

Federal Plans Specialist

C3 Coordinator

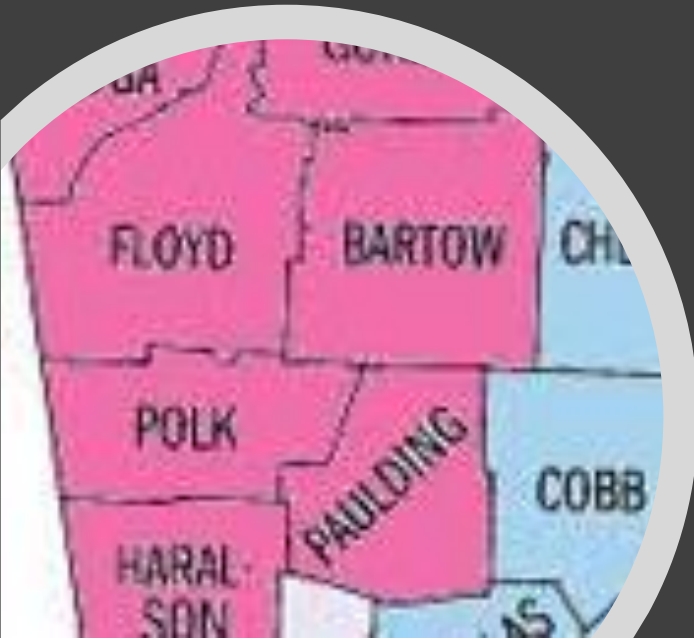
PUTTING
IT
TOGETHER





C3 Coordinator

- Child and Family Service Plan
- Child and Family Service Review
- Continuous Quality Improvement



Child and Family Services Review (CFSR) Overview



What is CFSR?

The Children's Bureau conducts the CFSRs, which are periodic reviews of state child welfare systems, to achieve three goals:

- Ensure conformity with federal child welfare requirements
- Determine what is actually happening to children and families as they are engaged in child welfare services
- Assist states in helping children and families achieve positive outcomes
- After a CFSR is completed, states develop a Performance Improvement Plan (PIP) to address areas in their child welfare services that need improvement.



History of the CFSRs



- The 1994 Amendments to the Social Security Act (SSA) authorize the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to review state child and family service programs to ensure conformity with the requirements in titles IV-B and IV-E of the SSA. The Children’s Bureau administers the review system, known as the Child and Family Services Reviews (CFSRs).
- In 2000, the Children’s Bureau published a final rule in the Federal Register to establish a process for monitoring state child welfare programs. Under the rule, states are assessed for substantial conformity with federal requirements for child welfare services.
- All 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico completed their first review by 2004 and their second review by 2010. After each review cycle, or “round,” no state was found to be in substantial conformity in all of the seven outcome areas and seven systemic factors. States developed and implemented Program Improvement Plans after each review to correct those areas not found in substantial conformity.
- The third round of reviews began in 2015 (and is still in progress in some states). The Children’s Bureau recently announced that Round 4 has begun.



Georgia Review Highlights:

- Georgia has an ongoing quality assurance review process.
- Designed to accurately determine the quality of Georgia’s Child Welfare casework based upon Round 3 CFSR criteria in the months prior to Round 4. Outcomes from these reviews help guide initiatives that can address deficits while also building upon strengths.
- Ensures that we embrace shared values related to quality. This includes viewing statewide outcomes as indicative of county or regional performance.
- Georgia’s review process models the federal process and includes:
 - Comprehensive case reviews
 - Case-Specific Interviews (**1845** children, parents, case managers, supervisors, foster parents, service providers, & legal representatives included in 2021)
 - Stakeholder feedback to evaluate systemic factors (**909** surveys for 2021)



Child & Family
SERVICES REVIEWS

CFSR Overview

Safety, Permanency, and Well-Being

➤ *7 Outcomes*

➤ *18 Items*

Safety		Statewide April 2022	Metro District April 2022
Outcome S1: Children are, first and foremost, protected from abuse and neglect.		89%	83%
Item 1:	Timeliness of initiating investigations of reports of child maltreatment	89%	83%
Outcome S2: Children are safely maintained in their homes whenever possible and appropriate.		36%	40%
Item 2:	Services to family to protect children in home and prevent removal or re-entry into foster care	39%	25%
Item 3:	Risk assessment and safety management	41%	44%

Permanency		Statewide April 2022	Metro District April 2022
Outcome P1: Children have permanency and stability in their living situations.		18%	13%
Item 4:	Stability of foster care placement	67%	60%
Item 5:	Permanency goal for child	47%	40%
Item 6:	Achieving reunification, guardianship, adoption, or other planned permanent living arrangement	27%	20%
Outcome P2: The continuity of family relationships and connections is preserved for children		49%	53%
Item 7:	Placement with siblings	86%	83%
Item 8:	Visiting with parents and siblings in foster care	52%	40%
Item 9:	Preserving connections	62%	60%
Item 10:	Relative placement	53%	47%
Item 11:	Relationship of child in care with parents	30%	44%

Well-Being		Statewide April 2022	Metro District April 2022
Outcome WB1: Families have enhanced capacity to provide for their children's needs.		13%	20%
Item 12:	Needs and services of child, parents, foster parents	16%	28%
Item 13:	Child and family involvement in case planning	41%	50%
Item 14:	Caseworker visits with child	56%	52%
Item 15:	Caseworker visits with parent(s)	20%	20%

Well-Being		Statewide April 2022	Metro District April 2022
Outcome WB2: Children receive appropriate services to meet their educational needs		70%	65%
Item 16:	Educational needs of the child	70%	65%
Outcome WB3: Children receive adequate services to meet their physical and mental health needs		25%	20%
Item 17:	Physical health of the child	48%	54%
Item 18:	Mental/Behavioral health of the child	15%	24%

Opportunities



- Contacts with *children* and *parents* that go beyond the “friendly visit’ and demonstrate engagement with the family through safety discussions, case planning, assessment of needs, and evaluation of behavioral change.
- Comprehensive assessment skills are critical in all program areas, as the results of those assessments (both formal and informal) drive decision making throughout the life of the case.
- Engagement with relevant collateral sources, such as ongoing treatment providers, law enforcement, probation officers, school and medical providers to gather quality information related to progress with services or additional needs.
- Timely implementation of services following the identification of needs (timely referrals and follow-up related to referrals)
- Continual assessment for more intensified services when parents continue to test positive for drugs/alcohol or there continue to be domestic violence or ongoing parenting concerns.

ROLE of the COURTS

- Court representatives are critical partners in the state child welfare agency's ability to achieve positive outcomes for children and families. Decisions and timeframes of the court directly affect the agency's ability to meet child welfare goals. The courts are an integral part of any state's system for addressing the needs of abused, neglected, and dependent children.
- The courts' role in children's welfare is part of what is monitored by the CFSRs. The courts ensure that the agency is in compliance with child welfare laws and standards and can provide data and information on issues examined by the CFSRs, such as:
 - How effectively the state's processes for periodic case reviews and permanency hearings promote timely and appropriate permanency outcomes for children in foster care,
 - How effective the state is in identifying children for whom termination of parental rights is appropriate and whether termination of parental rights actions are filed in a timely manner,
 - How engaged parents are in the case planning and goal-setting processes, and
 - How effectively foster parents and other caretakers are notified and have an opportunity to be heard in court hearings about the children in their care.





Acronyms



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- **CFSR**- Child and Families Services Review
- **APSR**- Annual Progress Services Report
- **PIP**- Performance Improvement Plan

- **C3**- CQI, CFSP, CFSR
- **CQI**- Continuous Quality Improvement
- **CFSP**-Child and Families Services Plan

CONTACT US



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