897	121	1,776	1,148	57	1,091

**The chart represents potentially duplicated numbers-counting the services provided.*

**Number of Children and Families Receiving Time-Limited Family Reunification Services
by District
October 1, 2005 through April 30, 2006***

District	Children			Families		
	Total	Includes Information and Referral/Public Awareness and Education	Does not Include Information and Referral/Public Awareness and Education	Total	Includes Information and Referral/Public Awareness and Education	Does not Include Information and Referral/Public Awareness and Education
1	686	60	626	309	17	292
2A	956	0	956	517	0	517
2B	311	0	311	210	0	210
3	944	0	944	548	0	548
4C	0	0	0	0	0	0
4D	0	0	0	0	0	0
4N	50	0	50	24	0	24
4NP	44	0	44	20	0	20
4S	95	0	95	44	0	44
7B	78	0	78	0	0	0
7F	2,852	0	2,852	797	0	797
7S	591	205	386	494	176	318
8	212	0	212	129	0	129
9	0	0	0	0	0	0
10	86	0	86	53	0	53
11A	182	38	144	115	21	94
11B	10	0	10	20	0	20
12	140	23	117	85	10	75
13	688	0	688	519	90	429

14	62	9	53	27	4	23
15	44	0	44	26	0	26
23H	701	0	701	302	0	302
23YN	281	0	281	169	0	169
23YS	110	0	110	59	0	59
Total	9,123	335	8,788	4,467	318	4,149

**The chart represents potentially duplicated numbers-counting the services provided.*

**Number of Children and Families Receiving Family Support and Prevention Services
by Funding Source Provided
October 1, 2005 through April 30, 2006***

Federal Sources	Children			Families		
	Total	Info and Referral/Public Awareness and Education	NO Info and Referral/Public Awareness and Education	Total	Info and Referral/Public Awareness and Education	NO Info and Referral/Public Awareness and Education
C.A.N. Basic	611	0	611	262	0	262
CAPTA Grant - Community-Based Care	2,496	621	1,875	1,586	405	1,181
CBC Abuse Prevention Grant	1,630	143	1,487	941	92	849
Family Builders Program	1,906	55	1,851	1,156	46	1,110
Promoting Safe and Stable Families Grant	21,982	3,064	18,918	14,378	2,445	11,933
Other Federal Funding Sources	598	55	543	437	45	392
Total	29,223	3,938	25,285	18,760	3,033	15,727

State Sources	Children			Families		
	Total	Info and Referral/Public Awareness and Education	NO Info and Referral/Public Awareness and Education	Total	Info and Referral/Public Awareness and Education	NO Info and Referral/Public Awareness and Education
Community Org. Prevention Initiatives	6,058	566	5,492	2,484	297	2,187
Family Builders	4,279	55	4,224	2,149	46	2,103
Family Support Primary Prevention	9	0	9	8	0	8
Healthy Families Florida	2,210	60	2,150	2,234	51	2,183
Home Visitor for High Risk Newborns	3,416	55	3,361	1,839	46	1,793
Housekeeper/Homemaker	392	0	392	160	0	160
Intensive Crisis Counseling	41	0	41	14	0	14

Other State Funding Sources	6,087	1,862	4,225	3,480	1,018	2,462
Total	22,492	2,598	19,894	12,368	1,458	10,910

**The chart represents potentially duplicated numbers within the funding source-counting the services provided.*

**Number of Children and Families Receiving Family Preservation Services
by Funding Source Provided
October 1, 2005 through April 30, 2006***

Federal Sources	Children			Families		
	Total	Info and Referral/Public Awareness and Education	NO Info and Referral/Public Awareness and Education	Total	Info and Referral/Public Awareness and Education	NO Info and Referral/Public Awareness and Education
Community Based Child Abuse Prevention Grant						
C.A.N. Basic	0	0	0	0	0	0
CAPTA Grant - Community-Based Care	4,526	7	4,519	2,630	86	2,544
CBC Abuse Prevention Grant	11,166	968	10,198	6,597	634	5,963
Family Builders Program	5,050	4	5,046	2,569	83	2,486
Promoting Safe and Stable Families Grant	15,648	665	14,983	8,562	819	7,743
Other Federal Funding Sources	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	36,390	1,644	34,746	20,358	1,622	18,736

State Sources	Children			Families		
	Total	Info and Referral/Public Awareness and Education	NO Info and Referral/Public Awareness and Education	Total	Info and Referral/Public Awareness and Education	NO Info and Referral/Public Awareness and Education
Community Org. Prevention Initiatives	3,221	0	3,221	1,920	81	1,839
Family Builders	7,338	4	7,334	3,902	83	3,819
Family Support Primary Prevention	26	0	26	10	0	10
Healthy Families Florida	806	230	576	1,063	312	751
Home Visitor for High Risk Newborns	3,018	0	3,018	1,528	81	1,447
Housekeeper/Homemaker	109	0	109	42	0	42
Intensive Crisis Counseling	185	0	185	70	0	70

Other State Funding Sources	14,229	968	13,261	8,253	634	7,619
Total	28,932	1,202	27,730	16,788	1,191	15,597

**The chart represents potentially duplicated numbers within the funding source-counting the services provided.*

**Number of Children and Families Receiving Adoption Promotion and Support Services
by Funding Source Provided
October 1, 2005 through April 30, 2006***

Federal Sources	Children			Families		
	Total	Info and Referral/Public Awareness and Education	NO Info and Referral/Public Awareness and Education	Total	Info and Referral/Public Awareness and Education	NO Info and Referral/Public Awareness and Education
C.A.N. Basic	0	0	0	0	0	0
CAPTA Grant - Community-Based Care	68	0	68	27	0	27
CBC Abuse Prevention Grant	0	0	0	0	0	0
Family Builders Program	68	0	68	27	0	27
Promoting Safe and Stable Families Grant	1,874	121	1,753	1,134	57	1,077
Other Federal Funding Sources	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	2,010	121	1,889	1,188	57	1,131

State Sources	Children			Families		
	Total	Info and Referral/Public Awareness and Education	NO Info and Referral/Public Awareness and Education	Total	Info and Referral/Public Awareness and Education	NO Info and Referral/Public Awareness and Education
Community Org. Prevention Initiatives	68	0	68	27	0	27
Family Builders	68	0	68	27	0	27
Family Support Primary Prevention	0	0	0	0	0	0
Healthy Families Florida	0	0	0	0	0	0
Home Visitor for High Risk Newborns	68	0	68	27	0	27
Housekeeper/Homemaker	0	0	0	0	0	0
Intensive Crisis Counseling	0	0	0	0	0	0

Other State Funding Sources	122	0	122	111	0	111
Total	326	0	326	192	0	192

**The chart represents potentially duplicated numbers within the funding source-counting the services provided.*

**Number of Children and Families Receiving Time-Limited Reunification Services
by Funding Source Provided
October 1, 2005 through April 30, 2006***

Federal Sources	Children			Families		
	Total	Info and Referral/Public Awareness and Education	NO Info and Referral/Public Awareness and Education	Total	Info and Referral/Public Awareness and Education	NO Info and Referral/Public Awareness and Education
C.A.N. Basic	0	0	0	0	0	0
CAPTA Grant - Community-Based Care	617	60	557	266	37	229
CBC Abuse Prevention Grant	0	0	0	0	0	0
Family Builders Program	561	60	501	164	17	147
Promoting Safe and Stable Families Grant	8,333	130	8,203	3,823	122	3,701
Other Federal Funding Sources	4,237	205	4,032	1,759	176	1,583
Total	13,748	455	13,293	6,012	352	5,660

State Sources	Children			Families		
	Total	Info and Referral/Public Awareness and Education	NO Info and Referral/Public Awareness and Education	Total	Info and Referral/Public Awareness and Education	NO Info and Referral/Public Awareness and Education
Community Org. Prevention Initiatives	663	60	603	279	17	262
Family Builders	658	60	598	277	17	260
Family Support Primary Prevention	0	0	0	0	0	0
Healthy Families Florida	0	0	0	0	0	0
Home Visitor for High Risk Newborns	651	60	591	274	17	257
Housekeeper/Homemaker	0	0	0	0	0	0
Intensive Crisis Counseling	0	0	0	0	0	0

Other State Funding Sources	2,122	205	1,917	1103	176	927
Total	4,094	385	3,709	1,933	227	1,706

**The chart represents potentially duplicated numbers within the funding source-counting the services provided.*

Community-Based Family Support Services-October 1, 2005-April 30, 2006

After School Enrichment

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
8, 11A, 14	Glades, Hardee, Hendry, Highlands, Lee, Miami-Dade, Polk,	2,312	7

Case Management

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
1, 4N, 4S, 7F, 11A, 11B	Escambia, Miami-Dade, Monroe, Nassau, Okaloosa, Orange, Osceola, Santa Rosa, St. Johns	1,614	1008

Child Care/Therapeutic Care

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
2B	Franklin, Gadsden, Jefferson, Leon, Liberty, Madison, Taylor, Wakulla	37	35

Community Mapping/Development

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
11A, 13, 14	Citrus, Hardee, Hernando, Highlands, Lake, Marion, Miami-Dade, Polk, Sumter	58	18

Crisis and Intervention Services

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
7F, 11A, 14, 23H	Highlands, Miami-Dade, Osceola	211	275

Delinquency Prevention

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
4S, 11B	Monroe, St. Johns	80	67

Developmental Screening/Evaluation

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
11A	Miami-Dade	16	16

Family Conferencing/ICA

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
1, 4NP, 10, 11A, 12, 13, 14	Broward, Citrus, Duval, Escambia, Hernando, Lake, Marion, Miami-Dade, Polk, St. Johns, Sumter, Volusia	446	179

Family Visitation Services

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
7S, 13, 23YN	Citrus, Lake, Pinellas, Seminole, Sumter,	558	317

Follow-Up Care to Families

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
7F, 11A	Miami-Dade, Osceola	356	252

Foster Parent Recruitment/Support

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
14	Hardee, Highlands, Polk	14	26

Health and Nutrition Education

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
11A	Miami-Dade	35	55

Healthy Families Florida

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
7F	Orange, Osceola	646	601

Home Visiting Activities/Services

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
1, 4N, 4S, 7F, 8, 11A, 11B, 15, 23H, 23YN, 30	Charlotte, Collier, Escambia, Hillsborough, Indian River, Lee, Martin, Miami-Dade, Monroe, Nassau, Okaloosa, Okeechobee, Orange, Palm Beach, Pasco, Pinellas, Santa Rosa, St. Johns, St. Lucie, Walton	2,133	1,538

Individual Family Group Counseling Services

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
7F, 9, 11A, 12	Flagler, Miami-Dade, Orange, Osceola, Palm Beach, Volusia	229	124

Information and Referral

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
1, 7F, 8, 9, 10, 11A, 12, 13, 14, 30	Broward, Charlotte, Escambia, Flagler, Indian River, Lake, Lee, Miami-Dade, Okaloosa, Orange, Osceola, Palm Beach, Polk, Sumter, Volusia	1,928	2,152

In-Home Services

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
1, 2A, 2B, 4N, 4S, 7B, 8, 10, 11A, 11B, 14, 15, 23H	Bay, Brevard, Broward, Calhoun, Charlotte, Collier, Escambia, Franklin, Gadsden, Gulf, Hardee, Highlands, Hillsborough, Holmes, Indian River, Jackson, Jefferson, Lee, Leon, Liberty, Madison, Martin, Miami-Dade, Monroe, Nassau, Okaloosa, Okeechobee, Polk, Santa Rosa, St. Johns, St. Lucie, Taylor, Wakulla, Walton, Washington	2,915	1,565

Intensive In-Home Interventions

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
1, 4N, 9	Escambia, Nassau, Okaloosa, Palm Beach, Santa Rosa, Walton	729	350

Mental Health Services

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
8, 11A	Charlotte, Collier, Glades, Hendry, Lee, Miami-Dade	23	147

Mentoring/Tutoring Services

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
7B, 9, 11A	Brevard, Miami-Dade, Palm Beach	164	40

Neighborhood Partnership Community Activities

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
1, 4NP, 10, 12, 23H	Broward, Escambia, Duval, Hillsborough, St. Johns, Volusia	5,463	3,475

Parent Support Groups

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
1, 10, 11A, 30	Broward, Escambia, Indian River, Miami-Dade, Palm Beach	75	113

Parenting Education and Training

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
1, 3, 4D, 4S, 7B, 7S, 8, 9, 10, 11A, 11B, 12, 13, 14, 23YN, 23YS, 30	Alachua, Bradford, Brevard, Broward, Charlotte, Citrus, Columbia, Desoto, Dixie, Duval, Escambia, Flagler, Gilchrist, Glades, Hamilton, Hardee, Hendry, Hernando, Highlands, Indian River, Lafayette, Lake, Levy, Lee, Manatee, Marion, Miami-Dade, Monroe, Palm Beach, Pasco, Pinellas, Polk, Putnam, Santa Rosa, Seminole, St. Johns, Sumter, Suwannee, Union, Walton, Volusia	6,322	4,189

Public Awareness and Education Activities

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
7B, 10, 14	Brevard, Broward, Hardee, Highlands, Polk	2,406	1,037

Relationship Skills Education

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
12	Flagler, Volusia	249	23

Self-help Groups/Support Groups

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
4S, 7B, 10, 11A	Brevard, Broward, Miami-Dade, St. Johns	74	58

Teen Parent/Pregnancy Programs

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
7F, 8, 14	Glades, Hardee, Hendry, Highlands, Lee, Orange, Polk	582	584

Training/Technical Assistance

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
11A	Miami-Dade	4	1

Transportation

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
1, 7S, 14, 30	Escambia, Indian River, Miami-Dade, Palm Beach, Polk, Seminole	338	198

Urgent/Emergency Services

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
1, 2B, 11A, 12, 13, 14, 23YS	Citrus, Escambia, Franklin, Hernando, Lake, Manatee, Marion, Miami-Dade, Polk, Santa Rosa, Sumter, Volusia	1,748	624

Workshops/Seminars

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
14	Hardee, Highlands, Polk	0	16

Grand Total		31,828	18,942
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**These charts are unduplicated numbers, counting the children and families that received each service.*

Family Preservation Services – October 1, 2005-April 30, 2006

Adoption Support Services

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
14, 23YS	Hardee, Highlands, Polk, Sarasota	20	10

After-school Enrichment/Recreation

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
11A	Miami-Dade	68	35

Case Management

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
1, 4N, 4S, 11A, 11B, 14	Escambia, Hardee, Highlands, Miami-Dade, Monroe, Nassau, Polk, Santa Rosa, St. Johns	882	615

Community Mapping/Development

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
4N	Nassau	17	7

Crisis and Intervention Services

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
7B, 11A, 11B, 12	Brevard, Flagler, Miami-Dade, Monroe, Volusia	698	307

Delinquency Prevention

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
11B	Monroe	31	17

Family Conferencing/ICA

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
1, 4NP, 11A, 12, 14	Duval, Escambia, Hardee, Highlands, Miami-Dade, Polk, St. Johns, Volusia	584	227

Family Visitation Services

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
4D, 13	Duval, Marion	3,538	1,861

Follow-Up Care to Families

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
11A	Miami-Dade	95	36

Healthy Families Florida

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
7F, 7S	Orange, Seminole	88	38

Home Visiting Activities/Services

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
1, 4N, 7F, 7S, 11A, 30	Escambia, Indian River, Miami-Dade, Nassau, Okaloosa, Orange, Osceola, Palm Beach, Santa Rosa, Seminole, Walton	2,177	1,444

Individual Family Group Counseling Services

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
2A, 2B, 11A, 23YN	Bay, Calhoun, Franklin, Gadsden, Gulf, Holmes, Jackson, Jefferson, Leon, Liberty, Madison, Miami-Dade, Pinellas, Taylor, Wakulla, Washington	432	374

Information and Referral

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
1, 7F, 8, 11A, 12, 14, 30	Charlotte, Escambia, Indian River, Miami-Dade, Osceola, Palm Beach, Polk, Volusia	1,629	1,451

In-Home Services

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
1, 2A, 4N, 7B, 13, 23H	Bay, Brevard, Calhoun, Citrus, Escambia, Gulf, Hernando, Hillsborough, Holmes, Jackson, Lake, Marion, Nassau, Okaloosa, Santa Rosa, Sumter, Walton, Washington	2,084	1,147

Intensive Crisis Counseling

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
2B, 4S, 7S, 11A, 14	Gadsden, Hardee, Highlands, Leon, Miami-Dade, Polk, Seminole, St. Johns, Wakulla	296	124

Intensive In-Home Interventions

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
1, 3, 4N, 4S, 7S, 8, 10, 11B, 13, 14, 15	Alachua, Bradford, Broward, Charlotte, Citrus, Collier, Columbia, Dixie, Gilchrist, Glades, Hamilton, Hardee, Hendry, Hernando, Highlands, Indian River, Lafayette, Lake, Lee, Levy, Marion, Martin, Monroe, Nassau, Okaloosa, Okeechobee, Polk, Putnam, Santa Rosa, Seminole, St. Johns, St. Lucie, Sumter, Suwannee, Union, Walton	4,554	1,998

Mental Health Services

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
8, 11A	Charlotte, Collier, Glades, Hendry, Lee, Miami-Dade	13	24

Mentoring/Tutoring Services

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
7B, 11A	Brevard, Miami-Dade	36	3

Neighborhood Partnership Community Activities

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
1, 23H	Escambia, Hillsborough	70	30

Parent Support Groups

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
7S, 11A, 14, 30	Hardee, Highlands, Indian River, Miami-Dade, Palm Beach, Polk, Seminole	1,185	751

Parenting Education and Training

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
1, 4C, 4D, 4S, 7B, 7S, 8, 9, 11A, 11B, 14, 23YS, 30	Alachua, Baker, Bradford, Brevard, Clay, Charlotte, Collier, Columbia, Dixie, Duval, Gilchrist, Glades, Hamilton, Hardee, Hendry, Highlands, Indian River, Lafayette, Levy, Manatee, Miami-Dade, Monroe, Palm Beach, Polk, Sarasota, Seminole, St. Johns, Union, Walton	9,106	5,384

Public Awareness and Education Activities

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
4N, 14	Hardee, Highlands, Nassau, Polk	7	5

Self-Help Groups/Support Groups

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
7B, 11A	Brevard, Miami-Dade	39	52

Teen Parent/Pregnancy Programs

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
7F	Osceola	226	333

Transportation

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
1, 2B, 11A, 14, 30	Escambia, Franklin, Gadsden, Indian River, Jefferson, Leon, Liberty, Madison, Miami-Dade, Okaloosa, Palm Beach, Polk, Taylor, Wakulla	1,008	666

Urgent/Emergency Services

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
1, 2A, 2B, 11A, 12, 14	Bay, Calhoun, Escambia, Franklin, Gadsden, Gulf, Hardee, Highlands, Holmes, Jackson, Jefferson, Leon, Liberty, Madison, Okaloosa, Polk, Santa Rosa, Taylor, Volusia, Wakulla, Washington	293	218

Workshops/Seminars

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
4S, 11A	Miami-Dade, St. Johns	1,889	362
GRAND TOTAL		31,065	17,519

** These charts are unduplicated numbers, counting the children and families that received each service.*

Adoption Promotion and Support Services - October 1, 2005 - April 30, 2006

Adoption Promotion

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
2B, 4S, 7B, 10, 11A, 12, 15, 23H	Brevard, Broward, Flagler, Franklin, Gadsden, Hillsborough, Indian River, Jefferson, Leon, Liberty, Madison, Martin, Miami-Dade, Okeechobee, St. Johns, St. Lucie, Taylor, Volusia, Wakulla	429	170

Adoption Recruitment

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
12, 15	Flagler, Indian River, Martin, Okeechobee, St. Lucie, Volusia	81	81

Adoption Support Services

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
2A, 2B, 4D, 4N, 4S, 7B, 10, 11B, 12, 14, 15, 23H	Bay, Brevard, Broward, Calhoun, Duval, Flagler, Franklin, Gadsden, Gulf, Hardee, Highlands, Hillsborough, Holmes, Indian River, Jackson, Jefferson, Leon, Liberty, Madison, Martin, Monroe, Nassau, Okeechobee, Polk, St. Johns, St. Lucie, Taylor, Volusia, Wakulla, Washington	632	459

Case Management

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
4N, 11A	Miami-Dade, Nassau	138	69

Crisis and Intervention Services

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
11B	Monroe	1	1

Delinquency Prevention

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
11B	Monroe	1	1

Family Visitation Services

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
1	Escambia, Okaloosa, Santa Rosa, Walton	35	13

Home Visiting Activities/Services

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
11B	Monroe	7	4

Individual Family Group Counseling Services

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
11A, 14	Hardee, Highlands, Miami-Dade, Polk	122	61

Information and Referral

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
11A	Miami-Dade	121	57

In-Home Services

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
1	Escambia	2	1

Parent Support Groups

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
14	Hardee, Highlands, Polk	4	3

Parenting Education and Training

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
4S, 11A, 11B	Miami-Dade, Monroe, St. Johns	245	162

Post Adoptive Workshop

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
14	Hardee, Highlands, Polk	5	4

Self-Help Groups/Support Groups

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
10, 11A	Broward, Miami-Dade	43	48

Training/Technical Assistance

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
12	Flagler, Volusia	0	1

Transportation

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
1	Escambia, Okaloosa, Santa Rosa, Walton	31	13
GRAND TOTAL		1,897	1,148

** These charts are unduplicated numbers, counting the children and families that received each service.*

Time-Limited Family Reunification Services -October 1, 2005-April 30, 2006

After-school Enrichment/Recreation

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
11A	Miami-Dade	10	4

Case Management

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
1, 3, 11A, 11B, 13, 14	Alachua, Bradford, Citrus, Escambia, Gilchrist, Hardee, Hernando, Highlands, Levy, Miami-Dade, Monroe, Polk, Santa Rosa, Union	601	367

Childcare/Therapeutic care

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
7B, 10	Brevard, Broward	121	32

Crisis and Intervention Services

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
7S, 11A	Miami-Dade, Seminole	134	113

Delinquency Prevention

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
11B	Monroe	2	4

Development Screening/Evaluation

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
11A	Miami-Dade	1	1

Family Conferencing/ICA

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
1, 4NP, 11A, 14	Duval, Escambia, Hardee, Highlands, Miami-Dade, Polk, St. Johns,	84	40

Family Visitation Services

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
1, 2A, 2B, 3, 4S, 7F, 8, 12, 13, 15, 23YS	Alachua, Bay, Bradford, Calhoun, Charlotte, Citrus, Collier, Columbia, Desoto, Dixie, Escambia, Flagler, Franklin, Gadsden, Gilchrist, Glades, Gulf, Hamilton, Hendry, Hernando, Holmes, Indian River, Jackson, Jefferson, Lafayette, Lake, Lee, Leon, Levy, Liberty, Madison, Manatee, Martin, Okaloosa, Okeechobee, Orange, Osceola, Putnam, Santa Rosa, Sarasota, Seminole, St. Johns, St. Lucie, Sumter, Suwannee, Taylor, Union, Volusia, Wakulla, Walton, Washington	4,498	2,502

Follow-Up Care to Families

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
11A	Miami-Dade	29	14

Home Visiting Activities/Services

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
1, 4N, 4S, 11A, 11B	Escambia, Miami-Dade, Monroe, Nassau, Okaloosa, Santa Rosa, St. Johns, Walton	143	63

Individual Family Group Counseling Services

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
2B, 7S, 10, 11A, 14	Broward, Franklin, Gadsden, Hardee, Highlands, Jefferson, Leon, Liberty, Madison, Miami-Dade, Polk, Seminole, Taylor, Wakulla	337	271

Information and Referral

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
1, 7S, 11A, 12, 13, 14	Citrus, Escambia, Hernando, Miami-Dade, Polk, Seminole, Volusia	335	318

In-Home Services

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
1, 4N, 11B, 23YN	Escambia, Monroe, Nassau, Pasco, Pinellas, Santa Rosa, Walton	381	212

Intensive In-Home Interventions

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
1, 23H	Escambia, Hillsborough, Walton	499	199

Neighborhood Partnership Community Activities

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
1,11A, 23H	Escambia, Hillsborough, Miami-Dade	78	33

Parent Support Groups

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
11A	Miami-Dade	3	1

Parenting Education and Training

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
1, 7F, 11A, 11B, 13, 15, 23H	Hillsborough, Indian River, Lake, Martin, Miami-Dade, Monroe, Okeechobee, Orange, Osceola, Seminole, St. Lucie, Sumter, Walton	227	177

Transportation

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
1, 7F, 7S, 14, 23YN	Escambia, Okaloosa, Orange, Osceola, Pasco, Pinellas, Polk, Santa Rosa, Seminole, Walton	1,613	102

Urgent/Emergency Services

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
1, 2B, 12	Escambia, Franklin, Gadsden, Jefferson, Leon, Liberty, Madison, Taylor, Volusia, Wakulla	27	14
GRAND TOTAL		9,123	4,467

** These charts are unduplicated numbers, counting the children and families that received each service.*

**Report on Family Support/Prevention Services
Funded by the C.A.N. Basic Federal Grant Program
October 1, 2005-April 30, 2006**

Home Visiting Activities/Services

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
15	Indian River, Martin, Okeechobee, St. Lucie	287	119

In-Home Services

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
15	Indian River, Martin, Okeechobee, St. Lucie	105	41

Parenting Education and Training

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
13	Citrus, Hernando, Lake, Marion, Sumter	219	102
GRAND TOTAL		611	262

** These charts are unduplicated numbers, counting the children and families that received each service within the funding source*

**Number of Children and Families Receiving Time-Limited Family Reunification
May 1, 2006 through September 30, 2006***

District	Children			Families		
	Total	Includes Information and Referral/Public Awareness and Education	Does not Include Information and Referral/Public Awareness and Education	Total	Includes Information and Referral/Public Awareness and Education	Does not Include Information and Referral/Public Awareness and Education
1	609	62	547	223	26	197
2A	722	0	722	436	0	436
2B	120	0	120	104	0	104
3	333	0	333	177	0	177
4C	7	0	7	3	0	3
4D	0	0	0	0	0	0
4N	8	0	8	5	0	5
4NP	20	0	20	8	0	8
4S	49	0	49	32	0	32
7B	68	0	68	23	0	23
7F	950	0	950	400	0	400
7S	862	732	130	943	793	150
8	46	0	46	27	0	27
9	0	0	0	0	0	0
10	25	0	25	20	0	20
11A	1230	33	1197	618	19	599
11B	18	2	16	14	1	13
12	107	12	195	121	3	118
13	296	0	296	265	73	192
14	19	0	19	10	0	10

15	8	0	8	7	0	7
23H	211	0	211	98	0	98
23YN	471	0	471	357	0	357
23YS	41	0	41	27	0	27
Total	6220	841	5479	3918	915	3003

**The chart represents potentially duplicated numbers-counting the services provided.*

**Number of Children and Families Receiving Family Support and Prevention Services
by Funding Source Provided
May 1, 2006 through September 30, 2006***

Federal Sources	Children			Families		
	Total	Info and Referral/Public Awareness and Education	NO Info and Referral/Public Awareness and Education	Total	Info and Referral/Public Awareness and Education	NO Info and Referral/Public Awareness and Education
C.A.N. Basic	711	0	711	504	21	483
CAPTA Grant - Community-Based Care	589	190	399	457	123	334
CBC Abuse Prevention Grant	1	0	1	1	0	1
Family Builders Program	641	0	641	421	7	414
Promoting Safe and Stable Families Grant	9332	1609	7723	5488	532	4956
Other Federal Funding Sources	4292	110	4182	2985	107	2878
Total	15566	1909	13657	9856	790	9066

State Sources	Children			Families		
	Total	Info and Referral/Public Awareness and Education	NO Info and Referral/Public Awareness and Education	Total	Info and Referral/Public Awareness and Education	NO Info and Referral/Public Awareness and Education
Community Org. Prevention Initiatives	2785	137	2648	1557	56	1501
Family Builders	2178	0	2178	1421	23	1398
Family Support Primary Prevention	0	0	0	0	0	0
Healthy Families Florida	63	0	63	99	0	99
Home Visitor for High Risk Newborns	1258	0	1258	943	28	915
Housekeeper/Homemaker	108	0	108	51	0	51
Intensive Crisis Counseling	0	0	0	0	0	0

Other State Funding Sources	2275	1193	1082	906	249	657
Total	8667	1330	7337	4977	356	4621

**The chart represents potentially duplicated numbers within the funding source-counting the services provided.*

**Number of Children and Families Receiving Family Preservation Services
by Funding Source Provided
May 1, 2006 through September 30, 2006***

Federal Sources	Children			Families		
Community Based Child Abuse Prevention Grant	Total	Info and Referral/Public Awareness and Education	NO Info and Referral/Public Awareness and Education	Total	Info and Referral/Public Awareness and Education	NO Info and Referral/Public Awareness and Education
C.A.N. Basic	2146	0	2146	1029	85	944
CAPTA Grant - Community-Based Care	1028	0	1028	568	26	542
CBC Abuse Prevention Grant	2575	154	2421	4783	913	3870
Family Builders Program	1306	0	1306	684	26	658
Promoting Safe and Stable Families Grant	12335	464	11871	6921	447	6474
Other Federal Funding Sources	4179	22	4157	2307	107	2200
Total	23569	640	22929	16,292	1,604	14,688

State Sources	Children			Families		
	Total	Info and Referral/Public Awareness and Education	NO Info and Referral/Public Awareness and Education	Total	Info and Referral/Public Awareness and Education	NO Info and Referral/Public Awareness and Education
Community Org. Prevention Initiatives	2818	0	2818	1336	111	1225
Family Builders	4638	0	4638	2335	111	2224
Family Support Primary Prevention	0	0	0	0	0	0
Healthy Families Florida	175	0	175	180	0	180
Home Visitor for High Risk Newborns	1885	0	1885	867	36	831
Housekeeper/Homemaker	0	0	0	0	0	0
Intensive Crisis Counseling	60	0	60	32	0	32

Other State Funding Sources	5358	154	5204	6211	988	5223
Total	14934	154	14780	10961	1246	9715

**The chart represents potentially duplicated numbers within the funding source-counting the services provided.*

**Number of Children and Families Receiving Adoption Promotion and Support Services
by Funding Source Provided
May 1, 2006 through September 30, 2006***

Federal Sources	Children			Families		
	Total	Info and Referral/Public Awareness and Education	NO Info and Referral/Public Awareness and Education	Total	Info and Referral/Public Awareness and Education	NO Info and Referral/Public Awareness and Education
C.A.N. Basic	85	0	85	26	0	26
CAPTA Grant - Community-Based Care	16	0	16	10	0	10
CBC Abuse Prevention Grant	0	0	0	0	0	0
Family Builders Program	16	0	16	10	0	10
Promoting Safe and Stable Families Grant	1591	89	1502	669	45	624
Other Federal Funding Sources	322	0	322	172	0	172
Total	2030	89	1941	887	45	842

State Sources	Children			Families		
	Total	Info and Referral/Public Awareness and Education	NO Info and Referral/Public Awareness and Education	Total	Info and Referral/Public Awareness and Education	NO Info and Referral/Public Awareness and Education
Community Org. Prevention Initiatives	101	0	101	36	0	36
Family Builders	101	0	101	36	0	36
Family Support Primary Prevention	0	0	0	0	0	0
Healthy Families Florida	0	0	0	0	0	0
Home Visitor for High Risk Newborns	24	0	24	12	0	12
Housekeeper/Homemaker	0	0	0	0	0	0
Intensive Crisis Counseling	0	0	0	0	0	0

Other State Funding Sources	752	0	752	114	0	114
Total	978	0	978	198	0	198

**The chart represents potentially duplicated numbers within the funding source-counting the services provided.*

**Number of Children and Families Receiving Time-Limited Reunification Services
by Funding Source Provided
May 1, 2006 through September 30, 2006***

Federal Sources	Children			Families		
	Total	Info and Referral/Public Awareness and Education	NO Info and Referral/Public Awareness and Education	Total	Info and Referral/Public Awareness and Education	NO Info and Referral/Public Awareness and Education
C.A.N. Basic	368	39	329	127	18	109
CAPTA Grant - Community-Based Care	142	23	119	44	8	36
CBC Abuse Prevention Grant	0	0	0	0	0	0
Family Builders Program	148	23	125	37	8	29
Promoting Safe and Stable Families Grant	4219	109	4110	2316	122	2194
Other Federal Funding Sources	3115	1358	1757	2200	1363	837
Total	7992	1552	6440	4724	1519	3205

State Sources	Children			Families		
	Total	Info and Referral/Public Awareness and Education	NO Info and Referral/Public Awareness and Education	Total	Info and Referral/Public Awareness and Education	NO Info and Referral/Public Awareness and Education
Community Org. Prevention Initiatives	521	43	478	187	13	174
Family Builders	574	62	512	219	26	193
Family Support Primary Prevention	0	0	0	0	0	0
Healthy Families Florida	0	0	0	0	0	0
Home Visitor for High Risk Newborns	389	62	327	158	26	132
Housekeeper/Homemaker	0	0	0	0	0	0
Intensive Crisis Counseling	0	0	0	0	0	0

Other State Funding Sources	2546	751	1795	1713	806	907
Total	4030	918	3112	2277	871	1406

**The chart represents potentially duplicated numbers within the funding source-counting the services provided.*

Community-Based Family Support Services-May 1, 2006-September 30, 2006

Adoption Support Services

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
10, 11A		33	15

After School Enrichment

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
8,11A, 14		377	45

Case Management

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
1, 4C, 4S, 11A, 11B, 12		658	343

Child Care/Therapeutic Care

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
10		39	26

Crisis and Intervention Services

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
7F, 8		176	85

Dad's Group

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
8		0	13

Delinquency Prevention

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
8, 11A		129	92

Dependency Prevention

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
8		16	25

Developmental Screening/Evaluation

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
11A		12	11

Family Conferencing/ICA

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
1, 4NP, 10, 11A, 12, 13, 14		242	92

Family Preservation

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
8		0	526

Family Visitation Services

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
4D, 7S, 8, 13		1050	686

Financial Services

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
11A		8	3

Follow-Up Care to Families

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
7F, 11A		80	29

Foster Parent Recruitment/Support

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
14		4	21

Health and Nutrition Education

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
16, 11A		24	24

Healthy Families Florida

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
7F		43	22

Home Visiting Activities/Services

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
1, 4S, 7F, 8, 11A, 11B, 15, 23YN		1077	613

Individual Family Group Counseling Services

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
2B, 7B, 9, 10, 11A, 12		409	224

Information and Referral

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
1, 7F, 8, 9, 10, 11A, 12, 14		860	535

In-Home Services

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
1, 2A, 2B, 4N, 4S, 7B, 8, 10, 11A, 11B, 14, 23H,		1659	986

Intensive In-Home Interventions

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
1, 2A, 8, 9, 10		1090	526

Mental Health Services

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
11A		16	9

Mentoring/Tutoring Services ties

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
7B, 9, 11A		168	41

Neighborhood Partnership Community Activities

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
1, 4NP, 10, 12, 23H		3496	2388

Nurturing Dads

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
8		0	91

Parenting Education and Training

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
1, 3, 4D, 4S, 7B, 7S, 8, 10, 11A, 11B, 12, 14, 23YN, 23YS		1778	1251

Public Awareness and Education Activities

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
10, 14		1191	245

Relationship Skills Education

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
12		85	0

Risk Parenting

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
8		6	2

Self-help Groups/Support Groups

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
4S, 7B, 10		110	107

Teen Parent/Pregnancy Programs

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
7F, 8		106	104

Transportation

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
1, 7S, 14,		84	71

Urgent/Emergency Services

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
1, 2B, 11A, 12, 14, 23H, 23YS		146	83

Voluntary High Risk

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
8		8	4
Grand Total		15220	9369

**These charts are unduplicated numbers, counting the children and families that received each service.*

Family Preservation Services – May 1, 2006-September 30, 2006

Adoption Support Services

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
11A, 23YS		16	11

Case Management

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
1, 4C, 4S, 11A, 11B		845	557

Crisis and Intervention Services

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
7B, 11A, 11B, 12,		411	217

Crisis/Respite Care

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
12		42	23

Delinquency Prevention

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
11A, 11B		52	55

Family Conferencing/ICA

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
1, 4NP, 11A, 12, 14		184	71

Family Preservation

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
8		76	30

Family Visitation Services

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
4C, 4D, 13		1427	742

FCS

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
8		110	51

Follow-Up Care to Families

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
11A		54	22

Healthy Families Florida

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
7S		27	20

Home Visiting Activities/Services

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
1, 7S, 11A, 30		1278	1422

Individual Family Group Counseling Services

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
2A, 2B, 7B, 11A, 23YN		563	493

Information and Referral

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
1, 11A, 12, 14, 30		618	1360

In-Home Services

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
1, 2A, 4N, 7B, 13, 14, 23H		2362	1133

Intensive Crisis Counseling

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
1, 2B, 7S, 10		456	241

Intensive Family Preservations

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
1		81	39

Intensive In-Home Interventions

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
1, 3, 4S, 7S, 8, 10, 11A, 11B, 14, 15		1760	821

Mentoring/Tutoring Services

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
7B, 11A		66	2

Neighborhood Partnership Community Activities

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
11A, 12, 23H		41	15

Parent Support Groups

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
7S, 11A, 14, 23YS, 30		254	965

Parenting Education and Training

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
1, 3, 4C, 4D, 7B, 7S, 8, 9, 10, 11A, 11B, 14, 23YS, 30		7246	4407

Public Awareness and Education Activities

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
10		22	22

Self-Help Groups/Support Groups

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
7B, 11A		63	45

Teen Parent/Pregnancy Programs

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
8		34	31

Transportation

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
1, 11A, 14, 30		212	945

Urgent/Emergency Services

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
1, 2A, 2B, 12, 14		538	480

Workshops/Seminars

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
11A		247	219
GRAND TOTAL		19131	14462

** These charts are unduplicated numbers, counting the children and families that received each service.*

Adoption Promotion and Support Services – May 1, 2006 - September 30, 2006

Adoption Promotion

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
7B, 10, 12, 15, 23H		182	90

Adoption Recruitment

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
12, 15		140	38

Adoption Support Services

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
2A, 2B, 4C, 4N, 4S, 7B, 10, 11A, 12,		629	415

Case Management

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
4C, 4N, 11A, 12		549	48

Family Conferencing/ICA

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
12		17	4

Family Visitation Services

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
1		54	18

Individual Family Group Counseling Services

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
2A, 11A, 14		98	53

Information and Referral

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
11A, 12		89	45

Mental Health Services

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
14		19	9

Neighborhood Partnership Community Activities

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
12		4	1

Parent Support Groups

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
11A		33	16

Parenting Education and Training

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
11A		98	53

Self-Help Groups/Support Groups

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
10, 11A		56	38

Transportation

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
1		47	18

Urgent/Emergency Services

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
12		4	1
GRAND TOTAL		2019	847

** These charts are unduplicated numbers, counting the children and families that received each service.*

Time-Limited Family Reunification Services –May 1, 2006-September 30, 2006

Adoption Support Services

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
11A		1	1

Case Management

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
1, 3, 4C, 11A, 11B, 12, 13		1455	746

Childcare/Therapeutic care

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
7B, 10		75	15

Crisis and Intervention Services

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
7S		65	75

Delinquency Prevention

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
11A, 11B		5	5

Development Screening/Evaluation

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
11A		6	2

Family Conferencing/ICA

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
1, 4NP, 11A, 12, 14		39	17

Family Visitation Services

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
1, 2A, 2B, 3, 4C, 4S, 7F, 8, 12, 13, 15, 23H, 23YN, 23YS		2101	1266

Follow-Up Care to Families

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
11A		18	11

Home Visiting Activities/Services

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
1, 11A, 11B		70	47

Individual Family Group Counseling Services

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
2A, 2B, 4C, 4S, 7S, 10, 11A, 11B, 14		191	180

Information and Referral

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
1, 7S, 11A, 11B, 12, 13		841	915

In-Home Services

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
1, 4N, 7B, 11A, 11B, 23YN		490	353

Intensive In-Home Interventions

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
1, 8, 23H		145	62

Neighborhood Partnership Community Activities

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
1, 12, 23H		35	15

Parenting Education and Training

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
1, 7B, 7F, 11A, 11B, 23H		154	97

Self-help Groups/Support Groups

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
11A, 11B		17	9

Transportation

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
1, 7F, 23YN		592	95

Urgent/Emergency Services

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
1, 12		20	7
GRAND TOTAL		6320	3918

** These charts are unduplicated numbers, counting the children and families that received each service.*

**Report on Family Support/Prevention Services
Funded by the C.A.N. Basic Federal Grant Program
May 1, 2006-September 30, 2006**

Case Management

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
1		24	14

Home Visiting Activities/Services

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
1, 15		169	98

Individual, Family, or Group Counseling Services

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
7B		3	0

Information and Referral

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
1		0	21

In-Home Services

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
1, 2B, 7B		274	217

Intensive In-Home Interventions

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
1		103	63

Mentoring/Tutoring Services

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
7B		74	0

Parenting Education and Training

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
1, 7B		64	77

Self-help Groups/Support Groups

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
7B		0	1

Transportation

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
1		0	10
GRAND TOTAL		711	501

** These charts are unduplicated numbers, counting the children and families that received each service within the funding source.*

**Report on Family Preservation Services
Funded by the C.A.N. Basic Federal Grant Program
May 1, 2006-September 30, 2006**

Case Management

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
1		103	42

Crisis and Intervention Services

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
7B, 12		214	94

Crisis/Respite Care

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
12		42	23

Home Visiting Activities/Services

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
1		614	202

Individual, Family, or Group Counseling Services

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
7B		6	2

Information and Referral

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
1		0	85

In-Home Services

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
1, 7B		731	337

Intensive Crisis Counseling

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
1		65	32

Intensive Family Preservations

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
1		81	39

Intensive In-Home Interventions

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
1		82	35

Mentoring/Tutoring Services

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
7B		45	0

Parenting Education and Training

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
1, 7B, 9		125	98

Self-help Groups/Support Groups

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
7B		1	0

Transportation

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
1		0	8

Urgent/Emergency Services

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
1		37	32
GRAND TOTAL		2146	1029

** These charts are unduplicated numbers, counting the children and families that received each service within the funding source.*

**Report on Adoption Promotion and Support Services
Funded by the C.A.N. Basic Federal Grant Program
May 1, 2006-September 30, 2006**

Family Visitation Services

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
1		45	13

Transportation

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
1		40	13
GRAND TOTAL		85	26

** These charts are unduplicated numbers, counting the children and families that received each service within the funding source.*

**Report on Family Time-Limited Reunification Services
Funded by the C.A.N. Basic Federal Grant Program
May 1, 2006-September 30, 2006**

Case Management

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
1		19	8

Family Visitation Services

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
1		98	22

Home Visiting Activities/Services

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
1		8	4

Information and Referral

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
1		39	18

In-Home Services

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
1, 7B		53	40

Intensive In-Home Interventions

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
1		7	3

Parenting Education and Training

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
1, 7B		17	10

Transportation

District	County	Children Served	Families Served
1		127	22
GRAND TOTAL		368	127

- *These charts are unduplicated numbers*

Maintenance of Effort

This section contains a table listing the estimated state and federal expenditures for FY 2005-2006 for family preservation, family support services, time-limited reunification, and adoption and support services. Expenditures for the four service categories are reported separately.

From FY 2005-2006, state funding for the combined services was \$654,819,939. The maintenance of effort below identifies non-federal funds expended for family preservation, family support, time limited family reunification and adoption promotion and support services. Funds have not been supplanted to meet this federal requirement to equal or exceed the amount spent in 1992 for family preservation and family support services as stated in 45 CFR 1357.32(f).

ESTIMATED EXPENDITURES: State Fiscal Year 2005-2006									
FAMILY PRESERVATION AND FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES									
Fiscal Data									
Program/Service	Funding Source	Family Preservation Services		Family Support Services		Time-Limited Reunification		Adoption Promotion or Support	
		STATE	FEDERAL	STATE	FEDERAL	STATE	FEDERAL	STATE	FEDERAL
Adoption Information Center	Adopt Asst							71,175	80,761
Adult & Youth Support Svcs	JPTA Title II-A								
Associated Marine Institute	State Funds	11,472,589	992						
Child Sexual Abuse Treatment Program and Child Protection Teams	State Funds	14,517,829	5,510,553						
Child Abuse Prevention	State Funds								
Child Day Care									
Child Care and Development Fund	SSBG/CDBG & TANF			190,860,287	454,992,977				
Children's Services Council	State Funds								

ESTIMATED EXPENDITURES: State Fiscal Year 2005-2006
FAMILY PRESERVATION AND FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES
Fiscal Data

Program/Service	Funding Source	Family Preservation Services		Family Support Services		Time-Limited Reunification		Adoption Promotion or Support	
		STATE	FEDERAL	STATE	FEDERAL	STATE	FEDERAL	STATE	FEDERAL
Children's Mental Health and Substance Abuse	DJJ- General Rev DCF – Comm MH Block Grant	9,873,659 121,099,131 (DCF)	273,750 36,626,536(DCF)						
CINS/FINS Runaway Shelter	SSBG	28,579,336	932,112						
Commission on Fatherhood	SSBG								
Commission on Fatherhood	DOH								
Community Affairs/SRVS	Comm Servs Block Grant				18,417,350				
Comm-based Placement									
Comm-Based Family Resource	CAN State Basic	680,954	1,350,314						
Community Food & Nutrition	Comm Food & Nutrition Grant				219,968 (DCA) 116,507,517 (DOH)				
Crisis Nursery	Crisis Nursery Grant								
Day Care Quality Improvement	Child Care Dev Block Grant				37,041,182				
Day Care Resource & Referral	Child Care Dev Block Grant				1,338,980				
Delinquency Case Management	Social Service Block Grant								
Detention Home Staff	National School Lunch & General Revenue								
District Prevention Projects	CAN State Basic Grant			0	699,308				
Domestic Violence	Fam Viol Prev & Svcs/STOP/RDV& CVE Svcs			11,450,616	17,326,152				
Drug Dependent Babies	State Funds								

ESTIMATED EXPENDITURES: State Fiscal Year 2005-2006
FAMILY PRESERVATION AND FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES
Fiscal Data

Program/Service	Funding Source	Family Preservation Services		Family Support Services		Time-Limited Reunification		Adoption Promotion or Support	
		STATE	FEDERAL	STATE	FEDERAL	STATE	FEDERAL	STATE	FEDERAL
Early Delinquent Prev Program	State Funds	1,350,000							
Early Permanency Proj. (D6)	State Funds								
Early Intervention Services	IDEA, Part H			16,848,651	21,951,208				
Emergency Financial Asst for Housing\		1,232,758	1,232,758						
Epilepsy	State Funds			4,253,069					
Even Start	ESEA, Title I, Chapter				380,603				
Family Builders	DJJ - GR DCF - GR, SSBG, TSTF, TANF	649,188(DJJ) 23,626,338 (DCF)	940,819(DCF)						
Family Day Care Home Enhancement	State Funds			11,726					
Family Planning	Title X, Family Planning	5,690,533	9,364,574						
Florida First Start Program	State Funds								
Full Service Schools	DCF - State Funds DOH -			8,500,000	110,461				
Home Visitor-High Risk Newborn	State Funds			1,029,435					
Housekeeper/Homemaker	State Funds								
Healthy Families	TANF			19,695,113	8,557,810				
Improved Pregnancy Outcome	Maternal & Child Health Blk Grant			25,213,747	13,791,794				
Infant A/N Life Management Center	Federal Grant Trust Fund								

ESTIMATED EXPENDITURES: State Fiscal Year 2005-2006
FAMILY PRESERVATION AND FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES
Fiscal Data

Program/Service	Funding Source	Family Preservation Services		Family Support Services		Time-Limited Reunification		Adoption Promotion or Support	
		STATE	FEDERAL	STATE	FEDERAL	STATE	FEDERAL	STATE	FEDERAL
Intensive Crisis Counseling	SSBG	0	3,028						
Interstate Compact/ ISS	State Funds	397,067	201,612						
JASP	State Funds	982,470							
Legal Services – TPR(a) - Adop (b)	SSBG, Title IV-E, TANF							12,812,822 (a) 2,206,708 (b)	17,933,337 (a) 3,062,034 (b)
Local Services Program	Refugee Assistance Fed Grant TF			25,173	49,510,257				
Maintenance Subsidy	GR,FGTF,TSTF,S SBG,O&MTF							33,986,130	47,162,160
Medical Subsidy	GR/FGTF							1,301,342	
Migrant Education	Federal Grant								
Migrant Pre-School	State Funds								
Non Secure Detention Shelter	State Funds								
One Church, One Child	Adopt Asst							90,955	114,514
Ounce of Prevention	DCF - GR/SSBG DOH -	928,412 (DOH)	2,071,588 (DOH)						
PK Early Intervention	State Funds								
PACE	State Funds			10,472,579					
Family Source	SSBG								
Preschool Grants Program	IDEA, Part B								
Primary Care (CMS)	Maternal & Child Health Blk Grant			3,869,214	1,889,787				
Project Safety Net	SSBG								
Protective Services Staff	SSBG,Med Asst,TANF, CWS- State, & Title IV-E	60,042,424	57,040,513						
Protective Services Staff	Adopt Asst								
Purchase of Adoption Services	GR,FGTF,O&MTF							1,074,645	1,074,645

ESTIMATED EXPENDITURES: State Fiscal Year 2005-2006
FAMILY PRESERVATION AND FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES
Fiscal Data

Program/Service	Funding Source	Family Preservation Services		Family Support Services		Time-Limited Reunification		Adoption Promotion or Support	
		STATE	FEDERAL	STATE	FEDERAL	STATE	FEDERAL	STATE	FEDERAL
Regional Perinatal Program				777,802	75,811				
School Health				7,451,199	7,000,000 Title XXI 874,180				
Services to children awaiting adopt	Title IV-E, Adop Asst, CWS-State, TANF, SSBG & Med Asst							21,771,038	19,486,140
SEDNET	IDEA, Part B and General Revenue								
Teen Competency Program									
Teenage Parent Program	FL Education Finance Program								
Women, Infants & Children Program	Women, Infants & Children Program				266,165,218				
WAGES	TANF								
Year Round Youth	JTPA II-C								
Totals by Program AREA & FUND SOURCE		281,122,688	115,549,149	300,453,611	1,016,850,562	-	-	73,243,640	88,913,591
Totals by AREA		396,671,837		1,317,304,173		-		162,157,231	
State Grand Total		654,819,939							
Grand Total		1,876,133,241							

Chapter 12

Supporting Information

Juvenile Justice Transfers Inter-Country Adoptions Adoption Incentive Payments Foster and Adoptive Parents Recruitment Florida Administrative Code and Legislative Updates Child Welfare Demonstration Project

Supporting information is provided for the following areas:

- Juvenile Justice Transfers
- Inter-Country Adoptions
- Adoption Incentive Payments
- Foster and Adoptive Parents Recruitment
- Child Welfare Demonstration Projects
- Florida Administrative Code and Legislative Updates (added by the Department)

Juvenile Justice Transfers

- Number of children active as a child welfare case who were in a Department of Juvenile Justice facility or shelter at any time during FFY 2006 - 1,345.
- Number of children active as a child welfare case who were in a Department of Juvenile Justice facility or shelter on 9/30/06 - 334.

Inter-Country Adoptions

During this reporting period, Florida is not aware of any child who was adopted from another country and entered into State custody as a result of the disruption of a placement for adoption or the dissolution of an adoption.

Adoption Incentive Payments

The Florida's Adoption Incentive Award Payments was spent primarily on maintenance adoption subsidies. The remainder of the funds supported case management services for local adoption programs managed by the Community Based Care Lead Agencies.

Foster and Adoptive Parents Recruitment FFY 2005 to 2006

****This is an abbreviated version of Florida's Plan as the official and complete version was submitted to Administration for Children and Families at an earlier date.**

Background

The Department's recruitment, retention and placement stability plan is built around a process and framework developed by Judith McKenzie of *AdoptUsKids* National Resource Center. This is a proposed model for Florida's local, community-based care plans and for the overarching statewide plan that is consistent with federal requirements for diligent recruitment.

The 2006 statewide plan was developed in collaboration with Judith McKenzie and includes data and information extracted from the 2006-2007 local recruitment and retention plans submitted by the district lead agencies. Additional data has been obtained through Department databases, specifically *HomeSafenet*.

The Florida Statewide Recruitment, Retention and Placement Stability Plan is required by Title IV-B of the Social Security Act and is federally mandated by the provisions for diligent recruitment contained in the Multiethnic Placement Act of 1994, as amended by the Interethnic Adoptions Provisions of 1996. Florida's transition to a community based system of care established direct provision of services including recruitment and retention of foster and adoptive parents as the role and responsibility of Community-Based Care Lead Agencies. District recruitment and retention plans, therefore, form the basis for the statewide plan.

The current process and framework implemented in Florida provides the essential elements for local and statewide plans that comply with federal guidelines for diligent recruitment.

State Requirements

Florida's Administrative Code 65C-16.004, Recruitment, Screening and Application Process/Adoptive Applicants, specifies that the Department or Community-Based Care Lead Agency will ensure that an assessment of adoptive parent resource needs is done in statewide at the beginning of each calendar year. A plan including recruitment activities for the year based on the results of the assessment is to be submitted annually to the Headquarters Family Safety office.

Program Improvement Plan

The development of local, community-based recruitment and retention plans is an activity of Florida's Program Improvement Plan developed in collaboration with the Administration for Children and Families. State Program Improvement Plans are not intended to be time limited in their scope and applicability to statewide child welfare practice, but are designed to ensure compliance with federal mandates and to provide

the foundation for improving statewide best practices in child welfare on an ongoing basis. Local recruitment and retention plans are critical to federal compliance and to maintaining child welfare practice consistent with national standards.

Technical assistance in developing the local plans and the statewide plan has been provided through monthly Recruitment and Retention and Placement Stability conference calls and through electronic communications. Judith McKenzie participated in a statewide call with staff and provided essential guidance in March 2006.

The local plans who adopted the new framework reflect significant improvement in content and organization.

Data Reports Checklist

Report for Children Waiting to be Adopted.

HSn Reports - Adoptions Finalized: TPR Order to Finalization

TPR Order to Finalization

Foster parent adoptions comprise approximately one-third of Florida's yearly statewide adoptions. Because many foster parents discontinue fostering following the adoption finalization, the continuous loss of foster parents must be replenished through foster parent recruitment efforts.

Demographics of Children Receiving Out-of-Home Services.

Age ranges

- 0-2yrs: 25.08%
- 3-5yrs: 18.82%;
- 6-9yrs: 18.86%;
- 10-13yrs: 16.10%
- 14-17yrs: 20.74%
- Unknown: 0.40%

Gender

- Male: 51.58%
- Female: 48.42%

Race/Ethnicity

- White: 60.63%
- Black: 40.87%
- Hispanic: 10.37%
- Other: 1.16%

Total Number in Out of Home Care from a point in time: 7/1/06-7/31/06

- 31,096 children in out of home care during July 2006

Children in Out of Home Care with Identified Other Needs

- Unduplicated count of children with a documented clinical disability: 3,214
- Visual or hearing disability: 407 children
- Emotional disability: 1,918
- Behavior or mental health: 576 children
- Physical disability: 560 children
- Other medically diagnosed condition: 1,839 children

***Some children may be included who have more than 1 identified need.**

Analysis of Demographics

- For the period 7/1/06 through 7/31/06, 44.62% of the children in out-of-home-care were age five and under.
- This number signifies recruitment of foster parents willing to care for children age five and under must comprise almost half of our efforts throughout the State.

Child's ZIP Code Prior to Removal

- The number of licensed homes and available bed space by ZIP Code are found in local licensing data files.
- To maintain dependent children in close proximity of their removal homes and the same school district, a comparison of removal zip codes with the available foster homes in that area is required.

Placement Stability

Demographics by age, race, ethnicity of children who have experienced more than two placements in the first year of placement

Race

- Asian: 0.4%
- Black: 38.0%
- Hawaiian: 0.1%
- Indian: 0.2%,
- White: 61.6%
- Unable to Determine: 0.5%

Total # Children: 3194

Ethnicity

- Haitian: 1.1%
- Hispanic: 10.8%

- Other: 88.9%
- Unable to Determine: 1.1%

Number of placements for children active in out-of-home care not longer than one year with 3 or more placements/other placements: 10/6/06 point-in-time.

Percentages for all clients in out-of-home-care as of 10/6/06 with 3 or more placements

- The best placement stability rating was 0.2% of clients in out-of-home-care who had 3 or more placements.
- The greatest instability rating was 14.0%.

Reasons for placement changes

Placement Changes for children active in out-of-home care not longer than one year with 3 or more placements/other placements at a point in time of 7/1/06 to 7/31/06.

- Provider Request Non-Disruption and Placement Disruption - account for 76.6% of the reasons for placement end.
- Florida Administrative Code. 65C-28.004 establishes the requirements and standards for appropriate caregivers in order to establish placement stability.

Data Reports: Family Demographics and Utilization Information

- Increase from 2005 to 2006: 2,760 new homes, or 8.4%
- Percent of Licensed Providers Over-Capacity: Statewide as of July 2005: 6%
- Statewide as of August 2006: 8.1%

Recruitment and Retention Plan

Report and Evaluation of Last Year's Efforts and Accomplishments

The Goals of the Department of Children and Families Comprehensive Statewide Recruitment and Retention Plan for Foster Care and Adoption were to:

- Establish and maintain an effective statewide community-based care recruitment and retention program for foster and adoptive families that complies with state and federal requirements
- Assure that all lead agency and community-based care model contract language addresses recruitment and retention planning regarding the needs of children and families in their respective communities
- Establish statewide mechanisms for assisting community-based care providers to incorporate best practices in recruitment and retention

Within the context of a community - based system of care, the Office of Family Safety provides technical guidance and support to assist agencies in meeting state and federal requirements in recruitment and retention of foster and adoptive parents.

Strategies for accomplishing stated goals have included:

- The development of a framework for effective and improved statewide communication through conference calls and electronic communication,
- Community based recruitment and retention planning;
- Special initiatives; and
- On-site technical support in best practices including an emphasis on developing accurate data gathering, analysis and performance monitoring.

In keeping with federal requirements including the Program Improvement Plan, Community - Based Care Lead Agencies in each district developed individualized recruitment and retention plans that reflect their unique community needs, strategies and resources.

Recruitment and retention of foster parents and placement stability for children in out-of-home care are essential elements of both the Department's Strategic Plan and the Business Plan.

The following action steps were completed at the state level in support of the strategies highlighted above during the 2005-2006.

Activities of the Headquarters Family Safety Program Office include:

- Conducted regularly scheduled conference calls with Community - Based Care Lead Agencies on recruitment and retention and placement stability.

Communications provide a statewide forum for the exchange of information, resource-sharing, identification of challenges, and problem solving that provide key technical assistance on an ongoing basis.

Information is provided to the conference call list throughout the month by email.

A monthly placement stability statewide call was added. The conference calls include speakers and presentations by state and national specialists and national resource centers.

- Provided ongoing technical assistance: Technical assistance is provided by program specialists at the state level via email, telephone and on-site visits on an as needed basis.
- Implemented a standardized process and framework for Local Recruitment and Retention Plans: Florida developed an overarching framework and process plan that complies with federal guidelines for diligent recruitment .

- The framework and process plan supports the development of data based analysis that supports measurable objectives and outcomes in recruitment, retention, and placement stability.
- The framework was used statewide for the first time in the development of the 2005-2006 plans
- Implemented a Pilot Project in District 1 which serves four counties in the panhandle area of the state.
 - This pilot was a collaboration of the state and local department staff , the Community - Based Care Lead Agency, and four national resource centers to address declining placement stability rates and the reduction of placement resources.
 - Engaged in the collaboration were foster parents, representatives from other community agencies and other stakeholders
 - The pilot involved case review, extensive data analysis, and conducting focus groups at the local level. It was followed by the development of county based recruitment and retention plans which have been implemented successfully and already display positive outcomes.
 - This pilot demonstrated the potential for creating positive outcomes through effective collaboration among multiple agencies and stakeholders. The pilot may become a model for replication statewide.
- Strengthened performance monitoring: Placement stability and recruitment and retention were added to the Performance and Resource Management Team (PaRTS) process to improve statewide performance through ongoing analysis and monitoring of the Family Safety 306 (Placement Stability) performance measure.
- Developed policy and procedure for placement matching and placement changes: Florida Administrative Code Chapter 65C – 28 included in its 2006 revisions specific policy and requirements for placement matching and placement changes.
- Maintained a Florida foster care internet website: The Office of Family Safety maintains a foster care website on the MyFlorida.com/Department of Children and Families internet website. The site provides essential information on becoming a foster parent and includes a current list of local contacts by county for persons interested in obtaining information on becoming licensed.
- Provided support and services to foster parents: Ongoing technical assistance that guides best practice in the support and retention of foster and adoptive parents continues to be a focal point of recruitment and retention planning in Florida through a statewide contract with the Florida State Foster Adoptive Parent Association.

Activities included a monthly statewide foster parent conference call facilitated by Program Office staff, the appointment of a statewide Foster Parent Liaison and the provision of ongoing technical assistance and support.

Significant Successes and Challenges

Significant successes noted in 2005-2006 include noted improvements in data analysis that guides recruitment and retention planning as reflected in the new 2006-2007 local plans. The new framework and process plan has provided a higher level of consistency in the reporting of recruitment and retentions efforts statewide and an increased emphasis on the use of data analysis to guide effective planning. Effective communication, technical assistance and ongoing support of the work at the local level continues to be an essential tool for improving best practice standards and performance for diligent recruitment statewide.

The pilot project in District 1 has produced improvement for both recruitment and retention planning and placement stability. The project underscores Florida's successful partnership with national resource centers, district, community based care and community stakeholders to improve child welfare practice in our state. The lessons learned in this project hold significant promise for successful replication statewide and include the importance of data-driven analysis and planning, engaging foster parents and community stakeholders in the improvement process, developing and focusing efforts at the community level, and enhancing support and services to foster families.

Challenges noted are lack of agency experience in data analysis and the use of data in recruitment and retention planning; formalized recruitment and retention planning; reluctance to seek state level technical assistance; and reluctance to use data driven methods to develop local strategies and reporting. Additionally, while some districts have expressed interest, to date only one other district has requested technical assistance in replicating the pilot.

Case reviews and anecdotal information from the field indicate that challenges to improving placement instability are often based in a lack of appropriate placement matching, including a prevalence of placements that are made with the knowledge that the placement will be short lived. Specific case management requirements for placement matching and changing placements are now outlined in Florida Administrative Code and should provide essential guidance in more appropriate decision-making and assessment in these areas.

Plan for the Next Period

Goals, Objectives and Highlights

Information and data included in the local plans have identified areas of need that can be addressed through technical assistance and other improvement planning such as the PaRTS process. Challenges will continue to be resistance to developing data driven methods for recruitment and retention strategies in some areas and the submitting of a

local plan by certain districts. Including this process in PaRTS and in lead agency contractual requirements should lead to increased emphasis on local plans in all areas.

Goals for the 2006-2007 year will remain to:

- Establish and maintain an effective statewide community-based care recruitment and retention program for foster and adoptive families that complies with state and federal requirements
- Assure that community-based care model contract language addresses recruitment and retention planning regarding the needs of children and families in their respective communities
- Establish statewide mechanisms for assisting community-based care providers to incorporate best practices in recruitment and retention

Objectives for the 2006-2007 year are as follows:

- 100% of district lead agencies will have submitted data driven recruitment and retention plans to the Office of Family Safety by July 1
- 75% of these plans will document improved outcomes for recruiting and retaining foster and adoptive parents
- 95% of requests for technical assistance from districts/lead agencies will be met by the Office of Family Safety.
- Technical assistance requests from the districts/lead agencies will increase by 25%
- Districts/lead agencies report satisfaction with information and technical assistance by the Office of Family Safety of no less than 80% as measured by voluntary electronic surveys available through the monthly conference calls.
- Monthly recruitment and retention/placement stability statewide conference calls will be facilitated by the Office of Family Safety with a satisfaction rate expressed by participants of no less than 80% with increased reporting of incidences of shared best practices and resources and networking opportunities as measured by voluntary electronic surveys available through the monthly conference calls.

Recruitment and Retention Strategies

Compile a consolidated report to be incorporated into the statewide plan which includes an overview of local recruitment and retention plans:

- Submission of Plans. Seventeen of the 22 lead agencies (77%) have submitted 2006-07 Recruitment and Retention Plans.
- Recommended Format. Nine of the agencies (41%) submitted their plans using the recommended format that includes reports and analysis of placement stability and recruitment and retention data.
- Family Support Specialists. Twelve of the agencies (54%) listed Family Support Specialists and/or Foster Parent Liaison positions. District 4 specified that corrective action plans are implemented as needed, and in-home training and services are

provided to those homes under corrective action plans. Sun Coast YMCA employs four foster home advocate positions. In addition to a caregiver liaison, District 7 also listed Pre and Post-adoptive service support counselors. District 9 provides a liaison to assist protective investigations staff in relative searches at the time of shelter. District 13 and 15 provide licensing specialists as liaisons between foster parents and case management and/or investigations. District 15 follows up on new placements through telephone calls. The Behavior Analysts program is implemented to prevent disruptions.

- Foster/Adoptive Parent Supports/Training. Fourteen of the agencies (64%) report active Foster Parent Associations within their geographical area. Districts in general are providing multiple events, recognitions and support services to their foster parents. Many of the districts report that foster parents are included as co-trainers in the MAPP classes. Several of the areas reported mentoring programs, newsletters and foster parent handbooks for their positive parenting and infant and toddler care training. Foster parent training is designed around data gathered from disruption analysis.
- Multicultural Training Materials. District 1, 11, 13 and 15 provide foster parent training materials for the ethnic communities.
- Satisfaction Surveys. Eight of the agencies (36%) conduct Satisfaction Surveys among the foster parents.
- Placement Matching Assessments. Ten of the agencies (45%) utilize placement matching assessments through the use of match staffings.
- Recruitment/General & Targeted Several agencies use data-driven targeted recruitment by ZIP Code matching of the number of children removed with the number of foster beds available.
- Other Recruitment Strategies. Agencies engages case managers, protective investigators in the recruitment process, host quarterly "Open House" in different areas of the counties, advertise on county paychecks, engage faith-based communities, medical, school, civic and social organizations in recruitment efforts, and using foster parents in the recruitment process. Recruitment strategies also included use of local media, city bus advertisements, speakers' bureaus, awards programs, appreciation banquets.
- Data Reports/Tracking Analysis Systems. Several agencies report comprehensive data analysis processes that drive placement stability and recruitment and retention efforts. The majority of the local plans reported data analysis on child demographics. Half of the local plans included data analysis on placement stability. Other areas of analysis included culture and ethnicity, foster parent demographics and special developmental, behavioral and medical needs.

- Staff Training. District 1 and SC-YMCA trains case managers to provide a more active role in the nurture and retention of foster parents as partners. District 8 provides Foster Parent sensitivity training for staff.
- Placement Disruption Staffings. Several plans listed regular crisis staffings to prevent disruptions. Prior notice of disruptions is required in order to allow staff to implement service plans into the home in an attempt to prevent the placement disruption.
- Technical Assistance Presentations. Lesson Plans for presentations were developed to highlight best practices and forwarded to districts/Community - Based Care agencies either electronically or on-site in response to requests.
- Promotion of technical assistance. Promotion efforts through monthly conference calls and electronic distribution of materials and resources.
- Forum for networking. Exchange of best practices, resources and ideas among agencies statewide via monthly conference calls and electronic communications.
- Implement Plan with National Resource Centers. A plan to roll-out lessons learned about recruitment and retention as the result of the District 1 project
- Use PaRTS process. To improve recruitment and retention rates in support of improving placement stability outcomes.
- Support to Foster Parents. Through incentives for the development of local associations and to access state and national education and training
- Surveys and Reports. To measure progress in providing quality technical assistance to districts and agencies

Placement Stability Strategies

Statewide placement stability performance (Strategic Measure FS306) is reviewed quarterly through the statewide Child Welfare PaRTs conference calls. During the calls an analysis of the Statewide Performance Measures Dashboard performance is reviewed. Data on the Dashboard is provided from HomeSafenet data. Quarterly performance reviews are provided, with performers below the performance goal reporting to the Secretary. The Data Unit from the DCF Office of Family Safety provides placement stability data to all Districts in order to assist each District in their analysis of placement stability.

- A monthly statewide Placement Stability/Recruitment & Retention conference call is provided for foster care licensing, relicensing, recruiting, and placement staff throughout the state to discuss placement and recruitment related issues.
- The PaRTs call will continue to place emphasis on the issue of placement stability.

- Technical assistance and ad-hoc data reports will continue to be provided districts regarding the analysis of placement stability data.
- Technical assistance has been provided to District & CBC staff in District 1. As other Districts request assistance, it will be provided.

Training to be provided by staff and resource parents regarding placement stability

- An intranet website with a Documents Repository, <http://eww.dcf.state.fl.us/~fsp/newpages/repository/repository.shtml>, has been created to house memos, articles and cutting edge research. Placement stability will be added as a link to this website.
- A Family Safety Training Electronic Newsletter provides information and training regarding specific child welfare related subjects. This website, <http://www.dcf.state.fl.us/publications> will be referenced to provide training articles regarding best practices, including information on placement stability.

Conclusion and next year's priorities:

Significant progress has been made in improving the content and consistency of local recruitment and retention plans and, particularly, in the increased use of data to determine objectives and strategies.

Priorities:

- Building capacity to be effective in local efforts to meet the needs of the ethnic and racial diversity of the children served,
- Increase the pool of existing families that reflect the communities of the children served in out-of-home care, and
- Enhancing permanency and placement stability outcomes will remain our priorities in the coming year.

Florida Administrative Code & Legislative Update

The Department completed the first phase of a major re-write of the Florida Administrative Code by promulgating new rules for out-of-home care, protective investigations, general child welfare provisions, and services to young adults formerly in the custody of the Department. The four rules are only the beginning of a project to re-write or amend the Florida Administrative Code relating to child protection programs.

An “Administrative Rule Guide” was printed and sent to the Lead Agencies, Sheriffs offices, districts, region, and zone offices for distribution in June 2006. The guides provide an overview of each rule, the rule, and serve as a resource and training supplement for case managers, child protection investigators; and supervisors. The newly promulgated rules include:

- 65C-28 Out-of-Home Care, effective May 4, 2006
- 65C-29 Protective Investigations, effective May 4, 2006
- 65C-30 General Child Welfare Provisions, effective May 4, 2006
- 65C-31 Services to Young Adults Formerly in the Custody of the Department, effective July 27, 2006

The 2006 Florida Legislature amended Chapter 39, Florida Statutes, Proceedings Related to Children, to bring Florida’s child welfare practices into compliance with the federal Adoptions and Safe Families Act (ASFA). The statutory changes not only address technical compliance but also address expediting permanency for children. The changes significantly improve permanency, safety, and well-being for the children and families involved in Florida’s child welfare system. The majority of the revisions relate to reasonable efforts, case planning, and permanency. The law went into effect July 1, 2006.

In-service training on the statutory changes occurred during the summer of 2006. This training was a collaborative effort between the General Counsel’s office, the Office of Family Safety, Community-Based Care Lead Agencies, and the Sheriffs offices. The General Counsel’s office took the lead in this effort. In addition, a Chapter 39 desk reference was printed and distributed statewide in July 2006. As in prior years, the desk reference provides a summary of changes to Chapter 39.

Title IV-E Foster Care Waiver

Background

Florida received federal approval of the first statewide waiver providing flexibility for foster care funds in March 2006. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Administration for Children and Families (ACF) authorized the five-year waiver under Title IV-E of the Social Security Act, allowing Florida to demonstrate that flexibility in funding will result in improved services for families.

Provisions

The waiver allows federal foster care funds to be used for any child welfare purpose rather than being restricted to out-of-home care as generally required under federal law. It also enables funds to be used for a wide variety of child welfare services including prevention, intensive in-home services to prevent placement of children outside the home, reunification and foster care.

Waiver Funding

Florida will receive federal funding during the course of a five-year period based on what the state would have received under IV-E rules. This amount will increase by three percent per year over federal foster care funding in the federal fiscal year that ended September 30, 2005. The program puts funding incentives in line with the program goals of maintaining the safety and well-being of children and enhancing permanency by providing services that help families remain intact whenever possible.

The waiver proposal was developed as a joint effort by DCF and its CBC lead agencies. In keeping with the truly collaborative nature of this project, the steering group continues to oversee implementation and meet regularly.

Implementation

Beginning October 1, 2006 the waiver was implemented statewide. Many activities took place in order that implementation occurred on time.

- Oversight and Coordination - The steering group has continued to meet via conference call on a weekly basis. Work groups reported that tasks necessary for October 1 implementation are complete.
- Simplified Eligibility –Work group developed and implemented procedures to ensure that IV-E eligibility determinations can be made for all children who are involved in the demonstration project. This will ensure eligible children retain their eligibility after the demonstration ends and that IV-E eligibility can be properly determined for the purpose of Adoption Assistance Payments. Procedures insure that eligibility information is provided to support Medicaid eligibility for all children in licensed out of home care. The guide and the Frequently Asked Questions are posted on the IV-E Waiver intranet site. The Frequently Asked Questions is organized by topic with questions and answers added as they arise.

- Fiscal Accounting and Reporting – This work group addressed issues related to cost allocation, financial accountability and reporting related to the demonstration. The group developed procedures to ensure that financial information related to the demonstration is reported on Form ACF-IV-E-1. A supplement to the report assures that information needed for effective management of the demonstration is provided to the ACF Regional office and Headquarters. This work group provided information for preparation of the fixed schedule of payments for the five-year demonstration period as required by section 4.2 of the Terms and Conditions. This work group will assure the cost neutrality provisions of section 4.0 of the Terms and Conditions are met.
- Provider Relations/ Contract Provisions – This work group has developed modifications and attachments to contracts between DCF and the Lead Agencies in order to meet the requirements of section 2.1 of the Term and Conditions. All 22 Community Based Care Lead Agencies have executed contract amendments necessary to comply with the waiver terms and conditions.
- Array of Service/ Practice Issues – This work group has developed a framework and will be providing guidance and/or technical assistance on program practice in order to use the flexibility of the demonstration to improve child welfare practice. This group has considered how the improved array of community-based services can be used to accomplish the permanency and safety outcomes for children and families highlighted in the demonstration and to improve the well-being of children and families. A draft Service Array/ Practice Guide has been posted on the IV-E Waiver intranet site and refinement of this document will be ongoing.
- Communication and Training – This work group has developed effective mechanisms to share information about the demonstration with stakeholders and other community partners. The group is developing and deploying training material related to demonstration implementation. Train-the-trainer conference calls review new procedures. Technical assistance and training is provided upon request.

A IV-E Waiver workshop was conducted at the annual Community-Based Care Conference sponsored by the Florida Coalition for Children. Several Lead Agencies requested and received training on the IV-E waiver.

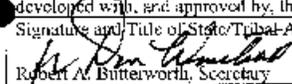
- Evaluation – This work group is assuring that an independent evaluation meets the requirements of the waiver terms and conditions. This includes procurement of the evaluator, assuring that an evaluation design document is submitted for review and approval by the Children’s Bureau, and ongoing coordination with the evaluator throughout the demonstration. The evaluation plan and contract amendment have been approved by ACF and the contract amendment has been executed.

Attachment C

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Administration for Children and Families

OMB Approval 20980-0047
Approved through October 31, 2008

**CFS-101, Part I: Annual Budget Request For Title IV-B, Subpart 1 & 2 Funds, CAPTA, Chafee Foster Care Independence Program (CFCIP) and Education and Training Vouchers (ETV):
Fiscal Year 2008, October 1, 2007 through September 30, 2008**

<p>1. State or ITO: <u>Florida</u></p> <p>3. Address: <u>Florida Department of Children and Families</u> <u>Family Safety Program</u> <u>1317 Winewood Boulevard</u> <u>Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0700</u></p>	<p>2. EIN: <u>59-3458463</u></p> <p>4. Submission: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New <input type="checkbox"/> Revision</p>
5. Total estimated Federal title IV-B, Subpart 1 Funds.	\$14,930,563
6. Total Estimated Federal title IV-B, Subpart 2 Funds. (This amount should equal the sum of lines a - g)	\$17,792,795
a) Total Family Preservation Services.	\$ 3,932,681
b) Total Family Support Services.	\$ 4,090,969
c) Total Time Limited Family Reunification Services.	\$ 3,457,816
d) Total Adoption Promotion and Support Services.	\$ 4,240,258
e) Total for Other Service Related Activities (e.g. planning).	\$ -0-
f) Total Administration (not to exceed 10% of estimated allotment).	\$ 98,127
g) Caseworker visits	\$ 1,963,943
7. Re-allotment of Title IV-B, Subpart 2 funds for State and Indian Tribal Organizations	
a) Indicate the amount of the State's/Tribe's allotment that will not be required to carry out the Promoting Safe and Stable Families program. \$ <u>0</u>	
b) If additional funds become available to States and ITOs, specify the amount of additional funds the State or Tribes is requesting. \$ <u>Equitable share available</u>	
8. Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA) State Grant (no State match required)	
Estimated Amount \$ <u>369,378</u> plus additional allocation, as available.	
9. Estimated Chafee Foster Care Independence Program (CFCIP) funds.	\$7,412,454
10. Estimated Education and Training Voucher (ETV) funds.	\$2,547,049
11. Re-allotment of CFCIP and ETV Program Funds:	
a) Indicate the amount of the State's allotment that will not be required to carry out CFCIP \$ <u>-0-</u>	
b) Indicate the amount of the State's allotment that will not be required to carry out ETV \$ <u>-0-</u>	
c) If additional funds become available to States, specify the amount of additional funds the State is requesting for CFCIP \$ <u>Equitable share available</u> for ETV program \$ <u>Equitable share available</u> .	
12. 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 ACF Regional Office, for the Fiscal Year ending September 30, 20 <u>08</u> .	
Signature and Title of State/Tribal Agency Official  Robert A. Buttelworth, Secretary	Signature and Title of Regional Office Official