Rhode Island Department of Children, Youth & Families
Andrew C. v McKee Monitoring Team Report
Amendment to Monitoring Team Report for Reporting Period 11

Introduction

As outlined in the Settlement Agreement described in the case of *Andrew C. v. McKee*,[1] the Monitoring Team is comprised of the Office of the Child Advocate (OCA) and the Data Validator. The Data Validator has since been hired by the Rhode Island Department of Children, Youth and Families (DCYF) and is identified as Public Consulting Group LLC (PCG).

On June 30, 2024, the Monitoring Team distributed its Monitoring Team Report summarizing DCYF's performance during the eleventh Reporting Period (RP11), from July 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023. In that report, the Monitoring Team noted that additional validation activities would be required beyond June 30th in order to validate DCYF's activities under the terms of Section 12 (Foster Home Array).

This amendment report replaces in their entirety two sections from that report:

- Section 12: Foster Home Array; and
- Appendix A: Recruitment and Retention Strategies Process Documentation.

SECTION 12: FOSTER HOME ARRAY

Under Section 12 of the Settlement Agreement, DCYF must develop an annual Recruitment and Retention plan for foster homes. Under the terms of Section 12, this Recruitment and Retention plan must include specific targets regarding the number of foster homes to be recruited, including sub-targets for specific populations, such as adolescents, as well as populations with special needs including children with disabilities and medically fragile children. It will also include retention strategies geared toward reducing attrition among foster care providers, such as respite homes, enhanced training opportunities for foster parents, and increased visitation with foster parents.

The Settlement Agreement requires that a Foster Care Recruitment and Retention Plan be developed with the Monitoring Team and updated annually. The Department's initial plan was published in 2019; as outlined in previous Monitoring Team reports, the Monitoring Team provided extensive feedback to the Department on the content and structure of the Plan and recommended including quantitative targets describing the efforts DCYF would make in future years.

The Settlement Agreement also requires that the Department draft an annual, public report assessing the implementation of the plan over the previous twelve (12) months and identify any systemic factors that may have contributed to any shortfall in recruitment. The annual report should provide the number of homes recruited and retained by category, the number of homes recruited in each category during the implementation period, and the total number of homes

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[1] Originally filed in 2007 as *Andrew C. v. Chafee*, the name of the case was amended in January 2015 to *Andrew C. v. Raimondo* upon Gina Raimondo's inauguration as Governor of Rhode Island. In March 2021, the name of the case was again amended when Daniel McKee was sworn in as Governor of Rhode Island, to *Andrew C. vs. McKee*.

available for child placement in each of the categories at the beginning and end of the 12-month period.

DCYF and the Monitoring Team agreed that, following the release of the 2022 - 2023 Statewide Plan, DCYF would continue to collect and report data on a quarterly basis in order to set a baseline for its improvement efforts, and that the data would be provided to the Monitoring Team to inform its targets and demonstrate progress towards meeting the goals described for the 2023 - 2024 Plan update.

Report Status

The Monitoring Team and DCYF agreed that DCYF would compile, on a quarterly basis, a count of active foster families who were willing to foster children by child characteristic. The Monitoring Team resolved to review and validate the outcomes data provided by DCYF and agreed to publish an amended copy of the RP11 report in August 2024.

At the end of each quarter, DCYF provided RICHIST data to The Monitoring Team, which included counts of active, licensed providers by willingness to foster by child characteristic.

In addition, DCYF provided additional data related to strategies for Recruitment and Retention outlined in the 2023/2024 Recruitment & Retention Plan. The Monitoring Team reviewed the data that DCYF provided, and documentation is included in Appendix A of this amended report.

The findings included in this amended report will serve to inform DCYF's 2024 – 2025 Recruitment and Retention Plan to highlight areas where DCYF has either met or exceeded targets, or where DCYF has failed to meet targets and where additional efforts to improve foster family Recruitment and Retention are needed. In addition, the amended report will inform discussions between the Monitoring Team and DCYF for DCYF's 2024 – 2025 Recruitment and Retention Plan.

DCYF's obligation to continue working toward those targets as outlined in the 2023–2024 Plan and any subsequent plans, and provide annual report updates, will continue until it exits each of Sections 1–10 of the Settlement Agreement.

DCYF Outcomes Data

The following table presents counts of active families, alongside the characteristics of youth to whom those foster families are open to fostering. These characteristics include different youth target populations, such as children who have a mental health or physical disability. The table below (**Table 1**) shows changes in retention of active foster families from Q1 through Q4 (July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024). Percent changes highlighted in green indicate an overall increase in foster family willingness to foster children by child characteristic quarter from Q1 through Q4. There was an overall decrease in the number of actively licensed foster families, from 425 in Q1 to 389 in Q4, an 8.47% reduction in actively licensed foster families.

Despite the total number of active families declining throughout the year, there was an increase in actively licensed foster families willing to foster children across seven of the seventeen

categories of child characteristics. In eight of the ten child characteristic categories, there was a decrease among foster families willing to foster. The remaining two categories did not change.

Table 1. Count of Active Foster Families Willingness to Foster Children by Child Characteristic by Quarter

Child Characteristic	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1-Q2 Change	Q2-Q3 Change	Q3-Q4 Change	Q1-Q4 Total
Count of Active Families	425	417	402	389	-1.89%	-3.6%	-3.2%	-8.5%
LGBTQQIAAP+	73	76	75	84	+4.1%	-1.3%	+12%	15.0%
11-18 Years Old	150	151	142	138	.6%	-5.9%	-4.2%	-8%
Medical (Mild)	347	344	337	330	-.9%	-2.0%	-2.1%	-4.9%
Alcohol/Drug Exposure	198	202	201	201	2.0%	-.5%	-	-1.5%
Intellectually Challenged	137	139	135	145	1.5%	-2.9%	7.4%	5.9%
Oppositional Defiant Behavior	202	194	188	182	-4.0%	-13.4%	-3.2%	-10.0%
Learning/School Issues	355	353	342	334	-.6%	-3.1%	-2.3%	-6.0%
Mental Health Issues	221	219	213	221	-.9%	-2.7%	3.8%	-
Aggressive/Assaultive Behavior	15	16	17	21	6.7%	6.3%	23.5%	40.0%
Alcohol/Drug Use	32	32	28	29	-	-12.5%	3.6%	-9.4%
History of Sexual Abuse	157	152	146	149	-3.2%	-3.9%	2.1%	-5.1%
Medical (Severe)	21	21	21	22	-	-	-	4.8%
Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC)	19	21	21	24	10.5%	-	14.3%	26.3%
History of Physical Abuse	316	321	321	313	1.6%	-	2.5%	-.9%
Non-ambulatory	7	8	4	7	14.3%	-50%	75%	-
Sexually Reactive	13	15	15	16	75%	-	6.7%	23.1%
Physically Disabled	25	25	27	31	1	8%	14.9%	24%

Monitoring Team Observation

The Monitoring Team acknowledges that DCYF has not made sufficient progress in recruiting and retaining foster families willing to foster children by child characteristic, as evidenced in an eight percent decrease in the overall count of foster families recruited and retained from Q1 through Q4 of the SFY2024. The Monitoring Team recognizes that despite numerous initiatives and efforts to increase recruitment and retention of actively licensed foster families (as outlined in Appendix A), these efforts did not sufficiently meet DCYF's 2023-2024 goal of increasing the number of families recruited and retained as active foster families. This gap highlights the need for more comprehensive strategies to recruit and retain active foster families. Appendix A: Recruitment and Retention Strategies Process Documentation.

APPENDIX A: RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION STRATEGIES PROCESS DOCUMENTATION

For each of the strategies described in DCYF's *2023-2024 Recruitment & Retention Plan*, DCYF and the Monitoring Team agreed that DCYF would provide specific documentation of having completed the activities that the Department committed to in its Plan. The documentation that DCYF and the Monitoring Team agreed would be sent is described below for each strategy, as is the list of documents or narratives that were provided by DCYF as evidence of having completed the activity.

DCYF agreed to send additional data (as of June 30, 2024) in support of these activities no later than July 15, 2024. The following appendix includes all data The Monitoring Team received on June 30, 2024.

Of note, there were several strategies that were discontinued in the 2023-2024 Recruitment & Retention Plan, including:

- Expand proactive print and digital media outreach, highlighting initiatives and families; Maintain strong workflow for application processes and personal applicant connection/entry conversation;
- Ongoing month-long awareness campaigns for targeted appreciation, awareness, communications, and virtual programming;
- Distributed branded giveaway materials to incentivize engagement and spread brand awareness; and
- Develop a mechanism to collect from foster families their willingness to foster a child who is LGBTQQIAAP+.

Monitoring Team Observation

The Monitoring Team acknowledges that DCYF fell short in providing adequate documentation to demonstrate a concerted effort to meet certain strategies as outlined in their 2023-2024 Recruitment and Retention Plan. The Monitoring Team considers these strategies critical to robust and comprehensive recruitment and retention efforts. Without this documentation, the Monitoring Team cannot definitively assess whether DCYF made considerable progress on the five identified strategies for Reporting Period 11 bulleted below. The Monitoring Team recommends that DCYF strengthen its documentation practices to promote transparency and accountability towards any actions taken to meet these strategies.

- *Facilitation of two open feedback forums aimed to learn from resource families on opportunities for strengthened retention and ongoing recruitment efforts.* While DCYF states that the Director's Licensing and Learning Tours served as the primary feedback forums with families for this reporting period, the Monitoring Team was not provided documentation of this.
- *Coordination with New England Child Welfare Commissioner's group of Foster Care Managers to discuss regional challenges and strategies.* DCYF states that there have not been any NASFDCM meetings scheduled during this reporting period.

- *Partner with organizations that support and represent youth in foster care to highlight youth voice.* While DCYF states they conducted brainstorming sessions, developed a shared list of strategies and tactics for recruitment for special populations, and began populating a shared Community Contact Sheet for targeted outreach, the Monitoring Team was not provided documentation of this.
- *Facilitate monthly meetings with Recruitment and Retention task force of special populations assessing goal success, challenges, and outcomes.* While DCYF provided documentation of Private Agency Foster Care Collaboration meetings, those meetings were only held in September 2023 and May and June of 2024, and were not listed as monthly.
- *Engage in feedback forums with families who have found success with accepting challenging placements in the effort to duplicate factors of success.* While DCYF states that they met with partner organizations to host events with a focus on learning from their families, the Monitoring Team was not provided with this documentation. In addition, DCYF states that the Director's Listening and Learning Tours served as a primary feedback mechanism for families, but the Monitoring Team was not provided documentation of this.

Planning & Operations

1. **Collaborate with community stakeholders on statewide Recruitment and Retention Plan, and its implementation.**

This strategy emphasized collaborating with community partners such as the Monitoring Team, Rhode Island Foster Parent Advisory Council, and others on the development of the statewide Recruitment and Retention Plan.

Documentation Provided by DCYF	Documentation Received Fulfilling Requirement
Documentation for discussions related to the Recruitment & Retention Plan with community stakeholders, including the Rhode Island Foster Parent Advisory Council.	• Agency Partnership Agendas, including: 　○ September 2023 – December 2023 and April 2024 – July 2024 • Monitoring Team Weekly Meetings to Discuss the Recruitment & Retention Plan 　○ 7/19/2023 – 9/18/2023

2. **Facilitate ongoing active contract management meetings with our private agency foster care providers with a focus on sharing recruitment and retention data and strengthening outcomes for children and families.**
3. **Engage in active contract management to ensure accountability for private agency operations and develop solutions to challenges served in these family settings.**

These strategies includes scheduled meetings with DCYF's private agency foster care providers to share Recruitment and Retention data and to strategize strengthening outcomes for children in families, in addition engaging in active contract management to provide accountability for private agency operations to develop solutions to challenges faced in family settings.

Documentation Provided by DCYF	Documentation Received Fulfilling Requirement
Documentation for discussions related to Recruitment & Retention Plan data and efforts to strengthen the recruitment, development, licensing, matching, and support of foster families.	• Agency Partnership Agendas, including: ○ September 2023 – December 2023 and April 2024 – July 2024 • Be an Anchor recruitment contact sheet • Targeted Recruitment Taskforce spreadsheet • Active Contract Management Workgroup weekly agenda structure • Agency Partnership email correspondence

4. **Ongoing portfolio expansion of branded resources for coordinated and efficient communication and targeted recruitment efforts for special populations.**

This strategy includes the creation of DCYF materials and resources, including branded trainings and fact sheets, to improve communication and targeted recruitment efforts for special populations.

Documentation Provided by DCYF	Documentation Received Fulfilling Requirement
Expanded portfolio with branded resources and dates.	• Private Foster Care Agency Descriptions • Foster Parent College Resources and Training Guides • Flyers for Ongoing Events • Be an Anchor Resources, Flyers, Social Media Posts

5. **Continue implementation of Binti[2], the web-based portal for foster care recruitment and licensing, as well as matching**

This strategy includes DCYF'S implementation of Binti and monthly Binti reports for foster care recruitment, licensing, and matching, and an individual pipeline review that delineates active and inactive licenses. In addition, documentation includes Binti contract amendments regarding implementation, and meetings between Binti contractors and DCYF.

Documentation Provided by DCYF	Documentation Received Fulfilling Requirement
Binti application dashboards, monthly Binti reports, and Binti contract amendments.	• Binti Application Dashboards (2023-10-25) • Monthly Binti Reports (2020-October 2023) • Binti Fourth Amendment (Effective November 2023)

6. **Convey all resources available to meet the linguistic needs of foster families.**

This strategy includes all documentation and resources provided to both Spanish and English-speaking families, including a self-assessment in Spanish.

Documentation Provided by DCYF	Documentation Received Fulfilling Requirement
Summary of resources/linguistic resource manual, percentage of families whose primary language is not English.	o Provider forms in Spanish, including (but not limited to): o Kinship Caregiver training o Emergency and Disaster plans o Kinship care guide o Authorization(s) to obtain/release confidential information o Foster care home agreements o Resource parent supplementary self-assessment o Relicensing applications

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[2] Binti Foster Care Software

7. **Coordination with New England Child Welfare Commissioner's group of Foster Care Managers to discuss regional challenges and strategies.**

This strategy includes scheduled meetings with foster care managers, which includes ongoing and newly identified regional challenges and strategies to overcome challenges.

Documentation Provided by DCYF	Documentation Received Fulfilling Requirement
During this reporting period there have not been any scheduled NASFCM meetings.	• None provided

Support & Retention

8. **Ongoing support of Foster Family Advisory Council.**

This strategy includes DCYF's efforts to support the Foster Family Advisory Council to drive system improvement, and includes meetings, agendas, presentations, communication with families, and feedback on survey implementation. DCYF also provided Foster Family Advisory Council logos.

Documentation Provided by DCYF	Documentation Received Fulfilling Requirement
Dates for planning, leadership, and council meetings.	• 10/16/23 Planning Session • 11/2/23 Leadership Meeting • 11/13/23 Planning Session • 11/20/23 Planning Session • 11/30/23 Full Council Meeting • 12/11/23 Planning Meeting • 1/08/2024 (Leadership Meeting) • 1/22/2024 (Planning Meeting) • 1/25/2024 (Full Council Meeting) • 2/12/2024 (Leadership Meeting) • 3/25/2024 (Planning Meeting) • 3/28/2024 (Full Council Meeting) • 4/25/2024 (Leadership Meeting) • 5/13/2024 (Planning Meeting) • 6/06/2024 (Full Council Meeting) • 6/25/2024 (Leadership Meeting as Listening and Learning)

9. **Ongoing facilitation of peer to peer mentoring program, supporting our Anchors for traditional families.**

This strategy includes DCYF's effort to expand their existing Peer to Peer Mentoring program and includes tracking the number of active peer mentors and those families working with peer mentors in support of Anchors for traditional families.

Documentation Provided by DCYF	Documentation Received Fulfilling Requirement
Number of peer mentors, number of families working with peer mentors.	- OPRE Report to ACF - Peer mentor assignments PDF list

10. **Use enrichment activities and statewide foster care appreciation events to highlight families, create opportunities for family engagement, and increase a natural support network for foster families.**

This strategy includes DCYF's effort to promote foster care and to highlight families, create more opportunities for engagement, and to expand the existing network for foster families.

Documentation Provided by DCYF	Documentation Received Fulfilling Requirement
Dates or events.	- OPRE Report to ACF - In quarter one, Foster Parent Champions attended seventeen (17) Recruitment and Retention events and informational sessions to recruit new foster families and to support the retention of currently licensed families. - In quarter two and three, Foster Parent Champions attended ten (10) Recruitment and Retention events, informational sessions to recruit new foster families and to support the retention of currently licensed families. - Foster Parent Champions attended twelve (12) Recruitment and Retention events and informational sessions to recruit new foster families and to support the

	retention of currently licensed families.

11. In partnership with DCYF Division of Performance Improvement develop a resource family satisfaction survey to be distributed two times per year to gather data and inform Department practice.

This strategy includes DCYF's dissemination of a Resource Family Satisfaction Survey to determine sentiment and experiences among resource families and to identify successes and opportunities for improvement in service delivery to resource families.

Documentation Provided by DCYF	Documentation Received Fulfilling Requirement
Foster Parent Satisfactory Survey (survey provided).	• Foster Parent Satisfaction Survey • Foster Parent Satisfaction Survey results • Survey email to families • Training tracker

12. Continued implementation of Foster Parent College; online resource library for easy access to information and strategies to address challenging situations (articles, resources, videos, etc.).

This strategy includes DCYF's continued implementation of Foster Parent College, and includes agendas, meetings, and correspondence with families.

Documentation Provided by DCYF	Documentation Received Fulfilling Requirement
Milestones achieved, workplan, number of resources, if possible, utilization of resources.	• Flyers • Foster parent information presentations • Spanish-speaking resources for foster parents • Foster Care to Adoption Kickoff Call – attendance list

13. Facilitation of two open feedback forums aimed to learn from resource families on opportunities for strengthened retention and ongoing recruitment efforts.

This strategy includes DCYF's plan to facilitate targeted open feedback forums.

Documentation Provided by DCYF	Documentation Received Fulfilling Requirement
	• None provided

Recruitment & Awareness

14. Expand messaging of scope of Be an Anchor by championing staff to practice the philosophical approach in their daily interactions with all children and families we serve.

This strategy includes DCYF's efforts to expand their messaging of the 'Be an Anchor' campaign, which works to promote best practices in daily interactions with children and families among staff. Examples include staff training and guidelines.

Documentation Provided by DCYF	Documentation Received Fulfilling Requirement

Training manuals that include championing Be an Anchor (PowerPoint).	• Branded Resource Guides
	   ○ 'Be an Anchor' branded guidelines
	   ○ Spanish speaking resources
	   ○ One pager resource for families
	   ○ Kinship connections one pager
	• Resources and Division Training
	   ○ Services and supports guide
	   ○ Spanish FAQs/resources
	   ○ New hire training presentation

15. Support goal awareness through promotion of the 2023/2024 "Rhode to 125 new foster homes" progress.

This strategy includes DCYF's effort to market the 2023/2024 "Rhode to 125 new foster homes", and includes emails with agendas discussing recruitment efforts, tracking, and additional social media posts, which includes information on licensing 125 new foster families.

Documentation Provided by DCYF	Documentation Received Fulfilling Requirement

Social media posts, dates of agency partnerships where recruitment is discussed (Tuesday meeting), agenda.	• Social media highlights
	   o Including Facebook links and metrics
	   o Social media content calendar
	• Recruitment tracker
	• Agency partnership meetings

Ongoing timetable of virtual information events to occur every two weeks at family friendly hours, and flexibility for personal meetings.

This strategy includes DCYF meetings that provide virtual information to families, including inquiry surveys, data sheets, and session schedules.

Documentation Provided by DCYF	Documentation Received Fulfilling Requirement
Meeting dates.	• Info session schedules • Info session presentation • Info session inquiry survey • Events attendee summary • Virtual and in person session dates

16. Partner with organizations that support and represent youth in foster care to highlight youth voice.

This strategy includes efforts to partner with organizations who represent foster care youth and work to highlight youth voices, which includes Youth Advisory Councils.

Documentation Provided by DCYF	Documentation Received Fulfilling Requirement
	• None provided

17. Ongoing scheduling of preservice Trauma Informed Partnering For Safety and Permanence – Model Approach To Partnerships in Parenting (TIPS MAPP)[3] trainings to ensure an average of two TIPS MAPP sessions to start every other month.

This strategy includes all training and curriculum related to TIPS MAPP.

Documentation Provided by DCYF	Documentation Received Fulfilling Requirement
Training dates, curriculum.	• TIPS MAPP and Family Consultation meeting dates

18. Facilitation of Pre Inservice meetings with all recruited families to clarify intention and matching, further ensuring we identify families committed to support the needs of our system.

This strategy includes DCYF efforts to conduct Pre Inservice meetings for recruited families to discuss intention, matching, and to help identify those families committed to supporting the needs of DCYF's foster care system.

Documentation Provided by DCYF	Documentation Received Fulfilling Requirement
Dates of pre-service meeting dates.	• TIPS MAPP and Family Consultation meeting dates

19. Identify Recruitment and Retention champions who can support a recruitment and resource family retention task force specifically for special populations.

This strategy includes efforts related to identifying champions through agency partnership to support the recruitment and retention of foster families willing to foster children by special population.

Documentation Provided by DCYF	Documentation Received Fulfilling Requirement
Agency partner meeting agendas.	• Monthly Agency Partner meetings: ○ 9/26/23 ○ 10/3/23 ○ 11/21/23 ○ 1/2/24 ○ 1/30/24

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[3] *TIPS-MAPP is a training model designed to help prospective adoptive and foster parents understand the differences between the desire to help in comparison to the commitment required to foster or adopt.*

	o 3/12/24 o 5/28/24 o 6/18/24

20. Facilitate monthly meetings with Recruitment and Retention task force of special populations assessing goal success, challenges, and outcomes.

This strategy includes all training and curriculum related to TIPS MAPP, which is a training model designed to help prospective adoptive and foster parents understand the differences between the desire to help in comparison to the commitment required to foster or adopt.

Documentation Provided by DCYF	Documentation Received Fulfilling Requirement

Agency partner meeting agendas, including virtual information sessions executed by agencies.	• Monthly Agency Partner meetings:
	   o 9/26/23
	   o 5/28/24
	   o 6/18/24
	• In this reporting period, three agencies consistently executed 1-3 monthly, virtual information sessions

21. Engage education system leaders in strengthening partnerships to recruit foster homes and encourage fictive kinship connections.

This strategy includes DCYF's effort to strengthen partnerships with the education system in an effort to expand the recruitment of foster homes and encourage fictive kinship connections.

Documentation Provided by DCYF	Documentation Received Fulfilling Requirement
Meeting dates and/or correspondence with education system, strategies implemented where applicable.	• Resources, Training and Events folder • Dates of Community Block Party (9/2/23) • Date of Community Resource Fair (8/5/23) • Date of school meeting with Community Services Coordinator (9/22/23)

22. Re-engagement with kinship families who are closing and in good standing.

This strategy includes DCYF's efforts to reengage with all kinship families who have a reunified child or child moved to permanency, which includes re-recruitment instances of engagement.

Documentation Provided by DCYF	Documentation Received Fulfilling Requirement
Guidance in licensing playbook on working with kinship providers interested in traditional foster care, including recruitment tracker.	• Recruitment tracker • Licensing closing coversheet • Licensing playbook

Matching & Placement

23. Engage in social events to informally connect youth and families.

This strategy includes DCYF's efforts to engage in virtual social events that connect youth and families, which includes social media reach and engagement.

Documentation Provided by DCYF	Documentation Received Fulfilling Requirement
Dates of events, number of connections made.	• RDS Calendar o Including schedule of events for family participation • Recruitment tracker

24. Complete monthly targeted matching reviews for DCYF and Agency families.

This strategy includes DCYF's efforts to connect youth in need of placement to DCYF staff and private agency foster care teams to assist with recruitment and matching.

Documentation Provided by DCYF	Documentation Received Fulfilling Requirement
Number of targeted matching reviews completed.	• Monthly Agency Partnership agendas

25. Engage in social events to informally connect youth and families.

This strategy includes DCYF's efforts to connect youth in need of placement to DCYF staff and private agency foster care teams to assist with recruitment and matching.

Documentation Provided by DCYF	Documentation Received Fulfilling Requirement
Event dates aligned with recruitment events and opportunities.	• RDS calendar • Recruitment spreadsheets and tracker

26. Engage in new licensed home presentation meetings with licensing and placement teams to clarify matching and recommendations for placement.

This strategy includes DCYF's efforts to engage with newly licensed homes to clarify matching and recommendations for placement in foster homes.

Documentation Provided by DCYF	Documentation Received Fulfilling Requirement
Dates of presentation meetings.	• RDS Playbook March 2023 • Revised RDS Playbook • Reported daily weekday meetings to discuss new licensed families and placement needs

27. Engage in feedback forums with families who have found success with accepting challenging placements in the effort to duplicate factors of success.

This strategy includes DCYF's efforts to engage with families through forums who have found success with challenging placements, in an effort to understand and duplicate factors of success. These measures include events, surveys, retention activities, and emergency response information.

Documentation Provided by DCYF	Documentation Received Fulfilling Requirement
	• None provided

28. Ongoing implementation of call-to-action step down initiative.

This strategy includes DCYF's effort to ensure that children and youth who are not able to safely remain at home can be placed in a family setting.

Documentation Provided by DCYF	Documentation Received Fulfilling Requirement
Milestones and dates.	- Q1: 4 youth supported through Call to Action - Q2: 4 youth supported through Call to Action - Q3 no youth were supported through Call to Action - Q4: 2 youth were supported through Call to Action

29. Ongoing implementation of Emergency Response Foster Care Programming.

This strategy includes DCYF's effort to ensure that children and youth who are not able to safely remain at home can be placed in a family setting.

Documentation Provided by DCYF	Documentation Received Fulfilling Requirement
Milestones and dates.	- Q1: 4 youth supported through Call to Action - Q2: 4 youth supported through Call to Action - Q3 no youth were supported through Call to Action - Q4: 2 youth were supported through Call to Action