



North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services Division of Social Services

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Michael F. Easley, Governor
Dempsey Benton, Secretary

Sherry Bradsher, Director
(919) 733-3055

September 10, 2007

Dear County Director of Social Services

Subject: The Experiences Report Website and the new Federal Outcome Measures Report

In collaboration with UNC-Chapel Hill, the Division will release the newest version of the web-based Experiences Report on **September 10, 2007**. The web address to access the report remains the same: <http://ssw.unc.edu/cw/index.html> and will include expanded menu options that will continue to assist counties in tracking performance over time.

The enhancements to the new version are:

- An expanded menu that will include information on Racial Disproportionality and Placement Stability, one of the new permanency composite scores of the Federal Outcomes Measures
- A breakdown of the previous Federal Outcomes Measures by race, ethnicity and gender

In the new version, data on race and ethnicity has been grouped into one area. This change allows counties to view the experiences of children in the child welfare system along with the federal outcomes measures by race within a single menu item. In future releases, this information will also be available by ethnicity for the counties. At this time, ethnicity information is only available at the state level data.

In addition, Placement Stability, one of the new Permanency composite indicator scores of from the CFSR outcome measures, will be produced for each of the county and for the state as a whole. Along with the overall score, the website will breakdown each of the 3 composite measures that make up the overall score. The table will provide comparisons to the median state score as well as the national percentiles. Throughout the fiscal year, Additional permanency Permanency composite scores from the CFSR will be made available in future releases of the website.

So that counties are best able to track their performance using a consistent set of measures over time, we will continue to produce all of the information that was available on the old Experiences Report website.

The Division hopes that the latest version of the Experiences Report and the Federal Outcome Measures Report will be helpful to you. We hope you will share this information with staff members and the wider community in an effort to demonstrate your progress on ensuring the safety, permanence and well-being of the children in your county and in the state. If you have questions about the information contained in these reports, the interpretation of that information, or the specific programming logic used to develop this report, please contact Jane Seo at jane.seo@ncmail.net or 919-733-4530.

Sincerely,

Jo Ann Lamm, Chief
Family Support and

Hank Bowers, Chief
Performance Management,

JAL/HB/klj

CC: Sherry Bradsher
Sarah Barham
Family Support and Child Welfare Services Team Leaders
Children's Program Representatives
Work First Representatives