Minnesota’s CJI: Collaboration on Using Data to Improve Outcomes

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Overview of Minnesota Presentation

• Background and structure of Minnesota CJI
• Evolution and use of outcome data
• Collaborative efforts at state and local level
• What we’ve achieved
• Lessons learned
Background and Structure of Minnesota CJI

- State Courts
- Child Welfare
- Counties
- Tribal
- History of Children’s Justice Initiative
  - Lead judges
  - Statewide Advisory Team
  - Local CJI teams
Evolution in Use of Outcome Data

• 2007 CFSR
  – Opportunity to use results with CJI teams
  – Educated judges and all team members about the CFSR process and outcomes
  – Provided data at 10 Regional Meetings
    • Bombarded people with data!
    • Asked them to develop action plans related to all items
• Judicial Council Resolution
Evolution in Use of Outcome Data

• Became more focused on key strategies and related measures
• Introduced well-being measures
• Teams and judges see same data on same measures over time
• Judicial Council has adopted rigorous timing measures for permanency and time to adoption
Collaborative efforts at state and local level

- CJI staff partner in MnCFSR in larger metro counties
- Share court data with MnCFSR in any county
- Review key measures with chief justice and commissioner of human services at Advisory Committee meeting every quarter
- Local teams are encouraged to access reports available from court and DHS
Partners in CQI

• Second round of CJI Regional Team Meetings 2012
  – Amount of data reduced
  – CJI team action plans evolved to “key strategies”
• CJI leadership promotes CJI at leadership meetings, conferences, and educational opportunities for stakeholder
• ASPR, CFSR, CFSP
• Together whenever there is child welfare issue:
  – NGA opportunities for improved practices: safe reduction
  – Data roundtable – foster care re-entry
  – Data sharing conferences
What We’ve Achieved

• CJI teams know about and use data
  – CJI teams receive results of local MnCFSR
  – Judges use data to review timely permanency and adoption
  – Supports shared accountability
• Judicial branch has timing objectives and Judicial Council receives report twice a year about progress
• Counties work to understand data, adopt more targeted strategies and efforts to improve performance
• Significant improvements in adoption and foster care performance
Lessons Learned

• Leadership, leadership, leadership!
• Gaining and sustaining momentum takes resources, time, attention
• Need to “get out there” to meet with teams and be willing to invest time and resources
• Use fewer pieces of data, presented in a consistent way to keep attention and interest
• Leadership!