Understanding The Child and Family

Services Reviews (CFSRs)

What is the purpose of the Child and Family Services Reviews?

The CFSRs enable the Children's Bureau to:

ENSURE conformity with federal child welfare requirements.



DETERMINE what is happening to children and families in the child welfare system.



ASSIST states in enhancing their capacity to achieve safety, permanency, and well-being for children and families.



The CFSR is an opportunity to advance equity in treatment for all children and families, including persons of color and others who have been historically underserved, marginalized, and adversely affected by persistent poverty and inequality in the child welfare system. In all stages of the CFSR, including Program Improvement Plan (PIP) development and monitoring, states can use program and administrative data to identify policies and practices that may contribute to disparities and inequities in how children and families are being served, and to propose systemic improvements to address those challenges. The CFSR includes a wide range of partners, including those with lived experience in the system, ensuring that underserved populations are represented and have a voice in the process.

Part 1

Statewide Assessment



Preparation of evidence to demonstrate how well the state's child welfare system is functioning.

States and their partners complete 4 sections of the **Statewide Assessment**:

SECTION I. General Info

A list of participants

in the statewide assessment process and a description of their involvement.

SECTION II. State Context

Descriptions of the state's vision and tenets of the system, crosssystem challenges, and current initiatives.

Assessment of **Child and Family** Outcomes

Data/information to

SECTION III.

support positive outcomes in safety, permanency, and well-being.

SECTION IV. Assessment of **Seven Systemic Factors**

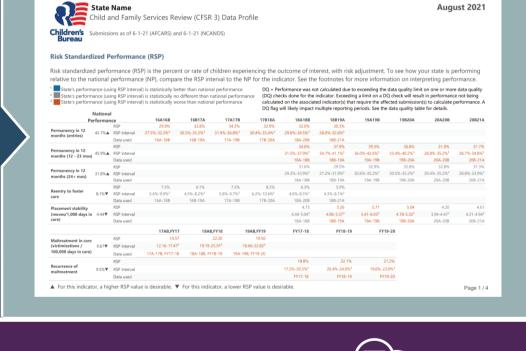
to support how well each systemic factor functions.

Data/information

State Data Profile

The State Data Profile

includes statewide data indicators on safety and permanency, which are key sources of evidence in the Statewide Assessment. State Data Profiles are provided to states twice per year.



Onsite Review



on outcomes and systemic factors. **Case Reviews**

Reading a case using the Onsite Review Instrument and Instructions to



determine strengths and areas needing improvement for child and family

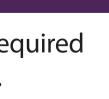
outcomes. Case reviews include interviews with children and families to collect information that may be missing, confirm documentation, and obtain input on experiences. **Stakeholder Interviews** Group interviews to collect information needed to determine whether



a state is in substantial conformity with the seven systemic factors.

Program

Improvement Plan (PIP) States determined not to be in substantial conformity are required to develop a plan to address areas needing improvement.



PIP Development

States and stakeholders:

Identify cross-cutting themes.

Conduct root cause analysis.

 Develop interventions that address root causes and themes.



and Monitoring States have 2 years to implement their

- PIP and are monitored on its impact. After implementation of the PIP, states
- have an additional 18 months to achieve PIP measurement goals.



from the CFSR Information Portal at https://www.cfsrportal.acf.hhs.gov/resources.