



Fulton County Department of Family and Children Services


Child Placement Agencies

**B. J. Walker, Commissioner, Department of Human Resources
Dave Statton, Interim Director, Division of Family and Children Services
Dannette R. Smith, Regional/County Director, Fulton County Department of
Family and Children Services**

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May 8, 2008

Agenda

- **Fulton's Goals, Family Centered Practice**
 - **Introduction to Child and Family Services Review & Kenny A.**
 - **Family Team Meeting Requirements**
 - **Expectations of CPA's**
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Prevailing Goals for the Regional/County Director

- **Prepare for the “Third Round” of the Child and Family Services Review (CFSR)**
 - **Transition to neighborhood/community-based service delivery system**
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Philosophy

Mission

To be a resource- not a substitute- for strengthening families

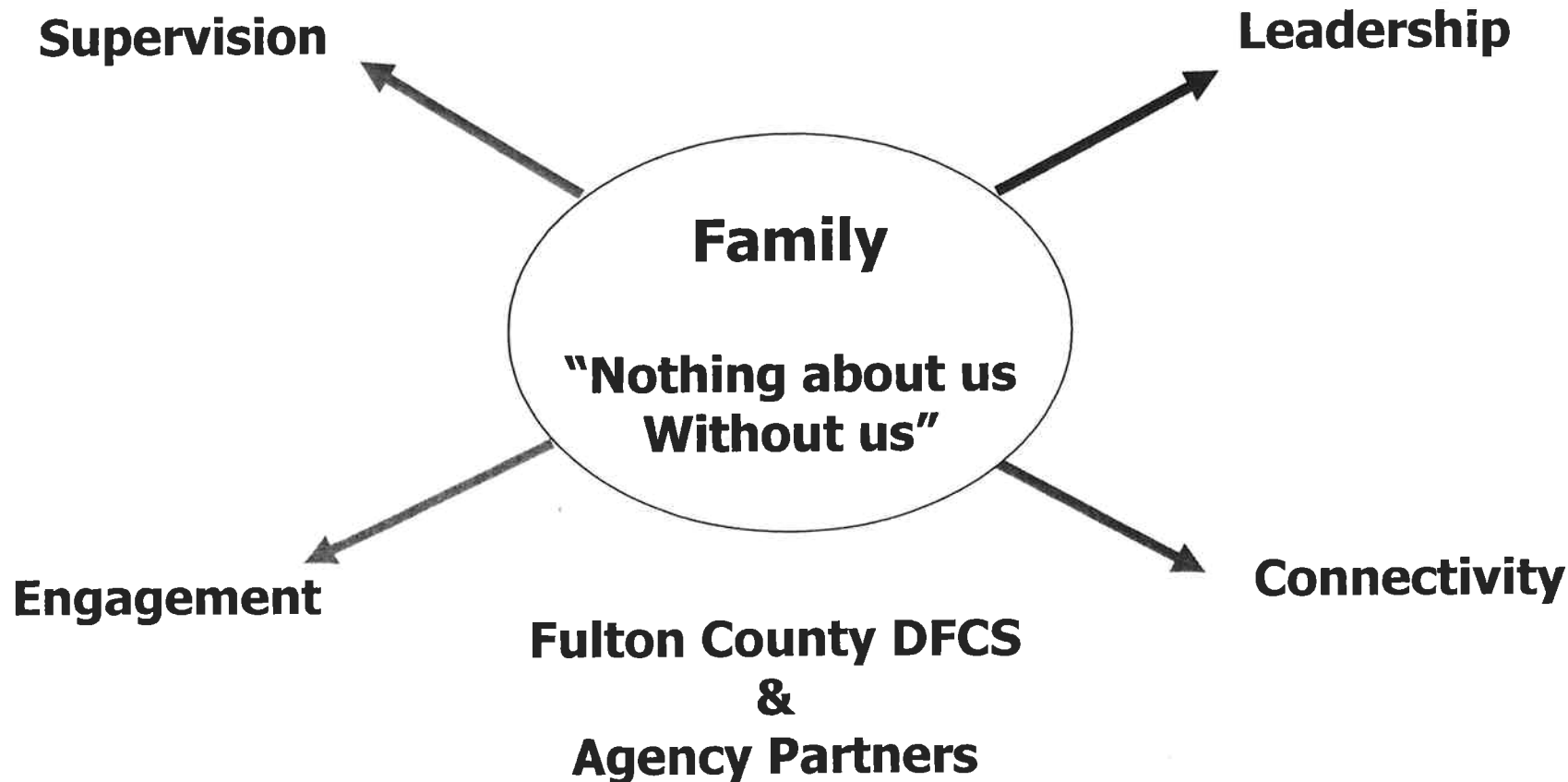
- **Support self-sufficiency**
- **Protect vulnerable children and adults**

Vision


Stronger Families for a Stronger Georgia




Family Centered Practice



Fulton County's Goal.....

- To improve service delivery to families of Fulton County that translates into meeting outcomes for children and families.
 - To improve Case Work Practice
 - To improve outcomes outlined in Kenny A. & Child & Family Services Review
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Child & Family Services Review (CFSR)

- Monitoring of State Child Welfare Agencies to ensure that positive outcomes are achieved for children and families as it relates to safety, permanency and well-being.
 - Administration of Children and Families assesses State performance on (23) items with regard to (7) child and family outcomes & (22) items pertaining to (7) systematic factors.
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CFSR Outcome Domains (performance indicators)

- ***Safety 1: Children are , first and foremost, protected from abuse and neglect.***
 - Item 1- Timeliness of initiating investigations of reports of child maltreatment
 - Item 2 – Repeat Maltreatment
- ***Safety 2: Children are safely maintained in their homes whenever possible & appropriate.***
 - Item 3- Services to family protect child (ren) in the home and prevent removal or reentry into foster care
 - Item 4- Risk assessment and safety management

CFSR Outcome Domains (performance indicators)

- ***Permanency 1: Children have permanency and stability in their living situations.***
 - Item 5- Foster Care re-entries
 - Item 6- Stability of foster care placement
 - Item 7- Permanency goal for child
 - Item 8- Reunification, guardianship or permanent placement with relatives
 - Item 9- Adoption
 - Item 10- Other planned permanent living arrangement


CFSR Outcome Domains (performance indicators)

- ***Permanency 2: The continuity of family relationships and connections is preserved for children.***
 - Item 11- Proximity of foster care placement
 - Item 12- Placement with siblings
 - Item 13- Visiting with parents and siblings in foster care
 - Item 14- Preserving connections
 - Item 15- Relative Placement
 - Item 16- Relationship of child in care with parents

CFSR Outcome Domains (performance indicators)

- ***Well-Being 1: Families have enhanced capacity to provide for their children's needs.***
 - Item 17- Needs and services of child, parents, and foster parents
 - Item 18- Child and family involvement in case planning
 - Item 19- Social worker visits with child
 - Item 20- Social worker visits with parents

CFSR Outcome Domains (performance indicators)


- ***Well- Being 2: Children receive appropriate services to meet their educational needs.***
 - Item 21- Educational needs of the child
 - ***Well- Being 3: Children receive adequate services to meet their physical and mental health needs.***
 - Item 22- Physical health of the child
 - Item 23- Mental/behavioral health of the child
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CFSR Outcome Measures



	CFSR Standard	GEORGIA % of Cases Substantially Achieved 2007	FULTON % of Cases Substantially Achieved 2007	FULTON 2013
Safety Outcome 1: Children are first and foremost, protected from abuse and neglect	95%	72.0%	55%	95%
Safety Outcome 2: Children are safely maintained in their homes when possible and appropriate	95%	67.0%	71%	95%
Permanency Outcome 1: Children have permanency and stability in their living situations	95%	38.0%	30%	95%
Permanency Outcome 2: The continuity of family relationships and connections is preserved	95%	44.0%	35%	95%
Well-Being Outcome 1: Families have enhanced capacity to provide for children's needs	95%	35.0%	35%	95%
Well-Being Outcome 2: Children receive appropriate services to meet their educational needs	95%	78.0%	78%	95%
Well-Being Outcome 3: Children receive services to meet their physical and mental health needs	95%	68.0%	77%	95%

Kenny A. Introduction

- Children's Rights Organization-NY files class-action lawsuit (June 2005) against Georgia that alleged violations of certain civil and statutory rights of children in Georgia's foster care system.
 - The lawsuit sought changes in services for children in DFCS' care within Fulton & DeKalb counties
 - A settlement was proposed with specific goals & benchmarks to measure quality of agreed upon services
 - Both sides agreed to 31 specific Outcome Measures to gauge our progress toward improvement
- 

Kenny A. Outcomes

✓	Outcome 1	Commencement of CPS Investigations Concerning Foster Children
		At least 95% of all investigations of reports of abuse or neglect of foster children shall be commenced, in accordance with Section 2106 of the Social Services Manual, within 24 hours of receipt of the report.
✓	Outcome 2	Completion of CPS Investigations Concerning Foster Children
		At least 95% of all investigations of reported abuse or neglect of foster children shall be completed, in accordance with Section 2106 of the Social Services Manual, within 30 days of receipt of the report.
✓	Outcome 3	Contact with Alleged Victim
		At least 99% of all investigations of reported abuse or neglect of fostered children during the reported period shall include timely face-to-face, private contact with the alleged victim, including face-to-face, private contact with a child who is non-verbal due to age or for any other reason.
	Outcome 4	Re-Entry into Care
		No more than 8.6% of all foster children entering custody shall have re-entered care within a 12 months of the prior placement episode.
✓	Outcome 5	Maltreatment in Care
		No more than 1.27% (1st), .94% (2nd), .57% (4th) of all children in foster care shall be the victim of substantiated maltreatment while in foster care.

Kenny A. Outcomes

Outcome 6	Incidents of Corporal Punishment in Foster Homes
	90% (2nd), 98% (4th) of all foster homes will not have an incident of corporal punishment within the previous six (2nd), twelve (4th) months.
Outcome 7	Search for Relatives
	At least 70% (2nd), 95% (4th) of all foster children entering care shall have had a diligent search for parents and relatives undertaken and documented within 90 (2nd), 60 (4th) days of entering foster care.
Outcome 8(a)	Permanency
	Of all children entering custody following the Consent Decree, At least 40% shall have had one the following permanency outcomes within 12 months or less after entering custody: reunification, permanent placement with relatives, permanent legal custody, adoption, or guardianship.
Outcome 8(b)	Permanency Outcomes
	Of all children entering custody following the entry of the Consent Decree, At least 74% (1) shall have had one of the following permanency outcomes within 12 months or less after entering custody: reunification or permanent placement with relatives; or (2) shall have had one of the following permanency outcomes within 24 months or less after entering custody: adoption, permanent legal custody or guardianship.
Outcome 9	24 Month Backlog Pool
	For all children in the "24 month backlog pool", by the end of the second reporting period at least 35% shall have had one of the following permanency outcomes: reunification, permanent placement with relatives, permanent legal custody, adoption, or guardianship.
Outcome 10	Children in the "Over 24 Month Backlog Pool"
	For all children in the " over 24 month backlog pool", by the end of the second reporting period at least 35% shall have had one of the following permanency outcomes: reunification, permanent placement with relatives, permanent legal custody, adoption, or guardianship.

Kenny A. Outcomes

Outcome 11	All Children Whose Parental Rights Have Been Terminated or Released During Reporting Period
	By the end of the second reporting period, for all children whose parental rights have been terminated or released during the reporting period, 80% will have their adoptions finalized within 12 months of final termination or release of parental rights. (**Measured at end of 4th)
Outcome 12	Children Whose Parental Rights Have Been Terminated With Identified Adoptive Resource at Entry of Consent Decree
	For children whose parental rights have been terminated or released and the child has an identified adoptive or legal guardian resource at the time of entry of the Consent Decree, 90% shall have had their adoptions or legal guardianships finalized within six months after the entry of the consent decree.
Outcome 13	Children Whose Parental Rights Have Been Terminated Without an Identified Adoptive Resource at Entry of Consent Decree
	For children whose parental rights have been terminated or released at the time of entry of the Consent Decree, and the child does not have an identified adoptive resource, 95% shall have registered on national, regional, and local adoption exchanges, and have an individualized adoption recruitment plan or plan for legal guardianship within 60 days of the entry of the Consent Decree.
Outcome 14	Adoption Disruptions
	No more than 5% of adoptions finalized during the reporting period shall disrupt within the 12 months subsequent to the reporting period. (**Measured at the end of 3rd reporting period)
Outcome 15	Permanency Efforts
	At least 80% (2nd) , 95% (4th) of all foster children who reached the point of being in state custody for 15 of the prior 22 months, shall have had either (1) a petition for the termination of parental rights filed as both to parents or legal caregivers as applicable OR 2) documented compelling reasons in the child's case record why termination of parental rights should not be filed.

Kenny A. Outcomes

Outcome 16	Sibling Placement
	At least 70% (2nd) , 80% (4th) of all foster children who entered foster care during the reporting period along with one of more siblings shall be placed with all of their siblings.
Outcome 17	Multiple Placement Moves
	At least 86.7% (2nd) , 95% (4th) of all children in care shall have had 2 or fewer moves during the prior 12 months in custody.
Outcome 18	Caseworker Continuity
	At least 90% (2nd) of all children in care at a point in time during the reporting period shall have had 2 or fewer DFCS placement case managers during the prior 12 months in custody (see Consent Decree for exceptions).
Outcome 19	Placement within County
	At least 70% (2nd) , 80% (3rd), 90% (4th) of all children in care shall be placed in their own county (the county from which they were removed) or within a 50 mile radius of the home from which they were removed, subject to the exceptions [CD Parag.5C4.b(ii) and (iii)].
Outcome 20	Visitation: Worker-Child
	At least 95% (2nd) of children in care at a point in time during the reporting period shall have had at least one in-placement visit and one other visit, as defined in Section 5.D, each month by their case manager during the prior 12 months in custody.

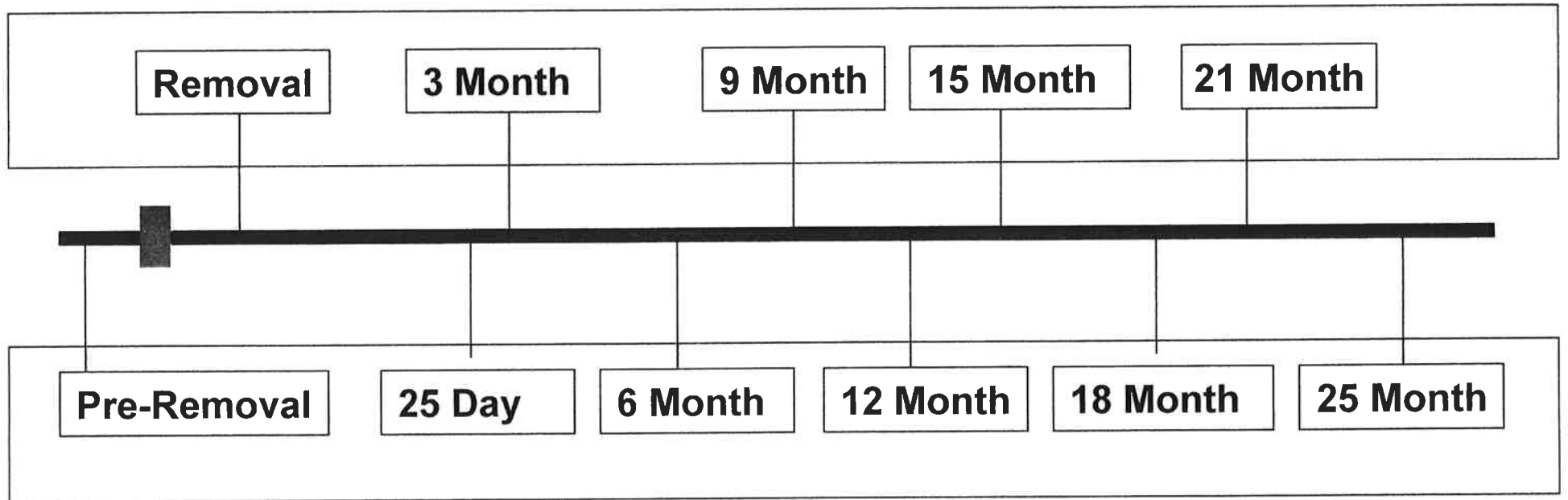
Kenny A. Outcomes

Outcome 21	Visitation: Parent-Child When Reunification Is the Goal
	At least 75% (3rd), 85% (4th) of the children with a goal of reunification shall have had appropriate visitation with their parents to progress toward reunification.
Outcome 22	Visitation: Worker-Caregiver
	At least 90% (2nd) of all children in care at a point in time during the reporting period shall have had visits between their DFCS placement case manager and their foster parent, group care, institutional or other caretaker at least one time each month during the prior 12 months in custody.
Outcome 23	Visitation: Siblings
	At least 80% (2nd) of children in the Class at a point in time during the reporting period who have one or more siblings in custody with whom they are not placed shall have had visits with their siblings at least one time each month during the prior 12 months in custody, except...
Outcome 24	High School Diploma or GED
	By the end of the second reporting period, the baseline of children discharged from foster care at age 18 or older during the 12 months prior to the entry of the Consent Decree who have graduated from high school or earned a GED shall increase by 10 percentage points . By 4th, the NEW base shall increase by 10 percentage points. (Baseline 65.7%)
Outcome 25	Approved Children's Placement
	At least 85% (1st), 95% (2nd) , 98% (4th) of all foster children in custody at a point in time during the first reporting period shall be in placements that are in full approval and/or licensure status.

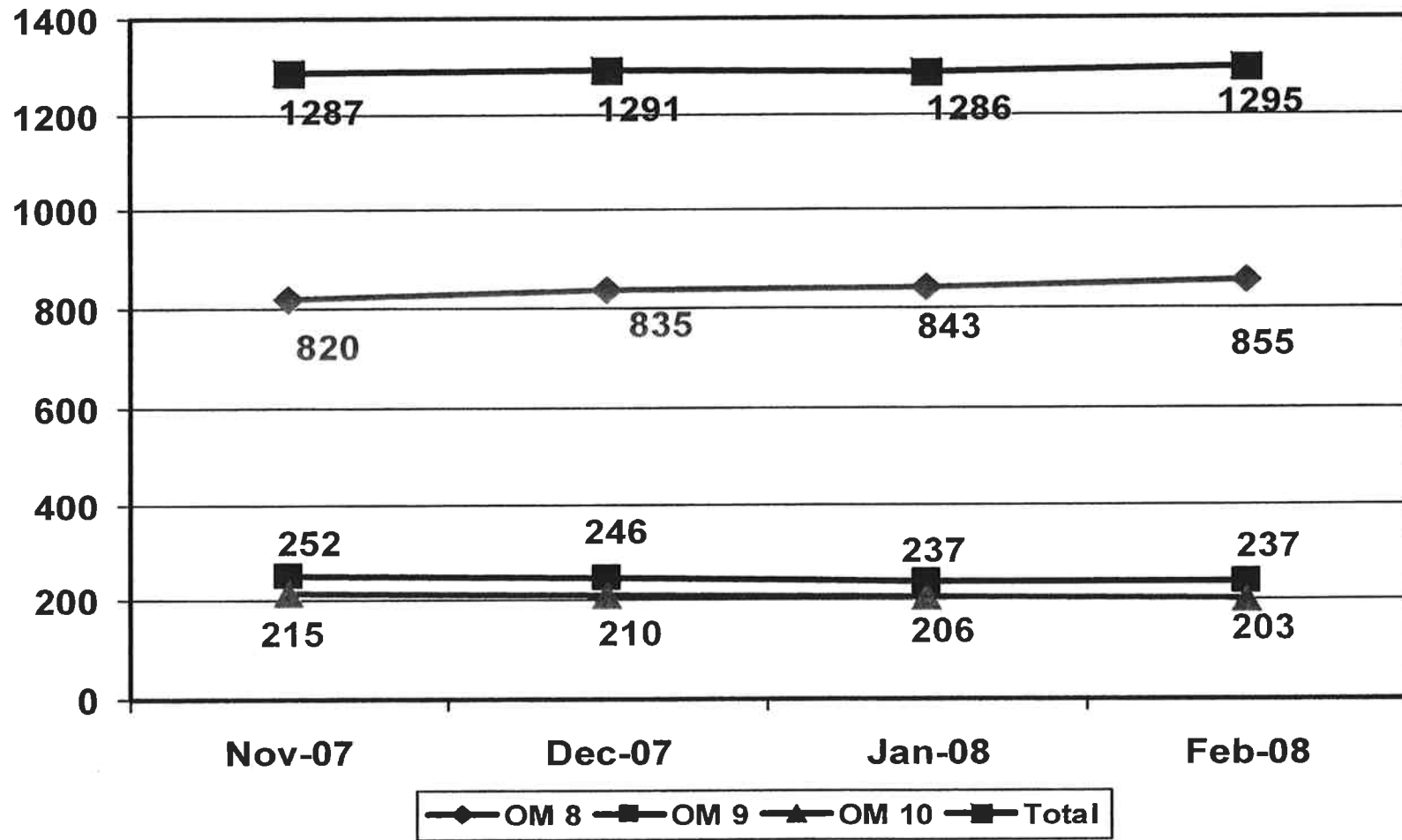
Kenny A. Outcomes

Outcome 26	IV-E Court-Ordered Language
	At least 85% (2nd) , 95% (4th) of foster children in custody at a point in time during the reporting period shall have all applicable language in court orders necessary to assess qualification for federal funding under Title IV-E of the Social Security Act.
Outcome 27	Six Month Case Plan Review
	At least 80% (2nd) , 85% (3rd), 95% (4th) of foster children in custody for six months or more shall have either had their six-month case plan review completed by the Juvenile Court within six months of their prior case plan review, or DFCS shall have submitted the child's six month case plan to the Juvenile Court and filed a motion requesting a six month case plan review within 45 days of the expiration of the six month period following the last review.
Outcome 28	12 Month Permanency Hearing
	At least 95% (2nd) of foster children in custody for twelve or more months shall have either had a permanency hearing held by the Juvenile Court within 12 months of the time the child entered foster care or had his/her last permanency hearing, or DFCS shall have submitted the documents required by the Juvenile Court for and requests a permanency hearing within 45 days of the expiration of the 12 month period following the time the child entered the foster care or had his/her last permanency hearing.
Outcome 29	No Lapses in Legal Custody
	No more than 5% (3rd) of all children in the physical custody of DHR/DFCS for 12 months or more shall have had a lapse in their legal custody within the prior 13 months.
Outcome 30	Meeting Children's Medical, Dental, and Other Service Needs
	At least 80% (2nd) , 85% (4th) of children in care at a point in time at the end of the reporting period shall not have any unmet medical, dental, mental health, education, or other service needs, according to the service needs documented in the child's most recent case plan.
Outcome 31	Number of Foster Children in Home
	No more than 10% (2nd) of all children in foster homes shall be placed in foster homes that exceed the capacity limits referenced in Section 5.C.4.e.

FTM Timeline

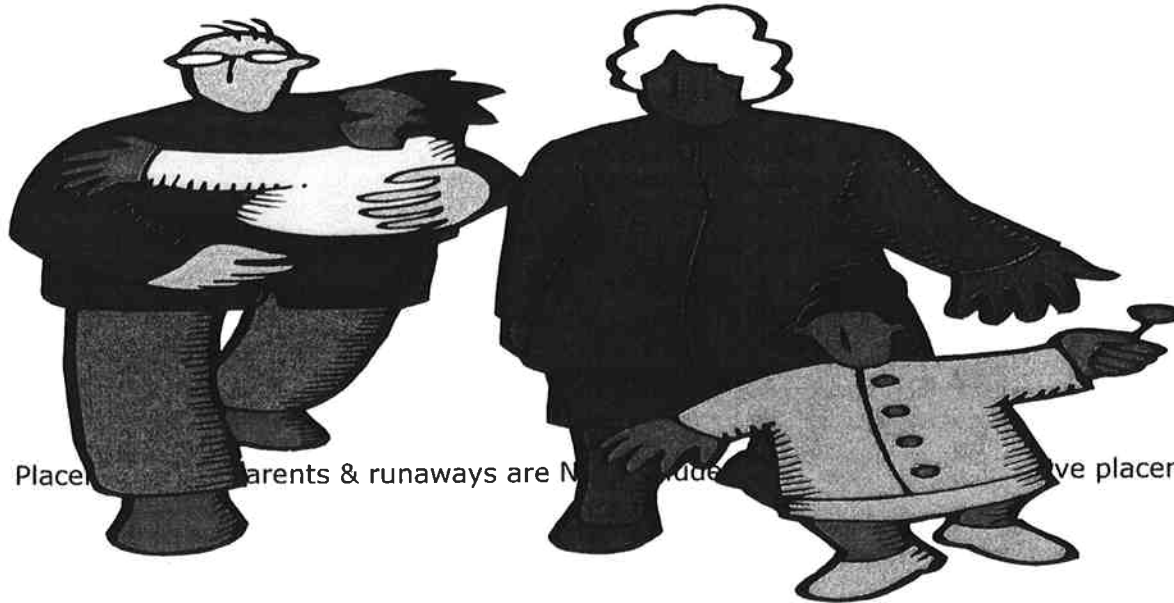


Outcomes 8, 9, & 10



Foster Children in Relative Settings as of February 2008

- Number of Children in Care - **1485**
- Number of Children Placed with Relatives - **19.29%**




Placements with parents & runaways are Not included in relative placements

30% Expectation for Relative Placement

Expectations of Child Placements:

Effective July 1, 2008:

- **An FTM must be held prior to the moving of a child due to any type of placement disruptions**
 - **No child can be moved without the authorization of Fulton's Resource Development Unit**
 - **Foster Parents must attend all Family Team Meetings involving a child in their home**
 - **Foster Parents must work with DFCS and service providers towards achieving permanency.**
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Expectations of Child Placements

(Cont.):

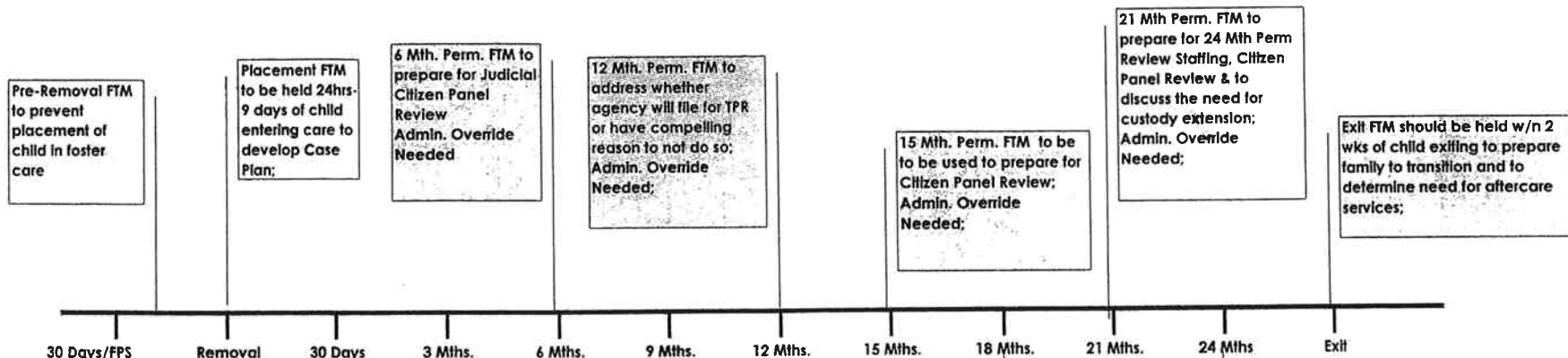
- **Effective July 1, 2008 all new placements are to be in Fulton County except:**
 - **Children placed in institutions (hospitals, residential placements) due to special needs**
 - **Placements with Family Members**
- **All incidentals/clothing requests must receive prior approval by a DFCS Program Administrator**
- **Foster Parents must partner with birth families/relatives**
- **Every provider must recruit within Fulton County 10 new foster homes with capacity for 3 children**

*MAC w.
01/25/08
F. Stone*

Questions & Answers



Fulton County Family Permanency Timeline



Pre-Removal FTM to prevent placement of child in foster care

Placement FTM to be held 24hrs-9 days of child entering care to develop Case Plan;

6 Mth. Perm. FTM to prepare for Judicial Citizen Panel Review Admin. Override Needed

12 Mth. Perm. FTM to address whether agency will file for TPR or have compelling reason to not do so; Admin. Override Needed;

15 Mth. Perm. FTM to be used to prepare for Citizen Panel Review; Admin. Override Needed;

21 Mth Perm. FTM to prepare for 24 Mth Perm Review Staffing, Citizen Panel Review & to discuss the need for custody extension; Admin. Override Needed;

Exit FTM should be held w/n 2 wks of child exiting to prepare family to transition and to determine need for aftercare services;

30 Days/FPS

Removal

30 Days

3 Mths.

6 Mths.

9 Mths.

12 Mths.

15 Mths.

18 Mths.

21 Mths.

24 Mths

Exit

FTM to develop Family Plan Continue Assess. Of Risk & Safety;

FTM to be held as requested & to change Case Plan Goals and Case Closure;

Case Plan FTM to be held w/n 25 days of child entering care to Finalize Case Plan & Permanency Plan;

3 Mth. Perm. FTM to ensure appropriate info is in Case Record and sent to appropriate parties;

9 Mth. Perm. FTM to prepare for 13 Month Permanency Review Staffing, Permanency Hearing, Citizen Panel Review & to assess the need for custody extension; Admin. Override Needed;

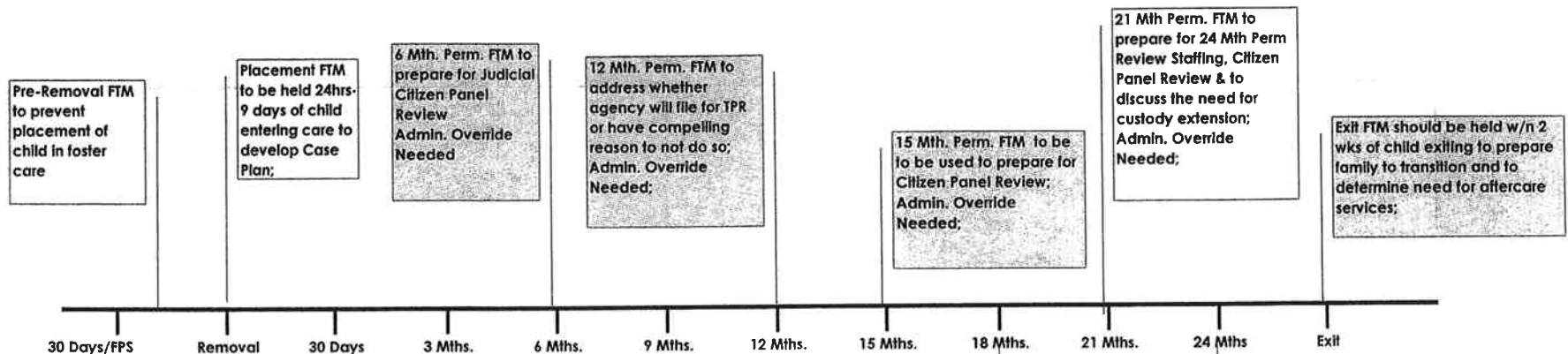
18 Mth Perm. FTM ; Admin Override Needed

24 Mth. Perm. FTM; Admin Override Needed

Key Information:

- Formal Staffings are to be held prior to all FTM's and should include all pertinent parties.
- FTM's should always address the permanency plan for the family, the agency & family's progress in completing goals & Diligent Search.
- **Red- Administrative Override** is a Formal Staffing and Decision to allow a child to remain in care and to have the prescribed permanency plan; this consent will come from Program Director, Deputy Director or Regional Director
 - FTM Team will Facilitate, Blue Background-Program Administrators will facilitate, Rose Background- Program Director will facilitate

Fulton County Family Permanency Timeline



FTM to develop Family Plan Continue Assess. Of Risk & Safety;

FTM to be held as requested & to change Case Plan Goals and Case Closure;

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