

Minnesota Judicial Branch

Minnesota Department of Human Services

CJI

Children's Justice Initiative

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 CJJ 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!