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Attachments: *(The attachments are not part of this document. You may request them by calling 517-373-3572, Kim Boak.)*

1. Chaffee Foster Care Independence Program Application for FY 2001-2004 Funds
2. Foster Home Recruitment/Retention Initiatives
3. Native American Affairs/Indian Child Welfare Act
4. Michigan Title IV-E Waiver
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**Michigan's Consolidated Child and Family Services Plan
Annual Progress and Services Report
Child Abuse and Neglect Basic Grant Application
June 2001**

“Our children’s fundamental requirements must be met today to prepare them to lead Michigan in the future ... More than anything else, children need committed, loving families to nurture and encourage their healthy growth.”

Governor John Engler

Michigan’s Consolidated Child and Family Services Plan for 2001-2005, hereafter referred to as the State Plan, incorporated comprehensive goals and objectives for all child welfare programs. The attached Annual Progress and Services Report, APSR, includes information on the accomplishments of the past year. As stated in the State Plan, Michigan’s child welfare system has undergone enormous scrutiny and reform during the past few years. The number and scope of the legislative, policy and program initiatives continue to have a substantial impact on child safety and permanency planning.

All federal and state requirements have been implemented. (The requirements listed in the State Chief Executive Officer’s Assurance Statement have been fully implemented.) Michigan is in the process of assessing the impact of the changes, identifying operational weaknesses and resolving barriers.

The key accomplishments include the following initiatives:

- **Prevention and Family Preservation**

- 1) Our statewide Families First Program continues to provide a crucial resource for strengthening families while ensuring child safety.
- 2) Our Local Collaborative Bodies have continued to evolve into community focal points for community planning and development. The Leelanau County Family Coordinating Council received the “United Way of America Community Builder Award” on April 15, 2000.
- 3) Michigan has become an Annie E. Casey site for the Family to Family program. We will have two counties, Wayne and Macomb, participating. This initiative will greatly enhance Michigan’s capacity to achieve national outcomes pertaining to safety, well-being, and planning. We are in the initial planning stages and expect to have implementation plans completed by the end of the year.

- **Children’s Protective Services**

- 1) Our Structured Decision Making Process has provided us with the distinct opportunity to consistently evaluate risk, safety, family needs and strengths, and to incorporate these variables in a family service plan.

- 2) Our Peer Review Process has provided a vehicle for ensuring a continuous quality improvement process to monitor and enhance the effectiveness of the Children's Protective Services (CPS) program.
- 3) Our Forensic Interviewing Protocol has enabled us to ensure that CPS and law enforcement officers obtain information from children in a developmentally sensitive, unbiased and truthseeking manner; in a manner that will support accurate and fair decision-making in the child welfare and criminal justice systems.
- 4) Our Birth Match Initiative is a collaborative interagency process that has been developed in Michigan that will link information on new births in abusive families to state child abuse investigators. The process will alert CPS to births in families where children have been previously removed as a result of abuse/neglect and parental rights have been terminated. When notified, CPS will do a full field investigation. This process will close the gap which presented a great risk for children and is a progressive step to ensure their safety.
- 5) In a coordinated effort with the Michigan State Police, the Children's Protective Services Program Office is currently in the process of meeting with representatives from Law Enforcement Information System (LEIN) pilot counties in an attempt to develop policies governing the use of the LEIN. Direct LEIN access will be arranged for all local offices in the upcoming months. Also, orientation and procedural training sessions with the Michigan State Police will be scheduled in the upcoming months.

- **Children's Foster Care**

- 1) Our Structured Decision Making Process has provided us with the opportunity to consistently evaluate the key variables in determining whether children can be returned home, or whether an alternative permanency plan should be pursued.
- 2) Our Early Infant Brain Development Task Force has provided us with information which is instrumental in ensuring that the special needs of children in out-of-home care are met. Curriculums for foster parents and child welfare staff are being developed.
- 3) Our Foster Care Permanency Pilots offer flexibility to positively influence permanency in out-of-home care. Six private child placing agencies in Wayne County participate. The pilots receive a modified (reduced) per diem and incentive payments if they successfully achieve permanency in a timely manner. Additional key services such as supportive visitations, specialized family reunification services, and foster parent mentoring are currently being added to the pilot sites.

- **Adoption**

Michigan continued to increase adoptions in Fiscal Year 1999, which resulted in two million dollars in federal incentive payments.

Through the combined efforts of the Adoption Program Office, adoptive parents and private adoption agencies, post adoption services were identified, developed and funded through the adoption federal incentive award.

Through a successful interagency collaboration with the Michigan Department of Community Health, Medicaid coverage was expanded to include special needs children eligible for a non-title IV-E adoption support subsidy.

- **Juvenile Justice Services**

In 1998, the Bureau of Juvenile Justice adopted Balanced and Restorative Justice as the framework within which to coordinate and deliver services for delinquent adolescents throughout the State. Michigan has been designated as a “special emphasis state” by the Department of Justice, to collaborate with 7 other states in developing strategies and sharing ideas regarding implementation of restorative justice. During the past two years Michigan’s emphasis has been placed on encouraging a statewide paradigm shift toward restorative justice. Technical assistance monies have been awarded to 20 community teams for the purpose of community education, and numerous workshops and conferences have been held statewide to provide information on the restorative philosophy.

- **Child Welfare Training**

The Michigan Child Welfare Training Plan is predicated on a competency-based and collaboratively delivered, comprehensive training initiative. Components include:

- 1) University education and coursework at the bachelor’s and master’s level,
- 2) An 8-week pre-service Child Welfare curriculum for both public and contracted private agency child welfare staff. Some public agency staff is cross-trained in multiple programs over 12 weeks,
- 3) Advanced or experienced Child Welfare staff training modules,
- 4) Foster and adoptive parent training,
- 5) Training for foster care review board members and foster care aides, and
- 6) Collaborative training with Michigan courts and Native American tribes,
- 7) As a future initiative, consideration will be given in 2001 for planning grants to enhance Bachelor’s level curriculum in Child Welfare, for students willing to commit to employment in public child welfare.

The major barrier continues to be the delay in implementing a data information system. We expect to complete implementing the AFCARS reporting system in the fall of 2001.

Michigan continues to be proud of our accomplishments and excited about our opportunities. While we have much work yet to do, we have established a solid base.

This Annual Progress and Service Plan will be distributed to key stakeholders, the Citizen Review Panels and our tribal partners. It will also be made available on our website.

Michigan Child Welfare State Plan
Annual Progress and Service Report

<u>Goals/Objectives FY 2001-2005</u>	<u>Progress Report for 2000-2001</u>
<p>Prevention:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Re-Evaluation of Preventive Services for Families/Manual Revision. The Preventive Services for Families manual was revised to reflect a more strength-based, solution-focused philosophy. The policy also reflects input from the Prevention Meeting held in June, 1999 and from the Prevention Advisory Committee formed in 2000. The policy received very positive comments from the field. The effective date for the new policy is April, 2001. <p>The Prevention Program is in the process of being transitioned to the FIS staff. A Steering Committee with Workgroups on Policy and Forms, Systems, Training, Contracts, Field Implementation, and Staffing will be developing the details for this transition.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue the Development of Special Issues Training. The special issues trainings are continuing to be made available to all child welfare staff. Child Welfare Institute will continue to provide training on the Preventive Services for Families Program until the transition of the program to FIS staff is complete. In addition, the FIS trainers will begin to provide prevention training for their staff. • A Prevention Workers Conference. The second biennial "Supporting Families with Young Children" conference was held September 27-29, 2000. It was a huge success with 1,145 registrants (prevention workers from FIA and other agencies from throughout the state). Planning is underway for this collaborative effort to be repeated in November of 2002. • Automated information collection. Due to the transition of the prevention program to FIS, any new automated collection systems will be developed to facilitate use by those workers. Thus, PSF will not be added to the Service Worker Support System. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Goal/Objective modified. See revisions. • Ongoing. • Ongoing. • Goal/Objective revised.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Building Strong Families: This program is being encouraged for use in comprehensive home visitation early intervention initiatives. • Early On: The two main goals for 2000 were to integrate more Early On policy into FIA and to increase staff awareness through training. • Children’s Trust Fund 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This remains one of the model programs we encourage communities to use for parenting education. • The Early On Coordinator worked with Prevention Analyst to add Early On pieces to the new Prevention Manual. Early On was also embedded into the Child Welfare Curriculum. New FIA staff receive Early On information through new worker resource fairs. • See application for funding.
<p>Independent Living:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Utilize and put into practice information gathered and submitted by the various independent living focused coalitions and advisory bodies. • Define, through outcome evaluations, those services that have enabled recipient youth to best function independently. • Determine and focus on those “core” services that are generally needed by all youth receiving independent living services. • Continue the development of standardized contract services, reporting formats, evaluation tools and outcome measures, service availability, and policy. • Continue to re-engineer and restructure the Independent Living Program as statewide welfare reform is implemented. • Promote a “youth development” focus within service provision. 	<p>Please see Attachment 1.</p>
<p>Children’s Protective Services:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The safety of children will be protected by reducing the number of re-referrals for substantiated abuse and/or neglect. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The number of substantiated families that were re-referred and investigated was 23.8% which is a continued decrease from over 32% in 1994. <p>NOTE: This statistic measures whether the family was ever, during the 20 years the Central Registry has been in existence, referred to CPS.</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 90% of families will not have additional substantiated abuse/neglect complaints during the program participation. • 85% of families will not have additional substantiated abuse/neglect complaints within 12 months of case closure. • Fewer than 25% of the total number of substantiations will be re-referrals. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children will remain safe with their families. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 75% of families where abuse/neglect has occurred will keep their children safely at home during program participation through the use of intensive home based services which meet the needs of the child, family and community for safety and stability. • 65% of families where abuse/neglect has occurred will keep their children safely at home for 12 months following program completion. • Case management and delivery of services provided to children and their families: FIA has contracted with Insoo Kim Berg of the Brief Family Therapy Center, Milwaukee, WI, to develop strength based-solution focused training for CPS workers and supervisors. This Partnership for Safety curriculum was piloted with a group of 100 workers in March, 1996. The workers assisted in making revisions to the final training package. Training currently is in progress for another 100 workers, and will be completed by summer, 1999. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is no data currently available. • There is no data currently available. • During fiscal year 2000, 33% of the total number of substantiations were re-referred cases. NOTE: See notation above. • Statistics indicate that children in 80% of families who received services remained safely at home when the cases were closed, up from 60% in 1999. • There is no data currently available. • The training of the second 100 workers has been completed. The training has been incorporated in the Child Welfare Training Institute. Intensive training is being provided to entire CPS units in five counties. Insoo Kim Berg and Peter DeYoung are developing tools which will help workers and supervisors implement Solution-Focused intervention. The tools are being piloted in Jackson County. • A solution-focused interviewing approach will be incorporated into the Services Manual and forms used by agency workers will be updated to reflect solution focus strength based case management. A contract has been initiated that will provide the Agency with the opportunity to support line staff by making strength based language and solution focused interviewing techniques available in the policy they read, and the forms they use when helping families safeguard their children.
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhancing the general child protective system by improving risk and safety assessment tools: FIA is expanding its risk assessment system, called Structured Decision Making (SDM), for use from the initiation of a CPS investigation through foster care closure. In July 1997, a six-month pilot and validation study on a new safety assessment began. Validation, training and implementation will be completed by July 1999. • Developing and facilitating training protocols for individuals mandated to report child abuse and neglect: The third annual statewide medical training conference on child abuse and neglect was held in May 1997. Over 100 health care professionals attended. A fourth annual conference was held May 1998. • Developing, implementing or operating information and education programs designed to improve the provision of services to disabled infants, for the parents of such infants: FIA administers the Parent Empowerment Project, which provides advocacy and resource referral for parents caring for a medically fragile child at home. • Developing and enhancing the capacity of community-based programs to integrate shared leadership between parents and professionals to prevent and treat child abuse and neglect at the neighborhood level: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) FIA continues to develop a proposal for provision of statewide access for workers to medical consultation; b) In addition, FIA administers two Native American contracts which focus on prevention. One contract supports a three-day summer conference for Indian youth. Approximately 50 youth are expected to attend. The other contract provides community-based activities throughout the summer on the Bay Mills Indian Community. Parents and elders are included. Approximately 60 youth are expected to participate. • Cross-Professional trainings will continue under contract with the Prosecuting Attorney's Association of Michigan (PAAM). Twelve trainings are scheduled for FY 2001. The 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The safety assessment tool and decision making process was implemented in early 1999. Foster Care SDM has been implemented in the Fall of 1999. • The Sixth Annual Training Conference was held in May 2000. • Since FY 1998 over 8,000 families received assistance, including 2,490 in FY 2000. a) A contract for statewide access to medical consultations was implemented in the Spring of 1999. b) The Native American contracts have served approximately 50 youth at the Summer Conference and 60 youth at the Bay Mills reservation consistently each year. • Twelve training sessions were held in FY 2000. 243 Law Enforcement and 455 FIA personnel were trained.
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<p>funding is state funds. The Task Force will continue as the advisory council for this training.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A two-day Governor’s Task Force Seminar, “Children’s Issues for the Millenium”, for key professionals and community leaders will again be held on October 4-5, 2001. Over 400 policy makers will be invited. • The child advocacy demonstration project in Genesee County concluded on September 30, 1998. On-going evaluations will be finalized. • Children’s Assessment Centers (CAC) have been contracted within nine Michigan counties throughout the state. • Child Death Review teams were expanded to 30 counties in FY 1997. It is anticipated that the remainder of Michigan’s 83 counties will implement child death review teams in FY 1998. <p>CPS/Domestic Violence Collaboration:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy was completed in 1997 and all workers were trained. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The October 2001 Seminar, “The Effects of Violence on Children”, was held and approximately 170 people attended. • The contract was concluded. The evaluation indicated that while the court staff and FIA staff felt both they and the families benefited from the services, outcome data could not be directly linked to the pilot because of the multitude of changes which had occurred in the court and child protection systems. • These 9 contracts will use forensic interviewing skills in serving 725 sexually abused children through the end of FY 2001. • All counties have implemented child death review teams. More than 1,200 volunteers are serving on CDR teams. The State Child Death Advisory Team has established a sub-committee that serves as the Citizen’s Review Panel for child fatalities due to abuse/neglect. This committee reviewed all identified 1998 child abuse and neglect deaths in Michigan. • Domestic Violence training has been incorporated in the Child Welfare Training Institute.
<p>Foster Care:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outcomes • Children in out of home care will experience a minimal number of placements. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 90% of children will have no more than two placements subsequent to removal. • Children in out of home care will be reunited with their families in a timely manner. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • From the Supervising Agency Report Card, 10/1/98 – 9/30/1999: 33.7% of all neglect/abuse children had no more than two placements subsequent to removal.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 70% of all children with siblings will be placed with other sibling group. • The average number of months children are in foster care will be decreased by one month annually. • 95% of children will remain safely at home for at least 6 months after reunification. • 85% of children will remain safely at home for at least 12 months after reunification. • A permanent placement for all children will be established within 12 months. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 80% of children will be in a permanent placement within 12 months of initial placement. • No more than 3,500 children in foster care will have a length of stay longer than 24 months. • Recruitment/Retention. The contract with MFAPA will continue to provide both basic, orientation, and intensive training to Michigan's foster and adoptive parents. The goal will be to increase the collaboration between the 12 pilot counties, update the needs assessments, improve communication between central office and the pilot counties, emphasize recruitment and mentoring by existing families, and expand the effort statewide. • Additional training. Pre-service and core trainers will continue to be trained to implement Foster PRIDE/Adopt PRIDE training across the state. • Data Collection. Since 1997, a pilot project has been conducted in four counties to re-engineer and streamline the recruitment and licensing process. This pilot project is collecting data to determine why potential foster parents remove themselves between the inquiry and licensure stages. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • From the Supervising Agency Report Card, 10/1/1998 – 9/30/1999, 49.5% of all children with siblings were placed with other siblings. • There is no data currently available. • There is no data currently available. • There is no data currently available. • There is no data currently available. • 10/1/1998 – 9/30/1999, 3,200 children (temporary court wards) have been in out of home care more than 24 months. • Major advances have been made and are described in Attachment 2. • This effort continues. The major barrier has been identifying foster care workers to serve as co-trainers. Solutions are currently being assessed. • The data collection has been completed and the reengineering report, including recommendations, was completed in Spring of 2000.
<p>Permanency Focused Reimbursement System</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluate pilot. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key data indicators are being collected. The

<p>Structured Decision Making</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement SDM Statewide. <p>Supervising Agency Report Cards</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Publish Agency Report Card annually. • Kinship Care. The Agency will continue to expand and implement its Kinship Care model to provide nurturing and protection of children who must be removed from home, but can be placed with relatives. <u>All</u> children who enter out-of-home care will be evaluated for potential Kinship Care placements that would be appropriate to meet the needs to the child. The definition of “Kinship” included tribes, clans, godparents, stepparents, and other adults who have established a kinship bond with the child. In addition to identifying relatives who can provide temporary care the Agency has designated lead staff to implement Kinship Care in the following program areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Welfare reform.</i> Kinship Care cash assistance cases will be assigned to Family Independence Specialists caseloads. These specialists will be able to use flexible funds and specialized contractual services to provide stability and protection for children. • <i>Prevention and Protection.</i> Kinship networks will be identified and developed within 30 days of initial placement of the child in foster care. Family-solution based strategies will be used to reduce the risks of abuse and/or neglect. • <i>Adoption.</i> Permanency planning is essential for children in kinship care as it is for children in foster care. Initial placement efforts will be 	<p>initial assessment has been positive and two more private agencies were added to the pilots. These new services are being added: supportive visitations, foster home mentoring and intensive Family Reunification Services.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SDM is implemented statewide. • The first Agency Report Card was published during the Summer of 1999. The second annual Report Card was issued July 2000 and the third Report Card will be issued July 2001. • Ongoing. • On hold. • The number of Kinship placements increased 8% from 10/98 to 10/99. This number is expected to continue to rise. Policy requires staff to ask the parent and/or children, when old enough, if there is a family member who could safely care for the child whenever removal is necessary. Policy requires Central Registry and Criminal LEIN checks for all adults residing in the home a child may be placed in. • Efforts are continuing. The majority of children are adopted by relatives or foster parents.
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<p>directed toward placing a child who is legally available with an approved family, including extended family members.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Training.</i> Kinship training will be provided as a component of the Child Welfare Institute curriculum for all child welfare staff and other FIA staff as necessary, including Family Independence Specialists. • <i>Administration.</i> The Agency will monitor the identification and use of kinship family supports, service provision to this population, and permanence outcomes. • <i>Legal.</i> Cultural and family-sensitive opportunities will be pursued to enhance permanence for children in kinship care. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kinship Care concepts have been integrated in the Child Welfare Training Institute. • The number of Kinship Care placements is being monitored by county. • Efforts continue to expand the use of relatives as placements for children. The new data system, which was implemented in 2000, will assist in assessing outcomes.
<p>Juvenile Justice Services:</p> <p>Detention and Assessment Centers will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eliminate escapes by establishing zero tolerance for escapes and notifying law enforcement within 20 minutes of any escape. • Increase family involvement to where 70% of parents will have 1 or more contacts with their detained child each week. • Increase family satisfaction with detention program services to where 70% of parents whose child has spent 15 or more days in detention will express satisfaction with the level of safety and security provided. • Survey detention residents during 1998 to establish a base line for their level of satisfaction with detention program services and set and improvement goal for 1999. • Establish, during 1998, a base line for youth-on-youth assaults to be used in developing an improvement goal for 1999. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No escapes reported from any FIA detention facility. • No data available on notification of law enforcement due to ODSIS data reporting problems. (However, no evidence of less than full compliance.) • GVRC reports an average of 85% of residents have family contact on a weekly basis while in detention. Data was not collected at either Bay Pines or Shawono. • GVRC reports that over 80% of parents were satisfied with the security and safety of their child. • Shawono reports that 90% of the youth released from detention after a stay of at least 30 days expressed satisfaction with services received. Data was not collected at either Bay Pines or GVRC.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assure that juveniles leaving detention facilities after 30 or more days of stay will leave with new competencies. • Assure that each youth committed to OJJ for care and treatment and held in detention for two or more weeks will have his/her education level evaluated and an education assessment report developed. <p>Medium and High Security Treatment Facilities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Office of Juvenile Justice will reduce criminal activity of youth after release to the community from Training Schools to at least the following levels: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *at 6 months 80% free of rearrest on felony charges *at 12 months 65% free of rearrest on felony charges *at 12 months 80% free of felony convictions *at 24 months 72% free of felony convictions *at 60 months 60% will remain free of felony convictions *at 12 months 94% free of incarceration by MDOC *at 24 months 80% remain free of incarceration *at 60 months 47% remain free of incarceration <p>For juveniles committed for care and treatment to FIA, the Office of Juvenile Justice will also: (data is not available for the following objectives until statewide implementation in 2001)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eliminate escapes by establishing zero tolerance for escape and reporting escapes to law enforcement within 30 minutes if any escapes to occur. • Reduce length of stay to where 75% of juveniles meeting SDM criteria for de-escalation to low or community-based programs will be recommended for release – 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No data available. • All detention facilities have completed educational assessments on all youth. • Data was not calculated at 6 mos. But will be in next report. • 79% free of felony arrest. • 62% free of felony arrest in 24 mos. • 86% free of felony convictions. • 72% free of felony convictions. • 58% free of felony conviction. • Data not available at this time. • Data not available at this time. • Data not available at this time. • The Bureau of Juvenile Justice residential facilities established zero tolerance for escape and managed to keep escapes from high and medium facilities to about 10 statewide. Those escapes occurred during court appearances and work projects not from individual campuses. • No data is available regarding escape reporting from private facilities. Reporting methods need to be included in the next contracting cycle.
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<p>excluding sexual offenders and identified populations regularly needing longer term treatment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase family involvement to where 75% of families will have 4 or more in-person visits with their son or daughter each year. • Increase family satisfaction with treatment services to where 80% of youth will express satisfaction with treatment provided by the facility. Treatment would include conditions of confinement, quality of life, relevance of treatment , safety, structure and perceived benefits. • Establish a baseline, in 1998, for youth-on-youth assaults for use in developing an improvement goal for 1999. • Establish a baseline, in 1998, for seclusion of youth data for use in developing an improvement goal for 1999. • Assure that juveniles will exit OJJ treatment facilities more capable than at entry through OJJ providing the following programs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Offense Cycle and Relapse Prevention *Substance Abuse Testing, Education and Treatment *Aggression Replacement Training *Experimental Education *Individual Clinical Treatment *Vocational Inventory • Assure juveniles increase their educational grade levels as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Non-Special Education eligible students will gain 2 years per year in program *Special Education students will average IQ gain 1.5 years per year *Educable Mentally Impaired eligible students will gain 0.5 years per year *85% of General Education Development (GED) students will pass one or more tests 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No data available. • Family satisfaction with treatment services increased to 90% average with treatment, safety and security issues of their child youth satisfaction averaged 83% at the BJJ facilities overall. Treatment would include conditions of confinement, quality of life, relevance of treatment, safety, and structure and perceived benefits. • Baselines for youth on youth assaults were developed using 1998 data. In all the facilities, youth on youth assaults were reduced by half. Specifically, Maxey reduced youth on youth assaults by 76%. • Data not available. • Average education gain is 2.2 years. • Special education students gain an average of 1.5 grade levels per year in program. • In 2000, 149 residents completed the GED requirements and 3 earned a high school diploma.
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase of community reintegration services by assuring that all juveniles exiting an OJJ facility will have a structured reintegration plan which may include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Day Treatment *Multi Systemic Therapy *Residential Care Center Services *Electronic Monitoring *Michigan Rehabilitation Services *College Assistance *Families First *Reintegration Services Enrollment • Develop community restoration plans for all juveniles. These plans will be part of treatment and release reports and include expectations for the youth to make efforts to restore the victim and/or community to the quality of life they had prior to being victimized. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All facilities are incorporating BARJ into release plans.
<p>Families First of Michigan (FFM):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FFM services are provided statewide. • Training is specialized, required and provided statewide to all FFM staff. • There are specialized FFM teams serving 11 federally recognized Native American Tribes. <p>Families First of Michigan/Domestic Violence Collaborative (FFDV)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 11 sites provide FFDV services and serve 27 counties. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 85% of families receiving FFM services continue to remain intact after 12 months. • Curriculum was updated and revised to meet the evolving needs of staff. • An internal evaluation and plan have been conducted. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 97% of families receiving FFVD services continue to remain intact after 12 months. • Specialized training was revised to include victims, perpetrators and Michigan Criminal law. • An internal evaluation and plan have been conducted.

**Strong Families/Safe Children:
(Federal Fund Source: Title IV-B, subpart 2)**

To foster consumer, community and intergovernmental collaborative partnerships that develop/expand direct services to children and families that are designed to:

- Keep children safe in their own home (where appropriate),
- Promote family strength and stability,
- Enhance parental functioning,
- Prevent the separation of families (where appropriate), and
- Provide permanency for children.

Additional goals for children and families:

- To be supported by strong communities that provide comprehensive, well-integrated formal systems of care and support and accessible informal helping networks;
- Greater consumer satisfaction;
- Core outcome measures across communities.

Primary objective to achieve program goals is the planning/implementation of SF/SC services by community-based, local collaborative groups (Family Coordinating Councils).

Objectives include measuring progress toward core outcomes for state-wide program evaluation. Each county collaborative must track/report data on:

- Reductions in the number of out-of-home placements, the incidence of repeat placements, and the length of stay in placements.
- Increase in adoption placements.
- Increase in the number of children immunized.
- Increases in community-based support services to seniors and other relatives raising minor children.

Local collaborative groups are expected to track numbers served, and identify/assess progress on [locally] determined outcomes/objectives/indicators for each service purchased with SF/SC funds.

- Local collaborative planning process is on-going vehicle for child/family service decisions based on local needs/resource assessments.
- Communities state that flexibility to determine services that meet unique, local needs as an advantage.
- Interim statewide evaluation report and data analysis is being finalized. Interim report to include activity from FY 1995 – FY 1998.
- “End of Year Annual Report” refined/implemented to incorporate changes in federal program. Each county collaborative reports annually the actual expenditures, services delivered, numbers served, progress on outcomes/objectives for each service purchased with SF/SC funds. Individual county reports on file for FY 95 through FY 99. Program Office Summary of FY 99 services/expenditures/numbers served in progress.

FY 2000 Goal/Objective:

1. State continue to work with local groups to incorporate outcomes development, assessment for individual services and impact on families/children served.
2. Finalize write-up of state-wide program evaluation interim report.

New/Enhanced SF/SC Services to be Provided in FY 2002 include: (as requested by Title IV-B, subpart 2 Program Instruction):

- School-based services for children and their families (i.e., Home/School/Community Liaison).
- Respite Care.
- Services that strengthen positive parenting skills and protect children from abuse and neglect.
- Support groups for grandparents/kin caregivers raising minor children.
- Collaborative/Alternative to placement programming targeting delinquent youth.
- Anger Management, conflict resolution, self-esteem programming for youth.
- Counseling services for families/children.
- Neighborhood Resource Centers and One-Stop service centers to meet multiple needs of families.
- Coordinated immunization efforts such as extended clinic hours and outreach programs.
- Mentoring and Youth Companionship programs.
- School-based, after school programming.
- Family recreation, cultural enhancement, and youth activities programs.
- Healthy Families model services.
- Enhanced Early On/Later On program models.
- Teen Pregnancy Prevention and Teen Parent/Educational Support Services.
- Wraparound model services for Family Preservation and Reunification.
- Post-Adoption services to preserve the family unit.
- Early identification and assessment of at-risk infants with transition to service delivery.
- School-based services targeted to high-risk youth and adolescents.
- Adoptive and foster parent recruitment, training, and support programs.
- Time-limited reunification support services.

- In FY 2000, the state implemented PSSF federal program changes statewide. In FY 2001 local plans submitted/reviewed in Summer 2000. Estimate an increase in Family Preservation, Reunification, Adoption services.

Wraparound/MIFPI:

- Reduce out-of-home placements, multiple placements, length of stay in and out of home care and escalation to more restrictive settings.
- Technical assistance and training will be provided.

Child Safety and Permanency Plan:

- Assure safety to children and communities.
- To prevent the removal of children and youth from their homes, *when it is safe to do so*, through the provision of services to their families.
- To accelerate the return of children to their families, *when it is safe and responsible to do so*, through the provision of services leading to the permanent and safe reunification of the family.
- To provide, in an expeditious manner, *permanent, stable, safe family alternatives* for those children and youth whose family crisis cannot be remedied.

Zero to Three Secondary Prevention Program Goals:

- Promote strong, nurturing families
- Prevent child abuse and neglect by:
 - Fostering positive parenting skills for parents of children zero to three years of age
 - Improve parent/child interaction
 - Increase local capacity to serve at risk families
 - Improve school readiness
 - Support healthy family environments and discourage alcohol, tobacco and other drug usage

- The Quality Assurance Tools have been developed and are being offered in all counties and piloted in 5 sites. Once data is reported it will enable data comparisons and outcome evaluations.
- Quality Assurance Tools have been added to the contract.

- Data on the specific services funded through each county plan is not available. Key outcome data included in the 2000-2004 State Plan (CPS and Foster Care) is monitored by each county.
- The CSPP process is a primary mechanism used to assist communities to develop continuums of care.

Effective outcome indicators have been specified as:

- Increased immunizations
- Decreased average age of referral to Early On (IDEA, Part C)
- Reduced rate of referral to Child Protective Services

Data collection and analysis are in process.

<p><u>Child Protection/Community Partners</u> <u>Program Goals:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce the number of Children’s Protective Services re-referrals for substantiated abuse and neglect, • Improve the safety and well-being of children, • Improve family functioning <p>New plans for the second three year reauthorization process for funding have been submitted and approved.</p> <p>The initial target population has expanded from low-risk substantiated and unsubstantiated cases to include moderate risk (Categories III and IV).</p>	<p>Plans are developed by local communities.</p> <p>Effective outcome indicators are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • reduced rates of re-referral to Child Protective Services from this target population. <p>All communities are being asked to conduct a formal review of the community plan, and submit updates as needed.</p>												
<p><u>Adoption:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adoption Projections: Michigan’s adoptive finalization projections for the federal ADOPTION 2002 initiative anticipate increases each year. Adoption finalizations for FY 00 were 2,775. The Agency estimates adoption finalizations will increase at the rate of about 5% per year producing the following projections in the upcoming years: <table data-bbox="211 1218 454 1407"> <tr><td>FY 2000</td><td>2,775</td></tr> <tr><td>FY 2001</td><td>2,914</td></tr> <tr><td>FY 2002</td><td>3,059</td></tr> <tr><td>FY 2003</td><td>3,212</td></tr> <tr><td>FY 2004</td><td>3,373</td></tr> <tr><td>FY 2005</td><td>3,542</td></tr> </table> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interim benchmarks will include semi-annual reports on adoption finalizations. Annual reports on adoptions by age, race, handicap, and type of family against the numbers of children available whose plan is adoption will be evaluated to determine progress and modify goals if indicated. An analysis of annual reports will be used to measure long-term goals. • Post Adoption Services. TANF funds were made available in 1998 to provide support services to adoptive parents and their children. The funds were awarded for sixteen months ending September 30, 1999 to Multi-Purpose 	FY 2000	2,775	FY 2001	2,914	FY 2002	3,059	FY 2003	3,212	FY 2004	3,373	FY 2005	3,542	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adoptions continue to increase. In FY 00, there were 2,775 finalized adoptions. • Annual reports, as well as semi-annual data analysis, are completed. • Universal outcomes and indicators were developed in FY 98. Measurable outcomes were monitored if FY 00 and high performance counties were recognized. Performance outcomes are continuing to be monitored in FY 01. • The eleven project sites continued to provide post adoption services through FY 2000. Zone contract specialists provided a review of contract compliance and effectiveness for the Program
FY 2000	2,775												
FY 2001	2,914												
FY 2002	3,059												
FY 2003	3,212												
FY 2004	3,373												
FY 2005	3,542												

<p>Collaborative Bodies. Eleven project sites were geographically selected to provide a variety of post adoption services to TANF eligible families. Although the services vary by pilot site, the majority will be providing information and referral, crisis intervention, support groups, and training.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adoptive Parent Recruitment. Two initiatives were developed to increase foster and adoptive parent recruitment. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Michigan Adoption Resource Exchange (MARE) was awarded funds to establish and maintain adoptive family recruitment consortiums with adoption agencies throughout the state. Specific services include: development of publicity and recruitment materials, referral of identified families to consortium agencies, intensive orientation and training of identified families and tracking of families progress with the agencies. 2. The Michigan Foster and Adoptive Parent Association (MFAPA) was awarded funds to develop programs that include: consultation with foster and adoptive parents on re-engineering recruitment and licensing, developing a multi-media approach to share orientation information, developing a mentoring program, and evaluating the outcomes of the project. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adoption Incentive Funds. Funds received through the Federal Adoption 2002 grant will be directed to initiate and/or enhance post adoption support and family preservation services. A workgroup consisting of public and private agency adoption managers, workers, and a parent representative will identify the service needs for the development of a Request for Proposal for Adoptive Parent Support Services. 	<p>Office. MSU has awarded a contract to conduct an evaluation of the contracts, which will be completed in FY 01.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The contracts were extended through 5/31/01 to allow the Adoption Program office to develop an RFQ for Regional Resource Centers in six regions throughout the state. • 400 individuals have received adoptive parent orientation and training over the last three fiscal years. • Videos and Public Service Announcement's have been produced and distributed. • In FY 00, 54% of the finalized adoptions were with foster parents. In FY 00, federal incentive funds were added to this initiative for adoptive parent mentoring projects in four sites. • In FY 00, \$1.1 million was expended with incentive funds for post adoption services and training. • Awards to contract agencies were made on a competitive basis. • Nine awards were made to local FIA offices. • Grants were awarded to assist in the costs of statewide conferences. • The incentive award funded the following services: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Post Adoption Support Services: 1,368 summer camp scholarships, 23 adoptive parent training scholarships, crisis stabilization, wrap around services, mentors, support groups, resource materials, tutoring, statewide informational pamphlets and adoption record restorations. • Professional & Child Welfare Worker Training. • Adoption Program Office Support. • Projects to Reduce Barriers to Adoption.
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- **Multi-Ethnic Placement Act as Amended by the Interethnic Adoption Provisions (MEPA-IEAP).** To ensure that the provisions of MEPA/IEAP are implemented, a workgroup has been formed to develop a training curriculum which was delivered statewide to all foster care, adoption and licensing staffs, in 1999. Included in this training were the requirements of the Adoption and Safe Families Act regarding adoptions across state and county jurisdictions.

- **Cross-Jurisdictional Resources.** Michigan effectively utilizes a public and private partnership to achieve permanency through adoption for waiting children. In Fiscal Year 2000, 91% of the finalized adoptions were with relatives or foster parents.

- **Intercounty Adoption Act of 2000.** Requires the child welfare services plan:
 - Describe the state's activities undertaken for children adopted from other countries, including the provision of adoption and post-adoption services. (NOTE: In Michigan the public agency does not administer an international adoption program.)

- Provide that the state collect and report information on children adopted from other countries and who enter state custody, as a result of a dissolution or disruption of adoption.

- Mandatory training on MEPA was implemented February 2000 for all foster care, adoption, and licensing workers and supervisors.
- A complaint process was developed for foster care and adoptive parents.
- New worker training addresses MEPA/IEAP issues.
- MEPA/IEAP requirements were presented at the MFAPA adoption conference in FY 00.
- A MEPA/IEAP presentation was made to FIA county directors in FY 00.

- Children for whom no family is identified are photolisted on the Michigan Adoption Resource Exchange's (MARE) monthly publication as well as an Internet web site.
- Michigan's performance based adoption contracts provide a financial incentive to actively recruit families to adopt children from MARE photolisting.
- Policy requires the child's adoption worker to facilitate adoption planning within ten days of being contacted by an agency (from any jurisdiction) that has an approved family interested in a MARE child.

- The Michigan Adoption Resource Exchange (MARE) Agency Directory is organized with a separate section for agencies doing international adoptions and the services they provide.
- The Michigan Federation of Private Child and Family Agencies publishes an annual member directory of post-adoption services provided by its member agencies and available to adoptive parents.
- MARE publishes an annual directory of post-adoption services, available from each public and private adoption agency and service providers.
- The MARE website contains links to the Michigan agencies providing international adoption services.

- The state's recently installed automated child welfare information system (SWSS) will be modified to obtain required information.

- **Adoption Subsidy**

- Support subsidies will be maintained at 96% of adoptive finalizations for Fiscal Year 1999 through 2005.
- Medicaid coverage will be provided to children receiving state funded support.
- A survey of adoptive parents will be conducted in the spring of 1999 to get feedback about the Medical Subsidy Program as well as post adoptive service needs.

- 18,595 special needs children were receiving support subsidies as of September 30, 2000. This number continues to increase for FY 2001.
- MA coverage for non-title IV-E funded special needs children was approved and policy changed in FY 1999. MA coverage is provided to non-Title-IV-E children receiving support subsidy. This is available to children who have a documented special need for medical, mental health or rehabilitative care and in an adoption finalized on or after December 1, 1977.
- The survey was completed.
- Over 90% of the responding families were satisfied with the Subsidy Office.

Child Welfare Institute

1. Statewide, all newly hired public and private agency child welfare staff will be trained together in the eight-week Child Welfare Institute (see Attachments #1 and #2).
2. All newly hired public agency staff will complete the Child Welfare Institute prior to taking on a caseload.
3. All newly hired private agency staff will complete the Child Welfare Institute within the first six months on the job.
4. All experienced public and private agency staff will successfully “test out” or attend the Child Welfare Institute.
5. All experienced public and private agency staff will attend the following courses:

Solution Focus
Forensic Interviewing (required for CPS only)
Program Specific
Multi-Ethnic Placement Act/Inter-Ethnic Provisions (required for FC and Adoption only)
6. Beginning in 2002, all newly hired Child Welfare supervisors will attend a week long Child Welfare supervisor concentration in addition to three weeks of general supervisor training.

- Ongoing.
- Ongoing.
- Ongoing.
- Completed for the majority. Ongoing for some staff who transfer among child welfare programs.
- Ongoing.
- To begin 2002.

<p>7. The following courses are also offered to experienced staff:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Administrative Hearings Preparation • Indian Child Welfare Act • Legal Issues in Child Welfare • CPS SWSS Transfer to Foster Care • Supportive Visitation • Fatherhood (2002) <p>8. MSW with Child Welfare concentration. Public agency child welfare workers, supervisors, and program managers from local offices, as well as child welfare policy writers and trainers may apply to graduate schools of Social Work in Michigan. Upon acceptance and receipt of a grade of 3.0 or higher, tuition cost is reimbursed at 90%. Staff must commit to work in public agency child welfare for four years after completing the M.S.W.</p> <p>9. Training for Foster Care Review Boards.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nineteen staff completed an MSW in 1999. Thirty-four staff completed an MSW in 2000. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing.
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Additional Requirements Under Federal Regulation 1357.16 (Title IV-B, Subparts 1 and 2)

- (a) “A report on the specific accomplishments and progress made in the past fiscal year toward meeting each goal and objective, including improved outcomes for children and families, and a more comprehensive, coordinated, effective child and family services continuum;
- (b) Any revisions in the statement of goals and objectives, or to the training plan, if necessary, to reflect changed circumstances;”

See Annual Progress and Services Report on pages 1-19.

- (c) N/A
- (d) “For States, a description of the child protective, child welfare, family preservation, family support, time-limited family reunification services, adoption promotion and support services, and independent living services to be provided in the upcoming fiscal year highlighting any additions or changes in services or program design and including the information required in 45 CFR 1357.15(n);”

The community child welfare continuum of services continues to include a local planning process to ensure unique communities needs are met. The local collaborative bodies play an integral part in planning, coordinating and delivering services.

Please see pages 11 to 16 of the APSR, the Consolidated Child and Family Services Plan for 2000-2004, and the CFS 101 for a description of the direct funding for services available to all local child welfare staff. Other key services, such as substance abuse and mental health services, are available in all counties.

- (e) “Information on activities in the areas of training, technical assistance, research, evaluation, or management information systems that will be carried out in the upcoming fiscal year in support of the goals and objectives in the plan;”

1) Training

- **Deliver 4 eight-week Child Welfare Institutes concurrently every month alternating between Lansing and Detroit (approximately 90 modules).**
- **Deliver six sessions of Indian Child Welfare Act training for Experienced staff.**
- **Deliver up to 20 sessions of SWSS CPS transfer to Foster Care training for experienced staff.**
- **Deliver up to 4 sessions of Administrative Hearings training for experienced staff.**
- **Deliver up to 6 sessions of MEPA/IEP training for experienced staff.**

- **Deliver up to 6 sessions of CPS program specific training for experienced staff transferring from Juvenile Justice, Prevention, Foster Care Recruitment, or Foster Home Licensing to CPS.**
- **Deliver up to 6 sessions of Foster Care program specific training for experienced staff transferring from Juvenile Justice, Prevention, Foster Care Recruitment, or Foster Home Licensing to Foster Care.**
- **Provide direct supervision of at least 30 new hires monthly, including processing time, travel reports, disciplinary conferences, and monitoring performance in CWI.**
- **Co-chair, evaluate, and implement training recommendations received from the Child Welfare Training Advisory Committee.**
- **Co-chair, evaluate, and implement training recommendations received from the collaborative Directors Training Committee.**
- **Develop a one-week Child Welfare Supervisor addendum to the New Supervisor Institute.**

2) Management Information Systems: The AFCARS reporting system is being completed. Implementation will be completed in 2001. New PC's are being purchased for line workers and supervisors which will enable them to process case actions more easily and quickly. The PC's will be installed during Summer 2000.

3) Technical Assistance: Michigan continues to provide technical assistance to other states and countries (New York, California regarding SDM) on the key initiatives referenced in the cover letter.

- (f) "For States only, the information required to meet the maintenance of effort (non-supplantation) requirement in section 432(a)(7) of the Act and Federal regulation at 45 CFR 1357.32(f) (maintenance of effort);"

Michigan does not use federal funds provided under IV-B, Subpart 2 – Promoting Safe and Stable Families to supplant federal and non-federal funds for existing services and activities which promote the purposes of IV-B, Subpart 2.

Michigan agrees to furnish reports to the Secretary, at such times, in such format, and containing such information as the Secretary may require, that demonstrate the State's compliance with the prohibition on supplanting.

- (g) "Significant portion of funds used for title IV-B, subpart 2, Promoting Safe and Stable Families (45 CFR 1357.15(s)) (States only). For the purpose of applying for FY 2001 funds, States must indicate the specific percentages of title IV-B, subpart 2 funds that the State will expend on actual service delivery of family preservation, community-based family support, time-limited family reunification and adoption promotion and support services, as well as planning and service coordination, with a rationale for the decision. The State must have an especially strong rationale if the

percentage provided is below 20% for any one of the four service categories. The amount collected to each of the service categories should only include funds for service delivery. States should report separately the amount to be allocated to planning and service coordination. (See ACYF-PI-CB-98-03, March 5, 1998.)”

A waiver was granted for FY 99. The FY 2000 and 2001 percentages are at 20% for each of the four categories.

Additional Required Information: Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA)

- (a) “Accomplishments to date under the CAPTA portion of the consolidated CFSP;”

Please see Attachment 5.

- (b) “An update on the program areas selected for improvement from the nine areas in section 106(a) (1) through (9) of CAPTA;”

Please see Introduction to the APSR, the APSR, pages 3-5 and Attachment 5.

- (c) “An update of activities that the State intends to carry out with its CAPTA State Grant funds and any changes in activities for FY 2001 funds;”

Please see Attachment 5. (NOTE: Attachment 5 includes the CAPTA State Grant and the Children’s Justice Act Grant.)

- (d) “States that indicated in the FY 2000 CFSP/final report that they did not meet the assurance requirements set forth under sections 106(b)(2)(A-B) and 106(b)(2)(D) of CAPTA should indicate if they are now in complete compliance with those assurances. If the State is not in complete compliance, describe what was done to come into compliance, why was compliance not achieved, and what actions are being taken to try to meet the outstanding requirements?”

Michigan is in full compliance.

- (e) “A description of the services and training provided under the CAPTA State Grant as required by section 106(b)(2)(C) of CAPTA;”

Please see Attachment 5.

- (f) “Notification regarding substantive changes, if any, in State law that could affect eligibility including an explanation from the State Attorney General as to why the change would, or would not, affect eligibility. Note: States do not have to notify the ACF of statutory changes or submit them for review if they are not substantive and would not affect eligibility.”

Michigan enacted two bills, PA 45 and 46 of 2000, which implement the requirements in CAPTA and ASFA which Michigan needed legislation on to meet federal requirements. Please see attached copies of these Acts in Attachment 6.

- (g) “States with established citizen review panels, must submit a copy of the annual report(s) from the citizen review panels. Section 106(c) of CAPTA requires that the citizen review panels develop annual reports and make them available to the public. The report should include, at a minimum, a summary of the panel’s activities, the

recommendations of the panel based upon its activities and findings, and include information on the progress States are making in implementing the recommendations of the panels.”

Please see Attachment 7.

(h) “Include a request for FY 2001 funds in the CFS-101.”

Please see CFS-101.

Additional Required Information: Adoptions and Safe Families Act (ASFA)

- (a) “A description of the States and Indian Tribes progress and accomplishments made with regard to the diligent recruitment of potential foster and adoptive families that reflects the ethnic and racial diversity of children in the state for whom foster and adoptive homes are needed. (See section 422(b)(9) of the Act);”

Please see Attachment 3.

- (b) “A description of the States and Indian Tribes plans for the effective use of cross-jurisdictional resources to facilitate timely adoptive or permanent placements for waiting children. (See section 422(b)(12) of the Act). This applies to States and Indian Tribes applying for title IV-B, subpart 1, funds;”

Michigan effectively utilizes a public and private partnership to achieve permanency through adoption for waiting children. In Fiscal Year 1999, 90% of the finalized adoptions were with relatives or foster parents. Children for whom no family is identified are photolisted on the Michigan Adoption Resource Exchange’s (MARE) monthly publication as well as an Internet web site. Michigan’s performance based adoption contracts provide a financial incentive to private contractual agencies that actively recruit families to adopt children from the MARE photolisting. Michigan has had a policy in effect for five years that requires the child’s adoption worker to facilitate adoption planning within 10 days of being contacted by an agency (from any jurisdiction) that has an approved family interested in a MARE child.

- (c) “An update on the “...specific measures taken by the State to comply with the Indian Child Welfare Act” [See section 422(b)(11) of the Act];”

Please see Attachment 3.

- (d) “For States operating a child welfare demonstration project under section 1130 of the Act, a description of the accomplishments and progress in the demonstration project as they relate to the goals and objectives in the State’s CFSP, where applicable, In particular, the State will discuss how title IV-B monies are used to maximize the use of flexible title IV-E dollars in the demonstration;”

Please see Attachment 4.

- (e) “For those States receiving an adoption incentive payment, specify the services that have been, or will be, provided to children and families with the adoption incentive funds.”

Michigan was awarded the fifth largest federal incentive grant for exceeding our established baseline for finalized adoptions in FY 98. In FY 2000 multiple pilot projects were funded to provide a wide array of post adoption services to children and families. Additionally, funds were set aside for camp scholarships for children receiving adoption assistance, to support a statewide adoption conference, and adoptive parent and professional staff training on adoption issues.

- (f) “Please provide information on the specific measures taken to implement the transition rules that apply to section 475(5)(E) of the Act, and the outcomes of the implementation. See ACYF-CB-PI-98-14, August 20, 1998 regarding “new” and “current” children in foster care;
- (g) An update on the capacity of the State child welfare agency and the State judicial system to implement and meet the requirements to file a petition to terminate the parental rights of the child’s parents, if the exclusions do not apply, when a child has been in foster for 15 of the most recent 22 months.”

A policy letter, L-99-006, was released to the field on January 15, 1999. It detailed the requirement from “The Adoption Safe Families Act” that a petition to terminate the parents’ rights be filed if a child has been in care for 15 of the last 22 months, unless a compelling reason, and supporting facts within the case plan, detailed why it is not in the child’s best interest. A case listing report, CY-02R was sent to all local FIA office that listed the children who had been in care for at least 15 months on 11/20/1998. The FIA offices were to note on the CY-02R the date the termination petition was filed or the corresponding number of the compelling reason for not doing so.

The results of this initiative for the abuse/neglect population indicate the following:

- 1) Over 40% of the abuse/neglect population had a termination petition filed while less than 1% of the Juvenile Justice population had.**
- 2) About 10% of the cases had been closed for both abuse/neglect and Juvenile Justice populations.**
- 3) About 6% of the children had returned home but the case was still active in both populations.**

- 4) **No single compelling reasons for the abuse/neglect population stood out. The need for further services to both parents and to children were slightly more commonly documented as compelling reasons. Some children had serious emotional/behavioral problems and return home was not yet feasible, or the youth was over age 18.**
- 5) **A new form will be placed on the FIA-Net and a case listing will be sent to local offices to input data on children who have been in care for at least 15 months. This is to monitor FIA's compliance with the ASFA provision that a termination petition be filed if a child has been in care for 15 months, or the case plan must document the compelling reason why termination is not in the child's best interest. This requirement applies to FC and JJ cases. It is anticipated that this data will be collected on the FIA-Net in May or June of 2001.**

This requirement was added to Foster Care policy. Since the Permanency Planning Hearing is held at the 12 month court juncture, the decisions reached at this hearing form the basis for compliance with the 15 of 22 month requirement.