

FY 2011-12 NBPB

Commonwealth of
Pennsylvania

Office of Children,
Youth and Families



**NEEDS BASED PLAN AND BUDGET
NARRATIVE TEMPLATE**

Budget Narrative Template

The following pages provide a template for counties to use to complete the narrative piece of the 2011-2012 Needs Based Plan and Budget. All narrative pieces should be included in this template; no additional narrative is necessary. Detailed instructions for completing each section are in the Needs Based Plan and Budget Bulletin, Instructions & Appendices.

The budget narrative is limited to a MAXIMUM of 50 pages, excluding charts, Special Grants Request Forms, and IL Documentation. All text must be in either 11-point Arial or 12-point Times New Roman font, and all margins (bottom, top, left, and right) must be 1 inch.

Note: On the following page, once the county inserts its name in the gray shaded text, headers throughout the document will automatically populate with the county name. Enter the county name by clicking on the gray shaded area and typing in the name.

Mifflin County

Needs Based Plan and Budget FYs 2009/10, 2010/11, and 2011/12

Version Control	
Original Submission Date:	8/13/10
Version 2 Submission Date:	
Version 3 Submission Date:	
Version 4 Submission Date:	

Section 2: NBPB Development

2-1: Executive Summary

- Submit an executive summary highlighting the major priorities, challenges, and successes identified by the county since its most recent NBPB submission. The summary should include any widespread trends or staffing challenges which affect the county, particularly those which impact all outcome indicators.

It has been another year of great growth, learning and change for Mifflin County Children and Youth. The agency has continued to restructure and reorganize the current staff to maximize resources while meeting the ever increasing needs and demands of both the youth and families we serve and the offices we report back to. As the economy continues the struggle the agency had a drastic increase in the number of youth and families coming to the attention of the agency over the past fiscal year. Staffing remains a struggle, both in recruiting competent staff and retaining those who are here. The agency continues to strive to provide quality services to all families while remaining compliant with DPW requirements.

The agency had another successful licensing inspection this year. The agency believes this pattern will continue due to the agency's ongoing participation in the organizational effectiveness (OE) process. The agency has developed many new policies, both client and practice related that not only focus on compliance but on quality. The agency believes that by having these policies in place and continuing to develop new policies as needed, it will give current staff clear guidelines and expectations and will allow us to hold ourselves accountable for the expectations that all staff had a hand in creating.

The agency has also made improvements in the areas of reunifying within 12 months, increasing adoption rates for youth in care beyond 17 months and improving placement stability. The county often performs better than the state, region and other class 6 counties in many of the measured areas. The agency continues to look at these factors and seek ways to improve performance each year. In performance areas where the agency is not performing to standard the agency continues to assess ways in which performance can improve and remain strong.

It has been also been a challenging year with many new expectations, requirements, bulletins, projects and programs. It is often difficult in a small county to keep up with so many new processes with still trying to keep up staff morale and meet the already present day to day deadlines and demands in place. The agency is hopeful that the board of commissioners will approve the agency filling the assistant administrator position to assist with the demands that continue to come in. The agency is also restructuring to meet current needs which will include training two current staff to become specialized CPS workers.

Major priorities for this year will include training staff in the new out-of-home safety assessment tool, increasing comfort and familiarity with the in-home safety assessment tool, learning to utilize a brand new case management system (CAPS), and increasing knowledge and use of the evidence based practices available in Mifflin County (FGDM and MST). Other areas of focus will remain on reducing initial entries into care, expediting permanency for those in care and increasing quality services available to all youth and families. The agency is hopeful that we will continue to see improvements in these areas and achieve the outcomes designated by the state and this agency.

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2-2a. Collaboration

Entity	County Engagement
County Children and Youth Agency Staff	Participates in Systems of Care meetings; Active member of ICSP committee with other categoricals working to integrate services in the county.
Juvenile Probation Staff	Participates in Systems of Care meetings; Active member of ICSP committee with other categoricals working to integrate services in the county.
Juvenile Court and Family Court Judges and Legal Counsel for Parties	The agency solicitor and President Judge attend the state roundtable meetings with CYS administrator.
Family Members and Youth, especially those who are or who have received services	The Systems of Care team is attempting to increase family member and youth involvement in both SOC and ICSP meetings.
Child, Parent, and Family Advocates	The Systems of Care team is attempting to increase family member and youth involvement in both SOC and ICSP meetings.
Mental Health and Mental Retardation service system	Participates in Systems of Care meetings; Active member of ICSP committee with other categoricals working to integrate services in the county.
Drug and Alcohol Service System	Participates in Systems of Care meetings; Active member of ICSP committee with other categoricals working to integrate services in the county.
Early Intervention System	Participates in Systems of Care meetings; Active member of ICSP committee with other categoricals working to integrate services in the county.
Local Education System	Participates in Systems of Care meetings; Active member of ICSP committee with other categoricals working to integrate services in the county.
Community Organizations which provide support and services to children and families	Providers participate in Systems of Care meetings; Active members of ICSP committee with other categoricals working to integrate services in the county.
Current Service Providers	Providers participate in Systems of Care meetings; Active members of ICSP committee with other categoricals working to integrate services in the county.

2-2b. Data Collection Details

Resource	Data Collected	Date of Data
Ex.: US Census	Population; poverty statistics	2008
AFCARS	Placement Data	2009-2010
CY-28	Intake and Ongoing Data	2009-2010
Center for Rural PA	Population/Poverty Statistics	2009-2010
Local CYS Database	#'s of children/families served in intake, CPS, GPS, Placement; Caseload Sizes	2000-2008

2-3: Meeting Mandates

2-3a. PA Rules of Juvenile Court Procedure

- What steps are the county taking to address this mandate?

As noted in the previous NBPB submission, the agency solicitor provided the agency with initial information and training upon the new rules coming forth. The solicitor also met with and educated the judges about the new rules for an understanding and cooperation from our courts in meeting required timeframes. The solicitor is assisting the agency in making sure the new rules are being followed and adhered to and the agency will continue to rely on her for this purpose.

2-3b. Truancy

- What steps are the county taking to address this mandate?

The Systems of Care Team has developed a truancy prevention and elimination plan and recently met with the new Superintendent of the school district to present the plan to hopefully have the school district come on board. The hope is to get all schools in the district informed about truancy, when and how referrals should be made, and educate them about options for students struggling with truancy. In addition, the group will be meeting with the local district judges to educate them about alternatives for truancy rather than just fining truant youth and their parents. The county has several programs available to assist with truancy prevention including Project YES, Family Group Decision Making, Multi-Systemic Therapy, SAP, and Second Step. It is the hopes of the Systems of Care group that between CYS and the school district becoming aware of the issue and addressing it cohesively the rates will gradually be reduced and eventually eliminated. The agency will continue to accept all referrals on habitually truant youth and utilize the programs listed above to address this mandate.

2-3c. Quality Assurance Process

- What steps are the county taking to address this mandate?

Mifflin County continues to strive for success in adhering to the instructions from DPW regarding the RMTS survey. The agency RMTS coordinator and interviewer have attended the appropriate trainings as requested. Protocol and procedures have been and will continue to be implemented to assure that all documentation required to support all activities being performed are in compliance with regulations.

2-3d. Fostering Connections

- What steps are the county taking to address this mandate?

The agency administrator, supervisors and LSI paralegal have participated in several trainings regarding Fostering Connections to gain a better understanding of the requirements in efforts to be in compliance with this act.

Currently when children enter placement, the agency is attempting to secure placement in the county so the child can remain in the school district and hopefully within their home school so they can maintain educational stability. When this is not possible, the agency assesses whether it would be in the child's best interest for the child to be transported to the home school district and in cases where that is determined to be best for the child, the agency is working with the placement provider and foster family to ensure that this occurs. When it is determined that it is not in the child's best interest to remain in that school setting (i.e. too great of distance to travel, etc.) the agency ensures the educational records are immediately transferred from the sending to the receiving school district so the child can be immediately enrolled in the new school.

The agency is also sending out the required notification to kin within 30 days of a child entering placement to search for relative placement options or connections for the youth. The agency is currently using the Accurint search tool to locate these potential kin resources. In this area, the workers need to get better at parent and youth engagement in gathering information about kin resources/connections.

The agency has also been working with our contracted IL provider regarding transition planning for older youth. There is much room for development in this area.

The agency continues to be a strong advocate of sibling placements and continues to make diligent efforts to keep siblings together and connected while in placement.

The agency administrator and LSI paralegal are going to work with the management team to draft up new policies, forms, procedures, etc. for better agency practice regarding this act and hold a training with agency staff to bring them more on board and into compliance with this act.

2-3e. Safety Assessment

- What steps are the county taking to address this mandate?

The agency provided initial Safety Assessment training to staff through the county safety leads. The county has since participated in a 'safety booster' session with Bill Dougherty with the Child Welfare Training Program and also has periodic safety sessions with the units in the agency to review safety assessment and address any areas of confusion or concern. As the agency prepares for this year's licensing inspection it has become more evident that the ongoing staff continue to struggle with this and the agency will be sending them to the 3 day training to again review the process and ensure their understanding in how to implement the process. The safety leads and the administrator also participate in regular safety support sessions across the region to network with other agencies about how they are implementing this. The agency will continue to work with staff to ensure understanding and compliance with this mandate and will seek guidance from Central Region staff when clarity is needed.

2-3f. Children & Family Services Act of 2006

- What steps are the county taking to address this mandate?

Mifflin County Children and Youth is in compliance with this act. The agency utilizes two case aides to maintain the caseworker visitation log for both in-home and placement cases. The agency has strict policy in place in regards to visits occurring monthly in the home where the child resides and the visit being a quality contact with the child and family. Caseworkers have a form that must be filled out with each visit and turned into the case aide who in turn inputs the data into the system. The administrator reviews the logs on a monthly basis for compliance and caseworkers face disciplinary action for failure to comply with the expectations. To date this agency has had 100% compliance with this.

2-3g. Development Evaluation & Early Intervention Referral

- What steps are the county taking to address this mandate?

The agency currently has two staff members, one caseworker and one supervisor, trained on the Ages and Stages evaluation process and expectations. All CYS staff members have been provided a training regarding Ages and Stages and when referrals are required to be made. The two staff members are currently conducting all of the agencies evaluations and making referrals for EI services when appropriate. The agency also has a Letter of Agreement with our local EI and meets to discuss expectations, cooperation and any barriers that may exist to ensure that all children in need of services are being referred for the appropriate services. So far, the agency is able to be compliant with this expectation with the current staff complement.

The agency has also participated in Phase I of the ASQ screening initiative study and will continue to provide whatever information is requested for the remaining two phases.

2-3h. CFSR Outcomes and Continuous Quality Improvement

- What steps will the county take to develop or enhance a continuous quality improvement process related to the CFSR outcomes and themes?

The county will continue to assess performance in each of the CFSR outcome categories to identify areas where the county is succeeding and areas where the county needs improvement. In the areas where the county is succeeding, the county will assess what practices and services are in place that are contributing to the success rate. In the areas where the county needs improvement, the management team will assess reasons that could be affecting the county's performance on those outcomes and develop solutions for improvements. If the county is granted permission to have an assistant administrator position (previously approved by OCYF – pending commissioner approval) the agency would utilize the assistant administrator to help track this information and implement new practices and services to aid the county in succeeding in all federal outcome areas. At this time the agency feels it could improve in all outcome areas identified .

2-3i. Shared Case Responsibility

- What steps are the county taking to address this mandate?

In recent years the county has not had any shared cases. The agency is reaching out to the local JPO chief in an effort to collaborate on the implementation plan and engage both agencies in providing the necessary services to the youth and families with joint dependency and delinquency issues. The agency is hopeful that collaboration efforts will be successful.

2-3j. The Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA) – Guardian Ad Litem training

- What steps are the county taking to address this mandate?

Currently the agency has one GAL that represents all children in care and one conflict GAL when needed. The agency will be working with both of the attorney's to make them aware of the this new requirement. In addition, the agency will be discussing this requirement with both the agency solicitor and the President Judge so all parties are aware of the requirements and expectations and these two attorneys can be brought on board as well as any future attorneys who may serve in the GAL role for youth in care.

2-3k. Chafee Foster Care Independence Program (CFCIP) - National Youth in Transition Database (NYTD) – Baseline Survey

- What steps are the county taking to prepare to address this mandate?

The agency will cooperate with whatever expectations and requirements arise from this mandate. The agency is hopeful that county commissioners will approve the hiring of an assistant administrator within the implementation year (funds already approved by OCYF). If so, the agency would utilize this new position to comply with all data requests, surveys, forms, etc. to be compliant with this mandate.

2-3l. Emergency and Disaster Planning

- What steps are the county taking to address this mandate?

The county currently has an emergency disaster plan in place. The agency will continue to work with the local county emergency management personnel to adapt and revise the disaster plan as necessary and as additional guidance from OCYF is provided.

2-3m. Time Limited Family Reunification (TLFR)

- What steps are the county taking to address this mandate?

N/A – Agency not receiving any TLFR grant funds.

Section 3: General Indicators

3-1: County Information/Background

Population and poverty trends

There has been a decrease in the percentage of population under the age of 18 in Mifflin County. In 2000, the percentage was 26% and in 2008 the percentage was 23%. This is slightly higher than the state average of 22.4%. In 2008 the population of Mifflin County was 46,062 but decreased by 0.9% since 2000.(Center for Rural Pennsylvania)

In 2006, Mifflin County's median income was \$37,772, far below the state's median income of \$49,400 and the lowest in the region. In 2008, the county's median income was \$38,571 and still far below Pennsylvania's median income of \$50,702. In 2002, an economic research service study showed that Mifflin County had the 18th highest poverty rate of all the Pennsylvania counties. Lewistown Borough, which is the county seat, has the county's largest population. In the 2000 census, over 16% of Lewistown Borough's families lived in poverty (Mifflin County Human Services Needs Assessment). Also in the 2000 Census, 8.6% of Mifflin County's families were below the poverty level and 40% of single mother households living with related children under 18 years of age were below poverty level (U.S. Census Bureau). In 2008, Mifflin County's total poverty rate was at 13.1%, exceeding Pennsylvania's average of 11.6% . The percentage of children living in poverty was 21.1%, exceeding Pennsylvania's average of 16.2%.

Within the past fiscal year the agency has seen many families struggling with the effects of poverty greatly increase in these very difficult economic times. The agency anticipates when the 2010 census is completed the poverty rate for the county will have increased and median income will have decreased. Obviously as financial burdens take their toll on families, it perpetuates situations and issues and has lead to a dramatic increase in the number of families requiring agency involvement.

Issues in annual licensing review and/or the Quality Services Review

The agency continues to make progress year to year regarding the annual licensing inspection. The agency takes this process very seriously and looks at the issues that arise within each licensing period and develops strategies to address these issues in the hopes of them not continuing to be areas of non-compliance for the agency. The agency continues to participate in the Organizational Effectiveness process originating through CWTP to institute more program policies and fine tune practices to become compliant with DPW regulations as well as focusing on quality practices. Last year the agency was cited in several cases for not filing TPR petitions by the 15th month of placement when exception language was not included in the court order. The agency has rectified this issue and is now filing timely TPR petitions due to the use of the LSI paralegal, FICS reunification services assisting in moving cases toward permanency, and the diligent efforts of the agency solicitor. Areas identified during this year's licensing inspection surround when intake caseworkers place kids and do not complete the required paperwork for those kids entering placement. Another issue for the agency is not offering visitation to incarcerated parents. The agency will need to discuss this issue with the courts and perhaps with the newly formed local children's roundtable group to ensure it does not continue to be a licensing issue. Furthermore, the agency received several citations because private providers for foster homes are not ensuring that timely EPSDT exams are occurring. The

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agency will be meeting with providers to review expectations and ensure compliance in this area in future years or the provider could risk losing future placements from the agency. The agency administrator met with each unit to review the citations and the administrator is working with each supervisor to ensure caseworkers are clear on the proper procedures. The agency will continue to strive for full compliance in all program areas.

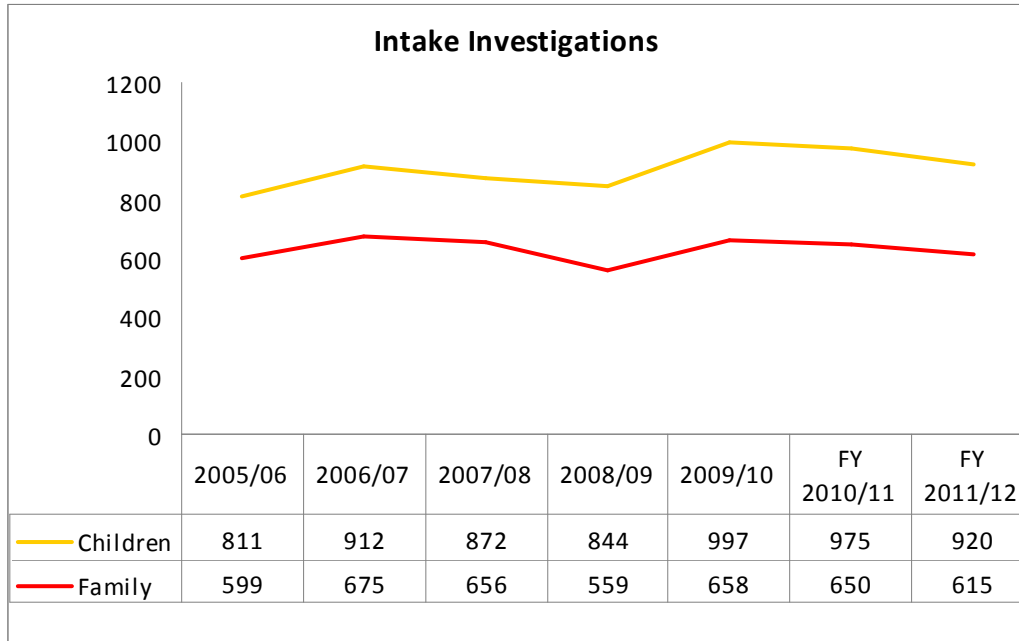
❑ Other Changes or Important Trends

The agency continues to struggle with recruitment and retention which has an impact on the size of the caseload a worker is able to carry. With the increasing requirements it has made it very difficult to provide quality services to families due to experienced workers carrying more than their share of the burden and trying to meet all of the additional requirements while newer workers are just learning the ropes and unable to carry more than a minimal caseload. The agency saw a major increase in intake numbers this FY and the intake unit struggled to keep up with their workloads. The program management staff at MCCYS is relatively young and inexperienced as well with a combined total of ten years among four supervisors including the administrator. The combination of caseworkers and supervisors being so new has been a challenge in striving for full compliance when many of the staff are just learning their jobs through on the job training. The agency has been creative in reorganizing the office while using current staff to meet the needs of the families we are serving. The agency also continues to participate in the OE process to develop policies geared toward quality and compliance based services for youth and families while giving staff a voice on personnel and agency related policies. The agency is hopeful that the Mobile Technology Pilot will assist in improving agency moral as the county has been selected as a pilot county to utilize the notebooks. The agency also believes that the addition of the assistant administrator position, if permitted to be filled by commissioners, will greatly increase the agency's quality and compliance based practices by allowing the assistant to work with the current administrator on the array of new bulletins coming out to create and update agency policies to adhere to the bulletins and strive for excellence in all areas.

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3-2a. Intake Investigations

Insert the Intake Investigations Chart (Chart 1) and discuss any highlighted trends. Describe factors contributing to the trend. Discuss any important trends that may not be highlighted.



Mifflin County saw a significant increase in the number of children and families service within the past fiscal year. The agency believes that the economy has had a major impact on families living within the community leading to increased drug abuse, domestic violence, abuse and neglect of children. The agency has had involvement with many new families not previously known to the agency and many who were new to the county.

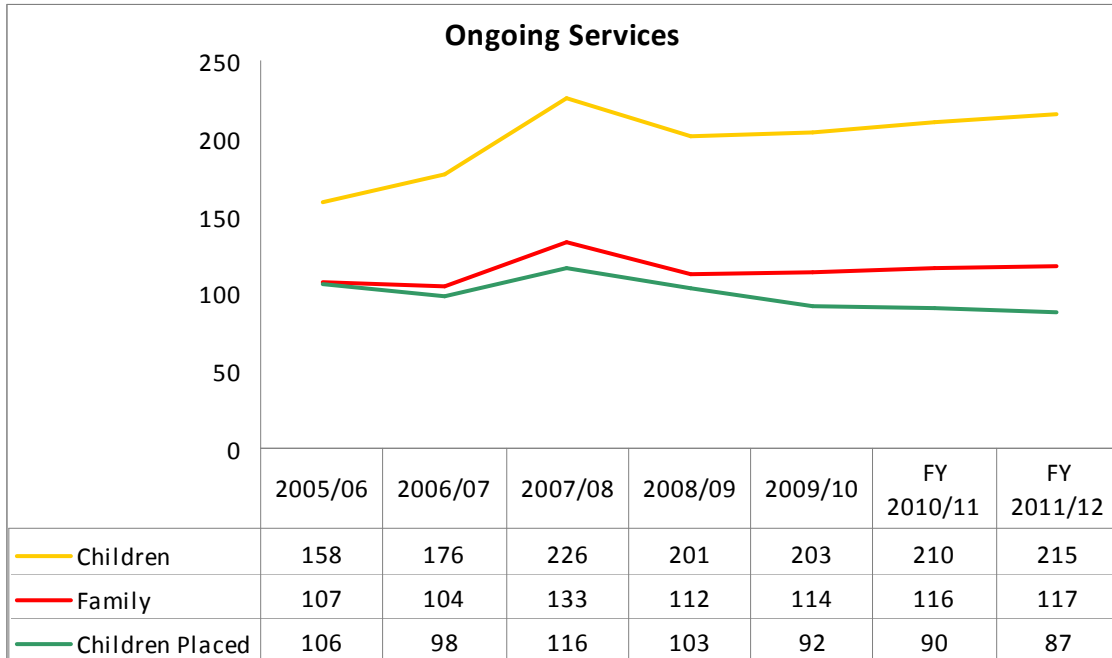
The agency believes there will be a slight decrease within the current FY and a more significant decrease in FY 11/12 as the economy hopefully stabilizes and financial burdens are not causing as many of the above listed issues.

Due to the dramatic increase in intakes, the agency has been forced to reorganize the current staff and shift staff members to the intake unit. The agency believes we should be able to absorb the increase by shifting staff and reorganizing current job units and responsibilities. If intakes would continue to increase or maintain at current levels within the next FY, the agency would need to consider adding a staff position.

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3-2a. Ongoing Services

- Insert the Ongoing Services Chart (Chart 2) and discuss any highlighted trends. Describe factors contributing to the trend. Discuss any important trends that may not be highlighted.



Mifflin County served almost the same number of children and families through ongoing services in FY 09/10 as we did in FY 08/09 however the number of children in placement was reduced. The agency believes that the placement numbers were able to be reduced due to effective in-home services available in the community such as FICS Family Preservation Services and Family Group Decision Making in some cases.

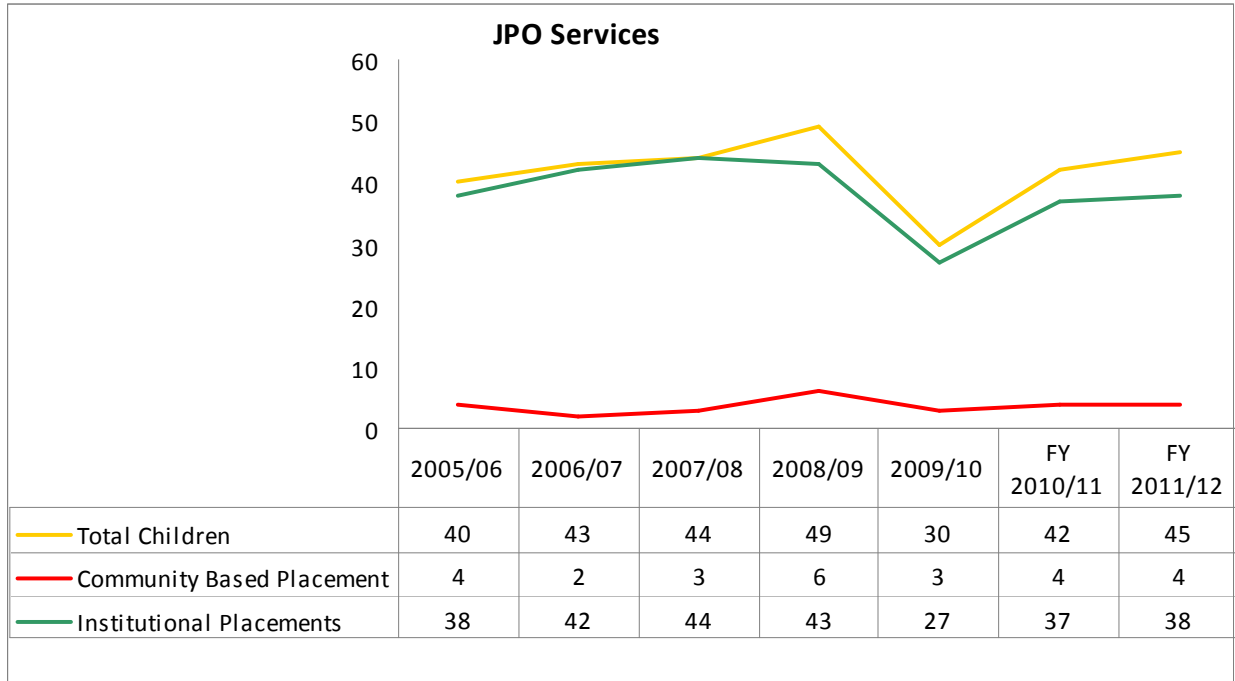
The agency believes it will serve approximately the same numbers of children and families through ongoing services over the next two fiscal years but also believes the number of children in placement will continue to be slightly reduced each FY.

The agency has been utilizing FICS Family Preservation services to assist in preventing placements of children in cases where kids would have previously entered care absent effective services. The agency also has FGDM and MST in place now which should also assist in reducing placements. Lastly, the agency has been doing a much better job at helping kids in care achieve permanency through reunification, adoption and SPLC in a much timelier fashion which also assists in reducing the total number of children placed in care.

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3-2a. JPO Services

- Insert the JPO Services Chart (Chart 3) and discuss any highlighted trends. Describe factors contributing to the trend. Discuss any important trends that may not be highlighted.

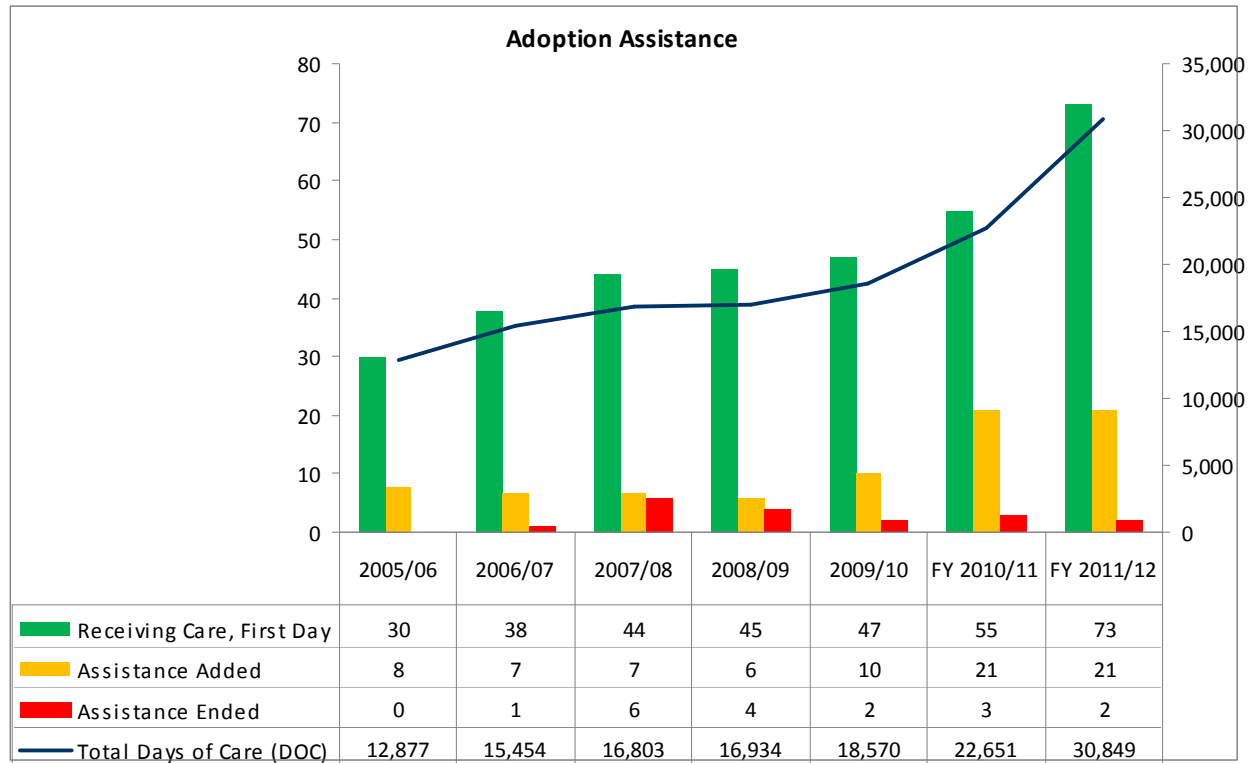


The county saw a significant decrease in the total number of children placed within the fiscal year and a significant reduction in the number of institutional placements. The JPO Chief believes the implementation of the juvenile drug court has had a major impact on the number of children served but also believes there was just a much lower number of complaints this FY. The Chief believes that in FY's 10/11 and 11/12 the numbers will still be lower than in FY 08/09 but will be much closer to those than occurred in FY 09/10. There have been several sexual crimes committed that the Chief believes could result in costly placements for the county depending on how the cases go. The county will be able to manage the needs of the youth and families within the current FY and FY 11/12 based on predictions of what numbers will look like.

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3-2b. Adoption Assistance

- Insert the Adoption Assistance Chart (Chart 4) and discuss any highlighted trends. Describe factors contributing to the trend. Discuss any important trends that may not be highlighted.



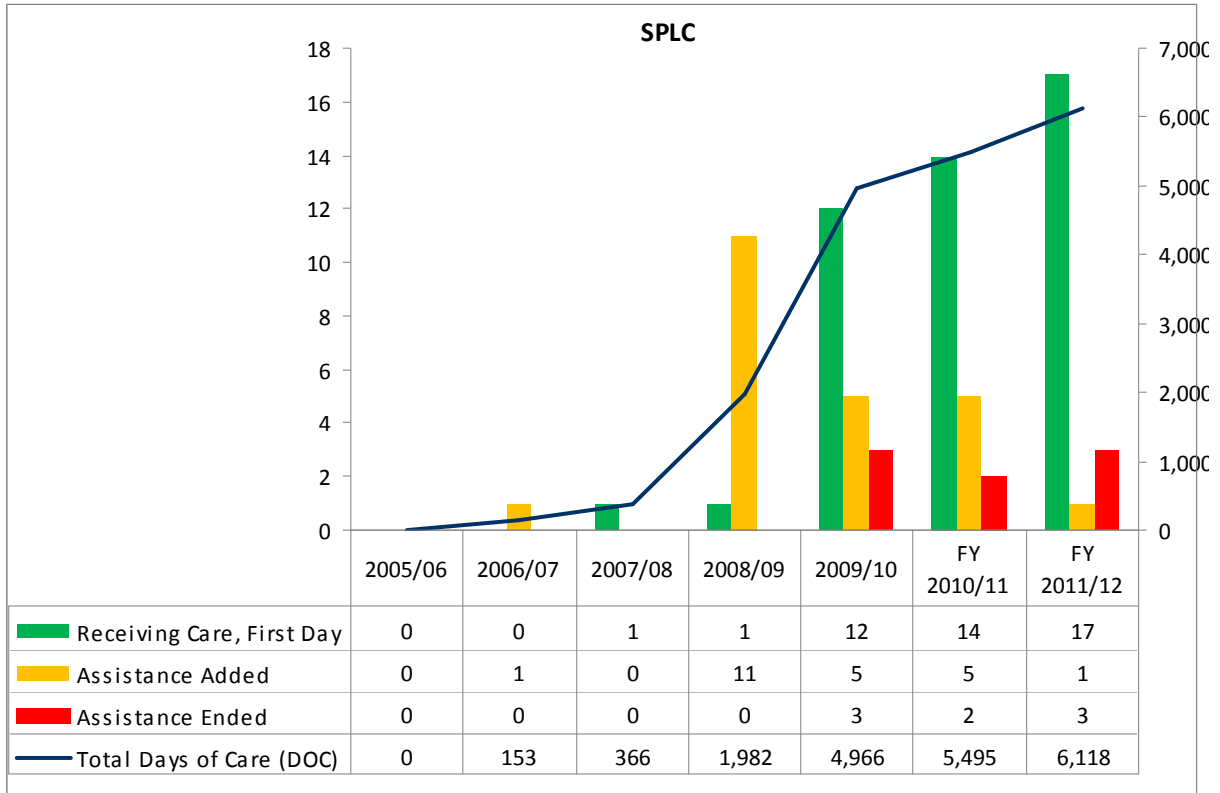
The county has seen a gradual increase in the number of children receiving adoption assistance over the past several fiscal years and the county believes the numbers will increase slightly in FY 10/11 and increase significantly in FY 11/12.

The agency has drastically improved the rate at which children in care receive permanency through adoption. The agency is ensuring at the beginning of a child's placement that the family, whether it be foster family or kinship family, be willing to commit to the child(ren) as a permanent resource should reunification efforts fail. The agency has also made sure that children in care that cannot be successfully reunified with their parents have a TPR petition filed on their behalf by the 15th month of placement, a timeframe the agency had not been meeting in the past. In addition, the local judges have been drastically decreased the timeframe it takes to issue a TPR decision, on some occasions even ruling from the bench. All of these factors have lead to a decreased time in care and an increase in the time to adoption. Because of these improvements, the agency anticipates a much larger number of children achieving adoption finalization in the next two FY's than in previous years.

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3-2c. Subsidized Permanent Legal Custody (SPLC)

- Insert the SPLC Chart (Chart 5) and discuss any highlighted trends. Describe factors contributing to the trend. Discuss any important trends that may not be highlighted.



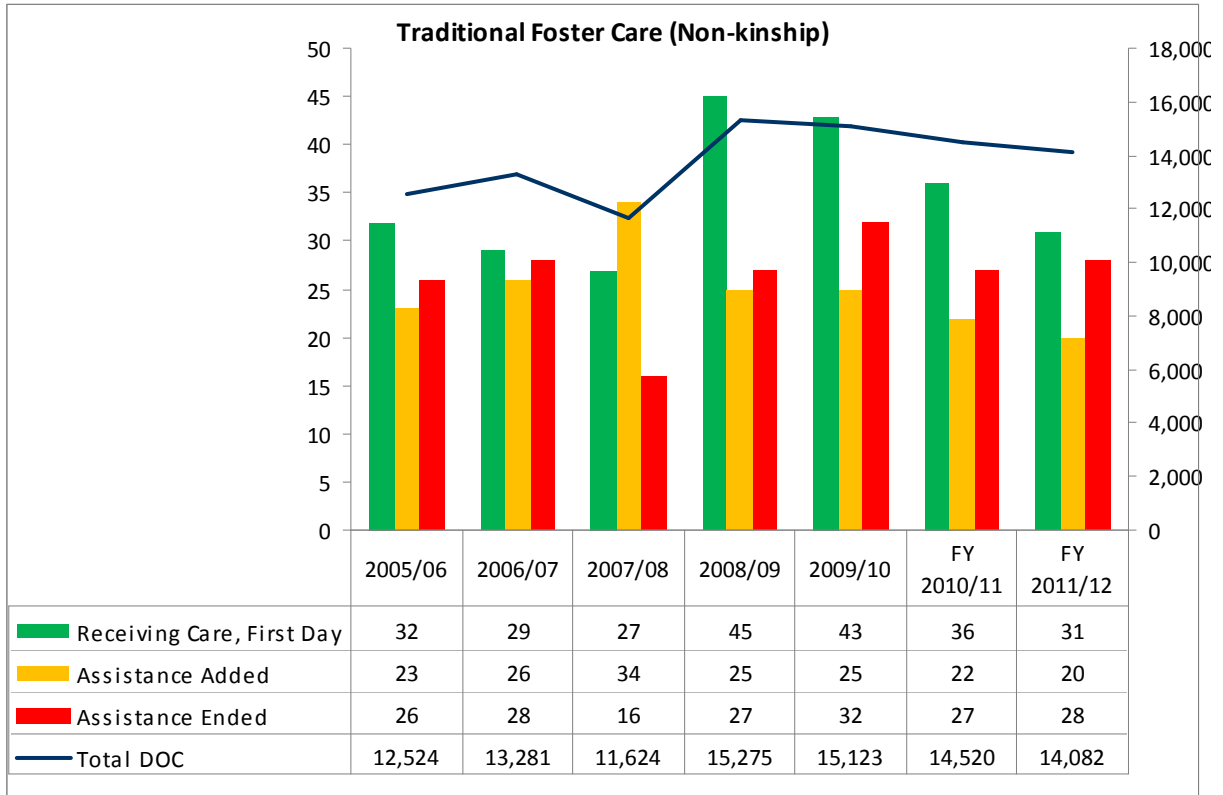
The agency had a decrease in the number of children who achieved permanency in FY 09/10 compared to FY 08/09 when the agency had finalized quite a few SPLC arrangements. The agency has had several encounters where SPLC arrangements have fallen apart/failed and the agency has been much more selective about which cases they will consider SPLC for. The agency typically utilizes SPLC for kinship cases where relatives don't want to have rights terminated and are willing to facilitate an ongoing relationship with the child and also in cases where there is an older teen who cannot return home but does not want to consent to an adoption but prefers to stay with the foster family until reaching the age of majority.

The agency still believes the SPLC option is beneficial and appropriate in certain situations so the agency anticipates achieving permanency through SPLC for 5 children in each of the next two FY's. The number of children already in SPLC arrangements who turn 18, thus ending the assistance is minimal, so overall, the agency will be serving increased numbers of kids through SPLC each year.

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3-2d. Out-of-Home Placements: County Selected Indicator

- Insert charts related to out-of-home placements where trends are highlighted (Charts 6-13), and discuss the trend(s). Describe factors contributing to the trend. Discuss any important trends that may not be highlighted.



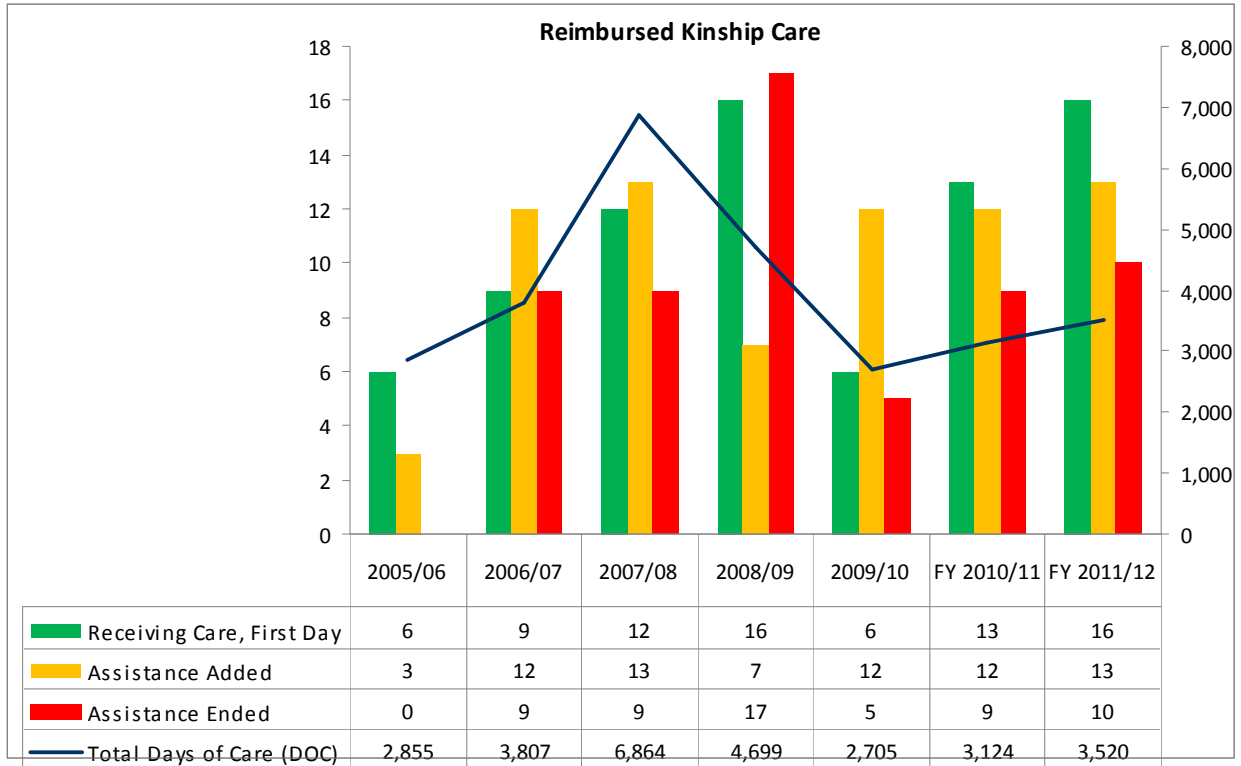
The agency saw a very slight decrease in the number of kids in traditional foster care in FY 09/10 as well as a slight decrease in the total days of care. It is anticipated that this will continue to gradually decrease over the next two FY's as the county continues to utilize kinship placements for new kids entering care. The county believes the change would have been more significant if just based on use of kinship homes but the agency has been utilizing more therapeutic foster homes for children with more extensive needs and the agency has been able to use these homes to prevent placement in community residential placements. The agency has also decreased use of residential services by use of some very experienced and well trained therapeutic foster homes. By reducing these types of placements it obviously increases the foster care numbers.

The agency is hopeful that the current in-home service programs such as FICS, MST, and FGDM will assist in reducing children in need of placement as well as reducing days of care by preventing placements when and where appropriate.

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3-2d. Out-of-Home Placements: County Selected Indicator

- Insert charts related to out-of-home placements where trends are highlighted (Charts 6-13), and discuss the trend(s). Describe factors contributing to the trend. Discuss any important trends that may not be highlighted.

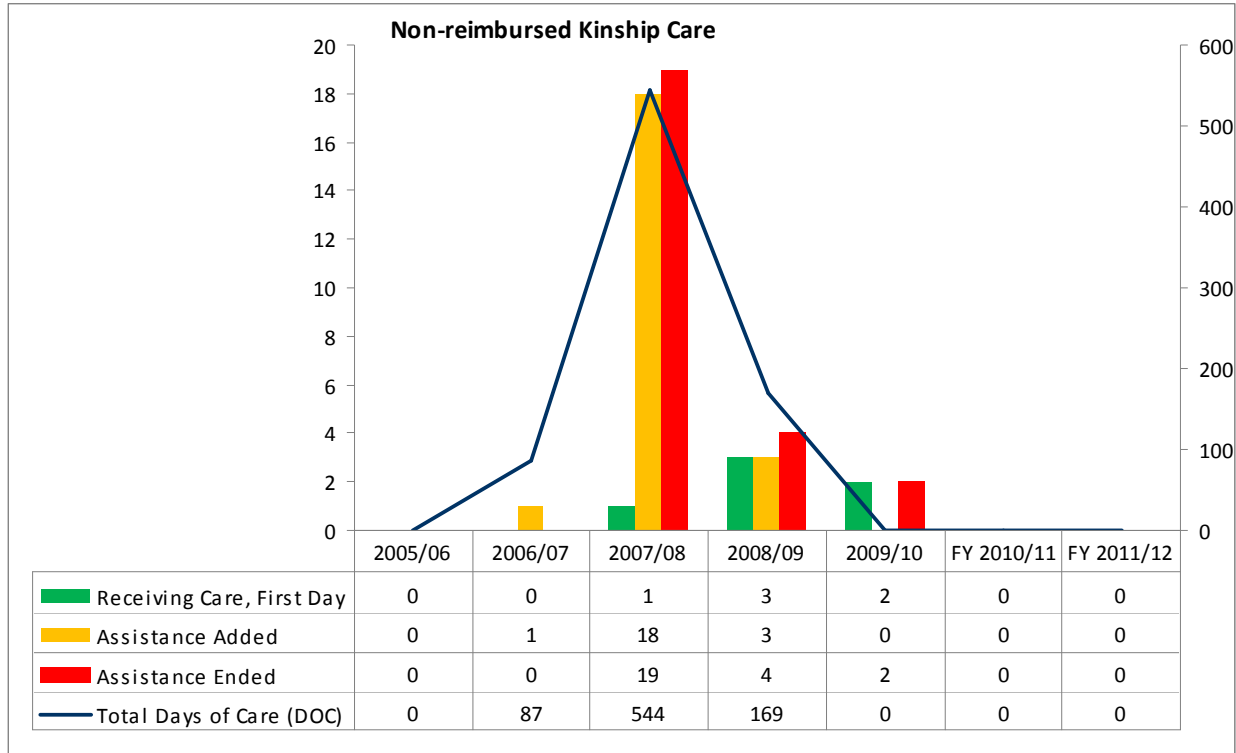


The agency saw a significant increase in the number of kids placed in reimbursed kinship homes in FY 09/10. With the implementation of the kinship care bulletin and the new Fostering Connections efforts, the agency has been making diligent efforts to seek out appropriate relatives in all cases where kids enter placement and are at risk of entering placement. Due to these efforts, more of the children entering care are able to be placed with kin, thus increasing days of care. The agency anticipates it will continue to place about 12-13 kids in reimbursed kinship placements over the next two FY's.

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3-2d. Out-of-Home Placements: County Selected Indicator

- ❑ Insert charts related to out-of-home placements where trends are highlighted (Charts 6-13), and discuss the trend(s). Describe factors contributing to the trend. Discuss any important trends that may not be highlighted.

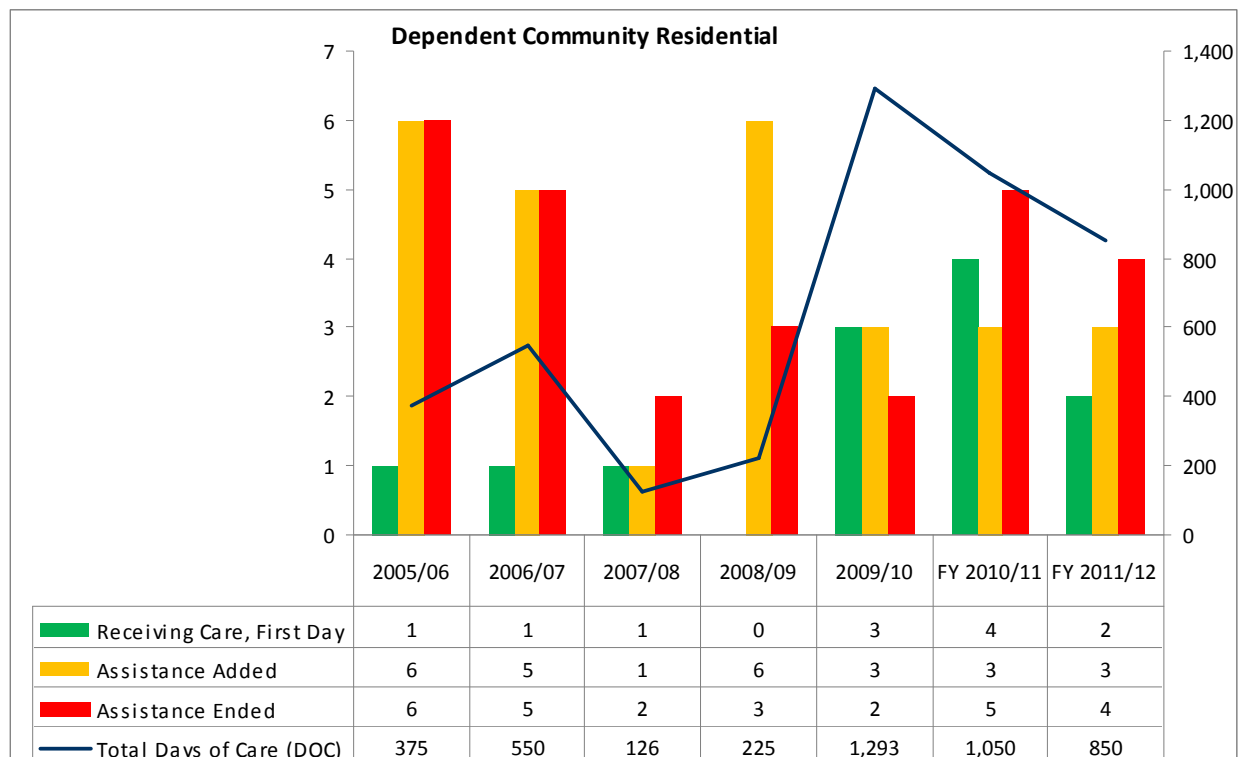


As mentioned previously, the agency is making diligent efforts to seek kinship resources for all children entering placement and those at risk of entering placement. In FY 09/10 the agency had no children in non-reimbursed kinship care and the agency anticipates this will continue to be the trend of the next two FY's. When meeting with kinship resources, when families are made aware that there is an option to receive financial assistance to assist with the placement of the child in their home, all of the kinship resources are opting for this. The agency believes all kinship resources will continue to opt for the paid kinship care while the children are in placement with the agency.

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3-2d. Out-of-Home Placements: County Selected Indicator

- Insert charts related to out-of-home placements where trends are highlighted (Charts 6-13), and discuss the trend(s). Describe factors contributing to the trend. Discuss any important trends that may not be highlighted.

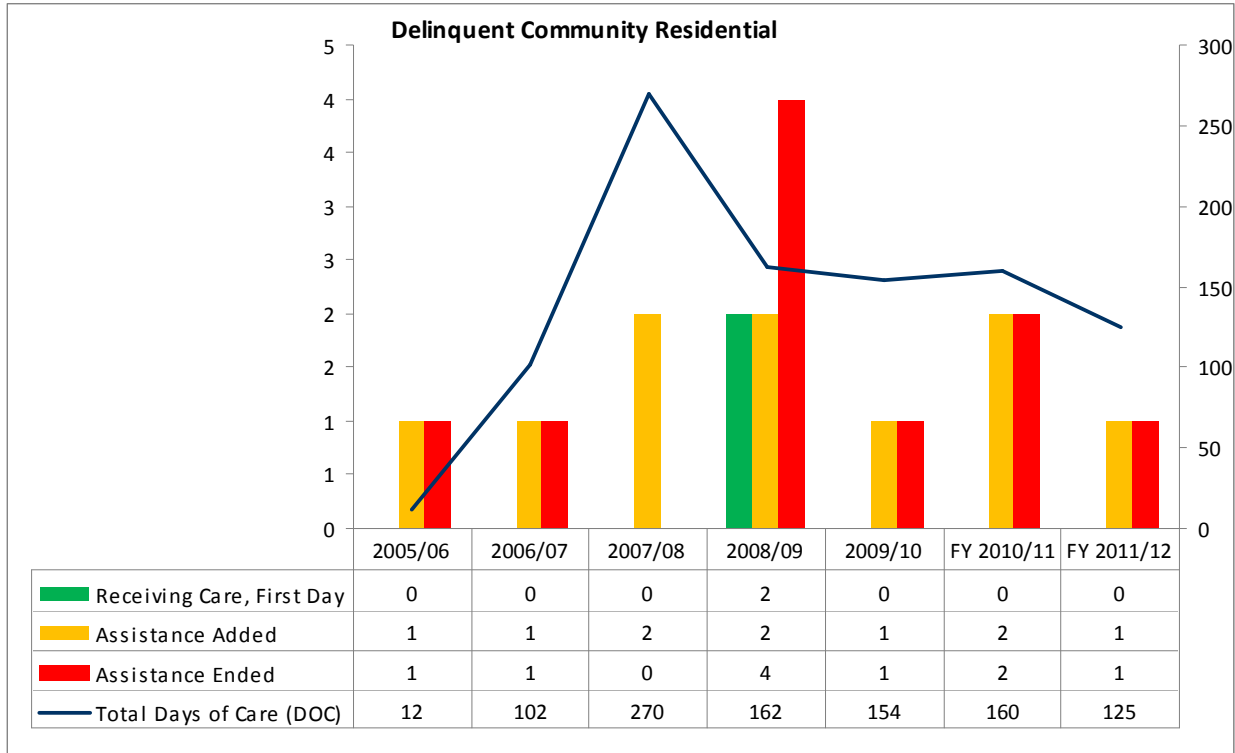


The county's use of dependent community residential placements increased dramatically when looking at total days of care for FY 09/10. The actual number of kids in this type of placement has remained about the same. The agency has been making efforts to reduce the use of RTF's for kids in care and has had to utilize some of the community residential placements for kids that cannot be maintained in foster homes and this lead to the increase in days of care. The agency also has several older youth who could not be maintained in foster homes but were in IL group homes that increased the total days of care. The agency anticipates that the total number of kids utilizing community residential placements will remain about the same and the total days of care will decrease slightly over the next two fiscal years.

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3-2d. Out-of-Home Placements: County Selected Indicator

- ❑ Insert charts related to out-of-home placements where trends are highlighted (Charts 6-13), and discuss the trend(s). Describe factors contributing to the trend. Discuss any important trends that may not be highlighted.

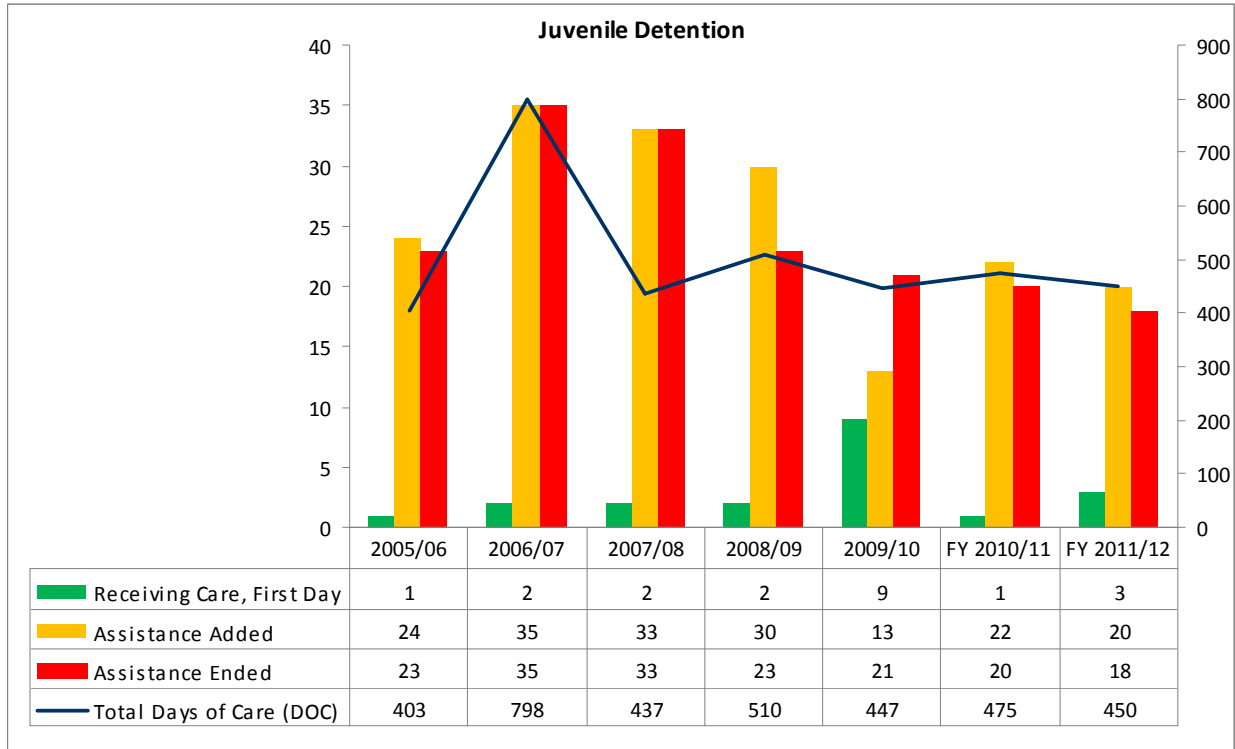


The county has not had any statistically significant changes in the number of delinquent youth placed in community residential placements over the past several fiscal years. The county does not anticipate any significant changes for the current FY or FY 11/12 in the number of children placed in this setting or in days of care.

Mifflin County

3-2d. Out-of-Home Placements: County Selected Indicator

- Insert charts related to out-of-home placements where trends are highlighted (Charts 6-13), and discuss the trend(s). Describe factors contributing to the trend. Discuss any important trends that may not be highlighted.

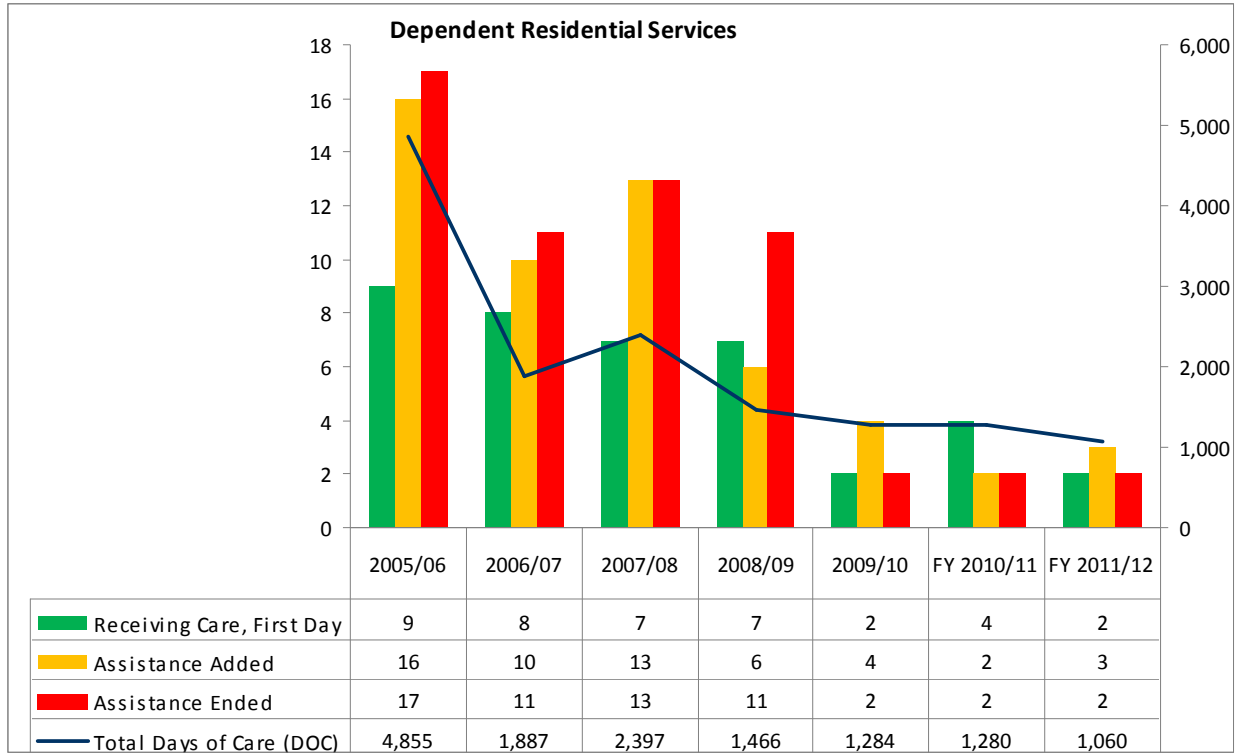


They county has decreased it's use of juvenile detention in FY 09/10 in looking at the number of youth served, although days of care were not drastically reduced. The JPO Chief does not believe this trend will continue and believes over the current and next FY, numbers will be more in line with years past. The Chief believes the use of the drug court and MST services will assist in a smaller number of youth entering detention, however some of the crimes being committed by youth may require longer stays in detention, so days of care will not show a major reduction.

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3-2d. Out-of-Home Placements: County Selected Indicator

- Insert charts related to out-of-home placements where trends are highlighted (Charts 6-13), and discuss the trend(s). Describe factors contributing to the trend. Discuss any important trends that may not be highlighted.

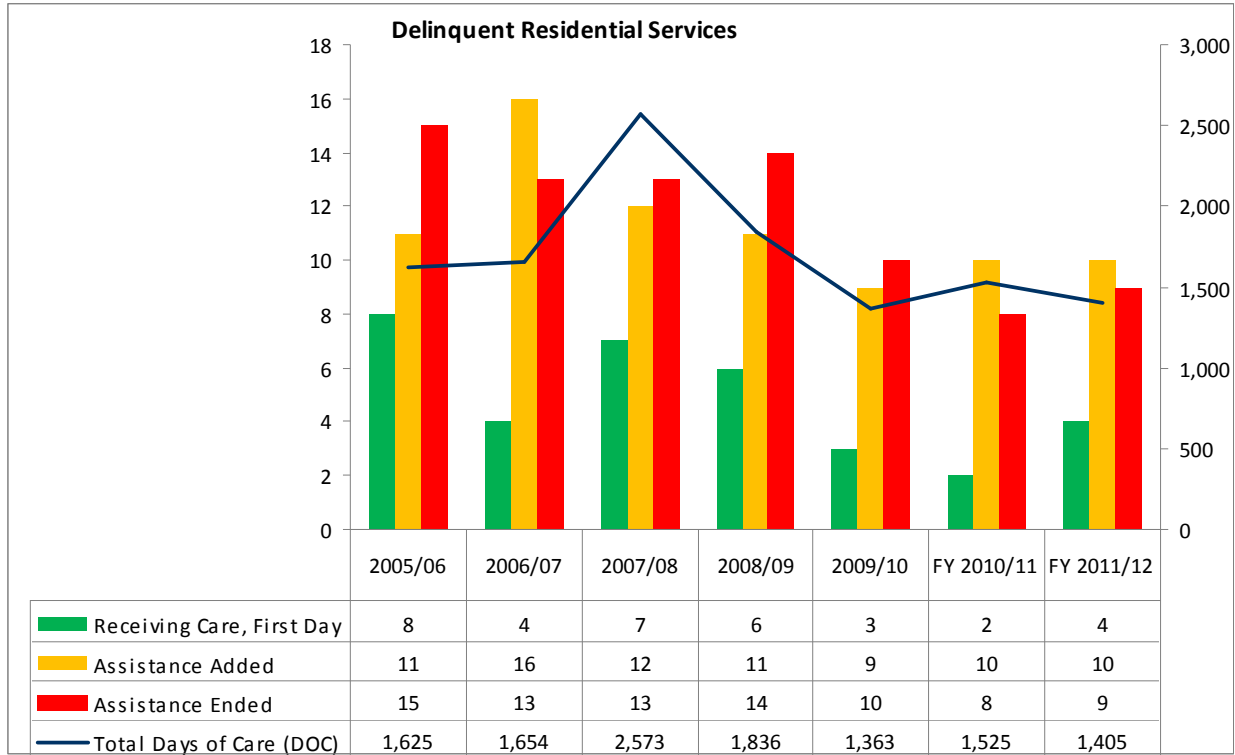


The agency has dramatically reduced the number of dependent children being placed in residential settings over the past two years and the agency anticipates that trend will continue. The agency has had large success with a new provider of therapeutic foster care and with the addition of new services such as MST, family based services, FICS family preservation services, and other outpatient services, the agency has not had to utilize residential services as often for youth in care. The agency does have several youth with significant mental health issues as that unfortunately have required long placements in residential settings and the agency believes those few children will continue to periodically require those placements. Overall the agency feels fewer children will enter residential settings in FY 10/11 and 11/12 however days of care will not show a drastic reduction due to the extensive issues of those requiring placement in such a setting.

Mifflin County

3-2d. Out-of-Home Placements: County Selected Indicator

- ❑ Insert charts related to out-of-home placements where trends are highlighted (Charts 6-13), and discuss the trend(s). Describe factors contributing to the trend. Discuss any important trends that may not be highlighted.



The county had a slight decrease in the number of delinquent kids entering residential settings but a significant decrease in the total days of care. The JPO Chief said the number of complaints were significantly lower in 09/10 but he does not anticipate this trend will continue in the upcoming years. The county predicts that in FY 10/11 and FY 11/12 the number of delinquent children requiring placement in a residential setting will remain about what it has been over the past three fiscal years but the days of care will continue to be lower than in years past as other services are available to help avoid placements and to assist in residential placements ending sooner such as MST services, family based services, etc.

Mifflin County

3-2e. Aging Out

- ❑ Insert the Aging Out Chart (Chart 14). If the county does not have sufficient data to analyze trends, describe how the county plans to track this data in the future.



The agency began tracking this data in FY 08/09 and continues to track this information for all children entering placement with the county. Although the number of youth aging out of care has been very minimal in the county, the county has not ensured that all youth have a source of income. The agency has been utilizing FICS services to provide Independent Living services to youth in foster care and has been working with these youth to ensure they are able to meet all of the above criteria in the event that they age out of care. The JPO office relies on their PO's to ensure the above goals are met. The county anticipates that in 10/11 and 11/12 the number of youth aging out of care will increase. The agency has several youth who will be turning 18 over the next two years but many of them have extensive MH and/or MR issues. The agency is already working closely with the local MHMR office to ensure these kids have a transition plan in place and all of the above factors are met for each of these youth. The agency will continue to become more familiar with the expectations of the Fostering Connections to Success requirements and formalize the transition planning process. The agency will continue to track this information for all youth exiting care for both CYS and JPO.

Mifflin County

3-2f. General Indicators

- Insert the complete table from the *General Indicators* tab. No narrative is required in this section.

3-2: General Indicators								
Type in PURPLE boxes only (blue for Excel 2007 users)								
County Number: 44			Class 6					
Mifflin County								
3-2a. Service Trends								
Indicator	FY 2005/06	FY 2006/07	FY 2007/08	FY 2008/09	FY 2009/10	Projected		2005-09
						FY 2010/11	FY 2011/12	% Change
Intake Investigations								
Children	811	912	872	844	997	975	920	22.9%
Family	599	675	656	559	658	650	615	9.8%
Ongoing Services								
Children	158	176	226	201	203	210	215	28.5%
Family	107	104	133	112	114	116	117	6.5%
Children Placed	106	98	116	103	92	90	87	-13.2%
JPO Services								
Total Children	40	43	44	49	30	42	45	-25.0%
Community Based Placement	4	2	3	6	3	4	4	-25.0%
Institutional Placements	38	42	44	43	27	37	38	-28.9%
3-2b. Adoption Assistance								
Indicator	FY 2005/06	FY 2006/07	FY 2007/08	FY 2008/09	FY 2009/10	Projected		2005-09
						FY 2010/11	FY 2011/12	% Change
Adoption Assistance								
Receiving Care, First Day	30	38	44	45	47	55	73	56.7%
Assistance Added	8	7	7	6	10	21	21	25.0%
Assistance Ended	0	1	6	4	2	3	2	#DIV/0!
Total Days of Care (DOC)	12,877	15,454	16,803	16,934	18,570	22,651	30,849	44.2%
3-2c. SPLC								
Indicator	FY 2005/06	FY 2006/07	FY 2007/08	FY 2008/09	FY 2009/10	Projected		2005-09
						FY 2010/11	FY 2011/12	% Change
Subsidized Permanent Legal Custodianship								
Receiving Care, First Day	0	0	1	1	12	14	17	#DIV/0!
Assistance Added	0	1	0	11	5	5	1	#DIV/0!
Assistance Ended	0	0	0	0	3	2	3	#DIV/0!
Total Days of Care (DOC)	0	153	366	1,982	4,966	5,495	6,118	#DIV/0!

Mifflin County

3-2d. Placement Data								
Indicator	FY	FY	FY	FY	FY	Projected		2005-09
	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	FY 2010/11	FY 2011/12	% Change
Traditional Foster Care (non-kinship)								
Receiving Care, First Day	32	29	27	45	43	36	31	34.4%
Assistance Added	23	26	34	25	25	22	20	8.7%
Assistance Ended	26	28	16	27	32	27	28	23.1%
Total DOC	12,524	13,281	11,624	15,275	15,123	14,520	14,082	20.8%
Reimbursed Kinship Care								
Receiving Care, First Day	6	9	12	16	6	13	16	0.0%
Assistance Added	3	12	13	7	12	12	13	300.0%
Assistance Ended	0	9	9	17	5	9	10	#DIV/0!
Total Days of Care (DOC)	2,855	3,807	6,864	4,699	2,705	3,124	3,520	-5.3%
Foster Family Care (Total of 2 above)								
Receiving Care, First Day	38	38	39	61	49	49	47	28.9%
Assistance Added	26	38	47	32	37	34	33	42.3%
Assistance Ended	26	37	25	44	37	36	38	42.3%
Total Days of Care (DOC)	15,379	17,088	18,488	19,974	17,828	17,644	17,602	15.9%
Non-reimbursed Kinship Care								
Receiving Care, First Day	0	0	1	3	2	0	0	#DIV/0!
Assistance Added	0	1	18	3	0	0	0	#DIV/0!
Assistance Ended	0	0	19	4	2	0	0	#DIV/0!
Total Days of Care (DOC)	0	87	544	169	0	0	0	#DIV/0!
Dependent Community Residential								
Receiving Care, First Day	1	1	1	0	3	4	2	200.0%
Assistance Added	6	5	1	6	3	3	3	-50.0%
Assistance Ended	6	5	2	3	2	5	4	-66.7%
Total Days of Care (DOC)	375	550	126	225	1,293	1,050	850	244.8%
Delinquent Community Residential								
Receiving Care, First Day	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	#DIV/0!
Assistance Added	1	1	2	2	1	2	1	0.0%
Assistance Ended	1	1	0	4	1	2	1	0.0%
Total Days of Care (DOC)	12	102	270	162	154	160	125	1183.3%
Juvenile Detention								
Receiving Care, First Day	1	2	2	2	9	1	3	800.0%
Assistance Added	24	35	33	30	13	22	20	-45.8%
Assistance Ended	23	35	33	23	21	20	18	-8.7%
Total Days of Care (DOC)	403	798	437	510	447	475	450	10.9%
Dependent Residential Services								
Receiving Care, First Day	9	8	7	7	2	4	2	-77.8%
Assistance Added	16	10	13	6	4	2	3	-75.0%
Assistance Ended	17	11	13	11	2	2	2	-88.2%
Total Days of Care (DOC)	4,855	1,887	2,397	1,466	1,284	1,280	1,060	-73.6%
Delinquent Residential Services								
Receiving Care, First Day	8	4	7	6	3	2	4	-62.5%
Assistance Added	11	16	12	11	9	10	10	-18.2%
Assistance Ended	15	13	13	14	10	8	9	-33.3%
Total Days of Care (DOC)	1,625	1,654	2,573	1,836	1,363	1,525	1,405	-16.1%
3-2e. Aging Out Data								
Indicator	FY	FY	FY	FY	FY	Projected		2005-09
	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	FY 2010/11	FY 2011/12	% Change
Aging Out								
Number of Children Aging Out				5	3	8	8	#DIV/0!
Have Permanent Residence				4	3	8	8	#DIV/0!
Have Source of Income Support				3	2	7	8	#DIV/0!
Have Life Connection				5	3	8	8	#DIV/0!

Section 4: County Programs & Services

☞ 4-1: Children/Families not Accepted for Service

- ☐ How does the county determine a child/family is not accepted for service?

When the agency conducts an intake assessment, the intake caseworkers conduct weekly staffings with the intake supervisor. At each staffing the worker and the supervisor are assessing the needs of the children and family, the safety of the children and future risk to the children. The intake worker is often able to utilize other community resources to meet the needs of the children and families. If a family is motivated to change and grow, is willing to participate in services through services providers and there is low or no risk to the child, the agency typically does not accept the child/family for services. Also, if there is no risk to the child and the worker does not feel the family is in need of services, they are not accepted for services as well.

Another option the county utilizes is FICS family preservation services. The agency is able to make referrals to FICS for this service and close out the case if FICS makes the recommendation to close out and not offer services, especially if this is the only service that would have been offered to the family. FICS still provides the agency with a monthly update on those families and will make referrals for a new intake assessment to occur if something comes up through their involvement that would warrant CYS involvement again.

☞ 4-2: New/Enhanced Programs

- ☐ Briefly explain requests for funding of new programs or enhancements to existing programs. The explanation must include why the county is seeking funding for the new/enhanced program and how it relates to needs identified in the county.

The agency is seeking funding to enhance two programs. Specifically, the county is requesting funding to fully fund the salary and benefits of the Communities That Care (CTC) mobilizer through NBPB and to expand the FICS reunification services by adding another team.

Regarding the CTC mobilizer position, the county currently has 2 positions through CTC, a mobilizer and an executive assistant. Currently the mobilizer salary and benefits are funded through the Drug Free Grant and the executive assistant salary is funded through NBPB. The Drug Free Grant expires next FY and the Key Leaders of Mifflin County developed a sustainability plan so CTC in Mifflin County does not cease to exist due to the extensive prevention efforts that CTC does in the county. The Key Leader Group determined it will not be feasible to sustain two positions but it is critical that at least the mobilizer position be sustained. The agency is therefore seeking additional funding to cover the remaining salary and benefits not covered by the funding already allotted in NBPB for CTC salary in order for the mobilizer position to be sustained so that the intensive prevention efforts of CTC may continue. The CTC mobilizer also serves as the local Systems of Care leader and Integrated Children's Services Plan leader for Mifflin County.

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For the FICS reunification services, the agency is looking to add another team to provide the services to more families in an attempt to expedite permanency for more youth. Currently the agency always has a waiting list for this intensive reunification service and the court has the expectation that the agency be able to serve more families as the program has developed in Mifflin County. Due to only having one team who can take on 4-5 cases at a time and cases lasting anywhere from 5-10 months, it makes it impossible to offer the service to all families who could truly benefit from this. The agency believes that by adding another team and essentially doubling the amount of families the agency is able to provide the services too, the total length of stay in care for children whose families are offered this service will decrease significantly when compared to those youth whose families have not had the benefit of this service.

- ❑ In the specific budget adjustment forms for new initiatives or services, identify cost savings and reduced rates, and provide evidence that the new program is less expensive or more effective than the current service.

The agency is not going to be able to identify cost savings when adding The CTC mobilizer position because it is not an increase in services, time worked, etc. It is just sustaining the position when the current funding for the position through the Drug Free Grant expires in FY 11/12. On the flip side, if the position does not get funded and ceased to exist, the agency feels costs could significantly increase because many prevention efforts in the county would cease, resources would dry up, increasing the number of youth at risk for dependency and delinquency which would ultimately increase placement costs. The position is no more or less expensive, again, just seeking a different funding source.

The increase in FICS reunification services would ideally reduce the number of days in care by helping the agency reach a permanency decision for a youth faster, identifying permanency options for the youth earlier and shortening the overall length of stay in care for youth in the program. It would also increase the time to reunification when a child could safely be returned home, again reducing placement costs. This is the only reunification service the agency currently utilizes so it is no less/more expensive than what the agency is currently practicing.

- ❑ For enhanced programs, describe how the program is effective.

Of the 120 CTCs that originally were funded with PCCD grants, only 55 (46%) have been able to sustain their work. Mifflin County CTC is one of these remaining 55. Since 2000, 15 out of the 21 identified 'risk factors' facing our young people have decreased or held steady; and 8 out of the 9 identified 'protective factors' have been strengthened (based on our 2007 PA Youth Survey data; we are still awaiting our 2009 PAYS results). During this time, Mifflin County also has seen a 15% decrease in underage drinking, a 13% decrease in binge drinking, and a 21% decrease in the underage use of inhalants. Mifflin County court has also seen a reduction in new cases of juvenile delinquency cases in the past several years. Prior to 2008, there were about 100 new cases per year. In 2009, there were a total of only 67 new cases. This reflects a 54% decrease from 2008 to 2009. As of May 2010, the number of total new juvenile delinquency cases for this year is lower than last year. The Juvenile Probation office has seen

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an approximate 30% decrease in new juvenile cases this year 2010 as compared with previous years.

Since 2000, over \$7 million dollars have been brought into Mifflin County to fund evidence-based prevention programs, strategies and activities. Many of these grants were written by the CTC mobilizer; some grant funding was the direct result of having a CTC in Mifflin County, which made other agencies eligible to apply for the funding. Currently, Mifflin County CTC supports, coordinates, and/or the mobilizer has written grants to fund the following evidence-based programs in Mifflin County: Big Brothers Big Sisters; Communities Mobilizing for Change on Alcohol; Guiding Good Choices; Parent-Child Home Program; Parenting Wisely; Parents Who Care; The Incredible Years; Second Step, and the Strengthening Families Program.

The FICS reunification services have assisted the agency in decreasing lengths of stay in care by aiding the agency in reaching a permanency decision sooner, expediting time to reunification whenever possible, decreasing reentry rates for youth who exit care and ultimately finalizing permanency for youth in care. Specifically, the re-entry rate for youth whose families' participated in this program was 0% within one year of permanency being established through return home, Adoption or SPLC. Also, 100% of children had a permanency decision within 12 months of opening with reunification services. Regarding child well being, 50% of families scored at baseline or above in the child well being domain of the NCFAS-R rating tool.

- For enhanced programs, discuss the expected level of program improvement, and describe how the program will reduce costs or the rate of future cost increases.

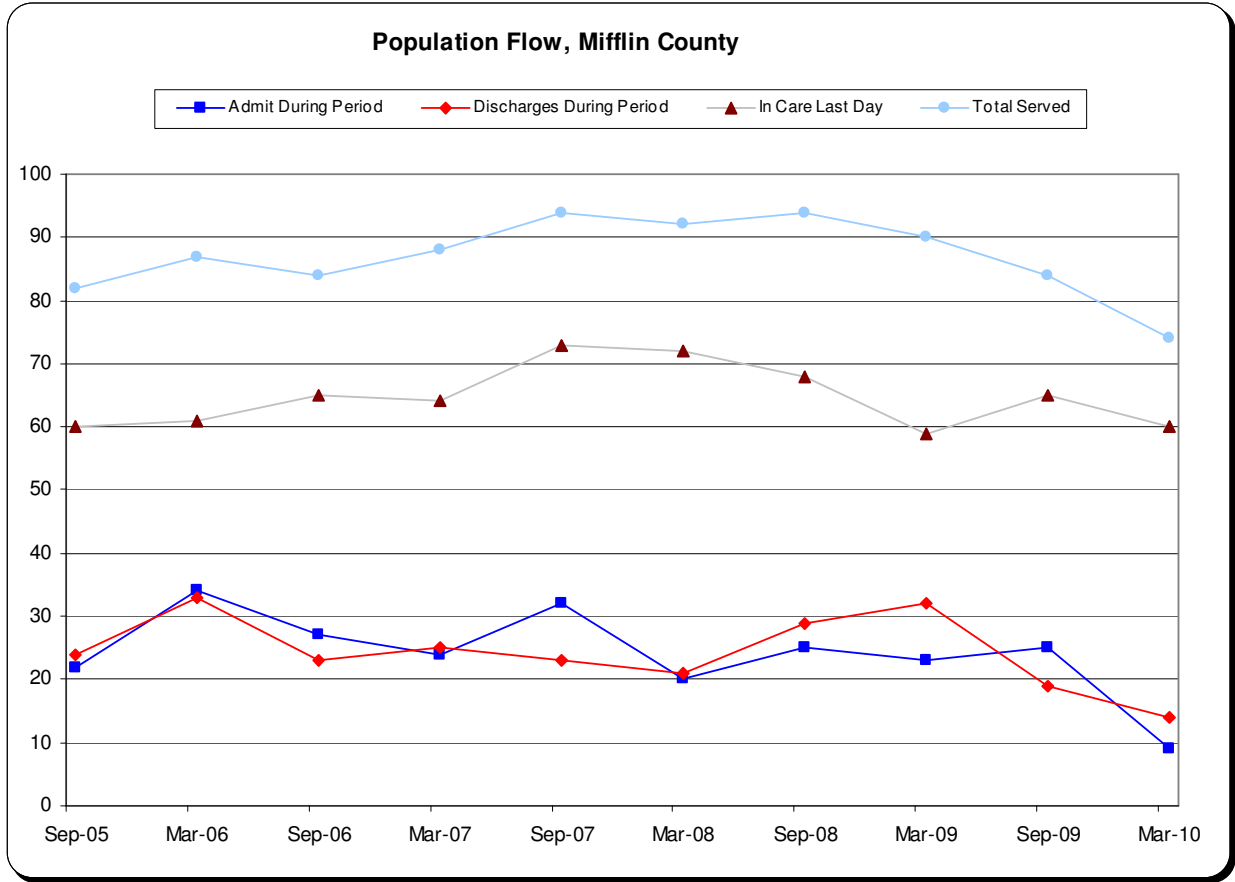
As mentioned previously, if the agency is giving additional funds to sustain the CTC mobilizer position, there will not be direct program improvements but rather the impact will affect many areas due to the extensive efforts of CTC in areas of prevention. Mifflin County's CTC has been in effect and quite effective for many years. It is hard to associate a specific cost savings that the county has benefited from by having CTC in place however, I feel confident in stating that if funding for our local CTC is not approved and the CTC ends after funding expires, the county will most definitely see increased costs for dependent and delinquent youth, educational costs, etc. and the overall welfare of youth in Mifflin County will decrease significantly.

For FICS reunification services, the expected level of program outcomes currently are to limit the replacement rate to 9% within one year of permanency being established through return home, adoption, SPLC or placement with a relative, for 50% of children to have a permanency decision within 12 months of opening for services, for 50% of families to score at baseline or above on the NCFAS-R well being scale at case closure, and for 85% of families to give a positive response during follow up regarding having input into setting family goals and whether family goals were identified correctly. These would be the same outcomes for the second reunification team if funding was approved to add an additional team. The agency believes by adding a second team, placement costs will decrease for those youth served. For those able to be successfully reunified, days in care would decrease. For those unable, the days of care would still decrease as the program has assisted the agency in expediting permanency decisions for kids as well as assisted with identifying appropriate permanency resources for youth, overall decreasing their length of stay in care.

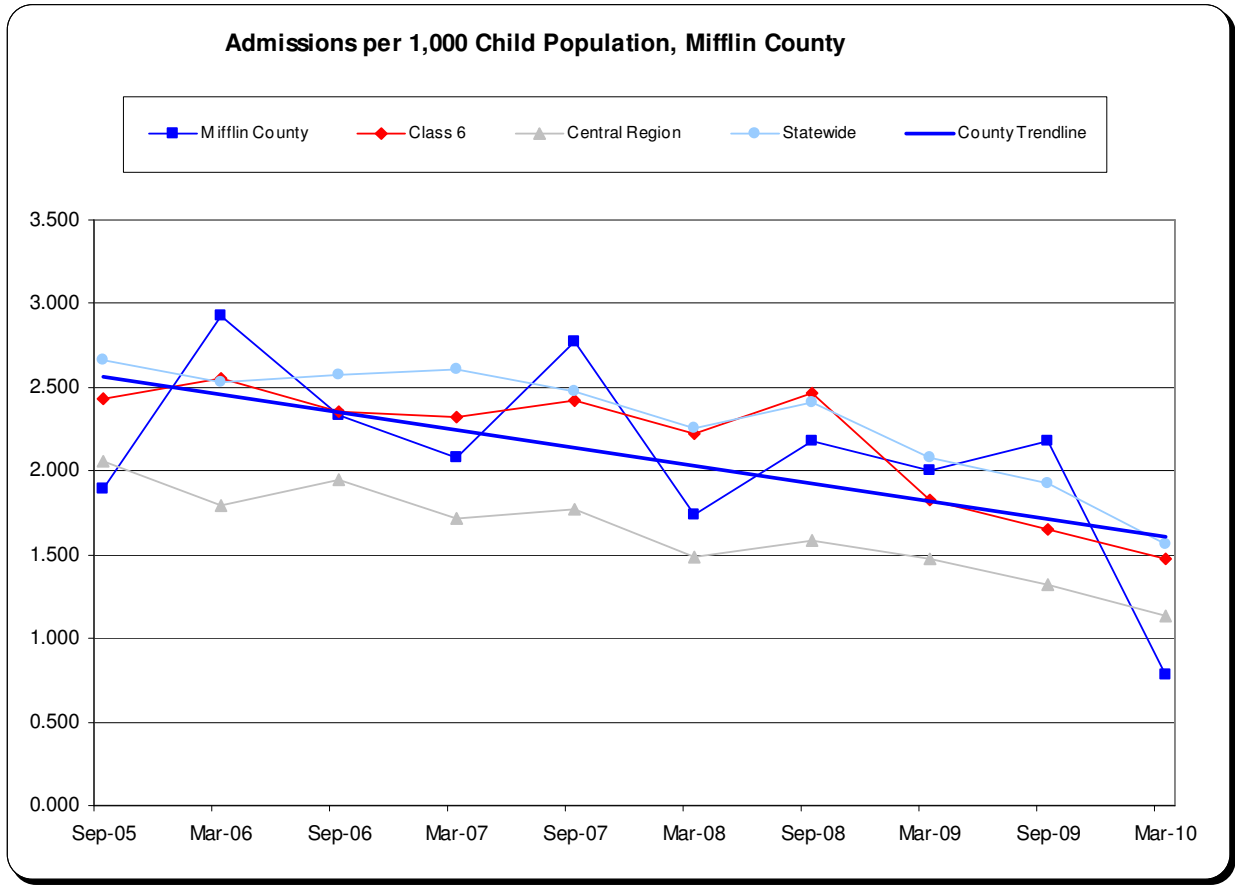
Section 5: Outcome Indicators

**5-1a. Foster Care Population Flow
(See HZA Data Package)**

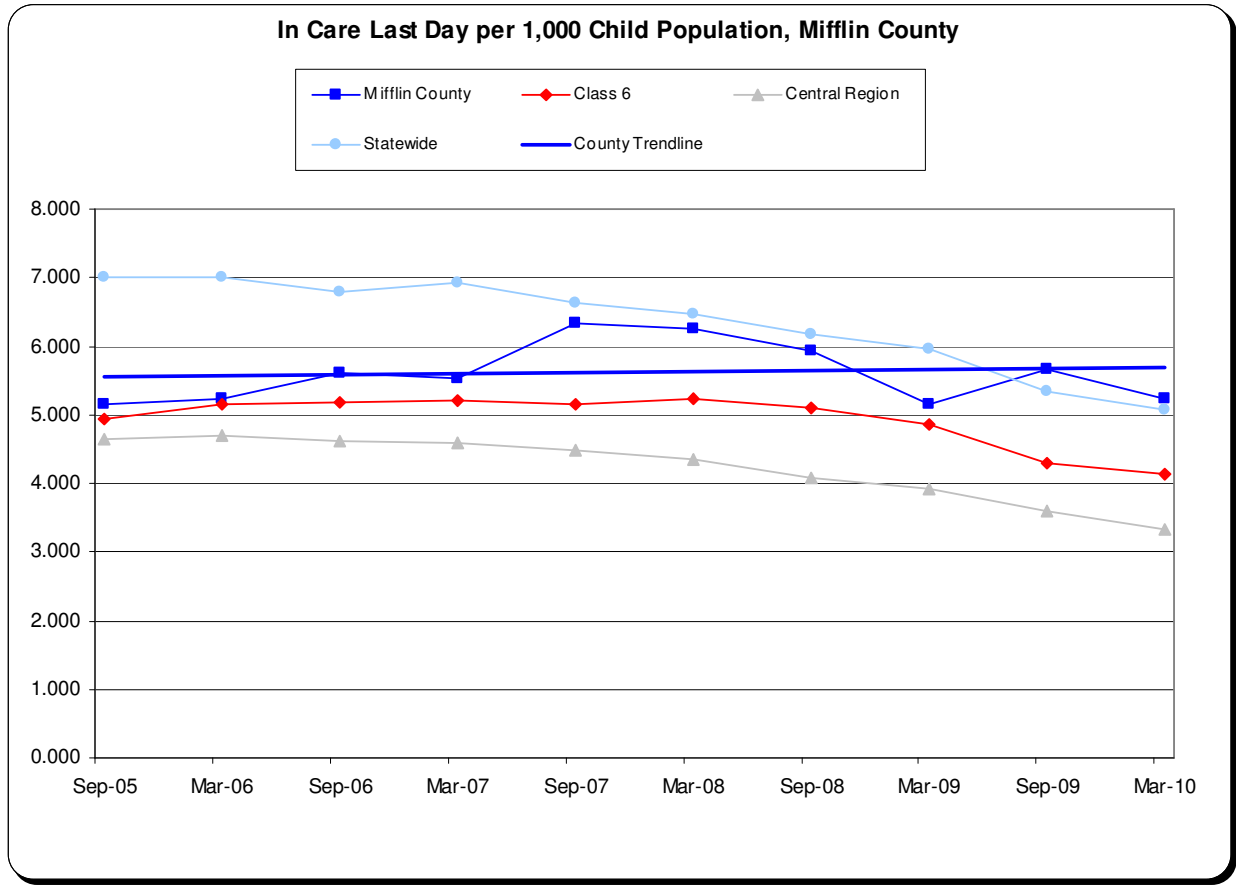
On the following pages, paste up to three charts from the HZA data. Each chart should be pasted on a separate page.



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- Is the overall trend in the number of children being served or in care in the county different than that in the state as a whole? In counties of the same class?

Over the past two reporting periods, the county has had a higher number of children being served per 1,000 Child Population than the state, other class 6 counties and Central Region counties. Prior to the last two report periods, the agency was performing better than the state but not as well as the Central Region counties and other class 6 counties.

- Please describe what demographic factors, if any, have contributed to changes in the number of children being served or in care.

The agency has actually had an overall decrease in the number of youth in care over the past four reporting periods but the agency believes that the state's performance has improved more drastically due to the work in the NGA counties drastically reducing placements.

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- ❑ Please describe what changes in agency priorities or programs, if any, have contributed to changes in the number of children served or in care and/or the rate at which children are discharged from care.

In the most recent reporting period, the agency did have a significant decrease in the entries into care although the agency anticipates the next reporting period will be more in line with the previous 3-5 report periods. The agency has also experienced a decrease in exits from care. The agency believes that this is due to the many cases moving toward TPR where permanency is delayed due to the appeals process. The agency is doing a better job of filing TPR petitions in a timely fashion so the agency is hopeful this will increase in the next reporting period.

- ❑ Are there any demographic shifts which impact the proportions of children in care (for example, are younger children making up a larger proportion of admissions than in years past)?

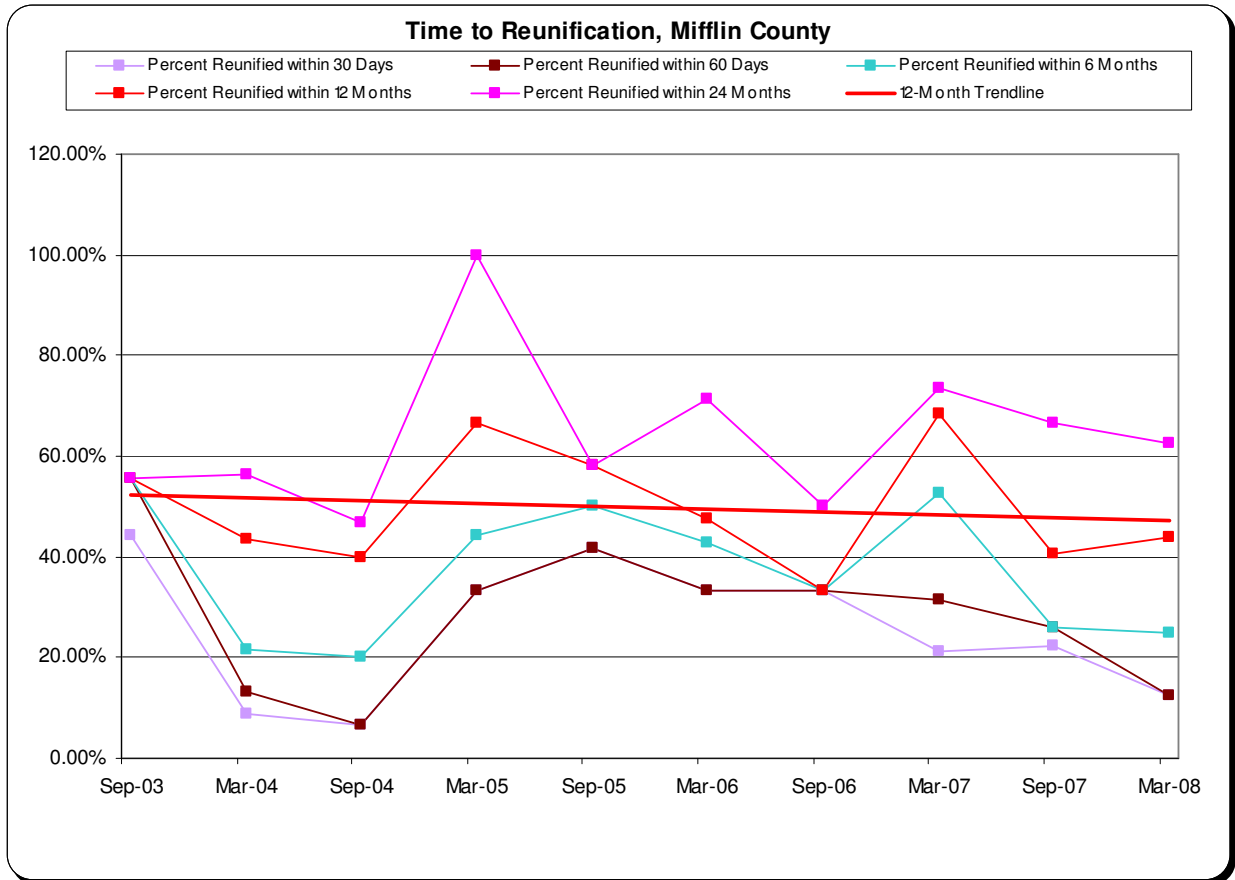
The county has had a drastic impact in the number of younger children entering care. Of the 23 children that entered care within the past year, 70% are age 5 or younger.

- ❑ How has the county adjusted staff ratios and/or resource allocations (both financial and staffing, including vacancies, hiring, turnover, etc.) in response to a change in the foster care population? Is the county's current resource allocation appropriate to address projected needs?

The agency has continually assessed the set up of the agency and how best to meet the needs of those entering care. Despite the influx of the very young children entering care, many of those are children whose parents have already had children in care and at times already lost parental rights to another child. In those instances, the child entering care is placed with their siblings in care (or siblings previously adopted) and the agency attempts to expedite permanency in those cases where reunification has already failed in the recent past. With the assistance of the FICS reunification services, the agency does not need additional staff to meet the influx of younger children in care.

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5-1b. Reunification Survival Analysis (See HZA Data Package)



- Is the county's performance in each measure improving or declining over time? Please describe briefly any significant trends in the data. What policies or practices explain the trends?

Up to March of 2007, the agency had experienced a 28% increase in the proportion of children entering care being reunified within 12 months, however those percentages have decreased over the last two report periods. The county had been doing better than the Central Region, other class 6 counties and the state, again until the two most recent report periods when performance dropped to below all three comparisons.

The agency believes that these measures will again have increased over the next few reporting periods due to newer and more effective services being in place. Prior to 2009, the agency had no effective reunification services and one ineffective in-home service provider to assist in getting children out of care faster. In the past FY, the agency has started using FICS reunification and family preservation programs and believes outcomes will continue to improve in these areas as the services are put into place.

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- ❑ If there are fewer reunifications within 12 months of the child's removal, what is happening to those children? Are they returning home later or eventually being discharged in some other way?

Although there are fewer reunifications occurring within 12 months of removal, the agency has slightly increased the number of children exiting care within 24 months of placement. The majority of children in care past 12 months are most often discharged via adoption or permanent legal guardianship. The court process has been a delay in having children exit care within 24 months but the agency has been ensuring TPR petitions are filed by the 15 month of care so as not to delay permanency for those youth that cannot successfully be reunified by that time. Most often when children are in care beyond 12 months and reunification is not achievable, the agency is most successful in having the youth exit care by 24 months via SPLC or via adoption when parents voluntarily terminate their rights and the children do not get caught up in the court process and appeals.

- ❑ Are children being reunified more quickly, or more slowly, than in past years? Does the timeliness of the reunifications reflect the changing needs of families in the county? Among children reunified in less than 30 days, were the services provided sufficiently to alleviate the concerns that led to the child's removal? What services could have prevented removal of children who were reunified within 30 days?

According to the charts, children are being reunified more slowly than in past years. The agency believes that in the next FY the data will be much improved due to FICS services being implemented and assisting with more timely reunification. The agency is now utilizing FICS family pres on emergency bases to both alleviate the need for placements as well as increase reunification within the first 30 days of placement. At this time, the agency relies on FICS family pres to prevent removal from the home when issues arise. The agency also believes that FICS reunification services should increase the amount of children who can safely be reunified prior to 12 months of placement.

- ❑ How does the county's data compare to other counties of the same county class size? To the statewide data?

The county has typically not performed as well as other class 6 counties, Central Region counties or the state in this area. The agency is hopeful to improve in this area with the use of FICS services as well as that of MST.

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- ❑ If the county's performance exceeds comparable county and/or statewide performance, what policies or practices does the county believe have contributed to this result? What actions is the county taking to maintain or improve its performance?

Or

If the county's performance lags behind comparable county and/or statewide performance, what factors does the county believe have contributed to this result? What actions is the county taking to improve its performance?

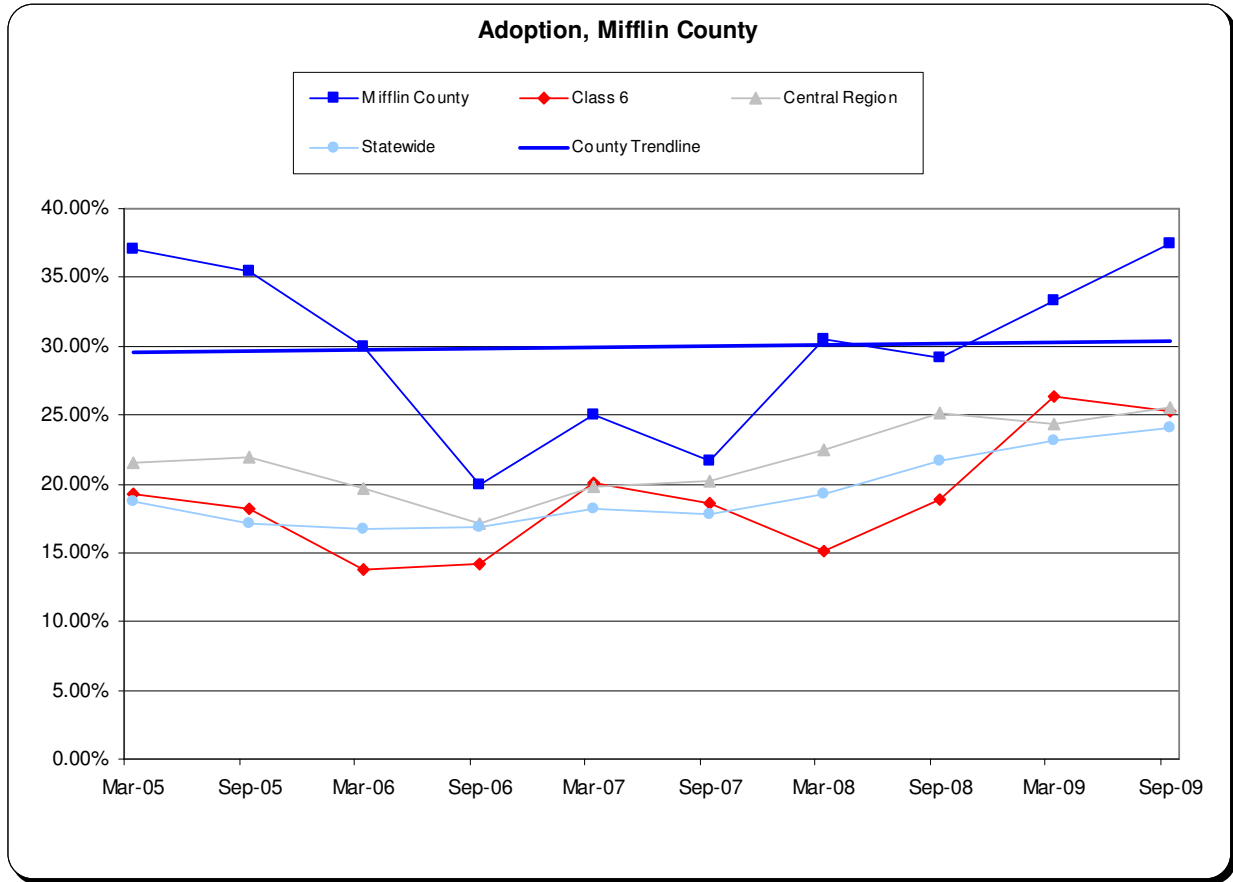
Again, since the most recent report period in the date, the county has implemented an intensive reunification service as well as intensive family preservation services and the county believes these two programs will improve the county's performance in these measures over the next few report periods and ongoing.

- ❑ Are there certain populations which are disproportionately represented in this measure? What actions is the county taking to address that population's needs?

The agency does not feel there are any populations that are disproportionately represented in this measure that would require services outside what the agency has already implemented to address performance in this measure.

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5-1c. Adoption Rate, 17 Months
(See HZA Data Package)



- Is the county’s performance in each measure improving or declining over time? Please describe briefly any significant trends in the data. What policies or practices explain the trends?

The county has improved in this measure over the past four report periods and in the most recent report period the county was at 37%. The county has consistently performed better than the Central Region, other class 6 counties and the state in this measurement. The agency believes that although permanency does get delayed for children in placement in the county due to the court process and appeals, the agency does an excellent job of practicing concurrent planning from day one of placement and have a permanent resource in place for a child should reunification fail. The agency continues to seek permanency for children in placement who cannot return home through adoption no matter the age of the child, disability, etc. The agency utilizes SWAN services to attempt to secure permanent resources for children in care that do not have a permanency resource.

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- ❑ Do current policies of the agency or courts serve affect the timeliness of adoptions? Do the delays tend to occur between removal and TPR, between TPR and pre-adoptive placement, or between pre-adoptive placement and finalization?

Delays tend to occur most between removal and TPR in this county. The agency believes timeliness of adoption is delayed by the court process, namely the appeals process. The agency has been doing a remarkable job of now filing timely TPR petitions when appropriate. However, once those petitions are filed, the agency is at the mercy of others regarding permanency. Once a TPR petition is filed, it could take several months to get a TPR hearing date, several months to get a TPR decision once a hearing is held, and many, many months to exhaust the appeals process until a child is legally free. In cases where parents appeal a TPR decision, it is nearly impossible to finalize adoption prior to 24 months of placement.

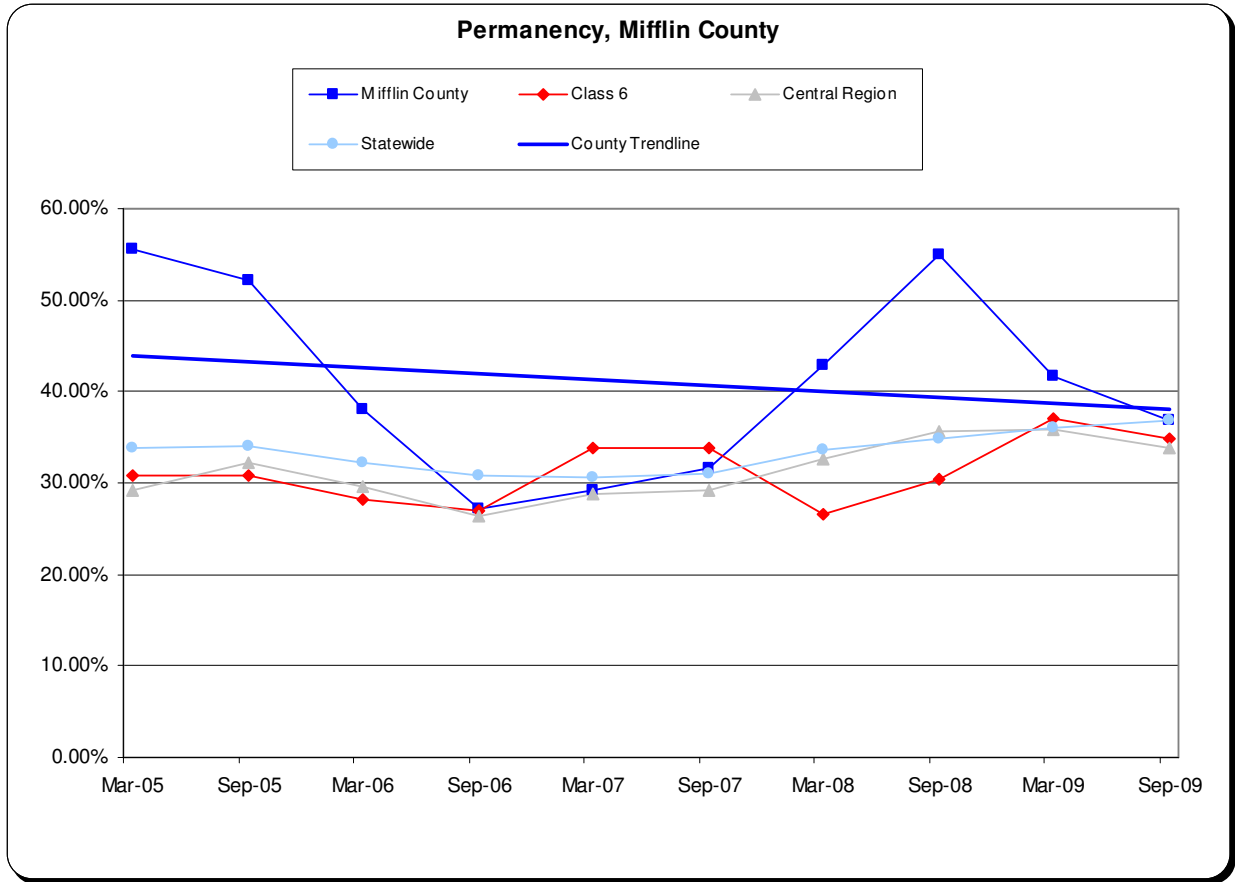
- ❑ Which group of children represent the largest proportion/share of children for whom performance is below the national standard? What actions is the county taking to address that population's needs?

The group that represents the largest share of children whose performance is below the national standard are youth who have been in care for more than 36 months and also youth who have had four or more placements while in care. The agency currently has 15 youth that fits into one of these two categories. Of those 15 youth, 11 fit into both categories and only 3 of them have a permanency resource when they become legally free for adoption. The agency sees a significant decrease in achieving permanency for a child when they are in care beyond 13 months or when placement stability numbers exceed 3 placements.

The agency continues to utilize SWAN services in an attempt to locate permanent families for the other 12 youth in care. Sadly, most of these youth have significant MH and/or MR issues that make it very difficult to locate a family to commit to these youth. The agency has been working much more collaboratively with our local MH/MR office to secure the best possible placements for these youth while in care. The agency will continue to pursue finding permanent families and/or connections for these youth through SWAN services such as Child Specific Recruitment, Child Prep and Adoption Finalization as well as Post Permanency services.

Mifflin County

5-1d. Permanency, 24 Months
(See HZA Data Package)



□ Is the county’s performance in each measure improving or declining over time? Please describe briefly any significant trends in the data. What policies or practices explain the trends?

The county’s performance declined over the past two reporting periods in this area, however the agency still performed better than the Central Region, other class 6 counties and the state in this performance measure over the past four reporting periods. As stated previously, the agency believes that the TPR appeal process pushes many cases beyond the 24 month mark for permanency but the agency is able to finalize many of those adoptions by the 36 month mark which is reflected in the charts listed above. Of the 13 youth in care beyond 24 months at this time, unfortunately only 3 have an adoptive resource and will likely be finalized over the next 12 months. The remaining 12 youth have extensive MH and/or MR issues that greatly decrease the chances of adoption finalization within the next year.

Mifflin County

- ❑ Which group of children represent the largest proportion/share of children in care more than 24 months? What are the most frequent permanency goals for these children? What are the most frequent actual discharge destinations for these children?

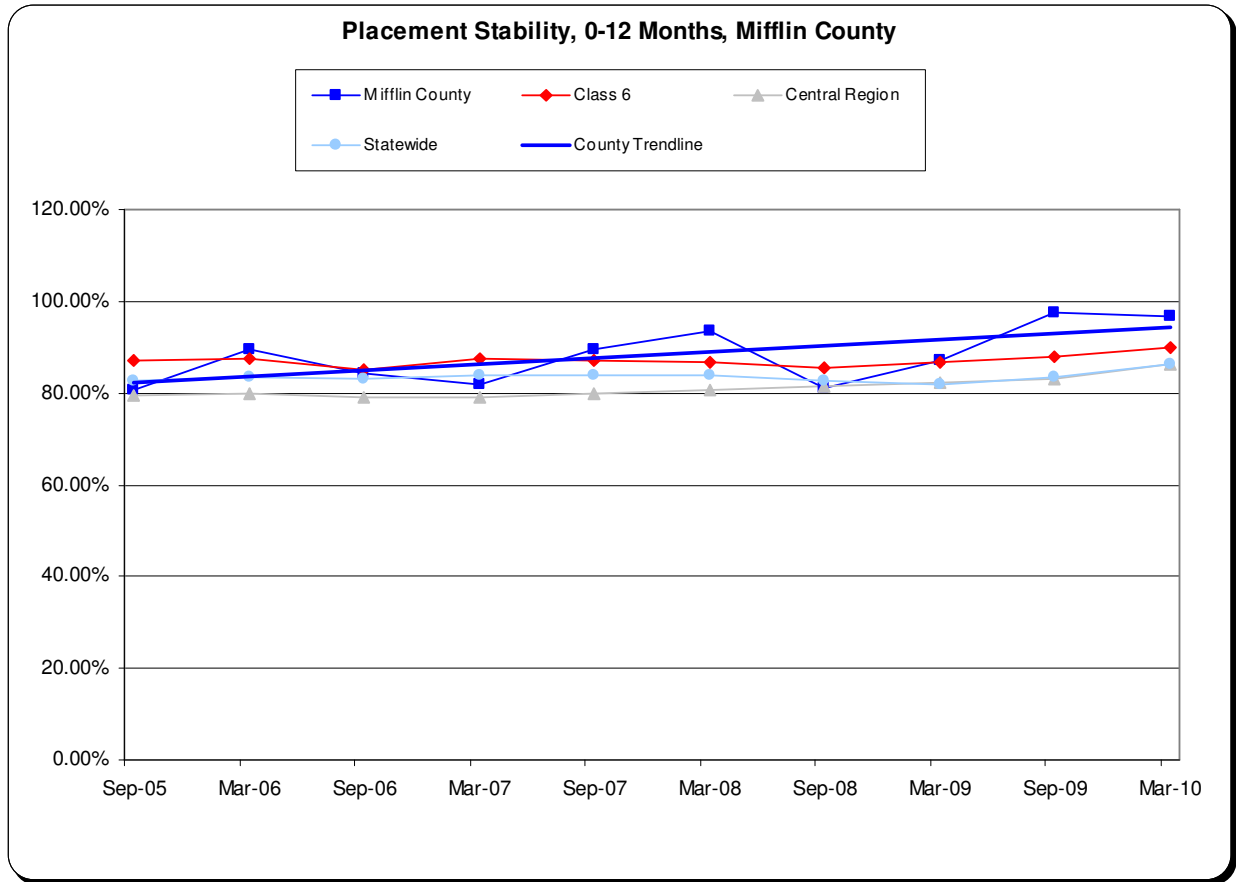
The group of children largely represented in care more than 24 months are youth who have had 4 or more placements while in care, children with significant MH/MR issues, and youth whose parents have appealed a TPR decision. The most frequent permanency goals for these kids are adoption and APPLA. The agency continues to pursue a permanent, adoptive resource for all of these kids with a goal of adoption. The most frequent actual discharge destination for these kids remains to be seen but will likely be aging out youth.

- ❑ What steps is the county taking to achieve permanency for these children? What are the barriers to achieving permanency?

The agency continues to utilize SWAN services to achieve permanency for these children when appropriate. A major barrier to achieving permanency for these youth are MH and/or MR issues. The youth with significant MH/MR issues have proven very difficult to find permanent families for as many of them cannot even be maintained in a foster home. Of the 12 youth in placement beyond 24 months without a permanent resource, 7 have extensive issues that have required long term placement in group homes and RTF's. These children cannot even be maintained in a foster home long enough to consider a family as an adoptive resource. The agency works closely with our local MH/MR office to coordinate services and plan for these children's future but discharge from care to achieve permanency is not likely for some of these kids. Sadly, some of them are so damaged from the system and their long term placements in care. The agency is working much more diligently to ensure all new children who enter care do not suffer the same unfortunate fate as these kids. The agency will not give up on these kids and will continue to seek permanent families and/or connections for them.

Mifflin County

5-2a. Placement Stability, Less than 12 Months (CFPSR Measure 4.1) (See HZA Data Package)



- Is the county's performance in each measure improving or declining over time? Please describe briefly any significant trends in the data. What policies or practices explain the trends?

The county's performance has increased over the last two reporting periods to over 96%. The agency believes that the early efforts to search for kinship placements have led to placement stability for kids as well as utilizing more therapeutic foster homes for youth with greater needs leading to fewer placement disruptions.

- How does the county's data compare to other counties of the same size? To the statewide data?

The county's performance exceeds that of the Central Region, other class 6 counties and the state.

Mifflin County

- ❑ If the county's performance exceeds comparable county and/or statewide performance, what policies or practices does the county believe have contributed to this result? What actions is the county taking to maintain or improve its performance?

Or

If the county's performance lags behind comparable county and/or statewide performance, what factors does the county believe have contributed to this result? What actions is the county taking to improve its performance?

As stated previously, the county believes the early search for kin has resulted in fewer placement disruptions for youth in care. In the event a child is able to be placed with kin from the start of the placement, the kin often are willing to serve as a permanency resource for the child in the event reunification cannot occur but they are also able to fully support the reunification effort when necessary. When kin are not able to be located, the agency has branching out and using a larger array of services providers taking a closer look at the needs of each child entering care to ensure their needs can best be met in the first placement they encounter. The agency also feels that the practice of concurrent planning from day one of initial placement has assisted in minimizing placement disruptions.

- ❑ When compared to class and state performance on each of the measures, at what point does placement stability tend to break down— the first, second, or third year? What is the county doing differently than the class, region, or rest of the state?

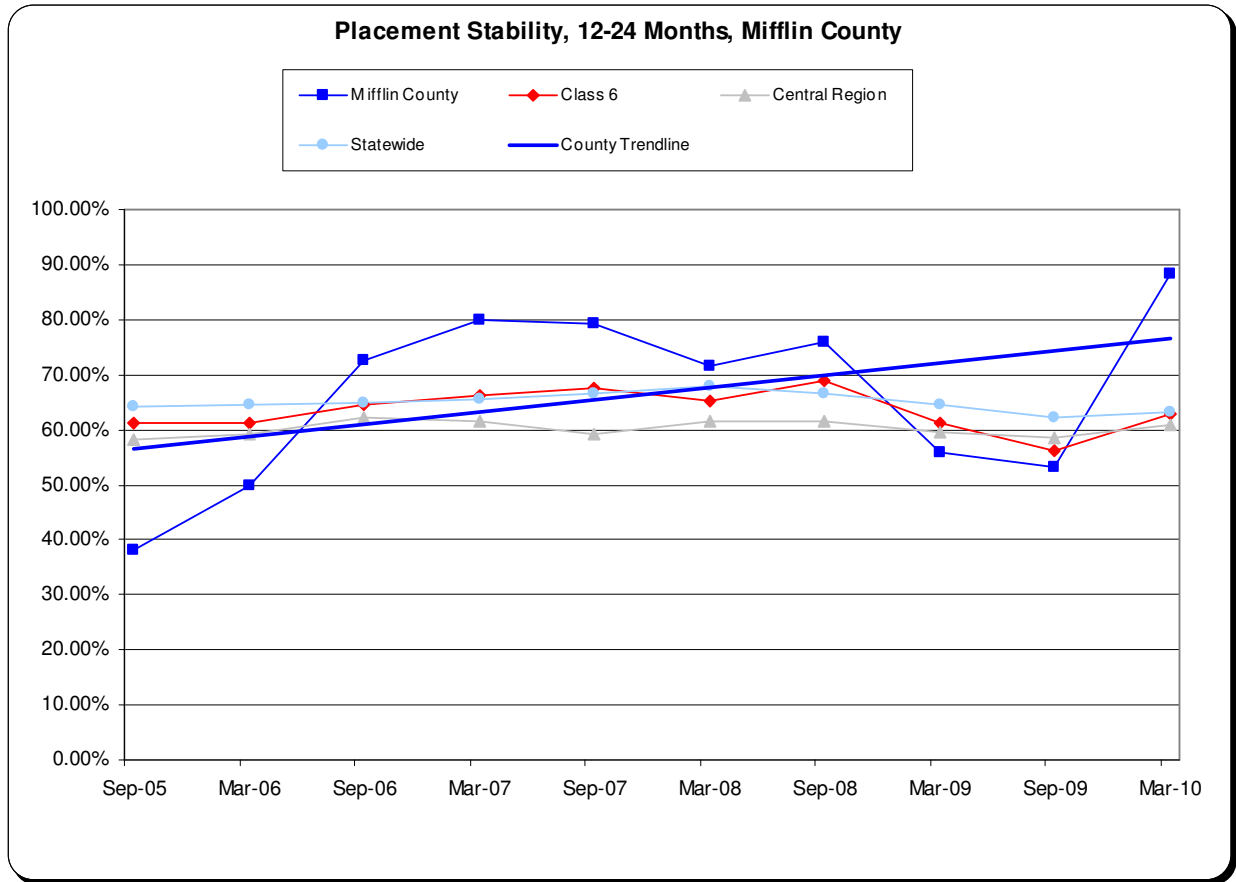
When compared to class and state performance, the county's performance begins to decline for kids in care beyond 24 months although not drastically lower than the state and other class 6 counties. The agency believes the 12 youth in care beyond 24 months without an adoptive resource in place greatly affect the counties' performance in this measure. As mentioned previously, many of these children have significant MH/MR issues and have frequent placement disruptions or changes to meet their special needs.

- ❑ Describe the relationship between actions taken in the first 24-72 hours of a child's removal and the on placement stability? How often does the child's first placement become the placement in which the child remains while in care? What steps is the county taking to increase that proportion?

The agency is doing a much better job of exploring kin upon initial placement of a child into care so that if kin are available, that becomes the first placement option rather than the second placement option. The agency is also doing a better job of utilizing therapeutic foster care for kids first entering care when history indicates it may be necessary so the first placement resource is better equipped to handle a child with special needs rather than a child suffering a failed placement due to the foster home not being able to meet the needs of the child. The agency has also started the concurrent planning process on day one of placement to ensure that every placement resource is willing to consider adoption of a child placed in their home if the reunification efforts should fail so a child has a better chance of minimizing placement disruptions from day one.

Mifflin County

5-2b. Placement Stability, 12 to 24 Months (CFSR Measure 4.2)
 (See HZA Data Package)



- Is the county's performance in each measure improving or declining over time? Please describe briefly any significant trends in the data. What policies or practices explain the trends?

The county's performance increased significantly in the most recent reporting period and again, the agency believes the efforts listed above to front end the search process for a permanent resource should reunification not succeed is a major contributing factor to the placement stability rates from 12-24 months.

- How does the county's data compare to other counties of the same size? To the statewide data?

The county's performance far exceeded the performance of the Central Region, other class 6 counties and that of the state in the most recent report period. The agency is hopeful to continue to see these trends in the future reporting periods.

Mifflin County

- ❑ If the county's performance exceeds comparable county and/or statewide performance, what policies or practices does the county believe have contributed to this result? What actions is the county taking to maintain or improve its performance?

Or

If the county's performance lags behind comparable county and/or statewide performance, what factors does the county believe have contributed to this result? What actions is the county taking to improve its performance?

Same response as listed in placement stability 0-12 months.

- ❑ When compared to class and state performance on each of the measures, at what point does placement stability tend to break down– the first, second, or third year? What is the county doing differently than the class, region, or rest of the state?

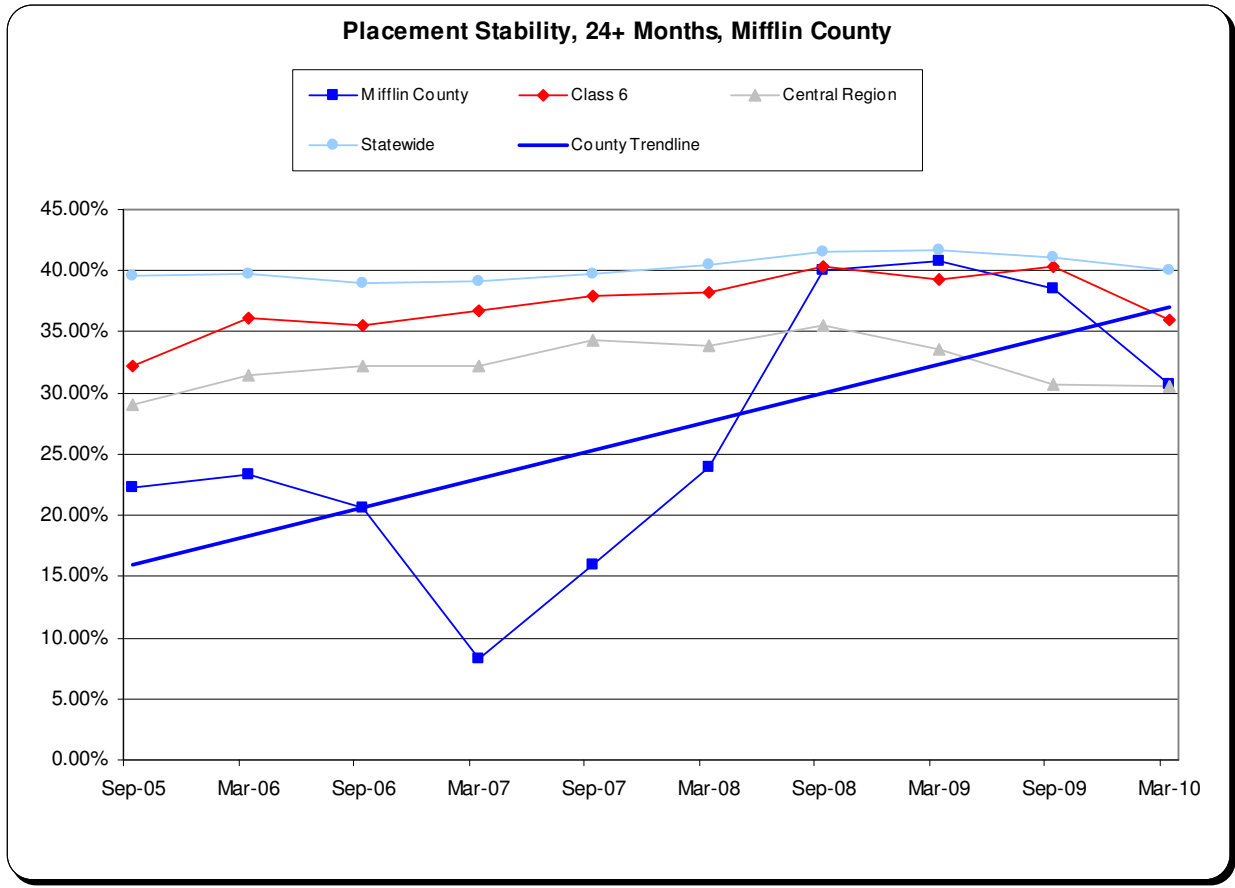
Same response as listed in placement stability 0-12 months.

- ❑ Describe the relationship between actions taken in the first 24-72 hours of a child's removal and the on placement stability? How often does the child's first placement become the placement in which the child remains while in care? What steps is the county taking to increase that proportion?

Same response as listed in placement stability 0-12 months.

Mifflin County

5-2c. Placement Stability, More than 24 Months (CF SR Measure 4.3)
 (See HZA Data Package)



□ Is the county's performance in each measure improving or declining over time? Please describe briefly any significant trends in the data. What policies or practices explain the trends?

The county's performance in this measure has greatly improved over the past six report periods. The county was performing far below the other three comparison categories but within the past four reporting periods the county's performance has been comparable. The county's performance did decline over the past two report periods. The agency believes that this is due to there being 10 kids in care beyond 36 months with significant MH/MR issues that make it difficult to meet their needs. Because of the extreme needs of these youth, they are often going from one treatment program to another. Their needs are too extreme to be placed in a foster home but many of the programs have discharge goals and timeframes that do not allow a child to remain in one placement setting for a long period of time. The local MH/MR office and CYS agency have recently increased collaboration efforts to serve these youth and find longer term placement options for them that meet their needs.

Mifflin County

- ❑ How does the county's data compare to other counties of the same size? To the statewide data?

In the past few reporting periods, the county has performed better than the Central Region counties but worse than other class 6 counties and the state.

- ❑ If the county's performance exceeds comparable county and/or statewide performance, what policies or practices does the county believe have contributed to this result? What actions is the county taking to maintain or improve its performance?

Or

If the county's performance lags behind comparable county and/or statewide performance, what factors does the county believe have contributed to this result? What actions is the county taking to improve its performance?

The agency will continue to utilize SWAN services to attempt to locate permanent resources for these youth in care beyond 24 months in order to find them permanent homes and/or connections.

- ❑ When compared to class and state performance on each of the measures, at what point does placement stability tend to break down— the first, second, or third year? What is the county doing differently than the class, region, or rest of the state?

Same response as listed in placement stability 0-12 months.

- ❑ Describe the relationship between actions taken in the first 24-72 hours of a child's removal and the on placement stability? How often does the child's first placement become the placement in which the child remains while in care? What steps is the county taking to increase that proportion?

Same response as listed in placement stability 0-12 months.

5-3a. Prevention Services

- Briefly describe prevention programs, including services to be provided and what will be prevented (i.e., child abuse, child neglect, truancy, delinquency).

Mifflin county provides prevention services to youth in the community through numerous service providers including FICS family preservation to prevent child abuse and neglect and out of home placement, Project YES to prevent delinquency and truancy, MST to prevent out of home placement and delinquency, Family Group Decision Making to prevent truancy and out of home placement, and Mifflin Families to prevent delinquency and out of home placement. FICS and Project YES program descriptions and services are listed in section 6-1 g as they are the highest and second highest paid providers for in-home services. MST and FGDM are evidence based programs encouraged by the state as effective prevention programs.

Regarding Mifflin Families, the program provides intensive community-based, in-home services to youth and their families. In addition to the in-home services, other services offered include specialized drug and alcohol treatment intervention, drug testing, 24 hour crisis management, collaboration with school personnel, representation at court hearings, and respite services.

Expected outcomes include reducing parent-child conflict, eliminating drug and alcohol abuse, decreasing truancy and behavior issues in school, reducing property destruction at home and within the community, reducing assaultive behavior at home and in the community, reducing oppositional/defiant behaviors, and reducing stress levels in families.

⇒ **5-3b. Previously Introduced Outcomes**

- For each outcome introduced by the county in past budgets, describe the activities, programs, or services implemented in order to achieve the outcome and results.

1. Outcome S2: Children are safely maintained in their homes whenever possible and appropriate.

Mifflin County is utilizing Project YES delinquency prevention program, FICS family preservation program, MST services and FGDM to specifically address this outcome.

For Project YES services their target objective is to prevent out of home placement for 90% of youth enrolled in the program. Project YES offers intensive case management, home visits/parental contact, school performance reports, school lunch program, classroom services, planned family activities, parent education, an incentive program, intensive summer camp, and homework club. Through these services and a monthly service team meeting, youth receive an intensive level of services to lower risk factors, improve school performance and attendance and reduce problem behaviors which overall reduces the number of children placed outside the home. For FY 09/10 for the elementary school program 98% of children were safely maintained in their homes. For FY 09/10 for the middle school programs 100% of children were safely maintained in their homes. Additional outcomes and results for each program (elementary listed first, then middle school) for FY 09/10 are that 98%,100% of all youth enrolled in the program were promoted to the next grade with 67%,64% improving their academic performance and 62%,31% improved their attendance by the end of the school year.

For FICS family preservation services their target objective is to prevent out of home placement for 91% of youth receiving services through the program. The family preservation program staff focuses on services in each family's home; providing services in the home to teach practical skills in the setting that they will be used, emphasizing skill building over therapeutic insight, and emphasizing delivery of concrete services. Family counselors practice various models and theories, including the systems perspective, Reality Therapy, the structural approach and the strategic approach. Services include initial assessment and goal planning, therapeutic intervention, family and individual sessions, transition services and wide array of community support services depending on the need of each individual family. Expected outcomes of the programs are for child well being to be at baseline or above on the NCFAS scale at case closure which occurred in 100% of cases in FY 09/10; out of home placements will not exceed 9% within one year of case closure which the rate was at 4% in FY 09/10; at least 90% of families will have permanency at case closure in cases with case plans which occurred in 85% of cases, and 85% of families will give a positive response during follow up regarding having input into setting family goals, correctly identifying family goals and the family making improvements which occurred in 100% of all cases.

Both programs continue to gather data and track outcome measures and provide reports to the county on expected and actual outcomes to measure the success of the programs.

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2. Outcome P1: Children have permanency and stability in their living arrangements.

Mifflin County is utilizing FICS reunification programs to accomplish this as well as private foster care providers and FGDM.

For FICS reunification services a target objective is that within one year of permanency being established through reunification, adoption, SPLC or placement with a relative, the replacement rate will not exceed 9%. Another objective is that 50% of children will have a permanency decision within 12 months of opening for reunification services. The reunification program focus on the strengths and needs of each child and family, while using a variety of efficient, time-limited, goal-oriented services and supports to determine the optimal level of reconnection that is appropriate. Services provided include, but are not limited to family counseling, skills training (communication, parenting, anger management, etc.), budgeting assistance and household management skills, assistance in locating housing, transportation, visitation, respite care and support for substance abuse treatment. It draws upon a behavioral paradigm that involves modeling behaviors, providing opportunities to practice newly formed skills, and giving direct feedback. For FY 09-10 the replacement rate was 0% meaning none of the children served re-entered care. For FY 09/10, the program actually ensured that 100% of all children receiving services had a permanency decision within 12 months of opening for services.

For private foster care providers, it is the expectation of the agency that the providers will assist the agency in making the most appropriate placement of the child by carefully considering each child who is referred, assessing their individual needs and determining from their prospective list of families if they have a family able to meet those needs. The agency would also consider each family proposed to the agency to make an unbiased decision about placement decisions in the best interest of each child served. It is also the expectation that private provider agencies complete kinship foster homes where children have entered emergency placement in the 60 day required time frames in 100% of all referrals made. The agency and foster care service providers have frequent contact phone contact and the providers provide written reports as well. The agency would expect each foster care provider to report to the agency immediately any concerns that could result in placement disruption in an attempt to salvage the placement and minimize the disruption the child when possible and in the best interest of the child.

For FGDM, the program has not been fully implemented so there are no outcomes to report on at this time.

Mifflin County

3. Outcome WB 1: Families have enhanced capacity to provide for their children's needs.

Mifflin County is utilizing FICS family preservation and reunification services as well as our local Communities that Care (CTC) to provide families with enhanced capacities to meet their children's needs.

For FICS family preservation services their target objective is for 60% of the families to score at baseline or above on the NCFAS scale in the child well-being domain at the time of case closure and for 85% of families to give a positive response at the point of follow up regarding whether they had input into the goals set for the family, if the family goals were identified correctly and the family made improvements. The family preservation program staff focuses on services in each family's home; providing services in the home to teach practical skills in the setting that they will be used, emphasizing skill building over therapeutic insight, and emphasizing delivery of concrete services. Family counselors practice various models and theories, including the systems perspective, Reality Therapy, the structural approach and the strategic approach. Services include initial assessment and goal planning, therapeutic intervention, family and individual sessions, transition services and wide array of community support services depending on the need of each individual family. The results for FY 09/10 were that 100% of families scored at or above the baseline for child well-being on the NCFAS scale and that 100% of families gave a positive response to each of the three categories during follow up.

For FICS reunification services a target objective is for 50% of the families to score at baseline or above on the NCFAS scale in the child well-being domain at the time of case closure and for 85% of families to give a positive response at the point of follow up regarding whether they had input into the goals set for the family and if the family goals were identified correctly. The reunification program focus on the strengths and needs of each child and family, while using a variety of efficient, time-limited, goal-oriented services and supports to determine the optimal level of reconnection that is appropriate. Services provided include, but are not limited to family counseling, skills training (communication, parenting, anger management, etc.), budgeting assistance and household management skills, assistance in locating housing, transportation, visitation, respite care and support for substance abuse treatment. It draws upon a behavioral paradigm that involves modeling behaviors, providing opportunities to practice newly formed skills, and giving direct feedback. The results for FY 09/10 were that 50% of families scored at or above the baseline for child well-being on the NCFAS scale and that 75% of families felt they had input into their goals and 100% of families felt their goals were correctly identified during the follow up inquiries.

For CTC, there is not one specific program or arena that contributes to child well-being but rather all of the work that CTC does is regarding making improvements for youth to live in a drug free, safe and caring community. The local CTC mission is to promote the healthy development of the children of Mifflin County and to prevent juvenile delinquency, violence by and among children, teen pregnancy, truancy, school dropouts, substance abuse, and undesirable actions and attitudes that may be harmful to youth – all of which improves child well-being. The CTC mobilizer serves as the leader of the county's Systems of Care team and is the lead for the Integrated Children's Service Plan as well. The agency will continue to support the efforts of our local CTC, their committees, the mobilizer and the programs they develop. The agency is hopeful that due to funding for the mobilizer position expiring that funding will be approved for FY 11/12 for the agency to fund this position.

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- ❑ Describe whether the county will continue its efforts to improve outcomes, or if the county has analyzed needs and chosen to address different outcomes.

The county will continue to focus efforts to improve these outcomes and believes that these identified outcomes will improve the lives of children and families that the agency serves.

- ❑ Discuss whether the outcome has been achieved, and reasons for that status. Provide specifics on the activities, programs, or services that affect the targeted outcome (county provided and/or purchased).

Some of the outcomes have been achieved but will need to continue to be addressed on an ongoing basis. Specific outcome information is listed above.

- ❑ For continuing or newly targeted outcomes for FY 2009-10:
 - ❑ Identify specific activities [planned] and services to improve the outcomes.
 - ❑ Provide timeframes for measured improvement.
 - ❑ Describe the process for data collection/measurement.

This information is listed above in the outcome information.

5-4a. Family Engagement in Case Planning

- Assess performance to determine if improvement in this area is needed in the county, describe previous efforts which the county believes have had a positive impact, and any new initiatives to improve this area.

The agency used to do a very poor job at engaging the family in the case planning process. However, over the past two years, the agency has been participating in Organizational Effectiveness and looking at areas of improvement in services to clients. Over a year ago, the entire organization participated in the 'Engaging Clients from a Strength-Based, Solution-Focused Perspective' training and the agency steering committee recently developed new policy regarding engaging the family in the development of service plans. Caseworkers are now meeting with families prior to plan meetings to gather their thoughts and ideas to incorporate into the plan and allowing them to direct the process with the idea that they will buy into the process more if they are driving the planning process. The workers are now also required to meet with the family at their home on a monthly basis to review the plan and the objectives so the agency is having frequent contact with the family in discussing why the agency was involved and recognizing growth and change on a month to month basis. The agency has noticed a decrease in the number of referrals being accepted for services as a result of our intake unit engaging families. The agency has also noticed a decrease in the amount of time a family is open for services with the agency due to rectifying issues that lead to agency involvement in a shorter period of time. The agency hopes to continue to see this trend as staff continue to engage families.

The agency has also been using FGDM to engage families and increase the "buy in" to the process.

5-4b. Youth Involvement in Case Planning

- Assess performance to determine if improvement in this area is needed in the county, describe previous efforts which the county believes have had a positive impact, and any new initiatives to improve this area.

Just as mentioned above, the agency is also utilizing the same practices to actively engage youth in their planning processes and gathering their input prior to the development of plans to ensure youth have a voice in the content of the plans. The agency has also held staff to a 100% compliance rate regarding monthly caseworker visitation for all in-home and placement cases so staff can be actively engaging youth on a regular basis throughout the entirety of the case.

The agency is also utilizing FICS services to provide IL services to youth in care as well as after care youth. The IL plans are youth driven and allows the youth to develop their plan based off of their individuals plans, wants and needs with the assistance of the IL worker working with them one-on-one to achieve those goals.

5-4c. Transition Planning & Preparation

- Assess performance to determine if improvement in this area is needed in the county, describe previous efforts which the county believes have had a positive impact, and any new initiatives to improve this area.

The agency absolutely needs to make improvements in this area. In years past, the agency has done a very poor job of transitioning youth out of care. The agency believes it has started making improvements in this area through the use of FICS with IL kids.

The agency also anticipates that great progress will be made in this regard through the project the county has submitted in the integrated children's service plan for FY 10/11. The county is planning to revive the CAASP model and one of the target populations is kids exiting placement. The county entities would like to focus efforts on these youth in order to conduct much more thorough transition planning to prevent reentry into foster care and prevent older youth from becoming homeless and/or unable to meet their own needs as an adult due to a lack of planning and preparation.

In the meantime, the agency will be making efforts to develop transition plans for youth exiting care in order to ensure the transition is successful for the youth.

5-4d. Implementation of Concurrent Planning

- Assess performance to determine if improvement in this area is needed in the county, describe previous efforts which the county believes have had a positive impact, and any new initiatives to improve this area.

The agency has made significant improvements in this area and has begun concurrent planning upon Initial placement of the child. The agency is seeking from all initial placement (and secondary placement options where applicable) if they would be willing to be a permanent resource for the child if reunification would be unsuccessful. The agency has been doing a good job of placing children in pre-adoptive placements at the onset of placement, which has had a positive impact on placement stability and time to finalization of adoption.

FICS' intensive reunification program has also been an asset in practicing concurrent planning throughout their involvement in cases and has assisted the agency in expediting permanency for children in care whose family has been referred for FICS services.

Section 6: Administration

6-1b. Employee Benefit Detail

- ❑ Submit a detailed description of the county's employee benefit package for FY 2010-11. Include a description of each benefit included in the package and the methodology for calculating benefit costs.

The county provides health insurance to employees through Capital Blue Cross, dental insurance through Delta Dental and vision insurance. The county pays 90% of employee benefits and the employee pays the remaining 10%. Insurance coverage can be a family plan, parent and child plan, or individual employee plan. Benefits also include a prescription plan, a \$20,000 life insurance policy, retirement, and workman's compensation.

As mentioned previously, the county pays 90% of employee benefits and the employee pays the remaining 10%. This is for health, dental, and vision coverage. For the life insurance policy the employee pays \$.21 per pay. Benefits are calculated using the following percentages: Fica 6.2% (pre-tax – used deferred wages), Medicare 1.45% (pre-tax – use deferred wages), PA UC 4.5% (up to 8,000 gross wages), and Retirement 8.9%. Workman's Comp – office personnel calculated at .56% and personnel who leave the office on a consistent basis calculated at 1.03%.

6-1d. Organizational Changes

- ❑ Note any changes to the county's organizational chart.

Since the submission of last year's plan, the county has restructured the program units. During last fiscal year, the placement caseworkers' caseloads were very high for the level of experience of the workers in the unit and the agency was having to rely on the in-home unit to help cover over 25% of the placement cases, due to their workloads being smaller. At that time the agency combined the in-home and placement units to create two ongoing units.

Unfortunately over the past year the agency has had a change in needs. The county had over a 25% increase in intakes which has created much difficulty with the intake unit being able to meet deadlines, offer quality services, etc. However the agency was able to reduce placement numbers and reduce in-home GPS numbers as well. As a result, the agency has recently again reorganized the program units to meet the changing needs of the youth and families we serve. So at this time the agency has two GPS units, one comprised of all GPS workers who work both intake and in-home GPS cases. The other GPS unit has two specialized CPS workers and two GPS workers who work both intake and in-home GPS cases. The change is too new to assess the impact other than creating a great relief for intake staff who were struggling to meet deadlines and requirements.

Now when an intake GPS worker accepts a case for services, they will actually keep the case themselves and work the in-home GPS case since they will already know the family and have developed a rapport with them. The change increased the number of GPS workers from four to six and allows for two specialized CPS workers who will receive more intensive training on working the complicated CPS cases and dynamics of conducting abuse investigations. Even with the new changes in place, turnover and vacancies continue to be an issue and a challenge in trying to alleviate stressful workloads for staff.

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Another change the agency is looking to make is to fill the assistant administrator position that was already approved by OCYF. The agency must receive commissioner approval to do so. The agency has come a long way in the past several years but still has a long way to go. As demands and responsibilities increase for the administrator of a small agency it is becoming increasingly difficult to address all of the new mandates, bulletins, requirements, etc. that are constantly being rolled out by the state. The administrator is not able to rely heavily on the program supervisors for assistance in these areas due to their workload and responsibilities already being so high. The agency believes that by filling the position the agency can continue to progress in newer areas such as kinship, fostering connections, shared case responsibility, transitioning youth as well as continuing to strive for excellence in already identified areas such as decreasing entry and re-entry rates, decreasing time to permanency and increasing placement stability.

At some point over the past four years, three different supervisors have been off on extended Family Medical Leave and the administrator has had to step in assist with supervisory duties. Although this administrator continues to be very involved with and hands on with program cases and decisions, this administrator does not have the time to do both supervisory and administrative duties. The agency has grown tremendously over the past several years but still has much room to grow in providing quality, strength-based services in our community.

The administrator serves on many community committees and teams regarding youth in the county and has many commitments that do not allow availability for daily supervision of workers. The administrator believes that by filling the assistant administrator position, the assistant administrator will be able to take over the duties of overseeing the program supervisors, serving as a backup supervisor to each program supervisor, and taking over the day to day involvement in cases to allow this administrator the time necessary to get more involved where needed. The assistant administrator will also be able to oversee the implementation of new programs and projects to ensure things are running smoothly, such as out of home safety assessment, fostering connections, transitioning youth database, ages and stages, etc. This administrator would like the ability to dedicate her time to administrative duties and becoming more involved with committees both in the community and on the state level to help this agency continue to grow and advance into a quality service providing agency.

The agency will continue to assess the needs of both the staff and the families and youth that we serve and adapt to provide the best services the agency is able to with the current resources available.

6-1e. Staff Evaluations

- ❑ Describe the method for evaluating staff effectiveness.

The agency relies on the supervisor of each unit to evaluate and ensure staff effectiveness. In the intake unit, the supervisor meets with the caseworkers for a scheduled staffing on a weekly basis and in the ongoing units this staffing occurs at a minimum of a monthly basis. However, due to the size of the agency and the smaller size of caseworkers' caseloads, supervisors are able to be very hands on with the staff and have in depth knowledge of each child and family the agency is serving. Supervisors are also conducting initial six month probationary evaluations and annual evaluations with each employee to provide feedback and address areas of strength and concern.

Staffing has been and remains an issue in Mifflin County. The agency has a high rate of turnover which has resulted in a very young management team and the majority of caseworkers having little to no experience in the field when hired which increases the length of time before the workers are able to adequately work a full caseload. The agency is fortunate to be able to have the workloads lower than normal due to the inexperienced workers being unable to handle a normal volume of work. The agency also continues to struggle with the civil service hiring procedures as the agency is often put in the position of either not filling a vacancy or hiring a person who is clearly not the best person for the job.

6-1f. Contract Monitoring & Evaluation

- ❑ Note the employee/unit which oversees county contracts. Describe the evaluation process.

Mifflin County utilizes a clerk typist to oversee and monitor contracts for the agency. She along with the fiscal supervisor have been actively involved in the contract process with the state over the past several years and have not only completed the assigned provider packet for the county but have also assisted other counties with their assigned provider contracts.

Effectiveness of service providers is monitored by program management staff. When a provider is utilized, each unit supervisor reports back to the administrator and other program supervisors about quality of services provided, success in achieving outcomes, level of cooperation with the agency, and overall experience with each provider. Based on the information provided, this is used in future preplacement meetings for new children entering care to determine if a program will continue to be utilized or not.

If an issue arises with a particular provider or a provider is failing to meet their outcomes, the administrator, program supervisor and fiscal supervisor if necessary, meet with the provider to discuss the concerns and the expectations the agency would have in order to continue with service utilization with that provider. The administrator then follows up with the program supervisor and fiscal supervisor to make sure the issues have been rectified. If the results do not change after attempts to address these issues with the provider, the agency will discontinue the use of that provider and will utilize other providers who are able to achieve their outcomes and meet the specific needs of the county and the youth and families we serve.

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6-1g. Largest Providers Contract Review

Review the Schedule of Existing Purchased Services and identify the four largest providers (regardless of whether it is a CCYA or JPO provider) as follows:

- Two largest providers of In-Home Services. Include contact information.

Provider Name	Provider Address & Phone	Provider Contact Name	# of Children Served FY 2009-10	Total \$ Amount of Services
1: Wardell & Associates: FICS	310 West Linn Street Bellefonte, PA 16823 814-355-3807	Patti Flood, Executive Director	70	\$395,340
2: TIU # 11	2527 US Hwy 522 N McVeytown, PA 17051	Helen Guisler, Family Services Director	95	\$250,000

- Largest provider of Community Based Placement services. Include contact information.

Provider Name	Provider Address & Phone	Provider Contact Name	# of Children Served FY 2009-10	Total \$ Amount of Services
1: The Bair Foundation	241 High Street New Wilmington, PA 16142 800-203-5680	Sean DeYoung, Director	50	\$661,082

- The largest provider of Institutional Placement services (excluding Youth Development Center and Juvenile Detention Center placements) . Include contact information.

Provider Name	Provider Address & Phone	Provider Contact Name	# of Children Served FY 2009-10	Total \$ Amount of Services
1: NHS Youth Services	4391 Sturbridge Dr Harrisburg, PA 17110 570-644-5347	Angela Bricker	4	\$133,837

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Briefly summarize the services provided by these entities, the expected outcomes of those services, and how provider performance is monitored.

- Two largest providers of In-Home Services

Wardell and Associates: FICS

Mifflin County utilizes Wardell and Associates: FICS as the largest provider of in-home services. FICS is a proprietary human service organization that is committed to the development of client services that are strength based and empowering for both the consumer and the provider. FICS provides family preservation and reunification services to youth and families in the county. The family preservation program staff focuses on services in each family's home; providing services in the home to teach practical skills in the setting that they will be used, emphasizing skill building over therapeutic insight, and emphasizing delivery of concrete services. Family counselors practice various models and theories, including the systems perspective, Reality Therapy, the structural approach and the strategic approach. The reunification program focus on the strengths and needs of each child and family, while using a variety of efficient, time-limited, goal-oriented services and supports to determine the optimal level of reconnection that is appropriate. Services provided include, but are not limited to family counseling, skills training (communication, parenting, anger management, etc.), budgeting assistance and household management skills, assistance in locating housing, transportation, visitation, respite care and support for substance abuse treatment. It draws upon a behavioral paradigm that involves modeling behaviors, providing opportunities to practice newly formed skills, and giving direct feedback

Expected outcomes of the programs are, for family preservation, for 60% of families' NCFAS scores in the child well being domain to be at baseline or above at case closure, out of home placements will not exceed 9% within one year of case closure, at least 90% of families will have permanency at case closure in cases with case plans, and 85% of families will give a positive response during follow up regarding having input into setting family goals, correctly identifying family goals and the family making improvements. Expected outcomes for the reunification program are to limit the replacement rate to 9% within one year of permanency being established through return home, adoption, SPLC or placement with a relative, for 50% of children to have a permanency decision within 12 months of opening for services, for 50% of families to score at baseline or above on the NCFAS-R well being scale at case closure, and for 85% of families to give a positive response during follow up regarding having input into setting family goals and whether family goals were identified correctly.

Performance is monitored through monthly case reviews, monthly management meetings between CYS and FICS, frequent oral and written reports between the provider and the agency, and written outcomes data provided to the agency on an annual basis.

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TIU #11

Mifflin County utilizes the Tuscarora Intermediate Unit #11 (TIU) as the second largest provider of in-home services. The program utilized by the county is 'Project YES'. Project YES is a delinquency prevention program that targets students ages 6-14 who are at risk for delinquent behaviors. The program has identified risk factors and offers a wide variety of services. While it works individually with the student it also puts emphasis on working with the entire family.

Programs include a homework club, mentoring program, school lunch program, needle arts club, girls club, school performance reports, home visits/parental contact, 7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens, Classroom Inc, incentive program, planned family activities, and parent workshops.

Expected outcomes of services focus on improving academic performance, improving attendance, decreasing negative "problem" behaviors, helping at risk youth decrease risk of placement, and improving family management skills. The program target goal is 75 children per fiscal year. Performance is monitored through reports and data provided by the provider.

- Largest provider of Community Based Placement services

The Bair Foundation

The Bair Foundation (TBF) is the largest community based provider utilized by the county. TBF offers treatment and emergency foster care to children in a family like setting that is more natural and less restrictive than residential treatment centers and group homes. TBF works with more difficult children in placement through a treatment foster care setting where foster parents are trained to deal with children that have more emotional and mental health concerns. Foster parents work with counselors and other service providers to make the foster care stay as therapeutic as possible. Other services offered by TBF include respite care, transportation services, 24 hour on-call system, attendance at all court hearings and court testimony if requested. TBF also completes quarterly ISP's for children placed in their foster homes.

Expected outcomes of service for TBF include children's physical needs being met; children's behaviors stabilize; children maintain placement in their same home until their permanency goal is met; children are safe in their placement; children 16 years of age and older will attain the necessary skills for independent living; children are able to address the offenses that have occurred in their lives and move toward restoring family relationships; foster parents gain and apply specialized skills through training and certification to provide therapeutic care; kinship parents are trained and certified to provide individualized care; and case managers are trained to provide individualized assistance to foster and kinship families.

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Performance with the Bair Foundation is monitored through quarterly ISP plan meetings between each agency caseworker and the child and family to ensure outcomes are being addressed. Performance is also monitored through frequent contact between case managers at TBF and caseworkers with the agency. When problems arise, administrative personnel convene to address any relevant issues and then appropriate unit supervisors follow up to ensure the issues have been followed up on and do not recur.

- Largest provider of Institutional Placement services

NHS Youth Services

NHS Youth Services is the largest provider of Institutional Placement services for Mifflin County. NHS Youth Services is a broad-based provider of residential and community-based behavioral health services. Their program services are comprised of an Intermediate Secure Treatment Unit, VCORE program, CAS program, Open Residential Program and Secure Services Program. The two programs utilized within the past FY are the Intermediate Secure Treatment Unit and the VCORE programs. The intermediate secure treatment unit offers services to adolescent, delinquent males ages 10-18 that have failed in less intensive and less secure residential programs. Treatment services provided by the program includes highly structured day to day activities, intensive individual counseling, small and large group counseling, sex offender's group, children of alcoholics group, drug and alcohol group, depression, anger and anxiety group, and individual clinical therapy. The VCORE program is a highly structured service delivery model with military features that integrates a strengths based philosophy to provide youth with the opportunity to change. It offers services to adolescent males and females ages 12-18. It incorporates the identified six key components shown to maximize the effectiveness of regimented structured approaches including education and job training, community service, substance abuse counseling, health and mental health care, individualized case management, and aftercare services. The programs have a close working relationship with the referring agencies and are able to offer all of these services on site at the facility.

Expected outcomes of service for NHS Youth Services are to improve the safety and security of children in their care, to improve the academic skills and abilities of youth and to partner with the families of the children served to involve them in planning and treatment.

Performance is monitored through reports and data provided by the provider specifically regarding these outcomes as well as reports by caseworkers, probation officers, and supervisors regarding services, cooperation, and child specific needs being met.

6-3a. Evidence Based Programs

Pertinent Submission Information

This subsection of the Narrative Template is for Special Grant Initiatives (SGI): Evidence-Based Programs (EBP), Pennsylvania Promising Practices (PaPP), Housing and Alternatives to Truancy (ATP) programs. Please review Appendix 9 of the FY 2011-12 NBPB prior to completing this section or the Budget Excel File worksheets.

To ensure proper evaluation of any special grant request, counties must provide brief and sufficient explanations and justifications to the questions in the Narrative Template. Counties are advised to prepare informative responses that offer a clear understanding to help the reviewer recommend approval, rather than a denial or reduction in funds because of missing or unclear information.

Additionally, if a county is requesting a renewal or an expansion of an existing special grant and there was under-utilization and/or under-spending of the grant in FY 2008-09 and/or FY 2009-10, the county must provide detailed explanations as to the cause(s) of the underperformance and must identify measures the county will utilize to prevent the underperformance in both FY 2010-11 as well as FY 2011-12.

If a county is requesting a new grant, it must provide succinct details as to the target population, planned utilization, realistic timeframes for implementing the special grant and outcomes expected to be achieved.

In addition to the Narrative Template, the county must enter SGI fiscal information for each fiscal year in the Budget Excel File. That file will be the primary source for fiscal information. Please ensure fiscal costs in the Narrative Template match the Budget Excel File. Instructions for completing the Excel files are included in Appendix 9 and in the Excel file.

The Special Grants Budget Form for FY 2010-11 requests FY 2008-09 and FY 2009-10 actual expenditures with Needs-Based Fund adjustments and line-item budget information for each SGI in Appendix 9 with the exception of State Reintegration. CCYAs are also required to enter fiscal information in the FY 2011-12 Special Grants Funding Request Form.

Counties are also required to complete the SGI Contact List in the Budget Excel file for all SG and IL programs.

Requests to Transfer/Shift Funds within Evidence-Based Programs and Pa Promising Practices

The following subsections provide counties the opportunity to transfer or shift funds within the EBP and PaPP for FY 2010-11. The requests may not exceed the total allocation of the EBP or PaPP and must include detailed justification for the proposed changes. This opportunity is available only for EBP and PaPP. It is not applicable for Housing, ATP or State Reintegration.

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6-3a. Evidence Based Programs: Multi-Systemic Therapy

- Please indicate which type of request this is:

Request Type	Enter Y or N			
Renewal from 2009-10	Y			
New implementation for 2010-11 (did not receive funds in 2009-10)				
Funded and delivered services in 2009-10 but not renewing in 2010-11				
Requesting funds for 2011-12 (new, continuing or expanding)	Y	New	Continuing	Expanding
			X	

Complete the following table if providing this service or requesting a **transfer, shift, or revision** only of funds for FY 2010-11; and/or requesting funds for FY 2011-12. Enter the total amount of state and matching local funds. (Transfer/shifting is allowable only within EBP funds. Counties may not transfer/shift from or to other SGI categories.)

Total Budget Amount	Original/Approved Allocation (Amt requested and approved)	Revision Amount Change + or -	Requested Amount (enter this amount in fiscal worksheets)
FY 2010-11	\$40,000	0	\$40,000
FY 2011-12			\$40,000

- Did your county request and receive approval to transfer/shift funds during FY 2009-10? If YES, will the rationale for the change remain the same for FY 2010-11? Describe, briefly that rationale for the approved change and do not respond to the next question. If NO, please respond to the following question.

Response: N/A. Didn't request to transfer/shift funds.

- Explain why the change is requested. What are the deciding factors to move from the originally requested program(s) to another(s)? Was this change discussed with the regional office?

Response: N/A. Didn't request to transfer/shift funds.

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- Complete the following table for each applicable year.

	0607	0708	0809	0910	1011	1112
Target Population						
# of Referrals				2	18	18
# Successfully completing program				N/A	15	15
Cost per year				#3,652	\$40,000	\$40,000
Per Diem Cost/Program funded amount				\$67.63/\$21,000	\$77/0	\$77/0
# of MA referrals				0	16	16
# of Non MA referrals				2	2	2
Name of provider				Adelphoi Village	Adelphoi Village	Adelphoi Village

If this is a renewal of services delivered in FY 2009-10, answer the following:

- Clearly describe the program's accomplishments or results; any challenges to implementation; and the impact on service delivery for FY 2010-11. Use data/statistics to show the impact of the program services.

Response: The agency had been working with Adelphoi Village to bring MST to the county for a several month time period but the program was not actually able to begin accepting referrals until mid May, 2010. The agency did not have high enough numbers to bring the program to Mifflin so Mifflin, Huntingdon and Juniata county CYS and JPO offices collaborated with Adelphoi Village to bring the service to all three counties where the three counties could meet the required numbers. Due to the extensive collaboration required across three counties and with the provider, it took much of the fiscal year to get the program up and running. Therefore the agency has little feedback about accomplishments or results for FY 09/10.

- What are the barriers to the realization of your program outcomes? Identify each year and describe the barrier/challenge to reaching the program outcomes for that year.

Response: N/A. Program not in effect long enough to provide this information. The agency is hopeful this FY will be productive in meeting outcomes.

- Describe the county's expenditures history, if any, for the program/practice. What factors contributed to the successful or underspending or under-utilization of grant funds?

Response: Last year the county had a \$40,000 allocation. The county used \$21,000 for start up costs but again, due to the program not accepting referrals until mid May of 2010 the agency was not able to utilize the full allocation. The agency believes that this fiscal year the CYS and JPO offices will be able to utilize the entire allocation.

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- If there were instances of underspending or under-utilization of prior years grant funds, describe what changes have occurred or will occur to ensure that grant funds for this program/service are maximized and effectively managed. Also, identify the measures the county will utilize in both FY 2010-11 and FY 2011-12.

Response: Now that the program is up and running both CYS and JPO offices have been making referrals and the agency believes it will be able to utilize the entire allocation for FY 10/11. The agency will monitor on a quarterly basis the expenditures to ensure the funds are being utilized appropriately.

Complete the following for each applicable year.

- Indicate and describe the target population for whom the county expects to provide these services. Describe how the target population was chosen and the internal and external factors influencing this decision. This may include age, location, type or reason for placement, whether it is county-wide, school district focused, etc.

FY 2010-11 (for counties with approved allocations or transfer/shift requests)

Response: The agency anticipates using this service for youth who have truancy issues, parent/child conflict, substance abuse, and incorrigible behaviors that place them at risk of being placed outside the home. Typically these cases involve older teens where parents are unable or unwilling to alter parenting styles or unclear how to parent these difficult teens and believe out of home placement is the only alternative. The local JPO office will utilize the service for adjudicated delinquents who could benefit from out of home placement absent the service, also in an attempt to get to the family issues and prevent future delinquent acts.

FY 2011-12 Renewing counties may reply with “same as above” unless expanding or decreasing the services, which requires further information and justification. Describe the provider’s capacity to serve additional youth.

Response: Same as above.

- Identify the service outcomes the county expects to achieve as a result of providing these services. Explain how service outcomes will be measured and the frequency of measurement.

FY 2010-11 (for counties with approved allocations or transfer/shift requests)

Response: The agency expects to reduce placements of older teens with delinquency issues, truancy issues and parent/child conflict which the agency has placed in the past. Identified service outcomes include reducing the frequency of referral behaviors of all youth referred to the program, empower caregivers to provide effective parenting skills in order to sustain therapeutic changes after services end, and provide clear and consistent supervision to MST therapists so fidelity to the MST model is maintained at the highest level. Service provider will be responsible for monitoring outcomes and providing information to agency annually. In addition, the agency will be tracking referrals, successful discharges and unsuccessful discharges.

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FY 2011-12 Renewing counties may reply with “same as above” unless expanding or decreasing the services or revising prior outcomes, which requires further information and justification.

Response: Same as above.

- Describe how the program will be implemented or operated for services from the identification and referral process through program completion. Do not describe the model. Discuss the agency’s experience with the provider agency, and their Medical Assistance approval and enrollment status. Provide a timeline for any changes or new program implementation.

FY 2010-11 (for counties with approved allocations or transfer/shift requests)

Response: Workers and supervisors will discuss the appropriateness of cases for referral in staffing and will fill out the referral form and send to the MST office. The entire agency staff has been trained regarding what the program is, target population, etc. in order to assist with identifying appropriate referrals. The provider is able to start the process immediately for youth with MA coverage. For those without MA coverage, the agency funds services initially so services can start right away and the provider has an arrangement with a psychiatrist to have the child evaluated, the recommendation made, and service approved through CCBH for funding within 15 days. For those not eligible for MA services, the agency has requested funding to serve two youth.

FY 2011-12 Renewing counties may reply with “same as above” unless expanding or decreasing the services, which requires further information and justification.

Response: Same as above.

- Clearly explain the implementation year budget of FY 2010-11. Identify and discuss how the cost of services (per diem/unit or program funded) is determined and included in the budget, and provide a brief narrative description of each budget line item. Also describe the invoicing process and any requirements between the county and provider agencies.

□ **FY 2010-11** (for counties with approved allocations or transfer/shift requests)

Response: The agency anticipates it will utilize MST services for a total of 18 youth this FY. It is anticipated that 16 of those youth will be eligible for MA and 2 will not. The per diem for the service is \$77. See attached operating budget for breakdown of how per diem was determined and description of line items. The agency anticipates of the 16 youth who will receive the service and be eligible for MA there will be a 15 day window of services until the service is approved by MA that the agency will cover. The calculation is 16 youth x \$77/day x 15 days = \$18,480. The agency anticipates that for the 2 youth that will utilize the service and not be covered by MA, the services will be in place for 140 days. The calculation is 2 youth x \$77/day x 140 days = \$21,560. The total for serving these youth will be \$40,040. The provider will invoice the agency monthly for all youth receiving services where agency payment is necessary.

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- ❑ **FY 2011-12** For new funding requests or renewing counties requesting an increase or expansion of funds, clearly describe the process used to calculate the county request for funding and the rationale. Provide historical information as to the county's successes or barriers to new program/practice implementation, including provider contracting and participation. Refer to the county timeline (requested above) as part of the rationale.

Response: N/A – County not requesting additional funds for FY 11/12 and plan for serving youth and families remains the same as in FY 10/11.

- ❑ For FY 2011-12 Explain the potential cost savings/offsets and impact of increased use. When is it predicted that the cost savings will be realized? What type of placement will be utilized?

Response: The agency anticipates that older youth placements will be decreased in FY 11/12 by 2-3 youth . The agency anticipates the cost savings will be realized within that FY and each FY forward.

- ❑ Identify any technical assistance needs the county or provider agency has to provide effective services.

FY 2010-11 (for counties with approved allocations or transfer/shift requests)

Response: N/A. Adelphoi Village has been providing MST services across the state for several years and is very knowledgeable and experienced and should not require any technical assistance.

FY 2011-12 (for counties requesting funds for the first time)

Response: N/A.

Mifflin County

6-3a. Evidence Based Programs: Family Group Decision Making

- Please indicate which type of request this is:

Request Type	Enter Y or N			
Renewal from 2009-10	Y			
New implementation for 2010-11 (did not receive funds in 2009-10)				
Funded and delivered services in 2009-10 but not renewing in 2010-11				
Requesting funds for 2011-12 (new, continuing or expanding)	Y	New	Continuing	Expanding
			X	

Complete the following table if providing this service or requesting a **transfer, shift, or revision** only of funds for FY 2010-11; and/or requesting funds for FY 2011-12. Enter the total amount of state and matching local funds. (Transfer/shifting is allowable only within EBP funds. Counties may not transfer/shift from or to other SGI categories.)

Total Budget Amount	Original/Approved Allocation (Amt requested and approved)	Revision Amount Change + or -	Requested Amount (enter this amount in fiscal worksheets)
FY 2010-11	\$25,000	-\$5,000	\$20,000
FY 2011-12			\$20,000

- Did your county request and receive approval to transfer/shift funds during FY 2009-10? If YES, will the rationale for the change remain the same for FY 2010-11? Describe, briefly that rationale for the approved change and do not respond to the next question. If NO, please respond to the following question.

Response: N/A. Didn't request to transfer/shift funds.

- Explain why the change is requested. What are the deciding factors to move from the originally requested program(s) to another(s)? Was this change discussed with the regional office?

Response: N/A. Didn't request to transfer/shift funds.

Mifflin County

- ❑ Complete the following table for each applicable year.

	0607	0708	0809	0910	1011	1112
Target Population						
# of Referrals				4	16	16
# Successfully completing program				2	8	8
Cost per year				\$4,389	\$20,000	\$20,000
Per Diem Cost/Program funded amount				\$42/hour	\$42/hour	\$42/hour
# of MA referrals				0	0	0
# of Non MA referrals				4	16	16
Name of provider				FICS	FICS	FICS

If this is a renewal of services delivered in FY 2009-10, answer the following:

- ❑ Clearly describe the program’s accomplishments or results; any challenges to implementation; and the impact on service delivery for FY 2010-11. Use data/statistics to show the impact of the program services.

Response: The agency has struggled to get FGDM up and running. The agency utilizes a private provider, FICS to provide this service. The agency and FICS has done a lot of outreach to the schools, the Systems of Care and ICSP teams and to agency staff regarding the program however referrals from the school have been slow and agency staff has not relied on the program as an option, perhaps because of how new it is and the agency not having any outcomes showing success. It has also been a struggle getting families to accept the service and be open to the process. In FY 09/10, the agency offered FGDM to 10 families however only 4 of them were open to meeting with FICS staff to further explore the service. Of those 4, only two actually resulted in a successful family conference.

- ❑ What are the barriers to the realization of your program outcomes? Identify each year and describe the barrier/challenge to reaching the program outcomes for that year.

Response: As stated above, the agency needs to have more families go through the program successfully in order to achieve program outcomes.

- ❑ Describe the county’s expenditures history, if any, for the program/practice. What factors contributed to the successful or underspending or under-utilization of grant funds?

Response: The agency underspent the funds in FY 09/10 again, because the referrals were not occurring as often as they could have been from staff and from the schools and also because families were hesitant to participate in the service.

Mifflin County

- If there were instances of underspending or under-utilization of prior years grant funds, describe what changes have occurred or will occur to ensure that grant funds for this program/service are maximized and effectively managed. Also, identify the measures the county will utilize in both FY 2010-11 and FY 2011-12.

Response: In order to rectify the underspending issue for FY 10/11 and 11/12, the agency continues their outreach efforts with FICS to the schools, families and CYS staff. FICS recently attended a meeting with program supervisors and some intake staff to give examples of cases where FGDM could be appropriate at the intake level and to encourage staff and the supervisor to come up with at least one FGDM referral per month per worker. In addition, it was discussed with the placement supervisor the possibility of using FGDM to facilitate reunification whenever possible. The administrator will be holding the supervisors more accountable for ensuring referrals to the evidence based programs begin occurring more often to utilize the services.

Complete the following for each applicable year.

- Indicate and describe the target population for whom the county expects to provide these services. Describe how the target population was chosen and the internal and external factors influencing this decision. This may include age, location, type or reason for placement, whether it is county-wide, school district focused, etc.

FY 2010-11 (for counties with approved allocations or transfer/shift requests)

Response: The agency had originally selected truant youth as the target population for this services however the school district did not make many truancy referrals last year. The service provider and the agency have decided to broaden the populations and is willing to provide the service to families whose youth are truant, cases of parent/child conflict or custody related conflict, and placement cases where reunification is likely. At this point the agency and provider are just anxious to get the program up and running and will consider the service for other target groups if the agency has hope that conferencing can have a positive impact on the child and family.

FY 2011-12 Renewing counties may reply with “same as above” unless expanding or decreasing the services, which requires further information and justification. Describe the provider’s capacity to serve additional youth.

Response: Same as above.

- Identify the service outcomes the county expects to achieve as a result of providing these services. Explain how service outcomes will be measured and the frequency of measurement.

FY 2010-11 (for counties with approved allocations or transfer/shift requests)

Response: For truant youth the agency expects to improve the attendance of those referred who successfully complete a conference. For cases of parent/child or parent/parent conflict the agency expects to improve communications with the family and to help the family to come to common agreements. For cases where reunification is likely to occur, the agency is hopeful to successfully achieve reunification and prevent reentry into foster care. The service provider will track outcomes and provide annually to the agency.

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FY 2011-12 Renewing counties may reply with “same as above” unless expanding or decreasing the services or revising prior outcomes, which requires further information and justification.

Response: Same as above.

- Describe how the program will be implemented or operated for services from the identification and referral process through program completion. Do not describe the model. Discuss the agency’s experience with the provider agency, and their Medical Assistance approval and enrollment status. Provide a timeline for any changes or new program implementation.

FY 2010-11 (for counties with approved allocations or transfer/shift requests)

Response: When workers staff cases with their supervisors, it is the responsibility of both the worker and the supervisor to identify families who can benefit from the service. The worker would discuss the service with FICS and if the family was open to the service, the agency would make a referral on the paper form developed by FICS. FICS would then go out and meet with the family and give them a more thorough understanding of the service and how the process works. If the family commits to the process, FICS would begin gathering information to coordinate and eventually facilitate the conference with the family.

FY 2011-12 Renewing counties may reply with “same as above” unless expanding or decreasing the services, which requires further information and justification.

Response: Same as above.

- Clearly explain the implementation year budget of FY 2010-11. Identify and discuss how the cost of services (per diem/unit or program funded) is determined and included in the budget, and provide a brief narrative description of each budget line item. Also describe the invoicing process and any requirements between the county and provider agencies.

FY 2010-11 (for counties with approved allocations or transfer/shift requests)

Response: The current rate the provider bills the agency at as \$42 per hour. For FY 10/11 the agency does anticipate and increase in the funds utilized to provide the service to families but does not anticipate utilizing the full allocation. The agency believes it will be able to utilize \$18,000 for the program this FY. The provider invoices the county on a monthly basis for any work conducted for this service.

FY 2011-12 For new funding requests or renewing counties requesting an increase or expansion of funds, clearly describe the process used to calculate the county request for funding and the rationale. Provide historical information as to the county’s successes or barriers to new program/practice implementation, including provider contracting and participation. Refer to the county timeline (requested above) as part of the rationale.

Response: N/A – county not seeking to expand the program in FY 11/12 until the agency is able to see if the program successfully takes off this FY.

Mifflin County

- ❑ For FY 2011-12 Explain the potential cost savings/offsets and impact of increased use. When is it predicted that the cost savings will be realized? What type of placement will be utilized?

Response: The agency is hopeful that the cost savings will slightly reduce placement costs but more importantly increase child well being for those whose families participate in the service although you cannot put a dollar amount on that.

- ❑ Identify any technical assistance needs the county or provider agency has to provide effective services.

FY 2010-11 (for counties with approved allocations or transfer/shift requests)

Response: N/A. None identified at this time.

FY 2011-12 (for counties requesting funds for the first time)

Response: N/A.

Mifflin County

6-3a. Evidence Based Programs: Functional Family Therapy

Please indicate which type of request this is:

Request Type	Enter Y or N			
Renewal from 2009-10	N			
New implementation for 2010-11 (did not receive funds in 2009-10)	N			
Funded and delivered services in 2009-10 but not renewing in 2010-11	N			
Requesting funds for 2011-12 (new, continuing or expanding)	N	New	Continuing	Expanding

6-3a. Evidence Based Programs: Multidimensional Treatment Foster Care

Please indicate which type of request this is:

Request Type	Enter Y or N			
Renewal from 2009-10	N			
New implementation for 2010-11 (did not receive funds in 2009-10)	N			
Funded and delivered services in 2009-10 but not renewing in 2010-11	N			
Requesting funds for 2011-12 (new, continuing or expanding)	N	New	Continuing	Expanding

6-3a. Evidence Based Programs: Family Development Credentialing

Please indicate which type of request this is:

Request Type	Enter Y or N			
Renewal from 2009-10	N			
New implementation for 2010-11 (did not receive funds in 2009-10)	N			
Funded and delivered services in 2009-10 but not renewing in 2010-11	N			
Requesting funds for 2011-12 (new, continuing or expanding)	N	New	Continuing	Expanding

6-3a. Evidence Based Programs: Family Finding

□ Please indicate which type of request this is:

Request Type	Enter Y or N			
Renewal from 2009-10	N			
New implementation for 2010-11 (did not receive funds in 2009-10)	N			
Funded and delivered services in 2009-10 but not renewing in 2010-11	N			

6-3a. Evidence Based Programs: High-Fidelity Wrap Around

□ Please indicate which type of request this is:

Request Type	Enter Y or N			
Renewal from 2009-10	N			
New implementation for 2010-11 (did not receive funds in 2009-10)	N			
Funded and delivered services in 2009-10 but not renewing in 2010-11	N			
Requesting funds for 2011-12 (new, continuing or expanding)	N	New	Continuing	Expanding

Mifflin County

6-3b. Pennsylvania Promising Practices

The following questions must be answered for the PaPP Initiative by counties with an approved allocation for the Implementation Year 2010-2011 and to request funds for FY 2011-2012. Refer to the Needs Based Plan and Budget Instructions, Appendix 9 for more information.

PaPP Dependent

Program Name: **N/A**

Request Type	Enter Y or N			
Renewal from 2009-10	N			
New implementation for 2010-11 (did not receive funds in 2009-10)	N			
Funded and delivered services in 2009-10 but not renewing in 2010-11	N			
Requesting funds for 2011-12 (new, continuing or expanding)	N	New	Continuing	Expanding

PaPP Delinquent

Program Name: **N/A**

Request Type	Enter Y or N			
Renewal from 2009-10	N			
New implementation for 2010-11 (did not receive funds in 2009-10)	N			
Funded and delivered services in 2009-10 but not renewing in 2010-11	N			
Requesting funds for 2011-12 (new, continuing or expanding)	N	New	Continuing	Expanding

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6-3c. Housing Initiative

The following questions must be answered for the Housing Initiative by counties with an approved allocation for the Implementation Year 2010-2011 and to request funds for FY 2011-2012. Refer to the Needs Based Plan and Budget Instructions, Appendix 9 for more information.

Program Name: **N/A**

Request Type	Enter Y or N			
Renewal from 2009-10	N			
New implementation for 2010-11 (did not receive funds in 2009-10)	N			
Funded and delivered services in 2009-10 but not renewing in 2010-11	N			
Requesting funds for 2011-12 (new, continuing or expanding)	N	New	Continuing	Expanding

6-3d. Alternatives to Truancy Prevention

The following questions must be answered for the ATP Initiative by counties with an approved allocation for the Implementation Year 2010-2011 and to request funds for FY 2011-2012. Refer to the Needs Based Plan and Budget Instructions, Appendix 9 for more information.

Program Name: **N/A**

Request Type	Enter Y or N			
New implementation for 2010-11	N			
Requesting funds for 2011-12 (new, continuing or expanding)	N	New	Continuing	Expanding

6-3d. State Reintegration Plan

The following questions must be answered for the SRP Initiative by counties requesting funds for FY 2011-2012. Once determined, enter the amount in the "10-11 SGI BDGT RQST" tab in the **Budget Excel file**.

Number of Youth	Cost per youth	\$ amount
0	\$3,665	0

- Describe the how the number of youth was determined.

Mifflin County

6-3e. Independent Living Service Grant

- In the table below, place an “X” for the services that will be provided by CCYA (regardless of funding source). Check as many boxes as apply.

Mark “X” in this column	Services
X	A. Needs Assessment/Case Planning
X	B. Life Skills Training
	C. Prevention Services
	Dental/Health
	Drug Abuse Prevention
	Alcohol/Tobacco/Substance
	Safe Sex/Pregnancy
	D. Education
	Vocational Training
X	High School Support and Retention
	Preparation for GED
X	Assistance in Obtaining Higher Education
	E. Support
X	Individual and Group Counseling
X	Stipends
	Services for Teen Parents
	Mentoring
	F. Employment
X	Job Placement
	Subsidized Employment
X	G. Location of Housing
	H. Room and Board
	I. Retreats/Camps
X	J. Indirect Services
X	K. Program Administration

- In the following forms, complete the form **for services marked with an “X” in the above table only**. Provide the requested information pertaining to each specific IL service to be provided by the CCYA. Enter all county IL services information in this template. In each service area table, list the estimated requested grant amount to be used for IL services. Include the following in the estimate: staff costs to perform these services, the cost of materials and supplies and the cost to develop, implement and monitor implementation of these services unless adding in Indirect Services or Program Administration.
- For each IL service **marked with an “X” in the above table**, estimate the number of in care; delinquent, discharged and total youth (unduplicated counts) who will receive IL services.

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IL Services (federal, state, local)	\$ amount
FY 2010-11 Approved Budget *	\$45,000
FY 2011-12 Budget Request *	\$45,000

* These amounts must match the amounts on the county's budget worksheets.

- Describe the county's expenditures history for IL Services for FY 2006-07, 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10. What factors contributed to the successful or unsuccessful spending of grant funds for each year?

FY 06/07 – Unsuccessful spending – Under prior administrator. Agency was not active in providing IL services to youth in care or aftercare services.

Allocation: \$24,068
Spent of the grant: \$8,925.54

FY 07/08 – Successful spending – Under current administrator. Agency began utilizing private provider for IL services and agency ensured youth were receiving services when appropriate.

Allocation: \$18,012
Spent of the grant: \$18,012
Act 148/Local: \$5,577

FY 08/09 – Successful spending – Under current administrator. Same as FY 07/08.

Allocation: \$17,636
Spent of the grant: \$17,636
Act 148/Local: \$13,770

FY 09/10 – Successful spending – Under current administrator. Same as FY 07/08 and 08/09.

Total allocation: \$34,176
Spent of the grant: \$34,176

- If there were instances of underspending of prior years grant funds, describe what changes have occurred to ensure that grant funds for this program/service are maximized and effectively managed.

Prior to FY 07/08 the county was relying on caseworkers to provide IL services to youth in care. It was not an agency priority under prior administration and little to no IL services were actually provided. Starting in FY 07/08 under a new administrator, the agency began contracting out for IL services and did a much better job at identifying age appropriate youth for services as well as offering services to after care youth. When the private provider began providing the services the agency had no difficulties in utilizing the allocation and started providing quality IL services.

Mifflin County

A. Needs Assessment/Case Planning

- Complete the table and estimate the unduplicated total number of youth who will receive the services. These totals must equal the amounts on the FY 11-12 IL Grant Request worksheet in the Budget Excel file.

Service	Budget Request (\$)	In Care Youth*	Delinquent Youth*	Discharged Youth*	Total Youth*
Needs Assessment/Case Planning	\$4,050	6	0	3	9
Total	\$4,050	6	0	3	9

* Enter unduplicated youth count only.

- Describe how the needs assessment/case planning process will be delivered; who will deliver the activities (provider or agency staff); what tool(s) will be used; and the frequency of the activity for or with youth.

As mentioned above, Mifflin County contracts out all IL services to a private provider, FICS. When the agency refers a youth to FICS for IL services, the IL worker meets with the youth on an individual basis and completes the Ansell-Casey Life Skills assessment and develops and individual IL plan with the youth based on identified needs as well as areas the youth want to concentrate on. The FICS IL worker meets regularly with the youth to provide the services, sometimes weekly and more often if necessary.

- Describe how the costs to provide the activities are determined.

The costs are determined based on the percentage of time the worker spends with youth during the assessment and case planning process.

B. Life Skills Training

- Complete the table and estimate the unduplicated total number of youth who will receive the services. These totals must equal the amounts on the FY 11-12 IL Grant Request worksheet in the Budget Excel file.

Service	Budget Request (\$)	In Care Youth*	Delinquent Youth*	Discharged Youth*	Total Youth*
Life Skills Training	\$11,250	6	0	3	9
Total	\$11,250	6	0	3	9

* Enter unduplicated youth count only.

- Estimate the percentage of the delivery method for this service area.

100%	0%
Individualized Svcs.	Group or Classroom Svcs.

Mifflin County

- ❑ Describe how life skills training will be delivered; who will deliver the activities (provider or agency staff); what curricula will be used; and the frequency of the activity with youth.

The youth will receive individual life skills training in areas identified by the FICS IL worker and the youth which could include locating and using community resources, obtaining personal id, time management, human sexuality, money management, shopping, work attitude and responsibilities, transportation, consumer skills, health care, locating housing, insurance, nutrition, and all relevant skills needed to obtain and maintain a residence, decision making, self-esteem, negotiation skills, impulse control, assertiveness, peer interactions, conflict resolution, coping strategies, managing stress, anger management, problem solving and communication skills. Once the youth has completed the level system (levels 1 through 3) the youth is given a level 3 test. If the youth scores below an 80% on any particular section of the life skills assessment, staff reviews the life skill with the youth again.

- ❑ Describe how the costs to provide the activities are determined.

The costs are determined based on the percentage of time the worker spends with youth focusing on life skills training.

C. Prevention

- ❑ Complete the table and estimate the unduplicated total number of youth who will receive the services. These totals must equal the amounts on the FY 11-12 IL Grant Request worksheet in the Budget Excel file.

Service	Budget Request (\$)	In Care Youth*	Delinquent Youth*	Discharged Youth*	Total Youth*
Dental/Health					
Drug Abuse Prevention					
Alcohol/Tobacco Substances					
Safe Sex/Pregnancy					
Total	\$0	0	0	0	0

* Enter unduplicated youth count only.

Mifflin County

D. Education

- Complete the table and estimate the unduplicated total number of youth who will receive the services. These totals must equal the amounts on the FY 11-12 IL Grant Request worksheet in the Budget Excel file.

Service	Budget Request (\$)	In Care Youth*	Delinquent Youth*	Discharged Youth*	Total Youth*
Vocational	\$0	0	0	0	0
High School Support and Retention	\$1550	6	0	0	6
GED	\$0	0	0	0	0
Assistance in Obtaining Higher Education	\$750	2	0	1	3
Education and Training Grant (ETG) Provision and Retention	\$623	1	0	1	2
Total	\$2923				

* Enter unduplicated youth count only.

- Estimate the percentage of the delivery method for this service area.

100%	0%
Individualized Svcs.	Group or Classroom Svcs.

- Describe how education services will be delivered; who will deliver the activities (provider or agency staff); what curricula will be used; and the frequency of the activity with youth.

Youth will again receive educational services on an individualized basis delivered by the FICS IL worker in close coordination from the local CYS worker. For high school support and retention, youth can receive tutoring, study skills education, testing skills education, and SAT Fee Waiver vouchers. Youth will also be assisted through the use of the local CareerLink. For assistance in obtaining higher education and ETG provision and retention, IL staff will assist youth by providing printed materials about colleges, financial aid, scholarships and loans and ETG eligibility and application process and assisting through all applications processes. Staff will also assist with entrance exam preparation and provide selection advice. IL staff will provide youth with college admission fee waivers and will assist the youth in pursuing higher education to the level they desire.

- Describe any additional services provided to the youth that are not listed above and who will provide those services.

N/A.

Mifflin County

- Describe how the costs to provide the activities are determined.

The costs are determined based on the percentage of time the worker spends with youth focusing on education related services.

E. Support Services

- Complete the table and estimate the unduplicated total number of youth who will receive the services. These totals must equal the amounts on the FY 11-12 IL Grant Request worksheet in the Budget Excel file.

Service	Budget Request (\$)	In Care Youth*	Delinquent Youth*	Discharged Youth*	Total Youth*
Individual and/or Group Counseling	\$2,155	6	0	3	9
Stipends	\$380	3	0	1	4
Services for Teen Parents	\$0				
Mentoring	\$0				
Total	\$2535				

* Enter unduplicated youth count only.

- Estimate the number of youth who the county will refer to the SWAN prime contractor for the following services related to permanent connections.

SWAN	
	No. of Youths
Child Profile:	3
Child Preparation:	1
Child Specific Recruitment:	1

- Estimate the percentage of the delivery method for this service area.

100%	0%
Individualized Svcs.	Group or Classroom Svcs.

- Describe how support services will be delivered; who will deliver the activities (provider or agency staff); what curricula will be used; and the frequency of the activity with youth.

All youth will receive individual counseling based on their needs assessment to include career counseling, life planning, employment, and education counseling. Services will be provided by the FICS IL worker who will meet youth on a regular basis, often occurring weekly.

Mifflin County

- Describe any additional services provided to the youth that are not listed above and who will provide those services.

If a youth is referred for services (child profile, prep, CSR) through SWAN the affiliate will provide the service to the youth.

- Describe how the costs to provide the activities are determined.

The costs are determined based on the percentage of time the worker spends with youth focusing on support services.

F. Employment

- Complete the table and estimate the unduplicated total number of youth who will receive the services. These totals must equal the amounts on the FY 11-12 IL Grant Request worksheet in the Budget Excel file.

Service	Budget Request (\$)	In Care Youth*	Delinquent Youth*	Discharged Youth*	Total Youth*
Job Placement	\$3,778	2		3	5
Subsidized Employment	\$0				
Total	\$3,778				

* Enter unduplicated youth count only.

- Mark with an "X" the types of subsidized employment services which will be offered, and whether the subsidy will be full or partial.

Subsidy Type	Offered	Full	Partial
Summer Employment			
Agency Operated Only			
Tax Credits			
Other (describe:)			

- Estimate the percentage of the delivery method for this service area.

100%	0%
Individualized Svcs.	Group or Classroom Svcs.

- Describe how employment services will be delivered; who will deliver the activities (provider or agency staff); what curricula will be used; and the frequency of the activity with youth.

Staff will assist youth with resume writing, practice interviews, application assistance and follow up. After receiving employment services and job placement, the youth will be able to complete a job application and a resume without the assistance of the IL staff person.

Mifflin County

- Describe any additional services provided to the youth that are not listed above and who will provide those services.

N/A.

- Describe how the costs to provide the activities are determined.

The costs are determined based on the percentage of time the worker spends with youth focusing on employment services.

G. Location of Housing

- Complete the table and estimate the unduplicated total number of youth who will receive the services. These totals must equal the amounts on the FY 11-12 IL Grant Request worksheet in the Budget Excel file. **Do not request placement costs in this service area or grant.**

Service	Budget Request (\$)	In Care Youth*	Delinquent Youth*	Discharged Youth*	Total Youth*
Location of Housing	\$664	0	0	2	2
Total	\$664				

* Enter unduplicated youth count only.

- Mark with an "X" the types of assistance which will be offered.

Assistance Type	Offered
Referral to public housing agency	X
Interview preparation	X
Application assistance	X
Accompany on inspection	X
Use local realtors as a housing resource	X
Other (describe:)	

- Estimate the percentage of the delivery method for this service area.

100%	0%
Individualized Svcs.	Group or Classroom Svcs.

Mifflin County

- ❑ Describe how location of housing services will be delivered; who will deliver the activities (provider or agency staff); what curricula will be used; and the frequency of the activity with youth.

IL staff will assist aftercare youth in all aspects of securing housing and assist them in obtaining the skills necessary to obtain housing independently if/when needed. Many of these skills are also covered in the counseling and life skills training sessions.

- ❑ Describe any additional services provided to the youth that are not listed above and who will provide those services.

N/A.

- ❑ Describe how the costs to provide the activities are determined.

The costs are determined based on the percentage of time the worker spends with youth focusing on housing services as well as the possibility of assisting with a security deposit and/or first month's rent when necessary.

H. Room & Board

- ❑ Complete the table and estimate the unduplicated total number of youth who will receive the services. These totals must equal the amounts on the FY 11-12 IL Grant Request worksheet in the Budget Excel file.

Service	Budget Request (\$)	In Care Youth*	Delinquent Youth*	Discharged Youth*	Total Youth*
Room and Board	\$0	0	0	0	0
Total	\$0				

* Enter unduplicated youth count only.

- ❑ If the agency **does** provide youth with room and board, describe the frequency of staff contact with youth accessing these services.

N/A.

- ❑ If the agency **does** provide youth with room and board, describe the period of time that youth can access the service, by type of assistance offered and whether a "step-down" approach will be used.

N/A.

Mifflin County

- If the agency **does not** provide youth with room and board, describe what services are used to meet housing needs.

The agency and IL provider will assist youth in obtaining Public Housing, section 8, assistance in obtaining employment to adequately cover rent/utilities and will assist youth in obtaining affordable housing based off of their financial means.

- Describe how the costs to provide the activities are determined.

N/A.

I. Retreats/Camps

- Complete the table and estimate the unduplicated total number of youth who will receive the services. These totals must equal the amounts on the FY 11-12 IL Grant Request worksheet in the Budget Excel file.

Service	Budget Request (\$)	In Care Youth*	Delinquent Youth*	Discharged Youth*	Total Youth*
Retreats/Camps	\$0	0	0	0	0
Total	\$0				

* Enter unduplicated youth count only.

J. Indirect Services

- Complete the table and breakout the costs for these activities. These totals must equal the amounts on the FY 11-12 IL Grant Request worksheet in the Budget Excel file.

Indirect Service Type	Budget Request \$
Staff, Foster/Adoptive and other Residential Child Care Providers	
Community Outreach and Educational Efforts	\$450
Interagency coordination to support IL activities and services at the local level	
System change efforts	
Other (describe:)	
Total	\$450

Mifflin County

- Describe the indirect services provided by the county.

This would be as simple as time the FICS IL worker spends touching base with and familiarizing with community service providers, educating community service providers about the IL services eligible to youth in care and aftercare youth as well as any other outreach efforts that may fall into this category.

- Describe any additional indirect services provided by the county and who will provide those services.

N/A.

- Describe how the costs to provide the activities are determined.

The costs are based on a percentage of time IL staff dedicates to indirect services, such as community outreach and/or educational efforts.

K. Program Administration

- Complete the table and breakout the costs for these activities. These totals must equal the amounts on the FY 11-12 IL Grant Request worksheet in the Budget Excel file.

Indirect Service Type	Budget Request \$
Staff providing direct services	\$18,950
Program reporting costs	\$300
Equipment, training materials, supplies, postage, facility expenses	\$100
IL and Youth Advisory Board related travel	\$0
Other (describe:)	

- Explain the administrative costs of providing IL services and the drivers of these costs.

The main administrative cost is to cover the salary of the FICS IL worker who provides the direct services to the IL eligible youth. It is currently a part time position.

- Describe any additional administrative costs of providing IL services that are not listed above and the drivers of these costs.

N/A.

- Describe how the costs to provide the activities are determined.

Determined by the provider and approved by CYS office as the contracted rate.

6-4. Accurint Search Tool

The following information must be provided for the Accurint Search Tool for the Implementation Year 2010-11 and to request and justify the number of users needed for FY 2011-12.

Column Instructions

Column 1

Provide the number of Accurint users that your county was allotted in FY 2009-10. If you do not know the number of users your county was allotted, please contact the DPW/OCYF Accurint Manager listed in Appendix 8.

Column 2

Provide the number of Accurint users that your county was allotted in the tentative or final allocations for July 1, 2010 by DPW/OCYF. If the final FY 2010-11 allocations have not been provided by the submission deadline, counties should not create more user ID's than originally assigned in FY 2009-10. If you do not know the number of tentative or final users your county was allocated, please contact the DPW/OCYF Accurint Manager.

Column 3

Provide the number of additional Accurint users your county needs for FY 2011-12. Before requesting additional users, counties should analyze their current usage. Justification for additional users must include the following:

- The type of staff selected to use Accurint and the reasons why. Examples of the types of staff may include County Administrator, LSI paralegal, supervisor, JPO, etc.
- The average monthly number of users who did searches in FY 2009-10.
- The average monthly number of searches completed by users in FY 2009-10.
- The total number of searches completed by your county for FY 2009-10.

For assistance with an analysis of your county's usage, contact the DPW/OCYF Accurint Manager.

Column 4

Provide the total number of Accurint users your county would like for FY 2011-12. This number is calculated by adding columns 2 and 3 together.

Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Number of users assigned by DPW for FY 2009-10	Number of users assigned by DPW for FY 2010-11	Number of additional users requested for FY 2011-12	Total number of users requested for FY 2011-12
2	3	0	3

Provide Justification for Column 2:

The agency will have 3 users, 2 of whom are program supervisors and 1 LSI paralegal, to complete accurint searches to ensure someone is always available when needed to conduct searches for the staff.

Mifflin County

Provide Justification for Column 3:

The agency is not requesting any additional users for FY 11/12 – just to keep the current 3 user licenses.

6-?? Information Technology

Submit a detailed description of the county's current Information Technology Plan. The description should provide answers to the following questions and should include what the county is doing in FY 2010-2011 and planning for FY 2011-2012

****For all of these questions, answers would not be relevant as the county is in the process of moving to the CAPS systems. The county did not have an acceptable case management system but under CAPS will be able to do all of the things listed below.**

1. Does the county currently have an automated case management system that is sustainable?
 - a. If yes, describe the system and its functionality.
 - b. If no, describe how the county plans to transfer an already existing case management system from another county.
2. How does the county's current system or transfer system align with the goals of the Statewide Child Welfare Information System Strategic Plan (Statewide Plan)?
 - a. Interoperability – The system uses technology that is web-based and allows the efficient and secure exchange of information with other systems or components.
 - b. Real-Time Information – The system is accessible to all workers, allows the direct input of real time information and will be capable of exchanging real time information with a statewide database. Information is not first tracked on paper and then entered into the system by data entry staff.
 - c. Standardized Data – the system accurately collects and reports data associated with federal and state reporting, such as AFCARS; and can be enhanced to exchange data with a statewide database using a standard data schema.
 - d. Case Management System – the system is a true case management system that is used by all caseworkers and supervisors to manage day to day caseload activities. The system adequately supports the following functional areas: Case Management (Intake/Investigation, In-Home Services, Placement Services, Adoption, etc.); Eligibility; and Resource/Provider Management.
 - e. The system is compliant with DPW and/or Commonwealth Enterprise Standards and the system software code is public domain.
3. How does the county's current system or transfer system support other critical business areas such as Financial Management and Administrative Functions?
4. How does the county's current system or transfer system support the evaluation of child welfare outcomes in the areas of child safety, permanency and well-being?
5. How does the county plan support the reuse of existing IT assets?

Mifflin County

If the county is requesting funding for ongoing or new development in their FY 2011-2012 ITG, the county must provide the following information.

1. Business Need - describe the business need for the ongoing or new development;
2. High Level Requirements – provide a description of the high level business and technical requirements;
3. Project Cost Proposal – provide the total costs for the development as well as the total estimated project costs if the development is part of a larger project; and
4. Cost/Benefit Analysis – provide a cost/benefit analysis that demonstrates the ongoing or new development provides a better return on investment than transfer of an already existing system or component.

For FY 11/12, the agency will be seeking funding for the ongoing annual fee to maintain use of the CAPS system and any other costs related to continuing use of that system. Please see budget section for more detailed information.

Section 7: Required & Additional Language

7-1. Assurances

The following pages include assurance forms to be completed by counties. These forms are included:

- Assurance of Compliance/Participation
- Documentation of Participation by the Judiciary
- Assurance of Financial Commitment and Participation

The following forms must be signed and submitted in hard copy to:

Mr. Cliff Crowe
Office of Children, Youth and Families
Health and Welfare Building Annex
Seventh and Forster Streets
P.O. Box 2675
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17105-2675

and

Mr. James Anderson, Executive Director
Juvenile Court Judges' Commission
401 Finance Building
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17102-0018

**ASSURANCE OF COMPLIANCE/PARTICIPATION FORM
DOCUMENTATION OF PARTICIPATION BY THE JUVENILE COURT**

The Assurance of Compliance/Participation Form

The Assurance of Compliance/Review Form provided in this bulletin must be signed by the County Executive or a majority of the County Commissioners, the Juvenile Court Judge(s) or his/her designee, the County Human Services Director, the County Children and Youth Administrator, and the County Chief Juvenile Probation Officer and submitted with the FY2011-2012 Needs Based Plan and Budget submission.

The Assurance of Compliance/Review Form has two signatory pages. The first page is for the County Human Services Director, the County Children and Youth Administrator, the County Chief Juvenile Probation Officer and the Juvenile Court Judge(s) or his/her designee. This page must be submitted at the time of the county's implementation plan and needs based plan submissions. The second page is for the signatures of the County Executive or a majority of the County Commissioners. This page must be submitted at the time of the county's financial budget submission and must contain the financial commitment of the county.

COUNTY: _____

These assurances are applicable as indicated below.

_____ Fiscal Year 2011 - 2012 Children and Youth Needs Based Plan and Budget Estimate and/or the

_____ Fiscal Year 2010 - 2011 Children and Youth Implementation Plan

Note: A separate, signed Assurance of Compliance/Participation form must accompany the Children and Youth Implementation Plan and the Needs Based Plan and Budget when they are submitted separately. This Assurance of Compliance/Participation form cannot be modified or altered in any manner or the Children and Youth Implementation Plan and the Needs Based Plan and Budget will not be accepted.

COMMON ASSURANCES

I/We hereby expressly, and as a condition precedent to the receipt of state and federal funds, assure that in compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964; Section 504 of the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973; the Age Discrimination Act of 1975; the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990; the Pennsylvania Human Relations Act of 1955, as amended, and 16 PA Code, Chapter 49 (Contract Compliance Regulations):

1. I/We do not and will not discriminate against any person because of race, color, religious creed, ancestry, national origin, age, sex, sexual orientation or disability:
 - a. in providing services or employment, or in our relationship with other providers;
 - b. in providing access to services and employment for handicapped individuals.
2. I/We will comply with all regulations promulgated to enforce the statutory provisions against discrimination.

I/We assure that these documents shall constitute the agreement required by Title IV-E of the Social Security Act 42 U.S.C. § 672 (a)(2) for foster care maintenance and adoption assistance payments.

I/We assure:

- the County Children and Youth Agency and Juvenile Probation Office has the responsibility for placement and care of the children for whom Title IV-E foster care maintenance and adoption assistance payments are claimed;
- the County Children and Youth Agency/Juvenile Probation Office will provide each child all of the statutory and regulatory protections required under the Title IV-E agency, including permanency hearings, case plans etc.;
- the agreement between the Office of Children, Youth and Families and the County Children and Youth Agency/Juvenile Probation Office shall be binding on both parties; and
- the State Title IV-E agency shall have access to case records, reports or other informational materials that may be needed to monitor Title IV-E compliance.

I/We understand that any Administration for Children and Families (ACF) disallowance incurred as a result of county noncompliance with Title IV-E foster care maintenance, adoption assistance or Title IV-E administrative claim requirements will be the responsibility of the county.

I/We assure that all information herein is true to the best of my/our knowledge and belief, based on my/our thorough review of the information submitted.

EXECUTIVE ASSURANCES

In addition to the Common Assurances,

I/We assure that I/we have participated in the development of the Plan, are in agreement with the Plan as submitted and that all mandated services if funded by the Plan will be delivered.

I/We assure that these Plans comply with the "Planning and Financial Reimbursement Requirements for County Children and Youth Social Services Programs" as found in 55 PA Code Chapter 3140.

I/We assure that, when approved by the Department of Public Welfare, the attached Children and Youth Implementation Plan and Needs Based Plan and Budget, including any new initiatives, additional staff and/or increased services and special grants that are approved, shall be the basis for administration of public child welfare services for all children in need under Article VII of the Public Welfare Code, 62 P.S. § 701 et seq., as amended.

I/We assure that, where possible, the county will cooperate with state efforts to maximize the use of federal funds for the services in this Plan.

I/We assure that all contracts for the provision of services addressed herein will require the providers to comply with the Chapter 49 provisions (contract compliance regulations).

I/We assure that expenditure of funds shall be in accordance with these Plans and estimates and Department of Public Welfare regulations.

I/We assure that services required by 55 PA code 3130.34 through 3130.38 will be made available as required by 55 PA code 3140.17 (b)(2);

I/We assure that the capacity of both the county and the providers has been assessed and it is my/our judgment that it will be adequate to implement the Plan as presented;

I/We assure all Title IV-E foster care maintenance and adoption assistance payment eligibility requirements are met for the specified children, not merely addressed by the agreement;

I/We assure that the County Children and Youth Advisory Committee has participated in the development of this Plan and has reviewed the Plan as submitted; and

I/We assure that representatives of the community, providers and consumers have been given the opportunity to participate in the development of this Plan; and

I/We assure that the county programs that affect children (e.g., Mental Health, Mental Retardation, and Drug and Alcohol) have participated in the development and review of this Plan.

I/We understand that the accompanying budget projections are based on estimates and that the amounts may change when the state budget is adopted and final allocations are made.

I/We understand that substantial changes to the Plans subsequent to Departmental approval must be submitted to the Regional Office of Children, Youth and Families for approval.

NEW ASSUARANCE in FY 2011-2012 NBB Bulletin

I/We assure that all new Guardians Ad Litem have/will complete the pre-service training prior to being appointed to represent a child. If the GAL has not completed the pre-service training, costs incurred for representation of children by this GAL will not be claimed.

**COUNTY ASSURANCE OF COMPLIANCE AND PARTICIPATION
DOCUMENTATION OF PARTICIPATION BY THE JUVENILE COURT**

**THE SIGNATURES OF THESE COUNTY OFFICIALS REPRESENTS AN ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF
COUNTY COMMITMENT TO ADHERE TO THE COMMON AND EXECUTIVE ASSURANCES
CONTAINED IN THE PRECEEDING PARAGRAPHS**

County Human Services Director

Name Signature Date

County Children and Youth Administrator

Name Signature Date

County Chief Juvenile Probation Officer

Name Signature Date

DOCUMENTATION OF PARTICIPATION BY THE JUDICIARY

In addition to the Common Assurances:

I/We assure that I/we had the opportunity to review, comment and/or participate to the level desired in the development of the Children, Youth and Families Needs Based Plan and Budget.

I/We assure that the plan accurately reflects the needs of children and youth served by the juvenile court.

I/We assure that the Juvenile Probation Office has actively participated in the development of the Children, Youth and Families Needs Based Plan and Budget.

Judicial Comments:

Juvenile Court Judge(s)/ Designee

Name Signature Date

Name Signature Date

COUNTY ASSURANCE OF FINACIAL COMMITMENT AND PARTICIPATION

THE SIGNATURES OF THESE COUNTY OFFICIALS REPRESENTS AN ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTY COMMITMENT TO ADHERE TO THE COMMON AND EXECUTIVE ASSURANCES CONTAINED IN THE PRECEEDING PARAGRAPHS AS WELL AS COUNTY COMMITMENT TO PROVIDE THE LOCAL FUNDS SPECIFIED IN THE PLAN AS NECESSARY TO OBTAIN THE MATCHING STATE AND FEDERAL FUNDS BASED ON THE COUNTY'S PROPOSAL. THE LOCAL FUND COMMITMENT AS PROVIDED IN THE COUNTY'S PROPOSAL TOTAL

\$ _____.

Signature(s)

County Executive/Mayor

_____	_____	_____
Name	Signature	Date

County Commissioners

_____	_____	_____
Name	Signature	Date

_____	_____	_____
Name	Signature	Date

_____	_____	_____
Name	Signature	Date