

Bamberg County DSS
Child Welfare Services Review
March 2008

During the week of March 3 - 7, 2008 a team of DSS staff from state office and surrounding counties conducted an onsite review of child welfare services in Bamberg 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, Bamberg DSS supervisors, representatives from the schools, Foster Care Review Board, Mental Health and Guardian Ad Litem Program.

Period Under Review: March 1, 2007 - February 28, 2008

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. Agency data 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.

Bamberg County DSS
Child Welfare Services Review
March 2008

Ratings

The standard that must be met for all items reviewed onsite is 90%. Each outcome report has its own standard. To be rated an area of **Strength** most items must meet both the qualitative onsite review standard **and** the quantitative outcome report standard.

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 **Strength**
- 2) Repeat Maltreatment **Strength**

Agency Data				
Performance Measure 1: Initiating CPS Investigations				
Objective: 100% in <= 24 hours (state law)				
	Number of Investigations	Number of Investigations Initiated Timely	Percent of Investigations Initiated Timely	Number of Investigations Above (Below) Objective
State	18,824	17,791	94.5	(1,033)
Bamberg	46	41	89.1	(5)

Explanation of Item 1: Timeliness of Initiating Investigations

This is an area of **Strength** for Bamberg DSS. State law requires that an investigation of all (100%) accepted reports of abuse and neglect be initiated within 24 hours. Agency data indicates that, for the 12 month period under review, Bamberg DSS initiated 41 of 46 (89.1%) investigations within 24 hours. Reviewers found that the problem was data entry errors, rather than late investigations.

Stakeholder Comments: CPS workers are efficient at initiating contact within the required timeframes. Workers do not always enter the initial contact in the system correctly. This is predominately a problem for new workers. It takes new workers six months or more to learn their job.

Bamberg County DSS
 Child Welfare Services Review
 March 2008

Agency Data				
Performance Measure 3: Treatment Cases With No New Indicated Reports – Of all treatment cases that were closed during the year reporting period, what percentage did Not have a new founded intake within 12 months of the treatment case being closed?				
Objective: \geq 87.55% Agency Average				
	Number of Treatment Cases Closed	Number of Treatment Cases with no founded intake within 12 months	Percent of Treatment Cases that did not have a new founded intake within 12 months	Number of Cases Above (Below) State Average
State	4,948	4,332	87.55	N/A
Bamberg	11	10	90.91	.4

Explanation of Item 2: Repeat Maltreatment

This is an area of **Strength** for Bamberg 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. Agency data shows that 90.91% of the treatment cases closed were not involved in a subsequent indicated incident of maltreatment. Based on agency data, Bamberg surpassed the state average for this item. Reviewers found no evidence of repeat maltreatment in any of the cases that were reviewed.

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 and prevent removal | Strength |
| 4) Risk of Harm | Strength |

Bamberg County DSS
Child Welfare Services Review
March 2008

Onsite Review Findings						
Safety Item 3: Services to Family to Protect Children in Home and Prevent Removal.						
	Strength		Area Needing Improvement		Not Applicable	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Foster Care	4	100	0	0	6	0
Treatment	9	90	1	10	0	0
Total Cases	13	93	1	7	6	0

Explanation of Item 3: Services to Family to Protect Children and Prevent Removal

This is an area of **Strength** for Bamberg DSS. This item assesses whether services were adequate to protect children in their home and prevent their removal and placement into foster care. Caseworkers did a good job generally of assigning services to clients that targeted the client's specific needs. Reviewers found that when the agency and legal officers placed children into foster care, those decisions were consistently supported by the facts of the case.

Stakeholder Comments: Some families live further out in the rural areas and services may not be accessible. Transportation is a problem but DSS tries to work with our agency in getting clients to services. There are no parenting classes in Bamberg.

Onsite Review Findings						
Safety Item 4: Risk of Harm						
	Strength		Area Needing Improvement		Not Applicable	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Foster Care	10	100	0	0	0	0
Treatment	8	80	2	20	0	0
Total Cases	18	90	2	10	0	0

Explanation of Item 4: Risk of Harm

This is an area of **Strength** for Bamberg DSS. This item assesses whether the agency's interventions reduced risks of harm to children. Reviewers found that none of the children in foster care were at risk of harm because the foster care settings in which they lived met their needs. In 80% of the treatment cases, risk of harm was adequately managed. In the other 20%, caseworkers focused on the report that initially caused the agency's involvement but failed to assess for or address other risk factors.

Bamberg County DSS
Child Welfare Services Review
March 2008

Permanency Outcome 1: Children have permanency and stability in their living situations.

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

- | | |
|---|---------------------------------|
| 5) Foster care re-entries | Strength |
| 6) Stability of foster care placement | Area Needing Improvement |
| 7) Permanency goal for child | Strength |
| 8) Reunification or permanent placement with relatives | Area Needing Improvement |
| 9) Adoption | Area Needing Improvement |
| 10) Permanency goal of Alternate Planned Permanent Living Arrangement (APPLA) | Strength |

Agency Data

Performance Measure 7: Foster Care Re-entries – Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification in the 12 month period prior to the reporting period, the percent that did not re-enter foster care within 12 months of the date of their discharge.

Objective: $\geq 90.1\%$ (federal standard)

	Number Children Reunited During Reporting Period	Number of Children Discharged Who Did Not Re-enter Foster Care	Percent of Children Discharged Who Did Not Re-enter Foster Care	Number of Children Above (Below) Objective
State	2,450	2,306	94.12	98.5
Bamberg	1	0	1	(.9)

Explanation of Item 5: Foster Care Re-entries

This is an area of **Strength** for Bamberg DSS. This item measures the frequency of children re-entering foster care within a year of discharge. To meet the minimum requirement for this item, 90.1% of children must not re-enter foster care within a year of discharge. For this item the county's rating was affected by the small number of children in care. The agency only sent one child home to a relative in another state. That relative returned the child to agency custody to avoid further harassment by the child's mother. Onsite reviewers found no problems with the agency's decisions to return children to parents or relatives.

Bamberg County DSS
Child Welfare Services Review
March 2008

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, what percentage had no more than two placement settings?				
Objective: \geq 86% (federal standard)				
	FC Services Open > 7 days and < 12 Months	Number With No More than 2 Placements	Percent with No More than 2 Placements	Number of Children Above (Below) Objective
State	4,559	3,616	79.32	(336.7)
Bamberg	13	11	84.62	(.3)

Explanation of Item 6: Stability of Foster Care Placements

This is an **Area Needing Improvement** for Bamberg DSS. This item measures the frequency of placement changes for children in foster care, and assesses the reasons for those changes. The federal standard for this measure is at least 86% of the children in care have no more than two placements in the past year. Agency data shows that 84.62% of children managed by the county office had no more than two placements.

<u>Onsite Review Findings</u>						
Permanency Item 7: Permanency Goal for Children						
	Strength		Area Needing Improvement		Not Applicable	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Foster Care	10	0	0	0	0	0

Explanation of Item 7: Permanency Goal for Children

This is an area of **Strength** for Bamberg DSS. This item evaluates the appropriateness of permanency goals for children in foster care and the timeliness of those permanency decisions. Reviewers determined that the agency quickly identified the correct permanency goal for each of the children in foster care.

Bamberg County DSS
Child Welfare Services Review
March 2008

Agency Data				
Performance Measure 8: Time to Achieve Reunification – Of all children who were reunified with their parents or caretakers at the time of discharge from foster care, the percentage that were reunified in less than 12 months from the time of the latest removal.				
Objective: $\geq 75.2\%$ (federal standard)				
	Number of Children Returned to Parents/Caretakers	Number of Children Reunited in < 12 Months	Percent of Children Reunited in < 12 Months	Number of Children Above (Below) Objective
State	2,314	1,788	77.27	47.9
Bamberg	11	7	63.64	(1.3)

Explanation of Item 8: Reunification or Permanent Placement with Relatives

This is an **Area Needing improvement** for Bamberg DSS. This item evaluates the activities and processes necessary to accomplish the goal of reunification with caregivers or placement with relatives. Agency data indicates that Bamberg County is below the objective for this item with 63.64% of Bamberg County children returning home within 12 months. The onsite findings confirmed this as an area needing improvement.

Agency Data				
Performance Measure 9: Length of 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: $\geq 36.6\%$ (federal standard)				
	Number of Adoptions Finalized	Number of Adoptions Finalized < 24 Months	Percent of Adoptions Finalized in < 24 Months	Adoptions Above (Below) Objective
State	428	71	16.59	(85.6)
Bamberg	2	0	0	(.7)

Explanation of Item 9: Adoption

This is an **Area Needing Improvement** for Bamberg DSS. This item evaluates the process within the child welfare system to achieve timely adoptions for children in foster care. The federal standard is that at least 36.6% of adoptions be completed within 24 months of a child entering care. Agency data indicates that there were two adoptions finalized during the reporting period, but neither was completed within the 24 month time frame. With 48.48% of removal hearings and 60% of permanency planning hearings completed timely, the county's legal process contributed to delays in permanency for children with the plan of adoption.

Bamberg County DSS
Child Welfare Services Review
March 2008

Onsite Review Findings						
Permanency Item 10: Permanency Goal of Alternate Planned Permanent Living Arrangement (APPLA)						
	Strength		Area Needing Improvement		Not Applicable	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Foster Care	6	100			4	0

Explanation of Item 10: Permanency Goal of APPLA

This is an area of **Strength** for Bamberg County DSS. This item evaluates the appropriateness and effectiveness of services provided to children with the permanency plan of APPLA. Reviewers found that all children with this plan were receiving timely and appropriate services.

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 | Area Needing Improvement |
| 12) Placement with siblings in foster care | Area Needing Improvement |
| 13) Visiting with parents and siblings in foster care | Strength |
| 14) Preserving connections | Strength |
| 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)				
	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	6,790	4,362	64.24	(391.0)
Bamberg	28	19	67.86	(0.6)

Explanation of Item 11: Proximity of Foster Care Placement

This is an **Area Needing Improvement** for Bamberg County DSS. This item evaluates the agency's efforts to keep children close enough to their families so that essential relationships

Bamberg County DSS
Child Welfare Services Review
March 2008

can be maintained. One measure used to evaluate this item is the percentage of children who are placed within the county. The objective is at least 70% of the children in care be placed within the county. Agency data shows that almost one third of Bamberg DSS children were placed outside of the county.

<u>Onsite Review Findings</u>						
Permanency Item 12: Placement with Siblings						
	Strength		Area Needing Improvement		Not Applicable	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Foster Care	3	60	2	40	6	0

Explanation of Item 12: Placement with Siblings in Foster Care

This is an **Area Needing Improvement** for Bamberg DSS. This item evaluates the agency's efforts to keep siblings together when it is appropriate to do so. Reviewers found that the county managed a few large sibling groups; that there were no foster homes willing or able to accommodate the entire group.

<u>Onsite Review Findings</u>						
Permanency Item 13: Visiting with Parents and Siblings in Foster Care						
	Strength		Area Needing Improvement		Not Applicable	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Foster Care	7	88	1	12	2	0

Explanation of Item 13: Visiting with parents and Siblings in Foster Care

This is an area of **Strength** for Bamberg DSS. This item evaluates the agency's efforts to ensure that visits occur between children in foster care and their siblings and parents. The agency generally did a good job of ensuring that children in care visited with parents according to policy. Siblings placed in different parts of the state because of their therapeutic needs were not given the opportunity to see one another. This was the result of poor coordination between the county office and the Managed Treatment Services (MTS) office.

Bamberg County DSS
Child Welfare Services Review
March 2008

<u>Onsite Review Findings</u>						
Permanency Item 14: Preserving Connections						
	Strength		Area Needing Improvement		Not Applicable	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Foster Care	9	100	0	0	1	0

Explanation of Item 14: Preserving Connections

This is an area of **Strength** for Bamberg DSS. Whereas Item 13 addressed parents and siblings, this item evaluates the agency's efforts to preserve children's connections to the people, places and things that are important to them. In 100% of the cases reviewed, onsite reviewers rated this item an area of strength because there was ample evidence that the agency supported contact with other important relatives to the child.

<u>Onsite Review Findings</u>						
Permanency Item 15: Relative Placement						
	Strength		Area Needing Improvement		Not Applicable	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Foster Care	6	67	3	33	1	0

Explanation of Item 15: Relative Placement

This is an **Area Needing Improvement** for Bamberg DSS. This item evaluates the agency's efforts to identify and assess relatives as potential placement resources for children in foster care. In 67% of the cases reviewed, reviewers determined that the agency sufficiently assessed relatives. However in 33% of the cases, reviewers found instances of relatives who expressed interest in caring for children, but no evidence that those relatives were assessed. Reviewers also found that relatives of the custodial parent (usually the mother) were assessed, but relatives of the non-custodial parent (usually the father) were not assessed.

<u>Onsite Review Findings</u>						
Permanency Item 16: Relationship of Child in Care with Parents						
	Strength		Area Needing Improvement		Not Applicable	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Foster Care	4	80	1	20	5	0

Bamberg County DSS
Child Welfare Services Review
March 2008

Explanation of Item 16: Relationship of Child in Care with Parents

This is an **Area Needing Improvement** for Bamberg 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. Although 80% of the cases were rated strength, the county did not meet the 90% standard for this item. In the cases needing improvement reviewers did not find increased parental involvement when the needs of children clearly called for it – for example, with preschool aged children, and with children who were to return home within a few weeks.

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

The county'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 | Strength |
| 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, Foster Parents						
	Strength		Area Needing Improvement		Not Applicable	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Foster Care	8	80	2	20	0	0
Treatment	7	70	3	30	0	0
Total Cases	15	75	5	25	0	0

Explanation of Item 17: Needs and Services of Child, Parents and Caregivers

This is an **Area Needing Improvement** for Bamberg 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? This was an area of strength in 80% of foster care cases and 70% of treatment cases. The deficiencies that caused the county to fall short of the standard were a) failure to address the needs of alternative caregivers, and b) failure to assess non-custodial parents and paramours who were significant persons in the child's life.

Bamberg County DSS
Child Welfare Services Review
March 2008

<u>Onsite Review Findings</u>						
Well Being Item 18: Child and Family Involvement in Case Planning						
	Strength		Area Needing Improvement		Not Applicable	
		%	#	%	#	%
Foster Care	7	78	2	22	1	0
Treatment	10	100	0	0	0	0
Total Cases	17	89	2	22	1	0

Explanation of Item 18: Child and Family Involvement in Case Planning

This is an area of **Strength** for Bamberg County DSS. This item evaluates the agency's efforts to involve parents and children in the case planning process. Reviewers found that parents and age-appropriate children were involved in case planning in all in-home treatment cases and in 78% of the foster care cases.

Agency Data				
Well Being Item 19: Face-to-Face Visits with Children (<18 years of age)				
Objective: 100% visited every month (Agency Policy)				
Report Period: February 1, 2007 - January 31, 2008				
	Number of Children Under Agency Supervision at Least One Complete Calendar Month	Number of Children Visited Every Month	Percent of Children Visited Every Month	Number of Children Above (Below) Objective
Foster Care	25	15	60	(10)
Treatment	96	40	42	(56)

Explanation of Item 19: Face-to-Face Visits with Children

This is an **Area Needing Improvement** for Bamberg 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 requires that children under agency supervision be seen each month. Agency data shows that 60% of children in foster care and 42% of children in treatment cases were seen each month.

Bamberg County DSS
Child Welfare Services Review
March 2008

<u>Onsite Review Findings</u>						
Well Being Item 20: Worker Visits with Parent(s)						
	Strength		Area Needing Improvement		Not Applicable	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Foster Care	3	60	2	40	5	0
Treatment	7	70	3	30	0	0
Total Cases	10	67	5	33	5	0

Explanation of Item 20: Worker Visits with Parents

This is an **Area Needing Improvement** for Bamberg DSS. This item measures the frequency of caseworker visits with parents, and evaluates the quality of those visits. Thirty-three percent of the cases reviewed needed improvement in this area. There were problems in both foster care and in-home treatment cases.

Well Being Outcome 2: Children receive appropriate services to meet their educational needs.

The county's performance on this outcome is based on the rating of one item:

- 21) Educational need of the child **Strength**

<u>Onsite Review Findings</u>						
Well Being Item 21: Educational Needs of Child						
	Strength		Area Needing Improvement		Not Applicable	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Foster Care	9	100	0	0	1	0
Treatment	9	100	0	0	1	0
Total Cases	18	100	0	0	2	0

Explanation of Item 21: Educational Needs of the Child

This is an area of **Strength** for Bamberg DSS. This item evaluates the agency's ability to assess and address the educational needs of children under agency supervision. This was an area of strength for every case reviewed.

Bamberg County DSS
Child Welfare Services Review
March 2008

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

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

- | | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 22) Physical health of the child | Strength |
| 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	10	100	0	0	0	0
Treatment	9	90	1	10	0	0
Total Cases	19	95	1	10	0	0

Explanation of Item 22: Physical Health of the child

This is an area of **Strength** for Bamberg DSS. This item evaluates the agency's ability to assess and attend to the physical and dental health needs of children under agency supervision. Findings from the onsite review revealed monthly documentation that adequately assessed the medical needs of children and demonstrated sufficient follow up when a need was identified.

<u>Onsite Review Findings</u>						
Well Being Item 23: Mental Health of the Child						
	Strength		Area Needing Improvement		Not Applicable	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Foster Care	8	89	1	11	1	0
Treatment	6	86	1	14	3	0
Total Cases	14	88	2	12	4	0

Explanation of Item 23: Mental Health of the Child

This is an **Area Needing Improvement** for Bamberg DSS. This item evaluates the agency's ability to assess and meet the mental health needs of children under agency supervision. At 88% compliance, this was a generally strong area for the county, but failed to meet the 90% compliance standard. The deficiency identified by reviewers was a failure to follow up on children with identified mental health needs to ensure that they were receiving and benefiting from treatment.

Bamberg County DSS
Child Welfare Services Review
March 2008

Unfounded Investigations

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

Explanation of Item 24: Unfounded Investigations

This is an area of **Strength** Bamberg County DSS. This item evaluates the agency’s investigative process and determines if decisions were supported by the facts of the cases. Reviewers were able to determine that, in each instance, the agency’s decision to unfound the case was appropriate. However, in two of the five cases reviewed the assessments were not thorough. In those cases, even though the circumstances in the home did not meet the legal definition of abuse or neglect, there were children and families in need of assistance that should have resulted in referrals to other service providers.

Screened Out Intakes

	Yes	No	Cannot Determine
Was the Intake Appropriately Screened Out?	9	0	1
			Not Applicable
Were Necessary Collaterals Contacted?	1	1	8
Were Appropriate Referrals Made?	6	0	4

Explanation of Item 25: Screened Out Intakes

This is an area of **Strength** for Bamberg County DSS. This item evaluates the process by which the agency screens out reports of incidents that the agency does not have the authority to investigate. Ninety percent of the intakes were screened out because they did not allege anything that met the legal definition of abuse or neglect. The rationale given for the agency’s decision to screen out one report was confusing, and would have been better supported had the agency contacted one of the other agencies serving that family to gather more information.

Bamberg County DSS
Child Welfare Services Review
March 2008

Foster Home Licenses

Explanation of Item 26: Foster Home Licenses

This is an **Area Needing Improvement** for Bamberg DSS. This item evaluates the process by which the agency ensures that all foster homes comply with licensing requirements. There was one foster home license that was not valid. The majority of licensing records showed many areas of strength and a few areas needing attention. The most common areas of concern include:

- Quarterly reviews not addressing relevant and important issues during visits;
- Lack of documentation confirming fire drills;
- Sexual Offenders checks not consistently being completed on children 12 and older;
- Missing disaster plan checklist in most cases.

Bamberg County DSS
Child Welfare Services Review
March 2008

Bamberg DSS Summary Sheet					
Performance Item or Outcome		Performance Item Ratings			
		Strength	Area Needing Improvement	N/A*	
Safety Outcome 1: Children are, first and foremost, protected from abuse and neglect.					
Item 1:	Str	Timeliness of initiating investigations of reports of child maltreatment	12/12 = 100%	0	8
Item 2:	Str	Repeat maltreatment	20/20 = 100%	0	0
Safety Outcome 2: Children are safely maintained in their homes whenever possible and appropriate.					
Item 3:	Str	Services to family to protect child(ren) in home and prevent removal	13/14 = 93%	1/14 = 7%	6
Item 4:	Str	Risk of harm to child(ren)	18/20 = 90%	2/20 = 10%	0
Permanency Outcome 1: Children have permanency and stability in their living situations.					
Item 5:	Str	Foster care re-entries	2/2 = 100%	0	8
Item 6:	ANI*	Stability of foster care placement	10/10 = 100%	0	0
Item 7:	Str	Permanency goal for child	10/10 = 100%	0	0
Item 8:	ANI	Reunification, guardianship, or permanent placement with relatives	3/4 = 75%	1/4 = 25 %	6
Item 9:	ANI	Adoption	0	0	10
Item 10:	Str	Permanency goal of Alternate Planned Permanent Living Arrangement (APPLA)	6/6 = 100%		4
Permanency Outcome 2: The continuity of family relationships and connections is preserved for children.					
Item 11:	ANI*	Proximity of foster care placement	10/10 = 100%	0	0
Item 12:	ANI	Placement with siblings	3/5 = 60 %	2/5 = 40 %	5
Item 13:	Str	Visiting with parents and siblings in foster care	7/8 = 88 %	1/8 = 12 %	2
Item 14:	Str	Preserving connections	9/9 = 100%	0	1
Item 15:	ANI	Relative placement	6/9 = 67 %	3/9 = 33%	1
Item 16:	ANI	Relationship of child in care with parents	4/5 = 80 %	1/5 = 20 %	5
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	15/20 = 75%	5/20 = 25%	0
Item 18:	Str	Child and family involvement in case planning	17/19 = 89%	2/19 = 11%	1
Item 19:	ANI	Worker visits with child	17/20 = 85 %	3/20 = 15%	0
Item 20:	ANI	Worker visits with parent(s)	10/15 = 67%	5/15 = 33%	5
Item 21:	Str	Educational needs of the child	18/18 = 100%		2
Well Being Outcome 3: Children receive adequate services to meet their physical and mental health needs.					
Item 22:	Str	Physical health of the child	19/20 = 95%	1/20 = 5%	0
Item 23:	ANI	Mental health of the child	14/16 = 88%	2/16 = 12 %	4

The objective is that 90% of cases be rated "Strength."

Str = Strength

ANI = Area Needing Improvement

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