



Oregon

Theodore R. Kulongoski, Governor

July 10, 2007

Department of Human Services

Children, Adults and Families

Administration

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Dear Colleagues:

The *Child and Family Services Review: Statewide Assessment* represents the first phase of the second round of federal reviews of state child and family services programs. The strategy of the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) is to create improved outcomes for children and families through a federal/state partnership with the goal of continuous program improvement. The strategy is designed to achieve this by linking review of state child and family services to systemic self-assessment, joint planning and technical assistance. The strategy is focused on three broad outcome domains which cover the continuum of child welfare services: **Safety, Permanency** and child and family **Well-being**.

This strategy is consistent with the work that the Department of Human Services' Children, Adults and Families Division has been engaged in over the last several years to improve its child and family services systems. One recent example of this work is the implementation of the Oregon Child Welfare Safety Model in March 2007. This new model was adopted as a result of a review and recommendations from the National Resource Center for Child Protective Services and encompasses the latest evidenced-based practice in the area of child safety. At this time, the new model has not been in effect long enough for an analysis and evaluation of its effectiveness to be completed. However, we hope to gain knowledge and insight in this area from the on-site child welfare case file review which will be completed in September of this year in Multnomah, Marion and Deschutes Counties.

We are encouraged about the hard work and positive outcomes the Children, Adults and Families Division is striving to achieve and we are optimistic that we will continue to move forward with the valuable assistance of our federal and community partners and stakeholders.

Sincerely,

Ramona L. Foley, MSW

Assistant Director

Children, Adults and Families

Department of Human Services

enclosure

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