



CIRCUIT 8

Alachua, Baker, Bradford, Gilchrist, Levy, and Union Counties



Florida's Five Year Prevention and Permanency Plan State Fiscal Year 2013 – 2014 Progress

Highlights and Accomplishments

Circuit 8 has seen ongoing progress within the last year in respect to prevention and permanency outcomes. Working together with community partners, PSF has made great strides in improving outcomes for at-risk families and children served by the agency and finding forever families for more than 140 deserving children in North Central Florida in the last fiscal year.

One of Circuit 8's major endeavors within the last fiscal year was the successful completion of the contract procurement process with the Department of Children and Families. PSF was not bid against in the process, an indication that the agency has a reputation of quality and solid performance, discouraging competition.

In 2013, PSF celebrated the agency's 10 year anniversary with a year-long campaign entitled "10 Years and Growing." The Campaign engaged community leaders, elected officials and current and prospective partners to celebrate the agency's accomplishments over the first decade of operation and to look toward the future. PSF had a lot to celebrate with a 46% reduction in the number of children in foster care since 2009 and more than 1,500 finalized adoptions since PSF began providing child welfare services. This also provided an opportunity to seek community input in the development of a new Strategic Plan to span 2013-2015.

Community resource centers have also seen major accomplishments in the past fiscal year. In September 2013, the Library Partnership was recognized as a Community of Hope by Casey Family Programs. The center and community were honored in large part due to a 76% reduction in the number of children entering licensed care since the center opened its doors in 2009. In 2013, PSF's third resource center and second center in partnership with the Alachua County Library District, the Cone Park Library Resource Center, opened its doors to the community. As will be detailed in the following report, PSF is also working toward imminent expansion of the resource center model into regional communities in both Circuits 3 and 8.

In 2011, PSF rebranded the term "foster parents" to Partner Families, reflecting the service that these families provide to the children in their homes, PSF and the biological family if they are awaiting reunification. This rebranding continued to align with the launch of the Quality Parenting Initiative. Since this time, PSF has continued to implement QPI in our training, recruitment and retention efforts to improve the quality of care for children in foster care.

Over the past 4 years, PSF has worked with Children's Home Society to significantly reduce the number of waiting children, including those in therapeutic foster placements, in Circuits 3 and 8. In addition, PSF has fully implemented the Permanency Round Table (PRT) model and the Cold Case Review process developed in partnership with national experts from Casey Family Programs. Both of these system changes have helped reduce the number of "longest waiting" children in care and helped more children achieve permanency.

Across Circuits 3 and 8, the number of children in out-of-home care waiting for an adoptive family has decreased by 20% from 50 on June 30, 2009 to 40 on October 9, 2014. The number of APPLA goal children has decreased from 87 on June 30, 2009 to 2 as of November 1, 2014.

The percent of children adopted within 12 months of becoming legally free for adoption has increased from the fiscal year 2008-2009 rate of 53.7% to 82% for the 2013-2014 fiscal year. PSF is thus currently well ahead of the goal of 75% by June 30, 2015.

The percent of children legally free for adoption who have been waiting for adoption since the date of termination of parental rights (TPR) for more than 12 months has been reduced from the June 2009 rate of 46.3% to 30.4% for the 2013-2014 fiscal year. Thus, PSF is on target to meet the goal of 25% by June 30, 2015.

Child Maltreatment Prevention

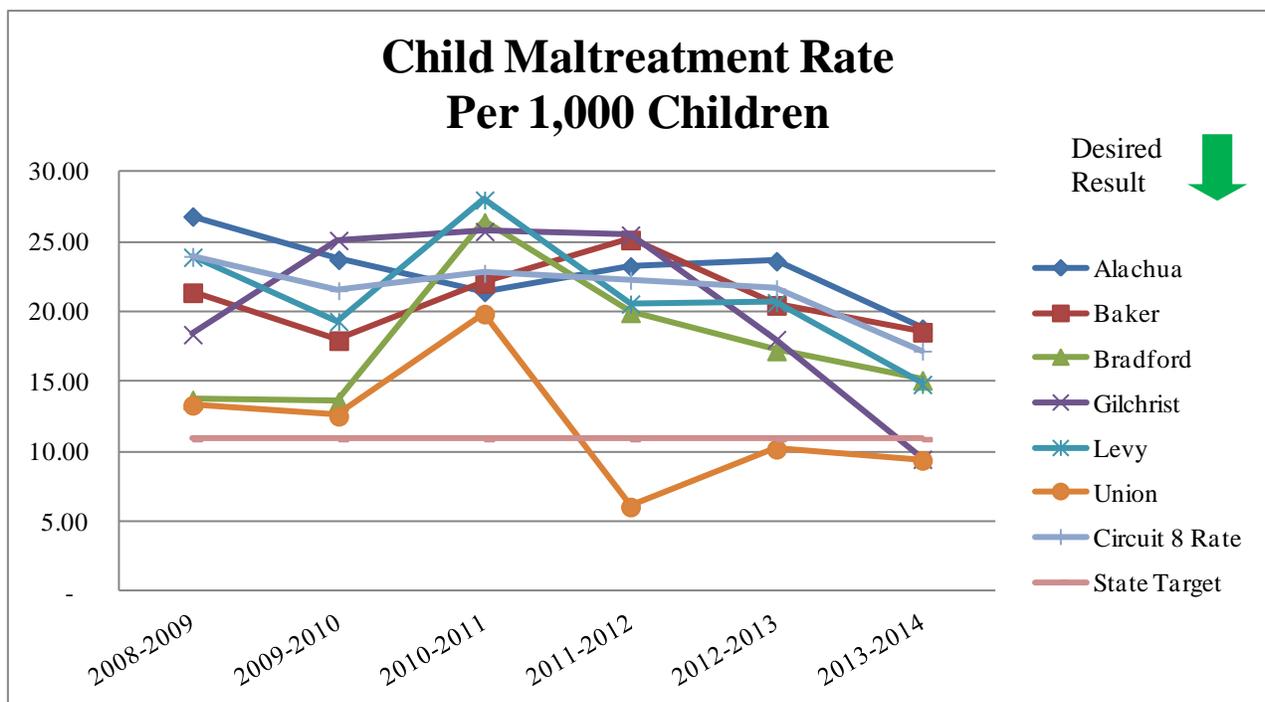
All adoptive families in need of support are linked to or provided appropriate services and support to accommodate their needs. As of November 1, 2014, 84% of post-adoptive families requesting services were referred to adoption-competent providers. Those who were not referred to adoption competency trained providers had requested specific providers who happened to not have the adoption competency training. Thus, PSF is on target to meet the goal that by 2015 90% of post-adoptive families referred for counseling will be referred to adoption-competent providers.

Child Maltreatment Prevention Desired Population Level Results

1. **Child Maltreatment Prevention** – By June 30, 2015, the verified findings of child abuse rate will be reduced from the State Fiscal Year 2008 – 2009 statewide rate of 10.94 per 1,000 children.

Child Maltreatment Rates						
	2008-2009	2009-2010	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013	2013-2014
Alachua	26.83	23.74	21.45	23.27	23.64	18.83
Baker	21.39	17.97	22.06	25.16	20.49	18.57
Bradford	13.74	13.63	26.42	19.96	17.24	15.14
Gilchrist	18.40	25.13	25.76	25.51	18.05	9.50
Levy	23.93	19.34	28.01	20.59	20.69	14.84
Union	13.36	12.58	19.87	6.10	10.22	9.42
Circuit Rate	23.99	21.54	22.78	22.28	21.68	17.23
State Target	10.94	10.94	10.94	10.94	10.94	10.94
State Rate	10.94	12.06	12.51	13.23	12.27	11.42

**The current Five-Year Prevention and Permanency Plan started on July 1, 2010.*



Status of Strategies and Objectives

Strategy 1: By June 30, 2015, Circuit 8 will increase collaborative efforts and coordinated resources available to strengthen families and prevent child abuse and neglect in high risk areas in Circuit 8.

Objective	Status	Summary/Action Needed
Objective 1.1 By 6/30/15 have the faith based, community, government and corporate resources in place to sustain a Neighborhood Resource Center to help strengthen families and increase protective factors in at least one high risk community in both Circuits 3 & 8.	Completed	In December 2013, PSF opened the Cone Park Library Resource Center in partnership with the Alachua County Library District to serve residents of east Gainesville. The resource center has the support of more than 50 community partners to help provide services that will strengthen the five Protective Factors in patrons. Since its establishment, Cone Park has seen more than 4,300 visits, and that number continues to grow.

Child Maltreatment Prevention

Objective	Status	Summary/Action Needed
		<p>PSF is also working to open a new resource center in Chiefland to serve both Circuits 3 & 8 (Levy, Gilchrist and Dixie Counties). This center, the Tri-County Community Resource Center, is a collaborative effort among more than 30 community partners and is scheduled to open in early 2015. PSF's first two resource centers, the Library Partnership and SWAG Family Resource Center, continue to see great success with more than 10,000 annual visits to each center.</p>
<p>Objective 1.2 From 7/1/10-6/30/15 meet at least annually with existing committees and advisory boards to provide training or share information on family centered practice and the Protective Factors and encourage use of this information in existing community, government and faith based programs in Circuits 3 & 8.</p>	Completed	<p>PSF hosts quarterly resource center meetings where partners from the Library Partnership, SWAG Family Resource Center and Cone Park Library Resource Center come together to share new programs and ideas to strengthen the resource centers and surrounding communities. Managers from each center also provide an update on recent program successes, future plans and any identified gaps in services or resources. Each of the centers use the Protective Factors as the foundation of their work and also use the Factors to guide future services and programs in the communities they serve.</p> <p>PSF also hosts bi-monthly Provider Meetings for all service providers from Circuits 3 and 8. Providers receive system updates, share current trends and receive training on developing statewide mandates in provision of services and reporting. The Protective Factor model is shared with all Providers as an important part of PSF's system of care.</p> <p>In April 2014, DCF offered two days of intensive training to teach stakeholders about the new systems and terminology under Safety Methodology. The training was offered to all interested community advocates in Circuits 3 and 8.</p>
<p>Objective 1.3 From 7/1/10-6/30/15 partner with the faith based community & other key partners in all counties to determine how a continuum of services, supports, and programs can be offered at one or more locations in each high need area or county that is not presently being served by a Neighborhood Resource Center.</p>	Completed	<p>PSF's five Children's Partnership Councils continue to meet on a bi-monthly to quarterly basis in Circuits 3 and 8. The councils are made up of key stakeholders and faith-based partners from around the community who have a vested interest in their community's children and families. The mission of the councils is to gain a better understanding of the additional resources needed to serve the vulnerable and at-risk children and families in their communities and collaborate with others to fill the gaps. Priorities for each of the Councils vary, but many Councils focus on bringing in new resource centers to serve their high-risk communities (via a resource center model or mobile resource units), eliminating transportation barriers and creating community resource lists to better serve their clients.</p>
<p>Objective 1.4 By 6/30/15 increase capacity & access to prevention programs.</p>	Completed	<p>In March 2014, PSF launched the Family Connections prevention program to serve children who DCF investigators determine to be "safe" but at high risk of future abuse. Family Connections is an evidence-based in-home program that can be customized to meet the individualized needs of the families based on risk factors identified by DCF investigators. Families participating in the program receive one-on-one meetings with a Master's level worker from a counseling or social work background one or more times a week. The specialist works with both the parents and the children on areas such as parenting, connections to community resources, financial stability, therapy and more.</p> <p>PSF and its partners have also expanded the resource center</p>

Child Maltreatment Prevention

Objective	Status	Summary/Action Needed
Objective 1.5 By 6/30/15 increase public awareness of positive parenting techniques and parenting resources available in each Circuit.	Completed	<p>network and enhanced services available to “Diversion” families referred by DCF.</p> <p>PSF has worked with the Department of Children and Families to ensure families have the information and resources needed to keep their children safe. PSF regularly promotes DCF’s Safe Sleep, Water Safety, “Look Before You Lock” and “Who’s Really Watching Your Child?” campaigns to families in our care. Detailed information on each safety tip is given to families as they enter PSF’s care in a Child and Family Handbook that is reviewed with them by their caseworker. Information on each of these awareness campaigns is also shared in the lobbies and directly with patrons of each resource center.</p> <p>Additionally, PSF and DCF work with the Child Abuse Prevention Task Force on an annual community event in Alachua County held in April as part of Child Abuse Prevention month where parenting resources and techniques are shared with families and children throughout the community.</p> <p>Prevention campaign PSA’s are being played on a continuous loop in the DCF Economic Support Services lobby to reach the 1,200 customers who conduct business there each month. DCF also partnered with Alachua County to have the PSAs shared with the 25,000 followers on their Facebook page as well as played on the county-run television station. These videos have additionally been shared with all Early Learning Coalitions, Healthy Families, Health Departments, Libraries, Domestic Violence Shelters and other partners to share with families served by their programs.</p> <p>Prevention materials have been placed in the 153 Economic Support Services Community Partner sites in Circuit 8 and shared with their patrons. The Economic Support Services Community Partner Liaison has held Partner Meet and Greets in each county in Circuit 8 and used these meetings as an opportunity to share DCF prevention information. DCF additionally partnered with Circuit 3 and 8 State Parks during the summer months to place Swim Safety brochures at all parks with water features.</p> <p>DCF coordinated with the United Way 2-1-1 Director for Florida to allow prevention information posted to the DCF Facebook page to also post to the 2-1-1 Facebook page in order to reach their broader audience.</p> <p>DCF has completed presentations on the Child Fatality and Prevention Website during a variety of alliance meetings. DCF is encouraging all staff to use every conversation as an opportunity to educate communities on safety practices.</p>

Strategy 2: Circuit 8 will support the statewide efforts to increase the availability and capacity of Healthy Families Florida to provide home visitation for families at high risk of abuse and neglect and in need of parenting education and support over the five-year period from July 2010 to June 2015.

Objective	Status	Summary/Action Needed
Objective 2.1 Continue, enhance and	Completed	PSF has historically supported and provided funding to

Child Maltreatment Prevention

expand Healthy Families Florida.		Healthy Families so they may continue their services to our children and families. In 2013, PSF provided \$100,000 to Healthy Families to continue this growth in Bradford, Union and parts of Columbia County. Though our formal contractual relationship will end in December 2014, PSF's three resource centers in Alachua County continue to make referrals to Healthy Families for families in need of parenting education. Additionally, representatives from Healthy Families participate in the Children's Partnership Councils of the communities they serve.
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Additional Activities

Partnership for Strong Families has been working diligently to expand the resource center model and to expand services and capacity at the agency's first three resource centers. In 2014, PSF developed a new position, Director of Resource Centers, to supervise managers at each resource center location as well as engage at-risk communities where new resource centers could thrive in helping to improve community outcomes.

The Library Partnership underwent a large expansion in 2014 due to a combined increase in both library and resource center patrons. The entire area doubled in space to provide additional social services, literacy assistance, access to computers, job skill development, employment opportunities, high-speed internet, after-school homework help and library services to the residents of northeast Gainesville.

Interagency Collaboration

Partnership for Strong Families helped initiate the Children's Partnership Councils in 5 regional communities, which have representation from more than 20 community and state agencies including law enforcement, Department of Children and Families, case management agencies, managing entities, United Way, Kiwanis Club, faith-based organizations, Guardian ad Litem, Department of Juvenile Justice, Department of Corrections, Healthy Families, school departments, mental health providers, Department of Health, business representatives, workforce boards, Early Learning Coalitions, the University of Florida, public libraries, Substance Abuse Prevention Coalitions and other community non-profits. These committed council members meet together in their respective communities on a bi-monthly to quarterly basis to seek out opportunities for collaboration to fill service gaps. The Children's Partnership Councils continue to grow and make plans to meet their council goals and priorities. PSF has allocated up to \$10,000 to each council for services and concrete items that are reasonable, allowable and necessary to meet currently unaddressed needs in their community.

Proposed Activities for 2014-2015

The Tri-County Community Resource Center will open in early 2015 and already has the support of more than 30 community partners. The City of Chiefland donated the use of the old City Hall building to house the center during at least the first three years of operation, the UF Child Protection Team is covering the cost of utilities and PSF will staff the center with a resource center manager.

In addition to plans for resource center expansion, PSF plans to continue working toward goals set out in our three-year Strategic Plan, ending in 2015, and to coordinate plans for the next three years and beyond. These goals are:

- Goal #1 - Improve placement capacity for foster children in the local community by increasing the number of Partner Families in our network.

Child Maltreatment Prevention

- Goal #2 - Prevent child abuse and neglect by promoting cost-effective and research-based prevention and intervention programs that are focused on the 0-5 age population.
- Goal #3 - Increase presence and outreach to PSF's rural service areas.
- Goal #4 - Increase community engagement by raising public awareness and visibility of PSF beyond immediate system stakeholders.
- Goal #5 - Create formal and informal partnerships with other entities that serve a population similar to PSF's.
- Goal #6 - Continue primary DCF contract in good standing by offering best value and through advocacy and strong partnerships.
- Goal #7 - Ensure sufficient funding to meet community need through government advocacy, fundraising and grants.
- Goal #8 - Diversify PSF funding so that 25% of total budget is from sources other than current CBC contract within 5 years.

Human Trafficking Activities

Summary of Human Trafficking Activities

Partnership for Strong Families follows statutory requirements for all human trafficking activities. PSF provides emergency and planned out-of-home placement including safe harbor placement, assessment for safe house or safe foster placement, authorization and/or linking with services for sexually exploited children, case management for victims who have been admitted to a Safe Harbor placement and Multidisciplinary Team Staffing for information sharing, case coordination and planning.

The Multidisciplinary Team Staffing facilitates information sharing between various agencies and key stakeholders for cases involving human trafficking and sexually exploited children. During the MDT, the Human Trafficking/Sexually Exploited Child Review Team reviews available information from the MDT Team, assesses if the child is in need of protection, makes decisions regarding authorization of safe harbor placement, reviews runaway recovery information, assesses the needs of each victim, makes recommendations for immediate actions and long-term solutions and assesses if the child has special and specific needs, particularly in cases of disability, psychosocial distress, illness and/or pregnancy and plans accordingly.

Proposed Human Trafficking Activities for 2014-2015

PSF plans to continue its current practices in Human Trafficking, ensuring that these practices are meeting legislative statute and providing the best care possible to victims of human trafficking and sexually exploited youth. PSF will continually monitor developing legislation and state assessments regarding human trafficking and advocate for the needs of this special population.

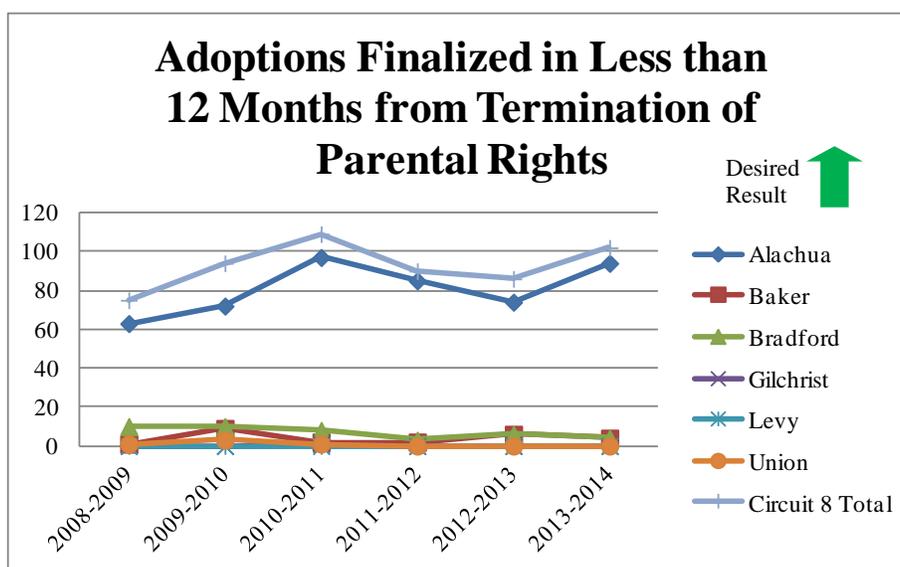
Promotion of Adoption Desired Population Level Results

2. Promotion of Adoption –

- a. By June 30, 2015, the percent of children adopted **within 12 months** of becoming legally free for adoption will increase from the State Fiscal Year 2008 – 2009 rate of 66.4 percent.

Children Adopted within 12 months of Termination of Parental Rights							
County	Number and Percentages	2008-2009	2009-2010	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013	2013-2014
Alachua	Adoptions Finalized within 12 Months	63	72	97	85	74	94
	Percentage of Adoptions Finalized within 12 Months	57%	53%	75%	69%	74%	82%
Baker	Adoptions Finalized within 12 Months	1	9	2	2	6	4
	Percentage of Adoptions Finalized within 12 Months	50%	50%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Bradford	Adoptions Finalized within 12 Months	10	10	8	3	6	4
	Percentage of Adoptions Finalized within 12 Months	59%	100%	100%	100%	100%	50%
Gilchrist	Adoptions Finalized within 12 Months	0	0	1	0	0	0
	Percentage of Adoptions Finalized within 12 Months	0%	0%	100%	0%	0%	0%
Levy	Adoptions Finalized within 12 Months	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Percentage of Adoptions Finalized within 12 Months	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Union	Adoptions Finalized within 12 Months	1	3	1	0	0	0
	Percentage of Adoptions Finalized within 12 Months	33%	75%	100%	0%	0%	0%
Circuit Total	Adoptions Finalized within 12 Months	75	94	109	90	86	102
	Percentage of Adoptions Finalized within 12 Months	56%	59%	77%	70%	77%	80%

**The current Five-Year Prevention and Permanency Plan started on July 1, 2010.*

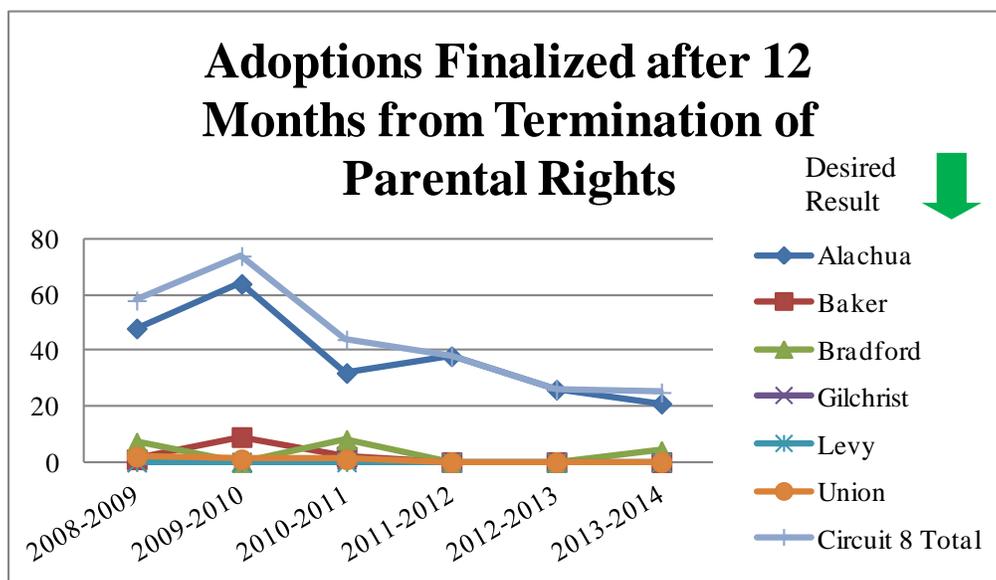


Promotion of Adoption

- b. By June 30, 2015, the percent of children legally free for adoption who have been waiting for adoption since the date of termination of parental rights (TPR) for **more than 12 months** will be reduced from the State Fiscal Year 2008 – 2009 rate of 53.19 percent.

Children Adopted after 12 months of Termination of Parental Rights							
County	Number and Percentages	2008-2009	2009-2010	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013	2013-2014
Alachua	Adoptions Finalized over 12 Months	48	64	32	38	26	21
	Percentage of Adoptions Finalized over 12 Months	43%	47%	25%	31%	26%	18%
Baker	Adoptions Finalized over 12 Months	1	9	0	0	0	0
	Percentage of Adoptions Finalized over 12 Months	50%	50%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Bradford	Adoptions Finalized over 12 Months	7	0	0	0	0	4
	Percentage of Adoptions Finalized over 12 Months	41%	0%	0%	0%	0%	50%
Gilchrist	Adoptions Finalized over 12 Months	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Percentage of Adoptions Finalized over 12 Months	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Levy	Adoptions Finalized over 12 Months	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Percentage of Adoptions Finalized over 12 Months	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Union	Adoptions Finalized over 12 Months	2	1	0	0	0	0
	Percentage of Adoptions Finalized over 12 Months	67%	25%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Circuit Total	Adoptions Finalized over 12 Months	58	64	32	38	26	25
	Percentage of Adoptions Finalized over 12 Months	44%	41%	23%	30%	23%	20%

**The current Five-Year Prevention and Permanency Plan started on July 1, 2010.*



Promotion of Adoption
Status of Strategies and Objectives

Strategy 1: By June 30, 2015, Circuit 8 will identify and successfully recruit families for all children legally free for adoption.

Objective	Status	Summary/Action Needed
Objective 1.1 Implement Concurrent Planning Pilot Project that integrates permanency planning efforts with foster parent/permanency planning family recruitment to meet emerging needs of specific populations of children awaiting adoption: teens, African-American children, sibling groups and those “acting out with others.”	Complete	The Concurrent Planning Pilot concluded in 2010 with various components of the methodology now woven into PSF’s system of care. Among these, PSF’s partner family training classes, P.R.I.D.E. (which replaced M.A.P.P. in 2013), continue to incorporate a section on permanency planning families. As of November 1, 2014, PSF has 101 licensed homes in Circuits 3 and 8, several of which are open to serving as permanency planning placements.
Objective 1.2 Create faith-based initiative for recruiting foster/permanency planning and/or adoptive families.	Ongoing	For the majority of the duration of the five-year plan, Faith-Based Partners meetings were held quarterly with PSF licensing and CHS adoption staff in attendance. As of 2014, the momentum building at these meetings was carried forward into public settings through the collaboration of DCF, PSF and One Church, One Child with “Prayer Breakfasts” now being held at local churches throughout both Circuits to extend the impact and outreach of these alliances.
Objective 1.3 Utilize Explore Adoption marketing materials to increase inquiries.	Ongoing	Children’s Home Society continues to pursue photos for display on the Florida Explore Adoption website and the agency’s traveling Heart Gallery display. Photos of waiting children are displayed at recruitment events and P.R.I.D.E. classes. They are featured in printed media and agency websites, and biographies of children are read on a local radio station. PSF also promotes adoption via TV and radio commercials, print ads and feature stories. In 2014, Partnership for Strong Families entered into a collaboration of agencies in Central Florida for the creation of Forever Families videos for television publication in the Orlando area, on the Forever Families website and on various recruitment websites. DCF also continues to promote National Adoption Month activities on the Explore Adoption website, which in November 2014 include a Celebrate Adoption event in Gainesville on November 8 at Kanapaha Park, a Celebrate Adoption event in Lake City on November 15 at the Skate Palace and a celebratory event at the Alachua County Courthouse that will commemorate adoptions being finalized on November 14 in Alachua County.
Objective 1.4 Implement Customer Service and Customer Support Protocol for Adoption Services.	Ongoing	Children’s Home Society (CHS) continues to work to meet all contractual requirements with PSF for customer feedback on services. In addition, CHS and PSF review recommendations annually from the Adoption Information Center for implementation. There are also annual training sessions conducted for CHS staff and all new hires during the year on Customer Service.

Strategy 2: Specific children need targeted recruitment for adoptive placement

Objective	Status	Summary/Action Needed
Objective 2.1 (same as 1.1) Implement Concurrent Planning Pilot Project that	Ongoing	As this objective relates to Strategy 2, continued efforts can be made that target recruitment of families able to meet the needs

Promotion of Adoption

integrates permanency planning efforts with permanency planning family/foster parent recruitment to meet emerging needs of population: teens, African-American children and those “acting out with others.”		of our populations most likely to linger in care, especially youth with therapeutic needs. Many successes have been achieved through the adoption of several waiting children with significant therapeutic needs by their therapeutic partner families; however, the need continues for additional families willing to serve as placements for and to adopt children with these needs.
Objective 2.2 (same as 1.2) Create faith-based initiative for recruiting foster/adoptive families.	Ongoing	For the majority of the duration of the five-year plan, Faith-Based Partners meetings were held quarterly with PSF licensing and CHS adoption staff in attendance. As of 2014, the momentum building at these meetings was carried forward into public settings through the collaboration of DCF, PSF and One Church, One Child with “Prayer Breakfasts” now being held at local churches throughout both Circuits to extend the impact and outreach of these alliances.
Objective 2.3 (same as 1.3) Utilize Explore Adoption marketing materials to increase inquiries.	Ongoing	<p>Children’s Home Society continues to pursue photos for display on the Florida Explore Adoption website and the agency’s traveling Heart Gallery display. Photos of waiting children are displayed at recruitment events and P.R.I.D.E. classes. PSF and Children’s Home Society also promote adoption via TV and radio commercials, print ads and feature stories.</p> <p>In 2014, Partnership for Strong Families entered into a collaboration of agencies in Central Florida for the creation of Forever Families videos for television publication in the Orlando area, on the Forever Families website and on various recruitment websites.</p> <p>DCF also continues to promote National Adoption Month activities on the Explore Adoption website, which in November 2014 include a Celebrate Adoption event in Gainesville on November 8 at Kanapaha Park, a Celebrate Adoption event in Lake City on November 15 at the Skate Palace and a celebratory event at the Alachua County Courthouse commemorating adoptions finalized on November 14 in Alachua County.</p>
Objective 2.4 (same as 1.4) Implement Customer Service and Customer Support Protocol for Adoption Services.	Ongoing	Children’s Home Society (CHS) continues to work to meet contractual requirements with PSF for customer feedback on services. In addition, CHS and PSF review recommendations annually from the Adoption Information Center for implementation. There are also annual training sessions conducted for CHS staff and all new hires during the year on Customer Service.

Strategy 3: Strategy 3: Children awaiting permanent placements need placement stability

Objective	Status	Summary/Action Needed
Objective 3.1 Implement Concurrent Planning Pilot Project that integrates permanency planning efforts with recruitment of permanency planning families to meet emerging needs of population: teens, African-American children and those “acting out with others.”	Complete	<p>As stated in Strategy 1 above, the Concurrent Planning Pilot concluded in 2010 with various components of the methodology now woven into our system of care. Among these, PSF’s partner family training classes, P.R.I.D.E. (which replaced M.A.P.P. in 2013), continue to incorporate a section on permanency planning families.</p> <p>As of November 1, 2014, PSF has 101 licensed homes in Circuits 3 and 8, several of which are open to serving as permanency planning placements.</p>

Promotion of Adoption

Objective	Status	Summary/Action Needed
Objective 3.2 Help improve processes to insure more timely permanency for the longest waiting youth.	Ongoing	<p>PSF has fully implemented the Permanency Round Table (PRT) model. Various staff have been trained and serve as resources to conduct the PRT, and PSF's full-time Youth Permanency Specialist facilitates these and other permanency needs for our children at risk of lingering in out-of-home care. Additionally, PSF has partnered with Children's Legal Services to include a Cold Case Legal review, and CLS participates in the PRTs. PSF finds this partnership beneficial in terms of permanency planning for youth. The PSF PRT initiative started primarily with older youth but has been expanded to include younger children as well those who may have a less than an optimistic permanency outcome and could benefit from intensive review and planning.</p> <p>Data supports that the principles that are now standard in our system of care to promote more timely permanency for the longest waiting youth are effectuating change. The number of children in out-of-home care who need child-specific adoption promotion efforts has decreased from 50 on June 30, 2009 to 40 on October 15, 2014. The number of APPLA goal children has decreased from 87 on 6/30/09 to 2 as of November 1, 2014.</p>

Additional Activities

Interagency Collaboration

PSF and CHS plan to continue collaborative efforts with DCF and One Church, One Child toward strategies to promote the adoption of our waiting children. PSF also engages numerous local churches in the promotion of adoption and child-specific recruitment.

Proposed Activities for 2014-2015

PSF and CHS plan to expand child-specific and media recruitment efforts for our waiting children. Among the specific means of enhancing recruitment efforts for our children freed for adoption is PSF's new 2014 collaboration with several other CBCs in Central Florida toward production of Forever Families videos for our waiting children to be aired on WFTV (Orlando) and suitable for use on the recruitment websites and through PSF's social media outlets.

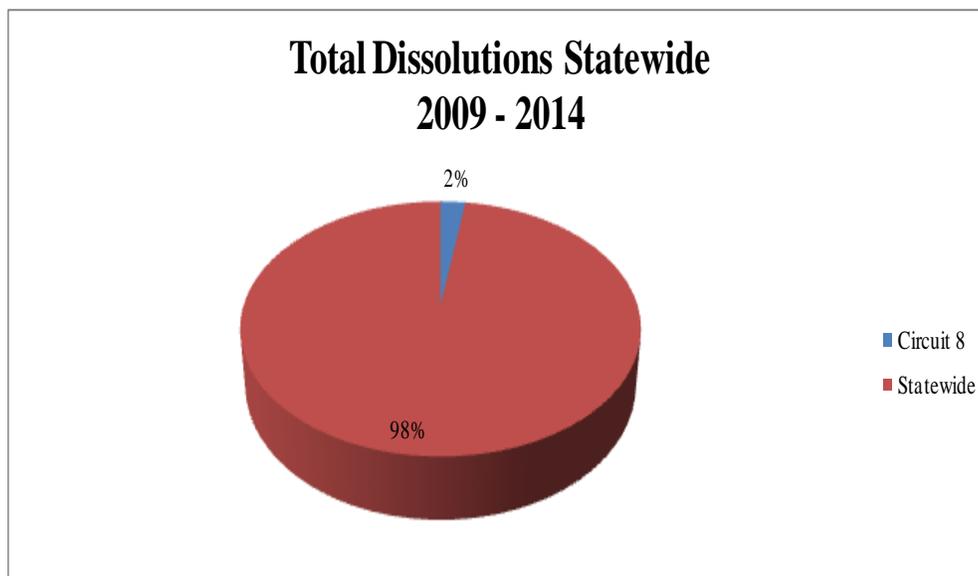
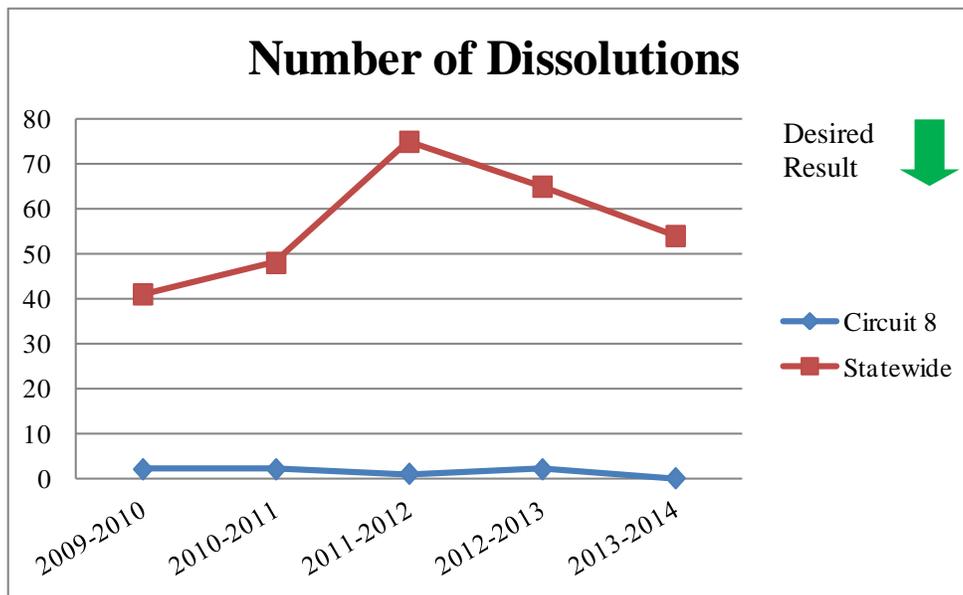
Additionally, PSF continues to promote adoption of waiting children via TV, radio and print media outlets, including a special campaign for National Adoption Month 2014: "30 Days of Amazing Local Kids," capitalizing on the statewide campaign by tailoring it to local audiences with local waiting children.

**Support of Adoptive Families
Desired Population Level Results**

- 3. Support of Adoptive Families** – By June 30, 2015, the annual number of adopted children who are returned to foster care (regardless of when the adoption was finalized) will be reduced from the State Fiscal Year 2008 – 2009 number of 98.

Number of Dissolutions					
	2009-2010	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013	2013-2014
Circuit Total	2	2	1	2	0
State Total	41	48	75	65	54

**The current Five-Year Prevention and Permanency Plan started on July 1, 2010.*



Support of Adoptive Families
Status of Strategies and Objectives

Strategy1: By June 30, 2015, Circuit 8 will support successful adoptions with improved help from adoption competent counselors and group supports.

(Note: CHS will administer a survey to adoptive families to assess their needs and will base the type of services provided on the results of the needs assessment. It is also important to note that CHS has found that many adoptive families are not interested in services and they just want to resume a normal family life after the adoption is finalized.)

Objective	Status	Summary/Action Needed
Objective 1.1 Maintain trained workforce and Increase number of professionals trained by Rutgers program for Adoption Competency Certification Training.	Ongoing	<p>As of November 2014, 7 current licensed therapists in Circuits 3 & 8 have completed the training and are serving our children. Two additional therapists have training underway. In addition, PSF has additional providers interested in the next training when it becomes available locally.</p> <p>Adoption-competent clinicians serve the majority of our local adoption goal children and families receiving counseling. As of November 2014, 84% of post adoptive families referred for counseling services were working with adoption competent clinicians.</p>

Additional Activities

PSF has a full-time position dedicated to the post-adoption support of adoptive families. By way of this Post-Adoption Support Specialist (PASS), adoptive families are linked to services by way of referrals or information for needs arising after the adoption including, but not limited to adoption-competent counseling, behavior analyst services and psychological evaluations or other assessments not covered by Medicaid. PSF’s PASS distributes a quarterly post-adoption newsletter bearing important information and resources for adoptive families such as announcements of Weekend Adventure Camps, upcoming state adoption trainings and adoption support groups.

One of the additional features of our adoption program and post-adoption services in Circuits 3 and 8 is the availability of Village Counseling Center’s “Adoption Success Program.” Through this program, licensed, adoption-competent clinicians are available to support partner families and match families with education, training and counseling to help equip them to meet the needs of this unique population. Our partner and adoptive parents have also been offered training on the specialized needs of children who are victims of sexual abuse or who have had sexualized acting out behaviors to promote families’ understanding of these needs and to support consideration of adoption of children with these needs.

Interagency Collaboration

PSF’s PASS collaborates with DCF Child Protective Investigators in matters of post-adoption investigations and with case management agencies in incidents in which adopted children re-enter care.

Proposed Activities for 2014-2015

PSF plans to continue the program of post-adoption support currently in place and looks forward to the arrival of local training so that we may equip additional local providers with adoption competency training.

Inventory of Faith-Based Partners

Please provide information for all faith-based partners that have provided support to your Five-Year Prevention and Permanency Plan.

Organization Name	Contact Name	Type(s) of Support Provided
St. Luke's Episcopal Church	George Hinchliffe	Children's Partnership Council participation
Christ Central Church	Wayne Godsmark	Children's Partnership Council participation
First United Methodist Church	Diana Child	Tri-County Resource Center partner/Children's Partnership Council participation
New Dayspring Missionary Baptist Church	Pastor Lantz Mills	Hosts Partner and Adoptive Family recruitment events/Children's Partnership Council participation
Unitarian Universalist Fellowship Church	Alice Primack	Provides donations and volunteers for PSF's resource centers
University City Church of Christ	Donny Dillon	Supports PSF's Partner Families and caregivers by participating in the Wish Upon a Star Holiday Toy Drive and hosts PSF's Partner and Adoptive Families for an annual Holiday Banquet.
Greenhouse Church	Mike Patz	Hosts Partner and Adoptive Family recruitment events and supports PSF's Partner Families and caregivers by participating in the Wish Upon a Star Holiday Toy Drive and Back to School Drive.
Grace United Methodist Church	Phil Courson	Provides donations and volunteers for the SWAG Family Resource Center
Trinity United Methodist Church	Dan Johnson	Provides donations for the SWAG Family Resource Center
Catholic Charities	Lynn Causey	Children's Partnership Council participation/resource center donations
Church of God by Faith	James McKnight	Hosts Partner and Adoptive Family recruitment events
Family Church	Sheery Meurer	Donations of Care Packages for children entering foster care
Fountain of Life Church	Gussie Boatwright	Supports PSF's Partner Families and caregivers by participating in the Wish Upon a Star Holiday Toy Drive and hosts Holiday Banquets for Partner and Adoptive Families
Upper Room Ministries	Karl Anderson	Provides donations and supports PSF's Partner Families and caregivers by participating in the Wish Upon a Star Holiday Toy Drive
Gainesville Seventh Day Adventist Church	Antonette Bennett	Supports PSF's Partner Families and caregivers by participating in the Wish Upon a Star Holiday Toy Drive
Northwest Baptist Church	Dotti Haller	Supports PSF's Partner Families and caregivers by participating in the Wish Upon a Star Holiday Toy Drive
One Church, One Child	Ari Sailor	Promotes need of Partner and Adoptive Families throughout the state and works with PSF to host recruitment events
Greater Truevine Baptist Church	Antonio Carlisle	Supports PSF's Partner Families and caregivers by participating in the Wish Upon a Star Holiday Toy Drive and participates in Partner and Adoptive Family recruitment events
Pleasant Grove United Methodist Church	Dustin Bailey	Participates in Partner and Adoptive Family recruitment events

Inventory of Faith-Based Partners

St. John the Evangelist Church	Donna Maynard	Supports PSF's Partner Families and caregivers by participating in the Wish Upon a Star Holiday Toy Drive
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