

July 23, 2015

five years of safe babies court teams

county implementation: 2010-2014

asu center for child welfare

purpose

Improve the way maltreatment/neglect cases of children from birth to 3 years of age are handled by training juvenile court officials on implementation of policies and best practices shown to have a direct effect on child well-being.

history

prevent child abuse arizona

- zero-to-three safe babies court team program evaluation for Maricopa County
- Implementation and outcomes for all 15 Arizona counties

arizona state university

- 2014 completed first outcome comparison group evaluation with 3 years of data
- 2015 expanded scope with 5 years of data

2015 evaluation goals

- to **assess** progress implementing the program statewide
- to **understand** how each county is performing relative to the 10 core components of the safe babies court team model program
- to **relate** outcome data from DCS to program implementation findings

part I:
**evaluation design
and methods**

a formative evaluation

**to support the ongoing
intervention with meaningful data,
and from that provide timely and
relevant feedback that drives
discussion and decision making**

three questions

- I. how has the county implemented the court team model?**

- II. how has the county operationalized the 10 core components?**

- III. what are the initial outcomes?**

outcome data challenges

- **data timeline (2010-2015)**
- **county level limitations**
- **business rules – defined**
 - **removal data characteristics**
 - **consistency across counties**
- **complicated/complex outcomes and restrictions**

Interview data challenges

- **goal to interview 30 people**
- **roadblocks**
- **summarizing interviews**

county reports

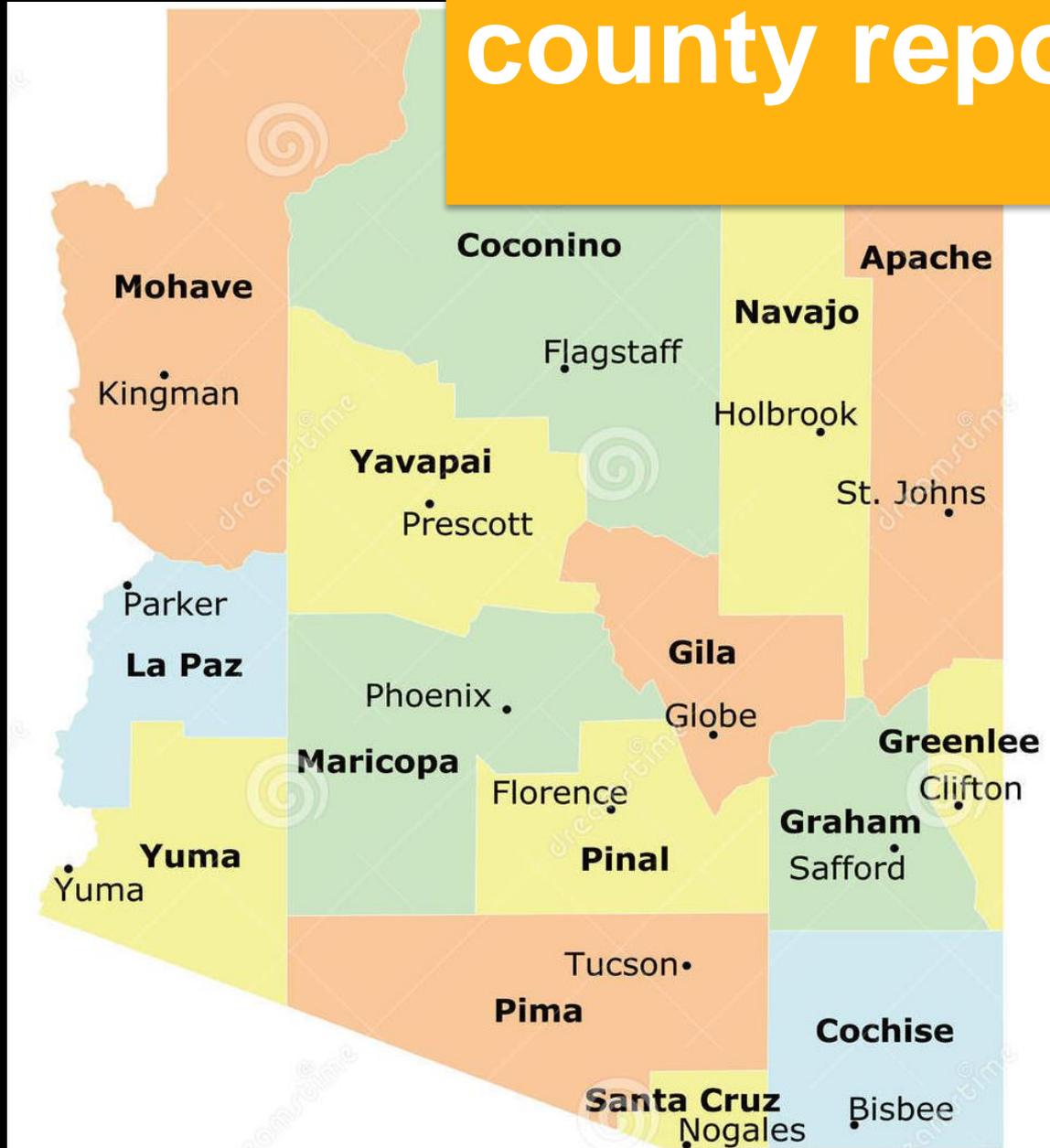


table 4

Permanency Outcomes

Table 4. *Length of Time in Care as a Percentage of Each Group*

Length of Time in Care	12 month follow up (n =)	24 month follow up (n =)	36 month follow up (n =)	48 month follow up (n =)
Removal End date				
Yes				
No				
Length of Time in Care in Days				
8-30				
31-180				
181-365				
366-730				
731-1095				
Number of Placements				
0				
1				
2				
3				
4 or more				

table 5

Safety Outcomes

Table 5. *Permanency Outcomes as a Percentage of Each Group*

Permanency Outcomes	Rolling 12 months (n =)	Rolling 24 months (n =)	Rolling 36 months (n =)	Rolling 48 months (n =)
Removal End Reasons				
Reunification				
Guardianship by Relative				
Guardianship by Foster Parent				
Transfer to Other Agency				
Adoption by Foster Parent				
Adoption by Relative				
Adoption by Non-Relative				
Death				
Re-Reports				
0				
1				
Re-removal				
Yes				
No				
Days until Re-entry				
0-30				
31-180				
181-365				
Re-entry Removal Reason				
Neglect				
Physical Abuse				
Sexual Abuse				

part 2

**what is happening in
your county?**

county profiles

- **interview guide**
 - **profile template**
- **strengths & barriers**
 - **your changes**

10 core components

1. judicial leadership

- actions representing judicial leadership?
- are these actions in your report now?

10 core components

2. local coordinator

- is there a dedicated local coordinator?
- if not, who serves this function?

10 core components

3. court team

- **what is the structure of the court team?**
- **how often do they meet?**
- **what occurs at the meetings?**

10 core components

4. infants and toddlers in out of home care

- does your county target B-3 cases to review?

10 core components

5. placement and concurrent planning

- what are the strategies to minimize placements?
- how does the court team make sure concurrent planning occurs?
- what are the barriers to concurrent planning?

10 core components

6. family team meetings

- do case review meetings occur regularly?
- who attends (family members?) and who should be attending that isn't?
- how are meeting results communicated to the judge?

10 core components

7. parent-child visitation

- how and where are visits arranged?
- how is frequency determined?

10 core components

8. mental health services

- how is the need for mental health services determined?
- are mental health services included in case plans?
- are services being provided in a timely manner to support reunification?

10 core components

9. training and technical assistance

- what training and assistance is provided to your court team?
- who participates in trainings?
- what additional topics are needed?
- what additional technical assistance is needed?

10 core components

10. evaluation

- is there county level evaluation of your program?
- what type of information not currently supplied would be helpful?

data

questions