



2.1: Decrease percentage of children with founded allegation of abuse or neglect who have a new founded allegation within 12 months from 9.7% to 6% by July 31, 2017

Reported on December 21, 2015



RECURRENCE OF ABUSE OR NEGLECT

Children's Administration

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December 21, 2015



Background: *Children's Administration has been working to decrease repeat maltreatment to 6%*

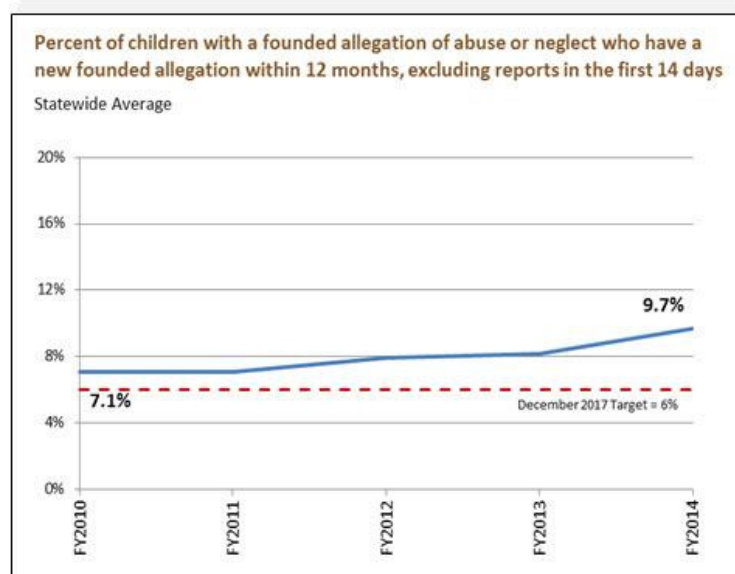
Repeat maltreatment is measured by a second “founded” allegation of abuse or neglect within 12 months, excluding reports in the first 14 days.

- Founded means that the child has, more likely than not, been abused or neglected by a parent or caregiver

A thorough investigation reduces the likelihood of a child being re-abused.

- Child protective service investigations should be comprehensive and include an assessment of:
 - ✓ Dangers and threats to a child
 - ✓ Consideration and interview with caregivers
 - ✓ Contact with collaterals
 - ✓ The child's home environment

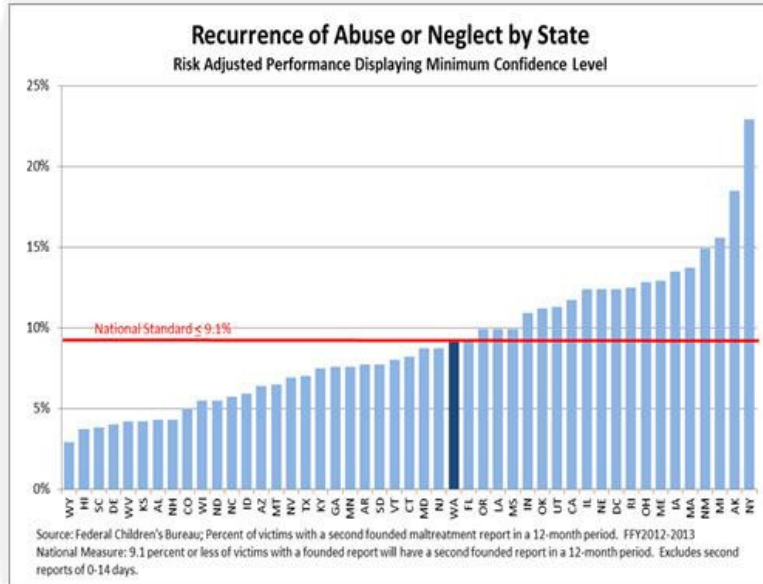
Problem: *The recurrence rate has been increasing*



Status:

- Actions have been taken to strengthen safety-focused practice
- The impact of any actions is not evident for 15-18 months, making it difficult to make rapid adjustments in strategy
- The incident-based focus of past practice could be a contributing factor in increased recurrence

Opportunity: *Washington is meeting the national standard for this measure*



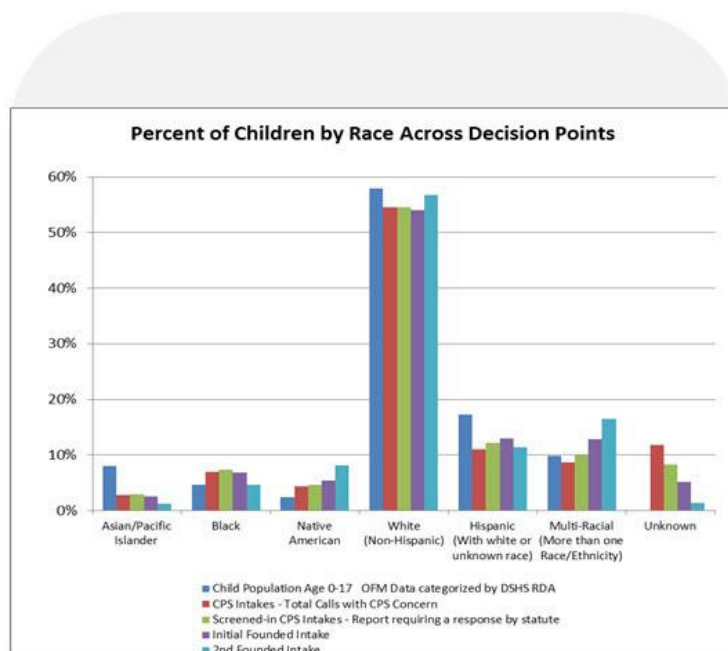
- Washington is meeting the national standard and falls in the middle when compared to other states, but this is not enough
- Washington's observed performance for this period is 7.8%
- The federal risk adjusted calculation, intended to equalize state comparisons, adjusts Washington's performance to 9.1%

Strategy: *Multiple strategies are utilized to create collective impact*

No single strategy will achieve a reduction in repeat maltreatment. The following are some of the most important.

- Safety Boot Camp to address incident-focused investigations and focus on complete safety and risk assessment
- Review of intakes with ten or more prior intakes
- Workload reduction

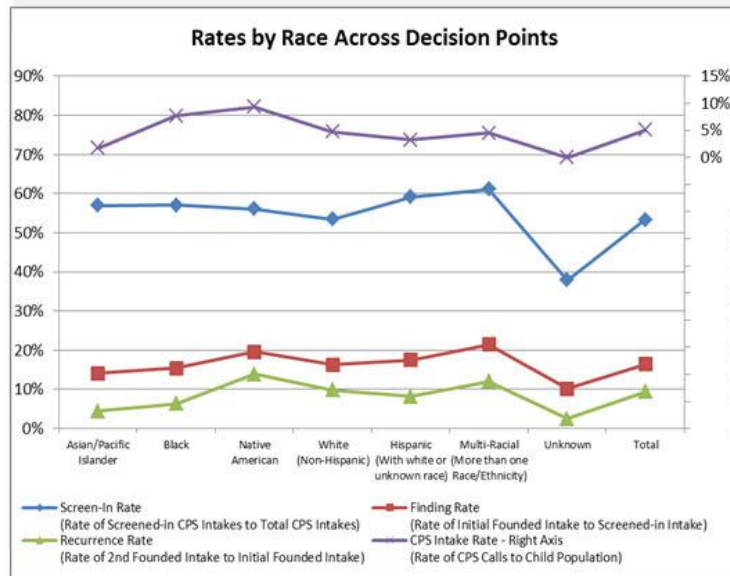
Current Status: *Racial disproportionality*



Status:

- Calls coming into CPS represent fewer Whites, Hispanics, and Asian/Pacific Islanders than are represented in Washington's child population
- Reports are screened-in for a response in similar proportion by race as the calls coming in
- The Washington State Racial Disproportionality Advisory Committee (WSRDAC) advises CA on actions related to disproportionality in the child welfare system

Current Status: *Racial disproportionality*



Status:

- Finding Rate and Recurrence Rate are disproportionately higher for Native American and Multi-racial children
- Disproportionality for Native American children is driven by initial calls to CPS which is not within CA's control
- CA has worked with WSRDAC for many years to identify strategies to address disproportionality in the child welfare system, including a video addressing racial considerations by mandated reporters

Detailed Action Plan:

Task	Task Lead	Partners	Expected Outcome	Status	Due Date
Provide "Safety Boot Camp" to field caseworkers and supervisors	Jenna Kiser Deanna Bedell	Alliance Casey Family Programs	The "Safety Boot Camp" will refocus the field on the safety and risk assessment and provide the proper degree of intervention needed by the family to protect children from further harm and promote safe and stable parenting.	Work will begin January 1, 2016	December 2016
Shift to safety-centered practice, which we believe is superior to an incident-focused model.	Toni Sebastian	Alliance Casey Family Programs	Refocusing on caseworker knowledge and training to appropriately assess safety, risk, and provide services to families that promote safe parenting over time and should result in lower recurrence rates.	Work will begin January 1, 2016	June 2016

Detailed Action Plan:

Task	Task Lead	Partners	Expected Outcome	Status	Due Date
Standardize case consultations to help workers with specific case-related issues, remaining focused on child safety, service planning, and tailoring services, and engagement strategies.	Stephanie Frazier Jenna Kiser	Alliance	Improve consistency of coaching and topic areas, and caseworker practice with a focus on chronically recurring families.	In process. Case consultation is occurring in each region/office as cases are identified. The Alliance is updating course curriculum for case consultation with focus on child safety and best services and strategies to improve family functioning and maintenance of safe parenting practices.	Ongoing
Internal review process of intakes identifying child as victim in ten or more prior screened-in intakes within a three year period.	Jenna Kiser Regional QPC		An objective review of current allegations and concerns and history of interventions with family will provide best practice recommendations on necessary degree of intervention and services to prevent recurrence.	As of 11/13/15 statewide, 40 cases met the review criteria and benefitted from a practice consultation and case recommendation staffing	Ongoing

Detailed Action Plan:

Task	Task Lead	Partners	Expected Outcome	Status	Due Date
Analysis of casework tools, forms, and processes to identify duplication and redundancies to allow caseworkers more time to work intensively with families	Lyn Craik Toni Sebastian	Alliance Federal partners Regional field representatives CA Technology Services	Reduction and removal of redundant casework tools and forms will allow caseworkers to spend more time with children and families, assessing safety and risk of maltreatment, develop tailored case plans with services intended to improve the parents' ability to safely parent. Elimination of duplicative redundant tools also allows supervisors to focus on caseworker's engagement with families, assessment of child safety, and case planning.	In process. Quick wins identified and have been approved by CA leadership. Task force continues to meet and address each phase and tool being used. The current priorities for the task force are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safety Assessments and Plans • Assessments • Case plans • Court reports 	December 2016

Assistance Needed:

- CPS FTEs and funding for services to fully implement Family Assessment Response and reduce all CPS caseloads
- FTEs to expand Family Voluntary Services in order to provide critical follow-up services to high-risk families after the CPS investigation or assessment is completed
- Additional CFWS staff to assist in meeting requirements of the Braam settlement including health and safety visits and locating youth missing from care

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