2008 and 2009 Case Progression Reports for Nebraska

Sarah Beal

Demystifying the Data Reports

A preface -

- Congratulations!
  - State median time to case closure has dropped by 5 months
    - Dropped by 2 months for children ages 0-3
  - Most teams have made dramatic improvements in case progression across all events
- Thank you for all of your hard work

The beginning – page 1

University of Nebraska-Lincoln Center on Children, Families, and the Law

Case Progression and Court Improvement Data Report for 2009

Through the Eyes of the Child Initiative

District 5 Team York:
Butler, Polk, Saunders, Seward, and York Counties

Information provided in this document is designed to help your team improve case progression, as this is one area the courts can control. Timeliness of hearings has a significant impact on time to case closure, which means that courts can make a difference in the lives of children in the system. Data on page 1 and 2 come from Fostering Court Improvement fosteringcourtimprovement.org/ne) and data on pages 3-8 were collected through JUSTICE to track case progression timelines for all abuse/neglect cases that closed in 2008 and 2009.

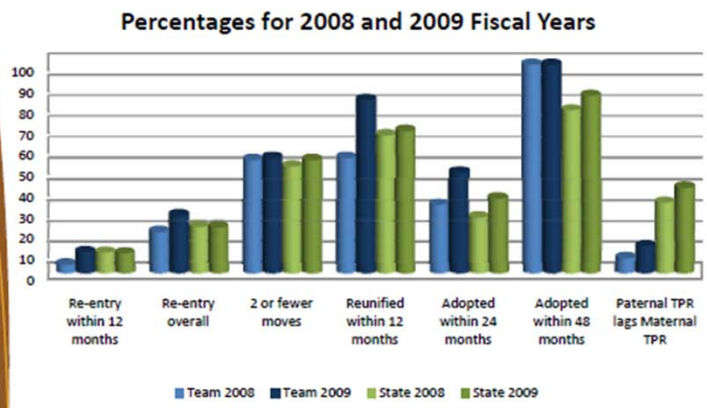
	District 5 York		Nebraska		Missouri	National
	2008	2009	2008	2009	2009	2008-2009
Poverty rate*	10.5%	Not available	13.4%	14%	20%	18%
Median length of stay	11 months	9 months	13 months	12 months	13 months	16 months
Median months to reunification	7 months	5 months	7 months	7 months	8 months	7 months
Median months to adoption	27 months	26 months	34 months	29 months	27 months	29 months

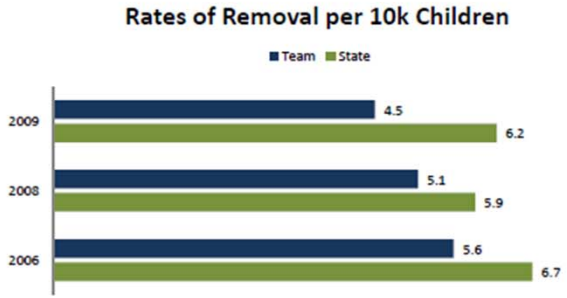
* 2008 county data comes from the U.S. Census Bureau. NE, MO, and National data are from Kids Count. 2009 is considered October 2008 through September 2009

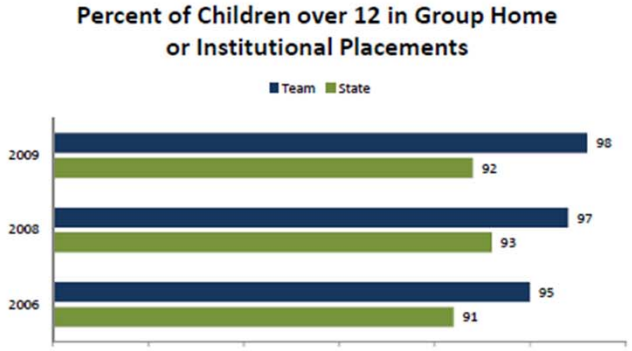
Page 1

- Team name and counties involved in your team
- Brief description of where the data comes from
- Rates for 2008 and 2009 from Fostering Court Improvement

Changes across Fiscal Years– page 2





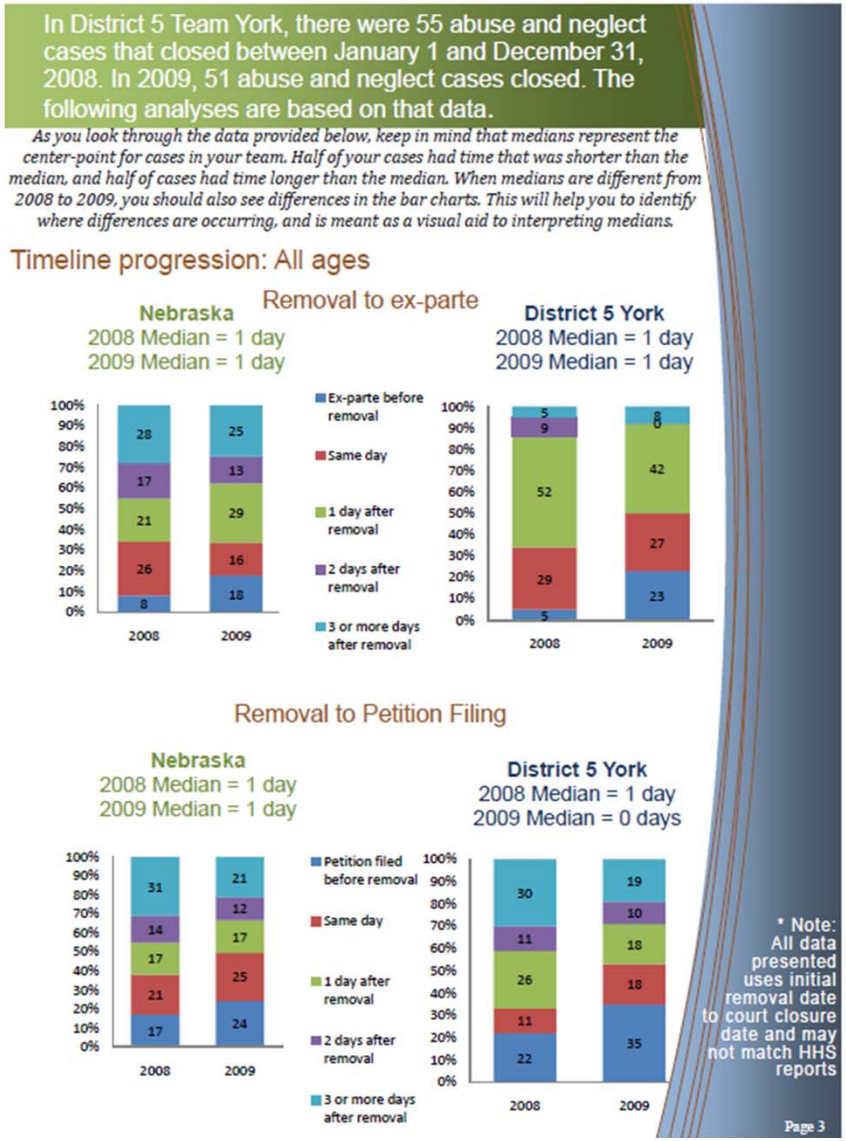


Page 2

- More 2008/2009 data for your team and state from Fostering Court Improvement
- When to go up
- When to go down

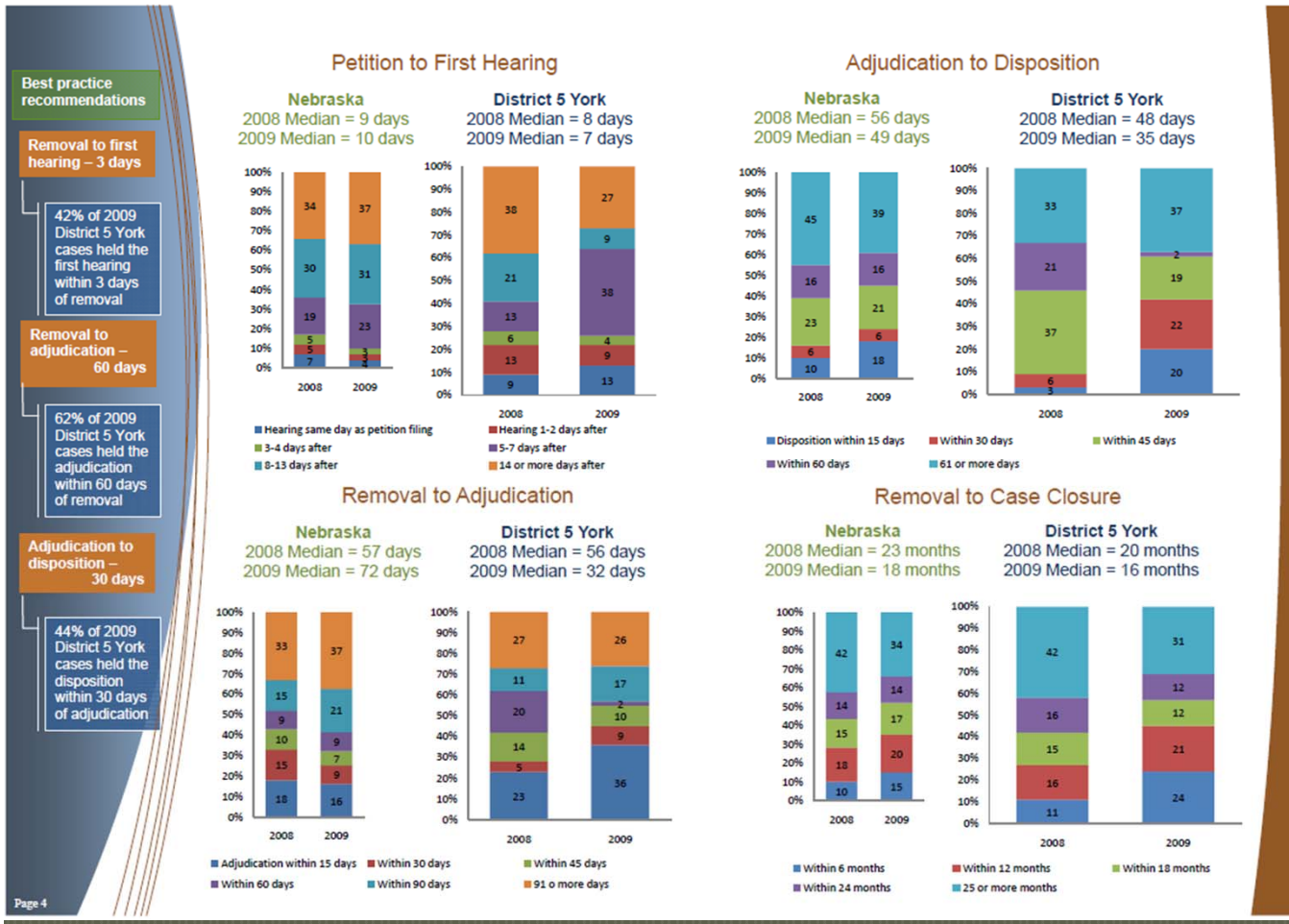
JUSTICE* Data – Early Case Events

*Douglas County data from QWS



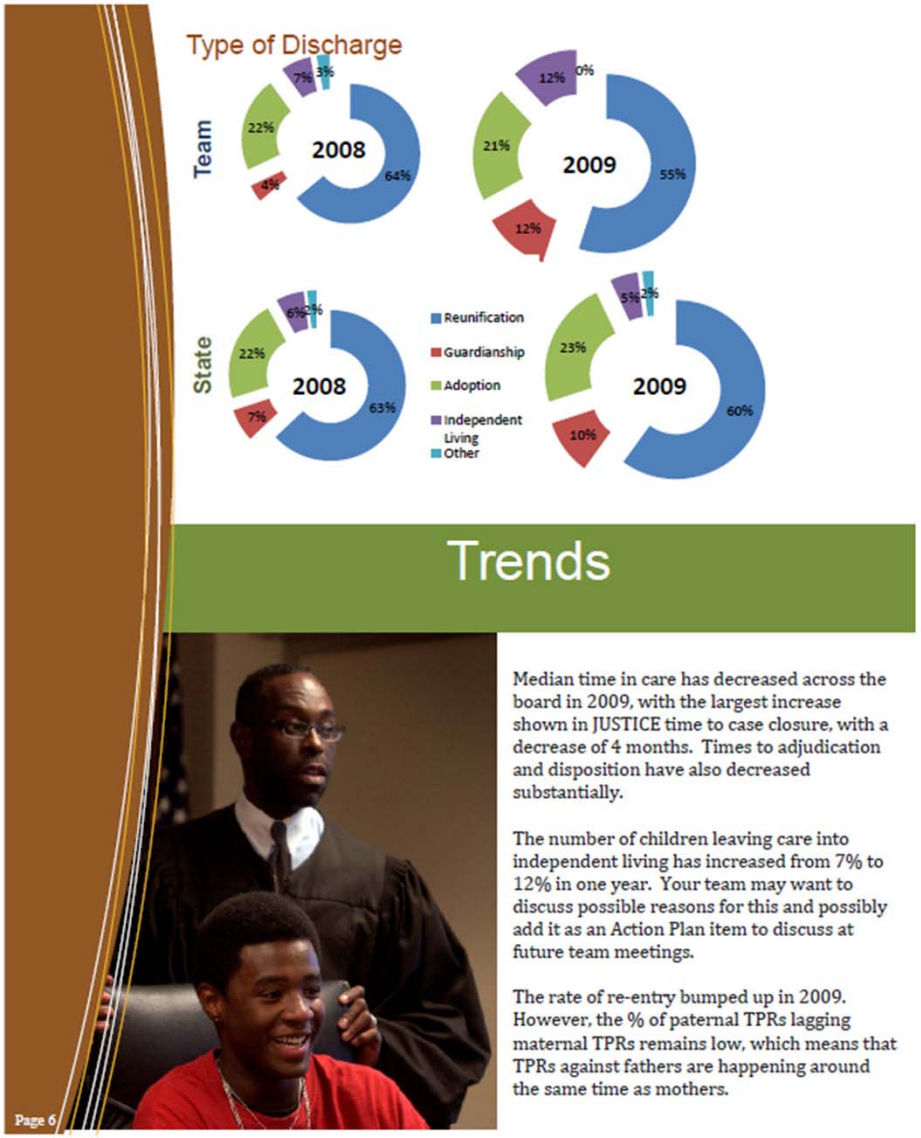
- JUSTICE data based on cases that close in a calendar year
  - Number of cases
  - Child versus Family
  - Older cases versus newer cases
- Medians
- Distributions
- Spotting change: Improvements from 2008 to 2009

Best Practice Recommendations – How well are you doing?



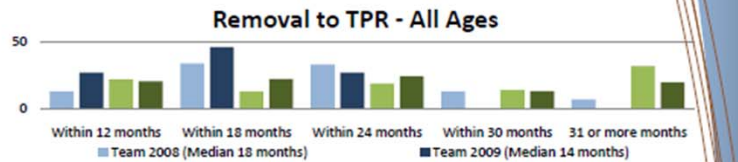
- Changes in practice impacting progression
- Using distributions to target your efforts
- Too few cases to tell…

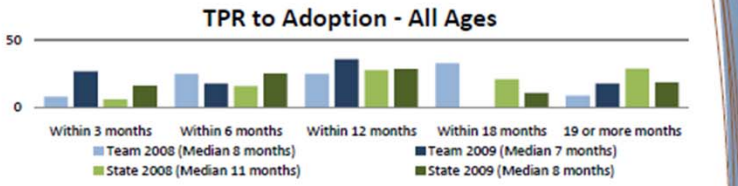
Wrapping Up JUSTICE* Data



- Type of Discharge
  - Compare changes in discharge and changes in case closure
- Summary of Trends
  - Unique to each team

TPR and Zero to 3 Data





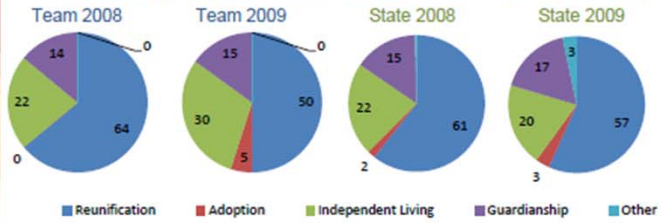
Median Times	Team		State	
	2008	2009	2008	2009
Early Stages				
Removal to Ex-parte	1 day	1 day	1 day	1 day
Removal to Petition	0 days	1 day	1 day	0 days
Petition to first hearing	8 days	5 days	9 days	10 days
Removal to Adjudication	58 days	44 days	62 days	70 days
Permanency Stages				
Adjudication to Disposition	55 days	65 days	58 days	49 days
Removal to Case Closure	20 months	16 months	21 months	19 months
TPR Stages				
Removal to TPR	19 months	14 months	23 months	19 months
TPR to adoption	7 months	3 months	9 months	7 months

- For teams with TPR and 0-3 data
  - Overall decrease in median times across the state
- For teams without data
  - Take a few minutes to talk about what you can do in your area to help these populations

Adolescents in Care

Adolescent Case Progression and Outcomes

Permanency Type for Youth 12 and older – 3a cases only



Median Times	Team		State	
	2008	2009	2008	2009
Removal to Adjudication	53 days	30 days	53 days	79 days
Adjudication to Disposition	42 days	28 days	49 days	49 days
Average Number of Review Hearings	3	3	3	3
Removal to Case Closure	14 months	18 months	17 months	17 months
Removal to TPR	18 months	8 months	n/a	16 months
TPR to case closure	62 months	16 months	26 months	12 months

The rate of removal continues to be lower that state average; however, almost 100% of children over 12 are in group home placements. Your team may want to add this as an Action Plan item to discuss and possibly contact other teams who have lower group home placement rates.

Page 8

- New addition to reports
- All cases were 3a only
- For teams with data
  - Compare these data with overall permanency types (page 6) and group home care (page 2)
- For teams without data
  - Take a few minutes to talk about what you can do in your area to help these populations

What do we do now?

- The reports are a tool
  - Goal: Improving outcomes for children in care
- Think about your team's data during sessions
  - Reducing time to reunification
    - What % of cases does your team reunify (see page 6)
    - What is your team's average time to reunification (see page 1)
  - What does your data suggest about services needed for children?
  - What does your data suggest about permanency?
- Use the reports to target additions to your Action Plan and discuss them as a team in future meetings

Thank you

Questions?