

BRAAM SETTLEMENT MONITORING REPORT #3

APRIL 17, 2007

Covers the performance period ending December 31, 2006





Braam Oversight Panel

The Braam Oversight Panel was created in 2004 to oversee a Settlement regarding Washington State's foster care system. The Settlement was reached after a six-year period of litigation. The named Plaintiff, Jessica Braam, is an adult who lived in 34 foster homes by the time the suit was filed in 1998. The Settlement is intended to improve the conditions and treatment of children in the custody of the state's Division of Children and Family Services.

The Panel was created to monitor improvements in selected services and ensure quality standards are met over the next seven years. This independent Panel was mutually selected by the parties (the Plaintiffs who filed the lawsuit and the state of Washington). The Panel, working in collaboration with the Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) and with substantial input from the Plaintiffs and other stakeholders, developed an Implementation Plan for the six areas specified in the Settlement. This document is the third monitoring report on the Settlement and covers the period ending December 31, 2006.

Members

John Landsverk, Chair

Jeanine Long

Jan McCarthy

Jess McDonald

Dorothy Roberts

Carrie Whitaker, Executive Coordinator

Box 354900
4101 15th Ave NE
Seattle, WA 98105-6299

Phone: (206) 616-0390

FAX: (206) 543-1228

E-mail: carwhit@u.washington.edu

Website: www.braampanel.org

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OVERVIEW

The Braam Oversight Panel was created in 2004 to oversee a Settlement regarding Washington State’s foster care system.¹ The Settlement was reached after a six-year period of litigation between the state of Washington and Plaintiffs’ attorneys. The lead named Plaintiff, Jessica Braam, is an adult who lived in 34 foster homes by the time the suit was filed in 1998. The parties to the Settlement include the Plaintiffs,² who filed the lawsuit, and the State of Washington, respondents to the lawsuit.

The goal of the Settlement is to improve the “conditions and treatment of children in the custody of the state’s Division of Children and Family Services.” The Settlement established goals in six areas:

- **Placement Stability:** Every child will have a safe and stable placement with a caregiver capable of meeting the child’s needs.
- **Mental Health:** Children shall have initial physical and mental health screenings within 30 days of entry into care. The child’s case plan will include plans to meet their special needs. Children shall receive timely, accessible, individualized, and appropriate mental health assessments and treatment by qualified mental health providers. Continuity of treatment providers will be maintained.
- **Foster Parent Training and Information:** Caregivers shall be adequately trained, supported, and informed about children in their care. The Department shall provide accessible pre-service and in-service training to all caregivers sufficient to meet the caregiving needs of children in placement.
- **Unsafe/Inappropriate Placements:** All children shall be placed in safe placements. The state shall continue to meet or exceed the federal standard for out-of-home care safety measure.
- **Sibling Separation:** Placement of siblings together is presumed to be in the children’s best interest unless there is a reasonable basis to conclude that the health, safety, or welfare of a child is put in jeopardy by the placement. Frequent and meaningful contact between siblings in foster care who are not placed together and those who remain at home should occur unless not in child’s best interest.
- **Services to Adolescents:** Improve the quality and accessibility of services to adolescents. Improve the educational achievements of these adolescents and better prepare them to live independently. Reduce the number of adolescents on runaway status from foster care.

The Settlement is a 16-page document with 14 goals. The Settlement incorporated over 50 provisions directly from Kids Come First II, the comprehensive reform plan in place at the Washington Department of Social and Health Services (the “Department”) at the time the agreement was signed. This restructuring plan for children’s services was described by the Department as an “aggressive effort to make long-lasting changes in the child welfare field [that] will further protect children and better address their medical and emotional needs.” To a significant extent, the Settlement also directs the Department to perform activities required under Washington State statute. Since 1987, approximately 30 laws have been passed directing policies and procedures included in the Settlement.

The final Settlement created an independent oversight panel (the “Panel”) that was mutually selected by the parties. The members include:

- A former child welfare administrator;
- A child welfare researcher;
- An expert in children’s mental health; and
- Two additional members.

¹ The Final Settlement is available on the Braam Oversight Panel website: www.braampanel.org.

² The Plaintiffs’ attorneys include Tim Farris, a Bellingham lawyer who initiated the case, Casey Trupin with Columbia Legal Services, and William Grimm with the National Center for Youth Law.

The Settlement directed the Panel to establish professional standards, outcomes, benchmarks, and action steps to improve the treatment of, and conditions for, children in the custody of DCFS, and to monitor the Department's performance under this Settlement (Settlement, page 1). The intent of the Settlement, and the Panel's work, is summarized on the first page of the Settlement:

“The parties enter into this Agreement with the recognition that both parties and their counsel have committed to enter into specific, measurable, and enforceable agreements with the goal of improving the conditions and treatment of children in the custody of the Division of Children and Family Services.”

The Settlement requires the Panel to conduct its work in collaboration with the Department and with substantial input from Plaintiffs and other stakeholders. To ensure the Panel's independence, its members and staff are not funded by the state.³

Settlement Definitions

The Settlement defines the Plaintiff class as follows:

- **“Child” or “Children” in foster care** means children in the custody of DCFS. For the outcomes, benchmarks, and actions steps, this term refers to children in the Plaintiff Class, defined as all children in the custody of DCFS who are now or in the future will be placed by DCFS in three or more placements and those children in the custody of DCFS who are at risk of three or more placements. The Panel interprets this definition to include all children in the custody of DCFS.
- **“Department”** means the Department of Social and Health Services. In terms of responsibilities related to the Settlement, the most relevant divisions are the Children's Administration and Health and Recovery Services (including the Division of Mental Health and the Division of Alcohol and Substance Abuse).

Panel Work Products

The Panel issues the following types of documents:

- **Implementation Plan**⁴ defining the specific and enforceable performances required by the Settlement. The Implementation Plan was developed through extensive discussion with the Department, the plaintiffs, and stakeholders and was published in February 2006.
- **Monitoring (Progress) Reports** measuring progress toward the Settlement goals, outcomes, benchmarks, and action steps for each six-month period.
 - This document is the third of the Panel's monitoring reports, covering the period through December 31, 2006. This report assesses the status of action steps through December 31, 2006, and includes baseline and performance data (FY05-FY06) for many outcomes and benchmarks specified in the Implementation Plan.
- **Decisions on Compliance Plans** approving or rejecting plans developed by the Department to achieve compliance with Action Steps, Outcomes or Benchmarks that the Panel has determined have not been met. These decisions are issued between Panel Monitoring Reports.

All Panel documents can be found online at www.braampanel.org.⁵

³ Casey Family Programs has funded the Panel's activities and staffing.

⁴ Previously titled “Design and Specifications Report.”

⁵ The Implementation Plan was released simultaneously to the parties and the public. In the case of Monitoring Reports, the parties have agreed that CA and the plaintiffs will receive preliminary reports and be given time to comment before the documents are released to the public. Panel reports released for public distribution will be posted on the website; individuals and organizations can sign up to receive email alerts when new material is posted.

APPROACH TO MONITORING REPORTS

The Settlement requires the Panel to “monitor compliance and make findings with respect to the outcomes, benchmarks and action steps;” and to “issue semi-annual public reports on the Department’s compliance with the provisions of this Agreement.” This document is the Panel’s third monitoring report and covers performance for the period ending December 31, 2006.

Two types of information are provided:

- *Monitoring report on action steps*- This report summarizes progress with respect to action steps that were expected to have been fully or partially implemented through December 31, 2006. This includes action steps designated in the Settlement Agreement as well as additional action steps from the Panel’s Implementation Plan. Some action steps were found by the Panel to be incomplete in earlier monitoring reports and are therefore operating under compliance plans approved by the Panel. In these cases, this monitoring report assesses implementation of these previously-approved compliance plans.

Part I of this document is the Panel’s assessment of progress on these action steps, presented in a matrix format starting on page 8. The primary sources for this portion of the report are documents from the Department, including an update report summarizing progress and other written material (policies, plans, etc.). The Panel used the “comments” section of the matrix to provide further information on progress to date. Some action steps were assessed as complete through this performance period, but include some items with future completion dates. These items were noted with dotted lines.

- *Monitoring report on outcomes & benchmarks*- The Panel’s Implementation Plan identified benchmarks setting interim and final performance expectations with respect to the Department’s progress toward the goals and outcomes identified in the Settlement.

The report on outcomes data is covered in Part II of this document, beginning on page 42. As detailed in that section, the Panel has assessed whether the FY06 (July 1, 2005- June 30, 2006) performance for each outcome has reached the FY06 benchmark identified in the Implementation Plan. This report also provides an overview of outcomes for which benchmark data are not yet due.

Data are provided in the appendix for 15 of the 52 outcomes identified in the Panel’s Implementation Plan. These reports are derived from administrative data from the DSHS Children’s Administration. For the remaining outcomes, data sources will include administrative data from Children’s Administration and other state agencies, sample case reviews, and surveys.

Technical assistance and discussion among the parties regarding data definitions are ongoing. Members and staff of the Panel as well as research staff from the Washington State Institute for Public Policy have provided technical assistance to the Department on development of data reports. As reports are developed and reviewed, the Panel reserves the right, in discussion with the parties and stakeholders, to revise data definitions to develop measures that more accurately and sensitively measure performance with respect to the Panel’s selected outcomes.

Next Report

The Panel’s next monitoring report will be issued in September 2007. This report will cover action steps due by June 30, 2007 and will provide additional data. Additionally, the September 2007 report will reassess items identified as incomplete in this report, provide updates on action steps under approved compliance plans, and update the Panel’s findings based on additional documentation that may be received from the Department.

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PART I: MONITORING REPORT ON ACTION STEPS

The following matrix reports on the status of all Action Steps that were expected to have been fully or partially implemented through December 31, 2006, including Action Steps that are operating under compliance plans previously approved by the Panel.

Detailed Status of Action Steps

The Panel has categorized the status of action steps as follows (the numbers in parentheses indicate the implementation status by these categories):

- ✓ Complete (31)
- ✓ Complete through performance period⁶ (7)
- ✓ Not yet due (18)
- ✓ Incomplete-- Under Approved Compliance Plan
 - Actions under compliance plan not due this period (6)
 - Approved compliance plan complete through performance period (5)
 - Approved compliance plan not complete through performance period (5)
- ✓ Incomplete: Compliance Plan for this step not approved (3)
- ✓ Incomplete: Compliance Plan for this step will be due in 30 days⁷ (6)

Note that one action step in the placement stability section is marked as pending (see page 10).

Summary of the Panel's findings on the Action Steps by area of the settlement agreement

	Placement Stability	Mental Health	Foster Parent Training	Unsafe/ Inappropriate Placements	Sibling Separation	Adolescents	total
Complete	8	4	6	1	3	9	31
Complete through performance period	1	4	1			1	7
Not yet due		5		1		12	18
Incomplete: Compliance Plan for this step not approved	1			2			3
Incomplete: Compliance Plan for this step will be due in 30 days	1	5					6
Incomplete: Under approved compliance plan							
Actions under compliance plan not due this period		3				3	6
Approved compliance plan complete through performance period	1	1	2			1	5
Approved compliance plan not complete through performance period			1		2	2	5
<i>Total</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>22</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>28</i>	<i>81</i>

⁶ Action steps with some items due before and others after December 31, 2006 were assessed as "complete through performance period." For example, see action step 1(c)(13) on page 9.

⁷ This category includes action steps found to be incomplete in this Monitoring Report. Pursuant to the Settlement, the Department has 30 days to submit proposed plans to achieve compliance with these steps. Please note that action steps are categorized as incomplete whenever any substeps that were due have been determined not to have been implemented, even if some portions of the action step have been completed. The comments section in the matrix detailing decisions on action steps indicates portions of the step that have been completed.

Compared to the status at the time of the last monitoring report, 14 more action steps are now complete or complete through the period and 5 more action steps are operating under approved compliance plans. In addition, several action steps have been consolidated and are therefore no longer counted in these totals. Details are shown in the “comments” section of the action step matrix.

Format of this Report

The identifying numbers for action steps have varied depending on their location in particular documents: Kids Come First, the Settlement, or the Implementation Plan. To reduce confusion, this report does not create a new number for each item; rather, it uses the order from the Implementation Plan and notes the Settlement reference number or, for action steps added to the Implementation Plan after the original Settlement, the Implementation Plan reference number.

In the center column of the matrix on action steps, the status of the action step is noted, along with a parenthetical reference to the report in which the Panel made this finding. For example, if an action step was declared complete in the Panel’s first monitoring report, the step is shown as *Complete (first Monitoring Report, March 28, 2006)*. Rows describing action steps that have been declared complete are shaded gray in the table.

Area/Action Step	Implementation Status	Comments
Placement Stability		
<p>RFP for statewide foster parent recruitment</p> <p>KCF II 24.1.1 <i>Action Step 1(c)(1) in Settlement</i></p> <p>Implement the RFP for providing statewide foster parent recruitment.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Complete regional recruitment needs assessments 8/04 Develop recruitment performance expectations for contracts 8/04 Finalize Recruitment and Retention RFP (<i>includes regional, minority, sibling groups, adolescents and children with special needs</i>) 9/04 Issue Recruitment and Retention RFP 9/04 Review and select proposals 11/04 Concurrently develop implementation and communication plans 11/04 Begin implementation of 18 month regional/statewide contracted recruitment & retention services contracts 1/05 Orientation of staff and caregivers to regional/statewide contracted support services (first stage implementation) 1/05 Review every six months 7/05 	<p>Complete (Panel Decision on CA Revised Compliance Plan, September 5, 2006)</p>	<p><i>Consolidated with 5 (c)(7): Recruit foster parents and identify relative caregivers at a rate sufficient to achieve the benchmarks established by the Implementation Plan and to meet the specific needs of children and sibling groups in out-of-home care as identified in regional needs assessments.</i></p>
<p>Require multi-disciplinary case staffings for children in four or more placements</p> <p>KCF II 6.1.1* <i>Action Step 1(c)(2) in Settlement</i></p> <p>Require multi-disciplinary case staffings for children who have been in three or more placements to build an intensive case plan to improve placement stability.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> In collaboration with Tribes, LICWACS, and/or Indian Organizations, utilize CAMIS data on children in placement, length of stay and age of children, to develop a plan of implementation for review and approval of the Braam Panel (1/05) Braam Panel reviews and approves final plan (3/05) Communicate timeframes and guidelines to all social workers, supervisors and managers (5/05) Begin Phase I of the plan (conducting staffings for children in five or more placements) (5/05) Complete Phase I (5/06) Begin Phase II of the plan (conducting staffings for children in four or more placements) (5/06) Complete Phase II (5/07) Begin Phase III of the plan (conducting staffings for children on an ongoing basis for children in three or more placements) (5/07) <p>* The current version of this section in KCF II is different than in the version of KCF II in existence at the time of the Settlement (5/31/2004).</p>	<p>Approved compliance plan--complete through performance period ending December 31, 2006 (Monitoring Report #3, April 17, 2007)</p>	<p><i>New language for action step: Require multi-disciplinary case staffings for children who have been in three or more placements pursuant to the schedule in the Panel-approved plan submitted by the Department.</i></p>

Area/Action Step	Implementation Status	Comments
<p>Develop a plan for Panel review and approval, with input from the Plaintiffs to provide multidisciplinary and/or case staffings for children in three or more placements. (Plan developed by 1/15/05.)</p> <p><i>Action Step 1(c)(14)</i></p>	<p>Complete (Panel Decision on CA Revised Compliance Plan, September 5, 2006)</p>	
<p>Implement strategies to increase appropriate matching between children and caregivers at time of initial placement</p> <p>KCF II 6.2.2 (originally 6.2.4)</p> <p><i>Action Step 1(c)(3) in Settlement</i></p> <p>Implement strategies to increase appropriate matching between children and caregivers at the time of initial placement (e.g., increase completion rate of Pre-Passports within required timeframes)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Establish workgroup to develop strategies, including a process for how to track appropriate matching at the initial placement (12/04) CA Management reviews and approves strategies (5/05) Make necessary policy changes to support strategy implementation (8/05) Provide education/training to staff to support implementation of strategies (11/05) Begin implementation of strategies (12/05) Review baseline for placement stability following a completed Pre-Passport, and set performance measure (6/06) Initiate quarterly reporting to the field (12/06) 	<p>Incomplete (Monitoring Report #3, April 17, 2007)</p> <p>Compliance plan required</p>	<p>Complete through (e). Data for (f) and (g) to be gathered through case review process. Compliance plan for this action step should relate to proposal Department is developing for case review.</p> <p>Compliance plan is due in accordance with timeline set forth in the settlement agreement.</p>
<p>Implement strategies to increase appropriate matching between children and caregivers for children who need to be replaced (beginning by December 2006 and fully implemented by December 2008).</p> <p><i>Action Step 1(c)(13) in Settlement</i></p> <p>KCF II 6.2.3 (incorporated from Braam into KCF II)</p> <p>Implement strategies to increase appropriate matching between children and caregivers for children who need to be replaced</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Utilizing workgroup from 6.2.2, develop strategies (12/06) CA management reviews and approves strategies (5/07) Make necessary policy changes to support strategy implementation (8/07) Provide education/training to staff to support implementation of strategies (11/07) Begin implementation of strategies (12/07) Review baseline for placement stability following a completed Pre-Passport, and set performance measure (6/08) <p>Initiate quarterly reporting to the field (6/08)</p>	<p>Complete through performance period ending December 31, 2006 (Monitoring Report #3, April 17, 2007)</p> <hr/> <p>Not yet due</p>	

Area/Action Step	Implementation Status	Comments
<p>Develop and implement policy to provide emergency respite to licensed foster care and relative caregivers to prevent disruption</p> <p>KCF II 6.1.3 (originally 6.1.2(a)) <i>Action Step 1(c)(4) in Settlement</i></p> <p>Provide respite to resource families to support placements at risk of disruption and provide appropriate access to respite care for caregivers requesting and needing this service, to include in-home respite care for licensed foster parents</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Review and revise existing respite policy to provide immediate respite to resource families where placement is at risk of disruption (12/04) Complete assessment of regional needs (4/05) Develop regional respite capacity to support respite policy (7/05) Communicate revised respite policy to social workers, supervisors and resource families (8/05) Revise academy training program and foster parent pre-service training program to reflect revised respite policy (9/05) 	<p>Pending</p>	<p>Compliance plans submitted previously were not accepted by Panel. Panel provided comments on Department's most recent proposal by letter on March 28, 2007; decision is pending until Department's response is received.</p> <p><i>Consolidated with 3(c)(10): Provide appropriate respite care to licensed foster parents and relative caregivers requesting and needing this service, including emergency respite care necessary to prevent placement disruption.</i></p>
<p>Complete implementation plan for 2003 legislation to increase educational stability of foster children (HB 1058). Complete and implement agreements with school districts, addressing transportation issues for children transferring schools upon placement or move between placements.</p> <p><i>Action Step 1(c)(5) in Settlement</i></p>	<p>Moved to the Adolescent Services section by Panel.</p>	

Area/Action Step	Implementation Status	Comments
<p>Increase the appropriate use of kinship care</p> <p>KCF II 8.3.2, 8.3.3, 21.1.1 (originally 20.1.1-21.1.2) Action Step 1(c)(6) in Settlement</p> <p>8.3.2 Develop and implement caregiver initial assessment policy to support immediate relative placements</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Workgroup develops initial assessment tool and policy (12/04) b. CA Management reviews and approves appropriate recommendations (2/05) c. Provide training to social workers and supervisors (3/05-5/05) d. Revise DLR academy training to reflect policy change (5/05) e. Implementation statewide (6/05) <p>8.3.3 Implement relative home study</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Workgroup develops initial assessment tool and policy (12/04) b. CA Management reviews and approves appropriate recommendations (2/05) c. Provide training to staff (3/05-5/05) d. Implementation statewide (6/05) <p>21.1.1 Develop and implement revised policy framework for kinship care.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Establish policy workgroup to: (9/04) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop policy providing access to services for non-licensed kinship care providers; and • Develop tools (e.g., ancestry chart, genogram) for Kinship care policy, including how it supports Tribal ICWA law requirements. b. CA Management reviews and approves recommendations (1/05) c. Make necessary policy changes to support framework. (4/05) d. Provide training to existing staff on policy framework and tools (5/05) e. Revise academy curriculum for new social workers to include kinship framework (6/05) f. Implement policy changes (7/05) 	<p>Complete (Monitoring Report #3, April 17, 2007)</p>	<p><i>Consolidated with Action Step 5(c)(2): Increase the appropriate use of kinship care and improve support to relative caregivers</i></p>

Area/Action Step	Implementation Status	Comments
<p>Revise and implement policy and procedure to provide for the involvement of children and parents in assessments, development of case plans and major decisions (including changes in placement)</p> <p>KCF II 13.1.1 <i>Action Step 1(c)(7) in Settlement</i></p> <p>Review and revise policy and procedure regarding when and how service plans are written and updated, the involvement of children and parents and Tribes in assessments, development of case plans for in-home cases and out-of-home cases, and major decisions, to include practice guidelines for engaging children, Tribes and fathers in the process.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Establish policy workgroup to review current policy and make recommendations for necessary revisions (12/04-4/05) CA Management reviews and approves of appropriate recommendations (4/05-6/05) Revise academy training and post-academy training on permanency to reflect policy changes (7/05) Provide training to social workers and supervisors on policy and procedure revisions (7/05-9/05) Implement policy revisions (10/05) 	<p>Complete (Panel Decision on CA Revised Compliance Plan, September 5, 2006)</p>	
<p>Develop and implement annual local office and/or regional, plans for the recruitment and retention of foster homes that specifically assess the need for and availability of placement for children with special needs, and for respite (especially for adolescents).</p> <p>KCF II 24.1.3 (incorporated from Braam into KCF II) <i>Action Step 1(c)(8) in Settlement</i></p> <p>Such plans shall specify the recruitment activities targeted at increasing the number of such homes. The plans shall contain numerical targets for increases each year in the number of homes in the special populations of children listed above, beginning in July 2005 until the target identified in the plans is met.</p>	<p>Complete (Second Monitoring Report, September 20, 2006)</p>	
<p>Develop a plan by June 30, 2005 for Panel review and approval to reduce caseloads to COA standards.</p> <p>KCF II 14.1.8 (incorporated from Braam into KCF II) <i>Action Step 1(c)(9) in Settlement</i></p> <p>Develop a plan by June 30, 2005 for review and approval by the Braam Panel to reduce caseloads to COA standards</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Establish workgroup to develop plan and estimate costs/resources required (1/05) CA Management reviews and approves plan (5/05) Plan submitted to Braam Panel for review (6/05) 	<p>Compliance Plan not approved by the Panel</p>	

Area/Action Step	Implementation Status	Comments
<p>Notify child’s representative (attorney/GAL/CASA) prior to placement move, except in emergencies. When a move has been made based on an emergency, the child’s representative will be notified on the next business day.</p> <p>KCF II 6.1.4 (incorporated from Braam into KCF II) Action Step 1(c)(10) in Settlement</p> <p>Notify child’s representative (attorney/GAL/CASA) prior to placement move, except in emergencies. When a move has been made based on an emergency, the child’s representative will be notified on the next business day</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop policy regarding notification to GAL/CASA (10/04) • Communicate policy to social workers, supervisors and GAL/CASA of policy requirement (11/04) • Implement policy (12/04) 	<p>Complete (first Monitoring Report, March 28, 2006)</p>	
<p>A history of the child’s placements will be reported to the Juvenile Court at each dependency review hearing as part of the child’s Individual Safety and Service Plan (ISSP).</p> <p>KCF II 6.1.5 (incorporated from Braam into KCF II) Action Step 1(c)(11) in Settlement</p> <p>Develop policy to require reporting of a child’s placement history to the Juvenile Court at each dependency review hearing as part of the child’s Individual Safety and Service Plan (ISSP).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Utilizing workgroup from 7.1.6, review and revise ISSP and ISSP guidelines to provide clear history of child’s placement (3/05) • Distribute revised ISSP and ISSP guidelines to social workers and supervisors (9/05-12/05) • Implement policy requirement to provide child’s placement history to court at each dependency review hearing (1/06) 	<p>Complete (Second Monitoring Report, September 20, 2006)</p>	<p>Panel may consider adding a benchmark/ outcome to assess ongoing implementation of policy.</p>
<p>Consistent with the outcomes and benchmarks in Section IV.2, develop and begin to implement pilot programs in at least 3 sites providing therapeutic foster care using effective, evidence-based models of care for children with emotional and behavioral challenges. (By June 2005 develop RFP, award contracts and begin implementation of pilot projects)</p> <p>KCF II 17.2.1 (incorporated from Braam into KCF II) Action Step 1(c)(12) in Settlement</p> <p>Develop and implement pilot programs in at least 3 sites providing therapeutic foster care using effective, evidence-based models of care for children with emotional and behavioral challenges</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop RFP (12/04) • Publish RFP (1/05) • Award contracts (3/05) • Implement pilot programs (6/05) 	<p>Complete (first Monitoring Report, March 28, 2006)</p>	

Area/Action Step	Implementation Status	Comments
Mental Health		
<p>Goal 1, Outcome 1, Benchmark 1, Action Step 1 Action Step found on p. 19 of Implementation Plan</p> <p>Children to receive an initial health screening within 72 hours placement</p> <p>The Department will develop a plan for achieving and tracking Outcome 1 and meeting Council on Accreditation (COA) standard for children to receive an initial health screening within 72 hours of entering out-of-home care.</p> <p>The plan will include, at a minimum:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessment of current practices (9/30/06) • Description of the screening process (including: identification of needs within 72 hours of entering care, location for screenings, elements of the screenings, who may conduct screenings, criteria for referring children who need immediate care or services, strategies for obtaining important medical information from parents or guardians, and other areas as determined by the Department) • Implementation strategies—Regional and field offices will work with community-based health/mental health providers, agencies, foster parents, birth parents, and tribes to develop implementation strategies. Different solutions may be pursued in different locales, e.g., screening may be offered by different health professionals (DCFS nurses, nurse practitioners) and in different locations (public health department, emergency rooms, private doctors' offices) • Anticipated costs, potential funding strategies, and availability of professional resources 	Complete (Monitoring Report #3, April 17, 2007)	Plan to be submitted in March 2007 as part of action step 2 (see below) needs to address anticipated costs, potential funding strategies, and availability of professional resources.
<p>Goal 1, Outcome 1, Benchmark 1, Action Step 2 Action Step found on p. 20 of Implementation Plan</p> <p>The plan for achieving Outcome 1 will be submitted to the Panel for review and approval.</p> <p>3/30/07</p>	Not yet due	
<p>Goal 1, Outcome 1, Benchmark 1, Action Step 3 Action Step found on p. 20 of Implementation Plan</p> <p>The Department will begin to implement initial health screens.</p> <p>10/30/07</p>	Not yet due	
<p>Goal 1, Outcome 1, Benchmark 1, Action Step 4 Action Step found on p. 20 of Implementation Plan</p> <p>The Department will track implementation to ensure that each child who enters out-of-home care receives an initial health screen.</p> <p>Begin 10/07—continuous tracking</p>	Not yet due	

Area/Action Step	Implementation Status	Comments
<p>Goal 1, Outcome 2, Benchmark 7, Action Step 1 Action Step found on p. 23 of Implementation Plan</p> <p>Develop a plan to ensure the quality of the CHET process</p> <p>The Department will develop, and submit to the Panel for approval, a plan to review and ensure the quality of the CHET process that will address issues such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • timeliness of completing CHET screens • timely receipt of educational records • well-child EPSDT exams completed within 30 days • quality of information collected in each of the 5 domains • effectiveness of the screening and assessment instruments used in CHET • use of data/information on a child that is received after the Shared Planning Meeting occurs • inclusion of parents, caregivers, youth (age 12 and over), tribal representatives (when applicable), and children’s representatives in the CHET Shared Planning Meetings, and in developing Action Plans • determining whether CHET recommendations are followed and services are received • for children whose CHET recommendations are largely unrelated to services received, analyze reasons and suggest system improvements <p>The plan will be completed and submitted to the Panel for review by 12/30/06</p>	<p>Complete through performance period ending December 31, 2006 (Monitoring Report #3, April 17, 2007)</p>	
<p>The Department will begin implementation of the plan by 9/30/07</p> <p>The Department will provide the Panel with annual reports on the results of the Quality Review beginning 9/30/08</p>	<p>Not yet due</p>	
<p>Goal 2, Outcome 1, Benchmark 2, Action Step 1 Action Step found on p. 25 of Implementation Plan</p> <p>CA will ensure that the health and education plan for each child is updated at a minimum every 6 months, in accordance with the Department’s 6-month administrative review process. Changes in the plans will be discussed and shared with caregivers and birth parents.</p> <p>By 12/30/06</p>	<p>Incomplete (Monitoring Report #3, April 17, 2007)</p> <p>Compliance plan required</p>	<p>Materials have detailed how Department intends to track implementation, but have not provided information on the Department’s efforts to ensure this policy is implemented. In addition, materials do not clearly demonstrate that changes in plans are expected to be discussed with caregivers and birth parents.</p>

Area/Action Step	Implementation Status	Comments
<p>The Department will develop, and encourage juvenile court judges to use, a checklist for each court review to prompt the Court to seek information on whether or not the physical health, mental health, substance abuse, educational, and cultural needs of dependent children are being met.</p> <p>KCF II 17.1.8 Action Step 2(c)(6) in Settlement</p> <p>Complete draft checklist (09/30/05) Orient staff to checklist (10/30/05) Implement field utilization and court review (12/30/05)</p> <hr/> <p>Review utilization of checklist by courts (06/30/07)</p>	<p>Complete through the performance period ending December 31, 2006 (Monitoring Report #3, April 17, 2007)</p> <hr/> <p>Not yet due</p>	
<p>Foster children’s mental health will be periodically reassessed by mental health professionals</p> <p>KCF II 17.1.7 Action Step 2(c)(5) in Settlement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revise policy and procedures to include requirement for periodic re-assessment (3/05) ✓ CA Management reviews and approves process (6/05) ✓ Orient staff to new policy requirement (9/05-12/05) ✓ Implement new policy (12/05) 	<p>Complete (Panel Decision on CA Revised Compliance Plan, September 5, 2006)</p>	
<p>Goal 3, Outcome 2, Benchmark 4, Action Step 1 Action Step found on p. 30 of Implementation Plan</p> <p>Inviting persons involved with child to participate in MH/ SA planning</p> <p>CA will ensure that birth parents, foster parents, extended family, pre-adoptive parents, tribal representatives (when applicable), and children’s representatives will be invited to participate in planning and decision-making regarding mental health and/or substance use services for their children (including staffings that are held when children are denied mental health and/or substance use assessments or treatment services by a provider), except when expressly limited by existing state law or a child’s lawful assertion of confidentiality. Such exceptions will be documented in the ISSP.</p> <p>By 12/30/06</p>	<p>Incomplete (Monitoring Report #3, April 17, 2007)</p> <p>Compliance plan required</p>	<p>It is not clear from the policy that mental health planning requires a shared planning meeting. To clarify, mental health could be added to list in 1(g) of policy and/or included in ‘quick reference to staffings’ (part D). In addition, policy is not clear that all individuals identified in the action step are expected to be invited to mental health planning meetings.</p>
<p>Goal 3, Outcome 2, Benchmark 4, Action Step 2 Action Step found on p. 30 of Implementation Plan</p> <p>The Department will ensure that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • each child who experiences a crisis related to mental health or substance use disorders will have access to crisis intervention services through the 24-hour mental health crisis hotline. 06/30/2006 • all foster parents and caregivers are informed about how to access the 24-hour mental health crisis hotline. 06/30/2006 • any non-mental health/non-substance use calls will be referred to the foster parent after hours support line. 06/30/2006 	<p>Complete(Monitoring Report #3, April 17, 2007)</p>	
<p>Goal 3, Outcome 2, Benchmark 4, Action Step 3 Action Step found on p. 31 of Implementation Plan</p>	<p>Compliance Plan approved (Panel</p>	<p>Actions under compliance plan not yet due</p>

Area/Action Step	Implementation Status	Comments
<p>The Department will provide notice to the child, child’s caregiver, child’s parent (when appropriate), tribal representative (when applicable), and child’s representative of their right to request an administrative review of any denial or undue delay of an assessment or a service 06/30/2006</p>	<p>Decision on CA Compliance Plan #2, December 19, 2006)</p>	
<p>Goal 3, Outcome 3, Benchmark 1, Action Step 1 Action Step found on p. 31 of Implementation Plan</p> <p>The Department will develop a process to assess services and outcomes for children from diverse racial and ethnic backgrounds.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Department and Plaintiffs recommend to panel the services and outcomes to track (by region) (6/30/06) • Panel reviews tracking plan (9/30/06) • CA begins tracking (12/30/06) • First tracking report completed (12/30/07) • Panel reviews first report and sets baselines and benchmarks for each ethnic minority group (3/30/08) • Dissemination of report statewide (6/30/08) 	<p>Compliance Plan approved (Panel Decision on CA Compliance Plan #2, December 19, 2006)</p>	<p>Actions under compliance plan not yet due</p>
<p>Goal 3, Outcome 3, Benchmark 1, Action Step 1 Action Step found on p. 31 of Implementation Plan</p> <p>The Department will ensure that translation and interpretation services, or providers who speak the language of the child or parent, will be available for all children, their parents, and other caregivers who need such assistance in order to benefit from mental health and/or substance use services. Children will not serve as interpreters for their parents or other family members.</p> <p>By 6/30/2007</p>	<p>Not yet due</p>	

Area/Action Step	Implementation Status	Comments
<p>Improve availability and utilization of regional medical consultants.</p> <p>KCF II 16.2.1 (originally 16.1.4) Action Step 2(c)(1) in Settlement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify clear roles and responsibilities of regional medical consultants (12/04) • Provide regional medical consultant for each region (.5 FTE/region) (5/05) • Communicate to staff about roles and responsibilities of medical consultants and how to access their services (6/05) • Review utilization history to determine how to increase effectiveness of consultants with lower utilization rates (6/30/06) 	<p>Compliance Plan approved (Panel Decision on CA Compliance Plan #2, December 19 2006)</p>	<p>Actions under compliance plan not yet due</p>
<p>Increase utilization of No Wrong Door Staffings (NWD) to identify needs for family and connect to services and resources.</p> <p>KCF II 16.1.5⁸ Action Step 2(c)(2) in Settlement</p>	<p>Removed by mutual consent of all parties</p>	
<p>In collaboration with community partners, utilizing CHET or any successor model, CA will identify regional service gaps and create plans to fill gaps through maximizing and developing local resources.</p> <p>KCF II 16.1.4 (originally 17.1.2) Action Step 2(c)(3) in Settlement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish regional workgroups (12/04) • Workgroups report out recommendations and plans (06/05) • Regional management teams review plans and approve recommendations (9/05) • Begin implementation of approved portions of regional plans (10/05) 	<p>Approved compliance plan—complete through performance period ending December 31, 2006 (Monitoring Report #3, April 17, 2007)</p>	<p>Panel notes variation among regional plans. In some regions, there is limited evidence that regional recommendations have been reviewed by regional management or that regions are ready to implement. In order to declare this step complete, Panel will expect evidence of implementation.</p>
<p>Implement newly developed agreements with each Regional Support Network.</p> <p>KCF II 17.1.4 Action Step 2(c)(4) in Settlement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MOU between CA and Mental Health • Access to care standards • In coordination with regional offices, establish schedule for informational sessions (10/04) • Develop materials for sessions (03/05) • Begin implementation of schedule for informational sessions (05/05) • Conduct informational sessions on agreements in every region with particular focus on foster parents (12/30/05) 	<p>Complete (Monitoring Report #3, April 17, 2007)</p>	

⁸ Although the Settlement references Section 16.1.5, there is no provision with this number. The correct citation may be 16.2.2.

Area/Action Step	Implementation Status	Comments
<p>Goal 3, Outcome 3, Benchmark 1, Additional Action Step 4</p> <p>Action Step found on p. 33 of Implementation Plan</p> <p>Contracts for MH/ SA require documentation of failure to serve within timeframes</p> <p>The Department’s contracts for community-based mental health and substance abuse services will specify that failure to assess or serve children in foster care within required timeframes will require documentation to the Mental Health Division and the Children’s Administration. This documentation will be reviewed by the Department to determine if the contract language needs clarification for the Settlement goals to be accomplished. The Department will provide on a semi-annual basis to the Panel a summary of the number of denials by RSNs and the reasons for those denials.</p> <p>Begin semi-annual reporting to Panel 11/01/06</p>	<p>Incomplete (Monitoring Report #3, April 17, 2007)</p> <p>Compliance plan required</p>	<p>Compliance plan needs to address <u>how</u> tracking of denials will be accomplished (not “if” or “whether” as noted in materials).</p> <p>Request for extension for compliance plan not approved. Compliance plan is due in accordance with timeline set forth in the settlement agreement.</p>
<p>Goal 3, Outcome 3, Benchmark 1, Additional Action Step 5</p> <p>Action Step found on p. 33 of Implementation Plan</p> <p>Alternative plans for children ineligible for MH services</p> <p>For children who are not eligible for assessment and/or treatment services within Medicaid Standards of Care, the Department (CA and MHD) will identify and implement strategies to provide alternative plans, assessments, and treatment services for these children. The Department will provide on a semi-annual basis to the Panel a summary of the number of children not eligible within Medicaid Standards of Care and the types of alternative services provided for these children.</p> <p>Begin semi-annual reporting to Panel 11/01/06</p>	<p>Incomplete (Monitoring Report #3, April 17, 2007)</p> <p>Compliance plan required</p>	<p>Panel’s expectation in this action step is to receive information on alternative mental health services provided to the specific children who did not meet access to care standards, rather than a general list of available services as provided in the update materials.</p> <p>Request for extension for compliance plan not approved. Compliance plan is due in accordance with timeline set forth in the settlement agreement.</p>

Area/Action Step	Implementation Status	Comments
<p>Goal 3, “Additional Action Steps”, Action Step 6 Action Step found on Page 33 of Implementation Plan</p> <p>Implement Shared Planning Policy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase utilization of Shared Planning Meetings to identify child and family needs and connect to services and resources (6/30/06) • Review and report on progress to Panel on a semi-annual basis (begin 11/1/06) 	<p>Complete through performance period ending December 31, 2006 (Monitoring Report #3, April 17, 2007)</p>	<p>Continuing reporting required; Panel expects that next report (due August 2007) will examine a larger sample of cases.</p>
<p>Goal 3, “Additional Action Steps”, Action Step 7 Action Step found on Page 33 of Implementation Plan</p> <p>The Department will complete an annual review of the status of mental health and substance abuse services for children in foster care and use the findings from the review to address service gaps and system problems to develop services and to expand the use of evidence-based models of service, where applicable.</p> <p>The Department will publish the review and plan annually, beginning in November 2007. The annual review will identify by region both achievements in foster children receiving services and any deficiencies. The Department will establish plans to increase the achievements and reduce the deficiencies. The review and plans will be based in part on service data; direct feedback from children, parents, and caretakers; and reports generated through the action steps in the Settlement and the Braam Implementation Plan.</p>	<p>Not yet due</p>	
<p>Goal 4, Outcome 1, Benchmark 1, Action Step 1 Action Step found on p. 34 of Implementation Plan</p> <p>Discourage use of short-term interns as child’s primary care provider</p> <p>The Department will work with RSNs to develop and implement policy that discourages assigning short-term interns as the primary treatment providers for children in foster care.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop the policy and share it with the Panel (9/06) • Panel review and approve policy (12/06) <p>-----</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement the policy (9/07) 	<p>Complete through performance period ending December 31, 2006 (Monitoring Report #3, April 17, 2007)</p> <p>-----</p> <p>Not yet due</p>	<p>Panel has approved MHD contract language.</p> <p>-----</p>
<p>Goal 4, Outcome 1, Benchmark 1, Action Step 2 Action Step found on p. 34 of Implementation Plan</p> <p>Strategies to increase likelihood child has same treatment provider throughout care</p> <p>The Department will explore and implement additional strategies for increasing the likelihood that a child in foster care will have the same individual provider for the course of his/her mental health and/or substance use care.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore strategies used in WA and other states (09/06) • Discuss potential strategies with Panel (12/06) • Implement agreed upon strategies (3/07) 	<p>Incomplete (Monitoring Report #3, April 17, 2007)</p> <p>Compliance plan required</p>	<p>Department has not explored strategies or discussed strategies with the Panel.</p>

Area/Action Step	Implementation Status	Comments
Foster Parent Training and Information		
<p>Goal 2, Outcome 2, Benchmark 1, Action Step 1 Action Step found on p. 39 of Implementation Plan</p> <p>Foster parent survey</p> <p>The Children’s Administration will contract with the Social and Economic Sciences Research Center (SESRC) at Washington State University to develop and conduct an independent, statistically valid, anonymous survey of foster parents and relative caregivers that is conducted annually concerning all areas of the Settlement related to caregiver’s work with foster children and associated outcomes and action steps.</p> <p>In developing the survey design, tool, and procedures, the SESRC shall consult with the Panel, the Washington State Foster Parent’s Association, the CA Youth Advisory Group, the foster parent liaison staff in CA, and a group of five DCFS staff selected by CA.</p> <p>Survey planning completed by 10/1/06</p> <p>Survey reviewed and approved by Panel by 12/1/06</p> <p>-----</p> <p>First survey results to Panel by 6/01/07</p> <p>Second survey results to Panel by 6/01/08</p> <p>Third survey results to Panel by 6/01/09</p> <p>Fourth survey results to Panel by 6/01/10</p> <p>Fifth survey results to Panel by 6/01/11</p>	<p>Complete through performance period ending December 31, 2006 (Monitoring Report #3, April 17, 2007)</p> <p>Not yet due</p>	
<p>Implement statewide after-hours crisis support line for foster parents and other caregivers</p> <p>KCF II 6.2.1 (originally 23.1.3) Action Step 3(c)(1) in Settlement</p> <p>Implement statewide after hours support crisis line for foster parents and caregivers</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Review current models for after hours support already in existence and develop strategies to take statewide (9/04) Develop program criteria (9/04) Hire and provide training to staff operating the program (11/04) Communicate with staff, caregivers and community partners (12/04) Create and provide “crisis cards” to foster parents (12/04) Implement program (5/05) Initiate quarterly progress reports to the field (9/05) 	<p>Complete (Panel Decision on CA Revised Compliance Plan, September 5, 2006)</p>	

Area/Action Step	Implementation Status	Comments
<p>Develop and implement cross-training between foster parents and staff</p> <p>KCF II 22.1.2 <i>Action Step 3(c)(2) in Settlement</i></p> <p>Develop and implement cross-training between foster parents and staff (e.g., teamwork, problem resolution)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop training curriculum (9/04-12/04) • Pilot training (1/05-2/05) • Provide statewide training to social workers and foster parents (3/05–9/05) 	<p>Complete (Panel Decision on CA Revised Compliance Plan, September 5, 2006)</p>	
<p>Require written notification to licensed foster parents and relative caregivers and provide support to increase their participation in meetings, staffings and hearings involving planning for children in their care</p> <p>KCF II 22.2.2 (originally 22.1.3) <i>Action Step 3(c)(3) in Settlement</i></p> <p>Require notification to all resource families and provide support to increase participation and provide input in all meetings, staffings (including Child Protection Teams) and hearings involving planning for the children in their care</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Establish policy workgroup, including Child Protection Teams, to draft recommended policy revisions, including the automated process for notification, the tools for how that notification is to be conducted, and where notification is to be documented. Policy workgroup will further draft the cover letter for the ISSP which specifies date of hearing and definitions of “right to be heard” and “input” (12/04) b. Work group reports out draft recommendations (3/05) c. Begin development of an electronic process for tracking notification to foster parents of court hearings (4/05) d. CA Management reviews and approves recommendations (4/05) e. Provide orientation to all resource families and staff (5/05-8/05) f. Implement policy statewide (9/05) g. Implement electronic system changes statewide (10/05) h. Establish baseline for notification compliance and set performance measure (12/05) i. Initiate six month reports to the field on levels of compliance and participation (6/05) 	<p>Approved compliance plan-- complete through performance period ending December 31, 2006 (Monitoring Report #3, April 17, 2007)</p>	<p>Future reports on compliance should include data on <u>participation</u> of caregivers in meetings and hearings, as required by the action step.</p> <p><i>Consolidated with Action Step 3(c)(9): Encourage foster parents and relative caregivers to participate in hearings, meetings, and staffing pursuant to the Department’s policy approved by the Oversight Panel</i></p>

Area/Action Step	Implementation Status	Comments
<p>Implement RFP for providing statewide crisis support and other immediate support for licensed foster parents and relative caregivers</p> <p>KCF II 23.1.1 (originally 23.1.2) Action Step 3(c)(4) in Settlement</p> <p>Implement the RFP for providing statewide foster parent support and recruitment</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Complete regional recruitment needs assessments (8/04) Develop recruitment performance expectations for contracts (8/04) Finalize Recruitment and Retention RFP (includes regional, minority, sibling groups, adolescents and children with special needs) (9/04) Issue Recruitment and Retention RFP (9/04) Review and select proposals (11/04) Concurrently develop implementation and communication plans (11/04) Begin implementation of regional/statewide contracted recruitment & retention services contracts (1/05) Orientation of staff and caregivers to regional/statewide contracted support services (first stage implementation) (1/05) Review every six months (7/05) 	<p>Complete (Panel letter to CA, November 22, 2006)</p>	
<p>Provide training for licensed foster parents and relative caregivers on policy revisions and engaging families and children</p> <p>KCF II 4.2.3 (originally 13.1.1c) Action Step 3(c)(5) in Settlement</p> <p>Develop and provide training for staff, foster parents, community partners and contracted providers on engaging families, relatives and fathers</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Establish planning group to develop training curriculum and training schedule (9/04) Complete development of training curriculum and publish training schedule (12/04) Provide regional based training to contract provider staff (1/05-4/05) 	<p>Complete (Panel Decision on CA Revised Compliance Plan, September 5, 2006)</p>	
<p>DLR licensors develop and implement annual assessment and development plans for foster parents, and relative caregivers utilizing feedback and input from DCFS workers, foster parents, and relative caregivers</p> <p>KCF II 6.2.5 (originally 23.1.6) Action Step 3(c)(6) in Settlement</p> <p>DLR Licensors develop and implement annual assessment and development plans for foster parents, utilizing feedback and input from DCFS workers (Braam Panel added: "foster parents and relative caregivers" to end of sentence).</p> <p>The following benchmarks were subject to 2005 budget request:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Workgroup develops evaluation tool and procedures (1/05-3/05) Establish evaluation schedule and monitoring system (6/05) Budget appropriations (7/05) Train licensing staff (7/05) Orientation for staff and foster parents (8/05) Begin annual evaluations (9/05) Complete cycle of evaluations (9/07) 	<p>Approved compliance plan-- complete through performance period ending December 31, 2006 (Monitoring Report #3, April 17, 2007)</p>	<p>Plan for licensed caregivers is complete through period; Panel approves of approach to unlicensed caregivers.</p>

Area/Action Step	Implementation Status	Comments
Report annually (9/06, 9/07)		
<p>Develop and implement a policy requiring ongoing training for licensed foster parents</p> <p>KCF II 40.2.1 <i>Action Step 3(c)(7) in Settlement</i></p> <p>Develop and implement a policy requiring ongoing training for caregivers including engagement training as identified in section 14.3.1</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Workgroup develops policy recommendations (10/04) CA Management reviews and approves recommendations (11/04) Adjust learning system data base to track compliance with policy requirements (12/04) Communicate policy to staff and caregivers (12/04) Implement policy (1/05) Initiate quarterly progress reports to the field (6/05) 	<p>Approved compliance plan not complete through period (Monitoring Report #3, April 17, 2007)</p>	<p>Compliance plan requires ongoing reporting. No 2006 data received.</p>
<p>Licensed foster parents and relative caregivers shall be provided with the results and recommendations of all of the Department's screenings and assessments, including the Pre-Passport or its successor, for children placed in their home five days after its completion, unless expressly limited by law or a child's lawful assertion of confidentiality. Licensed foster parents and relative caregivers shall be provided a copy of the child's passport or its successor at the time of placement but no later than five days after its completion, unless expressly limited by law or a child's lawful assertion of confidentiality.</p> <p>KCF II 16.3.1, 16.3.2 <i>Action Step 3(c)(8) in Settlement</i></p> <p>16.3.1 Provide licensed foster parents and relative caregivers with child's Passport at time of placement or not later than five days after completion</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Workgroup reviews and revised current policy (1/05) CA Management reviews and approves policy recommendations (3/05) Orient staff and foster parents to new policy (6/05-9/05) Implement policy (9/05) Evaluate implementation through case review process (1/06) Initiate six month reporting (1/06) <p>16.3.2 Provide licensed foster parents and relative caregivers with results and recommendations of all screenings/ assessments for children placed in their home within five days of completion</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Workgroup reviews and revised current policy (1/05) CA Management reviews and approves policy recommendations (3/05) Orient staff and foster parents to new policy (6/05-9/05) Implement policy (9/05) Evaluate implementation through case review process (1/06) Report out every six months (1/06) 	<p>Complete (Monitoring Report #3, April 17, 2007)</p>	<p>July 17, 2006 memo to the field notes 5-day timeframe for providing screenings and assessments to caregivers. This requirement does not appear to be explicit in policy. Recommend including this language in shared planning and other relevant policies.</p>

Area/Action Step	Implementation Status	Comments
<p>Licensed foster parents and relative caregivers will be encouraged and supported to participate in staffings of pre-passports (or successor) for children placed in their homes.</p> <p>KCF II 22.2.2 Action Step 3(c)(9) in Settlement</p> <p>Require notification to all resource families and provide support to increase participation and provide input in all meetings, staffings (including Child Protection Teams), and hearings involving planning for the children in their care</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Establish policy workgroup, including Children’s Administrative Technology Services (CATS), to draft recommended policy revisions, including the automated process for notification, the tools for how that notification is to be conducted, and where notification is to be documented. Policy workgroup will further draft the cover letter for the ISSP which specifies date of hearing and definitions of “right to be heard” and “input” (12/04) Work group reports out draft recommendations (3/05) Begin development of an electronic process for tracking notification to foster parents of court hearings (4/05) CA Management reviews and approves recommendations (4/05) Provide orientation to all resource families and staff (5/05-8/05) Implement policy statewide (9/05) Implement electronic system changes statewide (10/05) Establish baseline for notification compliance and set performance measure (12/05) Initiate six-month reports to the field on levels of compliance and participation (6/05) 	<p>Refer to 3(c)(3)</p>	<p><i>Consolidated with action step 3(c)(3), which is under an approved compliance plan</i></p>
<p>Department shall provide appropriate access to respite care for caregivers requesting and needing this service.</p> <p>KCF II 23.1.4 Action Step 3(c)(10) in Settlement</p> <p>Provide respite to resource families to support placements at risk of disruption and provide appropriate access to respite care for caregivers requesting and needing this service (Refer to 6.1.3 for timelines)</p>	<p>Refer to 1(c)(4)</p>	<p><i>This action step is being consolidated with action step 1(c)(4), which is pending.</i></p>
<p>The Department shall develop a plan, subject to review and approval of the Panel, for training of unlicensed caregivers.</p> <p>KCF II 40.3.2 Action Step 3(c)(11) in Settlement</p> <p>Develop a plan, subject to review and approval of the Braam Panel, for training of unlicensed caregivers</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Establish workgroup to develop plan and estimate costs/resources required (1/06) CA Management reviews and approves plan (5/06) Plan submitted to Braam Panel for review (6/06) 	<p>Complete (Monitoring Report #3, April 17, 2007)</p>	<p>Plan approved by Panel via letter on December 22, 2006.</p> <p>Department expected to submit revised plan for Panel review and approval if funding required to fully implement plan is not obtained.</p>

Area/Action Step	Implementation Status	Comments
Unsafe/Inappropriate Placements		
<p>Increase contact between social worker and family, child and caregivers to at least once every 30 days</p> <p>KCF II 14.1.2 (originally 11.1.2) Action Step 4(c)(1) in Settlement</p> <p>For children placed in out-of-home care, develop and implement a policy to require 30-day visits between social worker and parents, and social worker and child IN ALL CASES This action step and following benchmarks are subject to 2005 budget request</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Utilizing policy workgroup from 14.1.1, develop policy recommendations (3/05-5/05) Workgroup reports out recommendations (5/05) CA Management reviews and approves policy recommendations (6/05) Budget decisions (7/05) Provide orientation to staff, caregivers and community partners on new policy requirement (7/05-9/05) Revise new social worker academy training to support new policy and practice guidelines (9/05) Based on available funding, implement policy changes (10/05) Establish baseline for compliance with policy changes and set performance measure (3/06) Initiate quarterly reporting to the field (6/06) 	<p>Compliance Plan not approved by the Panel</p>	
<p>Increase compliance with policy requiring workers to visit children in placement within the first week of out-of-home care</p> <p>KCF II 14.1.6 Action Step 4(c)(2) in Settlement</p> <p>Review and revise policy requiring social workers to visit all children in their placement within the first week in out-of-home care</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Establish workgroup to review and revise policy (6/05) Orient staff to new policy requirement (8/05) Begin implementation of new policy (10/05) Establish regional baselines and set performance measure (6/06) Initiate quarterly reporting to the field (6/06) 	<p>Compliance Plan not approved by the Panel</p>	

Area/Action Step	Implementation Status	Comments
<p>A face-to-face safety assessment with a child suspected to be a victim of child abuse or neglect while in the Department’s custody shall occur within 24 hours of the report for emergent cases, and within 72 hours of the report for non-emergent cases.</p> <p>KCF II 1.1.5-1.1.8 (originally 1.1.4, 1.1.5) Action Step 4(c)(3) in Settlement</p> <p>1.1.5 Require social workers to make face-to-face contact with child victims suspected to be a victim of child abuse or neglect, while in the custody of CA, within 24 hours for referrals of child abuse and/or neglect rated as emergent.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Establish policy workgroup to develop recommendations regarding policy changes for 24 hour face-to-face contacts on emergent referrals (10/04) b. CA Management reviews and approves recommendations (1/05) c. Communicate policy changes with staff (2/05) d. Policy becomes effective and is implemented statewide (3/05) e. Establish baseline for compliance with policy change and set performance measure (6/05) f. Initiate quarterly progress reports to the field (9/05) <p>1.1.6 – Require DCFS social workers to make face-to-face contact with child victims within 24 hours for all referrals of child abuse and/or neglect rated as emergent.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Establish policy workgroup to develop recommendations regarding policy changes for 24 hour face-to-face contacts on emergent referrals (10/04) b. CA Management reviews and approves recommendations (1/05) c. Communicate policy changes with staff (2/05) d. Policy becomes effective and is implemented statewide (3/05) e. Establish baseline for compliance with policy change and set performance measure (6/05) f. Initiate quarterly progress reports to the field (9/05) <p>1.1.7 Require social workers to make face-to-face contact with child victims suspected to be a victim of child abuse or neglect, while in the custody of CA, within 72 hours for all referrals of child abuse and/or neglect rated as non-emergent.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Define expectation and practice guidelines for social workers to make first attempt for face-to-face contact with child victims on cases rated as non-emergent within five days from the date of referral (12/04) b. Review and report on progress towards compliance with expectation/practice guidelines (3/05) c. Establish policy workgroup to develop policy for increasing face-to-face contacts to 72 hours for all non-emergent referrals (6/05) d. CA Management reviews and approves recommendations (10/05) <p>The following benchmarks are subject to 2005 budget request:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> e. Implement policy for increasing face-to-face contact to 72 hours for all non-emergent referrals (12/05) f. Establish baseline for compliance with policy change and set performance measure (3/06) g. Initiate quarterly reporting to the field offices, including a review of progress towards achieving the goal (6/06) 	<p>Complete (Panel Decision on Children’s Administration Compliance Plan #2, December 19, 2006)</p>	

Area/Action Step	Implementation Status	Comments
<p>Children in the custody of the Department will not be placed in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Institutions not designed to receive foster children, such as adult mental hospitals or detox facilities where children and adults are commingled • A foster home without specialized training and support to provide for the safety of children in the home when sexually aggressive or physically assaultive children reside in the home • DSHS offices, including repeated daily stays at DSHS offices <p><i>Action Step 4(c)(4) in Settlement</i></p>	<p>Not yet due per benchmarks in Implementation Plan</p>	<p>Baseline data on children in adult mental hospitals has been provided by the Mental Health Division.</p>

Area/Action Step	Implementation Status	Comments
Sibling Separation		
<p>Increase quality and frequency of visits between children and their siblings.</p> <p>KCF II 18.1.1 <i>Action Step 5(c)(1) in Settlement</i></p> <p>Develop policies and protocols regarding visitations for children in foster care to include frequency of visitation</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Establish a policy workgroup, including stakeholders and researchers, to develop a framework for visitations between parents and children and siblings that is utilized uniformly across regions. Framework to include guidelines for visitations which encompass: (9/04-12/04) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>When visitations can be unsupervised,</i> • <i>When visitations can be outside of the DCFS office,</i> • <i>When visitations can be outside DCFS office hours, and</i> • <i>Who is able to supervise visits</i> • <i>How the visitation issues will be addressed during the Family Team Decision Making meeting which occurs within 72 hours of a child's placement in out-of-home care.</i> • <i>How the visitation issues will be addressed in other staffings and supervisory conferences</i> • <i>Guidelines for documentation of visits for social workers and contracted service providers</i> b. Workgroup reports out recommendations (12/04) c. CA Management reviews and approves framework and policy recommendations (1/05) d. Provide training for staff and providers to support policy changes for visitations, quality of visitations and maintaining child's cultural connections (2/05-4/05) e. Implement policy changes upon training (2/05-4/05) f. Report out quarterly on progress (6/05-6/07) 	<p>Approved compliance plan not complete through period (Monitoring Report #3, April 17, 2007)</p>	<p>Department has noted its intention to change the expectation for the first parent-child visit from 72 hours to 5 days in the visitation policy submitted as part of the compliance plan for this action step. In order to determine this compliance plan complete, Panel will expect to see policy restored to 72 hours (with possible exceptions in some circumstances) or an agreement between the parties regarding the appropriateness of the change to a 5 day requirement.</p>

Area/Action Step	Implementation Status	Comments
<p>Improve kinship support services.</p> <p>KCF 8.3.2, 8.3.3, 21.1.1 (originally 8.1.2) Action Step 5(c)(2) in Settlement</p> <p>8.3.2 Develop and implement caregiver initial assessment policy to support immediate relative placements</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Workgroup develops initial assessment tool and policy (12/04) b. CA Management reviews and approves appropriate recommendations (2/05) c. Provide training to social workers and supervisors (3/05-5/05) d. Revise DLR academy training to reflect policy change 5/05 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation statewide (6/05) <p>8.3.3 Implement relative home study</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Workgroup develops initial assessment tool and policy (12/04) b. CA Management reviews and approves appropriate recommendations (2/05) c. Provide training to staff (3/05– 5/05) d. Implementation statewide (6/05) <p>21.1.1 Develop and implement revised policy framework for kinship care.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Establish policy workgroup to: (9/04) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop policy providing access to services for non-licensed kinship care providers; and • Develop tools (e.g., ancestry chart, genogram) for Kinship care policy, including how it supports Tribal ICWA law requirements. b. CA Management reviews and approves recommendations (1/05) c. Make necessary policy changes to support framework. (4/05) d. Provide training to existing staff on policy framework and tools (05/05) e. Revise academy curriculum for new social workers to include kinship framework (6/05) f. Implement policy changes (7/05) 	<p>Refer to 1(c)(6)</p>	<p><i>Consolidated with Action Step 1(c)(6), which is complete.</i></p>
<p>Hire and train relative search staff to support finding relative resources and supporting Family Team Meetings</p> <p>KCF II 8.3.4 Action Step 5(c)(3) in Settlement</p> <p>Hire and train relative search staff to support finding potential relative resources and Family Team Decision Making Meetings by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completing relative/father searches • Identifying Tribal/Band affiliation • Completing caregivers initial assessment <p>The following benchmarks are subject to 2005 budget request:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Budget decisions (7/05) b. Hire and train relative search staff (10/05) c. Implement (11/05) 	<p>Refer to 1(c)(6)</p>	<p><i>Action step was covered under compliance plan approved for Action Step 1(c)(6), which is complete.</i></p>

Area/Action Step	Implementation Status	Comments
<p>Implement case conferences prior to dispositional hearing, as required by 2004 legislation</p> <p>KCF II 13.1.6 (originally 13.1.7) Action Step 5(c)(4) in Settlement</p> <p>Implement case conferences prior to dispositional hearing, as required by 2004 legislation</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Distribute interim practice guidelines (9/04) Develop final practice guidelines for staff (10/04) Orient staff, caregivers and community partners to case conference requirements (11/04) Implement final practice guidelines (12/04) Initiate quarterly reporting to the field (1/05) 	<p>Complete (Panel Decision on CA Revised Compliance Plan, September 5, 2006)</p>	
<p>Develop and implement policies and protocols regarding visitation to children, parents, and siblings</p> <p>KCF II 18.1.1 (Note: The first action step in this section also references 18.1.1) Action Step 5(c)(5) in Settlement</p> <p>Develop policies and protocols regarding visitations for children in foster care to include frequency of visitation</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Establish a policy workgroup, including stakeholders and researchers, to develop a framework for visitations between parents and children and siblings that is utilized uniformly across regions. Framework to include guidelines for visitations which encompass: (9/04-12/04) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> When visitations can be unsupervised, When visitations can be outside of the DCFS office, When visitations can be outside DCFS office hours, and Who is able to supervise visits How the visitation issues will be addressed during the Family Team Decision Making meeting which occurs within 72 hours of a child's placement in out-of-home care. How the visitation issues will be addressed in other staffings and supervisory conferences Guidelines for documentation of visits for social workers and contracted service providers Workgroup reports out recommendations (12/04) CA Management reviews and approves framework and policy recommendations (1/05) Provide training for staff and providers to support policy changes for visitations, quality of visitations and maintaining child's cultural connections (2/05-4/05) Implement policy changes upon training (2/05-4/05) Report out quarterly on progress (6/05-6/07) 	<p>Refer to 5(c)(1)</p>	<p><i>Action step is operating under compliance plan approved for Action Step 5(c)(1).</i></p>
<p>Submit and, if approved, implement Title IV-E Demonstration Waiver to develop and deliver kinship supports</p> <p>KCF II 38.1.3 Action Step 5(c)(6) in Settlement</p>	<p>Complete (first Monitoring Report, March 28, 2006)</p>	

Area/Action Step	Implementation Status	Comments
<p>Pursuant to plans developed under KCF II, implement strategies to recruit additional licensed foster care and relative caregivers willing and able to accommodate sibling groups (not specified in implementation Plan)</p> <p>KCF II 24.1.1 Action Step 5(c)(7) in Settlement</p> <p>Implement the RFP for providing statewide foster parent support and recruitment.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Complete regional recruitment needs assessments (8/04) b. Develop recruitment performance expectations for contracts (8/04) c. Finalize Recruitment and Retention RFP (includes regional, minority, sibling groups, adolescents and children with special needs) (9/04) d. Issue Recruitment and Retention RFP (9/04) e. Review and select proposals (11/04) f. Concurrently develop implementation and communication plans (11/04) g. Begin implementation of 18 month regional/statewide contracted recruitment and retention services contracts (1/05) h. Orientation of staff and caregivers to regional/statewide contracted support services (first stage implementation) (1/05) i. Review every six months (7/05) 	<p>Refer to 1(c)(1)</p>	<p><i>Consolidated with Action Step 1(c)(1), which is complete.</i></p>

Area/Action Step	Implementation Status	Comments
Services to Adolescents		
<p>Goal 1, Action Step 1</p> <p>Action Step found on p. 63 of Implementation Plan</p> <p>Adolescents, their family members, and other significant individuals identified by the adolescent, will be offered the opportunity and be encouraged and assisted to participate in planning and decision-making regarding their own services and placement, except when this would be in conflict with existing state law or clinically contraindicated. Such exceptions are to be documented in ISSP.</p> <p>CA policy development (7/31/07) Training (10/31/07) Implementation (4/01/08)</p>	<p>Not yet due</p>	
<p>Develop an integrated, re-designed service model for adolescents</p> <p>KCF II 19.1.1 Action Step 6(c)(1) in Settlement</p> <p>In collaboration with other DSHS Administrations and community partners, develop an integrated, re-designed service model for adolescents. This action step and the following benchmarks are subject to 2005 budget request</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Workgroup develops recommendations for a redesigned service model for adolescents including budget (9/04-6/05) CA Management review (6/05-8/05) Recommendations and budget proposal reviewed by DSHS Cabinet (8/05) Budget appropriated (9/06) Begin implementation of re-designed service model (11/06) Complete implementation of re-designed service model (8/07) 	<p>Approved compliance plan--complete through performance period ending December 31, 2006 (Monitoring Report #3, April 17, 2007)</p>	
<p>Establish Youth Advisory Group</p> <p>KCF II 19.1.7 Action Step 6(c)(8) in Settlement</p> <p>Establish Youth Advisory Group</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Develop model for youth advisory group (12/04) Locate and establish initial youth advisory members (1/05) Train youth advisory group (2/05) Begin youth advisory group meetings (to be conducted regularly) (4/05) 	<p>Complete (first Monitoring Report, March 28, 2006)</p>	
<p>Goal 2, Outcome 1, Benchmark 1, Action Step1</p> <p>Action Step found on Page 65 Implementation Plan</p> <p>DCFS will request the school records of all school age children immediately upon the child entering care (or changing placements, if the placement change requires a change in schools). June 1, 2006</p>	<p>Complete (Second Monitoring Report, September 20, 2006)</p>	<p>Panel may consider adding a benchmark/ outcome to assess ongoing implementation of policy.</p>
<p>Goal 2, Outcome 1, Benchmark 1, Action Step2</p> <p>Action found on Page 65 Implementation Plan</p>	<p>Not yet due</p>	

Area/Action Step	Implementation Status	Comments
<p>The Department will collect data to determine which children are not enrolled within the time limits and the reasons. The data will be at a level whereby CA can influence and change practices if necessary. This data will be used by the CA to make practice improvements in DCFS and to advocate for system improvements related to the goal; it will be shared with the Panel annually.</p> <p>June 1, 2007</p>		
<p>Goal 2, Outcome 3, Action Step 1 Action Step found on Page 67 Implementation Plan</p> <p>The CA will replicate the 2001 WSIPP study <i>Educational Attainment of Foster Youth: Achievement of Graduation Outcomes for Children in State Care</i> for school-age children in foster care three months or longer in FY2005, with inclusion of WASL performance for 4th, 7th and 10th grades and all other variables in the study. The study may be done by CA following the methods used in the 2001 study, or contracted to WSIPP or another research organization. The study will be replicated every two years over the Settlement.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plan to Panel regarding intent to perform work within DSHS or contract (6/1/06) • First study completed (11/1/08) • Follow-up studies (11/1/08, 12/1/10) 	<p>Compliance plan approved (Panel Decision on Children’s Administration Compliance Plan #2, December 19, 2006)</p>	<p>Actions under compliance plan not yet due</p>
<p>Establish educational outreach positions to assist children in out-of-home care in meeting K–12 educational objectives and preparing for higher education goals.</p> <p>KCF II 15.3.4 (originally 15.1.3) Action Step 6(c)(7) in Settlement</p> <p>Work with Washington Education Foundation to obtain funding and implement the Foster Care to College Partnership plan, which includes establishing six regional educational outreach positions, who will serve as liaisons to assist children (16-18 year olds) in out-of-home care in meeting higher education goals.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. In collaboration with Washington Education Foundation, complete Foster Care to College Partnership proposal (10/04) b. Seek 3-year grant funding (10/04-2/05) c. Based on funding, begin implementation of the Foster Care to College Partnership plan (4/05) d. Report on implementation (9/05) e. Annual evaluation report (completed each year of the 3-year grant funding) (6/06, 6/07, 6/08) 	<p>Compliance plan approved (Panel Decision on Children’s Administration Compliance Plan #2, December 19, 2006)</p>	<p>Actions under compliance plan not yet due</p>

Area/Action Step	Implementation Status	Comments
<p>Offer caregivers training on educational advocacy skills</p> <p>KCF II 15.4.1 (originally 15.1.5) <i>Action Step 6(c)(9) in Settlement</i></p> <p>Develop and distribute educational brochures and/or information packets in collaboration with the education sector (<i>packets to include basic statewide information including: mandatory reporting information, and program descriptions for CA and schools</i>)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> In collaboration with OSPI, develop packet contents (10/04) Consolidate work products developed from HB 1058 workgroups for inclusion in packets (3/05) Customize information to target respective areas (6/05) Revise/draft CA policy to include distribution of material and to clarify roles of youth and caregivers (6/05) Develop plan for distribution of packets to youth, parents, relative caregivers, foster parents, school staff, social workers, and court (9/05) Begin implementation of distribution plan (12/05) 	<p>Complete (Monitoring Report #3, April 17, 2007)</p>	
<p>Develop and implement tutoring and mentoring services, in conjunction with existing community resources, to improve educational outcomes for adolescents in out-of-home care.</p> <p>KCF II 15.2.3 (originally 15.1.2) <i>Action Step 6(c)(10) in Settlement</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Develop roles and responsibilities for educational coordinators (10/05) Hire regional educational coordinators to provide educational advocacy (12/05) Train regional educational coordinators (12/05) Regional coordinators work with community partners to develop regional plans, including existing community resources and tutoring/mentoring programs (9/05) Communicate program to staff, youth, caregivers and community partners (2/06) Implement regional plans (2/06) Initiate quarterly reporting to the field (5/06) 	<p>Compliance plan approved (Communicated to CA in letter from Panel, January 29, 2007)</p>	<p>Actions under compliance plan not yet due</p>
<p>Goal 2, Outcome 3, Action Step 5</p> <p>Action Step found on Page 68 Implementation Plan</p> <p>The Department will collect information on school attendance, truancies, suspensions, and expulsions about youth in foster care in Washington, and will use this information to design and implement practice and system improvements in DCFS and to advocate for system improvements related to this goal.</p> <p>June 1, 2008</p>	<p>Not yet due</p>	
<p>Goal 2, Outcome 3, Action Step 6</p> <p>Action Step found on Page 68 Implementation Plan</p> <p>DCFS will document each child's credit accumulation and Grade</p>	<p>Not yet due</p>	

Area/Action Step	Implementation Status	Comments
<p>Point Average at each placement change and at the end of each school year in conjunction with the annual educational review in the ISSP. When placement changes disrupt credit acquisition, DCFS will work with the releasing and enrolling school districts to develop a plan for the child to complete credits.</p> <p>June 1, 2007</p>		
<p>Goal 2, Outcome 6, Action Step 1</p> <p>Action Step found on Page 70 Implementation Plan</p> <p>The Department of Social and Health Services will establish a joint planning process with its relevant divisions to identify foster children with developmental disabilities and develop individualized transition plans to ensure linkages to appropriate agencies during each child's transition to adulthood.</p> <p>June 1, 2007</p>	Not yet due	
<p>Goal 2, Outcome 6, Action Step 2</p> <p>Action Step found on Page 70 Implementation Plan</p> <p>To help youth prepare for adulthood, DCFS will ensure that each child who is 15 or older takes the Ansell Casey Life Skills Assessment (ACLSA), or a similar assessment tool, and the appropriate supplements for sub-populations. Youth ages 15 or older who remain in custody for more than one year will take the ACLSA annually.</p> <p>January 1, 2007</p>	Not yet due	
<p>Goal 2, Outcome 6, Action Step 3</p> <p>Action Step found on Page 70 Implementation Plan</p> <p>Each youth who is 15 or older will have a written Independent Living-Learning Plan aimed at assisting with the transition to adult life that is prepared with significant involvement by the youth in identifying and selecting options, and can be vetoed by the youth if the plan does not accurately reflect his or her thinking. The plan will be based on ACLSA assessment results and address the strengths and potential of the youth. The plan will be established whether or not the child is enrolled with an ILP contract agency.</p> <p>January 1, 2007</p>	Not yet due	
<p>Goal 2, Outcome 6, Action Step 4</p> <p>Action Step found on Page 70 Implementation Plan</p> <p>For youth 16 or older receiving special education services under the IDEA, the Independent Living-Learning plan will be developed in coordination with the responsible school district in order to coordinate planning and services for successful independence.</p> <p>June 1, 2007</p>	Not yet due	
<p>Goal 2, Outcome 6, Action Step 5</p> <p>Action Step found on Page 71 Implementation Plan</p> <p>The Department will propose strategies to the Panel to result in sufficient capacity of ILP contractors serving youth aged 15 and older</p>	Not yet due	

Area/Action Step	Implementation Status	Comments
<p>so 100% of this population is served.</p> <p>CA proposes strategies: January 1, 2008</p> <p>Strategies implemented: July 1, 2009</p>		
<p>Implement multi-disciplinary staffings for youth six months before exit from foster care.</p> <p>KF C II 10.4.1 (originally 10.1.2) <i>Action Step 6(c)(4) in Settlement</i></p> <p>Additional Panel language: At least 6 months prior to cessation of a child's state benefits for financial, health, or other foster care related services, a multi-disciplinary staffing shall occur. The following topics will be addressed and a written plan recorded in the ISSP: assistance to help the child to maintain or obtain: housing, employment, and/or higher education, health insurance, health records, medical, dental, developmental, mental health and substance abuse services and medication; an established connection with a caring adult who has a long-term interest in the child's well being.</p>	<p>Not yet due</p>	
<p>Offer support services to foster youth until age 21</p> <p>Originally KCF II 10.1.1 <i>Action Step 6(c)(2) in Settlement</i></p> <p>In collaboration with community partners, develop policy regarding discharge from care to enable youth to receive service until they are 21, unless they wish to opt out earlier and include policies requiring youth to be involved in a private or public educational, vocational program or employed to meet the criteria to remain in care. This actions step and following benchmarks are subject to 2005 budget request:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Establish workgroup to develop policy and program recommendations and draft proposed legislation recommendations (10/04 – 12/04) b. Submit draft legislation (12/04) c. Management reviews and approves recommendations (1/05 – 3/05) d. Budget appropriations and legislative decisions. (7/05) e. Complete necessary policy changes (and possible WAC changes) (8/05) f. Provide orientation to staff, caregivers, youth and community partners on policy changes (9/05) g. Implement policy and program changes (9/05 – 2/06) 	<p>Complete (Monitoring Report #3, April 17, 2007)</p>	

Area/Action Step	Implementation Status	Comments
<p>Propose statutory change to extend out-of-home care benefits to children through age 21</p> <p>Originally KCF II 10.1.1 Action Step 6(c)(3) in Settlement</p> <p>In collaboration with community partners, develop policy regarding discharge from care to enable youth to receive service until they are 21, unless they wish to opt out earlier and include policies requiring youth to be involved in a private or public educational, vocational program or employed to meet the criteria to remain in care. This actions step and following benchmarks are subject to 2005 budget request:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Establish workgroup to develop policy and program recommendations and draft proposed legislation recommendations (10/04 – 12/04) b. Submit draft legislation (12/04) c. Management reviews and approves recommendations (1/05 – 3/05) d. Budget appropriations and legislative decisions. (7/05) e. Complete necessary policy changes (and possible WAC changes) (8/05) f. Provide orientation to staff, caregivers, youth and community partners on policy changes (9/05) g. Implement policy and program changes (9/05 – 2/06) 	<p>Complete (first Monitoring Report, March 28, 2006)</p>	
<p>Establish post-guardianship support program</p> <p>Originally KCF II 21.1.3 Action Step 6(c)(5) in Settlement</p> <p>Expand support for kinship care providers to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Develop and implement regional resource centers to provide referrals and facilitate access to services to support post-adoption, permanent kinship families and guardianship providers (Refer to 9.3.1) (12/04) b. Provide crisis and support and other immediate support through implementation of statewide RFP for foster parent support services(Refer to 6.2.7) (01/05) c. Increase access to child specific services through expanded contracted services capacity (subject to budget) (Refer to 11.1.4) (03/06) d. Provide access to pre-service and post-service training provided by the Resource Family Training Institute (Refer to 40.3.1) (5/05) 	<p>Approved compliance plan not complete through performance period ending 12/31/06 (Monitoring Report #3, April 17, 2007)</p>	<p>Compliance plan indicated post-guardianship informational packets would be distributed to caregivers in November 2006; materials have not yet been distributed.</p>

Area/Action Step	Implementation Status	Comments
<p>Develop and implement regional resource centers for post-adoption kinship and post-guardianship families</p> <p>Originally KCF II 10.3.3, appears to be 21.1.3 Action Step 6(c)(6) in Settlement</p> <p>Expand support for kinship care providers to include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Develop and implement regional resource centers to provide referrals and facilitate access to services to support post-adoption, permanent kinship families and guardianship providers (Refer to 9.3.1) Provide crisis and support and other immediate support through implementation of statewide RFP for foster parent support services(Refer to 6.2.7) Increase access to child specific services through expanded contracted services capacity (subject to budget) (Refer to 11.1.4) Provide access to pre-service and post-service training provided by the Resource Family Training Institute (Refer to 40.3.1) 	<p>Refer to 6(c)(5)</p>	<p><i>Action step is operating under compliance plan approved for Action Step 6(c)(5).</i></p>
<p>Goal 3, Outcome 3, Benchmark 1, Action Step 1 Action Step found on Page 73 Implementation Plan</p> <p>The Department shall follow procedures for children who are missing in care that are set forth in DSHS practices and procedure manual #2580. The policy shall be revised to include the following parameters: the social worker shall convene a meeting within three days of the child being reported missing with the purpose of strategizing the most effective means of locating the child and returning them to care. The meeting shall consist of the social worker and supervisor, and persons who know, care about, and may be able to help locate the child; this meeting shall be documented in the file. Weekly meetings are to be held by the social worker and supervisor regarding efforts to help locate the child; these meetings shall also be documented. June 2006</p>	<p>Complete (Second Monitoring Report, September 20, 2006)</p>	
<p>Goal 3, Outcome 3, Benchmark 1, Action Step 2 Action Step found on Page 73 Implementation Plan</p> <p>The Department shall establish a toll free safe line that can be accessed by every child who runs from care. December 31, 2006</p>	<p>Complete (Second Monitoring Report, September 20, 2006)</p>	
<p>Goal 3, Outcome 3, Action Step 3 Action Step found on Page 74 Implementation Plan</p> <p>The Department will maintain information on children in foster care who spend time in juvenile detention facilities and will annually compile information on the number of these children, their lengths of stay in detention facilities, and the reason for the hold. The CA will use this information to design and implement practice and system improvements in DCFS and to advocate for system improvements.</p> <p>Report to Panel (June 1, 2008) Implement improvements (July 1, 2009)</p>	<p>Not yet due</p>	

Area/Action Step	Implementation Status	Comments
<p>The Department will review systemic data and literature on methods and supports to caregivers to decrease running away behaviors in adolescents, and develop and implement strategies to decrease runaway behaviors.</p> <p>(KFC II 19.3.2) by November 2004. <i>Action Step 6(c)(11) in Settlement</i></p> <p>Develop and implement strategies to decrease runaway behaviors in adolescents in out-of-home care</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Review WA data on nature and frequency of adolescent runaway behavior (10/04) Review systemic data and literature on methods and supports to caregivers to decrease running away behaviors in adolescents (11/04) Develop strategies to decrease runaway behavior (4/05) CA Management reviews and approves specific strategies for piloting (5/05) Pilot selected strategies in at least 2 sites with highest incidence of runaway behavior (9/05) Evaluate pilots (12/05) Review and revise strategies based on evaluation of data (1/06) Begin implementation of strategies statewide (3/06) Complete implementation (3/07) 	<p>Complete (Second Monitoring Report, September 20, 2006)</p>	
<p>Goal 3, Outcome 3, Action Step 5</p> <p>Action Step found on Page 74 Implementation Plan</p> <p>The Department will review policies and approaches recommended by national organizations such as the Child Welfare League and the National Center on Missing and Exploited Children regarding cross-system collaboration with law enforcement representatives concerning children missing from care.</p> <p><i>June 1, 2006</i></p>	<p>Complete (Panel Decision on Children’s Administration Compliance Plan #2, December 19, 2006)</p>	
<p>Goal 3, Outcome 3, Action Step 6</p> <p>Action Step found on Page 74 Implementation Plan</p> <p>The Department will negotiate written agreements with law enforcement agencies to work cooperatively to identify and promptly pick up foster care children who have run from their placement.</p> <p><i>June 1, 2008</i></p>	<p>Not yet due</p>	
<p>Complete implementation plan for 2003 legislation to increase educational stability of foster children (HB 1058). Complete and implement agreements with school districts, addressing transportation issues for children transferring schools upon placement or move between placements.</p> <p>KCF II 15.3.1, 15.3.2, 15.3.3 (originally 15.1.4) <i>Action Step 1(c)(5) in Settlement</i></p> <p>15.3.1 In collaboration with partners, develop interagency working agreements between OSPI and CA to include protocols for effective information sharing and service planning for</p>	<p>Complete through performance period ending December 31, 2006 (Monitoring Report #3, April 17, 2007)</p>	<p>In order to consider this action step complete, Panel will require documentation that regional summits were held.</p>

Area/Action Step	Implementation Status	Comments
<p>children in care</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Statewide MOU between OSPI and CA signed (07/04) b. Conduct statewide summit to bring together regions with local school districts to get acquainted, build awareness, plan for regional meetings, and outline steps that will lead to a MOU between DCFS and local school districts (10/04) c. Each region completes agreements with 3-6 local school districts and report to HQ including basic elements of statewide MOU and address specifics such as transportation issues for children changing placements or transferring to other schools (7/05) d. Complete protocols with 30% of school districts within two years (7/06) <p>15.3.2 In collaboration with OSPI and local schools conduct regional Educational Achievement Summits</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Regional representatives attend statewide summit and regional breakout groups begin to plan region summits (10/04) b. Regions develop collaborative planning workgroups with local districts (6/05) c. Develop training and communication plan for staff in region and local school districts (9/05) <p>15.3.3 Implement regional and statewide information and referral liaisons</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Regions identify Education leads (10/04) b. Provide regional and/or office contacts in local agreements (12/04) c. Establish protocols in local agreements (6/05) d. Communicate with staff regarding identified contracts and local agreements (6/05) 		

PART II: MONITORING REPORT ON OUTCOMES & BENCHMARKS

The Braam Implementation Plan established benchmarks for each outcome, identifying specific levels of performance to be achieved in each fiscal year. In this report, the Panel has assessed whether the FY06 (July 1, 2005- June 30, 2006) performance for each outcome has reached the FY06 benchmark identified in the Implementation Plan. This report also provides an overview of outcomes for which benchmark data are not yet due.

Data sources

Technical assistance and discussion among the parties regarding data definitions are ongoing. Members and staff of the Panel as well as research staff from the Washington State Institute for Public Policy have provided technical assistance to the Department on development of data reports. As reports are developed and reviewed, the Panel reserves the right, in discussion with the parties and stakeholders, to revise data definitions to develop measures that more accurately and sensitively measure performance with respect to the Panel's selected outcomes. Further discussion of measurement issues will occur in collaboration with the Department and with substantial input from the plaintiffs and other stakeholders. This discussion will also address issues related to interpretation of the benchmarks set forth in the Panel's Implementation Plan and potential adjustments to these benchmarks.

Data are provided in the appendix for 15 of the 52 outcomes identified in the Panel's Implementation Plan. These reports are derived from administrative data from the DSHS Children's Administration. For the remaining outcomes, data sources will include administrative data from Children's Administration and other state agencies, sample case reviews, and surveys. Some data, including data for outcomes linked to the foster parent survey, will be provided in the Panel's September 2007 Monitoring Report. Additional data will be available in 2008 reports. Further details on data development efforts can be found in an appendix provided by the Department (*to be added to this document in early May 2007*).

Timeframes

The Panel's Implementation Plan, which set forth specific performance expectations for the Department, was published in February 2006. For many outcomes, the Implementation Plan identified FY05 (July 1, 2004- June 30, 2005) as the baseline year, and established enforceable benchmarks beginning in FY06 (July 1, 2005- June 30, 2006). While it should be noted that the Implementation Plan was not finalized until more than halfway through FY06 (the benchmark period being assessed in this report), the Panel also notes that the Braam Agreement was reached in 2004 and the Panel's Implementation Plan was developed in collaboration with the Department and with substantial input from the plaintiffs and other stakeholders. As a result, the parties were aware significantly earlier than February 2006 of what types of outcomes and benchmarks would be included in the Implementation Plan.

Monitoring Approach and Findings

The Settlement Agreement calls on the Panel to "monitor the Department's compliance with the specific Outcomes, Benchmarks, and Action Steps identified" in the Agreement or as part of its implementation and "to publish a report to the public and to the parties every six months of the Department's progress and including specific findings on the Department's compliance with the provisions" of the Agreement (settlement agreement, section III, 5e-f). In carrying out its monitoring responsibility in the area of outcomes and benchmarks, the Panel has sought to use language consistent with the compliance terminology used in settlement agreement. As such, consistent with the agreement's terminology in section V, part 1, the Panel has reviewed outcomes and benchmarks and made determinations regarding whether the Department has *reached* or *failed to reach the annual benchmarks*.

Based on this approach, on the following pages, each outcome in the Implementation Plan is classified into one of the following status categories:

- *Reached annual benchmark*- There are no outcomes for which FY06 benchmarks have been reached.
- *Failed to reach annual benchmark (compliance plan required)*- For 28 outcomes, the Panel has concluded that the Department has failed to reach the FY06 benchmarks set forth in the Implementation Plan. Pursuant to the settlement agreement, compliance plans are required in these areas. These compliance plans should address the provision of data (where applicable), as well as steps to be taken to ensure the benchmark is reached.
 - For 11 of these outcomes, data have been provided and are discussed on the following pages and attached in the appendix. For these outcomes, data shows that the FY06 level of performance failed to reach the FY06 benchmark set forth in the Implementation Plan.
 - For 17 of these outcomes, the Department has indicated that they have made efforts to develop data sources but they have not yet provided sufficient information to enable the Panel to accurately track compliance with the benchmark as required under the settlement agreement (settlement agreement, section III, 5f). Absent data demonstrating that the benchmarks have been reached, the Panel concludes that the Department has not met annual benchmarks in these areas.
- *Benchmark data not yet due*- For 14 outcomes, benchmark data requiring a specific level of performance relative to a benchmark are not yet due to the Panel according to the timelines set forth in the Implementation Plan.
 - For 2 of these outcomes, data have been provided to the Panel, but a specific level of performance relative to a benchmark is not yet due according to the timelines set forth in the Implementation Plan.
 - For 3 of these outcomes, baseline data is past due to the Panel. However, because no performance benchmark deadline has yet been missed, these outcomes are categorized as not yet due.⁹
 - For the remaining 9 outcomes, baseline and benchmark data are not yet due and have not been provided.
- *Benchmark measurement under review*- For 10 outcomes, the Panel has concluded that additional discussion is needed to develop data definitions that accurately track the outcome. For 2 of these outcomes, data have been provided; however, due to the need for additional discussion of the measurement, the Panel has not made an assessment regarding whether the benchmark was reached.

⁹ For example, see benchmark E 2.1.1, page 55. For this outcome, baseline data showing initial performance were due, but not provided, during the period covered by this Monitoring Report (prior to December 31, 2006). However, an enforceable benchmark was not due during this period. As a result, this outcome is categorized as “benchmark data not yet due.”

Summary- Status of outcomes/ benchmarks by area of the settlement agreement

	Placement Stability	Mental Health	Foster Parent Training	Unsafe/ Inappropriate Placements	Sibling Separation	Adolescents	<i>total</i>
Reached annual benchmark							<i>0</i>
Failed to reach annual benchmark (compliance plan required)*	2	15		4		7	28
Benchmark data not yet due	1	2	4		3	4	14
Benchmark measurement under review	2	5	1	2			10
<i>Total</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>22</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>52</i>

* On the following pages, 17 of the outcomes categorized as “failed to reach annual benchmarks” are marked with an asterisk, corresponding to a footnote with additional explanation. For these outcomes, the Department has indicated that they have made efforts to develop data sources, but they have not yet provided sufficient information to enable the Panel to accurately track compliance with the benchmark as required under the settlement agreement (settlement agreement, section III, 5f). Absent data demonstrating that the benchmarks have been reached, the Panel concludes that the Department has not met annual benchmarks in these areas.

PLACEMENT STABILITY- STATUS REPORT ON OUTCOMES DATA

Outcomes for which data have been provided

A 1.1.1- Foster home recruitment

Average monthly number of licensed relative and non-relative beds in active foster homes by region and for the state as a whole. Additional baseline reports will be generated for each of the following categories: 1) Unlicensed relative caregivers; 2) Racial/ethnic identification of principal caregiver; 3) Caregivers with preferences/required equipment for specific age groups; 4) (infant, child, adolescent); and 5) Level of care: regular family foster care, enhanced family foster care, therapeutic foster care, congregate care, respite care.

Appendix Page: 1	FY05 Baseline: 12,943	FY06 Benchmark: 10% Increase= 14,237	FY06 Actual Performance: 12, 783
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Status: Benchmark measurement under review

Further work is needed on this measure to relate measure to number of children in need of foster home placement, revise definition of "active" foster home and better define needed capacity. Until measure is more appropriately defined, Panel will not make determination regarding whether the benchmark was reached.

A 1.3.1 Foster home retention

Average number of years that licensed non-relative caregiver homes providing family foster care are active. The baseline will be set by region and for the state as a whole. An additional report will establish baselines by the race/ethnicity of the principal caregivers.

Appendix Page: 4	FY05 Baseline: 4.95 years	FY06 Benchmark: .25 year= 5.20	FY06 Actual Performance: 5.04 years
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Status: Benchmark measurement under review

Additional discussion is needed to more appropriately define this measure, including possible shift to cohort analysis and change in definition of active foster home. Until measure is revised, Panel will not make determination regarding whether the benchmark was reached.

A 1.4.1 Placement stability

Percentage of the children who have experienced three or more placements during their current out-of-home episode of care, (not including respite care, hospital stays, first placement with siblings or first placement with relative caregivers) by region and for the state as a whole. A separate benchmark will be established if the percentage of children who experience three or more placements during their current out-of-home episode of care differs significantly between any of the five racial/ethnic categories for children in the class.

Appendix Page: 5	FY05 Baseline- by time in care cohorts: < 12 months: 11.0% 1-2 yrs: 18.6% 2-3 yrs: 30.1% 3-4 yrs: 42.3% > 4 yrs: 62.3%	FY06 Benchmark: by time in care cohorts- decrease by 10%: < 12 months: 9.9% 1-2 yrs: 16.7% 2-3 yrs: 27.1% 3-4 yrs: 38.1% > 4 yrs: 56.1%	FY06 Actual Performance: by time in care cohorts: < 12 months: 12.3% 1-2 yrs: 18.7% 2-3 yrs: 27.1% 3-4 yrs: 41.3% > 4 yrs: 60.9%
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Status: Failed to reach annual benchmark- compliance plan required

Note that data above are shown as a measure of instability (% of children with 3 or more placements), as required by the benchmark. Data in appendix are shown in terms of stability (% of children with less than 3 placements).

There is ongoing discussion of approach to and analysis of this measure. Panel intends to create composite to assess overall compliance, in lieu of separate benchmarks for each cohort. Additional revisions to measure may include changes in definition of excluded placement. Despite potential changes, Panel believes there is adequate information to conclude that the FY06 performance failed to reach the FY06 benchmark.

Data are not yet available for the following outcomes:

Benchmark	Benchmark Explanation	Status	Comments on Data Availability
A.1.5.1	Percentage of children in custody for at least 30 days for whom there is evidence that the initial placement was based on needs of the child and the capacity of the placement to meet those needs, by region and for the state as a whole. <i>Implementation Plan expectation: Baseline FY05; 15% increase FY06</i>	Failed to reach annual benchmark* Compliance plan required	Baseline and performance data due in 2006; not provided. Panel notes operational challenges with case review. Panel and CA have agreed that CA will submit proposal regarding case review data collection by March 31, 2007.
A.1.6.1	Percentage of children with placement changes while in custody for at least 30 days, for whom there is evidence that replacement decisions were based on the needs of the child and the capacity of the placement to meet those needs. <i>Implementation Plan expectation: Baseline FY07</i>	Benchmark data not yet due	Baseline data due November 2007; performance data due November 2008. Data to be obtained through case review process.

* For these outcomes, the Department has indicated that they have made efforts to develop data sources, but they have not yet provided sufficient information to enable the Panel to accurately track compliance with the benchmark as required under the settlement agreement (settlement agreement, section III, 5f). Absent data demonstrating that the benchmarks have been reached, the Panel concludes that the Department has not met annual benchmarks in these areas.

MENTAL HEALTH- STATUS REPORT ON OUTCOMES DATA

Outcomes for which data have been provided

B 1.2.1 CHET Screen within 30 days of entry to care

Percentage of children in out-of-home care 30 days or longer who have completed and documented Child Health and Education Track (CHET) screens within 30 days of entering care.			
Appendix Page: 7	FY05 Baseline: 21.8%	FY06 Benchmark: 90%	FY06 Actual Performance: 29.5%
<p>Status: Failed to reach annual benchmark- compliance plan required CA has requested consideration of excluding children for whom there is a valid reason the CHET was not completed. Panel may consider a revised approach to the data definition, but does not believe there is any foreseeable change in definition that would alter the determination by the Panel that FY06 performance on this outcome failed to reach the FY06 benchmark.</p>			

B 1.2.2 EPSDT in 30 days

Percentage of children in out-of-home care who have EPSDT exams completed within 30 days of entering care.			
Appendix Page: 8	FY05 Baseline: 35.6%	FY06 Benchmark: 90%	FY06 Actual Performance: 36.2%
<p>Status: Failed to reach annual benchmark- compliance plan required CA has suggested that this may be an underestimate. However, no further data has been provided. Based on the best available data, Panel finds that FY06 performance on this outcome failed to reach the FY06 benchmark.</p>			

B 3.1.1 MH assessment within 45 days of placement

Percentage of children entering out-of-home care, who are identified by the CHET screening as needing a comprehensive mental health assessment, who receive one within 45 calendar days of entering care.			
Appendix Page: 10	FY05 Baseline: 22.4%	FY06 Benchmark: 90%	FY06 Actual Performance: 25.0%
<p>Status: Failed to reach annual benchmark- compliance plan required Several issues have been raised related to this outcome, including the pool of children counted in this measure. In addition, the Panel has approved a change in the outcome to examine assessments within 50 days, rather than 45 days, of placement. Panel may consider a revised approach to the data definition, but does not believe there is any foreseeable change in definition that would alter the determination by the Panel that FY06 performance failed to reach the FY06 benchmark.</p>			

B 3.1.5 Screened every 12 months- Annual EPSDT

Percentage of children in out-of-home care who are screened for mental health needs every 12 months			
Appendix Page: 11	FY05 Baseline: 2.4%	FY06 Benchmark: 90%	FY06 Actual Performance: 2.0%
<p>Status: Failed to reach annual benchmark- compliance plan required CA has suggested that this may be an underestimate. However, no further data has been provided. Based on the best available data, Panel finds that FY06 performance on this outcome failed to reach the FY06 benchmark.</p>			

B 3.2.1 Mental health service within 30 days of assessment

Percentage of children in out-of-home care who receive recommended services from a qualified mental health and/or substance abuse service provider within 30 days of the completion of an assessment recommending services.			
Appendix Page: 12	FY05 Baseline: 80.0%	FY06 Benchmark: 90%	FY06 Actual Performance: 77.3%
<p>Status: Failed to reach annual benchmark- compliance plan required Several issues have been raised related to this measure, including concern that it does not take “recommended” services into account. Based on the best available data, Panel finds that FY06 performance on this failed to reach the FY06 benchmark.</p>			

Data are not yet available for the following outcomes:

Benchmark	Benchmark description	Status	Comments on Data Availability
B.1.1.1	Children entering out-of-home care will have initial health screening within 72 hours of entering care. <i>Implementation Plan expectation: Baseline FY08</i>	Benchmark data not yet due	Baseline data due November 2008; performance data due November 2009.
B.1.2.3	Within 60 days of entering care, CA will conduct a Shared Planning Meeting (see Glossary) that focuses on the CHET screening results. <i>Implementation Plan expectation: Baseline FY05; 90% achieved in FY06</i>	Failed to reach annual benchmark*	Baseline and performance data due in 2006; not provided.
B.1.2.4	Children age 12 and above will attend the Shared Planning Meetings that focus on their CHET screening results. <i>Implementation Plan expectation: Baseline FY05; 90% achieved in FY06</i>	Compliance plan required	CA has outlined plan to begin collection of data on shared planning meetings in April 2007; data to be provided to the Panel in November 2007.
B.1.2.5	The CHET Shared Planning Meeting, held within 60 days of each child entering care, will be attended by one or more of the following: caregivers, birth parents/legal guardians, tribal representatives (when applicable), and children’s representatives. <i>Implementation Plan expectation: Baseline FY05; 95% achieved in FY06</i>		

* For these outcomes, the Department has indicated that they have made efforts to develop data sources, but they have not yet provided sufficient information to enable the Panel to accurately track compliance with the benchmark as required under the settlement agreement (settlement agreement, section III, 5f). Absent data demonstrating that the benchmarks have been reached, the Panel concludes that the Department has not met annual benchmarks in these areas.

B.1.2.6	Caregivers, birth parents, tribal representatives (when applicable), mental health and/or substance abuse providers (when applicable), and children's representatives will each be provided a copy of the CHET screening report and recommendations from the Shared Planning Meeting. <i>Implementation Plan expectation: Baseline FY05; 90% achieved in FY06</i>		
B.1.2.7	Children under age three, identified with concerns about developmental delays in the CHET screening, will be referred to the Infant Toddler Early Intervention Program (ITEIP) within 2 workdays. <i>Implementation Plan expectation: Baseline FY05; 90% achieved in FY06</i>	Failed to reach annual benchmark* Compliance plan required	Baseline and performance data due in 2006; not provided. CA has not provided specific plan for collection of data.
B.2.1.1	Children will have documented health and education plans in their ISSPs within 60 days of placement. (Baseline FY05) <i>Implementation Plan expectation: Baseline FY05; 90% achieved in FY06</i>	Failed to reach annual benchmark* Compliance plan required	Baseline and performance data due in 2006; not provided. Panel notes operational challenges with case review. Panel and CA have agreed that CA will submit proposal regarding case review data collection by March 31, 2007.
B.2.1.2	CA will update health and education plans every six months. These plans will be discussed/shared with caregivers, birth parents, tribal representatives (when applicable), children over age 12, and children's representatives, except when this would be in conflict with existing state law. This exception will be noted in the child's ISSP. <i>Implementation Plan expectation: Baseline FY05; 90% achieved in FY06</i>	Failed to reach annual benchmark* Compliance plan required	Baseline and performance data due in 2006; not provided. Panel notes operational challenges with case review. Panel and CA have agreed that CA will submit proposal regarding case review data collection by March 31, 2007.
B.3.1.2	Comprehensive mental health assessments for children already in placement will be provided within 30 days of a request for an assessment. <i>Implementation Plan expectation: Baseline FY05; 90% achieved in FY06</i>	Failed to reach annual benchmark* Compliance plan required	Baseline and performance data due in 2006; not provided. CA/ MHD have indicated that data collection will begin in July 2007.

* For these outcomes, the Department has indicated that they have made efforts to develop data sources, but they have not yet provided sufficient information to enable the Panel to accurately track compliance with the benchmark as required under the settlement agreement (settlement agreement, section III, 5f). Absent data demonstrating that the benchmarks have been reached, the Panel concludes that the Department has not met annual benchmarks in these areas.

B.3.1.3	Children with emergent needs will be seen for crisis intervention with relevant assessment within 2 hours of the initial contact and request for intervention. <i>Implementation Plan expectation: 90% achieved in FY06</i>	Benchmark measurement under review	Panel and parties have agreed to modify outcome to examine percentage of children for whom mental health crisis services are requested who receive those services on the same or next business day. CA/ MHD have indicated that data collection for revised outcome will begin in July 2007. Panel to craft benchmark for revised outcome.
B.3.1.4	Children with urgent needs will be seen for crisis intervention with relevant assessment within 24 hours of the initial contact and request for intervention. <i>Implementation Plan expectation: 90% achieved in FY06</i>		
B.3.1.6	Screening and assessment results will be provided every 12 months to the following persons: parents, caregivers, tribal representatives (when applicable), children's representatives, and children over 12, except when expressly limited by existing state law or a child's lawful assertion of confidentiality. This exception will be noted in the child's ISSP. <i>Implementation Plan expectation: Baseline FY05; 90% achieved in FY06</i>	Failed to reach annual benchmark* Compliance plan required	Baseline and performance data due in 2006; not provided.
B.3.2.2	Children with emergent or urgent needs (due to mental health and/or substance use disorder) will be served within the timeframes indicated in their assessments. <i>Implementation Plan expectation: Baseline FY05; 90% achieved in FY06</i>	Benchmark measurement under review	Panel and parties have agreed to modify outcome to examine percentage of children for whom mental health crisis services are requested who receive those services on the same or next business day. CA/ MHD have indicated that data collection for revised outcome will begin in July 2007. Panel to craft benchmark for revised outcome.
B.3.2.3	Children experiencing a crisis (mental health or substance use disorder) will receive crisis intervention services. <i>Implementation Plan expectation: Baseline FY05; 90% achieved in FY06</i>		
B.3.2.4	Clinical staffings will be held by the RSN and DCFS to develop an appropriate alternative plan and services for any child who is denied an assessment or treatment	Failed to reach annual benchmark*	Baseline and performance data due in 2006; not provided.

* For these outcomes, the Department has indicated that they have made efforts to develop data sources, but they have not yet provided sufficient information to enable the Panel to accurately track compliance with the benchmark as required under the settlement agreement (settlement agreement, section III, 5f). Absent data demonstrating that the benchmarks have been reached, the Panel concludes that the Department has not met annual benchmarks in these areas.

	services by community-based mental health and/or substance abuse service providers. <i>Implementation Plan expectation: Baseline FY05; 90% achieved in FY06</i>	Compliance plan required	
B.3.3.1	The quality and service level for children from diverse racial and ethnic backgrounds will increase yearly by region and for the state as a whole. <i>Implementation Plan expectation: Baseline FY08</i>	Benchmark data not yet due	Baseline data due June 2008; performance data due November 2009. CA will examine other benchmarks in mental health section by race/ethnicity.
B.4.1.1	Each child will receive behavioral health services from the same individual provider. <i>Implementation Plan expectation: Baseline FY06</i>	Benchmark measurement under review	

FOSTER PARENT TRAINING AND INFORMATION- STATUS REPORT ON OUTCOMES DATA

Data are not yet available for the following outcomes:

Benchmark	Benchmark description	Status	Comments on Data Availability
C.1.1.1	Percentage of licensed relative and non-relative caregivers reporting adequate training for their role responsibilities, by region and for the state as a whole. <i>Implementation Plan expectation: Baseline FY07</i>	Benchmark data not yet due	Baseline data due June 2007; performance data due November 2008 Foster parent survey
C.1.2.1	Percentage of licensed relative and non-relative caregivers reporting adequate support for their role responsibilities, by region and for the state as a whole. <i>Implementation Plan expectation: Baseline FY07</i>		
C.1.3.1	Percentage of licensed relative and non-relative caregivers reporting adequate provision of information about the needs of children placed with them, by region and for the state as a whole. <i>Implementation Plan expectation: Baseline FY07</i>		
C.2.2.1	Percentage of licensed relative and non-relative caregivers reporting receiving an annual assessment and development plan, by region and for the state as a whole. <i>Implementation Plan expectation: Baseline FY07</i>		
C.2.1.1	Percentage of foster parents completing 36 hours of in-service training for each three-year period. Baseline reports for the monitoring period will include separate tabulations for foster and relative caregivers, licensed and unlicensed caregivers <i>Implementation Plan expectation: Baseline FY05; 10% increase in FY06</i>		

UNSAFE/ INAPPROPRIATE PLACEMENT- STATUS REPORT ON OUTCOMES DATA

Data are not yet available for the following outcomes:

Benchmark	Benchmark description	Status	Comments on Data Availability
D.1.1.1	Percentage (and absolute number) of children placed in prohibited settings, by region and for the state as a whole. <i>Implementation Plan expectation: Baseline FY05; 90% decrease in FY06</i>	Failed to reach annual benchmark* Compliance plan required	Partial FY05 baseline data provided. FY06 data due; not provided
D.1.2.1	Percentage (and absolute number) of children who have overnight stays at DSHS offices or in apartments or hotels (unless an appropriate licensed foster family or relative caregiver is not available and only with administrative approval and a determination that adequate supervision is provided for the child as indicated in the Department's October 10, 2004 memo to CA staff, or youth with Independent Living Plans authorizing such placement), by region and for the state as a whole. <i>Implementation Plan expectation: Baseline FY05; 50% decrease in FY06</i>	Failed to reach annual benchmark* Compliance plan required	Baseline and performance data due in 2006; not provided. CA has indicated that these data are now being tracked.
D.1.3.1	Percentage (and absolute number) of children (with a history of sexually aggressive or physically assaultive behavior with other children) where the protective measures in the Department's October 10, 2004 memo are not met in each placement decision or fully documented. The baseline will be set by region and for the state as a whole. <i>Implementation Plan expectation: Baseline FY05; 95% decrease in FY06</i>	Benchmark measurement under review	Decision rules for foster parent survey to be developed.
D.1.4.1	Percentage of medically fragile children connected to appropriate and ongoing medical care and placed with caregivers who receive consultation and training regarding their caretaking responsibilities	Benchmark measurement under review	Decision rules for foster parent survey to be developed.

* For these outcomes, the Department has indicated that they have made efforts to develop data sources, but they have not yet provided sufficient information to enable the Panel to accurately track compliance with the benchmark as required under the settlement agreement (settlement agreement, section III, 5f). Absent data demonstrating that the benchmarks have been reached, the Panel concludes that the Department has not met annual benchmarks in these areas.

	for the medical condition, by region and for the state as a whole. <i>Implementation Plan expectation: Baseline FY05; 25% decrease in FY06</i>		
D.1.5.1	Percentage of children receiving a private and individual face-to-face visit from the caseworker for each full placement month, by region and for the state as a whole. <i>Implementation Plan expectation: Baseline FY05; 75% achievement in FY06</i>	Failed to reach annual benchmark * Compliance plan required	Baseline and performance data due in 2006; not provided. CA has not provided acceptable plan for data collection.
D.2.2.1	Percentage of referrals alleging child abuse and neglect of children in out-of-home care that received thorough investigation within CA policy timelines and with required documentation by the Division of Licensing Resources, including safety assessment and safety planning, by region and for the state as a whole. Summary annual reports to the Panel will include: 1) characteristics of the alleged victimization (e.g., age, gender, perpetrator, type of out-of-home setting), 2) outcomes of the investigation (e.g., time from referral to completion of investigation, including any removal action or licensing decisions) by region and for the state as a whole. <i>Implementation Plan expectation: Baseline FY05; 100% achievement in FY06</i>	Failed to reach annual benchmark * Compliance plan required	Baseline and performance data due in 2006; not provided. Panel notes operational challenges with case review. Panel and CA have agreed that CA will submit proposal regarding case review data collection by March 31, 2007. Summary annual reports provided (appendix p. 14)

* For these outcomes, the Department has indicated that they have made efforts to develop data sources, but they have not yet provided sufficient information to enable the Panel to accurately track compliance with the benchmark as required under the settlement agreement (settlement agreement, section III, 5f). Absent data demonstrating that the benchmarks have been reached, the Panel concludes that the Department has not met annual benchmarks in these areas.

SIBLING SEPARATION- STATUS REPORT ON OUTCOMES DATA

Outcomes for which data have been provided

Although data are provided in these areas, the Implementation Plan requires baseline data in FY06 and performance data are not required until FY07. Therefore, these outcomes are categorized as *benchmark data not yet due*.

E 1.1.1 Some or all siblings placed together

Percentage of children in the class placed with any siblings for children placed in regular licensed relative and non-relative foster care, for the state as a whole and for each of the six regions. An additional baseline report will be generated for race/ethnicity of principal caregiver.

Appendix Page: 17	FY05 Performance (<i>informational</i>): 75% FY06 Baseline: 72%
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E 1.1.1 All siblings placed together

Percentage of children in the class placed with all siblings, for children placed in regular licensed relative and non-relative foster care, for the state as a whole and for each of the six regions. An additional baseline report will be generated for race/ethnicity of principal caregiver.

Appendix Page: 18	FY05 Performance (<i>informational</i>): 55% FY06 Baseline: 53.8%
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Data are not yet available for the following outcomes:

Benchmark	Benchmark description	Status	Comments on Data Availability
E.2.1.1	Percentage of children placed apart from their siblings who have two or more monthly visits or contacts (not including staffing meetings or court events) with some or all of their siblings, by region and for the state as a whole. <i>Implementation Plan expectation: Baseline FY06; 10% increase in FY07</i>	Benchmark data not yet due	Baseline data due November 2006; not provided. Performance data due November 2007. Foster parent survey

SERVICES TO ADOLESCENTS- STATUS REPORT ON OUTCOMES DATA

Outcomes for which data have been provided

F 3.1.1 Runaway—from any placement

Percentage of children who ran from out-of-home care placements during 2005.			
Appendix Page: 19	FY05 Baseline: 4%	FY06 Benchmark: Decrease by 20%- 3.2%	FY06 Actual Performance: 4.1%
<p>Status: Failed to reach annual benchmark- compliance plan required CA has requested consideration of changes to measure definition. Panel may consider changes. However, based on the best available data, Panel finds that FY06 performance on this outcome failed to reach the FY06 benchmark.</p>			

F 3.1.1 Runaway—from placement during current episode

Percentage of children who ran from their current episode in out-of-home care.			
Appendix Page: 19	FY05 Baseline: 6.4%	FY06 Benchmark: Decrease by 20%- 5.1%	FY06 Actual Performance: 6.5%
<p>Status: Failed to reach annual benchmark- compliance plan required CA has requested consideration of changes to measure definition. Panel may consider changes. However, based on the best available data, Panel finds that FY06 performance on this outcome failed to reach the FY06 benchmark.</p>			

F 3.2.1 Runaway— 2 or more times

Percentage of children who run from out-of-home care placements two or more times during their current episode in out-of-home care.			
Appendix Page: 20	FY05 Baseline: 3.8%	FY06 Benchmark: Decrease by 20%- 3.04%	FY06 Actual Performance: 3.9%
<p>Status: Failed to reach annual benchmark - compliance plan required CA has requested consideration of changes to measure definition. Panel may consider changes. However, based on the best available data, Panel finds that FY06 performance on this outcome failed to reach the FY06 benchmark.</p>			

F 3.3.1 Runaway— mean number of days on the run

Average number of days for children who run from out-of-home care placements during their current episode in out-of-home care			
Appendix Page: 21	FY05 Baseline: 126	FY06 Benchmark: Decrease by 20%= 101	FY06 Actual Performance: 126
<p>Status: Failed to reach annual benchmark - compliance plan required CA has requested consideration of changes to measure definition. Panel may consider changes. However, based on the best available data, Panel finds that FY06 performance on this outcome failed to reach the FY06 benchmark.</p>			

F 3.3.1 Runaway— median number of days on the run

Median number of days for children who run from out-of-home care placements during their current episode in out-of-home care.			
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Appendix Page: 21	FY05 Baseline: 43	FY06 Benchmark: Decrease by 20%= 34	FY06 Actual Performance: 42
<p>Status: Failed to reach annual benchmark - compliance plan required CA has requested consideration of changes to measure definition. Panel may consider changes. However, based on the best available data, Panel finds that FY06 performance on this outcome failed to reach the FY06 benchmark.</p>			

Data are not yet available for the following outcomes:

Benchmark	Benchmark description	Status	Comments on Data Availability
F.2.1.1	Percentage of school-age children enrolled in or attending school within three school days of entering care or changing placements. <i>Implementation Plan expectation: Baseline FY05; 10% increase in FY06</i>	Failed to reach annual benchmark * Compliance plan required	Baseline and performance data due in 2006; not provided. CA has not provided specific plan to provide data.
F.2.2.1	Percentage of school aged children whose placement allowed them to remain enrolled in the same school they were attending when they entered foster care. <i>Implementation Plan expectation: Baseline FY05; 10% increase in FY06</i>	Failed to reach annual benchmark * Compliance plan required	Baseline and performance data due in 2006; not provided. CA has not provided specific plan to provide data.
F.2.3.1	Foster children will be at the age-appropriate grade, consistent with their developmental and or cognitive abilities, or making substantial progress in that direction <i>Implementation Plan expectation: Baseline FY05; Significant increase in FY10</i>	Benchmark data not yet due	Baseline data due June 2006; not provided. Performance data due November 2010.
F.2.4.1	Percentage of youth with a high school diploma (adjusted for developmental level and socio-demographic characteristics). A comparable percentage of school-age children in the general population with a high school diploma will be determined, with an analysis of differences (adjusted for developmental level and socio-demographic characteristics by region). <i>Implementation Plan expectation: Baseline FY07; 10% increase in FY08</i>	Benchmark data not yet due	Baseline data due November 2007; performance data due November 2008.

* For these outcomes, the Department has indicated that they have made efforts to develop data sources, but they have not yet provided sufficient information to enable the Panel to accurately track compliance with the benchmark as required under the settlement agreement (settlement agreement, section III, 5f). Absent data demonstrating that the benchmarks have been reached, the Panel concludes that the Department has not met annual benchmarks in these areas.

F.2.5.1	<p>Percentage of youth with a GED and the percentage of youth in the state's general population who receive GEDs (adjusted for developmental level, and socio-demographic characteristics).</p> <p><i>Implementation Plan expectation:</i> <i>Baseline FY07; 10% increase in FY08</i></p>	Benchmark data not yet due	Baseline data due November 2007; performance data due November 2008.
F.2.6.1	<p>Percentage of youth who are 15 years of age and older and have received or are receiving the age-appropriate services in preparation for independent living; to include the following at a minimum: Ansell Casey Life Skills Assessment yearly, Independent Living-Learning Plan updated yearly and coordinated with responsible school district if the youth is receiving special education services, and multi-disciplinary staffings for youth six months before exit. Reports will include comparisons by racial/ethnic group.</p> <p><i>Implementation Plan expectation:</i> <i>Baseline FY06; 10% increase in FY07</i></p>	Benchmark data not yet due	Baseline data due June 2006; not provided. Performance data due November 2007.