


To: DCF/DMCPS Administrator
DCF Area Administrators
Child Placing Agency Directors
Child Welfare Agency Directors
County Departments of Community Programs Directors
County Departments of Human Services Directors
County Departments of Social Services Directors
Group Home Providers
Tribal Social Service/Indian Child Welfare Directors
Private Child Placing Agencies
Residential Care Center Providers
Shelter Care Providers
Tribal Chairpersons

From: Wendy Henderson 
Administrator

Re: Summary of the **Access Case Record Review (2015-2019)**

PURPOSE

The purpose of this memo is to provide local Child Protective Service (CPS) directors, managers, supervisors and staff with a summary of the results from the Access Case Record Review completed between 2015-2018 and from an analysis completed to better understand what Access practices contributed to the effective decision-making as part of the child protective service Access function. This analysis is aimed at understanding what information gathering variables, or groups of variables, contribute to screening decisions, the identification of present danger, the identification of possible/likely impending danger, and assigning a response time consistent with Standards. The results from the case record review and the additional analyses are a significant source of information in understanding our state's child welfare practice and can be used to help inform system improvements better support outcomes for children and families served in our state's child welfare system.

BACKGROUND

Wisconsin's Child Welfare Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) System relies on multiple sources of data and information to understand system performance and develop strategies for improvement. This information helps state and local agencies drive decision-making and better outcomes for children and families. One source of data for our state's child welfare CQI system is case record reviews. Wisconsin's case record review process uses formal evaluation tools to assess practice in Access, Initial Assessment, and Ongoing Services. More information about our state's case record review tools and results from prior case record reviews can be found at the following website: <https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/cqireports>.

Over the last year, the Child Welfare CQI Advisory Committee, a committee comprised of state, local child welfare agency staff, and representatives from Wisconsin's Child Welfare Professional Development System (PDS) and the state's Children's Court Improvement Project (CCIP), advised DCF in the completion of the comprehensive analysis described above using data from the Access case record reviews completed between 2015 and 2018. These reviews were completed with the assistance and expertise of several local agency supervisor and practitioners who were certified by DCF to perform reviews using the state's standardized review Access review tool.

The results of this and future such comprehensive analyses of other child welfare practice areas will be used by DSP, with the support and guidance of the Child Welfare CQI Advisory Committee and other key

