

8.22.12 DCS Interim Study Committee Meeting- Follow Up Items from DCS

Questions/ Information Requests

1. Is there any legislation that hinders DCS from protecting children?
 - a. DCS will consider and provide the committee with suggestions.
2. Provide a breakdown of number of CHINS per year.
 - a. Please see attached document labeled "Total Number of DCS CHINS Cases".
3. Provide a breakdown of what happens to children that are removed from home- reunified, with relative, guardianship, adoption, etc?
 - a. The most recent *Child Welfare Outcomes 2006- 2009: Report to Congress* shows Federal Fiscal Year information relating to exits of children from foster care. The below chart breaks down what happened to those children who entered the foster care system for FFY 2007 through FFY 2010. The exit type "Other" includes relatives, transfer to another state agency, wardship dismissal due to runaway and emancipation. The information can be found at the following link- <http://cwoutcomes.acf.hhs.gov/data/overview>

Exit Type	FFY 2007	FFY 2008	FFY 2009	FFY 2010
Adoption	17.40%	18.80%	17.70%	17.50%
Guardianship	7%	7.90%	8.50%	11%
Reunification	63.90%	61.80%	65.20%	64.30%
Other	11.80%	11.50%	8.70%	7.20%
Total Number	7,426	7,509	8,382	8,240

4. Is the Indiana movement to a centralized hotline common in other states? Have they experienced any problems and have they come up with any resolutions?
 - a. Please see attached map of states with a central statewide Hotline.
 - i. There are thirty two states that have a statewide central child abuse and neglect hotline: Arizona, Arkansas, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Texas, Utah, Virginia, Washington, and West Virginia.
 - b. There are five states that have a regional hotline.
 - c. Indiana has been approached by nine other states to receive Indiana's input and advice on ways to improve their child abuse and neglect Hotline. Indiana has consulted with Arizona, Illinois, Michigan, West Virginia, Iowa, Louisiana, Pennsylvania, Mississippi and Florida.
 - i. Indiana assisted the following states with their implementation of a centralized hotline: Michigan, West Virginia, Iowa, and Louisiana.

- ii. Arizona and Illinois approached Indiana looking for suggestions on how to improve wait times and visited Indiana to see its Hotline in action.
- iii. Indiana worked with Pennsylvania, Mississippi and Florida to identify best practices and to learn about their experience with a centralized hotline.
- iv. Indiana worked with the following outside sources when developing the Hotline:
 - 1. Midwest Child Welfare Implementation Center (MICWIC) which is a national and accredited center.
 - 2. Child Research Center to help identify and create ongoing quality assurance measurements and practices.
 - 3. The University of Nebraska helped provide extensive planning around Indiana's implementation of a statewide Hotline.

Changes DCS Agreed to Make During 8.22.12 Committee Meeting

- 1. Add "Dave's rule", which is defined as DCS automatically assigning reports received of child abuse or neglect from judges, prosecutors and law enforcement, into a written policy. The committee also requested that DCS ensure this document was disseminated to all appropriate stakeholders.
 - o On page 14 of the Policy and Procedures Manual on The Structured Decision Making System for child protective services (available on the DCS website) the following language can be found:

Screen in: Initial recommendation is to screen out, but referral will be opened and assigned for child protective services (CPS) assessment because *(mark all that apply)*:

 - Mark this decision if no maltreatment types in Section 2 are marked, which means that the referral does not meet statutory requirements for an in-person response. However, a referral will be opened and assigned for assessment for one or more of the following reasons:
 - Court requests assessment;
 - Law enforcement requests assistance;
 - DCS regional administrator or other administrator requests referral be screened in;
 - Other (specify).
 - o Please note that law enforcement reports are automatically sent for assessment only if they request immediate assistance.
 - o While this information is already outlined in DCS policy, DCS will wait until this committee has made its final recommendations on any changes to the Hotline prior to disseminating this information to all stakeholders.
- 2. Add prosecutor and other stakeholders, such as judge's and law enforcement to the Quality Service Review (QSR) process, or some sort of review.
 - o The DCS Quality Service Review (QSR) team is evaluating the best way to get additional partners involved in the review processes. The team will be developing a process for this to occur. DCS will update the committee on the progress of this change throughout the meetings.

Total Number of DCS CHINS Cases
Reflects CHINS at a point in time

Month	Total CHINS
Jan 2005	11,822
Feb 2005	11,726
Mar 2005	11,896
Apr 2005	11,995
May 2005	12,179
Jun 2005	12,243
Jul 2005	12,363
Aug 2005	12,474
Sep 2005	12,711
Oct 2005	12794
Nov 2005	12838
Dec 2005	12839
Jan 2006	12778
Feb 2006	12959
Mar 2006	13,105
Apr 2006	13,239
May 2006	13,401
Jun 2006	13,241
Jul 2006	13,114
Aug 2006	13,105
Sep 2006	13,201
Oct 2006	13,101
Nov 2006	13,042
Dec 2006	12,952
Jan 2007	12,871
Feb 2007	12,979
Mar 2007	13,080
Apr 2007	13,153
May 2007	13,169
Jun 2007	13,221

Month	Total CHINS
Jul 2007	13,266
Aug 2007	13,333
Sep 2007	13,476
Oct 2007	13,439
Nov 2007	13,528
Dec 2007	13,519
Jan 2008	13,513
Feb 2008	13,736
Mar 2008	13,907
Apr 2008	14,224
May 2008	14,358
Jun 2008	14,525
Jul 2008	14,576
Aug 2008	14,797
Sep 2008	15,032
Oct 2008	14,998
Nov 2008	14,859
Dec 2008	14,702
Jan 2009	14,561
Feb 2009	14,665
Mar 2009	14,636
Apr 2009	14,776
May 2009	14,940
Jun 2009	14,824
Jul 2009	14,830
Aug 2009	14,967
Sep 2009	15,037
Oct 2009	15,034
Nov 2009	15,050
Dec 2009	15,088

Month	Total CHINS
Jan 2010	15,201
Feb 2010	15,201
Mar 2010	15,357
Apr 2010	15,329
May 2010	15,334
Jun 2010	15,396
Jul 2010	15,136
Aug 2010	14,927
Sep 2010	14,748
Oct 2010	14,653
Nov 2010	14,528
Dec 2010	14,315
Jan 2011	14,172
Feb 2011	14,102
Mar 2011	13,924
Apr 2011	13,763
May 2011	13,710
Jun 2011	13,694
Jul 2011	13,575
Aug 2011	13,328
Sep 2011	13,179
Oct 2011	13,051
Nov 2011	12,890
Dec 2011	12,627
Jan 2012	12,494
Feb 2012	12,629
Mar 2012	12,871
Apr 2012	13,128
May 2012	13,184
Jun 2012	13,037

32 States with Centralized Hotlines

