2013 Annual Report for Five-Year Prevention and Permanency
Objective 1.2 Adoption Competent Professionals

Reporting Period: January 1, 2013 – December 31, 2013

Summary of Plan Activities
Please provide a summary of activities for your five-year prevention and permanency plan objective. For each activity, please identify how they support/promote the Protective Factors.

- Provide adoption competency training to mental health professionals, educational professionals, adoption specialists, child welfare professionals and other stakeholders. Completion of the Adoption Competency curricula will provide the attendees with the needed information to mentor and support adoptive parents regarding parenting and child/youth development, social and emotional competence of children and nurturing and attachment.

Progress
Please describe the progress towards achieving your objective outlined in the five-year plan. (If your objective focuses on the State Fiscal Year, please report accordingly. If not, report information based on the 2013 calendar year.)

Although two classes of "train the trainer" have occurred during the last three years and established 25 trainers, some staff have changed job duties or were promoted and therefore we must continue to replenish the supply of trainers for the Adoption Competency curricula.

- Over 200 mental health professionals have been trained by the trainers of the Rutgers University Adoption Competency curricula during the past three years.
- Trainers were also successful in training adoption staff, child welfare staff, Guardians ad Litem and some educational professionals.
- CEUs are provided to licensed professionals who complete the training at no cost to the trainees.
- Quarterly conference calls were conducted to discuss barriers and successes.
- A significant number of mental health professionals who completed the training also changed job duties or no longer belong accept Medicaid insurance which is the insurance of choice for our adoptive families.
- Bottomline, we have made progress but need to replenish the supply of trainers and mental health professionals who completed the Adoption Competency training.

Please identify the percentage of achievement of your objective in the five-year prevention and permanency plan you think your team has achieved, and describe why.

We are probably at 75% completion. We need to re-establish a workgroup to address if the curricula needs to be updated and, if so, we can update the curricula with the National Resource Center for Adoption's Adoption Competency curricula. In addition, we need to determine how to provide a shorter version of the curricula for educational professionals.

Do you think your team is on target to accomplishing your objective by June 2015? Why or why not?

Unsure. It depends on the workload regarding enhancements to FSFN and several adoption federal audits that may occur during 2014.

Highlights and Accomplishments
Please describe any highlights and accomplishments connected to your objective's five-year plan.

Over 200 mental health professionals have completed the Adoption Competency curricula and the contact information for the professionals, where they are located in the state, and the counties they provide services for are available on a list on the Department's website at www.adoptflorida.org.

Next Steps
Please identify what your objective's proposed next steps are for 2014 related to the five-year plan.

- A new train the trainer class will be scheduled during 2014 in order to replenish the trainer lost last year.
- A workgroup will be established to address if new curricula needs to be added to the current Rutgers University curricula and a shorter version of the curricula for educational professionals.

Please identify what your objective's proposed next steps are for the next five-year plan, to be launched in July 2015.

Continue on an ongoing basis with the same action steps for this objective.