Thank you for joining us today for Protective Planning: A Year in Review webinar. This is the fourth webinar as part of the statewide protective planning initiative.

As you know, the purpose of the child welfare system is to keep children safe and to support families to provide safe, permanent, and nurturing homes for their children. There are multiple values and principles named in the child welfare model for practice. These values and principles are interconnected and work together as an ever-moving, ever-evolving framework. The current model designates trust, respect, engagement, accountability, trauma informed practices, culturally responsible, workforce support, and family-centered as the values and principles of the child welfare system. Each principle and value is intertwined and work together to promote a proficient child welfare system.
Today, we will review what policies have been implemented in 2016 and what that currently looks like in Wisconsin using the Present Danger Assessment and Protective Plan data from the Present Danger Threat and Protective Plan Report, SM06B100.

First, let’s review the protective planning memos released in 2016.

In January 2016, a new policy was released regarding protective planning documentation in eWiSACWIS, protective planning with Indian children, and updates to the Safety Intervention Standards.

The new policy went into effect February 1, 2016 and included changes regarding signatures, scanning, documentation, and protective planning with Indian children.

Protective Plans are now required to be signed by all parties and scanned into the case file within two business days of implementation of the protective plan. The present danger threat(s) identified, the assessment surrounding the present danger threats identified, and the safety responses used in the protective plan must be clearly documented in the case note.
When it is determined that present danger threats do not exist and a Protective Plan is no longer needed, the assessment surrounding this determination must be clearly documented in the case note.

Protective planning and Protective Plans with Indian children must include timely communication, collaboration and coordination with the appropriate tribe(s).

As you will see in the next slide, the documentation requirements changed slightly with the memo released in June 2016.

The memo released in June 2016 introduced changes to the Wisconsin Child Protective Services Safety Intervention Standards regarding Protective Plans, documentation of Present Danger Threat assessments in eWiSACWIS, and changes to the current Protective Plan form.

The new Protective Plan form that was developed is trauma-informed and more family friendly; as such, the form does not document all information needed for agency staff to meet all documentation requirements in Standards. This is why enhancements related to documentation of assessment of PDTs in eWiSACWIS are included in the policy.

The Present Danger Assessment and Protective Plan eWiSACWIS page developed provides a place to document in more detail those PDTs affecting child safety and how Protective Plans are being used to address these threats.

Counties are required to enter a Present Danger Assessment into eWiSACWIS on all initial assessments even if no Present Danger Threats are identified.

If Present Danger Threats are identified, counties must enter the Protective Plan details in the PDAP and scan the Protective Plan into eWiSACWIS.

Confirming Safe Environments and Present Danger Assessments/Plans page are now under the safety Icon in eWiSACWIS.
Now that we have reviewed the protective planning memos released in 2016, let’s review the data compiled from the Present Danger Threat and Protective Plan report and see how we as a state have been doing in regards to present danger in the past year.

During period analyzed there were:

- 21,667 initial assessments completed
- 8,247 Present Danger Assessments completed
- 2,465 Present Danger Assessment with Identified Present Danger Threats completed in eWiSACWIS
- 175 American Indian Children Identified were part of a documented protective plan and
- 54% of the 175 children had their tribes contacted as part of the Protective Plan

So what have we learned about the state as a whole?
Of the Wisconsin counties who are entering Present Danger Assessments (PDA), over half of the time are doing so regardless if PDT(s) are identified.

Of the Wisconsin Counties entering PDAs, less than half of the time are doing so when PDT(s) are identified.

As noted in a previous slide, as of June 2016 all IAs should have a subsequent Present Danger Assessment regardless if PDTs are identified. The following analysis is based on the documented present danger assessments and plans.

Twenty-one Wisconsin counties were included in this analysis as they had an entry rate of over 50%. Of those 21 counties, 9 are large counties, 7 are mid-sized counties and 5 are small counties.

We did not include data from 51 Wisconsin counties, as their entry rate was less than 50%.
We would like to acknowledge the 21 counties who are entering the present danger assessments with their initial assessments the majority of the time:


What Does the Data Tell Us?

Of the 21 counties whose PDAs are entered for all IAs the majority of the time....

- Protective Plans are more likely to be initiated when PDT(s) are identified versus Temporary Physical Custody (TPC) or Voluntary Placement Agreement (VPA).
- Small percentage of Protective Plans end in a Safety Assessment, Analyses and Plan or TPC.

When we looked at the 21 counties who entered the present danger assessments the majority of the time, regardless if Present Danger Threats are identified, in general we learned that, as we would hope, Protective plans are more likely to be implemented when present danger threats are identified versus TPCs or VPAs.

Only a small percentage of protective plans end in TPC or progress into a safety plan.

What Does the Data Tell Us?

- 28% of documented PDAs have PDT(s) identified
  - Of the 28% PDAs with identified PDT(s), 77% have an initiated PDAP (Protective Plan)
- Separation is used as a safety control in Protective Plans the majority of time (67%).
  - Out of the 67% of PDAPs with separation, 24/7 separation is used 88% of the time.
- Protective Plans were able to control for PDT(s) 91% of the time
- 12% of documented PDAPs progress to a SAP

Initial data have really reiterated that protective plans are an effective and powerful tool.
Twenty-eight percent of documented present danger assessments have identified present danger threats.

Of that 28%, 77% have implemented a protective plan in response to the present danger threats.

Separation is used 67% of the time on protective plans, with 88% of those plans using 24/7 separation.

When looking at the documented reasoning for discontinuing protective plans it shows that Protective Plans implemented are able to control for present danger threats 91% of the time. In other words, only 9% of protective plans end in TPC.

Only 12% of the protective plans implemented evolve into safety plans.

As you know, there are 23 present danger threats. Next, we looked at the present danger threats used most commonly, which are:

- Child is being maltreated
- Parent is intoxicated
- Parent is out of control
- Parent is unable or unwilling to perform basic care

The least commonly used Present Danger Threats were:

- Parents view of child is bizarre
- One or both parents overtly reject intervention
- Family hides the child
- Parents whereabouts are unknown
As part of the release of the protective planning policies, state staff attended all supervisor and directors meetings to provide an overview of the policies and gather feedback.

Challenges were noted by several supervisors that due to the present danger assessment not being required in eWiSACWIS as part of the Initial Assessment process, it is easily missed due to the level of workload for caseworkers.

DSP will look into options to address this noted challenge.

In addition, the division will continue to look at the use of present danger assessments and plans through the case review process. The next initial assessment case review is scheduled to begin March 2018 and end in March 2020 with results expected to be published in early 2021.

As noted in previous slides, this webinar is the fourth as part of the protective planning initiative. To review the new policies that went into effect in 2016, you can look at the webinars and or DCF memos.

The first webinar titled “Present Danger Assessment and Protective Plan” covers the new polices
and the new protective plan form.

The second webinar discusses protective planning and child vulnerabilities, and the third webinar discusses protective planning and parental protective capacities.

You can find these webinars on the DCF website located at the URL on your screen.

You can also locate the memos discussed in this webinar on the DCF website; that URL is also noted on your screen.

As always, we thank you for all you do to keep the children of Wisconsin safe!