



Charlie Crist, Governor
Robert A. Butterworth, Secretary

Child Welfare Reform and Community-Based Care

Committee on Healthy Families

January 9, 2007

**Mission: Protect the Vulnerable, Promote Strong and Economically Self-Sufficient Families,
and Advance Personal and Family Recovery and Resiliency.**

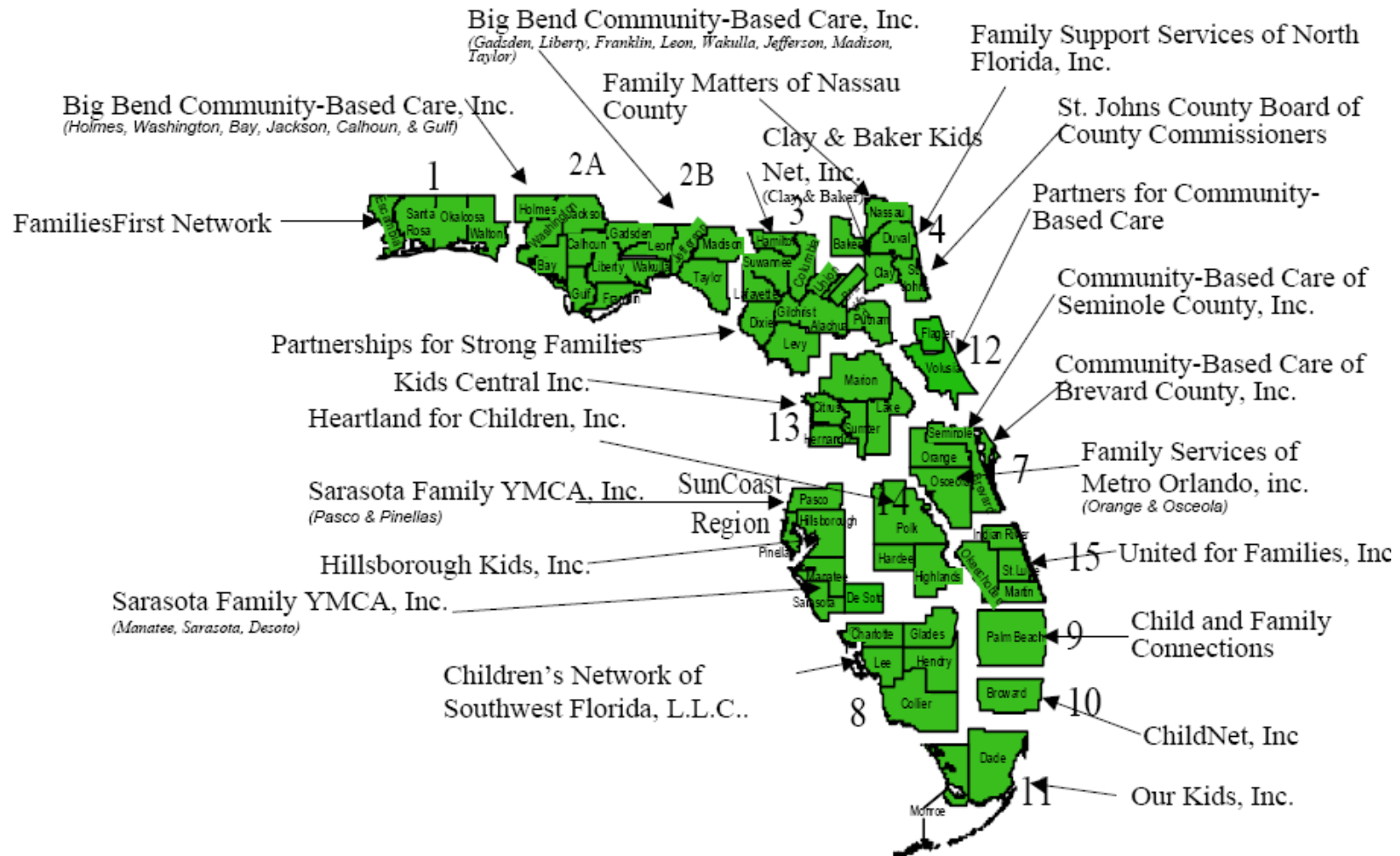


Community-Based Care

- A comprehensive redesign of Florida's child welfare system.
- Combines outsourcing foster care and related services to 20 lead agencies (covering 22 areas) with increased local community ownership of service delivery and design.
- Accountability focuses on performance outcomes.
- Statewide implementation completed in December 2005



Community-Based Care Lead Agencies





Major Activities

Related to Child Welfare Reform

- Title IV-E Waiver.
- Pilot project for fiscal, administrative and programmatic monitoring through independent, non-governmental third party entities under contract with the department.
- Three-tier Quality Assurance Process.
- Florida Center for the Advancement of Child Welfare Practice.



From *100 Innovative Ideas for Florida's Future*

Idea 68 – Florida should enhance **independence** and **flexibility** in community-based care. This would require **expansion of the pilot program** in Miami-Dade and Broward counties, while similar three-year contracts should be offered to other CBCs, The **Department of Children and Families**, as the single state agency for child welfare services, **retains overall responsibility**. The pilot envisions the establishment of an independent evaluation process focusing on **outcome measurement**. The department and the CBCs should collaborate to develop resources for **technical assistance and diffusion of best practices**.



Increased flexibility

	Pilot	Statewide
Flexible use of Foster Care Funds through Title IV-E Waiver	✓	✓
Fixed price method of payment	✓	✓
Contracted fiscal monitoring	✓	✓
Contracted programmatic monitoring	✓	
Three-tier quality assurance	✓	✓

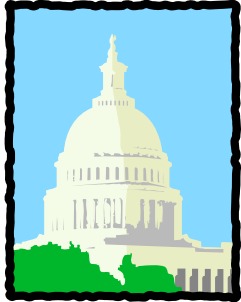
State retains responsibility for contract management



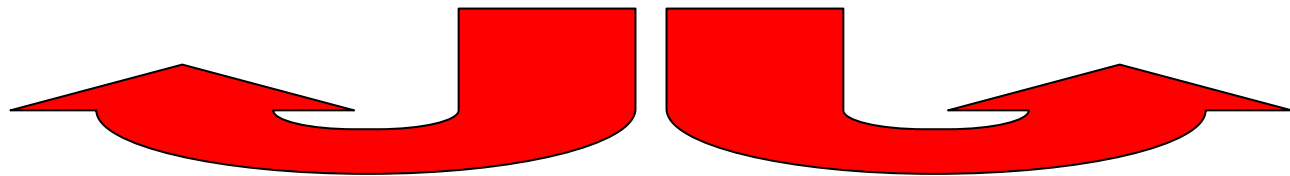
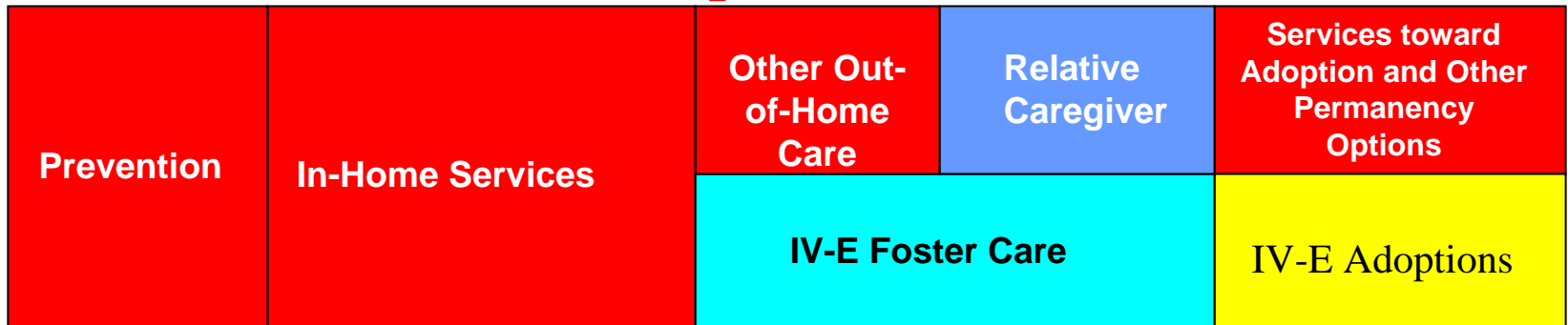
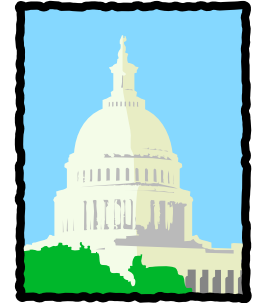
The Waiver in Brief

- The waiver allows federal IV-E foster care funds to be used for a **wide variety of child welfare purposes** rather than being restricted to out-of-home care, as normally the case under federal law.
- This permits funds to be used for child welfare services including prevention, diversion from out-of-home placement through intensive in-home services, reunification, when this can be accomplished safely and permanency as well as for foster care.
- The State will receive a **defined amount of federal funds** over a five year period based on the amount of federal foster care funds received in the federal fiscal year that ended September 30, 2005. The foster care funds under the waiver will **increase by 3 percent per year**.
- **Savings** in federal, state or local funds will be used to further provision of **child welfare services**.
- An **independent evaluator** will assess the effectiveness of the demonstration based on program outcomes.

A Continuum of Services & Funds Pre-Waiver



From:
*Money Follows the Federal
Requirements*



Reunification

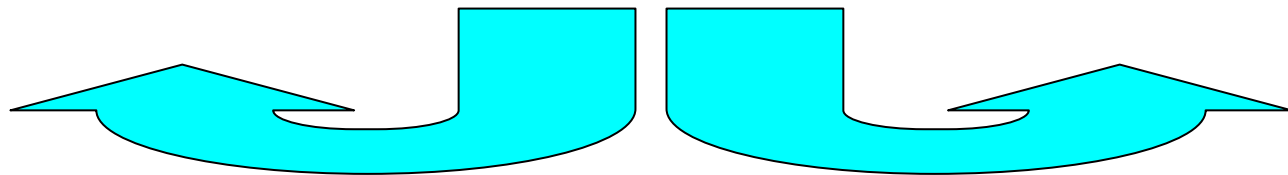
Permanency

A Continuum of Services & Funds - Waiver



*To:
Money Follows the Child*

Prevention	In-Home Services	Other Out-of-Home Care	Relative Caregiver	Services toward Adoption and Other Permanency Options
		IV-E Foster Care		IV-E Adoptions



Reunification

Permanency



Overview of Fiscal Monitoring

- Contracting for fiscal monitoring **has been implemented** in all CBC Lead Agencies that are not County Government entities.
- Abel and Associates performs fiscal monitoring and administrative monitoring tasks in CBC Lead Agencies in **Broward, Miami-Dade, and Monroe Counties**.
- Public Consulting Group (PCG) provides fiscal monitoring in **other CBC Lead Agencies** with three levels of involvement based on risk assessment.



Fixed Method of Payment

Per Section 2, Ch. 2006 – 30, L.O.F. (HB 5011)

- Funded by a grant of **general revenue** and applicable **federal funding** sources.
- Lead agencies' contracts **may be increased** by excess federal earnings.
- Permits **specified expenditures** such as cellular telephone allowances, membership dues, fundraising costs, etc.
- Facilitates **statewide management** of major fund sources.



Overview of Programmatic Monitoring Pilot

- **Programmatic monitoring for pilot projects:**
 - **Miami-Dade & Monroe** (Our Kids, Inc.) and **Broward** (ChildNet, Inc.) Counties.
 - **Chapin Hall Center for Children**, a research and development center of the University of Chicago, under contact through June 2009.
- **Chapin Hall will:**
 - Analyze and **recommend new outcome measures and monitoring tools** to best determine quality of performance of lead agencies;
 - **Compare pilot performance** to that of other lead agencies;
 - **Report** to state leaders and alliances.



Programmatic Monitoring Pilot Project Time Line

Tasks	Timeframe
Prepare report on validity of contract measures	Submitted and under review
Provide monitoring schedule	January 26, 2006
Develop monitoring tools	February 23, 2007
Review quality assurance results	Reports due quarterly, beginning January 21, 2007
Conduct Child & Family Services Review (CFSR)	Reviews and reports due annually, beginning September 2007
Assess compliance with requirements of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> –Quality Management Plan –Independent Living Program –Adoption Services –Contract performance measures 	Ongoing throughout the contract



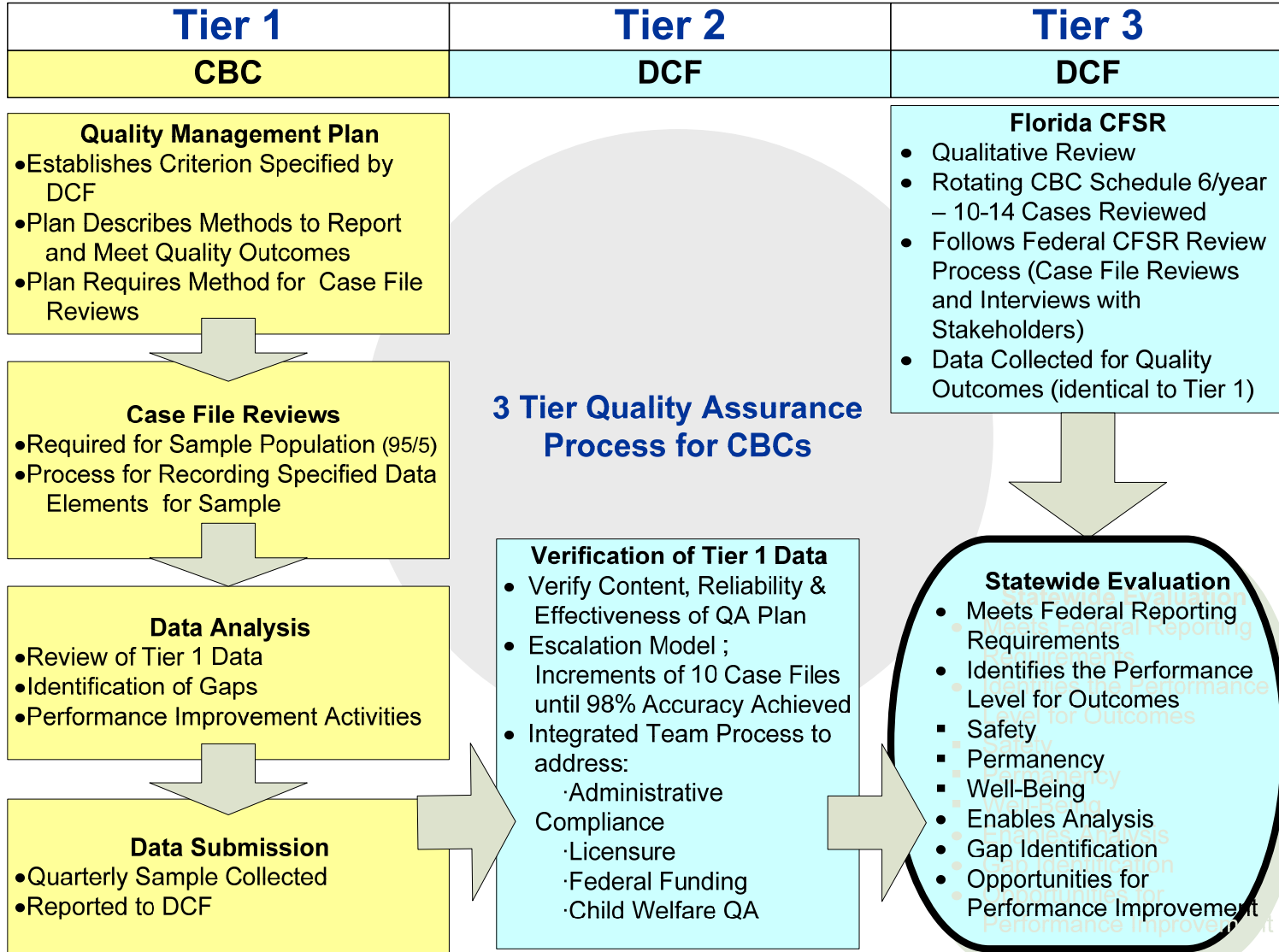
Programmatic Monitoring Pilot Project Time Line

Continued ...

Tasks	Timeframe
Conduct research and analysis for new outcome measures	Reports due semi-annually, beginning February 15, 2006
Develop cost-effective recommendations on weaknesses	Ongoing throughout contract
Report irregularities	Immediate and ongoing throughout contract
Identify possible causes related to program or quality issues	Ongoing throughout contract
Report to State leaders and Community Alliances	Reports due quarterly beginning January 2007



Overview of Three-Tier Quality Assurance Process





Florida Center for the Advancement of Child Welfare Practice

Mission

The Mission of the Center is to support and facilitate the identification expansion and transfer of expert knowledge in case practice, direct services, management, finances, policy, and organizational development to child welfare and child protection stakeholders throughout Florida.

Objectives

- Ensure consistent information flow to Florida's child welfare professionals
- Enhance efficiencies by creating access and linkages to existing resources within Florida's child welfare environment
- Link customers to, resources, innovations, and evidence-based models throughout the country
- Enable virtual meetings to replace conference calls and statewide meetings
- Interface with other state sponsored training and leadership programs.
- Facilitate access to high-level national expert consultation for technical assistance to child welfare professionals

Florida Center for the Advancement of Child Welfare Practice

