



Bureau of Milwaukee Child Welfare

4th Quarter Report

October 1 – December 31, 2008

Quarterly data 2008 and a comparative
perspective of quarterly
data 2007 and 2008

Presented to the Milwaukee Child
Welfare Partnership Council
January 30, 2009

Information in this report is based on eWiSACWIS data and program reports as of December 31, 2008 and may change pending further validation.

BMCW Activity: October 1 – December 31, 2008

Quarterly data 2008 and a comparative perspective of quarterly data 2007 and 2008

Calls received by Access unit 220-SAFE

	<u>12/31/2008</u>	<u>12/31/2007</u>	
1st Quarter	9,138	8,520	* Due to technical difficulties, BMCW was not able to provide this information for August and September of the 3 rd quarter and October of the 4 th quarter 2007. No comparative analysis is available.
2nd Quarter	8,790	8,153	
3rd Quarter	7,812	2,608*	
4th Quarter	8,525	4,439*	
YTD	34,265	23,720	

Family cases transferred to Ongoing Case Management

	<u>12/31/2008</u>	<u>12/31/2007</u>	
1st Quarter	132	115	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Seven more families were transferred to Ongoing Case Management in the 4th quarter in 2008 compared to the same time period in 2007. Year-to-date 2008, there has been a 3% increase in the number of families entering Ongoing Case Management continuing the trend begun in 2007. ➤ 83 (18%) more families have exited care in 2008 compared to the same time period in 2007.
2nd Quarter	153	139	
3rd Quarter	145	166	
4th Quarter	143	136	
YTD	573	556	

Children who entered out-of-home care (OHC)

	<u>12/31/2008</u>	<u>12/31/2007</u>	
1st Quarter	262	297	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 11 (4%) fewer children entered out-of-home care in the 4th quarter of 2008 compared to the same time period in 2007. ➤ Year-to-date, 1,225 children entered out-of-home care in 2008. Compared to 2007, there has been a 1% decrease in the number of children who entered out-of-home care.
2nd Quarter	348	334	
3rd Quarter	348	327	
4th Quarter	267	278	
YTD	1,225	1,236	

Family cases transferred to Safety Services

12/31/2008 12/31/2007

1st Quarter	191	178	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 116 (43%) fewer families transferred to Safety Services in the 4th quarter of 2008 compared to the same time period in 2007. ➤ Year-to-date in 2008, 295 (30%) fewer families were transferred to Safety Services compared to 2007.
2nd Quarter	181	210	
3rd Quarter	174	337	
4th Quarter	156	272	
YTD	702	997	

Family cases referred to Family Intervention Support and Services (FISS)

12/31/2008 12/31/2007

1st Quarter	75	60	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 15 (28%) more families transferred to FISS in the 4th quarter compared to the same time period in 2007. ➤ Year-to-date 48 (23%) more families were transferred to FISS compared to 2007.
2nd Quarter	71	57	
3rd Quarter	42	38	
4th Quarter	69	54	
YTD	257	209	

Permanency achieved year-to-date

12/31/2008 12/31/2007

1st Quarter	260	283	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 57 (23%) more children achieved permanency compared to 4th quarter 2008. ➤ Year-to-date, 114 (11%) more children achieved permanency compared to 2007.
2nd Quarter	274	264	
3rd Quarter	346	276	
4th Quarter	302	245	
YTD	1182	1068	

Reunification**12/31/2008** **12/31/2007**

	<u>12/31/2008</u>	<u>12/31/2007</u>	
1st Quarter	180	179	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ In the 4th quarter 2008, 53 (32%) more children were reunified compared to the same time period 2007. ➤ Year-to-date, 149 (22%) more children were reunified compared to 2007.
2nd Quarter	195	155	
3rd Quarter	225	170	
4th Quarter	220	167	
YTD	820	671	

Transfer of Guardianship**12/31/2008** **12/31/2007**

	<u>12/31/2008</u>	<u>12/31/2007</u>	
1st Quarter	25	25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ In the 4th quarter 2008, 8 (67%) more children achieved permanency through transfer of guardianship compared to the same time period 2007. ➤ Year-to-date, one less child achieved permanency through transfer of guardianship compared to 2007.
2nd Quarter	21	36	
3rd Quarter	28	22	
4th Quarter	20	12	
YTD	94	95	

Adoption**12/31/2008** **12/31/2007**

	<u>12/31/2008</u>	<u>12/31/2007</u>	
1st Quarter	53	72	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ In the 4th quarter 2008, 11 (17%) fewer children achieved permanency through adoption compared to the same time period 2007. ➤ Year-to-date 34 (12%) fewer children achieve permanency through adoption compared to 2007.
2nd Quarter	57	70	
3rd Quarter	93	84	
4th Quarter	55	66	
YTD	258	292	

**Subsidized
Guardianship
program**

12/31/2008

12/31/2007

	<u>12/31/2008</u>	<u>12/31/2007</u>	
1st Quarter	2	7	Since its implementation in October 2006, 136 children remain in the Subsidized Guardianship program with the CHIPS court order dismissed.
2nd Quarter	1	3	
3rd Quarter	0	0	
4th Quarter	7	0	
YTD	10	10	

Out-of-Home Care Placement (OHC)		
2008	2007	<i>Point-in-time data as of December 31, 2008</i>
2,638	2,907	269 (9.3%) fewer children in OHC compared to 2007
186 (7.1%)	233 (8%)	Children in a licensed relative foster home: 47 (20%) fewer children placed in a licensed relative foster home compared to the 2 nd quarter 2007
800 (30.3%)	870 (29.9%)	Children with non-licensed relatives, including court-ordered placement with a Kinship Care provider: 70 (8%) fewer children are placed in a non-licensed relative home compared to 2007.
671 (25.4%)	872 (30.0%)	Children in non-relative licensed foster homes: 201 (23%) fewer children are placed with a non-relative foster home compared to 2007.
40 (1.5%)	31 (1.1%)	Children in pre-adoptive home (licensed foster home): 9 (29%) more children are placed in a pre-adoptive home compared to 2007.
487 (18.5%)	493 (17.0%)	Children in treatment foster care: 6 (1.2%) fewer children are placed in a treatment foster home compared to 2007.
53 (2.0%)	58 (2.0%)	Children who are missing from out-of-home care. Police have been notified and a Capias ordered by the court. <i>Greater detail provided in 2008 Highlights below.</i>
166 (6.3%)	146 (5.0%)	Children in group settings: 20 (13.7%) more children are placed in a group home compared to 2007.
10 (0.4%)	6 (0.2%)	Children held in detention centers: 4 (67%) more children are placed in a detention center compared to 2007.
9 (0.3%)	6 (0.2%)	Children hospitalized.
18 (0.7%)	18 (0.6%)	Children in youth correctional facilities
76 (2.9%)	87 (3.0%)	Children in residential care centers: 11 (12.6%) fewer children placed in a residential care center compared to 2007. <i>Greater detail provided in 2008 Highlight.</i>
29 (1.1%)	29 (1.0%)	Children in assessment foster homes for children under 12 years old: The number of children placed in an Assessment Foster home has remained the same compared to 2007.
33(1.3%)	58 (2.0%)	Children in adolescent assessment centers.
49 (1.9%)		Children in adolescent placement stabilization centers: 24 (41.4%) more adolescents are placed in an assessment center or placement stabilization compared to the combined number in 2007.
11 (0.4%)	na	Adolescents in supervised independent living.

789 535 Children at home under the court’s jurisdiction on a court-order of supervision: 254 (47%) more children compared to 2007.

3,754 3,761 Children with relatives not involved with BMCW receiving Kinship Care subsidies.

Licensed Foster Homes

<u>12/31/2008</u>	<u>12/31/2007</u>	Point-in-time statistics as of December 31, 2008
680	666	Active foster homes 14 (2.1%) more active licensed foster homes compared to 2007.
75	82	Foster homes on hold including: 7 (9%) fewer homes on hold compared 2007 for reasons of:
19	17	<i>Administrative hold</i>
18	16	<i>Foster parents' request</i>
22	30	<i>Child abuse/neglect investigation</i>
4	15	<i>Waiting to complete training</i>
12	4	<i>Adoption in process</i>
605	584	Active licensed foster homes available for placement: 21 (4%) increase in the number of available homes compared to 2007. The number of available homes represents 89% of total active licensed homes in December 2008.
48 (627 YTD)	82 (621 YTD)	New applications: 34 (41%) fewer new applications compared to December 2007. Year-to-date there were 6 more new applications compared to 2007.
119	111	Homes being studied (license pending): 8 (7.2%) more being studied compared to 2007.
12 (YTD 153)	7 (YTD 172)	Foster homes closed: 5 (3%) more homes closed compared to December 2007. Year-to-date there were 19 (11%) fewer homes closed compared to 2007.
20 (192 YTD)	32 (161 YTD)	Newly licensed foster home: 12 (38%) fewer newly licensed homes compared to December 2007. Year-to-date there were 31 (19%) more newly licensed homes compared to 2007.
18	19	Re-licensed foster homes: There was 1 fewer home re-licensed in December 2008. Year-to-date there were 22 (11%) fewer foster homes re-licensed compared to 2007

Licensed Foster Homes

The table below provides information on the number of active licensed foster homes available for placement of children. In 2008, there was an increase in the number of licensed foster homes and a decrease in the number of homes on hold. However, there has only been a 1% increase in the number of homes available for placement of children compared to 2007.

	Active licensed homes	Homes On Hold	% of homes not available for plcmt	Homes available for placement	% of total homes available for placement
2007	666	82	12%	584	88%
2008	695	75	11%	620	89%

4th Quarter and Year-to-Date Highlights

Families entering and exiting Ongoing Case Management

In 2008:

- Table 1 provides a comparative view of the mean and median number of families who entered and exited Ongoing Case Management. The data indicates that in 2008 there has been a slight increase in the number of families who entered and significant number of families who exited compared to the same time period in 2007.

Table 1	2007		2008	
	Mean	Median	Mean	Median
Families Entered	46.3	44.5	47.8	48.5
Families Exited	38.4	39	45.3	45

Families transferred to Safety Services

In 2008:

- Table 2 provides a comparative view of the mean and median number of families transferred to Safety Services and Ongoing Case Management in 2007 and 2008. The data indicates that in 2008 the number of families transferred to Safety Services has significantly fallen compared to 2007. In addition, in 2008 there were significantly fewer families transferred to Safety Services versus Ongoing Case Management compared to 2007.

Table 2: Families transferred to Safety Services (SS) compared to Ongoing Case Management (OCM)					
	Safety Services		Ongoing Case Management		Family Cases SS:OCM ratio
	Mean	Median	Mean	Median	
2007	83.1	77.5	46.3	44.5	1.8 to 1
2008	58.5	60.5	47.7	48.5	1.2 to 1

4th Quarter and Year-to-date Highlights (continued)

Permanency Achieved for Children

Overall, in 2008 the number of children who achieved permanency through reunification, transfer of guardianship, adoption, and subsidized guardianship has increased approximately 10% compared to 2007. The increase can be attributed to the number of reunifications. Other permanency options; transfer of guardianship, adoption, and subsidized guardianship have decreased considerably.

Out-of-home care placements:

➤ Residential Care Centers

As of December 31, 2008, there were 76 children placed in a residential care center. Table 3 provides demographic information regarding the children.

Age	Female	Male	Total	% of total	African American	Caucasian	Hispanic/Latino	American Indian	Asian	Unk.
8	1	1	2	3%	2					
10	0	3	3	4%	1	2				
11	1	3	4	5%	1	1			1	1
12	3	9	12	16%	6	5				1
13	2	4	6	8%	4	1		1		
14	3	13	16	21%	14	2				
15	5	9	14	18%	9	4	1			
16	8	4	12	16%	7	5				
17	2	5	7	9%	4	2				1
Total	25 (33%)	51 (67%)	76	100%	48 (63%)	22 (29%)	1 (1%)	1 (1%)	1 (1%)	3 (4%)

Table 4 provides information on the mean and median length of time the 76 children have been in out-of-home care overall and the length of time they have been placed in a residential care center. In addition, the table provides information regarding the range of age, length of stay, and length of placement in out-of-home care.

	Age	Length of stay in OHC (months)	Length of placement in current RCC placement (months)
Mean	13.9	30.1	6.1
Median	14.0	18.2	5.5
Minimum	8.0	1.4	0.4
Maximum	17.0	158.1	15.1

➤ **Children missing from out-of-home care**

As of December 31, 2008 there were 65 children reported to be missing from out-of-home care. Table 5 provides demographic information on gender, age, and ethnicity.

Table 5: Children reported missing from OHC by gender, age, and ethnicity						
Gender	Age	American Indian/ Alaskan Native (2%)	Asian (2%)	African American (85%)	Caucasian (12%)	Grand Total
Female	12			2		2
	13	1		3		4
	14			4	2	6
	15			4		4
	16			8	2	10
	17		1	13	1	15
	18			1	1	2
Total		1	1	35	6	43
Male	13			1		1
	14			1		1
	15			3	2	5
	16			8		8
	17			6		6
	18			1		1
	Total				20	2
Grand Total		1	1	55	8	65

Table 6 provides information regarding the number of times children were reported missing from out-of-home care in December 2008.

Table 6: Number of times (episodes) children were reported missing in December 2008		
	Adolescents	Number of children missing from OHC episodes
1 episode	58	58
2 episodes	6	12
3 episodes	1	3
Total missing episodes	65	73

Of the 65 children reported missing in December 2008, 15 children returned to out-of-home care; five children returned but are currently missing from out-of-home care; and 45 children remain missing from out-of-home care (total number of children who remain missing is 50). Table 7 provides information regarding the number of days children were reported missing but returned to out-of-home care. Table 8 provides information regarding the number of days children were reported missing and have not returned to out-of-home care.

Age	Children returned	Average days missing	Minimum days	Maximum days
12	2	20	20	21
13	3	23	17	31
14	3	13	3	24
15	2	17	12	23
16	2	6	3	10
17	3	16	1	31
Total	15			

Age	Children remain missing	Average days missing	Minimum days	Maximum days
13	2	99	26	173
14	4	47	21	108
15	7	88	18	265
16	16	160	6	688
17	18	187	19	669
18	3	389	162	348
Total	50			

➤ Table 9 provides information regarding the type of placement children were placed in at the time they were missing and the type of placement they returned to.

Placement type	Children who returned to OHC		Children who returned but are currently missing		Children who remain missing:
	Children reported missing from:	Children returned to:	Children initially reported missing from:	Children returned to but currently missing:	Children reported missing from:
Group home	7	7	5	4	27
Kinship	3	4			5
Secure detention	1	4		1	1
Non-relative unlicensed					1
General foster home					1
Treatment foster Home	1				2
Children and Adolescent Treatment Center	1				
Unknown	2				8

Issues

- Children experienced repeated abandonment by parents and relatives through removal from parents, reversal of legal guardianship granted to relative caregivers, or adoptive parent who indicated that they were no longer willing to provide for the child due to the child's behaviors.
- A number of children were involved with the juvenile delinquency court and often violated their probation. Many were also involved with Wraparound Milwaukee services.
- Needed medical services and mental health treatment were disrupted due to the children running away and being placed in multiple and different placements when they returned.
- Two teen mothers who are missing with infants detained are not available for visits or to meet court conditions to be reunified with their children.