

- As of December 12, 2009, **35** states had been subject to federal Children and Family Services Reviews (CFSR). While CFSR reviews are important for improvement, it should be noted that **no state has passed this review.**
- Data reveal that in 2010, **Colorado met or exceeded 10 of the federal CFSR goals and did not meet 6 goals.**
- When Colorado did not meet the 6 federal CFSR goals, it came very close to meeting most CFSR goals. While the State is showing progress on all measures in 2010, 3 goals out of the 16 listed here need more improvement.

### **HOW WELL DOES COLORADO PERFORM ON FEDERAL CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICE REVIEW MEASURES (CFSR)?**

The federal government is in the process of measuring how well states perform on critical child welfare measures. These CFRS reviews involve data and case file reviews. **No state has ever completely passed a CFSR review** and Colorado is no exception. A group of Colorado counties wanted to know how well the state was doing on CFSR data measures and took the initiative to develop a State scorecard. The scorecard only shows CFSR measures that are data driven and does not provide information on the case file portion of the CFSR review. The CFSR scorecard also excludes DYC data in the results. This scorecard for calendar year 2010 CFSR measures showed that Colorado's performance on data measures was:

- Children not experiencing repeat maltreatment within 6 months of a confirmed report of abuse or neglect (Goal > 94.6% Colorado **Met** = 95.6%).
- Children do not experience confirmed abuse or neglect in foster care (Goal > 99.68% Colorado **Unmet** = 98.82% or 99.1% of Goal).
- Reunifications (reunification, living with other relative) occurred within 12 months of date of removal (Goal > 75.2% Colorado **Met** = 82%).
- Median length of stay for reunifications (Goal <5.4 months Colorado **Met** = 5.1 months).
- Children removed from home for first time, % reunified in 12 months (Goal 48.4% Colorado **Met** = 61.4%).
- Children reunified during date range who do not re-enter out-of-home care within 12 months (Goal 90.1% Colorado **Unmet** = 80.9% or 89.8% of Goal).
- Children who exited care to a finalized adoption were finalized in less than 24 months from the time of the latest removal (Goal >36.6% Colorado **Met** = 58.3%).
- Median time in care for children who exit care to a finalized adoption (Goal 27.3 months Colorado **Met** = 23 months).

- Children placed in out-of-home care for 17 consecutive months as of period, % that achieved adoption finalization within 12 months (Goal >17.7% Colorado **Met** = 18.6%).
- Children freed for adoption will be adopted within 12 months of termination Goal 53.7% Colorado **Met** 56.3%).
- Children in foster care for 24+ months exit to permanency prior to 18<sup>th</sup> birthday (Goal >29.1% Colorado **Unmet** = 18.3% or 63% of Goal).
- Children who were legally free and discharged to permanency prior to 18<sup>th</sup> birthday (Goal 98% Colorado **Unmet** = 93.7% or 96% of Goal).
- Of all children who either were, (1) prior to their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday, discharged from foster care in fiscal year with a discharge reason of emancipation, or (2) reached their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday in Fiscal year while in foster care, what percent were in foster care for 3 years of longer? (Goal <37.5% Colorado **Unmet**= 41.0% or 90.7% of Goal).
- Children who have been in foster care for less than 12 months from the time of the latest removal from home have had no more than two placement settings (Goal >86.7% Colorado **Met** = 93.3%).
- Children who have been in foster care for more than 12 months but less than 24 months from the time of the latest removal from home have had more than two moves (Goal >65.4% Colorado **Met** = 70.7%).
- Children who have been in foster care for more than 24 months from the time of the latest removal from home have had no more than two placement settings (Goal .41.8% Colorado **Unmet** = 33.7% or 80.7% of Goal).

#### Conclusion:

The full story of Colorado's CFSR performance has not been told. Colorado's performance on several of the CFSR data measures would suggest that it is doing better than many states and continued to improve in 2010.

The counties remain committed to doing even better on CFSR measures in the future.