

Joe Lombardo
Governor



Richard Whitley
Director

Statewide Citizen Review Panel

Division of Child and Family Services- Family Programs Office

Dylan Nall

July 29, 2025



Department of Health and Human Services

Helping people. It's who we are and what we do.



TEAMS' LINK

- [Join the meeting now](#)
- Meeting ID: 295 276 350 857
 - Passcode: zi9Ewe
 - Dial in by phone
- +1 775-321-6111,,48806304# United States, Reno
 - Find a local number
- Phone conference ID: 488 063 04#
- For organizers: Meeting options | Reset dial-in PIN
- Thank you for planning to attend this Teams meeting.



Welcome

- 1. Call to order**
- 2. Roll call**



Initial Public Comment

3. Initial Public Comment (Discussion Only: Action may not be taken on any matter brought up under this agenda item until scheduled on an agenda for action at a later meeting.)

- To provide public comment telephonically, dial 775-321-6111. When prompted to provide the conference ID, enter 48806304#. If providing public comment during the Teams Meeting, unmute your microphone prior to speaking. Persons making comment will be asked to begin by stating their name for the record and to spell their last name.*



For Information

4. For Possible Action- *Jane Saint, Chair*

- Consideration, Discussion and Possible Vote to Approve Statewide Citizen Review Panel April 29, 2025, Meeting Minutes



For Information

5. For Information: Presentation and Discussion of the Child and Family Services Plan (CFSP) Goals and Objectives Progression- Dylan Nall, Division of Child and Family Services



Child and Family Services Plan (CFSP)

- The Child and Family Services Plan (CFSP) is a five-year plan that outlines the goals and objectives that the Division of Child and Family Services (DCFS) will carry out in administering programs and services to promote the safety, permanency, and well-being of children and families. It provides the DCFS with the opportunity to implement a system of coordinated, intergraded, culturally relevant, and family-focused services in keeping with the service principles reflected in 45 CFR 1355.25.
- A primary purpose of the plan is to facilitate DCFS's integration of the federally funded programs that serve children and families along the child welfare continuum. The following programs are coordinated by the submission of the 2025-2029 CFSP.
 - The Stephanie Tubbs Jones Child Welfare Services Program (title IV-B, subpart 1);
 - Promoting Safe and Stable Families Program (PSSF, Title IV-B Subpart 2);
 - Monthly Caseworker Visits Funds;
 - Chafee Program and Training Voucher Program (ETV).
 - Adoption Incentive Funds;
 - The Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA) as it relates to the activities funded by CAPTA in supporting achievement of the goals and objectives of the CFSP.



Goal 1

- **Goal 1: Enhance Nevada's capacity to address the needs of children, youth and families to prevent maltreat.**
 - Strategy 1: Develop a Prevention Data Dashboard for planning primary and secondary prevention.
 - Primary prevention connects families to needed resources and supports within their community. Secondary prevention provides families with services to address family needs and prevent child abuse and neglect.
 - Summary of Progress towards Benchmarks:
 - DCFS Initiated a collaboration with the Office of Analytics and the DCFS Planning and Evaluation Unit (PEU) to develop a preliminary list of child welfare predictive factors. A comprehensive list will be finalized in the following year.
 - Strategy 2: Collaborate with existing prevention program.
 - Staff who oversee the programs will utilize the data dashboard while collaborating with community partners to guide funding activities aimed at providing primary and secondary prevention to Nevada's children.
 - Summary of Progress towards Benchmarks:
 - Strategy 2 is dependent on the completion of Strategy 1, which is currently in development.



Goal 1

- **Goal 1: Enhance Nevada's capacity to address the needs of children, youth and families to prevent maltreat.**
 - Strategy 3: Increase Differential Response Services throughout Nevada.
 - DCFS will develop a Differential Response Policy and access and reviewing funding sources to increase Differential Response Services throughout Nevada.
 - Summary of Progress towards Benchmarks:
 - DCFS researched and identified the need to update the Differential Response (DR) policy and process. DCFS is currently engaged in a collaborative statewide workgroup with Nevada's three child welfare agencies to complete this task. Currently DCFS rural region is the only agency, not sending Priority 3 dispositioned reports to DR. All reports referred to DR in the 15 rural counties are screened out reports. This is largely due to funding; however, the difference creates data discrepancy with screened in/out reports and DR in general. Preliminary discussions have begun regarding how the DCFS Rural Region DR services can align with the urban counties. Also, the DCFS Rural Region is exploring the potential use of the Family Check-Up model with the DR services in the rural areas to enhance the DR program.
 - Strategy 4: Enhance Nevada's Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC) program.
 - DCFS will update the CSEC state plan and by-laws and explore funding for receiving Centers in Nevada.
 - Summary of Progress towards Benchmarks:
 - A CSEC Coalition meeting was held in July 2024 and has provided a revised version of the CSEC Coalition's bylaws to the Coalition for their review.
 - DCFS has collected and reviewed training material from the Nevada Partnership for Training (NPT) for CSEC training that is provided to child welfare staff to ensure that the trainings provided are following Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) requirements for CSEC training of child welfare staff.
 - DCFS has started reviewing the existing online repository of information and training for CSEC.



Goal 2

- **Goal 2: Enhance Permanency Services to address the needs of Child, Youth and Families.**

- Strategy 1: Implementation of Extended Young Adults Support Services Program (EYASSP).

- Implement EYASSP beginning July 1, 2025 and develop a and participate in a continuous improvement (CQI) activities.

- Summary of Progress towards Benchmarks:

- To formally enact EYASSP, DCFS has submitted a Budget Development Request (BDR) to update language in the NRS to more closely align with federal requirements. DCFS has completed new policies for EYASSP Eligibility and Oversight, Program Eligibility and Enrollment, and Case Management and Services. Further policy work for EYASSP, ICPC, and Medicaid Applications for 18–21-year-olds are in progress, with a target completion date of July 1st, 2025. Additional job aids, frequently asked questions, and flow charts have been provided to support caseworkers and independent living teams in delivering services to young adults through the Young Adult Self Sufficiency Plan. Notably, proposed NAC revisions for EYASSP have been approved by the child welfare agencies and are awaiting final approval by the State. This process involved analyzing affected statutes and regulations and holding stakeholder workshops. The necessary CCWIS changes are complete and are undergoing continuous testing to verify that they meet federal requirements. To support the program's rollout, a training plan and curricula have been finalized for stakeholder training, scheduled to take place between May and July of 2025, including virtual options. DCFS-FPO has provided additional information sessions and technical assistance to the child welfare agencies to answer specific questions or provide information on additional topics. Furthermore, a communication plan has been developed, and outreach materials incorporating feedback from youth have been provided to all participating agencies.
- To understand the scope and needs of the program, DCFS and Social Change Partners conducted a statewide analysis of placements, services, and projected enrollment for young adults aged 18-21. Additionally, this team is creating a program evaluation and continuous program improvement plan to gather data and measure outcomes.

- Kinship Navigator: Increase programmatic understanding of the federal funding streams for Kinship Navigator, including the use of Title IV-E and Title IV-B funding, as well as usage allowability through FFPSA to support families that get involved with child welfare and families that do not. Engage parents and caregivers who receive Kinship Navigator programming, or who are navigating child welfare services for their family, or have a child placed in their home to gain lived experience perspective and to inform improvement efforts.

- KinGAP: Conduct an analysis of the use of KinGAP by the three child welfare agencies and develop and implement an action plan based on assessment of the utilization of KinGAP.

- Summary of Progress towards Benchmarks:

- The Kinship Navigator Program is now eligible for IV-E drawdown and steps are underway with fiscal staff to begin accessing these funds. Moreover, Nevada anticipates another year of IV-B2 Navigator funds, which will be available through a non-competitive application process opening soon. On the evaluation front, approval has been granted by CCFS to expand the dataset to assess final outcomes 12 months post-intervention, with the goal of achieving a well-supported rating, pending a strong study design. Additionally, Nevada has increased referrals to the Navigator Program, particularly from investigative supervisors, contributing to prevention efforts beyond traditional child welfare services. There is also a notable rise in referrals from external partners, and efforts are underway to refine referral pathways and better connect families with Navigator resources.
- Nevada has utilized the Adoption Call to Action (ACTA) workgroups to discuss the Kinship Guardianship Assistance Program (KinGAP), focusing on statewide and agency-level processes, successes, and barriers. Over the next few months, the Family Programs Office plans to review and compare these internal processes to identify areas of need. In alignment with this effort, Nevada recently updated the statewide 1010 KinGAP policy to clarify procedures and enhance program implementation. While the state continues to gather baseline KinGAP data, additional strategies are being developed to support effective IV-E KinGAP



Goal 2

- Goal 2: Enhance Permanency Services to address the needs of Child, Youth and Families.
 - Strategy 3: Increase pre and post adoptive services throughout Nevada.
 - Understand current pre- and post-adoption services offered in Nevada, including the use of adoption incentive funding and other funding sources that may be available to support families.
 - Summary of Progress towards Benchmarks:
 - DCFS has utilized the Adoption Call to Action (ACTA) meetings to examine the scope of comprehensive pre- and post-adoption services provided by child welfare agencies. Pre-adoption services include parent training, Trust-Based Relational Intervention (TBRI), parent coaching, in-home therapy, and individualized support tailored to the needs of each family. Post-adoption services continue to build on this foundation, offering in-home family therapy, ongoing TBRI and parent coaching, as well as support for family and youth transitions.
 - Key barriers identified include delays in securing legal representation for families, the need to consider long-term family dynamics and support needs over a 5- to 10-year period and ensuring both staff and families are fully prepared for adoption. To address these challenges, ongoing discussion around Title IV-E funding, training, and program development are focused on improving resource allocation and filling service gaps to strengthen supports for adoptive families both before and after adoption finalization, including those residing out of state.
 - Planned efforts will be centered on improving the key barriers in the adoption process, addressing the shortage of adoptive homes through targeted recruitment strategies, and expanding access to critical resources. Priority focus areas include enhancing services for teens, improving access to mental health support, and ensuring continuity of services for adoptive families. These initiatives will be data-driven and implemented in close collaboration with partner agencies and community providers to ensure a coordinated and effective approach.



Goal 3

- Goal 3: Enhance relationships between child welfare agencies and court partners resulting in improved court processes and increased timelessness to permanency.
 - Strategy 1: Collaborate with Court Improvement Program (CIP).
 - Collaborate with the CIP to determine common goals and better understand the intersection of the child welfare system with the dependency court system.
 - Increase communication and engagement between DCFS FPO, child welfare agencies, the CIP, judicial and legal partners, and CASA.
 - Understand the needs of both the child welfare agencies and the dependency courts.
 - Assess existing data collection efforts and identify opportunities to improve. Determine what monitoring and evaluative activities can be developed.
 - DCFS FPO will continue participation on CIP's JCAMP project.
 - CIP will continue participation on various child welfare workgroups and on the SQIC
 - Measures of Progress: .
 - DCFS FPO will lead the efforts to initially facilitate conversations between the child welfare agencies, and legal and judicial partners to determine common goals around increased collaboration. Feedback from partners across the state, along with child welfare data and JCAMP data, will inform the development of an action plan to improve communication between systems. The state will utilize data reports, monitoring and CQI activities to assess any impact on child and family outcomes. FPO will report on outcomes during recurring workgroups, ad hoc meetings with community partners, the SQIC, and other interested parties. The state will also utilize quarterly case reviews as a mechanism to assess progress with this strategy.



Goal 3

- Goal 3: Enhance relationships between child welfare agencies and court partners resulting in improved court processes and increased timelessness to permanency.
 - Summary of Progress towards Benchmarks:
 - Currently, Nevada has had to prioritize practice and community issues, such as extended foster care and FFPSA over the past year. Collaboration with the courts has been and will be prioritized over the next few years, as work continues on the CFSR and upcoming PIP.
 - Over the past decade, the CIP participated in the onsite meeting with the Children's Bureau and has continued its involvement through participation in CFSR and Statewide Assessment meetings to review and monitor Statewide Indicators and Supplemental Context Data. Agency representatives are also engaged in the Judicial, Court, and Attorney Measures of Performance (JCAMP) project. CIP is collaborating with the agency to share JCAMP data in support of the CFSR and to enhance reporting on CFSR 775 Timeliness Data and IV-E Eligibility Court Language for the Community Improvement Councils (CICs). Additionally, CIP is assisting with the dissemination of agency surveys to support data collection and help identify opportunities for improvement related to CFSR items.
 - Over the coming year, FPO aims to strengthen communication and engagement between the DCFS, child welfare agencies, the CIP, judicial and legal partners, and Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA). This effort is intended to create a clearer picture of the needs and challenges faced by both the child welfare system and dependency courts. FPO and CIP will assess existing data collection efforts, including JCAMP, and identify areas for improvement, allowing for opportunities to enhance monitoring and evaluation mechanisms.



Goal 4

- Goal 4: Healthy Workforce.

- Strategy 1: Nevada will have developed a plan to improve the recruitment and retention of its child welfare workforce.

- Coach NV

- Assess impact of CoachNV implementation through refinement of fidelity tool.

- WIT Team

- Assess current training policy periodically to determine when updates are needed.

- Supervisor Training

- Work with Nevada Partnership Training (NPT) to develop a supervisor training.

- Workforce Data:

- Partner with HR programs across the state to identify demographic data that can be shared. This data will be utilized to determine how well Nevada's child welfare workforce reflects the communities we serve.

- Determine if exit survey data can be shared and analyzed.

- Develop a communication plan for disseminating workforce data.

- Summary of Progress towards Benchmarks:

- Currently, Nevada has not made measurable progress toward this goal. Due to recent staff turnover, there is a need to reassess the strategies and approaches for achieving it. The Family Programs Office (FPO) intends to leverage the existing Workforce Innovation and Training (WIT) team to enhance the skills and competencies of the child welfare workforce. This team is already dedicated to supporting and advancing child welfare training across the state. Currently, Nevada utilizes CoachNV and Supervisor Training programs to strengthen leadership capacity and support professional development within the workforce.

- Over the next year, the FPO plans to assess and evaluate both the Supervisor Training and CoachNV programs to analyze implementation and fidelity data. The goal is to use this information to improve training effectiveness and continue building a robust community of practice.

- Additionally, it has been confirmed that data on state workforce demographics is already available. The FPO will use this data to evaluate how well the child welfare workforce reflects the diversity of the communities it serves.



Goal 5

- Goal 5: Continuous Quality Improvement.
 - Strategy 1: Enhance existing CQI System
 - Develop a CQI action Plan, enhance policy development, formalize statewide activities and policies, refine Nevada's quarterly case review process in preparation for out CFSR round 4 which starts in October 2025.
 - Strategy 2: Create a community of collaboration with agency, community and system partners
 - In preparation of the statewide assessment and the CFSR Round 4, DCFS FPO will lead the effort to bring the voices of individuals with lived experience and the voices of those historically underserved and overrepresented in the child welfare system to the table.
 - Nevada will solicit participants for various workgroups, focus groups, surveys, or interviews that are cross-representational of the state's population.
 - The state will work collaboratively with child welfare agencies, legal and judicial partners, the CIP, as well as other systems that intersect with the child welfare system.
 - Summary of Progress towards Benchmarks:
 - Nevada has made preliminary progress toward the goal of enhancing its Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) system. The Family Programs Office (FPO) has initiated discussions to revisit and revise the CQI Action Plan and assess the value of a follow-up self-assessment to measure growth and identify new priorities. Nevada is also taking steps to formalize its CQI-related policies and processes. FPO continues to collaborate with the DCFS data team, child welfare agencies, and community partners to identify areas where enhanced data use, particularly through tools like UNITY and JCAMP, can better support decision-making and performance improvement.
 - Nevada has updated the Memorandum of Understanding (MOUs) between the DCFS and the county Child Welfare Agencies. These MOUs will facilitate collaboration and coordination throughout the CFSR Round 4 review process, reinforcing the state's commitment to continuous quality improvement.



For Information

6. For Information: *Presentation and Discussion of the Child and Family Services Review (CFSR) Information and Data on Items 1-3 - Dylan Nall, Division of Child and Family Services*



Item 1-3 Statewide Comparison

Performance Item or Outcome		CFSR Round 3	PIP Completion	Nevada CQI Review	Where we are now
		2018	September 2022	April 2023 - March 2024	August 2024 - March 2025
		Case Review - 80 cases	Last 4 rolling quarters	4 Quarters - 71 cases	4 Reviews (6 months) - 65 cases
Safety Outcome 1		S rating	S rating	S rating	S rating
Item 1	Timeliness of Initiating Investigations of Reports of Child Maltreatment	58.30%	83.72%	77.42%	89.29%
Safety Outcome 2	Children are safely maintained in their homes whenever possible and appropriate.				
Item 2	Services to Family to Protect Child(ren) in the Home and Prevent Removal or Re-Entry Into Foster Care	71.88%	84.09%	85.00%	71.43%
Item 3	Risk and Safety Assessment and Management	46.25%	70.59%	73.24%	69.23%

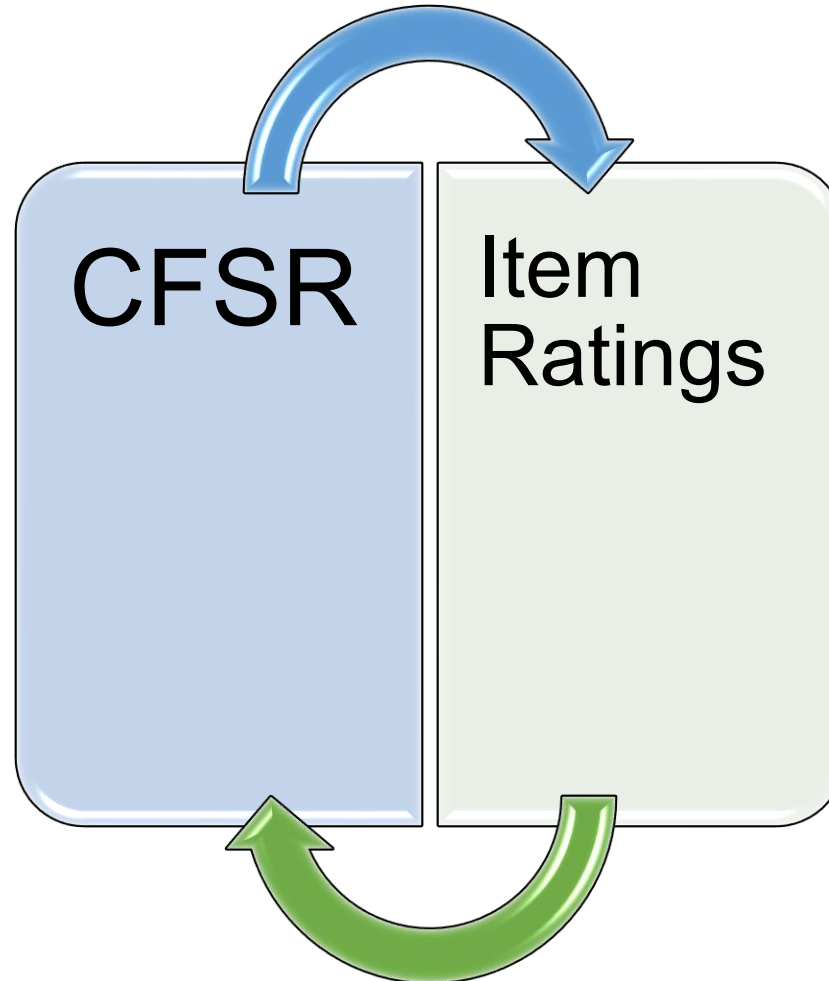


Child and Family Services Review **(CFSR) Information and Data**

- 1. Introduction**
- 2. Why is this Important?**
- 3. The CFSR Process**
- 4. Key Components of the CFSE**
- 5. Item 1**
- 6. Item 2**
- 7. Item 3**

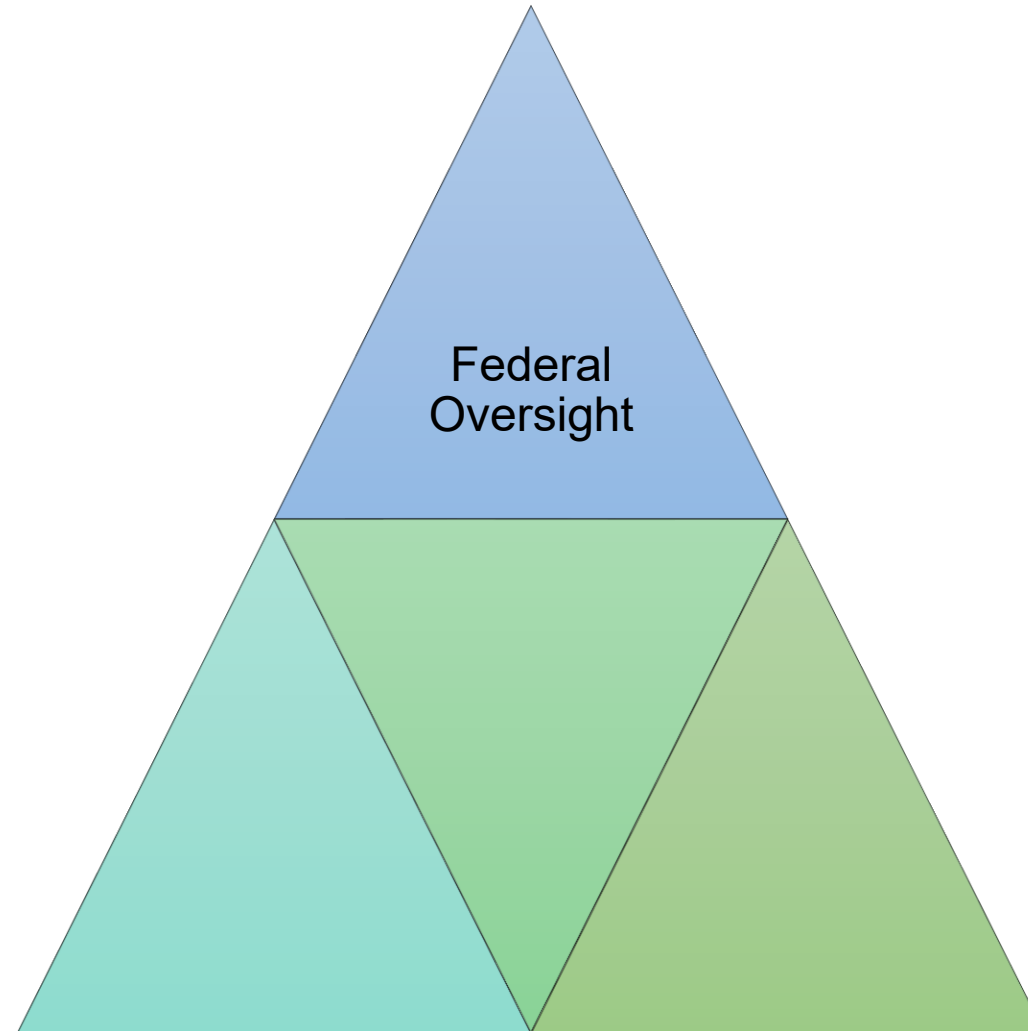


Introduction





Why is the CFSR Important?





The CFSR Process

- **Statewide Assessment:** The state, in collaboration with stakeholders, analyzes how its systems are functioning.
- **On-site Review:** A team of federal and state reviewers examines the state's child welfare program, including case reviews and stakeholder interviews.
- **Findings and Determination:** The Children's Bureau determines the extent to which the state is in "substantial conformity" with federal requirements.
- **Program Improvement Plan (PIP):** If a state is not in substantial conformity, it must develop a PIP to address the identified areas needing improvement.



Key Components of the CFSR



Outcomes



Systemic
Factors



Safety Outcome 1:

Children are, first and foremost, protected from abuse and neglect:

- This outcome emphasizes the fundamental responsibility of child welfare agencies to ensure children's safety.
- It addresses the agency's actions in response to reports of child maltreatment.



Item 1:

- Were the agency's responses to all accepted child maltreatment reports initiated, and face-to-face contact with the child(ren) made, within time frames established by agency policies or state statutes?



Why is Item 1 Important?





What is Measured?

- Item 1 assesses whether the agency:
 - Initiated its response to all accepted reports within the required time frames.
 - Made face-to-face contact with the child(ren) within the required time frames.
 - Adhered to both agency policies and state statutes in its response.



Conclusion of Item 1

- Item 1 is a cornerstone of the CFSSR, focusing on the child welfare agency's initial response to reports of maltreatment. It is critical for ensuring that children are protected from harm and that agencies are held accountable for timely and effective intervention.



Safety Outcome 2:

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

- This outcome emphasizes the importance of preserving families and preventing the unnecessary removal of children from their homes.
- It recognizes that children generally fare better when they can remain with their families, provided they are safe.



Item 2:

- Item 2: Did the agency make concerted efforts to provide services to the family to prevent children's entry into foster care or re-entry after reunification?



Why is Item 2 Important?

- **Family Preservation:** Item 2 promotes the principle of keeping families together whenever safely possible, recognizing the importance of family bonds for children's well-being.
- **Prevention of Trauma:** Unnecessary removal from home can be traumatic for children. By focusing on prevention, Item 2 helps minimize this trauma.
- **Effective Intervention:** This item encourages agencies to provide services that address the root causes of maltreatment, leading to more sustainable solutions.
- **Resource Allocation:** It emphasizes the importance of investing in services that can prevent foster care placement, potentially reducing the long-term costs associated with foster care.



What is Measured?

Prevention of
Initial
Removal

Prevention of
Re-Entry



Conclusion of Item 2

- Item 2 is a critical component of the CFSR, focusing on the agency's responsibility to provide services to families to prevent children's entry into or re-entry into foster care. It underscores the importance of family preservation and the provision of effective interventions.



Item 3:

- Item 3: Did the agency make concerted efforts to assess and address the risk and safety concerns relating to the children in their own homes or while in foster care?

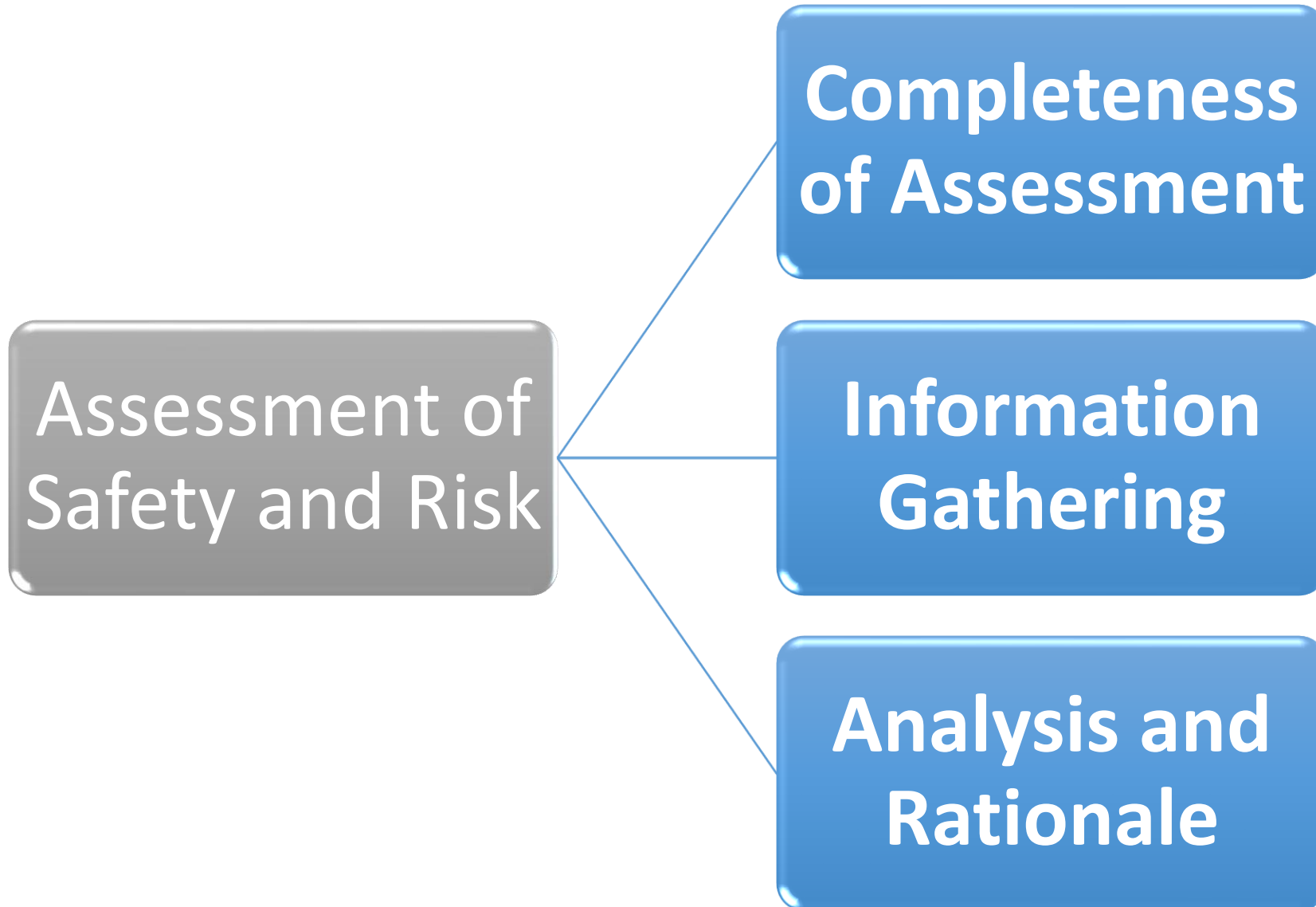


Why Item 3 is Important?

- **Child Safety:** This item directly measures the agency's success in its most fundamental responsibility: protecting children from abuse and neglect. All other child welfare goals (permanency, well-being) are predicated on a child being safe.
- **Direct Link to All Outcomes:**
 - Safety Outcomes (1 & 2): Item 3 is the direct measure for evaluating whether children are protected from abuse and neglect and safely maintained in their homes. Poor performance here directly impacts the overall safety outcomes.
 - Permanency Outcomes: Unaddressed safety concerns lead to instability, re-entry into foster care, and hinder permanency achievement (reunification, adoption, guardianship).
 - Well-Being Outcomes: A child's physical health, mental health, and educational success are severely compromised if their basic safety is not assured.
- **Indicator of Practice Quality:** "Concerted efforts" signifies a high standard of professional practice. A strong rating on Item 3 indicates thorough assessment, thoughtful decision-making, effective intervention, and diligent monitoring by caseworkers and supervisors.
- **Drives Systemic Improvement:** Consistent "Areas Needing Improvement" on Item 3 across a state's CFSR review highlight critical systemic gaps. These findings mandate the development of targeted Program Improvement Plans (PIPs) to enhance training, policy, supervision, and service availability, ultimately strengthening the entire child welfare system.

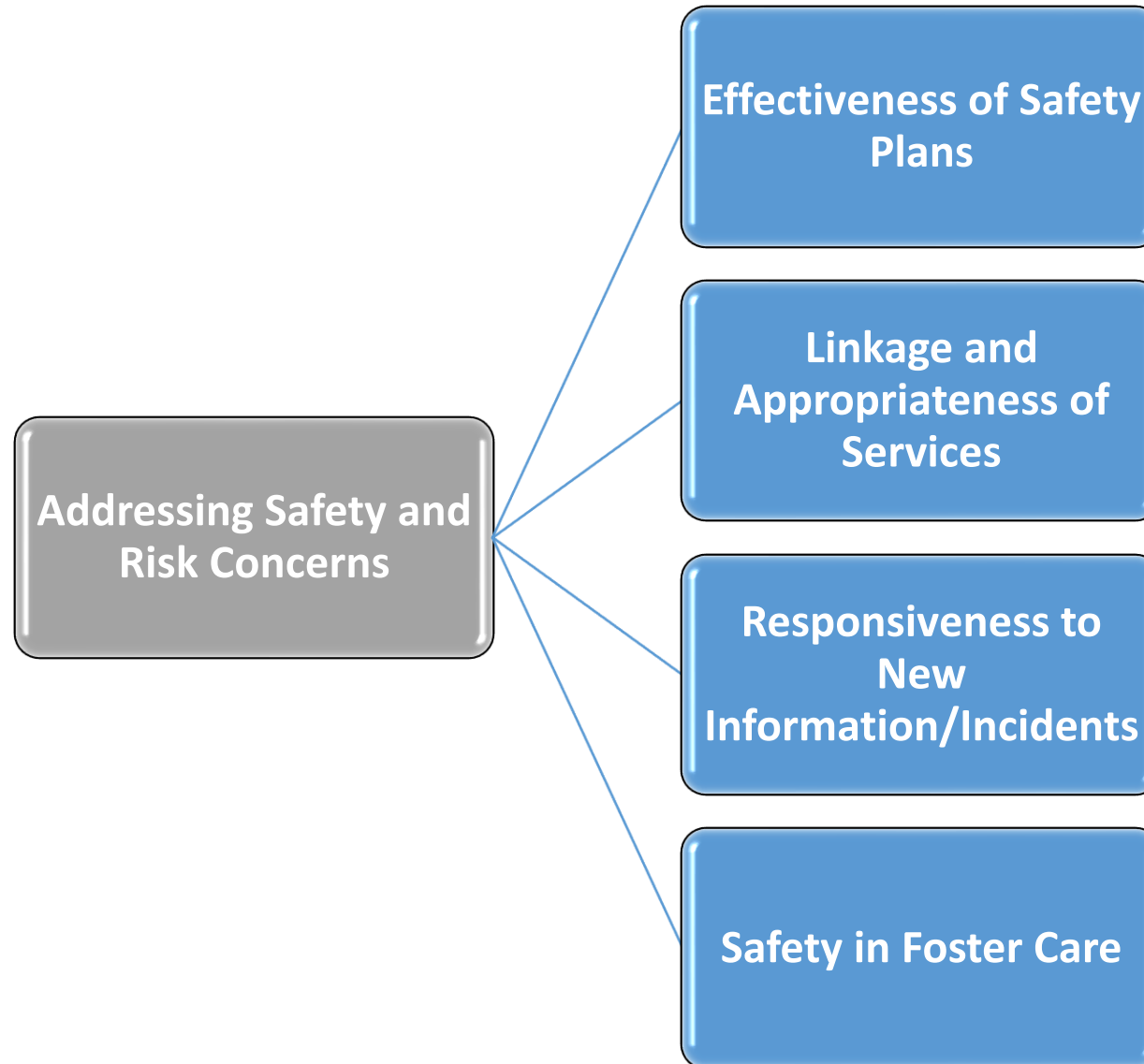


What is measured, part one?





What is measured, part 2?





Conclusion of Item 3

- Item 3 is a critical component of the CFSR, focusing on the agency's responsibility to provide services to families to prevent children from entering or re-entering foster care. It underscores the importance of family preservation and the provision of effective interventions.



For Information

7. For Information– *Presentation and Discussion of Foster Care Data - Dylan Nall, Division of Child and Family Services*



Foster Care Data

Total Number of Foster Parent Population by Jurisdictions as of 2/28/2025

Clark County	4,080
Washoe County	681
Rural Counties	409
Statewide	5,170

Total Number of Foster Care Homes by Jurisdiction's as of 6/02/2025

Jurisdiction	Foster Care	Group Home	Rel Foster Care	Total
Clark County	688	12	403	1103
Washoe County	195	4	53	252
Rural Counties	74	6	41	121
Statewide	996	23	498	1476



For Possible Action

8. For Possible Action– *Consideration,
Discussion and Possible Vote to Approve Future
Agenda Items- Jane Saint, Chair*



For Information

9. For Information– Member Announcements
Regarding Their Agencies- *Jane Saint, Chair*



Final Public Comment

10. Final Public Comment (Discussion Only: Action may not be taken on any matter brought up under this agenda item until scheduled on an agenda for action at a later meeting.)

- To provide public comment telephonically, dial 775-321-6111. When prompted to provide the conference ID, enter 48806304#. If providing public comment during the Teams Meeting, unmute your microphone prior to speaking. Persons making comment will be asked to begin by stating their name for the record and to spell their last name.*



Adjournment

11. Adjournment- *Jane Saint-Chair*

- Thank you for your time and commitment to improving services for children and youth in Nevada.