

# ***Essential tools for Judicial oversight – Data collection and analysis***

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# *Outline*

- Safety, Permanency and Well Being
- Tool Kit Performance Measures
- Child and Family Services Review measures (CFSR)
- CFSR and the connection to the Courts
- Courts role in CFSR process

# ***What is our focus:***

- Safety
- Permanency
- Well Being

# ***How does the Court determine Safety, Permanency and Well Being?***

- Case Plan review
- Placement information
- Visitation (includes siblings)
- Contacts with parents (Mother AND Father)
- Educational needs
- Permanency goals
- Concurrent planning

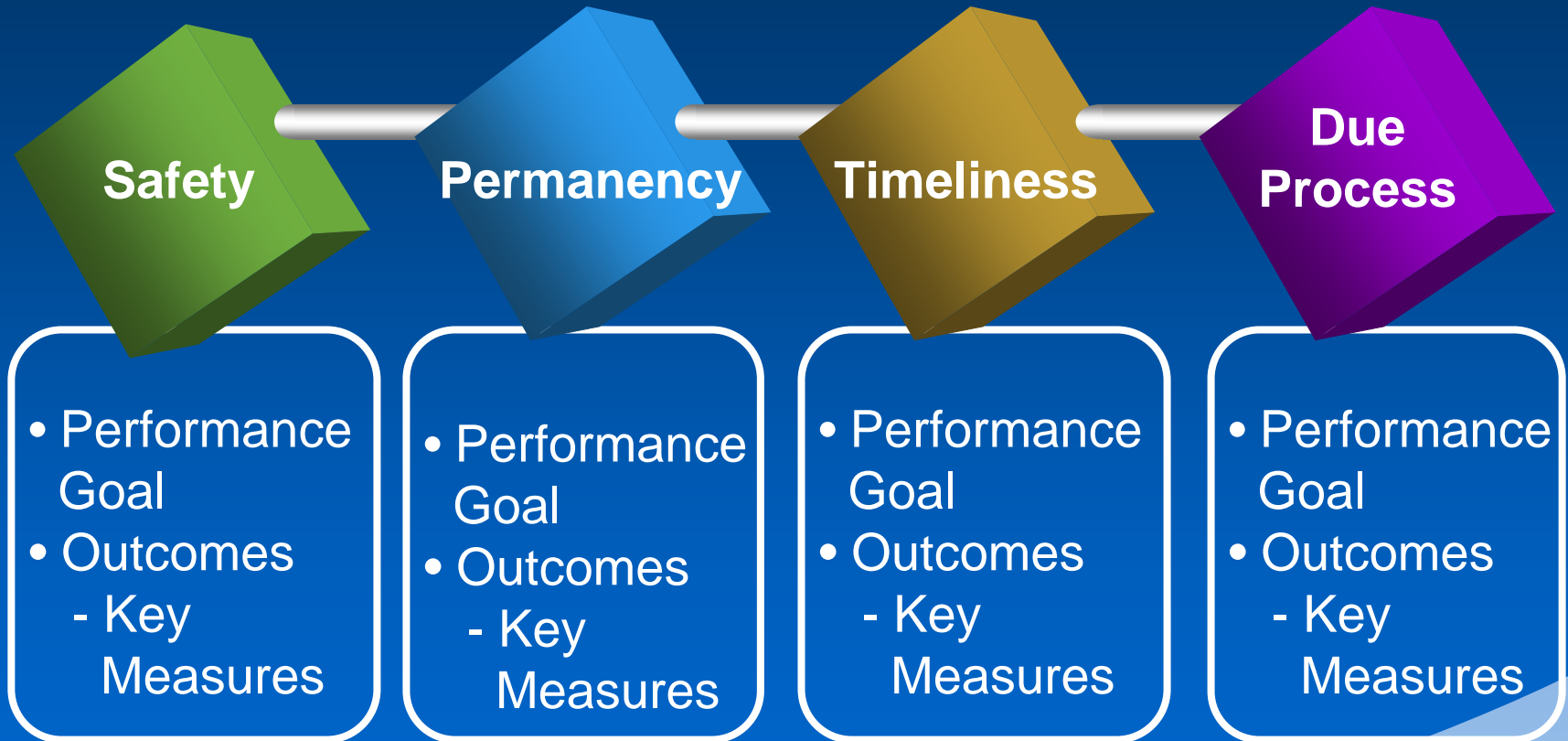
# ***Other Court action that affects Safety, Permanency and Well Being***

- Court scheduling
- Court continuances
- Periodic reviews
- Permanency hearings
- TPR hearings
- Notice of hearings

# ***“Tool Kit Measures”***

- Safety
- Permanency
- Timeliness
- Due Process

# ***“Tool Kit Measures”***



# ***Performance Goal: Safety***

- Safety Outcomes are:
  - Children are, first and foremost, protected from abuse or neglect at all times, including in placement
  - Children are safely maintained in their homes whenever possible and appropriate



# ***Safety Outcomes***

## Key Measures:

1. Percentage of children who were victims of child abuse or neglect while under court jurisdiction.
2. Percentage of children who were victims of child abuse or neglect within 12 months after court jurisdiction ends.

# ***Courts share responsibility for child safety because courts:***

- Set conditions for a child's return home
- Authorize the return home
- Set conditions for agency supervision when children remain at home or are returned home
- Decide when to end court-ordered supervision by closing the case.

# ***Performance Goal: Permanency***

## Permanency Outcomes:

- Children have permanency and stability in their living situations
- The continuity of family relationships and connections is preserved for children

# *Permanency Outcomes*

Key Measure:

1. Percentage of children who reach legal permanency by reunification, adoption or guardianship.

## ***The courts share responsibility for permanency because courts:***

- Decide when children will be permanently placed
- Oversee the case planning and progress during the life of the case.

# ***Performance Goal: Timeliness***

This measure shows the courts how long it takes children to achieve permanency. Under this measure the time begins to run with the filing of the original petition and ends with the achievement of permanency

# ***Timeliness Outcomes***

## Key Measures:

1. Time to Permanent Placement
2. Time to Adjudication
3. Time to First Permanency Hearing
4. Time to Termination of Parental Rights (TPR)

# *Timeliness Outcomes*

## Key Measures:

### 1. Time to Permanent Placement:

Average (median) time from filing of original petition to permanent placement

*Data needed: case number/child identifier; date of original petition; date of permanency; reason for case closure*



# *Timeliness Outcomes*

## 2. Time to Adjudication:

Average (median) time from filing of original petition to adjudication

*Data needed: case number/child identifier; date of original petition; date of adjudication*

# ***Timeliness Outcomes***

3. Time to First Permanency Hearing:  
Average (median) time from filing of original petition to first permanency hearing

*Data needed: case number/child identifier; date of original petition; date of first permanency hearing*

# *Timeliness Outcomes*

## 4. Time to TPR:

Average (median) time from filing of original petition to termination of parental rights

*Data needed: case number/child identifier; date of original petition; date of TPR*

# ***Due Process Measures***

- Goal: Procedural Fairness
  - ◆ To treat parties fairly in the process.
  - ◆ To help judges make informed decisions.

# CFSR Measures

Safety

Permanency

Well Being

- *Outcomes*
- *Items*

- *Outcomes*
- *Items*

- *Outcomes*
- *Items*

# ***CFSR Measure: Safety***

- Outcome 1 - Safety 1: Children are first and foremost protected from abuse and neglect
  - Item 1: Timeliness of investigation
  - Item 2: Repeat maltreatment\*  
Maltreatment in Foster Care\*

- Outcome 2 - Safety 2: Children are safely maintained in their home whenever possible and appropriate
  - Item 3: Services have been provided to the family to prevent removal and re-entry into foster care
  - Item 4: Risk assessment and safety management

# ***CFSR Outcome: Permanency***

- Outcome 3 – Permanency 1: Children have permanency and stability in their living situations
  - Item 5: Foster care re-entries\*
  - Item 6: Stability in current placement\*
  - Item 7: Permanency goal
  - Item 8: Reunification, guardianship or placement with relative\*
  - Item 9: Adoption\*
  - Item 10: Other Permanency goal (Long term care)



- Outcome 4 – Permanency 2: Continuity of Family relationships and connection to community
  - Item 11: Proximity of placement to family
  - Item 12: Sibling placement
  - Item 13: Visitation with family
  - Item 14: Connection to community
  - Item 15: Relative placement
  - Item 16: Relationship of child to parents

- Outcome 5: Well being 1: Families have enhanced capacity to provide for their children's needs
  - Item 17: Service for children, families and foster parents
  - Item 18: Parents and child participation in case plan
  - Item 19: Caseworker visit with child
  - Item 20: Caseworker visit with parents

- Outcome 6: Well being 2: Children receive appropriate services to meet their educational needs
  - Item 21: Educational needs

- Outcome 7 – Well being 3: Children receive adequate services to meet their physical and mental health needs
  - Item 22: Physical health of the child
  - Item 23: Mental/behavior of child

# ***Systemic Factors***

- Statewide Information System
- Case Review System
- Quality Assurance System
- Staff and Provider Training
- Service Array and Resource Development
- Agency Responsiveness to the community
- Foster and Adoption Home Licensing, approval, and recruitment

# ***Case Review System***

- **Item 25: Written Case Plan.** Does the State provide a process that ensures each child has a written case plan, to be developed jointly with the child's parents and, when appropriate, the child?
- **Item 26: Periodic Reviews.** Is there a process for periodic review of the status of each child, no less frequently than once every 6 months, either by a court or by administrative review?

# ***Case Review System***

- **Item 27: Permanency Hearings.** Does each child in foster care have a permanency hearing in a qualified court or administrative body no later than 12 months from the date the child entered foster care and no less frequently than every 12 months thereafter?
- **Item 28: Termination of Parental Rights.** Is there a process for Termination of Parental Rights (TPR) proceedings in accordance with the provisions of ASFA?
- **Item 29: Notice of Hearings and Reviews.** Is there a process for foster parents, pre-adoptive parents, and relative caregivers of children in foster care to be notified of, and have a right to be heard in, any review or hearing held with respect to the child?

# Safety



## Toolkit

Percentage of children who are victims of abuse or neglect within one year of the court's termination of jurisdiction.

Percentage of children who are victims of abuse or neglect while within the court's jurisdiction.



## CFSR

Item 2: Of all children who were victims of a substantiated or indicated maltreatment allegation during the first 6 months of the review period, what percent were not victims of another substantiated or indicated maltreatment allegation during the next six months?

Item 3: Of all children served in foster care during the review period, what percent were not victims of a substantiated or indicated maltreatment by a foster parent or facility staff member?



# Permanency



## Toolkit

Permanency: percentage of children who reach legal permanency by reunification, adoption or guardianship.



## CFSR

Item 8: Timeliness of reunification. Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the review period who had been in foster care for 8 days or longer: 1) what percent were reunified in less than 12 months from the date of the most recent entry into foster care? 2) what was the median length of stay from the date of the most recent entry into foster care until the date of reunification? 3) what percent re-entered foster care in less than 12 months from the date of discharge?

# Permanency



**Toolkit**

**Timeliness:** Time to permanency (by reunification, adoption or guardianship) from date of original dependency petition.



**CFSR**

Item 9: Timeliness of adoptions of children discharged from foster care. Of all children who were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the review period: 1) what percent were discharged in less than 24 months from the date of the most recent entry into foster care? 2) what was the median length of stay in foster care from the date of the most recent entry into foster care to the date of discharge?

# Permanency

## Toolkit

Timeliness: Time to termination of parental rights from date of original dependency petition.

## CFSR

Item 9: Progress toward adoption for children who meet ASFA time-in-care requirements. Of all children in foster care on the first day of the review period who were in foster care for 17 continuous months or longer: 1) what percent were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption before the end of the fiscal year? 2) what percent became legally free for adoption (i.e. parental rights terminated) in less than 6 months from the beginning of the fiscal year?

# Permanency



**Toolkit**



**CFSR**

	<p><u>Item 9:</u> Progress toward adoption of children who are legally free for adoption during the review period, what percent were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption in less than 12 months of becoming legally free?</p>
<p>Timeliness: Time to adjudication from original dependency petition.</p>	
<p><b>Timeliness:</b> Time to first permanency hearing from date of original dependency petition.</p>	

# Permanency



**Toolkit**



**CFSR**

Item 9: Achieving permanency for children in foster care for foster care for long periods of time: Of all children who were discharged from foster care during the review period and were legally free for adoption, % discharged to a permanent home (adoption, guardianship, reunification including living with a relative) prior to their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday?

Item 15: Achieving permanency for children in foster care for foster care for long periods of time. Of all children in foster care for 24 months or longer on the first day of the review period, % discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday and by the end of the fiscal year?

# Permanency



**Toolkit**



**CFSR**

	<p><u>Item 10</u>: Children growing up in foster care. Of all children who exited foster care with a discharge reason of emancipation prior to their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday or who reached their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday while in foster care, what percent were in foster care for 3 years or longer?</p>
	<p><u>Item 6</u>: What percent of children in foster care during the review period had two or fewer placements in the following categories: 1) children in foster care for more than 8 days and less than 12 months, 2) children in foster care for at least 12 months but less than 24 months, 3) children in foster care for at least 24 months</p>

# ***Courts role with CFSR***

- State Assessment
- On Site review
- PIP Development
- PIP Implementation

***Question?***