INDIAN CHILD WELFARE CASE REVIEW

"ALL THINGS ARE CONNECTED

LIKE THE BLOOD WHICH UNITES ONE FAMILY"

-CHIEF SEATTLE

History of ICW CASE REVIEW

- Case Review Collaboration with Tribal partners began in 2005 to develop an ICW case review
- First ICW review occurred in 2007
- Second ICW review occurred in 2009
- Third ICW review occurred in 2012
- Fourth ICW review occurred in 2015
- Fifth ICW review occurred in 2019

PURPOSE

Improve quality of practice and compliance with:

- Federal ICWA
- Washington State ICWA 2011
- Washington State Tribal Agreement
- DCYF ICW POLICIES

Principles of the ICW Case Review

- ✓ Partner with Tribes and Recognized Indian Organizations
- ✓ Increase staff knowledge of Indian Child Welfare
- ✓ Improve practice to meet the best interests of Indian children
- ✓ Share practice ideas of what IS working
- ✓ Identify systemic barriers

ICW Case Review

A BLENDED TEAM OF REVIEWERS:

- Washington State Tribes
- Recognized American Indian Organizations (RAIO)
- DCYF SW's, Supervisors, and Managers
- Central Case Review Team

On-Site Review Process

- Reviews occur in six locations across the state
- Review teams comprised of 10-12 experts
- Tribal and state experts review case together to determine ratings
- Consensus building
- Review team debrief
- Exit meeting with all staff upon completion

8 Case Review Sections

- Inquiry of Indian Status
- Active Efforts/ Collaboration with Tribes
- Culturally Competent Case Management
- Court Requirements
- Placement Preference
- SAFETY
- WELL-BEING
- PERMANENCY

REVIEW TEAM DEBRIEF

- REGIONAL TRENDS
- SYSTEMIC ISSUES
- PREPARE FOR EXIT MEETING WITH DCYF STAFF
- SUGGESTED IMPROVEMENTS TO ICW CASE REVIEW

Practice Improvement Activities

- ✓REGIONAL & STATEWIDE REPORTS
- ✓IDENTIFY IMPROVEMENT GOALS
- ✓ACTION PLANS

Average Length of Stay for Children When ICWA was Applicable

Number of Children	Average Length of Stay
62	21.6 Months

Average Length of Stay for All Children Reviewed

Age Group	Number of Children	Average Length of Stay
Birth - 4	42	17.8 Months
5 - 10	25	22.9 Months
11 - 18	10	30.0 Months

INDIAN CHILD WELFARE

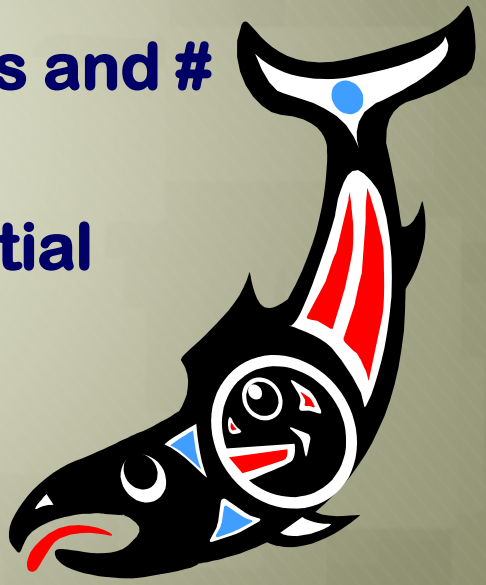
Washington's Practice And Policy Changes

WA's Reason to Know Standard

"When CA receives an initial intake regarding allegations of child abuse and/or neglect, the intake worker and the local office CA caseworker must determine if there is *reason to know* that the child is or may be a member, or the biological child of a member and eligible for membership, in a federally recognized tribe."

Recent changes

- Implementation of “active efforts” and hiring Active Effort Specialist
- Increases in case hours for ICW cases and # of ICW case workers increased
- Guardian Assistance Program and initial licenses expanded



Hypothesized Outputs

- **Implementation of "active efforts" and hiring Active Effort Specialist**
  - **Increases in service referrals and offerings**
  - **Increased case planning with families**

Hypothesized Outputs

- Increases in case hours for ICW cases and # of ICW case workers increased
  - Reduction of workforce turnover
  - Improved trend in moves per 1,000 day in care
  - Reduction in re-entry and placement changes

Hypothesized Outputs

- **Guardian Assistance Program and initial licenses expanded**
  - **Increases in $ distributed to families**
  - **Decreases in length of stay**
  - **Improvements to children's well-being**

QUESTIONS

COMMENTS