



Family First Prevention Services Act

CHILDREN'S TRUST OF ALACHUA COUNTY

4:00PM - APRIL 12, 2021

Family First Prevention Services Act



- The Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA) was passed into law on February 9, 2018 as part of the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018.
- The original version was introduced in 2015.

<https://www.acf.hhs.gov/cb/resource/compilation-of-social-security-act>

FFPSA Focal Points

Prevent

- Prevent Entry into Foster Care

Engage

- Engage Families in Prevention Services

Provide

- Provide Care in the Least Restrictive Environment



FFPSA Provisions

Part I. Prevention Activities under Title IV-E

Part II. Enhanced Support Under Title IV-B

Part III. Miscellaneous

Part IV. Ensuring the Necessity of a Placement that is not in a Foster Family Home

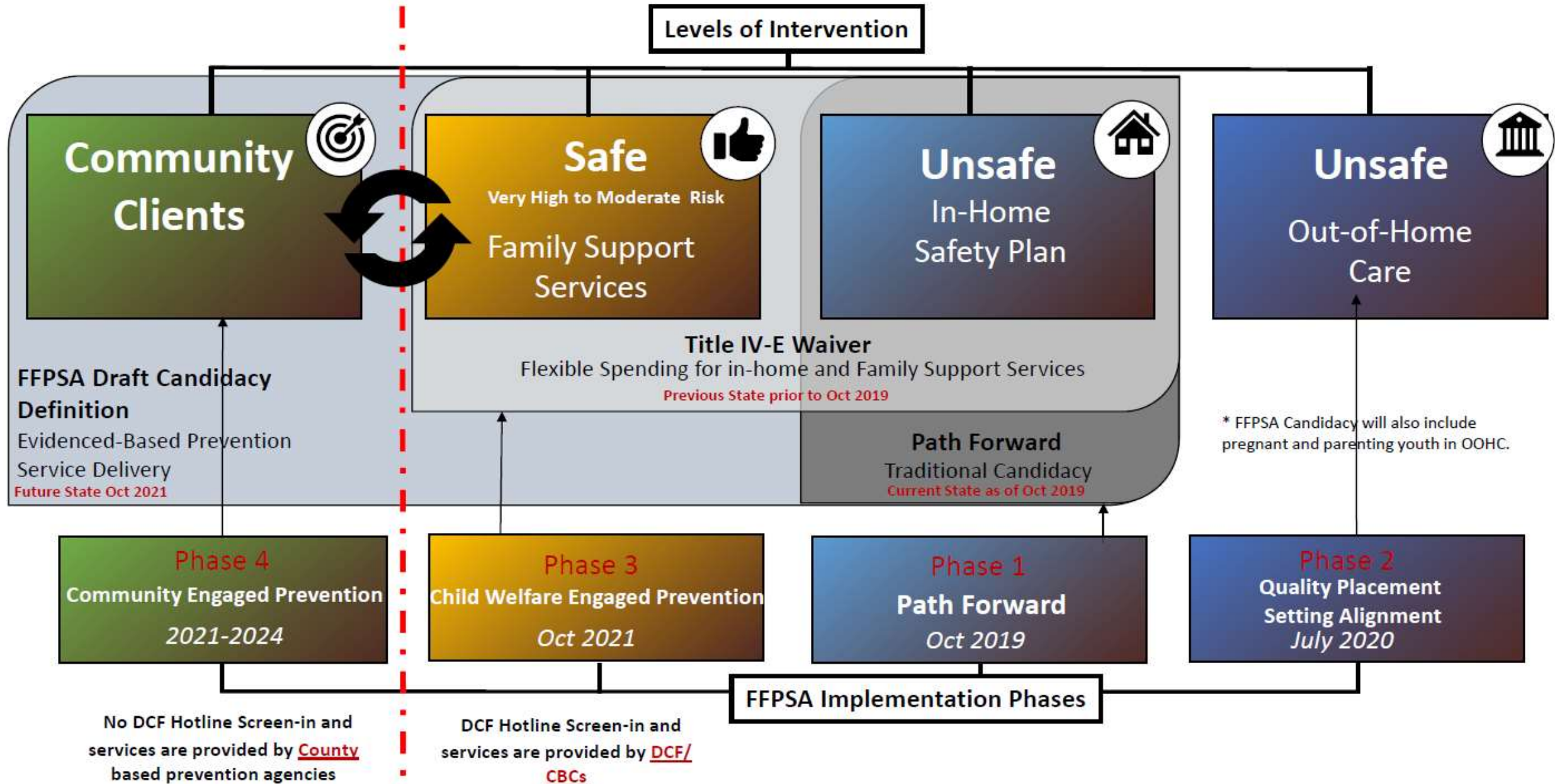
Part V. Continuing Support for Child and Family Services

Part VI. Continuing Incentives to States to Promote Adoption and Legal Guardianship

Part VII. Technical Corrections

Part VIII. Ensuring States Reinvest Savings Resulting from Increases in Adoption Assistance

Florida's Journey to FFPSA Implementation





PART I—Prevention Activities Under Title IV–E

- Allows the use of Title IV-E funds for the following services to prevent the placement of children and youth into the foster care system.
 - In-home parent skill-based programs,
 - Mental health services, and
 - Substance abuse prevention and treatment services.
- Title IV-E funds can only be used in this capacity for 12 months for children who are “candidates for foster care” and for pregnant or parenting foster youth.
- The act further clarifies that children and youth under the guardianship of a kin caregiver are also eligible for these funds.

PART I—Prevention Activities Under Title IV–E

Services or programs must be

- Trauma-informed:
 - Be provided under a structure that involves understanding, recognizing and responding to all types of trauma
 - In accordance with recognized principles of trauma-informed approach and trauma-specific interventions to address trauma consequences and facilitate healing
- Meet the requirements for a “promising, supported or well-supported practice” as defined and approved by HHS
- At least 50% of state expenditures reimbursed by Title IV-E funds must be for services and activities that meet federal requirements for well-supported practices

Candidacy Definition

For the purpose of Florida's Title IV-E Prevention Program, a child is considered a candidate of prevention services for mental health, substance abuse, and in-home parent skill-based programs if they are at imminent risk of entering foster care. The title IV-E prevention program is part of a much broader vision of strengthening families by preventing child maltreatment, unnecessary removal of children from their families, and homelessness among youth, as per ACYF-CB-PI-18-09.

A Florida FFPSA candidate for IV-E Prevention Program is defined as children and youth, formally assessed through community engagement or abuse hotline reporting to be at imminent risk of entering foster care but who can remain safely in their home or in a kinship placement with the evidence-based prevention services delivered through the community, through the Community Based Care service network, or through the Department of Children and Families.

A child/youth may be at risk imminent of entering foster care based on alleged maltreatment and/or circumstances and characteristics of the family unit, individual parents, and/or children that may affect the parents' ability to safely care for and nurture their children in their own homes.

Circumstances or characteristics of the child, parent or kin caregiver that could put children at imminent risk of entering foster care may include, but not limited to:

- Experiencing or have experienced substance use or addiction
- Experiencing or have experienced mental illness
- Need in-home parenting support and/or enhanced parental knowledge of child and youth development
- Demonstrate limited capacity to function in parenting roles (i.e., interpersonal relationships that are characterized by a lack of coping, escalations to violence and/or power and control dynamics, intergenerational patterns of abuse and/or neglect)
- Parental support to address serious needs of a child related to the child's behavior or medical condition
- Need Support for a developmental delay
- Need support for a physical or intellectual disability
- Support of adoption or guardianship arrangements that are at risk of disruption
- Support of parental resiliency and/or concrete resources (i.e., family stressors, poverty)

Candidacy Definition

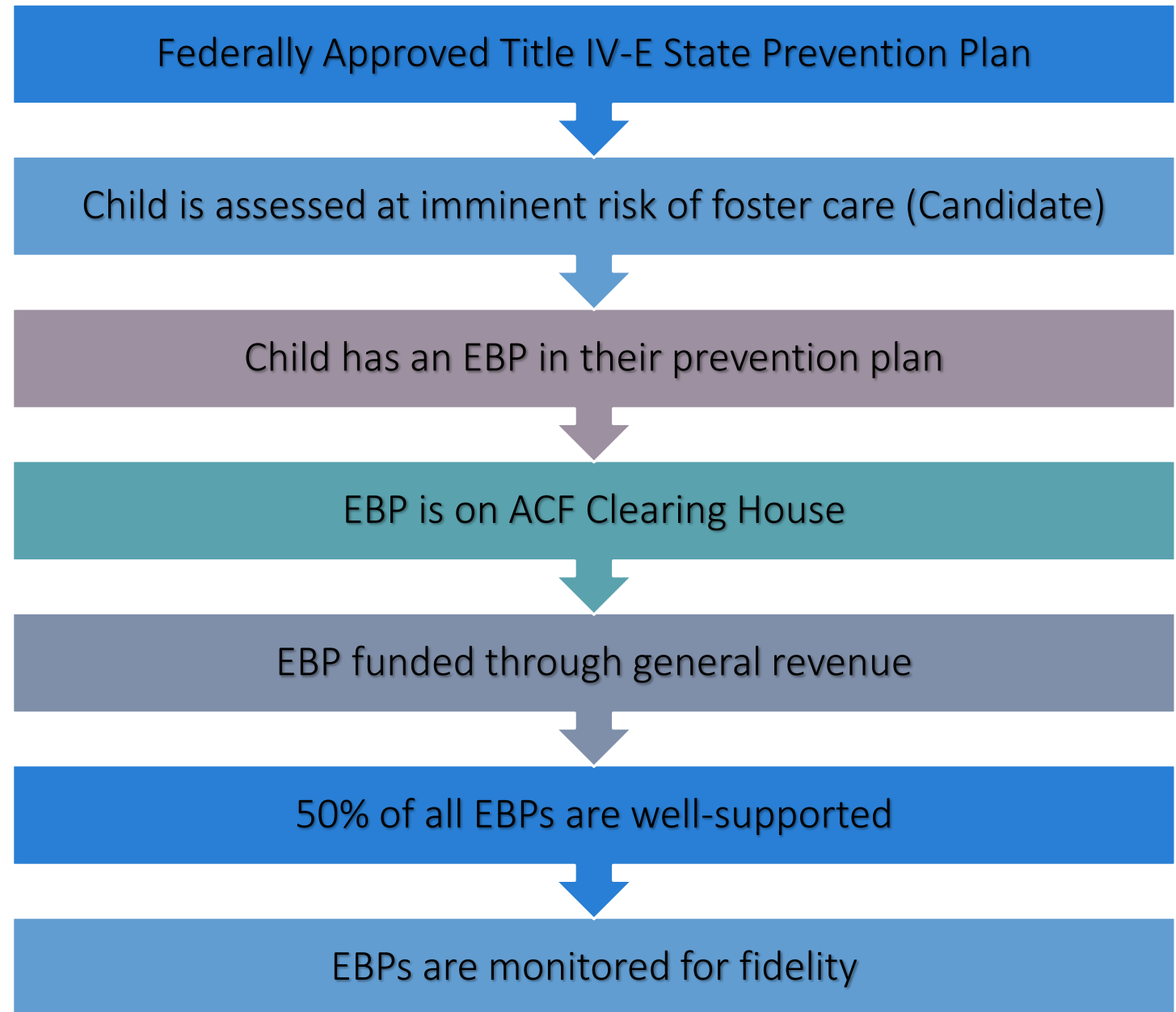
Florida's identified population that are eligible for Title IV-E Prevention services include youth and young adults who are:

1. 0-17 years old in the care of their parent(s) under in-home judicial case,
2. 0-17 years old in the care of their parents under a non-judicial case,
3. 0-17 years old residing at home in the care of their parent(s) or legal guardian, while their sibling is placed in foster care,
4. 0-17 years old who have exited foster care through reunification, permanent guardianship, or adoption and may be at risk of re-entry,
5. Minor female who is pregnant or parenting her own child,
6. Minor male expecting a child or parenting his own child,
7. Minor placed in out-of-home care with their own child,
8. Young adult in extended foster care (EFC) who is pregnant or parenting their own child,
9. Young adult who meets EFC requirements before their 21st birthday,
10. In a family made arrangement,
11. Children who are deemed as safe but at moderate, high, or very high risk,
12. Parents or caregivers who contact the department or community stakeholder requesting assistance to maintain their family unit,
OR
13. Children who are assessed by the community as having the identified family, parental or individual circumstances or characteristics defined in Florida's candidacy definition.

What must be in place to claim?

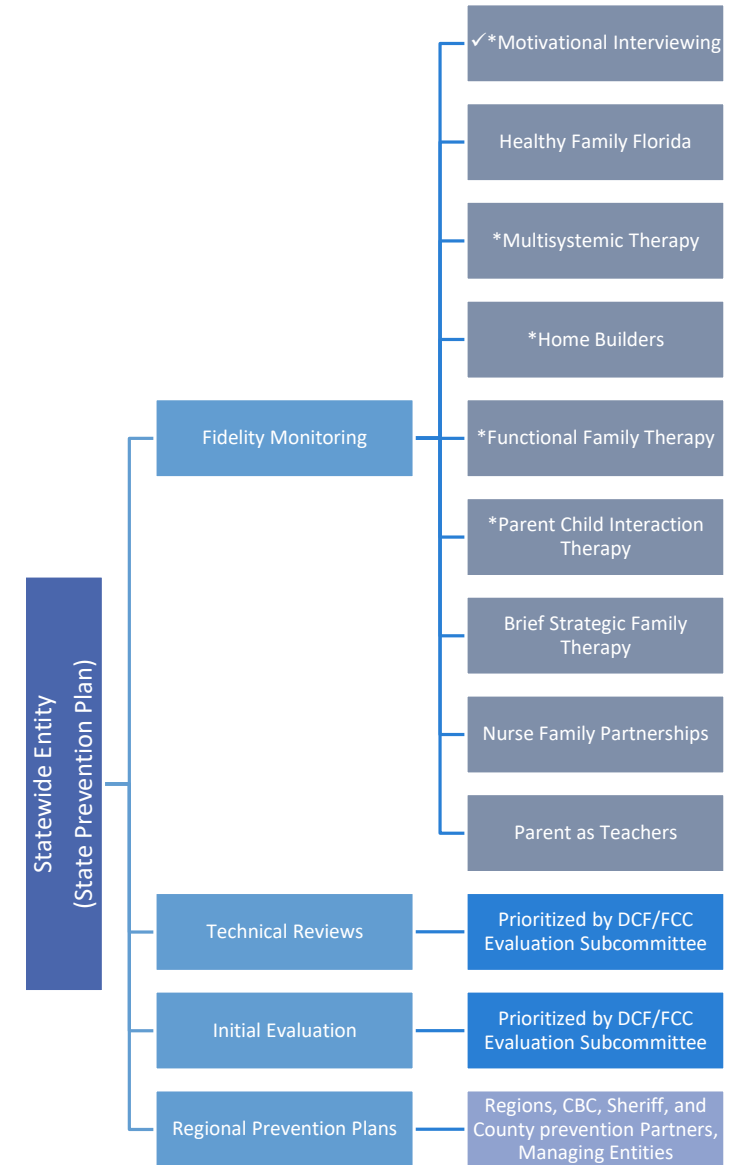
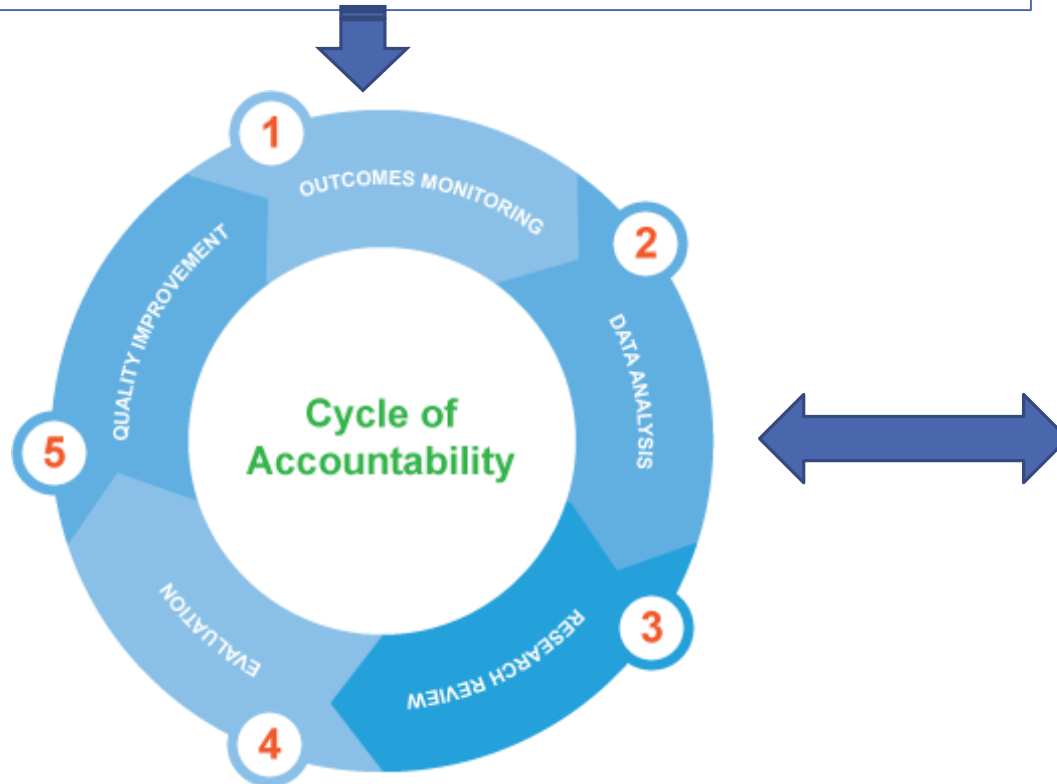
What must be tracked / Reported for claiming for ACF:

- Service is tracked by child
 - Duration of service
 - Cost of Service
 - Placement of child when receiving the service
- Annual Reporting for children receiving EBPs (re-entry; repeat maltreatment)



FFPSA Evaluation and Claiming Linkage to DCF Results Oriented Accountability

- Reduce the number of children placed in OOHC
- Increase the number of children receiving in-home services.
- Increase the number of EB prevention services delivered to in-home cases
- Increase the number and quality of pre-crisis contacts
- Decrease the number of reports to the Florida Abuse Hotline
- Increase the number of formalized care coordination models
- Reduce the rate of recurrence of maltreatment
- Reduce the rate of re-entry into the child welfare system



*Indicates Services Being Supported by FFTA



Q&A
