Permanency Enhancement Project
Final Report on Progress

Southern Illinois Permanency Enhancement Project
Illinois Department of Children and Family Services
Southern Illinois University Edwardsville

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Overview

In this, our third year of effort toward improving permanency outcomes for the southern region, the balancing act continues. We recognize that all children deserve to be raised by their birth families but also hold firm to maintaining safety for children when their caregivers are unable to. Permanency efforts continue to focus on achieving the best fit for children be it returning home, foster care placement, or adoption.

The southern region teams continue to work toward achieving the goals of improving *remain home* and *return home* outcomes, *improving cultural responsiveness* regarding the overrepresentation of Black children in foster care, and *improving adoption and guardianship* outcomes. The PEP journey presents a revelation: the huge task of addressing the state of children and families

involved with DCFS is not a weight that we can bear alone. The teams have actively sought stakeholder involvement from their communities as they are a vital part to improving permanency outcomes and achieving and maintaining positive outcomes in the long term.

We continue to work toward building empowering relationships with foster care youth, parents, caseworkers, social workers, investigators, attorneys, members of the community, judges, church leaders, point-of-service providers and more. Our journey is a long and tedious one but we march onward. Partnering together, this is where systemic change begins: one voice becomes many, goals are achieved, advocacy is advanced, and the quality of life for children and families improves.

In Their Own Words
Team moderators were asked to share what they believed their teams' greatest accomplishments and challenges were or continue to be. Their honesty was appreciated as it provided insight that will be useful to future assessment and evaluation of progress. Key elements from their comments are noted below:

What achievements have you experienced as a team?

- *"Working with other agencies and making them a part of our group. Being able to work ourselves into the LANS groups since most of the people are the same, and therefore cutting down on meetings. Becoming a part of the judges' groups so that we can work with them and State's Attorneys as they will not attend our meetings, but being able to access them in other ways"*

- *"I am one of the team leaders…Our greatest achievement has been the collaboration with our community partners. They (school staff, law enforcement, medical and etc.) have been very receptive"*

- *"Our greatest achievement has been meeting with social service staff from school district 187 and having them agree to become part of our action group"*

- *"Our greatest achievement is that we are still actively working on our action plan. We have also met with other community organizations for input and support and secured two new members to the team"*

- *"Identifying our service needs and increasing collaboration with our service providers"*

What are your team's ongoing challenges?

- *"Serving a rural area with a serious shortage or total lack of needed services for our children and families"*

- *"Not having a leader/moderator that has more time available to devote to the project/mission. I certainly want to be an integral part of the process but it becomes a challenge for any direct service supervisor, especially when there are major staff shortages that require you to fulfill other roles. Thus unfortunately, the process is slow, the safety and well-being of children become the priority"*

- *"The participants in our group are primarily from Jackson County. The highest disparity rates are also in the same county. As we have tried to move forward, the group primarily consisted of agency workers with no one willing to take the lead which was so graciously given to me"*

- *"The greatest challenge continues to be getting other community stakeholders to our table for discussion and involvement"*

- *"Most of us feel we have gone as far as we can go, and that there are so many other groups out there meeting that another group isn't needed. Judges and States Attorney's have all pretty much said that they see no real issues of racism in our area and therefore feel no need to meet about a problem that does not really impact our area. I also do not feel we have gotten a lot of assistance or direction from anyone as to what we are to be doing or going"*

Reporting on Southern Region Progress
St. Clair Community Action Team

From the beginning, team moderators Vendetta Dennis and James Tooles have worked toward improving the perception of DCFS and establishing a connection with stakeholders in their region. The challenges of compromised budgets, time constraints, and a reduced workforce have not stopped this team. In order to address the outcomes of *return home* and *remain home* outcomes, the team elected to implement strategies with a prevention and strengths-based approach. The team created a parent resource brochure to be distributed throughout its region as a way of introducing themselves and their purpose to clients and neighboring agencies. In addition, the team partnered with the E. St. Louis PEP team in efforts to begin engagement and relationship building with the Honorable Judge Walter Brandon of St. Clair County. The meetings with the judge have been successful as they have provided an avenue for better understanding of social service policies and court processes. The St. Clair Community Action Team recently constructed a multidisciplinary team whose future purpose will be reviewing critical investigations and intact cases.

Cairo Action Team

Gloria Pounds serves as the moderator for the Cairo Action Team. The team has faced obstacles that extend beyond limited time or funding. Two of the team's five represented counties, Alexander and Pulaski, face compounding and systemic economic deficiencies in employment, availability of social services, housing, child care services, and more. The team acknowledged that the Cairo community's lack of public transportation, inadequate housing, inadequate child care services, funding deficits, inaccessibility to social services, and even the absence of a public laundry facility contributed to the likelihood that the families would either become or remain involved with DCFS. With a prevention focus, the Cairo team purposes to prevent juveniles from coming into DCFS care through MRAI or dependency related reasons. The recently established Juvenile Justice Committee is currently working on delegation of roles, recruitment of community stakeholders, and advocacy initiatives for juvenile justice social services.

Carbondale Action Team

Initially, Donna Wilson, moderator for the Cairo region, guided the team through an "in-house" focus on the perceptions between DCFS placement, intact, and DCP divisions. The team recognized that increased services for parents were needed across all three divisions. Parent training became a significant focus of this team with

Southern Illinois University Carbondale (SIUC) as a starting point for intervention services as many student parents were being reported for various neglect/abuse reasons. The team looks forward to establishing an ongoing collaboration with SIUC and implementing strategies that will support *return home* and *remain home* outcomes.

E. St. Louis Action Team

As team moderator, Dianne Parker endeavored to diversify her team and address the obstacles that present in stigmatized populations. This team identified trust and relationship building as a critical first step toward improving permanency outcomes. The team began with a dialogue that focused on the outcome, *improving cultural responsiveness to the overrepresentation of Black children in foster care.* Culture, racism, discrimination were recognized as areas where training was necessary at both the worker and supervisor levels. In order to address the lack of cohesiveness between the court and social systems, the team partners with the St. Clair Community Action team for quarterly meetings with the Honorable Judge Walter Brandon.

Next, the team focused on two areas where engagement was sorely needed: the community and school systems. The team pursuits in these areas have been successful as they have established collaboration with the Family Advocacy House and begun the

engagement process with District 187 school social workers with the intention clarifying DCFS roles regarding mandated reporting and hotline reports. Future works entail the development of an educational piece to be presented to school social workers in District 187 & 189.

Effingham Action Team

Near the mid-point of the implementation phase, this team recognized the need for distinct action teams as the Effingham and Olney regions had previously been combined. Carol Lance stepped up to the plate and the team began focusing on barriers that were specific to the Effingham region. The team's key obstacles identified were the lack of easily accessible resources due to its rural base and the lack of collaboration with judges. This team's key activities have been working on networking with court systems (judges, CASA, etc.). In addition, future activities include advocating for families regarding issues like travel difficulties in rural areas as many local county aid offices are being closed and consolidated. These efforts will promote improvements in the outcome of *return home* for families.

Madison-Bond Action Team

Team moderators Anne King and Cindy Lolley's implementation beginnings started with assessing the strengths of their region. Team discussions revealed that many resources existed in Madison County. The team observed that linkages between

services would be useful to improvements in *return home*, *remain home*, and the *foster care/adoption* outcomes. The team's future implementation plans include development of a resource tool for established parent groups.

The team is also focused on building and maintaining a working relationship with the Madison County judge. Having recently held a meeting with the Honorable Judge Ellar Duff, the team works toward determining what barriers exist between social service and court systems in understanding the best interest of children. Currently, the team is proposing the development of a survey for existing parent groups to gather parents' perspectives on what's working and what's missing in terms of social services. As a result of their meeting with the judge, the team is also working on designing a training tool for court reporting.

Mt. Vernon Action Team

As moderator for the Mt. Vernon Action Team, Diane Woods has been successful with maintaining diverse community stakeholder relations at action team meetings. In particular, the team has discovered common goals and cohesiveness with Reverend Gordon, Executive Director of Southtown Youth Center. As a whole, the team recognized the need for a parent group in Jefferson County. The parent meetings began early in 2008 with the purpose of improving understandings

between DCFS (and related agencies) and families as well as determining community needs from the parents' perspective. The team recognized this as central to understanding things such as why the "return home in five months" mandate continues to be a challenge. Implementation strategies serve to improve both *return home* and *remain home* outcomes. The parent meetings have flourished; parents are actively involved in discussions and planning strategies regarding their community needs and available resources. In addition, the team has completed a focus group and survey with parents and community members regarding their perception of the most pressing needs for Jefferson County; a parent group brochure is being designed as a resource tool for families and agencies.

Olney Action Team

Connie Luthe is the moderator for the Olney Action Team. The Olney team separated from the Effingham region during the midpoint of the implementation phase as the Olney region represents many counties and needs that are distinct from Effingham. The team is challenged with multiple geographic and funding barriers. Examples include things like poor access to services, the lack of adequate services, and funding deficiencies. This team's success in implementation strategies is recognized in its ability to synchronize efforts with other

established groups who face similar obstacles. These efforts promote improvements in *return home* outcomes. In addition, the Olney team is building relationships with LANS groups as well as engagement with the court systems.

Where do we stand? Reporting the Statistics

Dr. Hayden Foster gathered the following data from the Children and Family Research Center Factbook at University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. The data reports on each of the outcomes, *return home*, *remain home*, *improve foster care and adoption*, and *cultural responsiveness*. The statistical data used was extracted on September 30, 2008. Data for the measures was based on children who entered the child welfare system in 2006 and 2007. Baseline data tables are provided at the end of the report.

Southern Region

For Goal One (Improve Remain Home Outcomes), the Southern Region's rates are slightly lower than averages for the State of Illinois. Ninety-two percent of children served in intact family cases did not experience a substitute care placement in 2008. For the State of Illinois this is rate is 94%. Eighty nine percent of children in the Southern Region who attained permanency were still with their families after two years. The average for the State of Illinois is 91%.

On Goals Two and Three (Improve Outcomes for Reunification, and for

Adoption and Guardianship), Southern Region rates are better than Illinois state averages. Children in the Southern Region are more likely to attain permanency, and to do so more quickly, than children in the State of Illinois as a whole. Of children who are placed in substitute care in the Southern Region, 33% achieved permanency within 12 months, 47% attained permanency by 24 months, and 66% attained permanency by 36 months. For the State of Illinois, 20% of children in substitute care attain permanency by 12 months, 36% attain permanency by 24 months, and 53% attain permanency by 36 months.

African American children are over represented in the Southern Region substitute care population. In the Southern Region, 11% of the general population is African American, 87% of the population is Caucasian, and 2% of the population is of another, or more than one race. There are 1,792 children in substitute care in the Southern Region. Of these children, 32% are African American, 66% are Caucasian, and 2% are of another or more than one race.

Cairo

Ninety three percent of children served in intact family cases in the Cairo region (Union, Pulaski, Alexander, Massac, Johnson, Pope, Hardin, and Saline counties) did not experience substitute care placements. This is an improvement from last year's rate of 85%. Forty nine percent

of children in substitute care achieved permanency through reunification within 12 months. This is significantly better than last year's rate (33%), and is the highest 12 month reunification rate in the Southern Region (Southern Region average is 33%). Cairo also exceeds state and regional averages for permanency rates at 24 and 36 months. Seventy five percent of children in substitute care in the Cairo region achieved permanency by 36 months, while the State average is 53% and the Southern Region average is 66%. Despite large African American populations in two of the counties in this region (Pulaski, 31% African American population and Alexander, 35% African American population), African American children are not substantially overrepresented in the Cairo region.

Carbondale

The Carbondale region (Williamson, Franklin, Perry, and Jackson counties) falls below state and southern region averages for Goal One (Improve Remain Home Outcomes). Eighty Six percent of children served in intact family cases did not experience a substitute care placement in 2008, while the state average is 94% and the Southern Region average is 92%. This represents an increase in rates of substitute care placements from last year (when 95% of children in intact family cases did not experience substitute care). For Goal Two (Return Home), Carbondale exceeds State and Southern Region averages. Forty One percent of children experiencing substitute

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care achieved permanency through reunification within 12 months, while State and Southern Region averages are 20% and 33% respectively. For Goal Three (reunification through guardianship and adoption), the Carbondale region falls between State and Southern Region averages.

There is evidence of overrepresentation of African American children in the foster care population for the Carbondale region. In Williamson County, African American population is 3% but 17% of the children in foster care are African American. For Perry County, 8% of the population is African American but 24% of the children in substitute care are African American. In Jackson County, 13% of the population is African American but 40% of the children in substitute care are African American.

Madison and Bond

Madison and Bond County meet the Illinois state average for Goal One, with a Remain Home rate of 94%. For Goal Two (Return Home), 23% of children entering substitute care attained permanency through reunification within 12 months. This is lower than the Southern Region average of 33%, but higher than the Illinois state average of 20%. For Goal Three, Madison and Bond also fall between the Southern Region and State averages. Permanency outcomes at 12 months (23% of children in substitute care attained permanency), 24

months (44%), and 36 months (58%) are all lower this year than they were last year.

African Americans are 7% of the general population, but 30% of the substitute care population in Madison County. This indicates a problem with over representation of African American children in foster care.

Effingham

Of the children served in intact family cases in the Effingham region (Richland, Wabash, Edwards, Crawford, Lawrence, Effingham, Jasper, and Fayette counties), 94% did not experience a substitute care placement. This exceeds the Southern Region average of 92%, and meets the Illinois state average for Remain Home rates (Goal One). Effingham region permanency outcomes for 2008 improved from the 2007 rates and Effingham's permanency outcomes at 12, 24, and 36 months all exceed both the State and Southern Region averages. Eighty Three percent of children in substitute care in the Effingham region achieved permanency within 36 months. This is the highest permanency rate in the Southern Region, where overall only 66% of children in the region attain permanency by 36 months. The African American population in the Effingham region is very low, and African American children are not substantially overrepresented among children in substitute care (Goal 4).

St. Clair

For Goal One (Remain Home), St. Clair, Monroe, Washington and Randolph counties exceed the Southern Region average. Ninety four percent of children served in intact family cases did not experience a substitute care placement. Of the children who were placed in substitute care, 24% attained permanency through reunification within 12 months. For Goal Two (Return Home) this represents a decline from last year's rate of 35%, and is lower than the Southern Region average of 33%. Sixty eight percent of children in the St. Clair region achieve permanency through reunification, adoption, or legal guardianship by 36 months. This is higher than the Illinois state average of 53%, and slightly higher than the Southern Region average of 66%.

African American children are overrepresented in the foster care population in St. Clair County. In St. Clair County, 29% of the general population is African American but 71% of the children in substitute care are African American. This pattern is not found in Monroe, Washington, and Randolph counties, where the African American population is much lower.

Mt Vernon

Ninety percent of children served in intact family cases in the Mt. Vernon region (Jefferson, Clay, Marion, Clinton, Wayne, Gallatin, Hamilton and White counties) did not experience a substitute care placement in the last year. This is lower than the State and Southern Region averages (94% and 92% respectively) for Goal One. For Goal Two (Return Home), the Mt. Vernon region falls between the State and Southern Region averages. Thirty percent of children placed in substitute care attain permanency through reunification by 12 months. Sixty eight percent of children in substitute care in the Mt. Vernon Region attain permanency through reunification, adoption, or guardianship by 36 months. This is higher than the Illinois state average (53%), and the Southern Region average (66%).

The Mt. Vernon regional action team serves children in 8 counties. There is evidence of disproportionality in many, but not all of these counties and the number of children in substitute care in each county are small enough that statistical comparisons are difficult. Jefferson, Clay, Marion, Clinton and Wayne counties have higher numbers of African American children in substitute care than the county demographics might otherwise indicate. Eight percent of Jefferson county residents are African American, but 30% of the children in substitute care in Jefferson County are African American. In Marion County, 4% if the residents are African American but 25% of the children in substitute care are African American.

Highlighting Successes

Overall, all of the teams have remained intact and are actively working toward addressing the permanency outcomes. Continued successes and improvements in the outcomes for children and families will require a long term commitment from action teams with sustained investment from multiple stakeholders like community members, volunteers, families, youth, administrators, supervisors, frontline workers, agencies, court systems, and P.O.S providers. Highlights of team strengths are illustrated at the end of the report.

Ongoing Barriers to Permanency

Our permanency action teams recognize that achieving permanency also involves the duty of removing the barriers. The current state of our economy has impacted permanency within the agency as supervisors have added duties and workers' roles are ever changing. Recognizing that these systemic barriers affect performance and worker capabilities, the teams struggle to establish linkages and build partnerships, and come up with collaborative strategies that will circumvent the barriers that come with issues like the lack of funding and staff shortages. Observations and discussions with the action teams in the southern region reveal specific geographic, funding, agency, court, and team barriers:

Geographic Barriers

Fewer services in rural areas impact the quality of life for families and places them at risk of either having children come into protective custody or remain in out-of-home placements. In addition, the lack of specialized services in rural areas poses a barrier to parents and children who require these services in order to be in compliance with service plans.

Public transportation is a barrier when its services are not available or when available schedules are limited with insufficiencies between runs. Children and families from urban areas can face barriers in the quality of services due to stigmatization.

Funding Barriers

Funding cuts serve as barriers to service delivery on the part of direct service workers and supervisors in their efforts to comply with service plan agreements and DCFS mandates. As a result, workers on the front lines must contend with added responsibilities and lessened manpower. The lack of funding also serves as barrier to for project implementation for many action teams.

Agency Barriers

The community action teams have recognized an ongoing tension and barrier to permanency in the struggle to find consensus between intact, investigation and placement workers and supervisors in understanding best *interest* as it relates to children, families and permanency.

Workers burnout is a barrier to permanency as workers, overworked and underappreciated, have little time to address stressful work environments and its impact on their performance. In addition, workers also find themselves disconnected from community organizations due to things like time constraints and heavy caseloads.

Court Barriers

The absence of court liaisons is a barrier to permanency; liaisons were a valued communication linkage between court and social systems. Court reports have been noted as lacking in consistency; this contributes to the slow movement in permanency.

Action Team Specific Barriers

Action teams that fail to represent diversity in membership hinder the permanency process. Collective engagement is needed between multiple stakeholders. The failure of teams to include community members on action teams is a barrier to permanency. Community members must be involved in planning and implementation of strategies. Intervention strategies that serve to react to problems can be a barrier to permanency; prevention-focused strategies must also be included in planning and implementation.

The Next Steps

Revise action plans based on lessons learned. There will be many hurdles and ongoing barriers along the journey toward permanency. Teams are encouraged to understand that change is an ongoing part of the permanency process. Continuous review of action plan steps will assist teams in determining where change is needed on a given project and more importantly, recognizing *when to say when* for ideas that aren't working. A helpful tool for monitoring progress is to develop self-evaluation tools for determining team strengths and weaknesses.

Continue to work on diversifying action teams. Action teams should be representative of all stakeholders related to permanency for children and families. In other words, teams must recognize that there is a shared accountability in explaining why children come into care, why children remain in care, and where improvements are needed in the permanency process. Parents, foster children, and members from the court, school, agency, and community systems must be involved in every phase the permanency project: identifying problems, formulating ideas, developing strategies, and implementing action steps.

Encourage action teams to celebrate their current permanency victories for their regions. A wise person once said there are no small parts, only small actors. All team members are vital to enhancing permanency in southern Illinois. Teams are

encouraged to discuss and establish member roles and committees as needed for permanency activities. There are plenty of hats to go around: leader, facilitator, messenger, advocate, motivator, fact-finder, and analyzer – just to name a few!

Encourage action teams to create a PowerPoint presentation about permanency that they can present to their community partners. The PowerPoint is also a useful and effective way of introducing yourself to community stakeholders. Recruiting members is not an easy task and teams still have day-to-day work obligations. The PowerPoint can offer a clear and concrete description of why your action teams exist.

How many times have you been asked by someone, "so what is the purpose of your action team?" Better yet, how many times has that person been a member from your own team? The most important thing that action teams must be able to do is to know why they exist. Successful action planning is achieved when groups take the time to sit down and simply talk and brainstorm about what their passions are and how they relate to the Permanency Enhancement Project. From this, common themes should present and then planning can begin. Otherwise, team mission, purpose and goals can become lost in the process of trying to implement strategies.

Report on Success by Action Teams

Action Team   Highlighted Strengths

St. Clair Community Action Team – Belleville   Effective Leadership
                                                     Working relationship with P.O.S. providers
                                                     Diversity on team
                                                     High communication

Cairo Action Team   Passionate team members
                                                     Diversity on team
                                                     Effective networking with community agencies
                                                     Creative strategies

Carbondale Action Team
Diversity on team
Passionate leader
Having a common purpose as a team
Flexibility and adaptability

E. St. Louis Action Team
Consistent team members
Working relationship with community org.'s
Future focused
Strong community awareness

Effingham Action Team
Identifying team strengths
Utilizing available resources
Flexibility and adaptability
Participative leadership

Madison/Bond Action Team
Strong leadership
Consistent membership
Strong community awareness

Mt. Vernon Action Team
Diversity on team
Strong leadership
Strong partnerships
Seeking parent input in planning

Olney Action Team
Flexibility and adaptability
Establishing networks
Willingness to collaborate with other agencies
Ability to self evaluate as a team

Goal One: Improve Remain Home Outcomes
Measure One: Of all the Children served in intact family cases, what percentage did not experience a substitute care placement within a 12 month period?

Action Team (County)	Number of Children	Percent(%)
Cairo (combined)	**180 (of 193)**	**93**
Union	57 (of 60)	95
Pulaski	15 (of 15)	100
Alexander	17 (of 18)	94
Massac	11 (of 13)	85
Johnson	3 (of 4)	75

Pope	7 (of 7)	100
Hardin	6 (of 6)	100
Saline	64 (of 70)	91
Carbondale (combined)	**288 (of 336)**	**86**
Williamson	102 (of 120)	85
Franklin	94 (of 109)	86
Perry	9 (of 14)	64
Jackson	83 (of 93)	89
Madison and Bond (combined)	**505 (of 539)**	**94**
Madison	472 (of 505)	93
Bond	33 (of 34)	97
Effingham (combined)	**283 (of 302)**	**94**
Richland	41 (of 41)	100
Wabash	24 (of 30)	80
Edwards	7 (of 8)	88
Crawford	27 (of 29)	93
Lawrence	41 (of 41)	100
Effingham	69 (of 77)	90
Jasper	16 (of 16)	100
Fayette	58 (of 60)	97
St. Clair (combined)	**568 (of 604)**	**94**
St. Clair	429 (of 455)	94
Monroe	58 (of 61)	95
Washington	12 (of 12)	100
Randolph	69 (of 76)	91
Mt. Vernon (combined)	**287 (of 318)**	**90**
Jefferson	97 (of 115)	84
Clay	15 (of 15)	100
Marion	95 (of 104)	91
Clinton	40 (of 42)	95
Wayne	9 (of 10)	90
Gallatin	18 (of 18)	100
Hamilton	5 (of 5)	100
White	8 (of 9)	89
Southern Region	**2032 (of 2211)**	**92**
Illinois	**15362 (of 16411)**	**94**

Data from the Children and Family Research Center Factbook, UI Urbana-Champaign. Data extracted September 30, 2008.

Goal One: Improve Remain Home Outcomes

Measure Two: Of all the children who attained permanency during the year, what percent remained with their family after two years? (Children entered 2006)

Action Team (County)	Number of Children	Percent(%)
Cairo (combined)	**64 (of 69)**	**93**
Union	14 (of 14)	100
Pulaski	2 (of 4)	50
Alexander	5 (of 5)	100
Massac	8 (of 8)	100
Johnson	2 (of 2)	100

Pope	1 (of 1)	100
Hardin	1 (of 1)	100
Saline	31 (of 34)	91
Carbondale (combined)	**85 (of 101)**	**84**
Williamson	38 (of 43)	88
Franklin	19 (of 22)	86
Perry	9 (of 9)	100
Jackson	19 (of 27)	70
Madison and Bond (combined)	**101 (of 117)**	**86**
Madison	97 (of 113)	86
Bond	4 (of 4)	100
Effingham (combined)	**80 (of 87)**	**92**
Richland	9 (of 11)	82
Wabash	7 (of 7)	100
Edwards	2 (of 2)	100
Crawford	13 (of 15)	87
Lawrence	12 (of 12)	100
Effingham	19 (of 21)	90
Jasper	1 (of 1)	100
Fayette	17 (of 18)	94
St. Clair (combined)	**153 (of 171)**	**89**
St. Clair	135 (of 150)	90
Monroe	3 (of 3)	100
Washington	5 (of 5)	100
Randolph	10 (of 13)	77
Mt. Vernon (combined)	**124 (of 133)**	**93**
Jefferson	28 (of 29)	97
Clay	7 (of 7)	100
Marion	51 (of 57)	89
Clinton	7 (of 7)	100
Wayne	6 (of 6)	100
Gallatin	17 (of 17)	100
Hamilton	4 (of 6)	67
White	4 (of 4)	100
Southern Region	**584 (of 655)**	**89**
Illinois	**4025 (of 4399)**	**91**

Data from the Children and Family Research Center Factbook, UI Urbana-Champaign. Data extracted September 30, 2008.

Goal Two: Improve Return Home Permanency Outcomes

Measure: Of all the children who entered substitute care during the year and stayed for longer than 7 days, what percentage attained permanency through reunification within 12 months? (Children entered 2007).

Action Team (County)	Number of Children	Percent(%)
Cairo (combined)	**37 (of 76)**	**49**
Union	3 (of 10)	30
Pulaski	1 (of 2)	50
Alexander	6 (of 7)	86
Massac	4 (of 12)	33
Johnson	4 (of 6)	67

Pope	2 (of 2)	100
Hardin	3 (of 5)	60
Saline	14 (of 32)	44
Carbondale (combined)	**63 (of 153)**	**41**
Williamson	37 (of 71)	52
Franklin	10 (of 33)	30
Perry	0 (of 7)	0
Jackson	16 (of 42)	38
Madison and Bond (combined)	**30 (of 132)**	**23**
Madison	28 (of 122)	23
Bond	2 (of 10)	20
Effingham (combined)	**37 (of 105)**	**35**
Richland	3 (of 7)	43
Wabash	4 (of 19)	21
Edwards	3 (of 4)	75
Crawford	0 (of 13)	0
Lawrence	7 (of 12)	58
Effingham	8 (of 21)	38
Jasper	0 (of 2)	0
Fayette	12 (of 27)	44
St. Clair (combined)	**47 (of 200)**	**24**
St. Clair	45 (of 170)	26
Monroe	1 (of 3)	33
Washington	0 (of 8)	0
Randolph	1 (of 19)	5
Mt. Vernon (combined)	**39 (of 130)**	**30**
Jefferson	16 (of 54)	30
Clay	4 (of 12)	33
Marion	10 (of 31)	32
Clinton	4 (of 16)	25
Wayne	2 (of 6)	33
Gallatin	1 (of 3)	33
Hamilton	0 (of 1)	0
White	2 (of 7)	29
Southern Region	**248 (of 755)**	**33**
Illinois	**918 (of 4504)**	**20**

Data from the Children and Family Research Center Factbook, UI Urbana-Champaign. Data extracted September 30, 2008.

Goal Three: Improve Adoption and Guardianship Outcomes

Measure: Of all the children who entered substitute care during the year and stayed for longer than 7 days, what percentage attained permanency through reunification, adoption, or guardianship within 24 months? 36 months?

Action Team County	24 mos Number of children	24 mos Percent	36 mos number of children	36 mos Percent
Cairo (Combined)	**51 (of 97)**	**53**	**65 (of 87)**	**75**

Union	12 (of 25)	48	16 (of 22)	73
Pulaski	4 (of 10)	40	0 (of 3)	0
Alexander	4 (of 13)	31	4 (of 5)	80
Massac	5 (of 13)	38	3 (of 3)	100
Johnson	3 (of 3)	100	2 (of 3)	67
Pope	1 (of 1)	100	2 (of 2)	100
Hardin	3 (of 5)	60	2 (of 2)	100
Saline	19 (of 27)	70	36 (of 47)	77
Carbondale (Combined)	**63 (of 133)**	**47**	**102 (of 162)**	**63**
Williamson	26 (of 62)	42	52 (of 88)	59
Franklin	15 (of 23)	65	22 (of 35)	63
Perry	7 (of 15)	47	15 (of 200	75
Jackson	15 (of 33)	45	13 (of 19)	68
Madison and Bond (Combined)	**73 (of 166)**	**44**	**81 (of 140)**	**58**
Madison	71 (of 162)	44	76 (of 130)	58
Bond	2 (of 4)	50	5 (of 10)	50
Effingham (Combined)	**66 (of 105)**	**63**	**82 (of 99)**	**83**
Richland	10 (of 13)	77	13 (of 17)	76
Wabash	5 (of 13)	38	11 (of 12)	92
Edwards	1 (of 3)	33	0 (of 1)	0
Crawford	5 (of 8)	63	8 (of 10)	80
Lawrence	6 (of 110	55	18 (of 18)	100
Effingham	19 (of 32)	59	17 (of 25)	68
Jasper	4 (of 5)	80	5 (of 5)	100
Fayette	16 (of 20)	80	10 (of 11)	91
St. Clair (Combined)	**72 (of 164)**	**44**	**103 (of 176)**	**59**
St. Clair	58 (of 139)	42	91 (of 157)	58
Monroe	1 (of 6)	17	1 (of 1)	100
Washington	7 (of 8)	88	1 (of 1)	100
Randolph	6 (of 11)	55	10 (of 17)	59
Mt Vernon (Combined)	**39 (of 130)**	**45**	**104 (of 152)**	**68**
Jefferson	16 (of 54)	48	40 (of 47)	85
Clay	4 (of 12)	57	7 (of 16)	44
Marion	10 (of 31)	47	25 (of 40)	63
Clinton	4 (of 16)	40	8 (of 10)	80
Wayne	2 (of 60	0	7 (of 7)	100
Gallatin	1 (of 3)	67	6 (of 13)	46
Hamilton	0 (of 1)	50	2 (of 2)	100
White	2 (of 7)	0	9 (of 17)	53

Southern Region	*248 (of 755)*	*47*	*527 (of 797)*	*66*
Illinois	*918 (of 4504)*	*36*	*2798 (of 5299)*	*53*

Data from the Children and Family Research Center Factbook, UI Urbana-Champaign. Data extracted September 30, 2008

Goal 4: Reduce Overrepresentation of African American Youth in Foster Care
Measure: What is the total number of children in substitute care at the end of FY 2008 by race?

Action Team County	General population		Foster care population	
Cairo Region Child population 3,929				
Union 3,929 children	African American	1%	African American	3%
	Caucasian	96%	Caucasian	86%
	Other/more than one race	3%	Other/more than one race	9%
Pulaski *1,520 children*	*African American*	*31%*	*African American*	*50%*
	Caucasian	*67%*	*Caucasian*	*50%*
	Other/more than one race	*2%*	*Other/more than one race*	*0%*
Alexander 1,891 children	African American	35%	African American	8%
	Caucasian	63%	Caucasian	92%
	Other/more than one race	2%	Other/more than one race	0%
Massac *3,451 children*	*African American*	*5%*	*African American*	*21%*
	Caucasian	*93%*	*Caucasian*	*79%*
	Other/more than one race	*2%*	*Other/more than one race*	*0%*
Johnson 2,513 children	African American	14%	African American	12%
	Caucasian	84%	Caucasian	88%
	Other/more than one race	2%	Other/more than one race	0%
Pope *726 children*	*African American*	*4%*	*African American*	*0%*
	Caucasian	*93%*	*Caucasian*	*100%*
	Other/more than one race	*3%*	*Other/more than one race*	*0%*
Hardin 837 children	African American	3%	African American	0%
	Caucasian	95%	Caucasian	100%
	Other/more than one race	2%	Other/more than one race	0%
Saline *5,915 children*	*African American*	*4%*	*African American*	*18%*
	Caucasian	*94%*	*Caucasian*	*80%*
	Other/more than one race	*2%*	*Other/more than one race*	*2%*
Carbondale Region Child population 37,741				
Williamson 14,024 children	African American	3%	African American	17%
	Caucasian	95%	Caucasian	81%
	Other/more than one race	2%	Other/more than one race	2%
Franklin	*African American*	*0*	*African American*	*4%*

8,679 children	*Caucasian*	*99%*	*Caucasian*	*92%*
	Other/more than one race	*1%*	*Other/more than one race*	*4%*
Perry	African American	8%	African American	24%
4,609 children	Caucasian	90%	Caucasian	76%
	Other/more than one race	2%	Other/more than one race	0%
Jackson	*African American*	*13%*	*African American*	*40%*
10,429 children	*Caucasian*	*81%*	*Caucasian*	*51%*
	Other/more than one race	*6%*	*Other/more than one race*	*9%*
Madison and Bond Child population 66,185				
Madison	African American	7%	African American	30%
62,462 children	Caucasian	90%	Caucasian	68%
	Other/more than one race	3%	Other/more than one race	2%
Bond	*African American*	*7%*	*African American*	*13%*
3,723 children	*Caucasian*	*91%*	*Caucasian*	*80%*
	Other/more than one race	*2%*	*Other/more than one race*	*7%*
Effingham Region Child population 29,962				
Richland	African American	0%	African American	0%
3,479 children	Caucasian	99%	Caucasian	95%
	Other/more than one race	1%	Other/more than one race	5%
Wabash	*African American*	*0%*	*African American*	*0%*
2,614 children	*Caucasian*	*98%*	*Caucasian*	*84%*
	Other/more than one race	*2%*	*Other/more than one race*	*16%*
Edwards	African American	2%	African American	0%
1,378 children	Caucasian	99%	Caucasian	100%
	Other/more than one race	1%	Other/more than one race	0%
Crawford	*African American*	*5%*	*African American*	*17%*
3,872 children	*Caucasian*	*94%*	*Caucasian*	*77%*
	Other/more than one race	*1%*	*Other/more than one race*	*7%*
Lawrence	African American	1%	African American	7%
3,269 children	Caucasian	98%	Caucasian	93%
	Other/more than one race	1%	Other/more than one race	0%
Effingham	*African American*	*0%*	*African American*	*2%*
8,705 children	*Caucasian*	*99%*	*Caucasian*	*98%*
	Other/more than one race	*1%*	*Other/more than one race*	*0%*
Jasper	African American	0%	African American	0%
2,114 children	Caucasian	99%	Caucasian	100%
	Other/more than one race	1%	Other/more than one race	0%
Fayette	*African American*	*5%*	*African American*	*15%*
24,531 children	*Caucasian*	*94%*	*Caucasian*	*85%*
	Other/more than one race	*1%*	*Other/more than one race*	*0%*
St. Clair Region Child population 85,367				
St. Clair	African American	29%	African American	71%

67,671 children	Caucasian	68%	Caucasian	27%
	Other/more than one race	3%	Other/more than one race	3%
Monroe	*African American*	*0%*	*African American*	*7%*
7,643 children	*Caucasian*	*99%*	*Caucasian*	*86%*
	Other/more than one race	*1%*	*Other/more than one race*	*7%*
Washington	African American	0%	African American	0%
3,329 children	Caucasian	99%	Caucasian	86%
	Other/more than one race	1%	Other/more than one race	14%
Randolph	*African American*	*9%*	*African American*	*9%*
7,507 children	*Caucasian*	*89%*	*Caucasian*	*89%*
	Other/more than one race	*2%*	*Other/more than one race*	*2%*
Mt. Vernon Region Child population 38,703				
Jefferson	African American	8%	African American	30%
8,858 children	Caucasian	90%	Caucasian	67%
	Other/more than one race	2%	Other/more than one race	3%
Clay	*African American*	*0%*	*African American*	*6%*
3,070 children	*Caucasian*	*99%*	*Caucasian*	*94%*
	Other/more than one race	*1%*	*Other/more than one race*	*0%*
Marion	African American	4%	African American	25%
9,205 children	Caucasian	94%	Caucasian	73%
	Other/more than one race	2%	Other/more than one race	2%
Clinton	*African American*	*4%*	*African American*	*15%*
8,076 children	*Caucasian*	*94%*	*Caucasian*	*79%*
	Other/more than one race	*2%*	*Other/more than one race*	*6%*
Wayne	African American	0%	African American	19%
3,579 children	Caucasian	99%	Caucasian	81%
	Other/more than one race	1%	Other/more than one race	0%
Gallatin	*African American*	*0%*	*African American*	*0%*
1,226 children	*Caucasian*	*98%*	*Caucasian*	*100%*
	Other/more than one race	*2%*	*Other/more than one race*	*0%*
Hamilton	African American	1%	African American	0%
1,711 children	Caucasian	98%	Caucasian	100%
	Other/more than one race	1%	Other/more than one race	0%
White	*African American*	*0%*	*African American*	*0%*
2,978 children	*Caucasian*	*98%*	*Caucasian*	*100%*
	Other/more than one race	*2%*	*Other/more than one race*	*0%*
Southern Region Child Population 261,887	African American	**11%**	African American	**32%**
	Caucasian	**87%**	Caucasian	**66%**
	Other/More than one race	**2%**	Other/more than one race	**2%**
Illinois Child population 9,173,842	***African American***	***16%***	***African American***	***58%***
	Caucasian	***75%***	***Caucasian***	***34%***
	Other/more than one race	***9%***	***Other/more than one race***	***4%***