

CWS Outcomes

eLearning Guide

The use of data in child welfare can be a powerful tool for child welfare social workers, managers, advocates, policymakers, and program administrators in their work to improve the lives of vulnerable children and families. The concept of data in child welfare is based on a Continuous Quality Improvement framework. Data is used by states and county child welfare agencies to identify target population characteristics and needs, determine program or service outcomes, assess effectiveness of practices and policies, and inform efforts to help children and families thrive. Data can play an invaluable role in helping to highlight the need for a program, service, or policy, or to communicate about a variety of outcomes from placement stability to recurrence of maltreatment and re-entry into care. Additionally, outcome data informs staffing levels and capacity of the agency to serve those most in need.

This eLearning course aims to help social workers understand the importance of outcome data as a strategy to enhance social work practice and inform policies and programs to improve outcomes for children and families served. Additionally, workers will learn where to access this data and how to interpret it.

This introductory course should be used in conjunction with consultation with your supervisor and county counsel. This eLearning guide was created for you to use in conjunction with the eLearning to take notes.

1. In your own words, why do you think data in Child Welfare is important?

2. What are the Child and Family Services Reviews (CFSR)?

3. What are the seven outcomes evaluated by CFSR?

- a. _____
- b. _____
- c. _____
- d. _____
- e. _____
- f. _____
- g. _____

4. What are the seven systemic factors evaluated by CFSR?

- a. _____
- b. _____
- c. _____
- d. _____
- e. _____
- f. _____

g. _____

5. What is the California Child and Family Services Reviews (Ct CFSR)?

6. What are the three primary ways of examining information in a large database such as CWS/CMS?

a. _____

b. _____

c. _____

7. Please list the measures that correspond with each of the following outcome categories:

State Participation Rate:

a. _____

b. _____

Federal CFSR Safety Measure:

a. _____

b. _____

Federal CFSR Permanency Measure:

a. _____

b. _____

c. _____

d. _____

e. _____

State Process Measure:

a. _____

b. _____

State Well-Being Measure:

a. _____

b. _____

8. What are the four stages of the Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) cycle?

a. _____

b. _____

c. _____

d. _____

9. What are the three primary ways of examining information in a large database such as CWS/CMS?

a. _____

b. _____

c. _____

10. What are three benefits of utilizing data through SafeMeasures?

a. _____

b. _____

c. _____

11. What are three reasons why accurate data entry into CWS/CMS is so important?

a. _____

b. _____

c. _____

12. Please three key system outcomes that are impacted by CWS/CMS Data entry:

a. _____

b. _____

c. _____

13. Please define the following in your own words:

Disproportionality:

Disparity:

14. Please list three possible reasons why racial disparities exist in the Child Welfare System:

a. _____

b. _____

c. _____

NOTES: