Quarterly Report for Child Welfare and Juvenile Services

Lead Agency Name: KVC BEHAVIORAL HEALTHCARE

Address: 10909 MILL VALLEY ROAD, SUITE 100; OMAHA, NE 68154

Lead Agency Contact Person: SANDRA GASCA-GONZALEZ sgasca@kvc.org
Telephone Number: 402-742-8805

Quarter	Reporting Periods	Due Dates
☐ Quarter 1	July 1 – September 30	October 15
☐ Quarter 2	October 1 – December 31	January 15
☐ Quarter 3	January 1 – March 31	April 15
☒ Quarter 4	April 1 – May 30	June 15
☐ Quarter 4 (update)	April 1 – June 30	July 15

Date Submitted: 6/15/10 **Date Received:**

1) Foster Parent Recruitment and Retention Update

a) A description of the diligent recruitment activities this quarter of potential foster and adoptive families that reflect the ethnic and racial diversity of children in the Service Area for whom foster and adoptive homes are needed.

Our foster parents recruitment efforts have grown from January 2010 when we had Fifteen homes (15) licensed in the Eastern Service Area and Twelve (12) new homes in the Southeastern Service Area to 175 licensed foster homes between both service areas, with 309 children placed.

According to the plan submitted in December 2009, we have been successful in a number of areas.
Goal 1: description of the diligent recruitment of potential foster and adoptive families that reflect the ethnic and racial diversity of children in the service area for whom foster and adoptive homes are needed.

- We were able to meet with internal staff, developed Translation services, and developed multilingual telephone messaging.
- We have set up joint recruitment efforts with foster parents of color through fairs and events.
- Provided training to foster parents of color, including a current MAPP class entirely in Spanish.

Goal 2: Establish specialized training curriculum to address needs of foster families: KVC presented the following classes during specialized training and monthly meetings.

- January 2010, Pat Samuel presented “20 Things Your Kids Do To Drive You Crazy”.
- February 2010: training was held on KVC required paperwork and confidentiality, presented by Director of Child Placement, Ashley Palmer, Foster Care Specialist, Pat Samuel,
- February 2010 Life books presented by Donna Kelly, SESA.
- Rights and Responsibilities
- PS-Mapp Class was completed 2/24/10

- Four new classes are scheduled to start next quarter.
- Car seat training
- Special Needs in Foster Children by Director of Clinical Services, Sandra Miller

Goal 3: A protocol that "matches" children and youth with resource families.

Staff participated in training through the KVC internal sessions. The Admissions department was trained in the use of the Child Needs Assessment which assists in matching the needs of a child at intake or at placement disruption. Once this assessment is completed, the Admissions coordinator can match the child's needs with foster homes who are best qualified to meet those needs. We also ensure that we consider whether siblings can stay together, the child can remain in a community school and whether the children will be in a close proximity to the parent to encourage visitation.

2) Child and Family Services Plan Update. Quarterly reports will include a description of the specific accomplishments and progress made toward meeting each goal and objective in the State's CFSP, including information on outcomes for children and families, and a more comprehensive, coordinated, effective child and family services continuum.

For the Eastern Service Area:
In reviewing the data over the past few months, there have been several improvements. It appears that rates of children NOT experiencing substantiated abuse after the first 180 days of service is increasing and we are within reach of the goal of 95%, whereas in January, the rating was at 85%, we are now only 2% away from meeting that outcome measure in the Eastern Service Area.

Rates for children experiencing abuse in foster care remains almost on target, only **.**17% from meeting the outcome. This is attributed to the foster families receiving support and training from our Child Placement Department, better matching and support from Family Service Coordinators.

In the area of reunifying the child within 12 months of removal, in ESA, the outcome has been met. After a steady increase the data shows that we are above the outcome. This success can be attributed to the push for in home services that are allowing children to return home at an increased rate.

Data for adoptions appears to be less than desired, but this low rating can be attributed to the fact that rather than transitioning the cases to the contractors, those cases that were ready for adoption remained with their CFS Specialist in order to finalize the adoption. As KVC continues to work with children who become eligible for adoption, it is hoped that the number of adoptions will increase.

The results for youth reaching the age of majority mirrors that of the adoption rates. Few of those youth were transitioned to the contractors, as many of those youth aged out or reached permanency through guardianship or independent living prior to or just at the time their case would have transferred. With the impetus of our Independent Living Program, youth who are eligible will see an increase in being discharged to a permanent home.

Placement changes overall, have been positive, and all outcomes in this area have been met. KVC has taken a serious stance on ensuring that youth who are in a stable placement remain so. This is achieved through supports to the foster placements, training of foster parents and ensuring that youth's needs are being met.

ESA Outcomes	ESA Goal	January	February	March	April	May
% of children will not experience any substantiated abuse or neglect during the first 180 days of services	95.00%	85%	86%	89.90%	89.90%	92.70%
% of new and legacy cases, children and youth in out-of-home care will not experience substantiated abuse or neglect from a foster parent or employee at a out of home care facility during a 12-month period.[Federal CFSR data measure 99.68%; Nebraska 99.56% 4-09]	99.68%	99%	99%	99.45%	99.45%	99.51%
% of all children placed in out-of-home care will be reunified within 12-months [Federal CFSR data measure75.2%; Nebraska 62.5%].	60.31%	57%	57%	60.90%	60.20%	66.70%
% of children are adopted within 24 months of DHHS custody. [Federal CFSR data measure 36.6%; Nebraska 31.2%]	31.83%	100%	100%	10.70%	60%	33%
% of cases of children legally free for adoption will be adopted within 12-months of being legally free from adoption.[Federal CFSR data measure 53.7%; Nebraska 61.7%]	56.76%	0%	0%	12.50%	1.30%	10.30%
% of cases, of youth in care for 24 or more continuous months discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday. [Federal CFSR data measure 29.1%; Nebraska 44.6%]	44.60%	8%	8%	10.70%	10.70%	13.30%
% or less of cases, of youth grow up or age out of foster care. [Federal CFSR data measure 37.5%; Nebraska 20.2%]	26.63%	21%	21%	12.90%	12.90%	13.30%
% of new cases; % of legacy cases, children in care for <12 months will have 2 or fewer foster care placements. [Federal CFSR data measure 86%; Nebraska 84.8%]	84.27%	84%	85%	84.60%	84.60%	84.60%
TBA % of new cases; % of legacy cases of children in care for 12 to <24 months will have 2 or fewer foster care placements. [Federal CFSR data measure 65.4%; Nebraska 56.7%]	55.19%	65%	63%	60.00%	60%	60%
% of new cases; % of legacy cases; of children in care for 24 or more months will have 2 or fewer foster care placements [Federal CFSR data measure 41.8%; Nebraska 25.6%]	TBA	21%	23%	25.20%	25.20%	25.20%

For the Southeastern Service Area:
In reviewing the data over the past few months, it appears that rates of children NOT experiencing substantiated abuse after the first 180 days of service is not fairing as well as in the ESA. We are researching what has caused this downturn.

For the Measure – Children will be safe in Foster Care, the outcome has just been short by **.**07%. This outcome report indicates a 10% jump from April's data, however. This is attributed to the foster families receiving support and training from our Child Placement Department.

In the area of reunifying the child within 12 months of removal, in SESA, this measure has been met substantially since March, after a slump at the beginning of the year. This positive outcome can be attributed to aggressive plans to move children home with supportive services, as well as a high number of referrals for in home supports as opposed to removals.

Data for adoptions appears to be less than desired, but as in ESA, this low rating can be attributed to the fact that rather than transitioning the cases to the contractors, those cases that were ready for adoption remained with their consistent CFS Specialist in order to finalize the adoption.

The results for youth reaching the age of majority mirrors that of the adoption rates. Few of those youth were transitioned to the contractors, as many of those youth aged out prior to or just at the time their case would have transferred. With the impetus of our Independent Living Program, youth who are eligible will see an increase in being discharged to a permanent home.

Placement changes overall, have been positive, and one outcome in this area has been met for children in care 12 to 24 months, with children in care less than 12 months, almost meeting the outcome. Youth in care more than 24 months have been found to have more behavioral difficulties and mental health needs that have necessitated frequent moves. Many of these youth have already experienced multiple moves prior to Service Coordination with KVC. Ensuring that youth's needs are being met is always foremost when working with youth with behavioral difficulties. In order to meet their needs, youth in non-family settings are reviewed frequently by the Service Coordination team, including supervisors, staff mental health clinicians and external team members. These staffings are imperative to assessing the youth's continual needs and identifying opportunities for less restrictive placement options. In July, KVC will be developing Service Coordination Clinical Teams who will focus on priority populations of youth with special needs. This population takes a specific skill set to meet the needs and by specializing this service, the goal will be to achieve better outcomes for this identified group.

SESA Outcomes	SESA Goal	January	February	March	April	May
% of children will not experience any substantiated abuse or neglect during the first 180 days of services	95.00%	95.10%	95.20%	88.30%	99.56%	87.60%
% of new and legacy cases, children and youth in out-of-home care will not experience substantiated abuse or neglect from a foster parent or employee at a out of home care facility during a 12-month period.[Federal CFSR data measure 99.68%; Nebraska 99.56	99.68%	100.00%	100.00%	99.56%	88.30%	99.61%
% of all children placed in out-of-home care will be reunified within 12-months [Federal CFSR data measure75.2%; Nebraska 62.5%].	56.08%	30.60%	30.60%	60.00%	60.00%	72.60%
% of children are adopted within 24 months of DHHS custody. [Federal CFSR data measure 36.6%; Nebraska 31.2%]	24.58%	66.70%	66.70%	20.00%	20.00%	17.60%
% of cases of children legally free for adoption will be adopted within 12-months of being legally free from adoption.[Federal CFSR data measure 53.7%; Nebraska 61.7%]	60.24%	8.30%	9.50%	22.70%	7.40%	22.70%
% of cases, of youth in care for 24 or more continuous months discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday. [Federal CFSR data measure 29.1%; Nebraska 44.6%]	43.76%	13.60%	13.60%	20.00%	14.70%	13.20%
% or less of cases, of youth grow up or age out of foster care. [Federal CFSR data measure 37.5%; Nebraska 20.2%]	18.43%	32.60%	32.60%	34.00%	34.00%	31.30%
% of new cases; % of legacy cases, children in care for <12 months will have 2 or fewer foster care placements. [Federal CFSR data measure 86%; Nebraska 84.8%]	87.18%	86.50%	86.50%	84.40%	84.40%	86.80%
TBA % of new cases; % of legacy cases of children in care for 12 to <24 months will have 2 or fewer foster care placements. [Federal CFSR data measure 65.4%; Nebraska 56.7%]	60.16%	56.40%	55.90%	60.70%	60.70%	64.30%
% of new cases; % of legacy cases; of children in care for 24 or more months will have 2 or fewer foster care placements [Federal CFSR data measure 41.8%; Nebraska 25.6%]	75.00%	26.90%	27.40%	28.50%	28.50%	29.90%

6) Disaster Plan Updates shall include at a minimum any changes to how you:

a. No changes have been made since the January 2010 report.

7) Chafee Foster Care Independence Update shall include at a minimum any changes to how you:

a) No changes have been made since the April 2010 plan.
b) We are in the process of hiring Independent Living Specialists to work with identified youth.

8) Training Update

A description of the additional types of new worker training offered and provided by the Department and the Contractor for Service Coordinators

All training provided was delineated in the April 2010 Training plan. Additional training is provided on an as-needed basis, and staff often participate in external conferences or trainings as available. We are in the process of hiring additional Training staff, including a Training Director and two additional trainers to meet the needs of the many additional staff hired.