

Child and Family Services Reviews Update

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Request for Public Comment on Statewide Data Indicators Extended

The public comment period for the statewide data indicators for the Child and Family Services Reviews (CFSRs) **has been extended to Monday, March 18, 2019**. The Administration for Children and Families invites state child welfare agencies, partner organizations, and the public to review, test, and provide comments on the revised syntax used to perform data quality checks and calculate observed performance on the statewide data indicators. Comments may be submitted at <https://www.regulations.gov/>.

The Federal Register notice is at <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2018/11/27/2018-25835/statewide-data-indicators-for-child-and-family-services-reviews-request-for-public-comment>.

Revised State Data Profiles Disseminated

The Children's Bureau published a new Federal Register notice in November 2018 and presented a follow-up webinar in December that explained revisions made by the Office of Data, Analysis, Research and Evaluation (ODARE) to the Statewide Performance Data Indicators syntax. During the webinar, the Children's Bureau announced a new round of data profiles to be sent to all states during the request for public comment period. The Children's Bureau sent the new profiles to the states in February 2019.

A PDF of the slide presentation is at

<https://training.cfsrportal.acf.hhs.gov/resources/3105#Data%20Indicators%20and%20National%20Standards> (scroll down to "Data Indicators and National Standards").

Recent Personnel Changes in the CFSR Unit

The CFSR Unit is one of eight divisions/teams within the Children's Bureau that work collaboratively to support the mission of the Children's Bureau. Recent personnel changes in the CFSR Unit include:

- After 39 years in child welfare, including 14 years with the CFSR Unit, Child Welfare Specialist **Myrrl McBride** retired on December 31, 2018. Mr. McBride was the co-chair of the Children's Bureau Measurement and Sampling Committee (MASC) and worked with a number of county-administered states.
- **Angela Ivey** joined the CFSR Unit in February 2019. Before joining the CFSR Unit, Ms. Ivey worked as a program specialist in the Children's Bureau Region 6 Office.

- **Nicole Fuller** joins the CFSR Unit as a Child Welfare Specialist contractor in March 2019. Ms. Fuller specializes in implementation of child welfare advisory, strategy, and organizational change projects with state agencies and the delivery and execution of CCWIS/SACWIS projects.

Program Improvement Plan Approvals Progressing for Round 3 CFSRs

At the end of a CFSR onsite review, states determined not to have achieved substantial conformity in all the areas assessed must develop and implement Program Improvement Plans (PIPs) addressing the areas of nonconformity. The Children's Bureau supports the states with technical assistance and monitors implementation of their plans. States must successfully complete their plans to avoid financial penalties for nonconformity.

The Children's Bureau has approved a total of 17 Round 3 PIPs for all 8 of the states participating in the FY 2015 CFSRs, 8 of the 16 states participating in the FY 2016 CFSRs, and 1 of the 14 states participating in the FY 2017 CFSRs. Most recently, the Children's Bureau approved the District of Columbia and Indiana PIPs on January 1, 2019.

Focus on Youth CFSR Findings: 2015–2017

This report analyzes CFSR results related to older youth (ages 16–17) in foster care for the 38 states reviewed during the first 3 years of Round 3 (2015–2017). The just-released report is available on the CFSR Information Portal under Round 3 Resources, CFSR Round 3 Findings, at <https://training.cfsrportal.acf.hhs.gov/resources/3105> and on the Children's Bureau website at <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/cb/resource/focus-on-youth-cfsr>.