

Child and Family Services Reviews Update

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2010 CFSR Onsite Reviews Update

By the end of September 2010, the Children's Bureau will have completed round 2 of the Child and Family Services Reviews for all 50 States, Puerto Rico, and the District of Columbia. The Children's Bureau would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who contributed to this important effort to help States improve child welfare services and achieve enhanced outcomes for children and families.

States will be required to develop Program Improvement Plans addressing the areas in their child welfare systems found not to be in substantial conformity with Federal requirements. To date, New Mexico has completed their Program Improvement Plan for round 2, and the Administration for Children and Families has completed the official evaluation of that report. All but six of the remaining States are implementing their Program Improvement Plans, while 14 States are either waiting final decisions of conformity or in the process of finalizing their Program Improvement Plans. The Children's Bureau is in the planning stages for round 3 reviews. After the round 3 schedule is finalized, it will be published in the *Child and Family Services Reviews Update* and on the Child Welfare Monitoring section of the Children's Bureau Web site at <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/index.htm>.

Changes in CFSR Leadership

Miranda Lynch Thomas is the new lead for the CFSR Unit. Ms. Thomas comes from the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Administration for Children and Families (ACF), where she was a Lead Child Welfare Program Specialist in the Policy Division of the Children's Bureau. In that role, Ms. Thomas was the lead advisor to the division director and other agency leadership, providing expertise on policy related to child maltreatment and protection, foster care, guardianship, adoption, American Indian child welfare issues, information and data systems, and all major child welfare legislation. She participated as a member of the National Review Team, co-authored several major child welfare regulations since 2001, and worked collaboratively with interagency Federal partners on cross-cutting issues related to the child welfare system.

The Children's Bureau recently announced the new Regional Child Welfare Program Managers: Janis Brown is Region VI Program Manager; James Toscano is Region IX Program Manager; and Tina Minor is Region X Program Manager.

Changes in Child Welfare Reviews Project Leadership

JBS International, Inc.'s Child Welfare Reviews Project, which assists the Children's Bureau in managing the Child and Family Services Reviews and coordinates and trains consultant reviewers, has undergone staff transitions. Dr. Randi Walters, former Deputy Director, left the project in August 2010 and is now working for the Children's Bureau. Beginning in September 2010, Rebecca Huffman, former Senior Project Manager for Training, became the new Deputy Director of the project, replacing Dr. Walters. Ms. Huffman will oversee training and the project's "T/TA to State Legislators" component.