

## **Dillon County Data Review**

In accordance with Section 43-1-115 of the S.C. Code of Laws, the Human Services unit conducts reviews of County DSS human services programs. Review findings and statistics are based on the Statewide Automated Child Welfare Information System (SACWIS).

2 Sample cases were selected for staff review from the following program areas:

Child Protective Services (CPS) Treatment; and  
Foster Care

The summary statements below are primarily based on the statistics presented in each table, with minimal input from the case reviews.

## Dillon County Data Review

### I. Foster Care

	June 2001		July 2001		August 2001	
	County	State	County	State	County	State
A. # Children in Care	40	4,801	47	4,862	47	4,886
B. # Children in Care more than 12 months	21	3,069	21	3,052	23	3,038
C. Avg. Months for All Children in Care	30.48	33.45	26.86	33.31	27.73	33.06
D. Avg. Months for Children in Care more than 12 months	53.75	49.48	54.75	50.05	51.98	50.09
E. # Children in Care more than 12 months with No Permanency Planning Hearing	5	1,060	7	1,044	11	1,050
F. Children on Runaway Status	0	94	0	95	0	90
G. # Children Aging Out	0	17	0	18	0	26
H. # Children Returning to Care within 12 months of Reunification	0	94	0	201	0	205
I. # Children with more than 2 Placements	13	2,666	15	2,690	19	2,721

#### **Summary:**

While the percentage of Dillon children in care greater than 12 months (approximately 48%) was substantially less than the State average (approximately 63%), the average months in care for those children (approximately 53 months) was slightly greater than the State average (approximately 50 months). Throughout the period under review, the number of Dillon children in care greater than 12 months without a Permanency Planning Hearing increased. The percentage of Dillon children in care with more than 2 placements (approximately 35%) was less than the State average (approximately 55%).

## Dillon County Data Review

### II. Permanent Plan of Care for Children in Care More Than 12 months

Plan	June 2001				July 2001				August 2001			
	# Children		Avg. Months		# Children		Avg. Months		# Children		Avg. Months	
	Cty	State	Cty.	State	Cty	State	Cty.	State	Cty	State	Cty.	State
Return to Parent or Guardian	8	651	16.55	23.95	5	617	16.92	24.83	4	624	14.39	24.22
Relative Placement	1	81	49.54	25.07	0	82	--	24.75	0	74	--	24.26
Independent Living	2	439	37.17	70.51	2	436	38.19	70.7	2	432	39.21	70.23
Permanent Foster Care	4	579	186.6 1	74.75	4	593	187.63	74.94	4	585	188.65	75.94
Adoption	6	1,244	20.94	44.32	9	1,256	20.86	44.17	11	1,256	19.82	44.62
Guardianship	0	3	--	18.79	0	0	--	--	0	0	--	--
Long Term Foster Care	0	72	--	66.92	1	68	50.56	68.64	2	67	43.42	66.51
Unknown	0	0	--	--	0	0	--	--	0	0	--	--

#### **Summary:**

The number of Dillon children in care greater than 12 months with a permanent plan of return home raises some questions regarding whether the permanent plan is realistic. The increasing number of Dillon children with a plan of Adoption raises questions about why the case has not been transferred to the Adoptions office. A contributing factor in this area may be the delay in Permanency Planning Hearings noted in Section I.

## Dillon County Data Review

### III. CPS Investigation

	May 2001		June 2001		July 2001	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Referrals	29	NA	22	NA	24	NA
Decisions						
Screened Out	6	20.69	3	13.64	3	12.50
Accepted for Investigation	23	79.31	19	86.36	21	87.50
Determinations						
Founded	7	30.43	6	34.58	7	33.33
Unfounded	16	69.57	13	68.42	14	66.67
Initial Contact Made within 24 Hours						
Yes	23	100.00	19	100.00	21	100.00
No	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00
	May 2001		June 2001		July 2001	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
# of Days From Referral to Determination						
0-30	11	47.83	10	52.63	5	23.81
31-60	12	52.17	9	47.37	16	76.19
61-90	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00
91+	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00
Unknown	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00

### Summary:

Dillon County is effective in initiating CPS Investigations within 24 hours of the intake. There may be a need to increase the probe interviewing during intake. This is based on comparing the high number of referrals accepted for investigation to the high number of unfounded investigations. While case decisions are made within 60 days, there is no information regarding the number of case decisions made within 45 days, and the number requiring a 15 day extension.

## Dillon County Data Review

### IV. CPS Treatment

	June 2001		July 2001		August 2001	
	County	State	County	State	County	State
A. # Cases Open	40	5,123	39	5,002	38	4,975
B. # Cases Closed	5	426	5	361	4	360

### C. Length of Agency Involvement In CPS Treatment Cases

	June 2001				July 2001				August 2001			
	County		State		County		State		County		State	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Cases Open												
<6 months	17	48.57	2140	45.48	17	48.57	2155	46.16	20	58.82	2177	46.75
6-12 months	3	8.57	1144	24.32	5	14.29	1151	24.65	5	14.71	1128	24.22
>12 months	15	42.86	1421	30.20	13	37.14	1363	29.19	9	26.47	1352	29.03

### Summary:

During the review period, the number of open Treatment cases over 12 months old has been steadily declining.