



Commission on Improving the Status of Children in Indiana

Plan for 2022 Evaluation and Continuous Quality Improvement

Research Questions

The Commission on Improving the Status of Children in Indiana would like to have an evaluator seek feedback from public- and private-sector human services professionals who work with the Commission to assess the following questions, and develop a CQI process for ongoing use:

1. Is the Commission having an impact on (a) the way Indiana state government operates for vulnerable children and (b) the outcomes of vulnerable children served by state systems?
2. What is the reach, role, and perception of the Commission among entities addressing the needs of vulnerable youth?
3. How are the Commission's tools, resources, and other work products being employed by family- and youth-serving professionals, and are they effective?
4. How can the Commission maximize the effectiveness of its work and the use of its resources?

Performance Measures

This project will be a success if the following are true by the project's end, or shortly thereafter:

1. Theory of change is developed, presented to Commission, accepted and understood by Commission members and key stakeholders as an accurate description of what the Commission is seeking to achieve, and by what means
2. Data collection processes are integrated into the Commission's day-to-day functioning
3. The Commission regularly reviews and analyses its own performance data
4. The Commission takes action, based on the data, to increase its effectiveness in meeting its mission

Partnership with Casey Family Programs

Technical assistance will be provided for this project by Casey Family Programs. Specifically, the research team at Casey Family Programs will provide support as needed to the local evaluator and Commission staff to set up and structure the evaluation project, with an eye toward developing a continuous quality improvement process. The effort will be front-loaded as an evaluation in 2022, but designed to leave behind a sustainable infrastructure for continuously examining and improving the Commission's processes and outcomes.