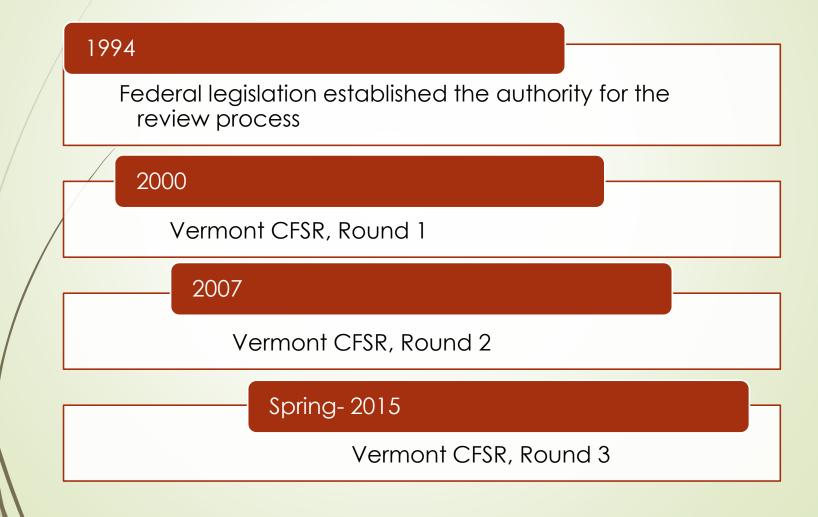
DCF - Family Services

Child and Family Services Review: Round 3

Program Improvement Plan

October 17th, 2019

Child and Family Services Review



Online Services Review Instrument (OSRI)

7 outcome areas Measures 18 items

Safety	1. Children are, first and foremost, protected from abuse and neglect.
	2. Children are safely maintained in their homes whenever possible and appropriate.
Permanency	3. Children have permanency and stability in their living situations.4. The continuity of family relationships and connections is
/	preserved for families.
Family and Child Well-being	5. Families have enhanced capacity to provide for their children's needs.
	6. Children receive appropriate services to meet their educational needs.
	7. Children receive adequate services to meet their physical and mental health needs.

Spring 2015 Child and Family Services Review

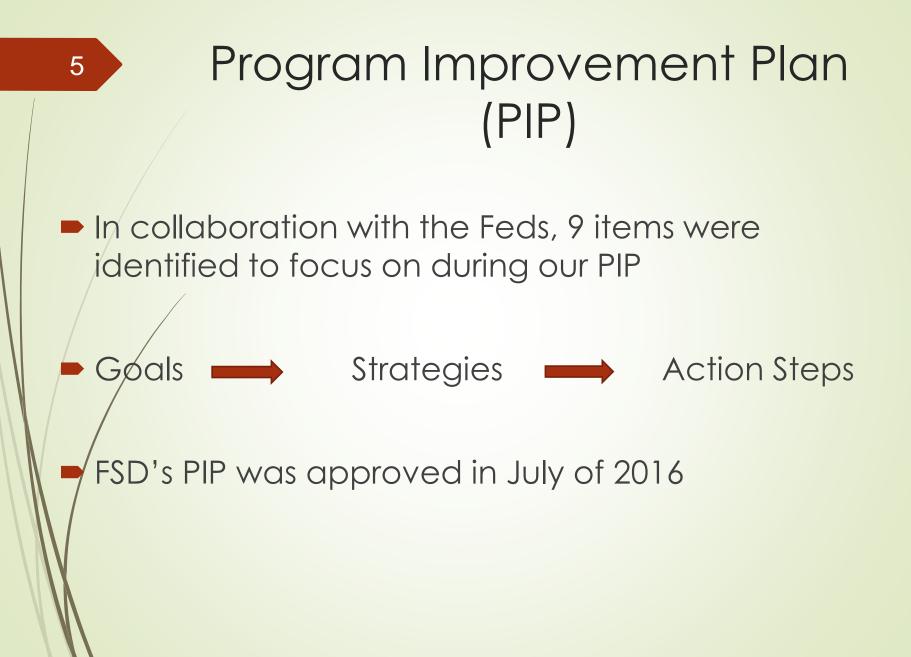
Vermont was the first state to be reviewed for Round 3

A total of 65 cases were reviewed in Burlington, St. Johnsbury, and Bennington

The bar is set VERY high during the CFSR

- Many states only pass 1 or 2 items
- Need to achieve 90% or higher to pass an item
- Vermont passed 2 items:

- item 2: services to protect children
- Item 7: placement with siblings



Vermont's PIP

CFSR Items	Item Description
Item 1	Timeliness of Initiating Investigations of Reports of Child Maltreatment
Item 3	Risk and Safety Assessment and Management
Item 4	Stability of Foster Care Placement
Item 5	Permanency Goal for Child
Item 6	Achieving Reunification, Guardianship, Adoption, or Other Planned Permanent Living Arrangement
Item 12	Needs and Services of Child, Parents, and Foster Parents
Item 13	Child and Family Involvement in Case Planning
Item 14	Caseworker Visits With Child
Item 15	Caseworker Visits With Parents

Vermont's Qualitative Case Reviews (QCRs)

PIP QCRs (started fall 2016-spring 2019)

- Every spring and fall
- 4 districts (always includes Burlington)
- 3- day reviews
- 65 randomly selected cases
- Designed similarly to the CFSR
- Stakeholders were trained and participated as reviewers

Item 1: Timeliness of Initiating Investigations of Reports of Child Maltreatment

Some factors considered in Item rating:

8

Safety

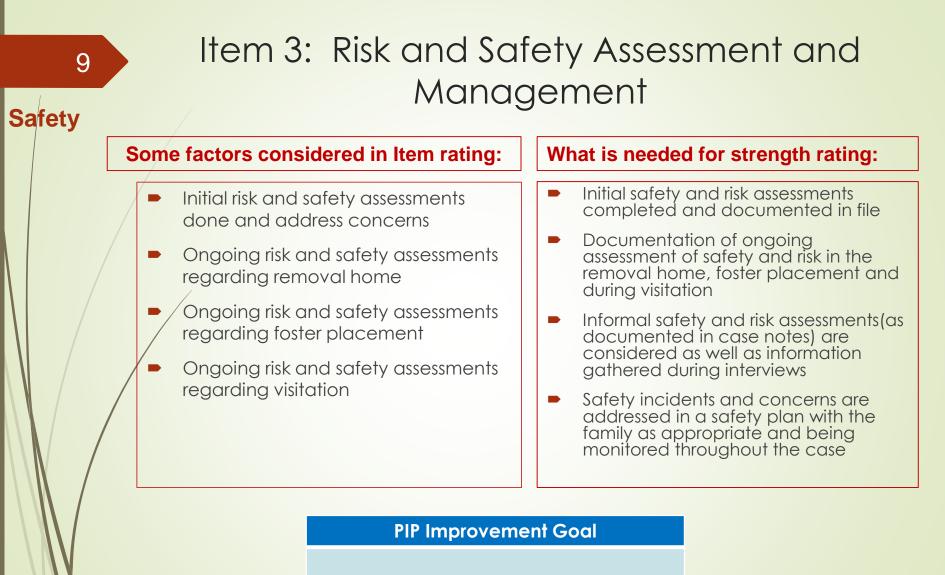
- Timely CSI commencement according to policy
- Waivers issued according to policy
 - Face-to-face contact with children according to policy

What is needed for strength rating:

- Documentation of commencement in accordance to policy
- Waivers are documented and follow up occurring as directed by policy
- Face-to-face contact with identified children occurs within policy guidelines

PIP Improvement Goal

86.9% PASSED!



66.2% Did Not Pass

10

Item 4: Stability of Foster Care Placement

Permanency

Some factors considered in Item rating:

- Placement changes planned and appropriate to reach goals and/or meet child's needs
- Current or most recent placement stable
 - Not a temporary setting
 - Not able to provide long term care
 - Issues threatening stability
 - Child has run away multiple times

What is needed for strength rating:

- Placement changes are planned and in accordance with achievement of case plan goals
- Placements are stable and are in alignment with achieving permanency for children and youth

PIP Improvement Goal

77.3% PASSED

Item 5: Permanency Goal for Child

Permanency

11



PIP Improvement Goal

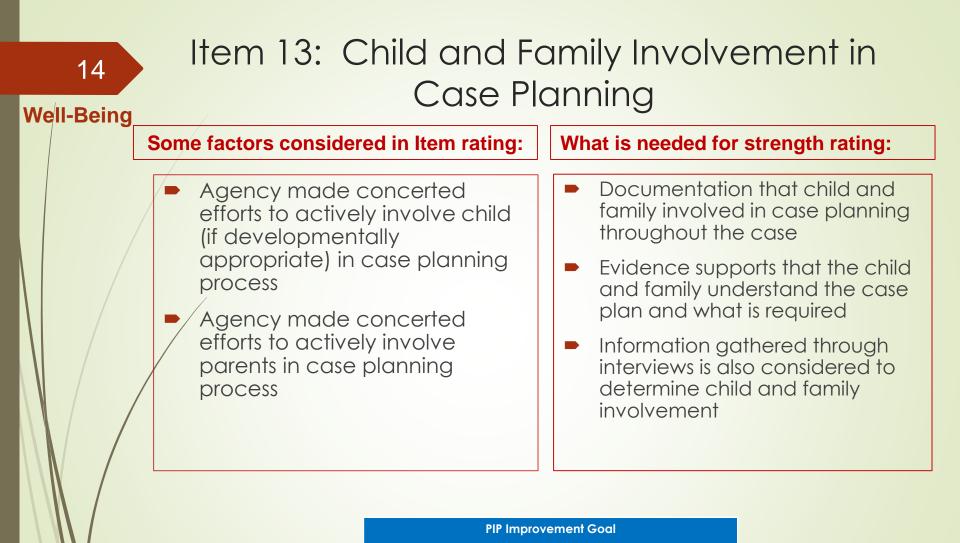
53.0% Did Not Pass

Item 6: Achieving Reunification, Guardianship, Adoption, 12 or Other Planned Permanent Living Arrangement Permanency Some factors considered in Item rating: What is needed for strength rating: Concurrent planning efforts Agency and court made occurring for both goals concerted efforts to throughout the case, as achieve permanency appropriate timely Permanency is achieved within APPLA goal appropriate federal timeframes and efforts made to (reunification within 12 months, adoption within 24 months) achieve timely Timely TPR filing as appropriate

PIP Improvement Goal

53.0% PASSED

Item 12: Needs Assessment and Services to 13 Children, Parents and Foster Parents Well-Being Some factors considered in Item rating: What is needed for strength rating: Initial and/or ongoing formal or informal comprehensive assessments Documentation of initial and ongoing assessments to determine needs and appropriate services for children, parents conducted that accurately assessed and foster parents, if applicable the child's, parents' and foster parents' needs related to Assessments can be informal and social/emotional development (ie, documented within case notes social competencies, attachment and caregiver relationships, social Services provided are appropriate to skills, coping skills) meet the identified needs of children. parents and foster parents For children, needs assessment does not include education, medical/dental and mental health which are addressed in Items 16, 17, 18 **PIP Improvement Goal** 41.4% PASSED



57.1% PASSED

Item 14: Caseworker Visits with Child

Well-Being

15

Some factors considered in Item rating:

- Frequency and quality of visits between caseworker and child sufficient to address issues pertaining to the safety, permanency, and well-being of the child and promote achievement of case goals
- Location of caseworker visit (in the child's placement setting)
- Time spent alone with the child during the visit

What is needed for strength rating:

- Visit frequency occurs monthly throughout the case
- Visit quality includes whether the agency was able to have private discussions with the child to discuss the goal and progress and assess and amend services if needed

PIP Improvement Goal

64.7% PASSED

16

Item 15: Caseworker Visits with Parents

Well-Being

Some factors considered in Item rating:

- Frequency and quality of visits between caseworker and parents sufficient to address issues pertaining to the safety, permanency, and well-being of the child and promote achievement of case goals
- Location of caseworker visit (for example, in a place conducive to open and honest conversation
- Whether there was a focus on issues pertinent to case planning, service delivery and goal achievement

What is needed for strength rating:

- Visits occur regularly throughout the case
- Engagement with noncustodial parents including making ongoing concerted efforts to identify, locate and/or engage
- Visit quality includes whether the agency was able to have discussions about the goal progress and assess and amend services if needed

PIP Improvement Goal

50.8% Did Not Pass

PIP action steps: Implemented

- Pre-caseload training requirements for new hires
- SDM safety and risk tools

- Substance abuse screening capacity across districts
- Continued focus on the implementation of the Staff Safety policy and the role of the new Staff Safety Coordinator position
- Policy for CCO cases
- Expansion of the Beckett SxS program
 - Qualitative Case Review process

18 PIP action steps: Implemented

- Reunification tool
- Case plans revisions
- Consistent statewide process for assessing potential caregivers
- Statewide FH recruitment and retention plan
- Method to track training records

PIP ended on September 30^{th,} 2019

Vermont is the first state to complete Round 3

The Children's Bureau will issue a letter soon regarding their final determination on FSDs achievement of goals