

**REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION**

**HENDERSON COUNTY  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**MEETING DATE:** July 15, 2015

**SUBJECT:** Social Services' Informational Update

**PRESENTER:** Gary Cyphers, Board Member

**ATTACHMENTS:** Yes

1. Power Point Slides

**SUMMARY OF REQUEST:**

The Department of Social Services is providing quarterly informational updates to the Board of Commissioners regarding various Social Services issues. The July 2015 update, provided by DSS Board Member Gary Cyphers, provides an informational presentation on the on-going barriers faced by families and DSS in trying to reunify children in foster care with their parents.

**BOARD ACTION REQUESTED:**

No Board action requested. This item is for information only.

**SUGGESTED MOTION:**

*No motion suggested.*

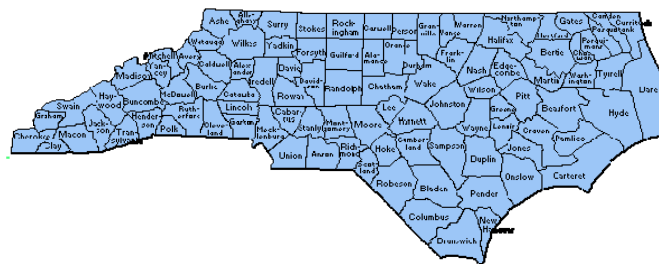
# CHILD WELFARE SERVICES

## CHILD REUNIFICATION CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES IN HENDERSON COUNTY

July 15, 2015

### Management Assistance for Child Welfare, Work First, and Food & Nutrition Services in North Carolina

<http://ssw.unc.edu/ma/>



Federal measures of state child welfare agency performance are monitored through the Child and Family Services Review (CFSR) process. The first round of CFSRs began in 2000 with a set of federal measures to assess safety and permanency outcomes. In 2006, in preparation for the second round of reviews, the permanency measures were changed from individual measures to composite measures. There are 17 measures broken into 4 composite scores.

## CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES REVIEW ROUND 2

MEASURE	Explanation
C1 - 1: Exits to reunification in less than 12 months	What percent were reunified in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home?
C1 - 2: Exits to reunification, median stay	What was the median length of stay (in months) from the date of the latest removal from home until the date of discharge to reunification?
C1 - 3: Entry cohort reunification in < 12 months	What percent were discharged from FC to reunification in less than 12 months from the date of the latest removal from home?
C1 - 4: Re-entries to foster care in less than 12 months	What percent re-entered FC in less than 12 months from the date of discharge?

### C1 - 1: Exits to reunification in less than 12 months

National Median	National 75th/25th Percentile	NC	Medium	Judicial_Dist _29B	Henderson
69.90% or more	75.20%	57.25% = 1303/ 2276	56.58% = 598/ 1057	50.00% = 23/46	48.00% = 12/25

For Period January 1, 2014 to December 31, 2014

CY 2013 Henderson 57.69% = 15/26

### C1 - 2: Exits to reunification, median stay

National Median	National 75th/25th Percentile	NC	Medium	Judicial_Dist_29B	Henderson
6.5 months or less	5.4 months	9.99	10.78	10.83	12.35

For Period January 1, 2014 to December 31, 2014

### C1 - 3: Entry cohort reunification in < 12 months

National Median	National 75th/25th Percentile	NC	Medium	Judicial_Dist_29B	Henderson
39.40% or more	48.40%	23.68% = 612/ 2585	24.75% = 268/ 1083	20.00% = 12/ 60	17.39% = 8/ 46

For Period January 1, 2014 to December 31, 2014

## C1 - 4: Re-entries to foster care in less than 12 months

National Median	National 75th/25th Percentile	NC	Medium	Judicial_Dist_29B	Henderson
15.00% or less	9.90%	6.25% = 152/ 2433	5.48% = 62/1132	7.35% = 5/68	5.71% = 2/35

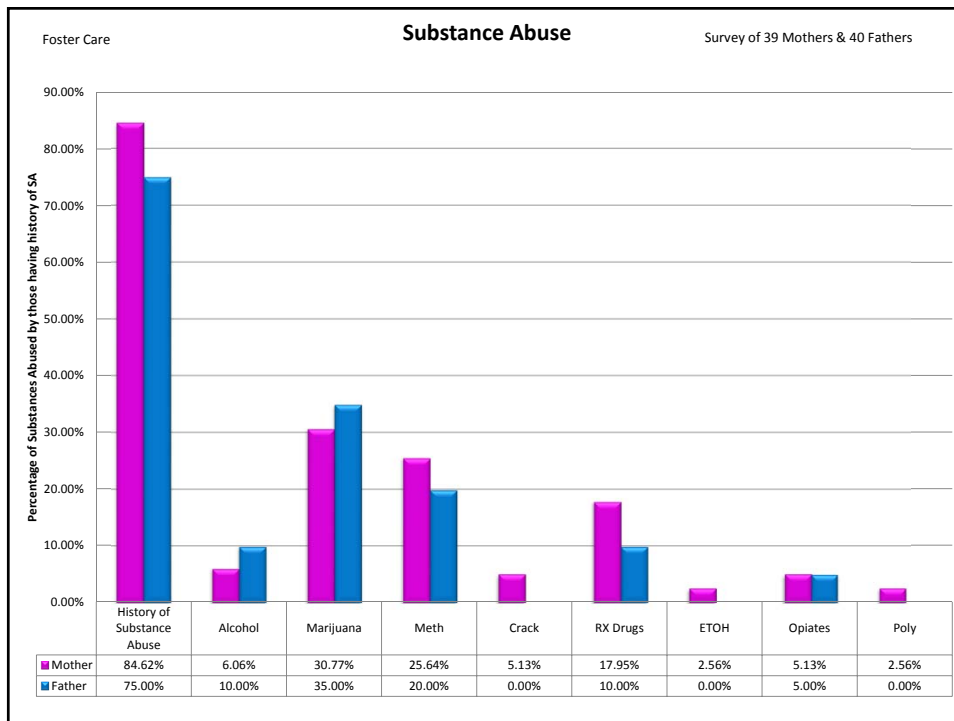
For Period January 1, 2014 to December 31, 2014

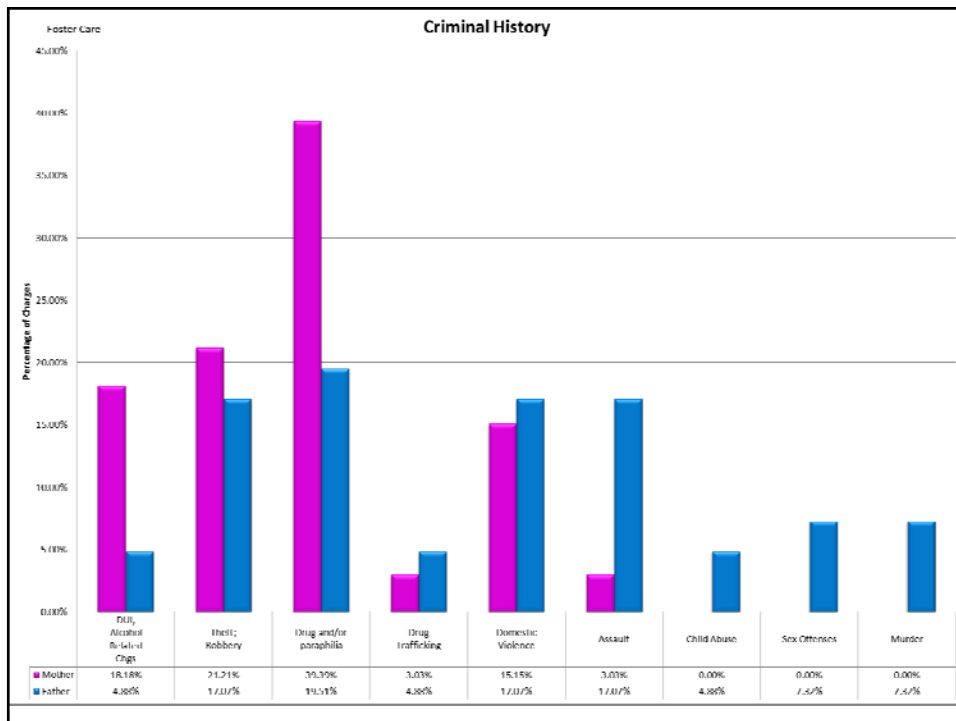
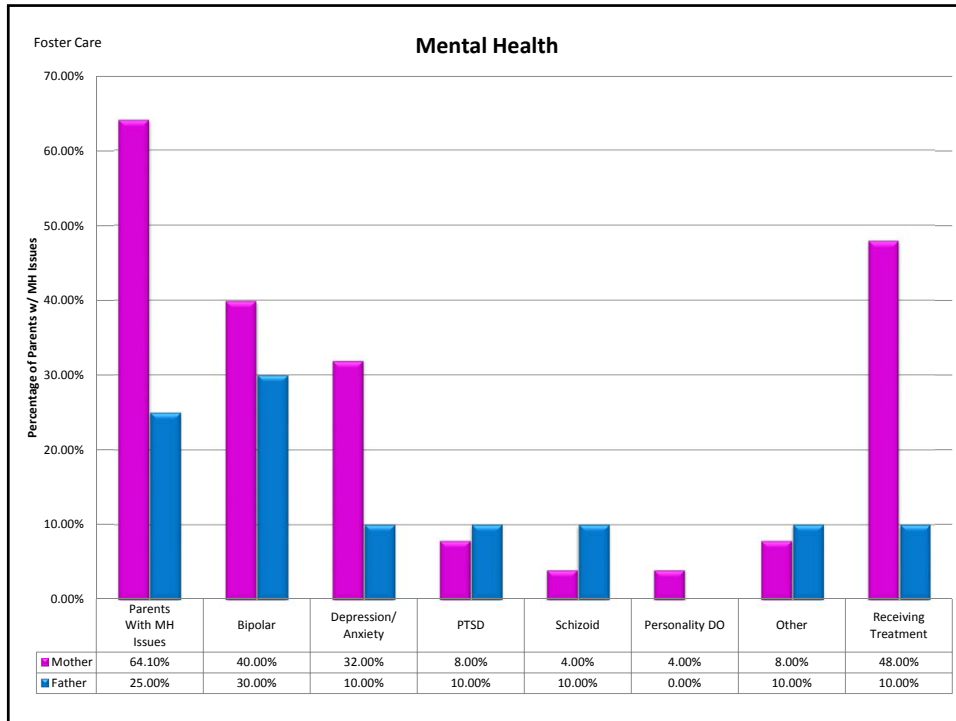
## KEY IMPACTING VARIABLES

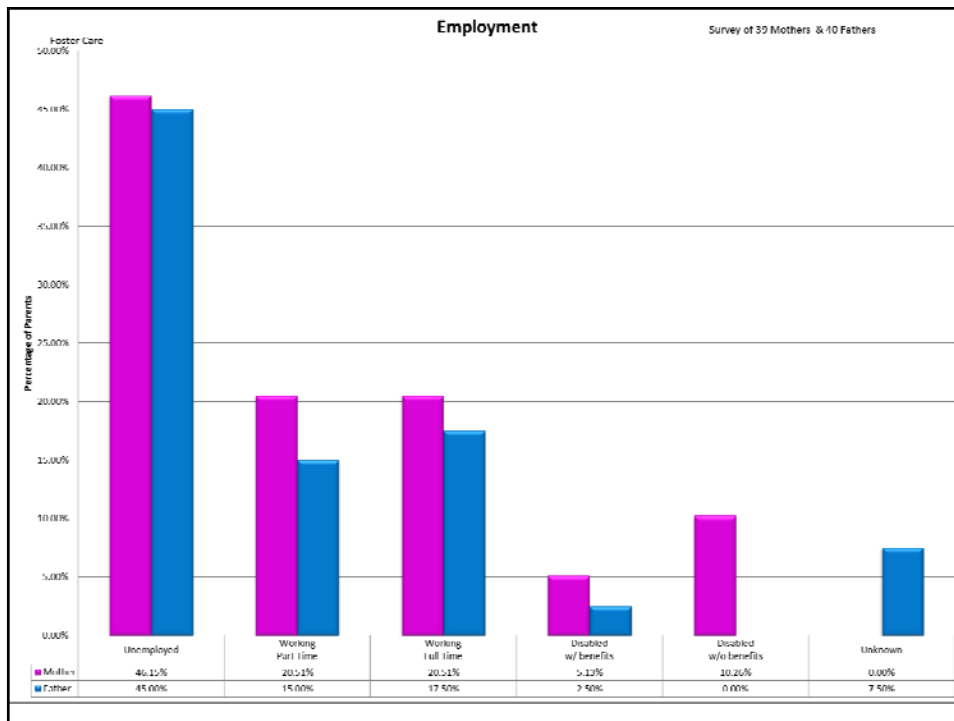
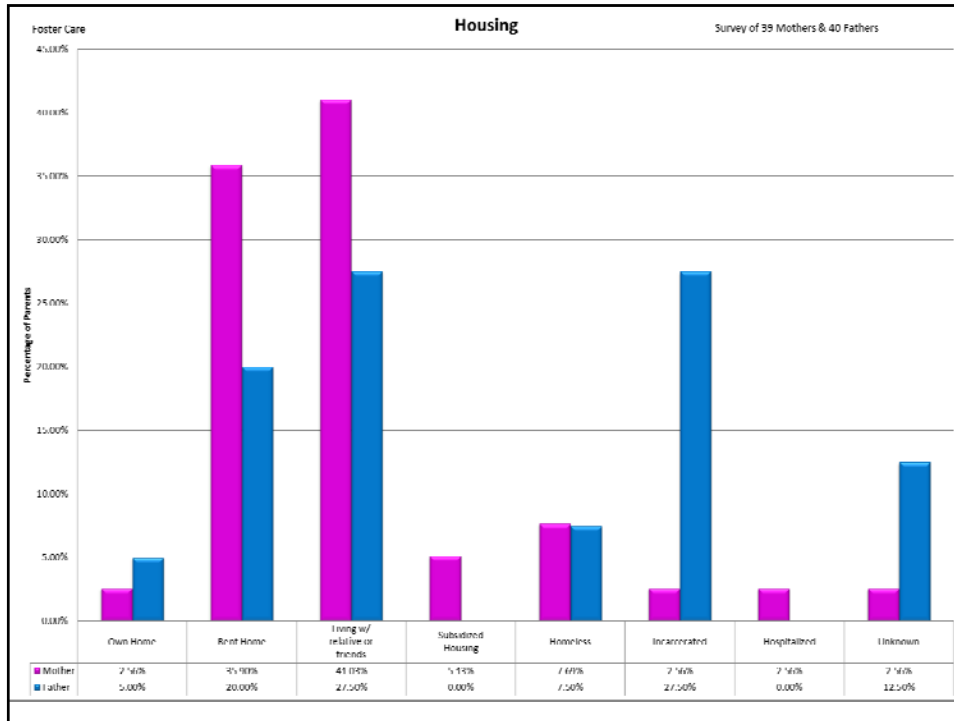
- Substance Abuse
- Mental Health
- Domestic Violence
- Housing

## How Many Children In The Child Welfare System Have A Parent In Need Of Substance Abuse Treatment?

- Between 60–80% of substantiated child abuse and neglect cases involve substances by a custodial parent or guardian (Young, et al, 2007)
- 61% of infants, 41% of older children who are in out-of-home care (Wulczyn , Ernst and Fisher, 2011)
- 87% of families in foster care with one parent in need of treatment; 67% with two parents in need (Smith, Johnson, Pears, Fisher, DeGarmo, 2007)









## What is HCDSS doing to address these issues?

- Analysis of Data
- Work with Smoky Mountain Center and Family Preservation Services to Identify an Alternative Approach to Substance Abuse Treatment
- Planned Implementation of Family Centered Treatment Services
- Collaboration with Rutherford, Polk and Transylvania County DSS to identify joint solutions
- Looking at In-Home (Pre-Removal) Services

**QUESTIONS**