Title IV-E Prevention Program Implementation Updates

Children's Bureau

MARCH 9, 2020, 3:00 - 4:30PM EST

Agenda

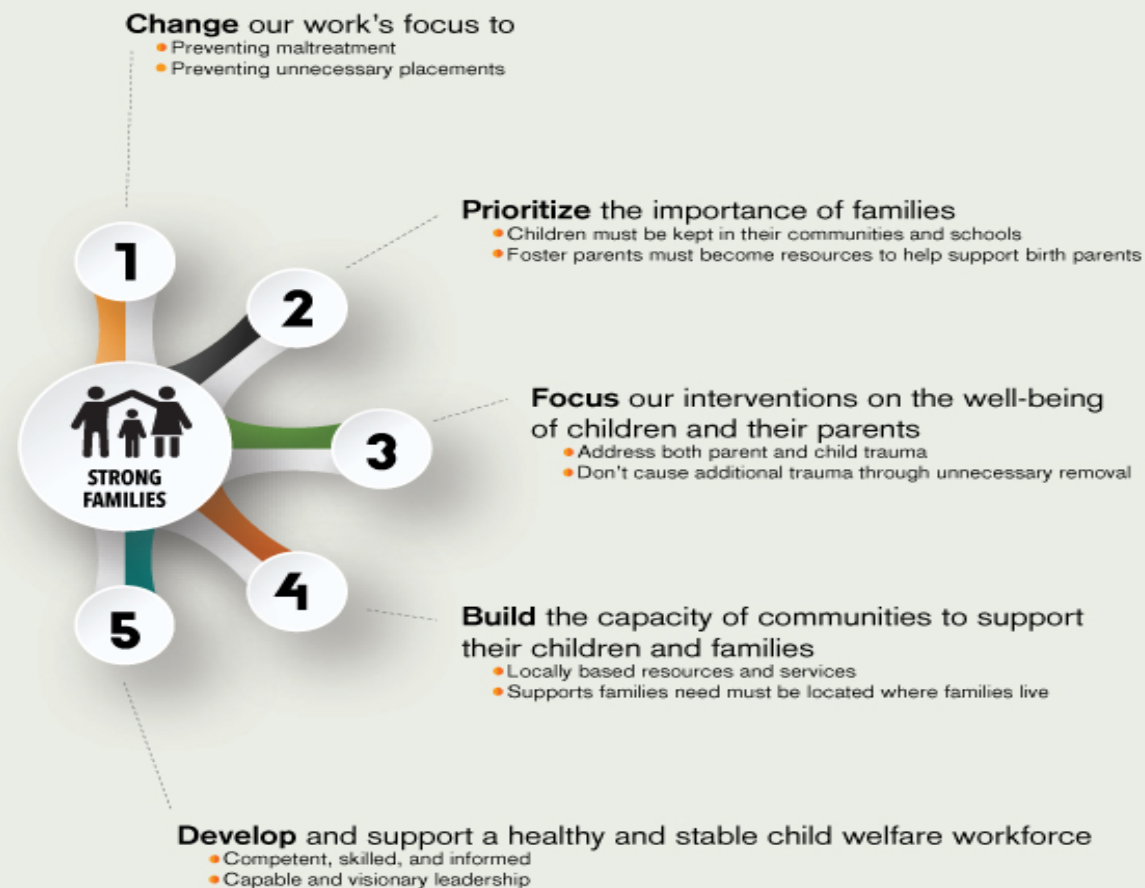- **Welcome and Introductions**
  - Children's Bureau

- **CB Vision and IV-E Prevention Program**
  - Jerry Milner, Associate Commissioner, CB

- **IV-E Prevention Program Plans: Lessons from the Field**
  - Brenda Donald, DC Child and Family Services Agency
  - Cosette Mills, Utah Division of Child and Family Services

- **Technical Tips & Areas for Consideration**
  - Children's Bureau

- **Q & A**

Children's Bureau's

Vision for Changing

National Child Welfare Practice

STRATEGIES TO STRENGTHEN FAMILIES:
THE CHILDREN'S BUREAU'S VISION FOR CHANGING NATIONAL CHILD WELFARE PRACTICE

Change our work's focus to
- Preventing maltreatment
- Preventing unnecessary placements

Prioritize the importance of families
- Children must be kept in their communities and schools
- Foster parents must become resources to help support birth parents

Focus our interventions on the well-being of children and their parents
- Address both parent and child trauma
- Don't cause additional trauma through unnecessary removal

Build the capacity of communities to support their children and families
- Locally based resources and services
- Supports families need must be located where families live

Develop and support a healthy and stable child welfare workforce
- Competent, skilled, and informed
- Capable and visionary leadership

Family First Prevention Services Act

Family First is Part of Broader Vision for Changing National Child Welfare Practice

- ❖ focuses on strengthening families and communities
- ❖ recognizes the importance of working with children and families to prevent unnecessary foster care placements
- ❖ **focus on prevention of child maltreatment** as a primary goal, **rather than foster care placement** as our main intervention
- ❖ provides an opportunity for states to envision and advance a vastly improved way of serving children and families

Title IV-E Prevention Program Five-Year Plan Updates

State of Prevention Plans

Approved
- Washington, D.C., Utah, Maryland, Arkansas

Submitted
- 10 States, 1 Tribal Jurisdiction

Independent Systematic Review Checklists Under Review
- 1 Approved, 4 Under Review

CB Title IV-E Prevention Program website: https://www.acf.hhs.gov/cb/title-iv-e-prevention-program

Preparing IV-E Prevention Program 5-Year Plans: Lessons from the Field

PUTTING FAMILIES FIRST IN DC

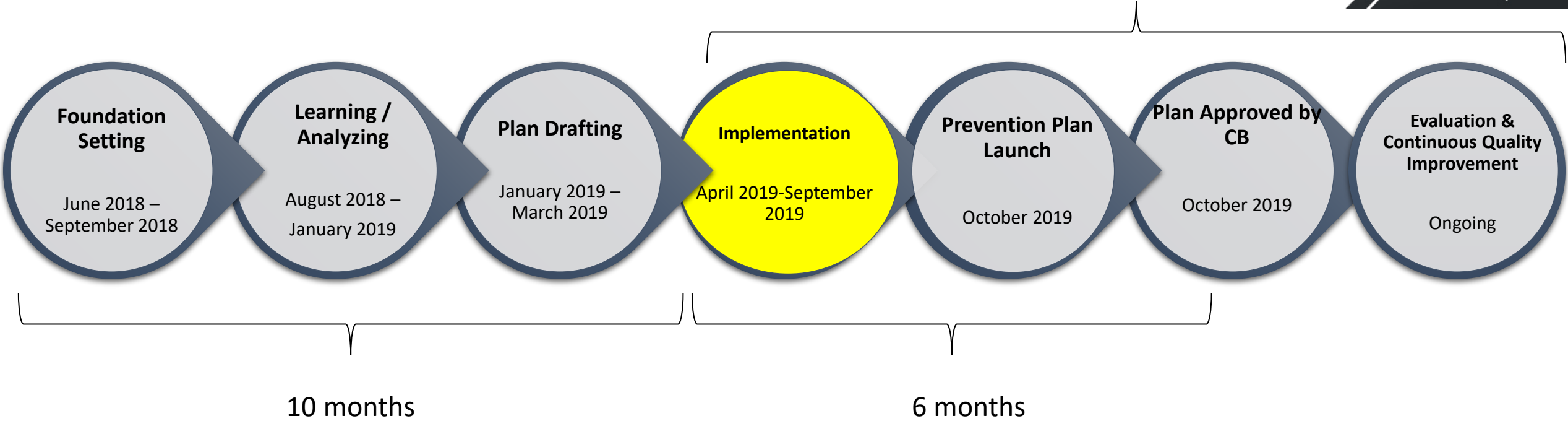**March 9, 2020**

Family First Planning Process

- Established a cross-agency, cross-sector work group

- Clear charge: create a citywide plan to strengthen families and keep children safe

- Family First Prevention Services Act is an opportunity, not an end game
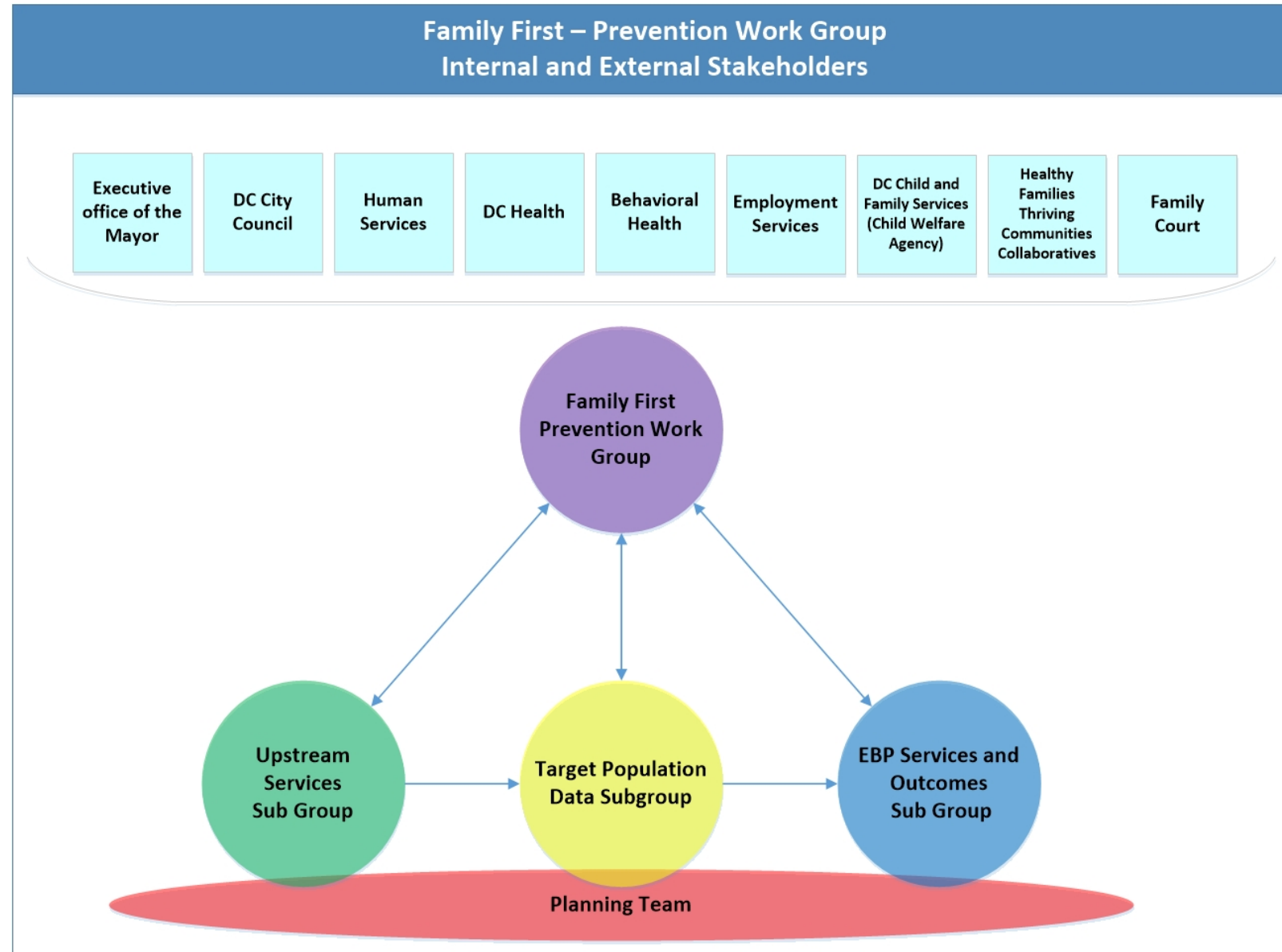
Work Plan Overview

Foundation Setting

June 2018 – September 2018

Learning / Analyzing

August 2018 – January 2019

Plan Drafting

January 2019 – March 2019

Implementation

April 2019-September 2019

Prevention Plan Launch

October 2019

Plan Approved by CB

October 2019

Evaluation & Continuous Quality Improvement
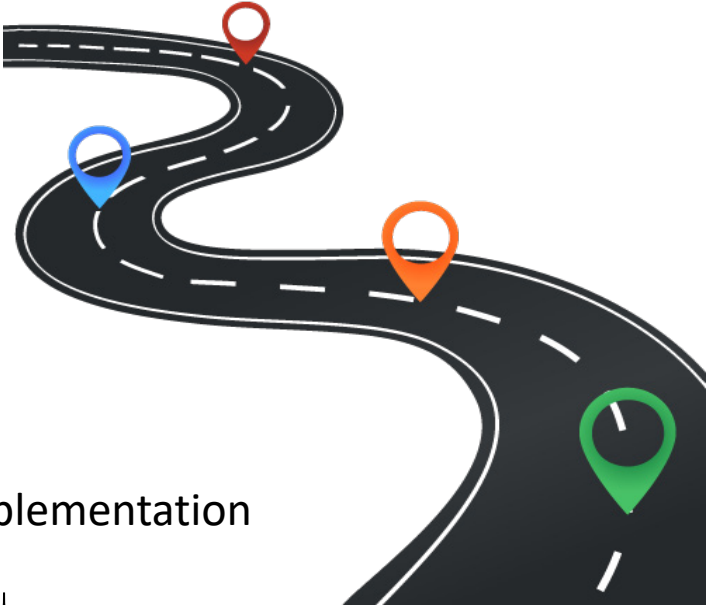
Ongoing

Ongoing Implementation

10 months

6 months

Prevention Work Group

June 2018 – April 2019 (10 months)

- **Reviewed CFSA and partner data** and obtained input on potential target populations and services

- Conducted client and provider **focus groups**

- Identified **target populations for services,** including upstream (primary prevention) target populations and candidates for foster care

- Recommended the best-fit **evidence-based interventions** to meet DC families' specific service needs.

- Articulated a **broad vision** for prevention in DC.

Family First – Prevention Work Group
Internal and External Stakeholders

| Executive office of the Mayor | DC City Council | Human Services | DC Health | Behavioral Health | Employment Services | DC Child and Family Services (Child Welfare Agency) | Healthy Families Thriving Communities Collaboratives | Family Court |

Family First Prevention Work Group

Upstream Services Sub Group

Target Population Data Subgroup

EBP Services and Outcomes Sub Group

Planning Team

Family First (CFSA) + Families First DC

Wraps around the narrow requirements of Family First to support and strengthen DC families in their own neighborhoods through primary prevention.
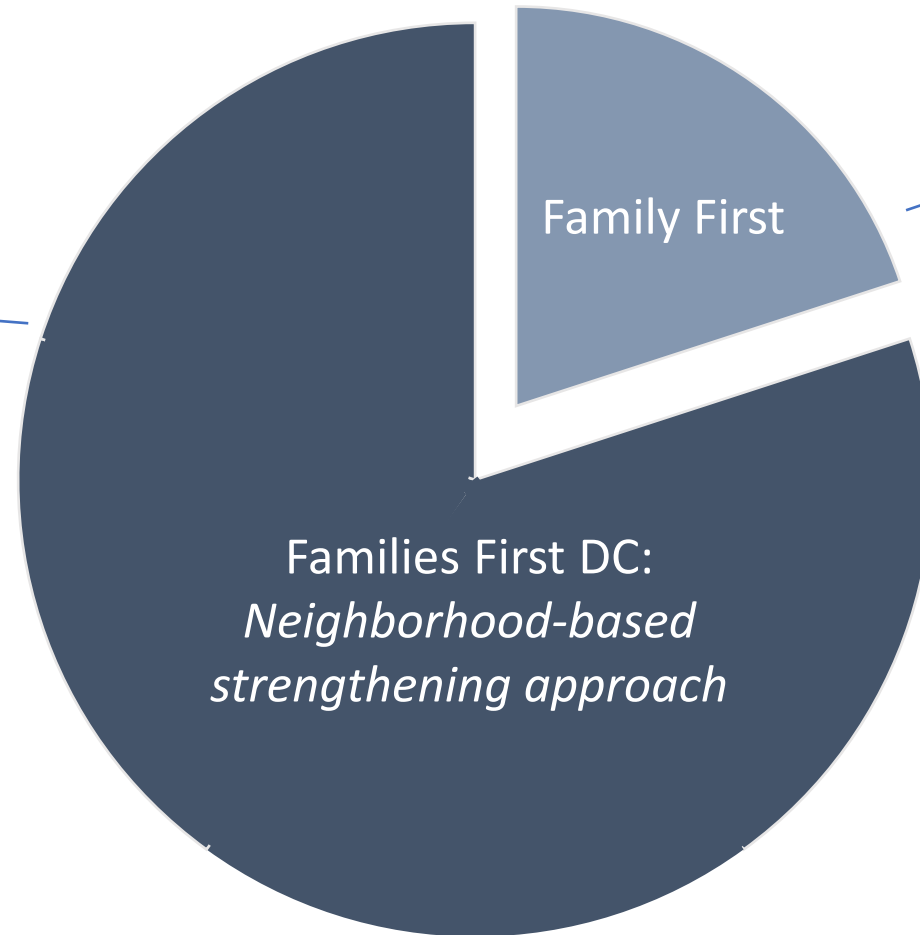
Evidence-based programs to support pregnant & parenting youth in foster care and foster care candidates

Family First

Families First DC:
Neighborhood-based strengthening approach

Upstream Target Populations:
The Beginning of a Citywide Prevention Strategy

Department of Behavioral Health (Mental Health and Substance Use Treatment):

- *Pregnant and parenting women with SUD needing residential drug treatment*
- *Parents and young children with behavioral/trauma needs*
- *Parents and teens with behavioral/trauma needs*

DC Health – Home-visiting Programs:

- *Children of caregivers who are living with or identified as high risk of living with post partum depression*
- *Children of caregivers with less than a HS diploma/GED*

Collaboratives (Community-based case management providers):

- *Families in need of housing and income supports*

Department of Human Services (Public Benefits/Homeless Services):

- *Children of caregivers with less than a HS diploma/GED*
- *Children of caregivers with a history of unstable housing*
- *Children of caregivers struggling with substance abuse and mental health issues*

Family First Prevention Services Act Focus

Children Engaged in CFSA Preventive Services

• Children referred to/receiving in-home services

• Children referred to/receiving services from the Collaboratives via CFSA (following investigation, in-home)

• Children with cases closed following investigations or FA with medium/high risk

Children with Immediate Family Members in Foster Care

• Children of foster youth

• Children of youth who recently exited foster care

• Siblings of children in foster care

Children at Risk for Re-Entry

• Children exiting to permanency or who have recently exited to permanency

Family First Target Populations
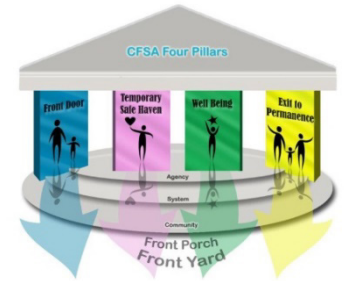
Target Sub-Populations
Front Porch
(1) Children served through the Healthy Families/Thriving Communities Collaboratives (the Collaboratives) following a CPS investigation or closed CFSA case.
(2) Children who have exited foster care through reunification, guardianship, or adoptions and may be at risk of re-entry.
(3) Children born to mothers with a positive toxicology screening.
Front Door
(4) Children served through CFSA's In-Home Services program, which offers intensive case management and service referrals to families.
(5) Pregnant or parenting youth in/recently exited foster care with eligibility for services ending at age 21.
(6) Children of pregnant or parenting youth in/recently exited foster care (non-ward children) with eligibility for services ending five years after exiting foster care.
(7) Siblings of children in foster care who reside at home and have assessed safety concerns.

Basis for Identification of Candidates

- Risk level / risk assessment score*

- Recent substantiation*

- Historic likelihood of entering foster care

Informs Agency business process decisions.

Family First Prevention - Internal Implementation Team

April 2019 – Present (10 months)

- Key internal **stakeholder meetings** to answer plan development and implementation questions.

- Used Chapin Hall's **Readiness Assessment, Planning, and Implementation tool** as a framework for meeting with CFSA subject matter experts (SMEs).

- Initial meetings to inform plan development served as a **kick-off for CFSA's implementation team** to answer critical questions to craft our prevention plan.

- **Shifted from plan development to implementation** efforts following the submission of our Plan to the Children's Bureau.

Staff Training

All CFSA and Collaborative case-carrying receiving training in:

- **New steps to document and manage prevention plans in FACES.net (CFSA's system of record)**

- **Motivational Interviewing**
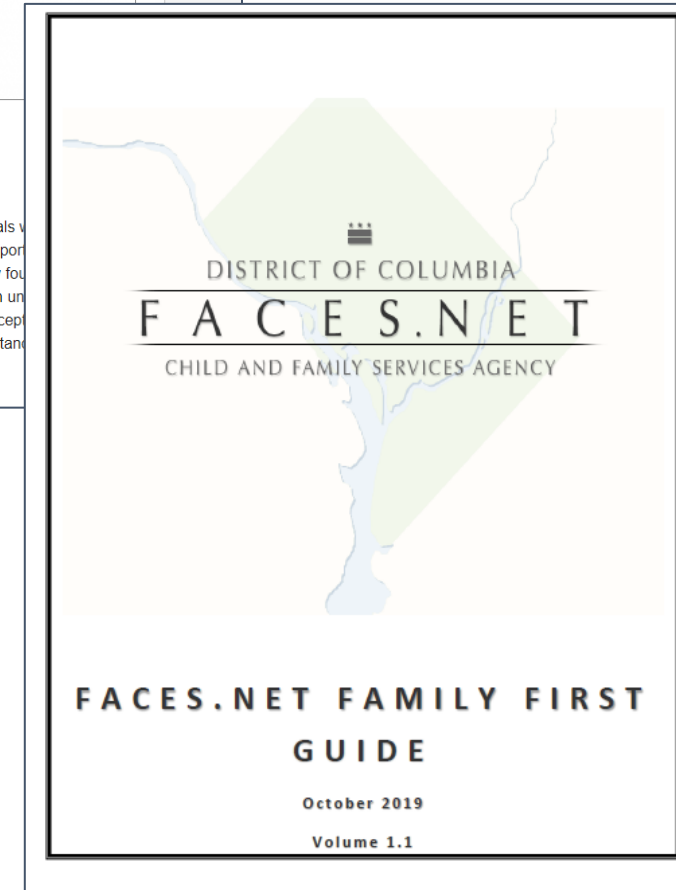
Technology to Support Prevention Planning and Service Tracking

CFSA Community   Help Desk 202-434-0009

- Bill Cargo
- Home
- My CFSA Cases
- Prevention Services
- My Alerts
- Help
- Log Out

My CFSA Cases
Shows all your cases that have been transferred from CFSA and Private Agencies

Prevention Services
Shows all requests for Prevention Services from CFSA, Private Agencies and other Collaboratives

My Alerts
Shows any alerts for review

Service Tracking Status: Referral In-progress

| 1	2	3	4	5
Confirm Capacity Completed on Sep 30, 2019	**Gather Information** Completed on Oct 01, 2019	**Enroll in Prevention Service** Completed on Oct 02, 2019	**Start Service** Started on Oct 03, 2019	**End Service** Ended on Oct 04, 2019
UPDATE	UPDATE	UPDATE	UPDATE	UPDATE

View Reason

DENY REFERRAL   PLACE ON WAITING LIST

v Notes by Service Provider

Intuitive and easy to use interface.

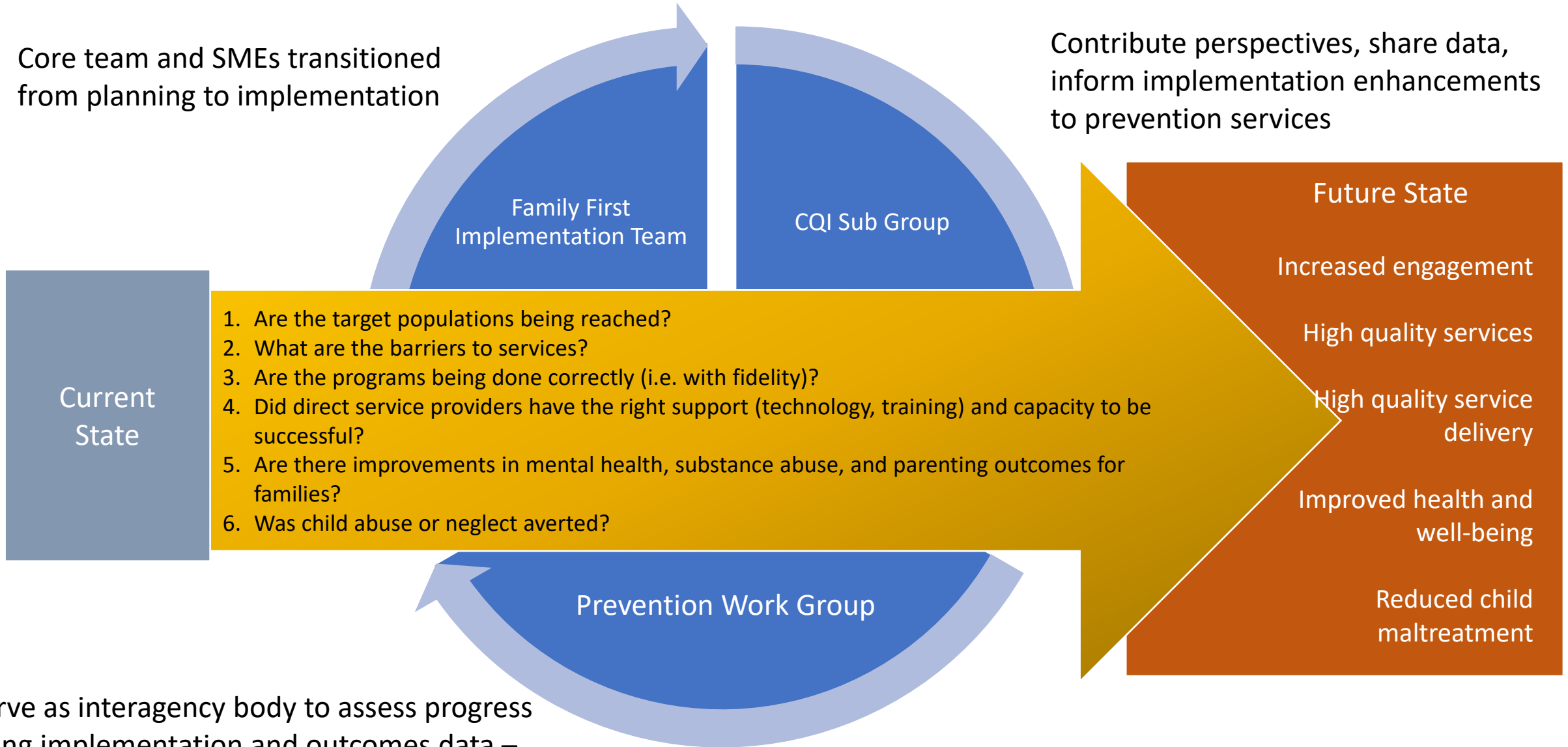# Family Work Prevention Work Group: New Role

- Serve as interagency body to **assess progress using implementation and outcomes data** –
  - Gauge the effectiveness of implementation, whether outcomes are being achieved, and determine changes as needed to improve prevention services.

- **Designate staff to CQI subgroup** to contribute perspectives, share data, inform implementation enhancements to prevention services
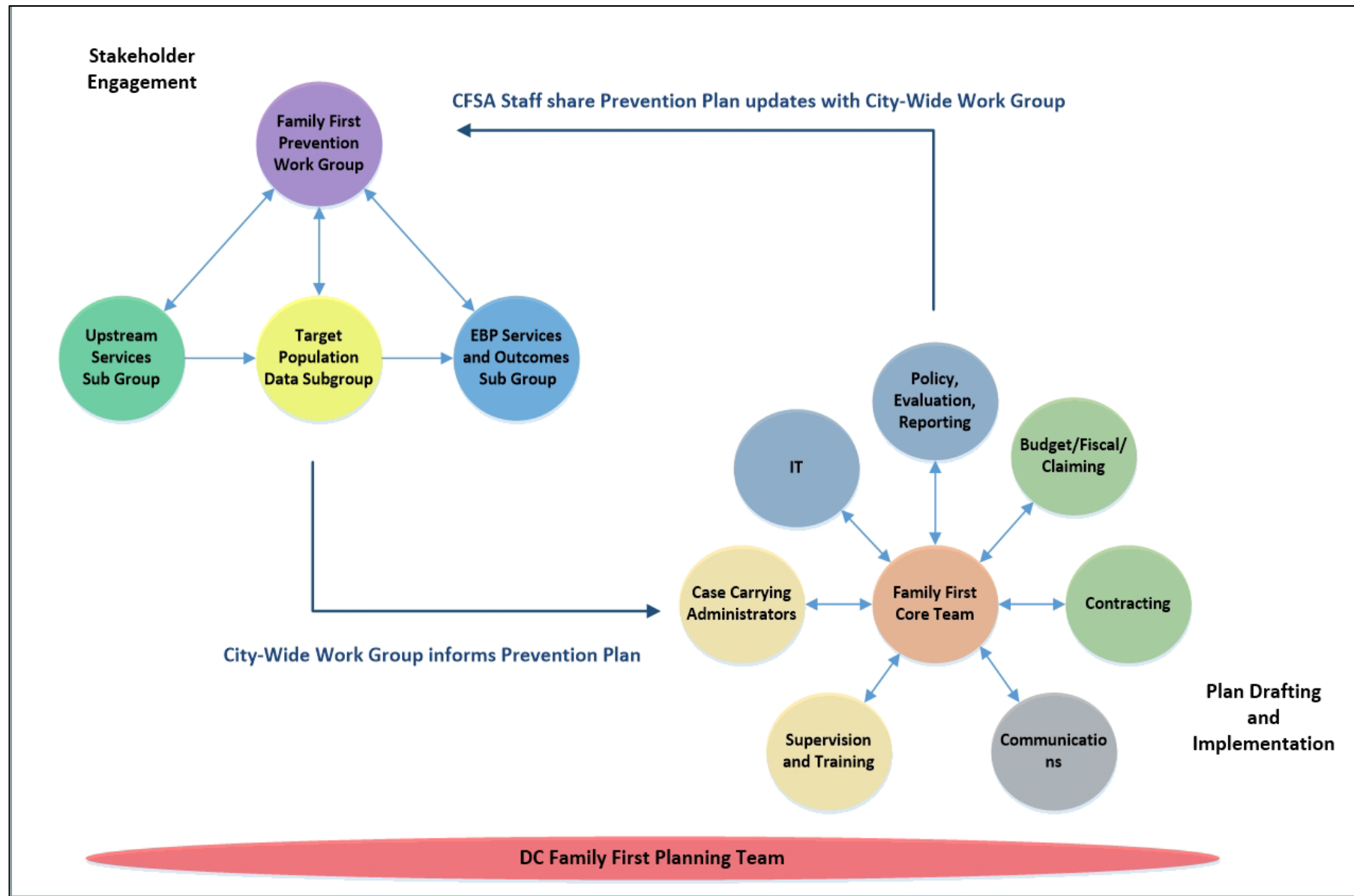
What does CQI look like for Family First and the Comprehensive Prevention Services Array?

Core team and SMEs transitioned from planning to implementation

Contribute perspectives, share data, inform implementation enhancements to prevention services

Family First Implementation Team

CQI Sub Group

Current State

1. Are the target populations being reached?
2. What are the barriers to services?
3. Are the programs being done correctly (i.e. with fidelity)?
4. Did direct service providers have the right support (technology, training) and capacity to be successful?
5. Are there improvements in mental health, substance abuse, and parenting outcomes for families?
6. Was child abuse or neglect averted?

Prevention Work Group

Future State

Increased engagement

High quality services

High quality service delivery

Improved health and well-being

Reduced child maltreatment

Serve as interagency body to assess progress using implementation and outcomes data – CQI and evaluation outcomes

UTAH IV-E PREVENTION PROGRAM PLAN | *Approach*

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Approach

- Committed to taking advantage of new IV-E funding to support families as early as possible

- Recognized FFPSA limit to prevent entry into foster care; deeper end of prevention continuum

- Considered capacity and competing demands

- Made deliberate decision not to focus on whole prevention continuum at once

Approach

- Built on IV-E waiver, focus on strengthening parents' capacity to safely care for their children and safely reducing the need for foster care

- Started with those most at risk for foster care (current child welfare clients and juvenile justice youth)

- Will establish solid foundation with approved plan

- Will expand capacity and bolster broader prevention continuum over time; vision to prevent maltreatment

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UTAH IV-E PREVENTION
PROGRAM PLAN

Planning Process

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Planning Process

- Directed by executive governing body
  - Human Services department and division directors
  - Parent representation

- Orchestrated by project management team

- Targeted prevention program components through workgroups consisting of staff and stakeholders
  - Program operations
  - Service development

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Planning Process

- Involved program staff, CCWIS, finance, data, evaluation/CQI, procurement, training, from start

- Engaged with stakeholders, such as legal partners, community providers, agency field staff, clients

- Engaged research partners
  - Research studies to establish evidence-base
  - Independent systematic review of program research
  - Evaluation strategies for EBPs

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Planning Process

- Determined initial scope for project
  - Candidate definition
  - Client needs (e.g., CANS waiver data)
  - Availability, effort, and resources for start-up of EBPs, and provider interest and capacity

- Utilized existing system where feasible
  - Tools to assess safety, risk, and needs to determine candidacy and for prevention plan
  - Automate where possible (CCWIS)

UTAH IV-E PREVENTION
PROGRAM PLAN

Plan Document

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Plan Document

- Program Instructions (ACYF-CB-PI-18-09)
  - Cross between IV-E plan preprint and CFSP narrative

- Limited plan to IV-E Prevention Program, not continuum
  - Solidify operational foundation
  - Expand capacity through amendments

- Created broad definition of prevention candidate
  - Initial implementation narrowed
  - Caution not to put children on trajectory for foster care

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Plan Document

- Made choices for preparing plan content
  - Followed instructions precisely (e.g., section order, headings, address specific questions)
  - Analyzed preprint (not everything required law, regulation, or policy)
  - Addressed required elements for each service
    - Specific manual for version, target population, and outcomes
    - Plan to implement, monitor for fidelity, and conduct CQI activities, and evaluation strategy

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Plan Document

- Additional Plan Tips
  - Differentiate between assuring fidelity/CQI activities and EBP evaluations; be very detailed in these sections

  - If Clearinghouse has rated a program well-supported, must analyze reasons and articulate why it is compelling not to evaluate further

  - For evaluation strategies, be thorough and give thought to purpose, e.g., adding to level of evidence

UTAH IV-E PREVENTION PROGRAM PLAN

Working with Regional Office

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Regional Office

- Frequent communication with regional office
  - Submit questions in writing
  - Discuss process and time frames
  - Determine how to address items that need additional attention
  - Address next steps (e.g., how to submit a revision or an amendment)

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Preparing IV-E Prevention Program 5-Year Plans: Technical Tips & Areas for Consideration

ADMINISTRATION FOR
CHILDREN & FAMILIES

Title IV-E Prevention Program Five-Year Plan

FIVE-YEAR PLAN MUST DESCRIBE

Eligibility	Service Selection	Targeted Outcomes
Continuous Quality Improvement	Well-Designed and Rigorous Evaluation	Child Welfare Workforce Training
Child Safety	Prevention Caseload Size	Assurances

Title IV-E Prevention Program Five-Year Plans: Service Selection

TIP: Allowable Services
- Rated by the title IV-E Clearinghouse as promising, supported, or well-supported **OR**
- Approved designation through the Independent Systematic Review process
  - *   *Note: Adaptations are allowable if either of the above criteria are met*

TIP: Version
- Include information about the book/manual/available documentation for **each program or service**

TIP: Claiming
- Clearly differentiate between programs or services requesting to claim reimbursement and those that are part of the larger prevention continuum

Title IV-E Prevention Program Five-Year Plans: Service Selection

Locate book/manual on program or service on the Title IV-E Clearinghouse (https://preventionservices.abtsites.com)
- Find a Program or Service
  - [Select Program or Service]
    - Program or Service Delivery and Implementation
      - Program or Service Documentation
        - Book/Manual/Available documentation

Locate status of Independent Systematic Reviews on Children's Bureau IV-E Prevention Plan website
- Webpage: Status of Submitted Independent Systematic Reviews to Claim for Transitional Payments (https://www.acf.hhs.gov/cb/resource/title-iv-e-independent-systematic-reviews)

Title IV-E Prevention Program Five-Year Plan: Monitoring Child Safety

TIP: Risk Assessment
- Include plan for monitoring child safety during the 12-month period
  - Instruments or protocols used for monitoring child safety
  - Time periods/intervals for assessments
  - Relationship with contracted providers in assessing child safety

TIP: Reexamination of the Prevention Plan
- If the state determines the risk of the child entering foster care remains high despite provision of services

Note: Reexamination may include determinations regarding appropriateness of programs and services, need for further intervention, and decisions regarding case closure

Title IV-E Prevention Program Five-Year Plans: Continuous Monitoring

TIP: Monitoring and Implementation

- Describe the implementation plan within the state; and
- Plan to ensure fidelity to the model

TIP: Outcomes

- Include processes used to identify outcomes achieved; and
- Mechanisms for gathering, organizing, and tracking information

TIP: Feedback Loop

- Describe how information will be used to refine and improve practice

Title IV-E Prevention Program Five-Year Plans: Well-Designed and Rigorous Evaluation

TIP: Well-Designed and Rigorous Strategy
- Specific to each program or service
- Comprehensive strategy

TIP: Evaluation Waiver
- Allowable for programs or services with a well-supported rating
- Must include evidence of the effectiveness of the practice to be compelling
  - Crosses more than one target domain
  - Demonstrates effectiveness with child welfare populations

Note: Continuous monitoring requirements must be met for all programs and services including in the plan.

Title IV-E Prevention Program Five-Year Plans: Well-Designed and Rigorous Evaluation

TIP: Evaluation Components

- Specific research questions, target population, and outcomes
- Research design and logic model/theory of change
- Specificity about data collection procedures, sampling, and analysis plans
- Discussion of potential weaknesses or study limitations

TIP: Alignment

- The proposed evaluation strategy should align from beginning to end
  - Research Questions, Design, Data Collection, Analytic Strategy

Note: Resources to support the development of an evaluation strategy (e.g. IM-19-04 Evaluation Plan Development Tip Sheet, Program Manager's Guide to Evaluation)

Title IV-E Prevention Program Five-Year Plans: Independent Systematic Review Process
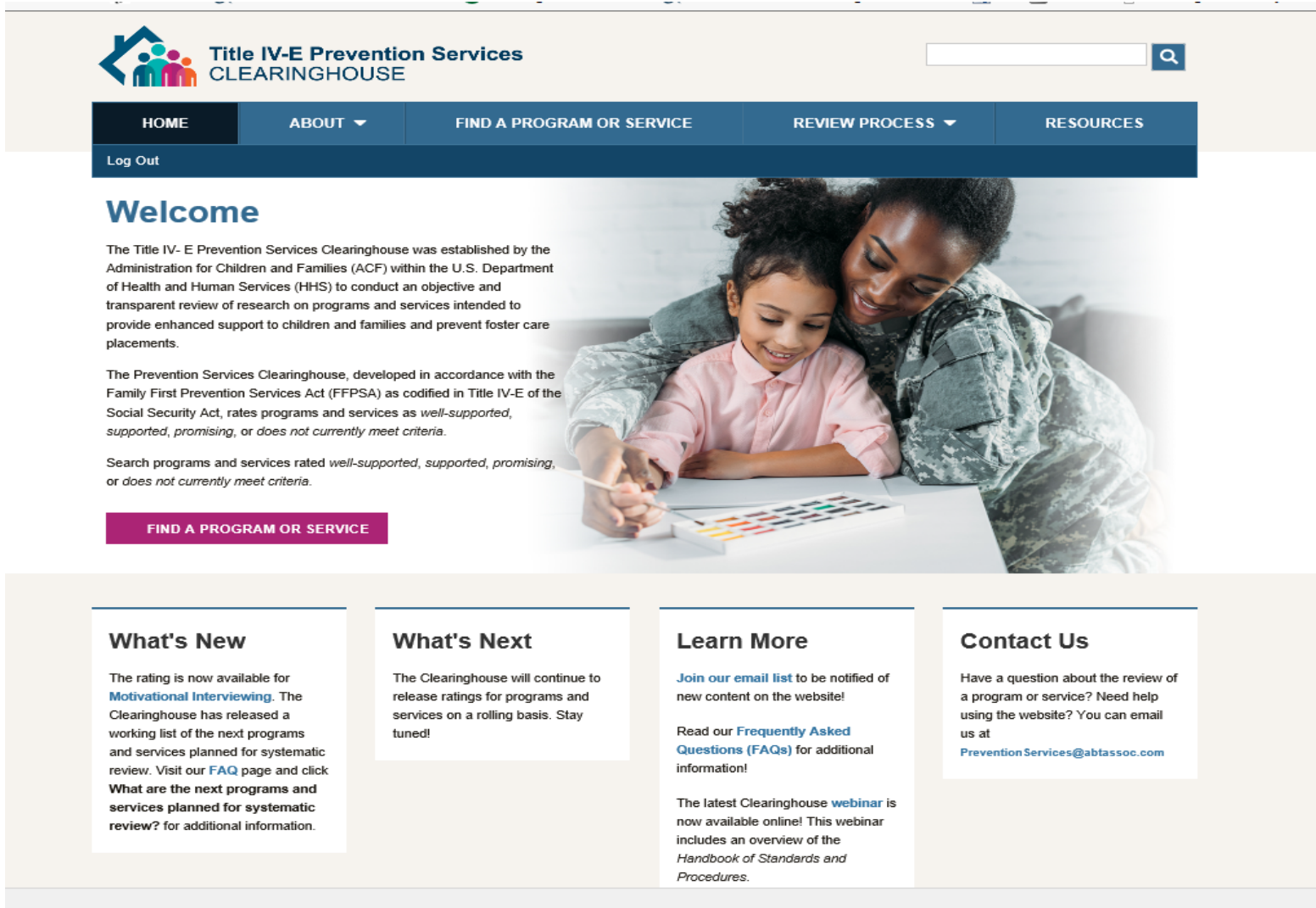
Independent Systematic Review Resources

- HHS has available resources to support the request for transitional payments through the independent systematic review process
  - Program Instruction, Title IV-E Clearinghouse Manual
  - Status of Submitted Independent Systematic Reviews to Claim for Transitional Payments, https://www.acf.hhs.gov/cb/resource/title-iv-e-independent-systematic-reviews

TIP: Submission and Approval

- Must be submitted and approved as part of a title IV-E prevention program five-year plan

The Title IV-E Prevention Services Clearinghouse

https://www.preventionservices.abtsites.com

IV-E Prevention Program Integrated Team

1

Primary Contact
Children's Bureau Regional Office

2

Children's Bureau, OCAN
Elaine Stedt, Director
Specialists: Dori Sneddon, Cara Kelly, Tara Mainero

3

Office of Planning, Research, and Evaluation (OPRE), ACF, HHS

Family First Prevention Services Act

RESOURCES

Title IV-E Prevention Services Clearinghouse
https://preventionservices.abtsites.com/

Children's Bureau
https://www.acf.hhs.gov/cb/laws-policies/whats-new

Children's Bureau Title IV-E Webpage
https://www.acf.hhs.gov/cb/title-iv-e-prevention-program

Child Welfare Capacity Building Collaborative
https://capacity.childwelfare.gov/

Family First Prevention Services Act

RESOURCES

ACYF-CB-IM-18-02: Informs states and tribes of the enactment of the Family First Prevention Services Act and provides basic information on the new law.

ACYF-CB-PI-18-06: Provides new information and instructions for the Annual Progress and Services Report, as a result of passage of the Family First Prevention Services Act.

ACYF-CB-PI-18-07: Provides Instructions for: 1) changes to the title IV-E plan requirements as a result of the Family First Prevention Services Act that are effective as of January 1, 2018 and later; and 2) delayed effective dates for title IV-B/E plan requirements.

ACYF-CB-PI-18-09: Provides instructions to state title IV-E agencies on the title IV-E prevention program requirements.

ACYF-CB-PI-18-11: Provides instructions to title IV-E agencies on the requirements for participating in the Title IV-E Kinship Navigator Program, as amended by the FFPSA.

ACYF-CB-PI-19-06: Provides guidance on conducting an independent systematic review to claim transitional payments for services not yet rated by the Clearinghouse.

ACYF-CB-IM-19-04: Provide an Evaluation Plan Development Tip Sheet to assist with developing an evaluation plan

Questions