



## **Florida Department of Children and Families Case Review Fall 2017**

### **Review Completed by Action for Child Protection**

### **Ongoing Family Functioning/Case Management Overview**

**Date: 01/25/2018**

#### **Overview and Method**

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Action for Child Protection, Inc. completed a case record review requested by the Florida Department of Children and Families to assess the implementation of the Florida Safety Methodology. Cases were randomly selected from six regions in Florida and the sample was provided to Action for Child Protection. Cases were reviewed off-site by Action staff utilizing Qualtrics survey software and FSN access provided by the Department.

This report provides a summary of key findings for the five main focus points of the review:

- Ongoing Family Functioning Assessment Intervention Stages and Information Collection, Assessing and Scaling Caregiver Protective Capacities and Child Needs, Case Plan Outcomes, Ongoing Safety Management, and Progress Evaluation
- Data Summary for Case Management Ongoing Family Functioning and Progress Evaluation.

#### **Sample Size: 66**

#### **Ongoing Family Functioning Assessment Intervention Stages and Information Collection**

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##### **Data Summary**

- 41% of the cases indicated that the Case Manager began intervention through active engagement and introduction with the family. This represents an increase of 14% since the review in June 2017.
- 15% of the cases indicated that the Case Manager was able to obtain additional, sufficient information to inform the Ongoing Family Functioning Assessment. This represents a 2% decrease since the last review in June 2017.

##### **Strengths**

- There were several cases where the case manager began engagement with the family in a timely manner to support developing rapport and information collection with the family.

##### **Areas for Consideration**

- There were several cases where the ongoing family functioning assessment was exactly the same as the initial family functioning assessment and did not reflect additional information collection with the family.

- There was a decrease in overall information collection contained within the ongoing family functioning assessments since the last review.

## **Assessing and Scaling of Caregiver Protective Capacities and Child Needs**

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### **Data Summary**

- 14% of the cases reviewed were found to have sufficient information to support the identified caregiver protective capacities. This represents a 9% decrease since the last review.
- 18% of the cases reviewed were found to have sufficient information to support the identified child needs. This represents a 25% decrease since the last review in June 2017.

### **Areas for Consideration**

- Information collection for adult functioning was the lowest and was often found to be associated to lack of further engagement or contact with families after case transfer.
- Several cases were found to have no additional assessment information within the ongoing family functioning assessment and no documentation to reflect the assessment of child needs or caregiver protective capacities.

## **Case Plan Outcomes**

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### **Data Summary**

- 27% of the cases were identified by the review team as involving the parent/caregiver in the development of case plan outcomes. This represents a 13% increase since the review in June 2017.
- 20% of the cases contained SMART outcomes. This represents a decrease since the last review in June 2017 of 5%.

### **Strengths**

- When case plans were developed, there was indication of development of SMART outcomes.

### **Areas for Consideration**

- Several cases where the case plan outcomes had not been developed or where they were not reflected in the case record.
- Several cases where the caregiver protective capacities were not reflected in the outcomes as areas for change.

## Ongoing Safety Management

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### Data Summary

- 20% of the cases were identified as having active safety management. This represents a significant decrease of 27% since the last review and raises concerns regarding the ongoing management of safety for children who are on in home and out of home safety plans.
- 45% of the cases were assessed for changes to safety plan when indicated. This represents a 32% decrease since the last review and is concerning regarding the assessment of conditions for return for children and families.

### Strengths

- Several cases where the safety plan was changed when indicated due to the plan being insufficient.

### Areas for Consideration

- Several cases lacked information to inform the ongoing safety management.
- Several cases where there is frequent contact with the out of home safety plan participants, however minimal contact with parents to assess for conditions for return. In particular, lack of assessment of home conditions for the family.

## Evaluation of Change/Progress Update

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### Data Summary

- 28 cases were identified as needing a progress evaluation, however were not completed.
- 35 cases reviewed had a completed progress evaluation.
- 29% of the cases where a progress evaluation was completed contained sufficient information to reflect the change in conditions within the family. This represents an increase of 16% since the last review in June 2017.

### Strengths

- Progress updates were associated to critical junctures or indicators of needed change to the safety plan.

### Areas for Consideration

- Several cases where no progress evaluation was completed, despite the need for the evaluation to be completed.
- Case notes did not support the progress evaluations.
- Several cases where the progress evaluation was not informed by the assessment of the caregivers.