



## Opportunities to Involve Treatment Professionals during the Three Phases of the Child and Family Services Reviews (CFSR) Process

The Child and Family Services Reviews (CFSR) evaluate the effectiveness of the entire child welfare delivery system, including other systems such as mental health agencies, the court system, and substance abuse treatment providers to ensure positive outcomes for children and their families. To assist with these cross-systems efforts, the following list provides examples of ways for Treatment Professionals and their Child Welfare Counterparts to work together through the CFSR Process.

### Phase One: Statewide Assessment

- Develop working relationships between Treatment and Child Welfare counterparts.
- Invite treatment professionals to participate as a member of the Statewide Assessment Team
- Invite treatment professionals to review the Statewide Assessment draft report and look for ways to contribute to its development
- Identify substance abuse related data for the Statewide Assessment

For Example:

- AFCARS number for alcohol-related removals
- AFCARS number for drug-related removal
- Number for pregnant women enrolled in treatment
- Number for women in treatment
- Any available CAPTA number on 0-2 substantiated cases referred for developmental assessment and services received as a result
- Any available data on reunifications or recurrence linked directly to cases in which parents were positively screened for substance abuse issues, referred to treatment, entered treatment, and were successfully discharged—compared with no treatment cases and general caseload
- Any available SACWIS data on substance abuse identified as a factor in the case
- State-specific data on total treatment admissions and child abuse/neglect
- Data on parental status and number of children of adults entering treatment
- PRAMS data on prenatal substance use
- CAPTA number on drug-affected births reported to CPS

### Phase Two: Onsite Review

- Invite treatment professionals to serve on a review team to help review cases and conduct interviews
- Invite treatment providers and State Substance Abuse Treatment staff to be interviewed during stakeholder interviews conducted at each review site

### Phase Three: Program Improvement Plan

Invite treatment professionals to:

- Participate in the development of PIP strategies and action steps that will improve outcomes for families with substance use disorders
- Partner with child welfare to reach agreements on how much child welfare outcomes would be affected by improved access to timely, effective treatment
- Commit to an interagency group that reviews the PIP annually
- Participate in any data monitoring and action between the child welfare and substance abuse systems. The question to address is which child welfare outcomes as measured by the CFSR are measurably improved by treatment outcomes, not how many child welfare clients were referred to treatment.
  - This would require the capacity to track specific child welfare clients who received treatment services to their final child welfare outcomes and to compare them with similar clients who did not seek or were not referred for such services.