

Carlton County MnCF SR Exit Conference

- April 2015

Exit Conference Agenda

1. MnCFSR Overview
2. Onsite Review Overview
3. Key Findings – Safety, Permanency, Well-being
4. Program Improvement Plan (PIP) Recommendations
5. Next Steps



MnCFSR Overview

- Measures safety, permanency and well-being outcomes for children and families in the child welfare system
- Examines social work practice + systems
- Identifies strengths and areas needing improvement
- Accountability for program improvement, supported by state/county partnership

Safety

Outcome S1: Children are, first and foremost, protected from abuse and neglect.

Outcome S2: Children are safely maintained in their homes whenever possible and appropriate.

Item 1: Timeliness of initiating assessments

Item 2: Services to family to protect child(ren) in the home and prevent removal or re-entry into foster care
Item 3: Risk and safety assessment and management

Permanency

Outcome P1: Children have permanency and stability in their living situations.

Outcome P2: The continuity of family relationships and connections is preserved for children.

Item 4: Stability of foster care placement
Item 5: Permanency goal for child
Item 6: Reunification or transfer of permanent legal and physical custody to a relative Adoption, Permanent custody to the agency

Item 7: Placement with siblings
Item 8: Visiting with parents and siblings in foster care
Item 9: Preservation of connections
Item 10: Relative placement
Item 11: Relationship of child in care with parents

Well-Being

Outcome WB1: Families have enhanced capacity to provide for their children's needs.

Outcome WB2: Children receive appropriate services to meet their educational needs.

Outcome WB3: Children receive adequate services to meet their physical and mental health needs.

Item 12: Needs and services of child, parents and foster parents
Item 13: Child and family involvement in case planning
Item 14: Worker visits with child
Item 15: Worker visits with parent(s)

Item 16: Educational needs of the child

Item 17: Physical health of the child
Item 18: Mental/behavioral health of the child

Carlton County Experience with the MnCFSR

- 2003 - Initial MnCFSR
 - 2007 – Federal CFSR
 - 2011 – MnCFSR
 - 2015 - MnCFSR
- *“The child welfare system holds itself accountable to the highest standards of practice. It recognizes its responsibilities to children, youth, families and other stakeholders to assess and manage its performance, self-correct, innovate and enhance its ability to achieve positive outcomes through continuous improvement efforts”.*
 - *Minnesota Child Welfare Practice Model*

2015 MnCFSR Onsite Review Week

MnCFSR 2015 - Case Selection

Case Selection

- 9 cases
 - In-home cases - 3
 - Placement cases - 6

Program Areas

- Child Protection
- Children's Mental Health

MnCFSR Findings

- Results of case review
- Agency performance on key child welfare data indicators
- Supplemented by:
 - Information collected through stakeholder interviews and surveys
 - Information provided in the agency self assessment update

MnCFSR 2015 - Interviews

Case Related Interviews – (28)

- Mothers - 6
- Fathers – 2
- Children - 3
- Caseworkers - 11
- Other - 6

Stakeholder Interviews - (5)

- Agency Administration
- Agency Caseworkers
- Children's Justice Initiative Team
- Child Protection Team
- Tribal Stakeholder

- Foster Parent Survey

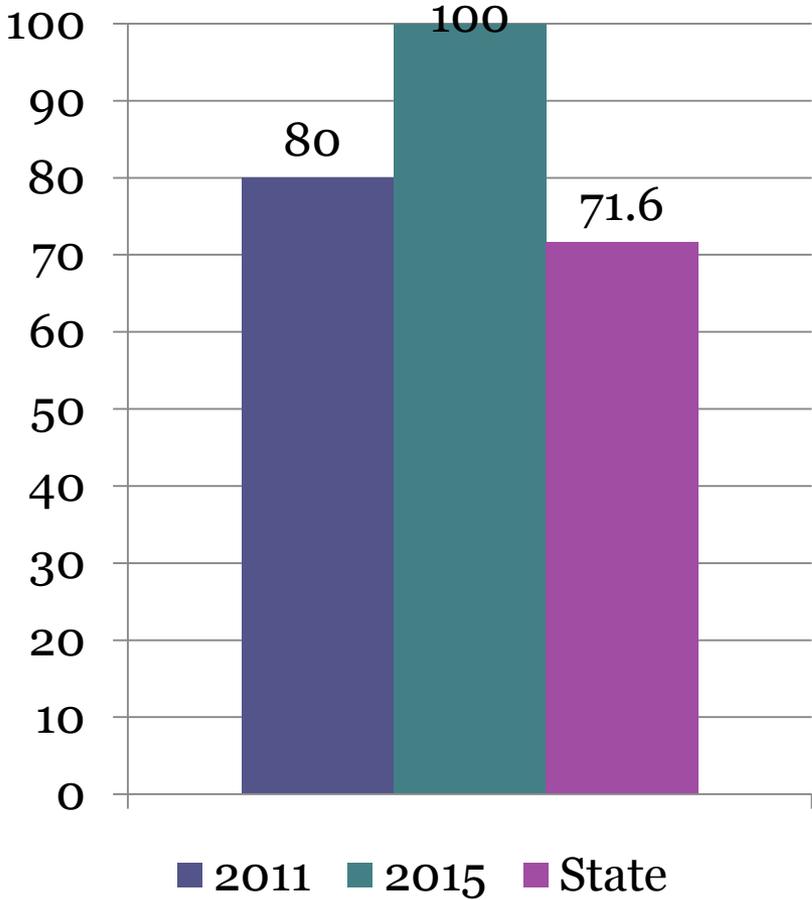
MnCF SR 2015 Findings: County Performance Comparisons

- Sustained/Improved Performance
 - Safety Outcome 1
 - Safety Outcome 2
 - Permanency Outcome 1
 - Well Being Outcome 2
 - Well Being Outcome 3

- Declined Performance
 - Permanency Outcome 2
 - Well Being Outcome 1

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

- Item 1: Timeliness of response to reports of child maltreatment



Timeliness of Response

Broad Performance Data	CY 2013 Agency	CY 2013 State	Q4 2014 Agency	Q4 2014 State
Substantial Child Endangerment	37.5% (3/8)	70.2%	50% (1/4)	76.1%
Non-substantial Child Endangerment-INV	62.5% (15/24)	84.9%	100% (8/8)	88.6%
Non-substantial Child Endangerment -FA	97% (159/164)	73.2%	82.1% (46/56)	77%

Factors Impacting Timeliness

Strengths

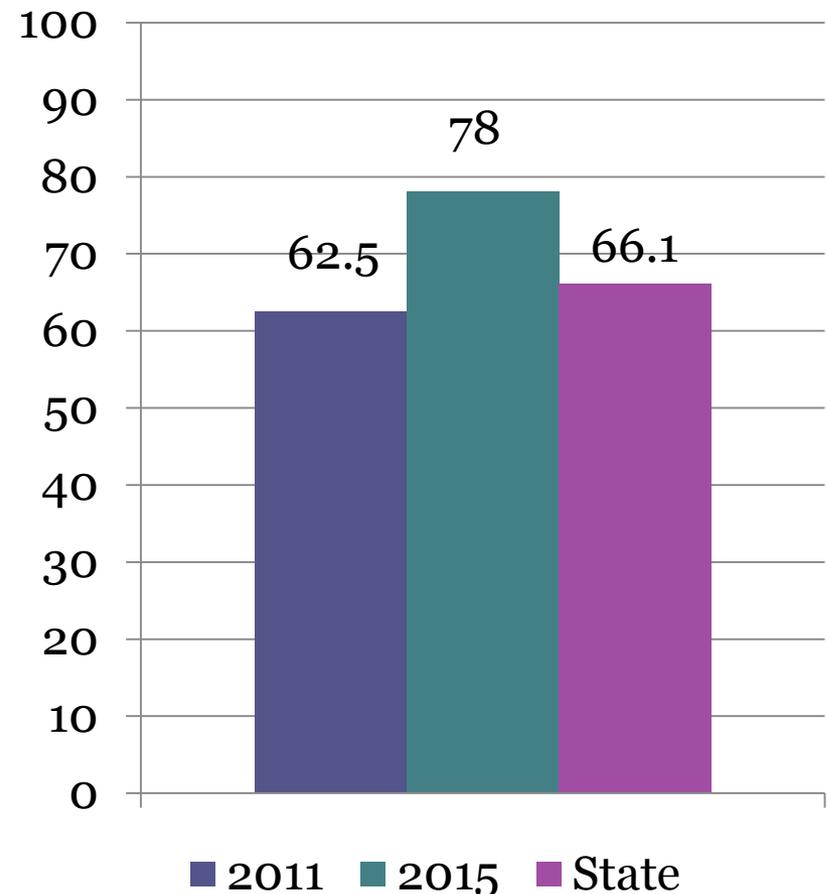
- Daily team screening, including Tribal involvement
- Use of MN Screening Guidelines
- Timely case assignment
- Initiates efforts to make contact quickly

Challenges

- Coordination with family
- Inaccurate contact information

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

- Item 2: Services to protect child in home and prevent placement or re-entry in foster care
- Item 3: Risk and safety assessment and management



Race/Ethnicity of Children in Care

2013 Child Welfare Report, ***US Census Bureau: State and County QuickFacts

Race	State % of Placement	Agency # of Children in Placement	Agency % of Placements	% in overall County/Tribe Population
African American/Black	19.9%	*	*	%
American Indian or Alaska Native	17.2%	59	54.6%	5.9%
Asian/Pacific Islander/Other	2.3%	*	*	.6%
White	46.7%	39	36.1%	89.5%
Two or More Races	12.6%	9	8.3%	2.4%
Unable to Determine	1%	NA	NA	NA
Total Children in Care	11,510	165	--	--
Hispanic Ethnicity	9.3%	9	13.8%	2.7%

Foster Care Re-entry

Federal Data Indicators	National Standard	State Rate 2013	Carlton 2014
C1.4: Percent of children who re-enter foster care within 12 months of a prior discharge	9.9% ↓	25.7%	43.8% (14/32)

Services to Prevent Entry/Re-Entry

Strengths

- Safety planning with families and strengthening support networks
- Targeted Services
- Family Support Social Workers
- Parent Support & Outreach (PSOP)

Challenges

- Parental substance addiction
- Children with mental & behavioral health challenges

Absence of Re-Reporting

Time Period	State Goal	State %	Agency % and #
Q4, 2014	91% ↑	91%	92.4% 121/131
Q3, 2014		89.9%	89.1% (114/128)
CY, 2013		91.2%	83.5% (96/115)

Risk/Safety Assessment and Management

Strengths

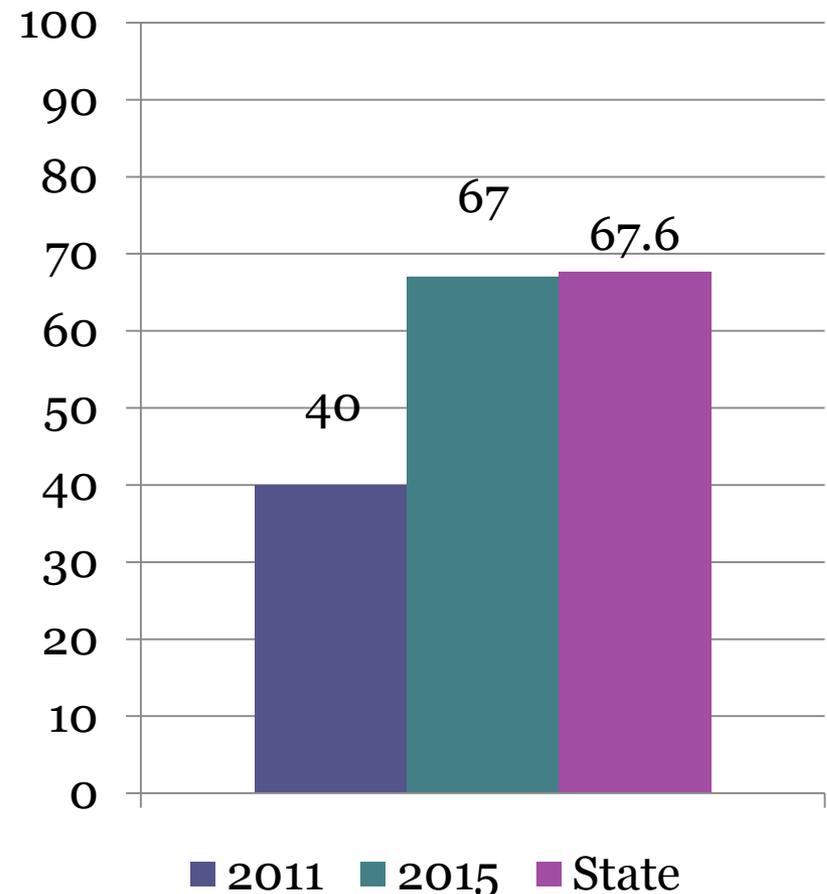
- Team consultation
- Collaborative practices with Tribe
- Use of SDM tools
- Safety plans
- Thorough assessments
- Targeted services
- Effective monitoring and oversight

Challenges

- Gaps in caseworker visits

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

- Item 4: Foster Care Stability
- Item 5: Permanency goal
- Item 6: Achieving reunification, transfer of custody, adoption or permanent custody to the agency



Permanency Composite 1: Reunification & Foster Care Re-entry

Federal Data Indicators	National Standard	State Rate 2013	Carlton 2014
C1.1: Percent of children who reunify with their caregivers within 12 months of entry into foster care	75.2% ↑	85.1%	88.9* (16/18)
C1.2: Median length of stay (in months) for children in foster care for more than 8 days.	5.4 ↓	5.5	7.5*
C1.3 Percent of children entering foster care for the first time, and who remained in foster care for more than 8 days and were reunified in less than 12 months.	48.4%↑	54.1%	60%* (6/10)

Permanency Composite 4: Placement Stability

Federal Data Indicators	National Standard	State 2013	Carlton Co 2014
C4.1: Children in care < 12 months	86% ↑	85.8%	88.8%* (44/50)
C4.2: Children in care 12-24 months	65.4% ↑	60.7%	50% (11/22)
C4.3: Children in care > 24 months	41.8% ↑	33.5%	31.6% (6/19)

Permanency Composite 2: Timeliness of Adoption

Federal Data Indicators	National Standard	State 2013	Carlton Co 2014
C2.1 Adoption in less than 24 months	36.6% ↑	49.4%*	80%* (4/5)
C2.2 Median length of stay to adoption	27.3 ↓	24.5 mos*	16.6*
C2.3 In foster care 17+ months, adopted by end of year	22.7% ↑	19.9%	7.1% (1/14)
C2.4: In foster care 17+ months achieved legal freedom within 6 months	10.9% ↑	2.5%	0% (0/12)
C2.5: Children, legally free, adoption in less than 12 months	53.7% ↑	45.2%	0% (0/1)

Permanency Composite 3: Achieving Permanency for Children in Foster Care

Federal Data Indicators	National Standard	State 2013	Carlton County 2013
C3.1 Exits to permanency prior to 18 th b-day for children in care 24+ months	29.1% ↑	19.2%	16.7% (2/12)
C3.2: Exits to permanency for children with TPR	98% ↑	98%*	100%* (5/5)
C3.3: Children emancipated who were in foster care for 3 years or more	37.5% ↓	30.5%*	60% (6/10)

Permanency Outcome 1

Strengths

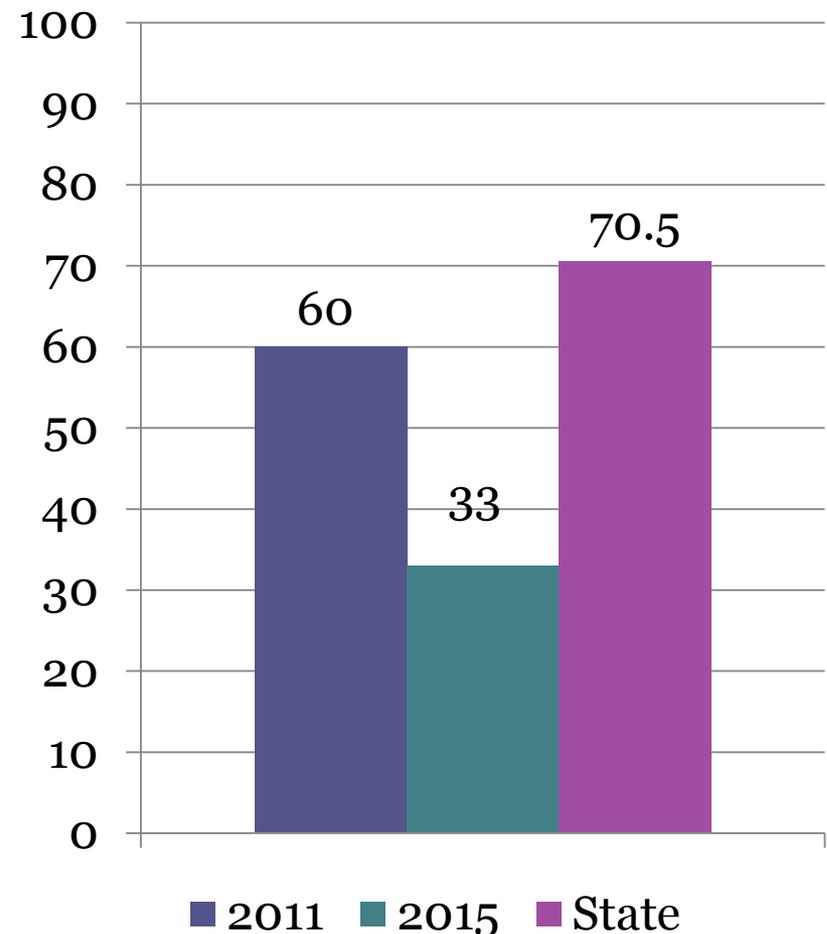
- Early identification of relatives
- Collaboration with Tribes
- Parallel Protection Process (PPP)
- Comprehensive assessments
- Targeted Services
- Clear permanency timelines
- Timely court filings and hearings

Challenges

- Children with mental & behavioral health challenges

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

- Item 7: Placement with Siblings
- Item 8: Visitation
- Item 9: Preserving Connections
- Item 10: Relative Placements
- Item 11: Relationship of Child with Parents



Rate of Placement in Relative Care

Foster Care Placement	State Goal	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Foster Family Relative	45%↑	NA	16% 40/209	50.7% 70/138	52.5% 53/101	51.9% 40/77

ICWA Inquiry/Notification/Placement Preferences

- ICWA inquiries are made initially and ongoing throughout the life of a case
- Early involvement and timely notification to the tribe

Preserving Relationships & Connections

Strengths

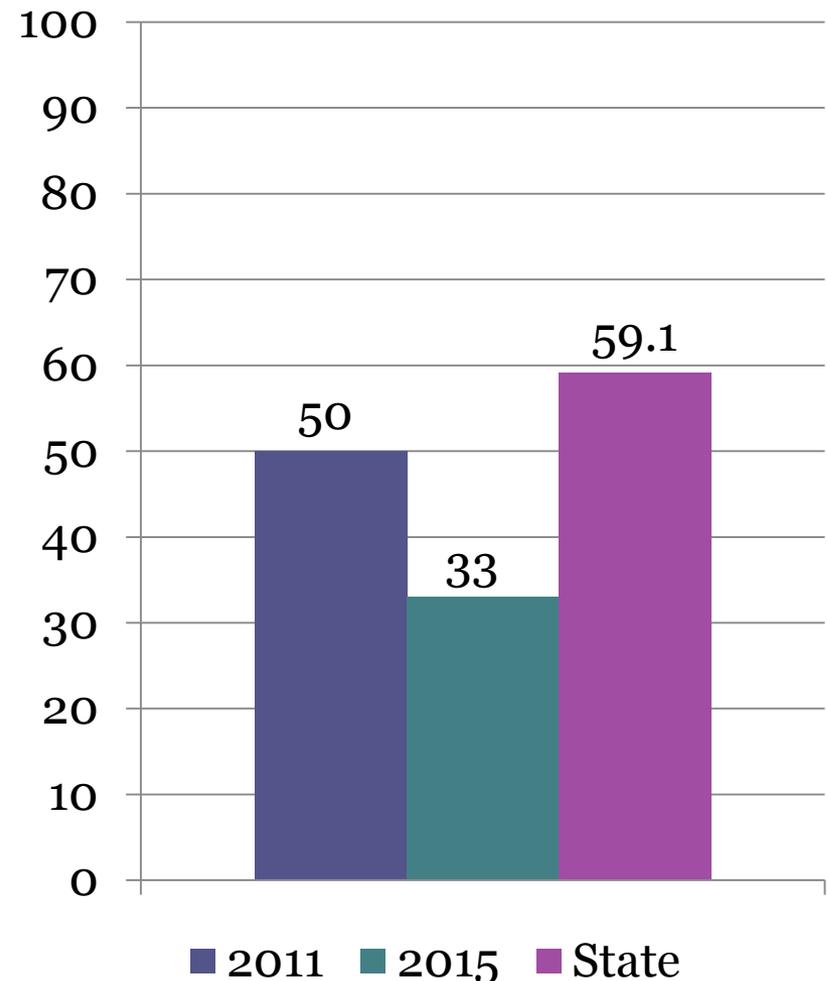
- Place siblings together
- Early identification of maternal relatives
- Maintaining tribal connections

Challenges

- Comprehensive paternal relative searches
- Parent/Child Visits
- Preserving connections to important people and ties

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

- Item 12: Assessing needs and providing services
- Item 13: Case planning
- Item 14: Worker visits with child
- Item 15: Worker visits with parents



Caseworker Visits with Child

Broad Performance Data	FFY 2013 Agency	FFY 2013 State	Q4, 2014 Agency	Q4, 2014 State
Caseworker visits each and every month with children in out-of-home placement	90.9% (651/ 716)	78.8%	93.3% (547/ 586)	76.2%

Factors Impacting Well-being

Strengths

- Use of family engagement strategies, i.e. caseworker skills, use of FGDM
- Comprehensive needs assessments for mothers and children
- Targeted services

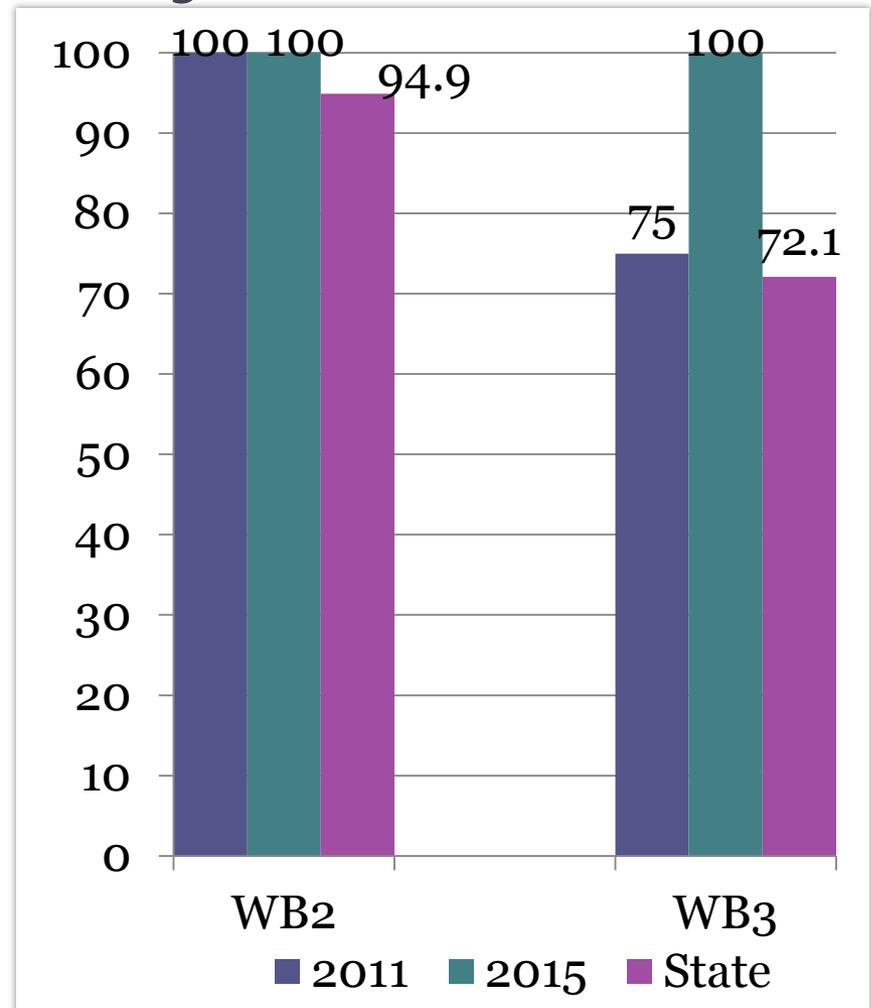
Challenges

- Practices with fathers
- Caseworker visits with children

Well-being Outcome 2: Education

Well-being Outcome 3: Physical and Mental Health

- Item 16: Educational needs of the child
- Item 17: Physical health of the child
- Item 18: Mental/behavioral health of the child



Children's Mental Health (CMH) Screening

Broad Performance Data	State Goal	CY 2013	Q3, 2014	Q4, 2014
Percentage of children who had at least one CMH screening during the current or previous year.	60%	70.8% 17/24	6.3% 2/32	5.7% 2/35

Factors impacting education, physical and mental health

Strengths

- Education needs assessed/addressed
- Medical/dental exams and services
- Mental/behavioral needs assessed/addressed
 - Children's Mental Health services
 - Psychotropic med oversight

Challenges

- No specific challenges noted in the case reviews

Systemic Factors

Key Strengths

- Social Services Information System (SSIS)
- Case Review System
- Foster and Adoptive Home
- Agency Responsiveness to the Community

Challenges

- Staff and Provider Training
- Service Array and Resource Development
- Supervisor and Social Worker Resources
- Quality Assurance

Outcome Area	Strengths	PIP Recommendations
Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preventing Initial Entry into Placement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Timeliness to Initial Contact • Address factors related to re-entry following discharge from foster care • Conduct caseworker visits with children at a frequency sufficient for ongoing assessment of risk and safety
Permanency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Timely establishment of appropriate permanency goals • Child/parent visits • Comprehensive relative searches • Preserving connections 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve stability and permanency for children/youth in foster care for extended period • Improve relative search and visitation practices with non - resident parents. (fathers)
Well-being	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Needs assessments and services for children and resident parents • Engagement strategies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure comprehensive engagement of non-resident parents, primarily fathers, in caseworker visits, services

Next Steps

- Meet with agency this morning to develop Program Improvement Plan (PIP)
- Quarterly PIP Updates
- Next MnCFSR: 2019?