



Child and Family Services Reviews

Nebraska 2017

Platte/Colfax Exit Conference



Agenda

- Overview of Child and Family Services Reviews
 - Process
 - CFSR Outcomes
 - Systemic Factors
- Case Review Findings
- Next Steps



Child and Family Services Reviews

- Collaborative effort between federal and state governments
- Promote continuous quality improvement in child welfare systems nationally
- Evaluate state performance relative to federal requirements and state Child and Family Services Plan
- Identify both the strengths and areas needing improvement in state child welfare programs



Child and Family Services Reviews

- States that do not meet initial standards develop an action-oriented 2-year Program Improvement Plan
- The Children's Bureau works to assist states in enhancing their capacity to help children and families achieve positive outcomes through ongoing technical assistance support



CFSR Process

CFSRs assess child welfare outcomes and systemic functioning using:

- Statewide Assessment
- Case-level reviews
 - Case record and interviews
- Interviews with key state stakeholders and partners



CFSR Outcomes

- Two Safety Outcomes
- Two Permanency Outcomes
- Three Well-Being Outcomes



CFSR Outcomes

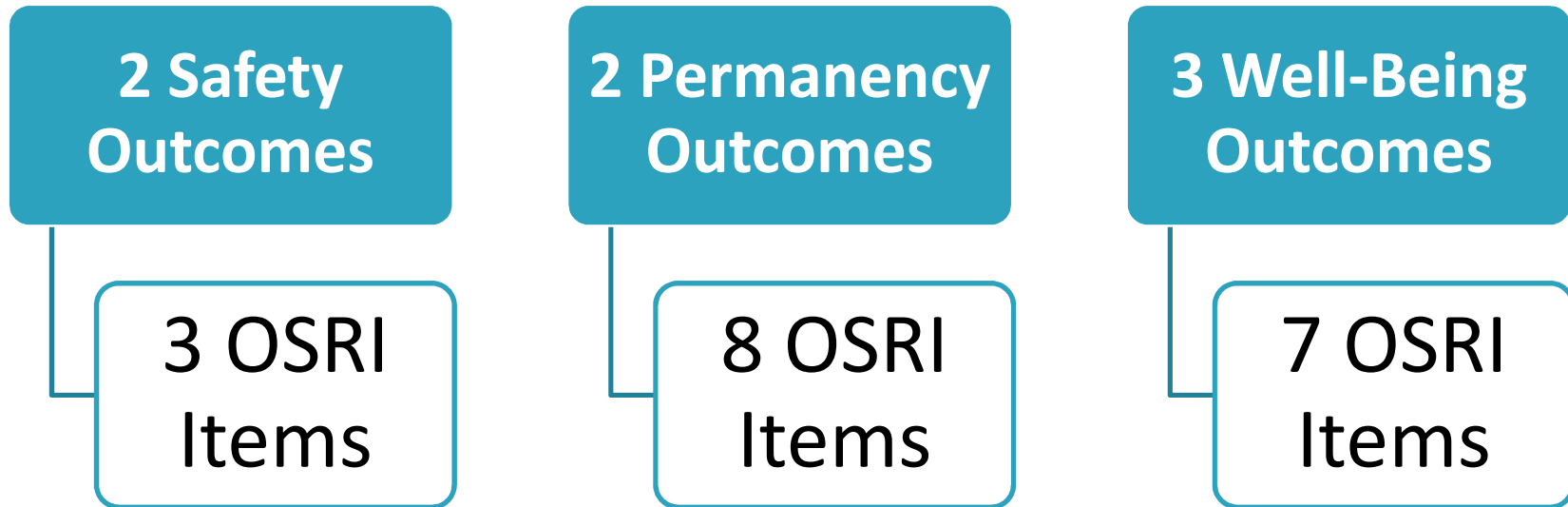
- **Safety Outcome 1:** Children are, first and foremost, protected from abuse and neglect.
- **Safety Outcome 2:** Children are safely maintained in their homes whenever possible and appropriate.
- **Permanency Outcome 1:** Children have permanency and stability in their living situations.
- **Permanency Outcome 2:** The continuity of family relationships and connections is preserved for children.

CFSR Outcomes

- **Well-Being Outcome 1:** Families have enhanced capacity to provide for their children's needs.
- **Well-Being Outcome 2:** Children receive appropriate services to meet their educational needs.
- **Well-Being Outcome 3:** Children receive adequate services to meet their physical health needs.

Determining Substantial Conformity

Seven Child and Family Outcomes



CFSR 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 Adoptive Parent Licensing, Recruitment, and Retention

Determining Substantial Conformity Seven Systemic Factors



CFSR Case Review

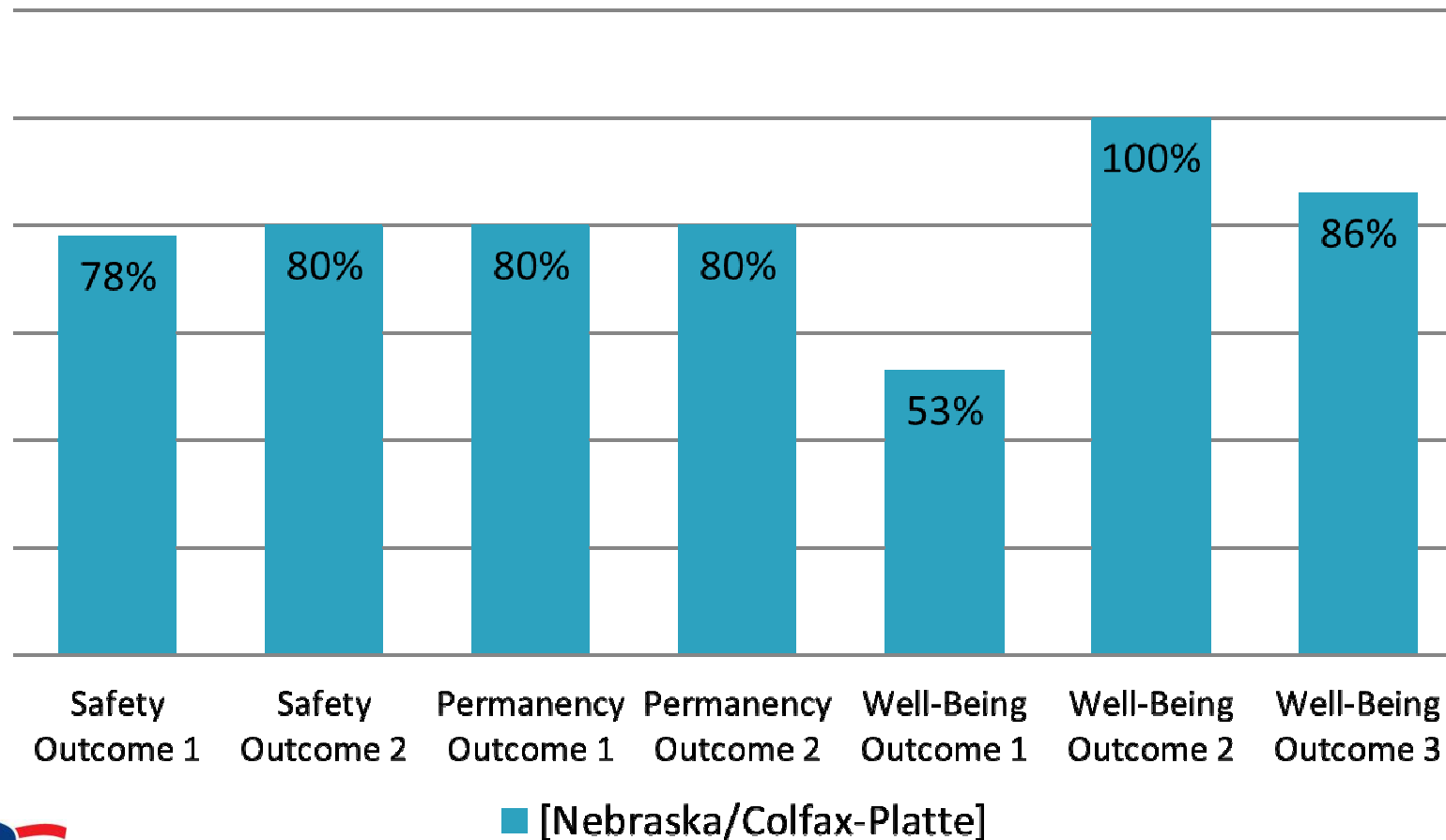
- 65 cases were reviewed using the federal Onsite Review Instrument (OSRI)
 - 25 in-home cases
 - 40 foster care cases
- Cases reviewed in four sites/teams

Preliminary Case Review Findings



Preliminary Case Review Findings

% of Cases Substantially Achieved



Closer Look at Findings

- Outcome and Item Ratings
- Themes
 - Strengths
 - Areas Needing Improvement

Safety Outcome 1

Children are, first and foremost, protected from abuse and neglect.

78% Safety Outcome 1

OSRI Item 1: *Timeliness of Initiating Investigations of Reports of Child Maltreatment*

- 78% of 9 applicable cases rated as a Strength

Safety Outcome 1

Key Strengths

- Initiated and made face-to-face contact timely in most cases, particularly Priority 1

Safety Outcome 1

Areas for Improvement

- Agency did not meet timeframe for Priority 2
- Insufficient justification for exception

Safety Outcome 2

Children are safely maintained in their homes whenever possible and appropriate.

80% Safety Outcome 2

OSRI Item 2: *Services to Family to Protect Child(ren) in the Home and Prevent Removal or Re-Entry Into Foster Care*

- 100% of 5 cases rated as a Strength
 - 100% of 4 applicable Foster Care cases rated as a Strength
 - 100% of 1 applicable In-home cases rated as a Strength

Safety Outcome 2 cont.

OSRI Item 3: *Risk Assessment and Safety Management*

- 80% of 15 cases rated as a Strength
 - 90% of 10 applicable Foster Care cases rated as a Strength
 - 60% of 5 applicable In-home cases rated as a Strength

Safety Outcome 2

Key Strengths

- Appropriate safety services were provided immediately
- Thorough assessment for risk and safety
- SDM tool
- Good use of safety plans

Safety Outcome 2

Areas for Improvement

- Loss of focus on safety due to child's mental health needs
- Lack of thorough assessment prior to discharge from care

Permanency Outcome 1

Children have safety and stability in their living situations.

80% Permanency Outcome 1

OSRI Item 4: Stability of Foster Care Placement

- 100% of 10 cases rated as a Strength

OSRI Item 5: Permanency Goal for Child

- 90% of 10 cases rated as a Strength

OSRI Item 6: Achieving Reunification, Guardianship, Adoption, or Other Planned Permanent Living Arrangement

- 80% of 10 cases rated as a Strength

Permanency Outcome 1

Key Strengths

- All children had 1 placement during PUR
- Timely establishment of goals
- Strong partnership between parents and foster parents
- Family Team Meetings

Permanency Outcome 1

Areas for Improvement

- Court not supporting recommendations for concurrent plans
- Untimely change of goals

Permanency Outcome 2

The continuity of family relationships and connections is preserved for children.

80% Permanency Outcome 2

OSRI Item 7: Placement With Siblings

- 100% of 6 cases rated as a Strength

OSRI Item 8: Visiting With Parents and Siblings in Foster Care

- 90% of 10 cases rated as a Strength

Permanency Outcome 2 Cont.

OSRI Item 9: *Preserving Connections*

- 100% of 10 cases rated as a Strength

OSRI Item 10: *Relative Placement*

- 80% of 10 cases rated as a Strength

OSRI Item 11: *Relationship of Child in Care With Parents*

- 78% of 9 cases rated as a Strength

Item 11

- 89% of the 9 applicable cases concerted efforts were made to promote and support the relationship with the **mother**
- 80% of the 5 applicable cases concerted efforts were made to promote and support the relationship with the **father**

Permanency Outcome 2

Key Strengths

- Lengthy visits of good quality
- Siblings placed together
- Quality parent/child visits
- Good use of relative and fictive kin placements

Permanency Outcome 2

Areas for Improvement

- Lack of effort to locate paternal relatives
- Overcoming barriers to engage parents in relationship building activities

Well-Being Outcome 1

Families have enhanced capacity to provide for their children's needs.

53% Well-Being Outcome 1

OSRI Item 12: *Needs and Services of Child, Parents, and Foster Parents*

- 67% of 15 cases rated as a Strength
 - 70% of 7 applicable Foster Care cases rated as a Strength
 - 60% of 3 applicable In-home Cases rated as a Strength

Item 12

OSRI Item 12A: Needs Assessment and Services to Children

- 87% of 15 cases rated as a Strength
 - 90% of 9 applicable Foster Care cases rated as a Strength
 - 80% of 4 applicable In-home cases rated as a Strength

Item 12

OSRI Item 12B: Needs Assessment and Services to Parents

- 67% of 15 cases rated as a Strength
 - 70% of 7 applicable Foster Care cases rated as a Strength
 - 60% of 3 applicable In-home cases rated as a Strength

Item 12B

- In 86% of 14 applicable cases concerted efforts were made to assess and address the needs of **mothers**
- In 69% of 13 applicable cases concerted efforts both to assess and address the needs of **fathers**

Item 12

OSRI Item 12C: Needs Assessment and Services to Foster Parents

- 90% of 9 applicable Foster Care cases rated as a Strength

Well-Being Outcome 1 cont.

OSRI Item 13: *Child and Family Involvement in Case Planning*

- 80% of 15 cases rated as a Strength
 - 70% of 7 applicable Foster Care cases rated as a Strength
 - 100% of 5 applicable In-home cases rated as a Strength

Item 13

- In 100% of 8 applicable cases – **children** were involved in case planning
- In 93% of 14 applicable cases – **mothers** were involved in case planning
- In 77% of 13 applicable cases – **fathers** were involved in case planning

Well-Being Outcome 1 Cont.

OSRI Item 14: *Caseworker Visits With Child*

- 93% of 15 cases rated as a Strength
 - 100% of 10 applicable foster care cases rated as a Strength
 - 80% of 4 applicable in-home cases rated as a Strength

Well-Being Outcome 1 Cont.

OSRI Item 15: *Caseworker Visits With Parents*

- 73% of 15 cases rated as a Strength
 - 70% of 7 applicable foster care cases rated as a Strength
 - 80% of 4 applicable in-home cases rated as a Strength

Item 15

- 86% of 14 applicable cases both the frequency and quality of visits with **mother** were sufficient
- 77% of 13 applicable cases both the frequency and quality of visits with **father** were sufficient

Well-Being Outcome 1

Key Strengths

- Comprehensive assessments for child, parents and foster parents
- Strong use of Family Support Workers
- Crisis Navigator for Family Team Meetings
- Quality caseworker visits
- Full involvement in individualized case planning

Well-Being Outcome 1

Areas for Improvement

- Challenges involving incarcerated parents
- Services assessed but no provision
- Lack of engagement with fathers

Well-Being Outcome 2

Children receive appropriate services to meet their educational needs.

100% Well-Being Outcome 2

OSRI Item 16: *Educational Needs of the Child*

- 100% of 10 cases rated as a Strength
 - 100% of 7 applicable Foster Care cases rated as a Strength
 - 100% of 3 applicable In-home cases rated as a Strength

Well-Being Outcome 2

Key Strengths

- Assessments conducted and followed up with services identified
- Informative reports provided by family support worker

Well-Being Outcome 2

Areas for Improvement

- N/A

Well-Being Outcome 3

Children receive adequate services to meet their physical and mental health needs.

86% Well-Being Outcome 3

OSRI Item 17: *Physical Health of the Child*

- 83% of 12 cases rated as a Strength
 - 90% of 9 applicable Foster Care cases rated as a Strength
 - 50% of 2 applicable In-home cases rated as a Strength

Well-Being Outcome 3 cont.

OSRI Item 18: *Mental/Behavioral Health of the Child*

- 90% of 10 cases rated as a Strength
 - 100% of 6 applicable Foster Care cases rated as a Strength
 - 75% of 4 applicable In-home cases rated as a Strength

Well-Being Outcome 3

Key Strengths

- Medical issues quickly addressed
- No issues with seeking dental treatment
- No wait-lists for mental health treatment
- Sufficient medication monitoring

Well-Being Outcome 3

Areas for Improvement

- Some lack of follow up with medical care

Next Steps



Next Steps: Program Improvement Plan (PIP)

- Final Report is issued to the State
- PIP due to Children's Bureau within 90 days of receiving Final Report and determination of nonconformity
- Continued collaborative effort between the State and Children's Bureau to develop and monitor Nebraska's PIP
- Continued collaboration with partners and families in development of PIP



Stages of PIP development

1. Analyze data
2. Explore possible interventions
3. Finalize interventions
4. Map out implementation plan for interventions
5. Measurement Plan
6. Reporting Structure

Program Improvement Plan

- Implement plan over 2 years with additional year to monitor data measures
- Safety interventions must be prioritized and addressed in less than 2 years
- State must include & complete key activities to benchmark progress (most significant action steps)
- State must include and achieve measurable progress on certain items

Thank you!

