

PIP Goal Summary and TA Plan

State: Missouri

Date Submitted:

Primary Strategies	Key Concerns	TA Resources Needed
1. Increase Safety for Children	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The State did not initiate a response to a maltreatment report within the timeframes established by State policy. • There was a lack of initial and ongoing safety and risk assessments. • There were safety concerns in the child's home that were not addressed by the agency. 	
2. Increase Accountability and Oversight to Align Policy with Practice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The State was not consistent with regard to ensuring placement stability for children in foster care. • The child's permanency goal was either not appropriate or not established in a timely manner. • The State had not sought TPR in accordance with the requirements of ASFA. • There was a lack of concerted effort to achieve reunification or guardianship in a timely manner. • There were delays in achieving adoptions in a timely manner. • The State was not consistent with regard to ensuring that children with a 	

Primary Strategies	Key Concerns	TA Resources Needed
	<p>goal of OPPLA had a permanent placement and/or were receiving services to ensure a successful transition from foster care to independent living.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The educational needs of children in foster care were being appropriately assessed and addressed (91% Strength). However, in several of the applicable <u>in-home services cases</u>, educational needs were not assessed or addressed, although education-related concerns were apparent and a reason for agency contact (80% Strength). 	
<p>3. Support Staff with enhanced training, tools, guides and educational materials to build case management skills.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The frequency and quality of visitation between children in foster care and their parents were insufficient to meet the needs of the children and families. The State was not consistent with regard to concerted efforts to preserve connections of children in foster care to extended families, school, and community. The State had not consistently made concerted efforts to search for either maternal or paternal relatives as potential placement resources. The State had not consistently made 	<p>National Resource Center for In-Home Services</p>

Primary Strategies	Key Concerns	TA Resources Needed
	<p>concerted efforts to support the child's relationship with the mother or father while the child was in foster care.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The State was not consistent in assessing and meeting the needs of children receiving <u>in-home services</u>, foster parents, mothers, and fathers, or in addressing the needs of children receiving foster care services. • The State did not make concerted efforts to involve children receiving <u>in-home services</u> or mothers and fathers in both the foster care and in-home services cases in case planning. • The frequency and quality of caseworker visits with children in the <u>in-home services</u> cases were not sufficient to ensure the child's safety and well-being. • The frequency and quality of caseworker visits with <u>parents</u> were not sufficient to monitor the safety and well-being of the child or promote attainment of case goals. 	
<p>4. Collaborate with other agencies to improve practice, through establishing processes and sharing of service resources.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The physical and dental needs of children in foster care and in the <u>in-home</u> cases were not consistently assessed or addressed. • Mental health needs of children in 	<p>National Resource Center for Organizational Improvements National Resource Center for Data and Technology</p>

Primary Strategies	Key Concerns	TA Resources Needed
	<p>foster care and in the <u>in-home</u> services cases, educational needs were not assessed or addressed, although education-related concerns were apparent and a reason for agency contact</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parents are not consistently involved in the development of the case plan. • Although the State has a process in place to conduct 6-month periodic reviews of the status of each child, the 6-month reviews do not occur consistently. • State statute provides a process for TPR in accordance with ASFA; however, this process is not consistently implemented as intended across the State. • Findings of the onsite CFSR case review indicate that ASFA requirements for filing TPR were met in 61 percent of the 18 applicable cases. • Although there is a process in place for notification of hearings and the opportunity for caregivers to be heard, the process is not being implemented consistently, particularly with regard to the opportunity for caregivers to be heard. 	

Primary Strategies	Key Concerns	TA Resources Needed
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Many of the services in the State's service array are not accessible to families and children in all jurisdictions.• There are waiting lists for such key services as affordable housing, dental services, substance abuse treatment, psychiatric services, and other behavioral and mental health services.• A lack of transportation in some areas is a barrier to accessing services.• Although Missouri has the assessment and planning tools to identify individualized service needs to meet the unique needs of children and families, the State does not have the capacity to provide these services consistently to families statewide due to the lack of accessibility and availability of many of the key services in some parts of the State.	