

Dorchester County DSS Review of Child Welfare Services Final Report

During the week of May 17 - 21, 2010, a team of DSS staff from state office and surrounding counties conducted an onsite review of child welfare services in Dorchester County. A sample of open and closed foster care and treatment cases were reviewed. Also reviewed were screened-out intakes, foster home licensing records, and unfounded investigations. Stakeholders interviewed for this review included foster parents, foster child, Dorchester DSS supervisor and workers, representative from the schools, Foster Care Review Board, Mental Health and Guardian Ad Litem Program.

Period under Review: May 1, 2009 to April 30, 2010

Purpose

The Department of Social Services engages in a review of child welfare services in each county to:

- a) Determine to what degree services are delivered in compliance with federal and state laws and agency policy; and
- b) Assess the outcomes for children and families engaged in the child welfare system.

State law (§43-1-115) states, in part:

The state department shall conduct, at least once every five years, a substantive quality review of the child protective services and foster care programs in each county and each adoption office in the State. The county's performance must be assessed with reference to specific outcome measures published in advance by the department.

The information obtained by the child welfare services review process will:

- a) Give county staff feedback on the effectiveness of their interventions.
- b) Direct state office technical assistance staff to assist county staff with their areas needing improvement.
- c) Inform agency administrators of which systemic factors impair county staff's ability to achieve specific outcomes.
- d) Direct training staff to provide training for county staff specific to their needs.

Quantitative and Qualitative Data Sources

The county-specific review of child welfare services is both quantitative and qualitative.

The review is **quantitative** because it begins with an analysis of every child welfare outcome report for that county for the period under review. The outcome reports reflect the performance of the county in all areas of the child welfare program: Child Protective Services (CPS) Intake, CPS Investigations, CPS In-Home Treatment, Foster Care, Managed Treatment Services (MTS), and Adoptions.

The review is **qualitative** because it assesses the quality of the services rendered and the effectiveness of those services. The review seeks to explain why a county's performance data looks the way it does.

Dorchester County DSS
 Review of Child Welfare Services
 Final Report

Analysis of Outcome Performance

Safety Outcome 1: Children are, first and foremost, protected from abuse and neglect.

The county's performance on this outcome is based on the rating of two items:

- | | |
|--|---------------------------------|
| 1) Timeliness of initiating investigations | Area Needing Improvement |
| 2) Repeat Maltreatment | Area Needing Improvement |

Agency Data

Performance Measure 1: Timeliness of initiating investigations on reports of child maltreatment-Of all reports of child maltreatment that were accepted for investigation during the reporting period, what percentage had a dictation type contact of initial contact where the action date is within 24 hours of accepting the report?

Objective: 100% in <= 24 hours (state law)

Report Period: April 1, 2009 – March 31, 2009

	Number of Investigations	Number of Investigations Initiated Timely	Percent of Investigations Initiated Timely	Numbers of Investigations Above (Below) Objective
State	18,890	18,435	97.6%	(-455)
Dorchester	520	487	93.7%	(-33)

Explanation of Item 1: Timeliness of initiating investigations

This is an **Area Needing Improvement** for Dorchester DSS. State law requires that an investigation of all accepted reports of abuse and neglect be initiated within 24 hours.

Agency data indicates that for the 12-month period under review, Dorchester initiated 487 of its 520 investigations (93.7%) of alleged abuse and neglect within 24 hours. In one case, the initial contact was made by phone with both parents and contact with the victim child was not made until 5 days later. In another case, the assigned risk rating was a Low, with a response time of 0 to 24 hours, when the assigned risk rating should have been a High, with a response time of 0 to 2 hours. In that case, the actual contact was not made with the children until two days later.

The inappropriate assignment of risk ratings may be due to the fact that Dorchester DSS only had one assigned staff to do intake and the other workers were assigned on a rotating basis as backup.

Onsite Review Findings						
Safety Item 2: Repeat Maltreatment.						
	Strength		Area Needing Improvement		Not Applicable	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Foster Care	9	90	1	10	0	0
Treatment	9	90	1	10	0	0
Total of Cases	18	90	2	10	0	0

Explanation of Item 2: Repeat Maltreatment

This is an **Area Needing Improvement** for Dorchester DSS. This item measures the occurrence of maltreatment among children under agency supervision, or within a year of having their case closed by the agency. Reviewers determined that two of the cases reviewed while under agency supervision experienced additional or ongoing maltreatment because of the agency’s failure to resolve risk of harm issues.

Safety Outcome 2: Children are safely maintained in their homes whenever possible and appropriate.

The county’s performance on this outcome is based on the rating of two items:

- 3) Services to family to protect children & prevent removal **Area Needing Improvement**
- 4) Risk of Harm **Area Needing Improvement**

Onsite Review Findings						
Safety Item 3: Services to family to protect children and prevent removal.						
	Strength		Area Needing Improvement		Not Applicable	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Foster Care	3	100	0	0	7	0
Treatment	9	90	1	10	0	0
Total Cases	12	92	1	8	7	0

Explanation of Item 3: Services to family to protect children and prevent removal

This is an **Area needing Improvement** for Dorchester DSS. This item assesses whether services were adequate to protect children in their home and prevent their removal and placement into foster care. In 100% of the foster care and 90% of the treatment cases reviewed, appropriate services were being offered to safely maintain the children in their home. One treatment case needed improvement because there were bite marks on the baby that was inflicted by the father. However, services were not assessed to protect the children in the home or change the father’s behavior.

<u>Onsite Review Findings</u>						
Safety Item 4: Risk assessment and safety management.						
	Strength		Area Needing Improvement		Not Applicable	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Foster Care	10	100	0	0	0	0
Treatment	2	20	8	80	0	0
Total Cases	12	60	8	40	0	0

Explanation of Item 4: Risk of Harm

This is an **Area Needing Improvement** for Dorchester DSS. This item assesses whether the agency’s interventions reduced risks of harm to children. In 100% of the foster care cases reviewed, risk of harm was adequately managed. Several practice issues caused 80% of the treatment cases to need improvement. In some of those cases risk of harm to children in the home could not be properly managed because the agency did not complete criminal background checks and assessments on paramours and other people who lived in the home and on background checks on alternative caregivers who had physical custody of the children.

Agency Data				
Performance Measure 7: Foster Children Who do Not Re-Enter Care- Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification in the 12 month period prior to reporting period, what percentage did Not re-enter foster care within 12 months of the date of their discharge from the prior foster care episode.				
Objective: 90.1% (Federal Standard)				
Report Period: April 1, 2009 – March 31, 2010				
	Number of Foster Children Reunified during Reporting Period	Number of Children Who Did Not Re-enter Foster Care Within 12	Percent of Children Who Did Not Re-Enter Foster Care Within 12 Months	Number of Children Above (Below) Objective

		Months		
State	2,981	2,757	92.5	71.1
Dorchester	95	90	94.7	4.4

Explanation of Item 5: Foster care re-entries

This is an area of **Strength** for Dorchester DSS. This item measures the frequency of children re-entering foster care within a year of discharge. To meet the objective for this item, 90.1% of children must not re-enter foster care within a year of discharge. Agency data shows that 94.7% of the children did not re-enter foster care within 12-months of the date of their discharge from the previous foster care episode.

Agency Data				
Performance Measure 6: Stability of Foster Care Placements – Of all children who had been in foster care at least 8 days but less than 12 months from the time of latest removal from home, the percentage that had no more than two placement settings.				
Objective: >= 86.0% (federal standard)				
Report Period:				
	FC Services Open>7 days and < 12 months	Number with No More than 2 placements	Percent with No More than 2 placements	Number Above (Below) Objective
State	3,704	2,785	75.2	(- 400.4)
Dorchester	62	46	74.2	16

<u>Onsite Review Findings</u>						
Permanency Item 6: Stability of foster care placement.						
	Strength		Area Needing Improvement		Not Applicable	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Foster Care	9	90	1	10	0	0

Explanation of Item 6: Stability of foster care placement

This is an **Area Needing Improvement** for Dorchester DSS. This item measures the frequency of placement changes for children in foster care, and assesses the reasons for those changes. The objective is that at least 86.7% of the children in care have two or fewer placements within 12 months. Agency data shows that 74.2% of Dorchester county children had two or more placements. Although, nine of the foster care cases reviewed onsite involved children in stable placements, or placement changes made to

help children achieve permanency in their lives. The agency's data was consistent with the onsite review.

Onsite Review Findings						
Permanency Item 7: Permanency goal for child.						
	Strength		Area Needing Improvement		Not Applicable	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Foster Care	7	70	3	30	0	0

Explanation of Item 7: Permanency goal for children

This is an **Area Needing Improvement** for Dorchester DSS. This item evaluates the appropriateness of permanency goals for children in foster care and the timeliness of those permanency decisions. Reviewers determined that in 70% of the foster care cases, the agency identified the appropriate goal. However, in 30% of the foster care cases reviewed, the children's plans were not appropriate. One case needed improvement because parents were noncompliant and continues to deny abuse of their child. In that case, the child has been in care for nine months and a concurrent plan was never established.

The practice is that the county does not always change the plan quickly for the child, especially when parents are non-compliant and have a history with the agency.

Agency Data				
Performance Measure 8: Time to Achieve Reunification- Of all children under the age of 18 who were reunified with their parent(s) or caretaker(s) at the time of discharge from foster care and had been in care for 8 days or more, what percentage were reunified in less than 12 months from the date of their latest removal from home?.				
Objective: 75.2% (Federal Standard)				
Report Period: April 1, 2010 – march 31, 2010				
	Number of Children Reunified with Parent(s)/Caretaker(s) or Relatives	Number of Children Reunified in <12 months	Percent of Children Reunified in <12 Months	Number of Children Above (Below) Objective
State	2,438	1,843	75.6	9.6
Dorchester	52	44	84.6	4.9

Onsite Review Findings

8: Item Reunification or permanent placement with relatives.

	Strength		Area Needing Improvement		Not Applicable	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Foster Care	0	0	2	100	8	0

Explanation of Item 8: Reunification or permanent placement with relatives

This is an **Area Needing Improvement** for Dorchester DSS. This item evaluates the activities and process to accomplish the goal of reunification with caregivers or placement with relatives. Agency data shows that 84.6% of the children in Dorchester were returned home to their parents or relatives within 12 months of entering foster care, which surpasses the 75.2% federal standard. In 100% of the cases reviewed the parents were non-complaint and the agency failed to pursue concurrent planning or change plan in timely manner, or to achieve permanency in a timely manner. In those cases, the practice is that the county continues to have a plan of reunification with noncompliant parents, even though it may not be in best interest of the child.

Agency Data

Performance Measure 9: Time to Finalized Adoption – Of all children who left foster care due to finalized adoption during the reporting year, what percentage left foster care within 24 months from the date of their latest removal from home?

Objective: $\geq 36.6\%$ (National 75th percentile)

Report Period: April – March 31, 2010

	Number of Adoptions Finalized	Number of Adoptions Finalized in < 24 months	Percent of Adoptions Finalized in < 24 Months	Number of Adoptions Above (Below) Objective
State	533	98	18.4	(- 97.1)
Dorchester	6	0	0	(-2.2)

Explanation of Item 9: Adoption

This is an **Area Needing Improvement** for Dorchester DSS. This item evaluates the process within the child welfare system to achieve timely adoptions for children in foster care. Agency data shows that Dorchester DSS completed six adoptions in SFY2008 and SFY2009. None of the adoptions were finalized within 24 months of the child entering care which is below the national percentile of 36.6%. That was because of late merit, permanency and TPR hearings due to continuances. As a result, it takes sometimes up to 9 months to get a TPR case rescheduled for a hearing because of no court time available for contested cases. However, 6 adoptions were finalized

Onsite Review Findings

Permanency Item 10: Permanency goal of Alternate Planned Permanent Living Arrangement.

	Strength		Area Needing Improvement		Not Applicable	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Foster Care	1	50	1	50	8	0

Explanation of Item 10: Permanency goal of APPLA

This is an **Area Needing Improvement** for Dorchester DSS. This item evaluates the appropriateness and effectiveness of services provided to children with the permanency plan of APPLA. Reviewers also rate whether the agency attempted to locate and reassess relatives or non-relatives that were willing to commit to the youth’s long-term care every six months. Reviewers found that in one (10%) of the two cases reviewed, there is no documentation to support that the youths with the plan of APPLA were receiving the appropriate Independent Living services and the agency attempted to connect the youth with a committed adult.

Permanency Outcome 2: The continuity of family relationships and connections is preserved for children.

The county’s performance on this outcome is based on the rating of six items:

- | | |
|---|---------------------------------|
| 11) Proximity of foster care placement | Strength |
| 12) Placement with siblings in foster care | Area Needing Improvement |
| 13) Visiting with parents and siblings in foster care | Area Needing Improvement |
| 14) Preserving connections | Area Needing Improvement |
| 15) Relative placement | Area Needing Improvement |
| 16) Relationship of child in care with parents | Area Needing Improvement |

Agency Data				
Performance Measure 13: Foster Children Placed Within county of Origin – Of all children in foster care during the reporting period (excluding MTS and Adoptions children), what percentage are placed within the county of origin?				
Objective: >= 70% (Agency established objective)				
Report Period May 2, 2009 – May 1, 2010				
	Number of Children in Foster Care	Number of Children Placed Within County of Origin	Percent of Children Placed Within County of Origin	Number of Children Above (Below) Objective
State	5,878	4,013	68.3	(-101.6)
Dorchester	121	89	73.6	4.3

Explanation of Item 11: Proximity of foster care placement

This is an area of **Strength** for Dorchester County DSS. This item evaluates the agency’s efforts to keep children close enough to their families so that essential relationships can be maintained. One measure used to evaluate this item is the percentage of children who are placed within the county. The objective is that at least 70% of the children in care be placed within the county. Agency data shows that 73.6% of Dorchester DSS children were placed within the county. Dorchester County does excellent job keeping children close enough to their families.

<u>Onsite Review Findings</u>						
Permanency Item 12: Placement with siblings.						
	Strength		Area Needing Improvement		Not Applicable	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Foster Care	2	67	1	33	7	0

Explanation of Item 12: Placement with siblings in foster care

This is an **Area Needing Improvement** for Dorchester DSS. This item evaluates the agency’s efforts to keep siblings together when it is appropriate to do so. One (33%) case was rated an area needing improvement, because there was no placement available to take a sibling group together and there were no evidence documented by the agency

as to why the siblings were not placed together.

<u>Onsite Review Findings</u>						
Permanency Item 13: Visiting with parents and siblings in foster care.						
	Strength		Area Needing Improvement		Not Applicable	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Foster Care	2	25	6	75	2	0

Explanation of Item 13: Visiting with siblings in foster care and with parents

This is an **Area Needing Improvement** for Dorchester DSS. This item evaluates the agency’s efforts to ensure that visits occur between children in foster care and their siblings and parents. Most of the cases needed improvement because the agency failed to include non-custodial fathers in those visitation plans, and failed to communicate with fathers to determine if such visits were possible or appropriate.

<u>Onsite Review Findings</u>						
Permanency Item 14: Preserving connections.						
	Strength		Area Needing Improvement		Not Applicable	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Foster Care	4	67	2	33	4	0

Explanation of Item 14: Preserving Connections

This is an **Area Needing Improvement** for Dorchester DSS. This item evaluates the agency’s efforts to preserve children’s connections to the people, places and things that are important to them. In 67% of the cases reviewed, agency efforts were present to keep children within their same communities, and to help children maintain their relationships with family and friends. Two cases needed improvement because the agency identified people in the children’s lives but failed to maintain the relationships.

<u>Onsite Review Findings</u>						
Permanency Item 15: Relative placement with siblings.						
	Strength		Area Needing Improvement		Not Applicable	
	#	%	#	%	#	%

Foster Care	7	70%	3	30%	0	0
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Explanation of Item 15: Relative Placement

This is an **Area Needing Improvement** for Dorchester DSS. This item evaluates the agency’s efforts to identify and assess relatives as potential placement resources for children in foster care. In 100% of the cases reviewed, reviewers found that the agency did not consistently assess maternal and paternal relatives as placement options. In one case a home study was completed on a paternal aunt that was favorable. However, there is no documentation to explain why the child was not placed with this relative.

The practice is that the county does not continue to assess for potential placement resources for the in foster care.

<u>Onsite Review Findings</u>						
Permanency Item 16: Relationship of child in care with parents.						
	Strength		Area Needing Improvement		Not Applicable	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Foster Care						

Explanation of Item 16: Relationship of child in care with parents

This is an **Area Needing Improvement** for Dorchester DSS. This item evaluates the agency’s efforts to promote a supportive relationship between children in care and their parents, beyond the twice-minimum visitation requirement. In 100% of the cases reviewed, reviewers found no evidence of the agency’s efforts in supporting the parent-child relationships beyond the minimum required twice a month visitation. Agency policy encourages this; especially when infants and preschool aged children are involved.

Well-Being Outcome 1: Families have enhanced capacity to provide for their children’s needs.

- The agency’s performance on this outcome is based on the rating of four items:
- 17) Needs and services of child, parents and caregivers **Area Needing Improvement**
 - 18) Child and family involvement in case planning **Area Needing Improvement**
 - 19) Worker visits with child **Area Needing Improvement**
 - 20) Worker visits with parents **Area Needing Improvement**

<u>Onsite Review Findings</u>			
Well Being Item 17: Needs and services of child, parents and caregivers.			
	Strength	Area Needing Improvement	Not Applicable

	#	%	#	%	#	%
Foster Care	6	60	4	40	0	0
Treatment	6	60	4	40	0	0
Total Cases	12	60	8	40	0	0

Explanation of Item 17: Needs and services of child, parents and caregivers

This is an **Area Needing Improvement** for Dorchester DSS. This item asks two questions: 1) Were the needs of the child, parents, and caregivers assessed, and 2) Did the agency take steps to meet the identified needs? Forty percent of the cases needed improvement because caseworkers assessed some, but not all of the caregivers significant to the case. For example, a case might include a thorough assessment of both of the child’s parents. However, the agency placed the child with grandparents without assessing the caregivers or the other adults in the home.

Onsite Review Findings

Well Being Item 18: Child and family involvement in case planning.

	Strength		Area Needing Improvement		Not Applicable	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Foster Care	3	33	6	67	1	0
Treatment	7	70	3	30	0	0
Total Cases	10	53	9	47	1	0

Explanation of Item 18: Child and family involvement in case planning

This is an **Area Needing Improvement** for Dorchester DSS. This item evaluates the agency’s efforts to involve parents and children in the case planning process. Reviewers found that in 67% of the foster care and 30% of the treatment cases, parents and the age-appropriate children were not involved in the case planning process. In some of those cases, the treatment plans were not completed or updated, as policy requires.

Agency Data				
Performance Measure 14: Face- to- Face Visits With Children				
Objective: >= 100% (Agency Policy)				
	Number of Children Under Agency Supervision at Least One Complete Calendar	Number of Children Visited Every Month	Percent of Children Visited Every Month	Number of Children Above or (Below) Standard

	Month			
Foster Care	92	81	88.0	(-11)
Treatment	385	240	62.3	(-145)

Explanation of Item 19: Worker visits with child

This is an **Area Needing Improvement** for Dorchester DSS. This item measures the frequency of caseworker visits with children under agency supervision, and evaluates the quality of those visits. State law and agency policy require that children under agency supervision be seen each month. The agency, data indicate that 11% of the foster children were not seen every month during last 12 month. In the in-home treatment cases the agency, data indicate that 62.3% of the children were seen monthly. Reviewers found in several cases, there were missed visits and content of the visits did not always address safety permanency and well-being. In one of the treatment cases the worker was not allow to visits the home until the father plan a scheduled visits with the workers. The worker could not assess safety in the home for those children.

<u>Onsite Review Findings</u>						
Well Being Item 20: Worker visit with parent(s).						
	Strength		Area Needing Improvement		Not Applicable	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Foster Care	1	17	5	83	4	0
Treatment	5	50	5	50	0	0
Total Cases	10	50	10	50	0	0

Explanation of Item 20: Worker visits with parents

This is an **Area Needing Improvement** for Dorchester DSS. This item measures the frequency of caseworker visits with parents, and evaluates the quality of those visits. In 83% of the foster care cases and in 50% of the treatment cases reviewed needed improvement due to the agency’s failure to visit both parents during the period under review. In most of the foster care cases, the county failed to diligently search for or consistently follow up with the fathers of the children in foster care.

Well-Being Outcome 2: Children receive appropriate services to meet their educational needs.
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The agency’s performance on this outcome is based on the rating of one item:
 21) Educational needs of the child **Area Needing Improvement**

<u>Onsite Review Findings</u>						
Well Being Item 21: Educational needs of the child.						
	Strength		Area Needing Improvement		Not Applicable	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Foster Care	6	86	1	14	3	0
Treatment	5	83	1	17	4	0
Total Cases	11	85	2	15	7	0

Explanation of Item 21: Educational needs of the child

This is an **Area Needing Improvement** for Dorchester DSS. This item evaluates the agency’s ability to assess and attend to the educational needs of children under agency supervision. In 15% of the foster care and treatment cases reviewed there were no direct contact with schools or copies of grade reports and attendance records in case files.

Well-Being Outcome 3: Children receive adequate services to meet their physical and mental health needs.

The agency’s performance on this outcome is based on the rating of two items:

22) Physical health of the child

Area Needing Improvement

23) Mental health of the child

Area Needing Improvement

<u>Onsite Review Findings</u>						
Well Being Item 22: Physical health of the child.						
	Strength		Area Needing Improvement		Not Applicable	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Foster Care	4	40	6	60	0	0
Treatment	6	60	4	40	0	0
Total Cases	11	55	9	45	0	0

Explanation of Item 22: Physical health of the child

This is an **Area Needing Improvement** for Dorchester DSS. This item evaluates the agency’s ability to assess and attend to the medical needs of children under agency supervision. In 40% of the foster care and in 60% of the treatment cases reviewed, reviewers determined that the physical health and dental needs of the children were assessed and the identified medical needs were attended to. Copies of medical, dental and

immunizations records were in most of the cases. Six of the foster care cases needed improvement because there was no evidence that the child’s identified health issues were attended to or follow-up. Three treatment cases needed improvement because there was no documented assessment of the children’s physical and dental health needs.

	Yes	No
Was the investigation initiated timely?	5	0
Was the assessment adequate?	3	2
Was the decision appropriate?	4	1

<u>Onsite Review Findings</u>						
Well Being Item 23: Mental health of the child.						
	Strength		Area Needing Improvement		Not Applicable	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Foster Care	5	71	2	29	3	0
Treatment	3	50	3	50	4	0
Total Cases	8	62	5	38	7	0

Explanation of Item 23: Mental health of the child

This is an **Area Needing Improvement** for Dorchester DSS. This item evaluates the agency’s ability to assess and meet the mental health needs of children under agency supervision. In 50% of the treatment cases and 29% of the foster care cases reviewed, reviewers determined that the children’s mental health needs were identified but not attended to. There is no documentation of direct contact provided mental health records in file.

Unfounded Investigations

Explanation of Item 24: Unfounded Investigations

This is an **Area Needing improvement** for Dorchester DSS. This item evaluates the agency’s investigative process and determines if decisions were supported by the facts of the cases. Also, the reviewers found in two of the cases the assessments were not adequate to determine whether the case needed to be unfounded. The assessments were vague and did not include information if collaterals.

This may have contributed to all but two Human Service Staff have been in their current position for two years or less.

Screened Out Intakes			
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	Yes	No	Cannot Determine
Was the Intake Appropriately Screened Out?	1	5	4
			Not Applicable
Were Necessary Collaterals Contacted?	4	3	3
Were Appropriate Referrals Made?	2	2	6

Explanation of Item 25: Screened Out Intakes

This is an **Area Needing Improvement** for Dorchester DSS. This item evaluates the process by which the agency screens out reports of abuse and/or neglect. Reviewers could not determine whether or not four reports were screened appropriately due to insufficient documentation of the reason as to screening the referral and the lack of information that should have been obtained from collaterals. Five other intakes that were screened out should have been accepted for investigation.

The practice is that the county does not accept physical abuse reports, if there are no physical marks or bruises on the child.

Foster Home Licenses			
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Explanation of Item 26: Foster Home Licenses

This is an **Area Needing Improvement** for Dorchester DSS. This item evaluates the process by which the agency ensures that all foster homes comply with licensing requirements. Four of the foster home licenses reviewed was not valid because all of the safety checks were not completed before license was issued or license expired before renewal of the current license.

Foster Care and Treatment Case Rating Summary				
		Performance Item Ratings		
		Strength	Area Needing Improvement	N/A*
Safety Outcome 1: Children are, first and foremost, protected from abuse and neglect.				
Item 1: *ANI	Timeliness of initiating investigations of reports of child maltreatment	7/10= 70%	3/10= 30%	10
Item 2: ANI	Repeat maltreatment	18/20= 90%	2/20= 10%	0
Safety Outcome 2: Children are safely maintained in their homes whenever possible and appropriate.				
Item 3: ANI	Services to family to protect child (ren) in home and prevent removal	12/13=92%	1/13 = 8%	7
Item 4: ANI	Risk of harm to child (ren)	12/20= 60%	8/20= 40%	0
Permanency Outcome 1: Children have permanency and stability in their living situations.				
Item 5: *Str	Foster care re-entries	2/3= 67%	1/3 = 33%	7
Item 6: ANI	Stability of foster care placement	9/10= 90%	1/10 =10%	0
Item 7: ANI	Permanency goal for child	7/10=70%	3/10=30%	0
Item 8: *ANI	Reunification, guardianship, or permanent placement with relatives		2/2 =100%	6

Item 9: ANI	Adoption		4/4 =100%	6
Item 10: ANI	Permanency goal of Alternate Planned Permanent Living Arrangement (APPLA)	1/2=50%	1/2 = 50%	8
Permanency Outcome 2: The continuity of family relationships and connections is preserved for children.				
Item 11: *Str	Proximity of foster care placement	10/10=100%	0	0
Item 12: ANI	Placement with siblings	2/3= 67%	1/3 =33%	7
Item 13: ANI	Visiting with parents and siblings in foster care	2/8= 25%	6/8=75%	2
Item 14: ANI	Preserving connections	4/6=67%	2/6= 33%	4
Item 15: ANI	Relative placement		6/6= 100%	4
Item 16: ANI	Relationship of child in care with parents		5/5= 100%	2
Well Being Outcome 1: Families have enhanced capacity to provide for their children's needs.				
Item 17: ANI	Needs and services of child, parents, caregiver	12/20=60%	8/20=40%	0
Item 18: ANI	Child and family involvement in case planning	8/19=42%	11/19= 58%	1
Item 19: ANI	Worker visits with child	11/20=55%	9/20= 45%	0
Item 20: ANI	Worker visits with parent(s)	6/16=38%	10/16=62%	4
Item 21: ANI	Educational needs of the child	11/13=85%	2/13= 15%	7
Well Being Outcome 3: Children receive adequate services to meet their physical and mental health needs.				
Item 22: ANI	Physical health of the child	11/20=55%	9/20=45%	0
Item 23: ANI	Mental health of the child	8/17=62%	5/13=38%	7

The objective is that 95% of cases be rated "Strength."

Str = Strength

ANI = Area Needing Improvement

* = Rating based on agency data, not onsite review findings