

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

CHILDREN'S DIVISION

P. O. BOX 88

JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI

MAY 1, 2008

MEMORANDUM

TO: ALL CHILDREN'S DIVISION STAFF

FROM: PAULA NEESE, DIRECTOR

SUBJECT: EXIT OF THE PROGRAM IMPROVEMENT PLAN

What's Inside:

- Exit of the PIP

It is my pleasure to provide this update on the status on the Child and Family Services Review (CFSR) and Program Improvement Plan (PIP). The CFSRs were conducted by the Children's Bureau (CB) in conjunction with states, to help improve safety, permanency, and well-being outcomes for children and families receiving services through the child welfare system. The first round of reviews took place between 2001 and 2004. All states were required to develop and implement a two-year Program Improvement Plan (PIP) in all areas found not to be in substantial conformity with the seven child welfare outcomes, the seven systemic factors and the six national standard data goals.

Through joint and targeted efforts we have made remarkable strides in the past three years to implement policy, practice and systems change strategies which have resulted in measurable improvements in the safety, permanency, and well-being of children and families. We have been notified by the Administration for Children and Families Region VII office, along with the CB, that Missouri has successfully completed all action steps and met all of the improvement goals in our PIP. This could not have been possible without the diligent efforts of all staff. We should all be proud of this great accomplishment!

CFSR Round 2

Heading into the next fiscal year, we look forward to strengthening current relationships and forging new partnerships as we strive to provide quality and efficient services to Missouri's children and families. Our success is measured by whether their experiences with our agency have improved the quality of their lives.

A second round of the CFSR has been tentatively scheduled by the CB for some time in 2010. More information relating to our preparation for the next review will be forthcoming once we receive notice of a finalized date.

Thanks again to staff at all levels who worked so hard these past three years to reach the high goals and benchmarks we set for ourselves!

PN/LT