



# Child and Family Services Reviews

**Nebraska 2017**

**Sites 1A/1B Exit Conference**



# Agenda

- Overview of Child and Family Services Reviews
  - Process
  - CFSR Outcomes
  - National Measures
- 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

- Child welfare outcomes assessed using information collected through case review

# CFSR Outcomes

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

# 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 three sites:
  - Douglas County
  - Hall County
  - Platte/Colfax Counties

# CFSR Process

Systemic functioning assessed using:

- Statewide assessment
- Interviews with key stakeholders



# 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

# CFSR National Measures

The state's performance is considered relative to the following National Measures:

- Recurrence of maltreatment
- Maltreatment in foster care
- Permanency in 12 months for children entering care
- Permanency for children in care 12-23 months
- Permanency for children in care 24+ months
- Re-entry into foster care in 12 months
- Placement stability

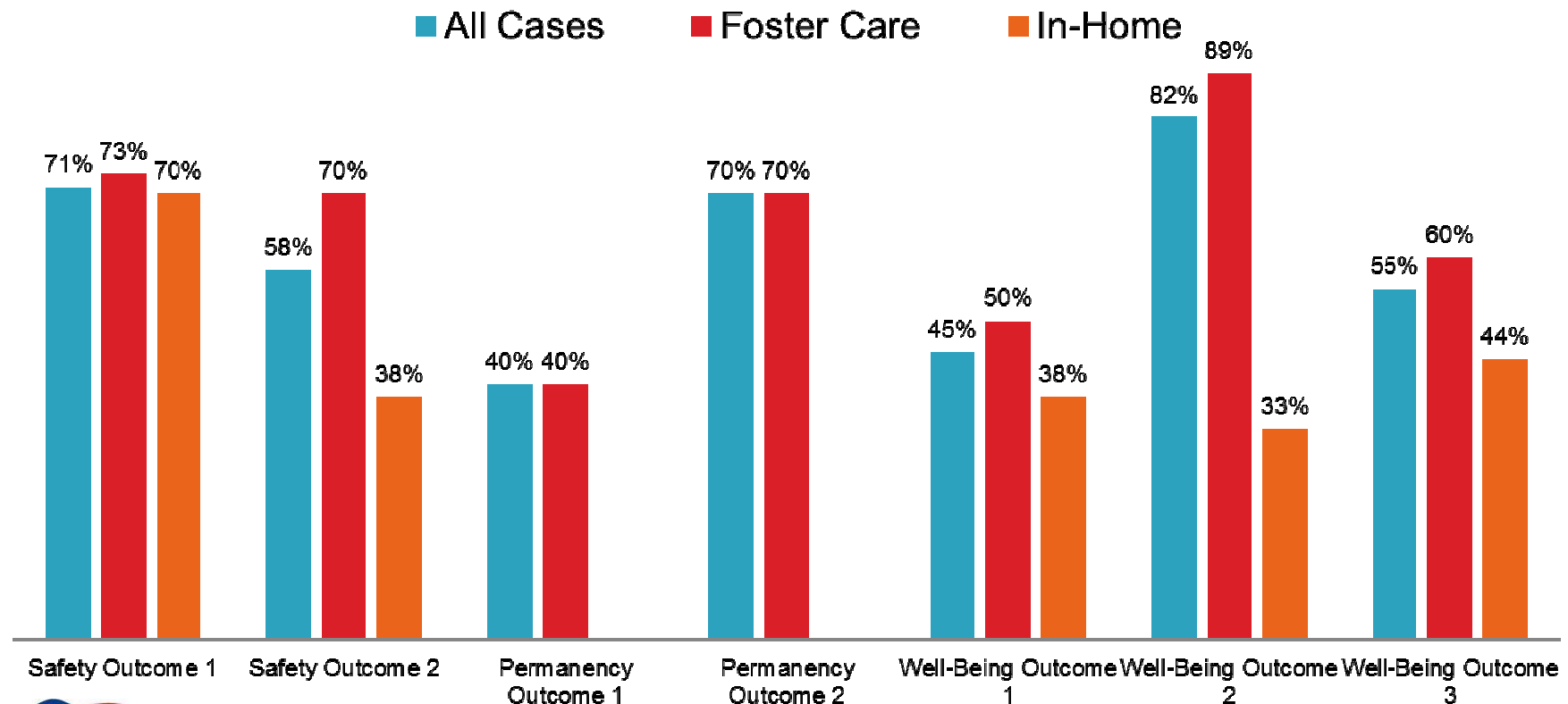
# Preliminary Case Review Findings

Douglas County  
Sites 1A and 1B



# Case Review Findings

## Nebraska, Douglas County % of Cases Substantially Achieved



# Closer Look at Findings

- Outcome Ratings
- Themes
  - Practice strengths
  - Areas needing focus

- Outcome Ratings
- Themes
  - Strengths
  - Areas Needing Improvement

# Practice Strengths

- Services were provided in voluntary in-home cases even when allegations were unsubstantiated
- Good use of relative placements which also enhanced placement stability
- Timely establishment of initial case plan goals

# Practice Strengths

- Children were maintained in their schools, community, extra-curricular activities when placed in foster care
- Frequent visitation between mothers, fathers, and siblings
- Even in complex cases, services were individualized
- Very strong engagement of parents and children with case workers



# Areas Needing Focus

- Delay of face-to-face contact during investigations
- Quality of initial and ongoing assessment
- Court challenges resulted in delays in permanency
- Involvement and assessment of non-custodial parents and paramours
- Assessment and service provision to foster parents

# Safety Outcome 1

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

**71% Safety Outcome 1**

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

- 71% of 21 cases rated as a Strength

# Safety Outcome 2

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

## **58% 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*

- 82% of 17 cases rated as a Strength

**OSRI Item 3:** *Risk Assessment and Safety Management*

- 58% of 33 cases rated as a Strength

# Permanency Outcome 1

Children have safety and stability in their living situations.

## **40% Permanency Outcome 1**

### **OSRI Item 4: Stability of Foster Care Placement**

- 75% of 20 cases rated as a Strength

### **OSRI Item 5: Permanency Goal for Child**

- 65% of 20 cases rated as a Strength

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

- 45% of 20 cases rated as a Strength

# Permanency Outcome 2

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

## **70% Permanency Outcome 2**

### **OSRI Item 7: Placement With Siblings**

- 81% of 16 cases rated as a Strength

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

- 71% of 17 cases rated as a Strength

# Permanency Outcome 2 Cont.

## **OSRI Item 9:** *Preserving Connections*

- 80% of 20 cases rated as a Strength

## **OSRI Item 10:** *Relative Placement*

- 90% of 20 cases rated as a Strength

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

- 64% of 14 cases rated as a Strength

# Well-Being Outcome 1

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

## **45% Well-Being Outcome 1**

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

- 48% of 33 cases rated as a Strength

**OSRI Item 12A:** 79% of 33 cases rated as a Strength

**OSRI Item 12B:** 52% of 29 cases rated as a Strength

**OSRI Item 12C:** 65% of 20 cases rated as a Strength

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

63% of 32 cases rated as a Strength



# Well-Being Outcome 1 Cont.

## **OSRI Item 14:** *Caseworker Visits With Child*

- 82% of 33 cases rated as a Strength

## **OSRI Item 15:** *Caseworker Visits With Parents*

- 52% of 29 cases rated as a Strength



# Well-Being Outcome 2

Children receive appropriate services to meet their educational needs

**82% Well-Being Outcome 2**

**OSRI Item 16:** *Educational Needs of the Child*

- 82% of 22 cases rated as a Strength

# Well-Being Outcome 3

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

## **55% Well-Being Outcome 3**

### **OSRI Item 17: Physical Health of the Child**

- 79% of 24 cases rated as a Strength

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

- 59% of 22 cases rated as a Strength

# Next Steps



# Next Steps

- Final Report will be issued to the state
- Continued collaborative effort between the state and Children's Bureau to develop and monitor Nebraska's Program Improvement Plan
- Continued collaboration with partners and families in development of Program Improvement Plan



# Questions?



Thank you!

