

To Whom It May Concern,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. In response to question # 4:

The Arizona Foster Care Review Board (FCRB) reviews the case of every child in out-of-home care every 6 months. Our boards are comprised of citizen volunteers (5 per board). We are amenable to collaborating with the CB to monitor the state's ongoing compliance with whatever standards are deemed relevant. The primary value of our process is that we collect statewide data on all of the cases, not just a sample. Ideally we would like to expand, enhance, and complement the role of the federal reviewers, not usurp it. We also issue recommendations, which are forwarded to the assigned Juvenile Court judge, in each case.

Our Foster Care Review Boards ask a baseline series of questions in each case. We could tailor our questions to solicit information that is being sought by the federal reviewers. Our Program collaborates with the National Foster Care Review Coalition (NFCRC), which periodically administers surveys to glean information about various aspects of foster children's lives, so it would not be too difficult to modify our existing template to incorporate more data. In fact the Coalition has been designing data projects around CFSR data elements and/or other federal initiatives (i.e. maintaining connections, placement stability) in an effort to extract data that is valuable, informative, and useful to our stakeholders.

The Arizona FCRB is willing to work with the CB on such a project. We already have a review apparatus in place but would welcome technical support. We would be happy to conduct a pilot project toward this end.

Thank you for considering these comments,

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