

## INDIANA SUPREME COURT INDIANA COURT IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

### REASSESSMENT STUDY of CHILD ABUSE & NEGLECT CASES QUESTIONNAIRE for JUDGES, MAGISTRATES, & REFEREES

#### About the Reassessment

The Indiana Supreme Court started the Court Improvement Program (CIP) after the completion of a self-assessment and study in 1997. Since that time the Indiana CIP has operated from the Indiana Judicial Center, and has been responsible for providing grant money to various courts and court supported programs throughout the state. The programs receiving grants from the CIP are focused on accomplishing the goals set by the CIP following the initial study and self-assessment completed in 1997. The CIP is supported by the Indiana Supreme Court, and is primarily funded by the United States Department of Health and Human Services. As a requirement for receiving that funding and in order to continue to improve the CIP, the program must be reassessed. This questionnaire is part of that reassessment and improvement process.

The information gathered from this survey along with similar surveys being distributed to other participant groups involved in child abuse and neglect cases will help the Court improve and strengthen the CIP for the benefit of local courts and the participants in the CHINS system. This survey examines the perception of juvenile judges, magistrates, and referees on:

- 1 The effectiveness and efficiency of different aspects of the system including the various types of hearings, requirements, and other factors influencing how courts handle CHINS cases;
- 2 Caseflow management, and the variables impacting the treatment of cases;
- 3 The key elements involved in making decisions in CHINS cases, including how to determine what a child's best interests are, effectively communicate with participants and the public, and better align demands with the capacity of the system;
- 4 The role, representation and relationships of parties and witnesses in the system;
- 5 The judicial role in placements, service planning and provision, decision-making, and oversight.

The information gathered in this questionnaire and other aspects of the reassessment will be used to identify areas where the CIP can make improvements in the program and in the CHINS system in the state. This information will be shared with the different committees, and groups organized to examine issues involved in the child welfare system, as well as with the Indiana General Assembly. The Court appreciates your participation and input in this process.

#### About this Questionnaire

This questionnaire is one in a set of surveys to be used to gather data and information from the different participants in the CHINS system as part of the CIP reassessment. This along with all of the other questionnaires and forms of data collection are designed to assist the Indiana CIP and Supreme Court in completing the reassessment pursuant to Public Law § 103-66, 13712, 197 Stat. 649.

## Indiana Court Improvement Program ~ Reassessment Study

Please note, unless otherwise indicated, all of the questions in this survey refer to child abuse and neglect cases only. In that regard, a child abuse and neglect case includes all proceedings related to an abused or neglected child prior to the initiation of the adoption process for such a child (e.g., all stages of both CHINS and Termination of Parental Rights cases). This questionnaire does not cover juvenile delinquency (except as it may relate to child abuse and neglect cases) or paternity cases.

For the purposes of responding to the questions, there are a few definitions or explanations you will want to consider. There are a number of questions in the survey that ask you to respond by checking a numbered response from 1 to 4 corresponding with your estimate as to the frequency events occur. Your estimates may be rough, and that is perfectly acceptable, as actual statistics are not necessary for purposes of this survey. However, the responses roughly mean; “**Rarely**” = Less than 15%, “**Occasionally**” = From 15% to 49%, “**Often**” = From 50% to 85%, and “**Usually**” = Greater than 85%. The term “**contested**” as defined in the Indiana code, means a case “when the parent(s) denies that their child(ren) is (are) in need of services.” Finally, references to days in some of the questions mean business days (thus excluding weekends).

Once you have completed the survey, please return it to:

The Indiana Judicial Center  
Attn: Anne Jordan  
115 West Washington St., Suite 1075  
Indianapolis, IN 46204-3424

Or, you may complete the survey online by going to: <http://www.in.gov/judiciary/cip/survey.html> and following the instructions provided.

### **Who Should Answer This Questionnaire**

This questionnaire is to be used to obtain information and insight from judges, magistrates, referees, commissioners, and other judicial officers who hear cases brought under state law dealing with child abuse and neglect.

This questionnaire was structured based on sample survey documents created by the American Bar Association (ABA), and specifically the ABA’s Center on Children and the Law, lead by Mr. Mark Hardin. Every state receiving CIP grants is or already has completed reassessments, using similar surveys and data collection methods. The ABA’s sample surveys and other materials are copyrighted, and the states approved for CIP grants have been given permission to use those documents.

To the judges, magistrates, referees, commissioners and others completing this survey: We greatly appreciate the time and effort you are putting into providing the information requested in the survey questions. Please provide the most accurate and complete answers possible, and attempt to answer all of the questions even if you are uncertain of an exact answer to specific questions. We are especially interested in your thoughts and opinions in this questionnaire.

***Thank you for taking the time and effort to complete this questionnaire. Your input and participation are valuable and necessary in our improvement process.***

**Indiana Court Improvement Program ~ Reassessment Study**  
**Indiana Court Improvement Program (CIP) Reassessment**  
**Juvenile Court Judges' Survey**

**Name (optional):** \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**Title (e.g., Judge, Magistrate, Referee, etc.):**  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**Court/County:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Section 1 – COURT PRACTICES & PROCEDURES**

**Informal Adjustment**

- 1 How often does your court hold proceedings/hearings on informal adjustments?  
 1 \_\_\_\_\_ Rarely 2 \_\_\_\_\_ Occasionally 3 \_\_\_\_\_ Often 4 \_\_\_\_\_ Usually
- 2 How often do cases in your court that begin as informal adjustments end up as CHINS cases?  
 1 \_\_\_\_\_ Rarely 2 \_\_\_\_\_ Occasionally 3 \_\_\_\_\_ Often 4 \_\_\_\_\_ Usually
- 3 How often would you estimate that you extend the initial six (6) month informal adjustment period?  
 1 \_\_\_\_\_ Rarely 2 \_\_\_\_\_ Occasionally 3 \_\_\_\_\_ Often 4 \_\_\_\_\_ Usually

**Court Process**

4 Does your court distribute separate copies of court orders to the following?:

	<b><u>YES</u></b>	<b><u>NO</u></b>
a. Custodial parents		
b. Non custodial parents		
c. Substitute Care Giver (e.g., Foster parents)		
d. Children's attorneys, Guardians Ad Litem (GAL), or CASAs		
e. Private Agencies providing Services to the Child or the Child's Family		

- 5 What is the number of days you estimate from filing of neglect petition to uncontested adjudication hearing to occur in your court? Please check the response that meets your best estimate:
1. \_\_\_\_\_ 2 days or less      4. \_\_\_\_\_ 11 to 14 days      7. \_\_\_\_\_ 61 to 90 days  
 2. \_\_\_\_\_ 3 to 5 days      5. \_\_\_\_\_ 14 to 30 days      8. \_\_\_\_\_ over 90 days  
 3. \_\_\_\_\_ 6 to 10 days      6. \_\_\_\_\_ 31 to 60 days

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6 What is the number of days/months you estimate for each of the following events to occur in your court? Please check the response that meets your best estimate:

	<b>10-30 days</b>	<b>1-2 months</b>	<b>3-4 months</b>	<b>5-6 months</b>	<b>7-9 months</b>	<b>10-12 months</b>	<b>Over 12 months</b>
a. From Filing of neglect petition to completion of contested adjudication							
b. From completion of adjudication (contested or uncontested) to completion of disposition							
c. From filing of termination of parental rights petition to termination in uncontested cases							
d. From filing of termination of parental rights petition to completion of trial court termination proceedings in contested cases							

7 Please estimate how often, on the scheduled day of contested **CHINS** hearings, it is necessary *for any reason* to issue a continuance.

1 \_\_\_ Rarely 2 \_\_\_ Occasionally 3 \_\_\_ Often 4 \_\_\_ Usually

8 Please estimate how often, on the scheduled day of contested **Termination of Parental Rights (TPR)** hearings it is necessary *for any reason* to issue a continuance.

1 \_\_\_ Rarely 2 \_\_\_ Occasionally 3 \_\_\_ Often 4 \_\_\_ Usually

9 Indicate how frequently the following factors cause hearing continuances in **CHINS cases**.

*Mark one response for each factor listed*

	<b>Never</b>	<b>Rarely</b>	<b>Occasionally</b>	<b>Often</b>	<b>Usually</b>
a. Failure to identify or locate parents					
b. Lack of or delay in the service of process on parents					
c. Lack of service in cases with Native American children					
d. Appointment of attorneys for parent(s) delayed					
e. Appointment of CASA or Guardian ad Litem delayed					
f. OFC attorney not available					
g. Case Manager not available					
h. Attorney for parent(s) not available					
i. CASA or Guardian ad litem not available					
j. Judge not available					
k. OFC attorney not prepared					
l. Case Manager not prepared					

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	<b>Never</b>	<b>Rarely</b>	<b>Occasionally</b>	<b>Often</b>	<b>Usually</b>
m. CASA or Guardian ad litem not prepared					
n. Attorney for parent not prepared					
o. Parent(s) not available					
p. Child not available					
q. Witness not available					
r. Evidence not available					
s. Failure to timely file or serve report or document					
t. Failure to timely serve notice of process					
u. Inadequate court time to hear case					
v. One of the parties in the case fails to show up for the hearing					
w. Parent is showing compliance and more time is needed to correct the situation					

**10** Indicate how frequently the following factors cause hearing continuances in **Termination of Parental Rights (TPR) cases**. *Mark one response for each factor listed*

	<b>Never</b>	<b>Rarely</b>	<b>Occasionally</b>	<b>Often</b>	<b>Usually</b>
a. Failure to identify or locate parents					
b. Lack of or delay in the service of process on parents					
c. Lack of service in cases with Native American children					
d. Appointment of attorneys for parent(s) delayed					
e. Appointment of CASA or Guardian ad Litem delayed					
f. OFC attorney not available					
g. Case Manager not available					
h. Attorney for parent(s) not available					
i. CASA or Guardian ad litem not available					
j. Judge not available					
k. OFC attorney not prepared					
l. Case Manager not prepared					
m. CASA or Guardian ad litem not prepared					
n. Attorney for parent not prepared					
o. Parent(s) not available					
p. Child not available					
q. Witness not available					
r. Evidence not available					
s. Failure to timely file or serve report or document					
t. Failure to timely serve notice of process					
u. Inadequate court time to hear case					
v. One of the parties in the case fails to show up for the hearing					
w. Parent is showing compliance and more time is needed to correct the situation					

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**11** Please estimate how often, once contested termination of parental rights hearings have begun, they are interrupted for more than 48 hours (excluding weekends and holidays), because the court did not or could not set aside enough time for their completion?

1. \_\_\_\_\_ Rarely    2. \_\_\_\_\_ Occasionally    \_\_\_\_\_ Often    4. \_\_\_\_\_ Usually

**12** Please estimate how long it takes you to complete a contested termination of parental rights hearing once the hearing has begun and there are interruptions in the case for more than 48 hours?

1. \_\_\_\_\_ 3 to 5 days                      4. \_\_\_\_\_ 14 to 30 days                      7. \_\_\_\_\_ over 90 days  
 2. \_\_\_\_\_ 6 to 10 days                      5. \_\_\_\_\_ 31 to 60 days  
 3. \_\_\_\_\_ 11 to 14 days                      6. \_\_\_\_\_ 61 to 90 days

**Emergency Removal (Order)**

**13** At the time the emergency removal order is entered...?

	<b>Never</b>	<b>Rarely</b>	<b>Occasionally</b>	<b>Often</b>	<b>Usually</b>
a. How often are you (the court) directly involved in an emergency removal through a verbal order or other action?					
b. How often do you make a “contrary to the welfare” determination in the first court order authorizing the child’s removal?					
c. When making contrary to the welfare determinations, do you refer to (or tacitly rely on) the affidavit and other accompanying documents?					
d. When making contrary to the welfare determinations, do you enter written findings describing (or cross referencing a description of) the child’s individual circumstances?					
e. Is the affidavit accompanying the removal petition sufficient for you to make a ruling to remove the child?					

**Detention Hearings**

**14** At a Detention hearing, how often, ...?

	<b>Never</b>	<b>Rarely</b>	<b>Occasionally</b>	<b>Often</b>	<b>Usually</b>
a. Do you ensure that all the parties have been identified?					
b. Do you determine a child can be returned safely to the home, because probable cause to protect the child no longer exists?					
c. Do you order visitation or Parenting Time					
d. Do you order services for Children?					
e. Do you order services for Parents?					
f. Do you order payment for services?					
g. Are Guardian Ad Litem initially appointed?					
h. Are Parent Counsel initially appointed?					
i. Are CASA initially appointed?					
j. Do you order relative placements to be explored if the child cannot be returned home?					

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**Adjudication (Fact Finding)**

**15** At Fact Finding Hearings, how often...?

	<b>Never</b>	<b>Rarely</b>	<b>Occasionally</b>	<b>Often</b>	<b>Usually</b>
a. Do you make findings (to be incorporated in the written order) whether there were reasonable efforts to prevent removal?					
b. In making findings do you describe the efforts in the language of the court order?					
c. In making findings use language in the order that cross-references or refers specifically to evidence submitted to the court?					
d. In making findings use language in the order that cross-references the affidavit or findings of adjudication?					
e. In making findings check off items from a detailed checklist?					
f. Is a case plan presented?					
g. Do you find that the case plan goal is appropriate?					
h. Do you find that the case plan is sufficient to meet the child's needs?					
i. If the child cannot be safely returned home, do you order relative placements to be explored?					

**16** At Fact Finding Hearings, how often do you make orders regarding the following services?:

	<b>Never</b>	<b>Rarely</b>	<b>Occasionally</b>	<b>Often</b>	<b>Usually</b>
a. Child care					
b. Homemaker services					
c. Parenting classes					
d. Crisis counseling					
e. Cash assistance					
f. Transportation					
g. Family therapy					
h. Physical evaluation					
i. Mental health evaluations/treatment					
j. Drug & alcohol assessment/treatment					
k. Intensive family services					
l. Housing assistance					
m. Employment assistance					
n. Counseling					
o. Medical					
p. Education					

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**17** At Fact Finding Hearings, how often do you make orders regarding other services (not in the list in question #16, above)? (Please specify the services)

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**18** At Disposition Hearings, how often...?

	<b>Rarely</b>	<b>Occasionally</b>	<b>Often</b>	<b>Usually</b>
a. Do you make findings (to be incorporated in the written order) whether there were reasonable efforts to prevent removal?				
b. In making these findings do you describe the efforts in the language of the order?				
c. In making these findings do you use language in the order that cross references or refers specifically to evidence submitted to the court?				
d. In making these findings do you use language in the order that cross references the affidavit or findings of adjudication?				
e. In making these findings do you check off items from a detailed checklist?				
f. Is a case plan presented?				
g. Do you find that the case plan goal is appropriate?				
h. Do you find that the case plan is sufficient to meet the child's needs?				
i. If the child cannot be safely returned home, do you order relative placements to be explored?				

**19** At Disposition Hearings, how often do you make orders regarding the following services?

	<b>Rarely</b>	<b>Occasionally</b>	<b>Often</b>	<b>Usually</b>
a. Child care				
b. Homemaker services				
c. Parenting classes				
d. Crisis counseling				
e. Cash assistance				
f. Transportation				
g. Family therapy				
h. Physical evaluation				
i. Mental health evaluations/treatment				
j. Drug & alcohol assessment/treatment				
k. Intensive family services				
l. Housing assistance				
m. Employment assistance				
n. Counseling				
o. Medical				
p. Education				

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**20** At Disposition Hearings, how often do you make orders regarding other services (not in the list in question #19, above)? (Please specify the services)

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**Review Hearings**

**21** At Review Hearings, how often....?

	<b>Rarely</b>	<b>Occasionally</b>	<b>Often</b>	<b>Usually</b>
a. Does the court project the date of the child’s return home?				
b. When return home is unlikely, does the court specify other permanency alternatives?				
c. When return home is unlikely, is the permanency plan based upon the extent of compliance with the case plan?				
d. When return home is unlikely, is the permanency plan based upon the extent of progress made toward alleviating or mitigating the causes of the out-of-home placement?				
e. When return home is unlikely, is the permanency plan based upon whether the child should be returned to the parents and whether or not the child’s health and safety can be protected by the parents if returned home?				
f. When return home is unlikely, is the permanency plan based upon whether the child should be continued in an out-of-home placement for a specified period of time?				
g. When return home is unlikely, is the permanency plan based upon whether the child should be placed for adoption?				
h. When return home is unlikely, is the permanency plan based upon whether the child should be, because of special needs or circumstances, continued in an out-of-home placement on a permanent or long-term basis?				
i. Do you determine if clarification or modification of prior orders is needed?				
j. Do you review the effect of the visitation schedule on the child?				
k. Do you consider whether the family is availing themselves to OFC services?				
l. Do you consider whether the services for the family are alleviating the reason the child was removed from the home?				

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- 22** In a typical CHINS case, how soon after removal/initial hearing do you hold the first formal court review hearing?
- a. \_\_\_\_\_ Less than 3 months
  - b. \_\_\_\_\_ 3 months or greater, but less than 6 months;
  - c. \_\_\_\_\_ 6 months or greater, but less than 12 months
  - d. \_\_\_\_\_ 12 months or greater, but less than 18 months
  - e. \_\_\_\_\_ Right at 18 months

- 23** How often do you hold review hearings after parental rights have been terminated and prior to an adoption being finalized?

	<b>Rarely</b>	<b>Occasionally</b>	<b>Often</b>	<b>Usually</b>
In 3 month intervals				
In 6 month intervals				
In 9 month intervals				
In 12 month intervals				

- 24** How many Review Hearings would you estimate you hold prior to Termination of Parental Rights?
- a. \_\_\_\_\_ 1 or 2 hearings
  - b. \_\_\_\_\_ 3 or 4 hearings
  - c. \_\_\_\_\_ 5 or 6 hearings
  - d. \_\_\_\_\_ More than 6 hearings

- 25** Is advance written notice of review hearings sent to the following persons or their attorneys in your jurisdiction?

	<b>Rarely</b>	<b>Occasionally</b>	<b>Often</b>	<b>Usually</b>
a. Custodial parents				
b. Non custodial parents				
c. Children’s attorneys, Guardians Ad Litem, or CASAs				
d. Foster Parents/Substitute Care Givers				
e. Private Agencies providing Services to the Child or the Child’s Family				

- 26** How long do the review hearings in your court typically last?
- a. \_\_\_\_\_ 5 to 10 minutes
  - b. \_\_\_\_\_ 11 to 20 minutes
  - c. \_\_\_\_\_ 21 to 30 minutes
  - d. \_\_\_\_\_ 31 to 45 minutes
  - e. \_\_\_\_\_ 46 to 60 minutes
  - f. \_\_\_\_\_ Over an Hour

**Permanency Planning**

- 27** At a Permanency Planning hearing, how often...

	<b>Rarely</b>	<b>Occasionally</b>	<b>Often</b>	<b>Usually</b>
a. Do you make findings (incorporated into the written order) regarding reasonable efforts to reunite the family or finalize a new permanency plan at the first permanency planning hearing?				
b. In making these findings, do you describe the efforts in the language of the court order?				
c. In making these findings, use language in the order that cross-references or refers specifically to evidence submitted to the court?				

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	<b>Rarely</b>	<b>Occasionally</b>	<b>Often</b>	<b>Usually</b>
d. In making these findings, use language in the order that cross-references the affidavit or findings of adjudication.				
e. In making these findings, check off items from a detailed checklist?				

**28** For those cases in which permanency has not been achieved within 12 months, please identify how much of a factor the following items have been in delaying permanency:

	<b>Significant factor</b>	<b>Minor factor</b>	<b>No factor</b>	<b>N/A</b>
a. Concurrent planning				
b. Appropriate placement for child				
c. Mental health assessment & treatment				
d. Substance abuse assessment &/or treatment				
e. Economic &/or employment assistance				
f. Adequate housing				
g. Appropriate independent living program				
h. Appropriate visitation				
i. Domestic violence assessment &/or treatment				
j. Child adjudicated delinquent				
k. All parents not notified (including putative fathers)				
l. ICPC placement and services				
m. Relative placement not pursued				
n. Court delays				

**Termination of Parental Rights**

**29** At a Termination of Parental Rights hearing, how often...?

	<b>Rarely</b>	<b>Occasionally</b>	<b>Often</b>	<b>Usually</b>
a. In the original TPR petition, is termination sought on both legal parents?				
b. Is each parent represented by the same counsel?				
c. Is each parent represented by different counsel?				
d. Is evidence presented regarding the best interests of the child?				
e. Is evidence presented regarding an appropriate permanency placement for the child?				
f. Does the OFC file a TPR petition when a child has been in an out-of-home placement for 15 of the last 22 months?				

**30** How often do you believe your county OFC decides within six months of disposition whether to seek termination of parental rights?

1 \_\_\_ Rarely    2 \_\_\_ Occasionally    3 \_\_\_ Often    4 \_\_\_ Usually

**31** Do you believe the county OFC should decide within six months of disposition whether to seek termination of parental rights?

YES \_\_\_\_\_                      NO \_\_\_\_\_

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***Post termination***

**32** Please identify how much of a factor the following items are in delaying permanency.

	<b>Significant factor</b>	<b>Minor factor</b>	<b>No factor</b>	<b>N/A</b>
a. Adoption study not completed on prospective family				
b. Adoption summary not completed on child				
c. Child-specific adoption recruitment				
d. Child does not wish to be adopted				
e. Court delays				

**33** Please identify how much of a factor any other items are in delaying permanency (specifying what those other items are):

	<b>Significant factor</b>	<b>Minor factor</b>	<b>No factor</b>	<b>N/A</b>
a.				
b.				
c.				

**34** How often would you estimate you take child abuse and neglect cases involving a termination of parental rights decision under advisement to allow time to research your decision?:

1 \_\_\_ Rarely    2 \_\_\_ Occasionally    3 \_\_\_ Often    4 \_\_\_ Usually

**35** How often would you estimate you take child abuse and neglect cases involving a termination of parental rights decision under advisement to allow a child’s parent(s) time to take corrective actions?

1 \_\_\_ Rarely    2 \_\_\_ Occasionally    3 \_\_\_ Often    4 \_\_\_ Usually

**CHINS Cases/System (General)**

**36** How often are the following issues addressed during CHINS hearings?

	<b>Never</b>	<b>Rarely</b>	<b>Occasionally</b>	<b>Often</b>	<b>Usually</b>
a. Services for the child					
b. Child’s education					
c. Appropriateness of child’s placement					
d. Parent visitation					
e. Sibling visitation					
f. Parents’ involvement in case planning					
g. Appropriateness of case plan and progress					
h. For all youth 14 and over (regardless of permanency plan), independent living services					
i. Services for the parent(s)					
j. Compliance with previous court orders and case plan					
k. Concurrent planning					

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	<b>Never</b>	<b>Rarely</b>	<b>Occasionally</b>	<b>Often</b>	<b>Usually</b>
l. Substitute Care Giver (Foster parents)' input about case					
m. Child's health & safety					
n. Mediation					

**37** How often are other issues addressed during CHINS hearings? (Please specify what those other issues are)

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**38** When ordering a child to be returned home, how often do you...

	<b>Rarely</b>	<b>Occasionally</b>	<b>Often</b>	<b>Usually</b>
a. Specify phased-in extended visits (overnight, weekend, week) as a transition before the child is returned home on a permanent basis?				
b. Hear testimony or receive reports regarding the success of the extended visits?				
c. Specify a timetable for the child's return home?				
d. Specify continued monitoring for a specified period of time after the child's return home to ensure the child's safety?				
e. Allow OFC to return the child contingent upon certain conditions being met?				

**39** How often are there last minute settlements (just prior to or at the adjudication)?  
 1 \_\_\_ Rarely 2 \_\_\_ Occasionally 3 \_\_\_ Often 4 \_\_\_ Usually

**40** How often does the court modify the case plan goal or specific service provisions in the plan?  
 1 \_\_\_ Never 2 \_\_\_ Rarely 3 \_\_\_ Occasionally 4 \_\_\_ Often 5 \_\_\_ Usually

**41** How often do you utilize any of the following alternatives to the formal court processing of CHINS cases?

<b>Alternative Processing</b>	<b>Never</b>	<b>Rarely</b>	<b>Occasionally</b>	<b>Often</b>	<b>Usually</b>
a. Mediation					
b. Concurrent Planning					
c. Independent Living					
d. Alternative Dispute Resolution					
e. Family Case Conferencing					

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**42** When ordering (or deciding) a child will remain in an out-of-home placement, how often do you:

	<b>Never</b>	<b>Rarely</b>	<b>Occasionally</b>	<b>Often</b>	<b>Usually</b>
a. Make orders requiring parents to pay child support?					
b. Make orders regarding redirection of pre-existing child support payments?					
c. Make orders regarding redirection of social security payments?					

**43** How well has your court adapted to federal and state mandates that require the juvenile court to take an active role in the decision-making and oversight of CHINS cases?

1 \_\_\_ Very Well    2 \_\_\_ Sufficiently    3 \_\_\_ Not Very Well    4 \_\_\_ Poorly

**44** How often do you believe state and federal requirements on the courts facilitate compliance and foster a positive impact on CHINS cases?

1 \_\_\_ Never    2 \_\_\_ Rarely    3 \_\_\_ Occasionally    4 \_\_\_ Often    5 \_\_\_ Usually

**45** How often do you believe state and federal requirements on the courts contribute to non-compliance or have a negative impact on CHINS cases?

1 \_\_\_ Never    2 \_\_\_ Rarely    3 \_\_\_ Occasionally    4 \_\_\_ Often    5 \_\_\_ Usually

**46** How often do you believe state and federal requirements on the courts serve as an incentive to improving the CHINS system?

1 \_\_\_ Never    2 \_\_\_ Rarely    3 \_\_\_ Occasionally    4 \_\_\_ Often    5 \_\_\_ Usually

**47** How often do you believe state and federal requirements on the courts act as a barrier to improving the CHINS system?

1 \_\_\_ Never    2 \_\_\_ Rarely    3 \_\_\_ Occasionally    4 \_\_\_ Often    5 \_\_\_ Usually

**48** How often do you believe state and federal requirements on the courts are consistent with and conducive to meeting the primary purpose and goals of the CHINS system?

1 \_\_\_ Never    2 \_\_\_ Rarely    3 \_\_\_ Occasionally    4 \_\_\_ Often    5 \_\_\_ Usually

**49** How often do you believe state and federal requirements on the courts are counter-productive to meeting the primary purpose and goals of the CHINS system?

1 \_\_\_ Never    2 \_\_\_ Rarely    3 \_\_\_ Occasionally    4 \_\_\_ Often    5 \_\_\_ Usually

**50** To what degree has the juvenile court been able to adhere to and meet timelines for adjudication?

1 \_\_\_ Rarely    2 \_\_\_ Occasionally    3 \_\_\_ Often    4 \_\_\_ Usually

**51** To what degree has the juvenile court been able to adhere to and meet timelines for TPR decisions – specifically conducting the TPR trial within 90 days of the TPR petition filing?

1 \_\_\_ Rarely    2 \_\_\_ Occasionally    3 \_\_\_ Often    4 \_\_\_ Usually

**Indiana Court Improvement Program ~ Reassessment Study**

**52** How often does the court request the following at the initial stages of the case?:

<b>Type of Service</b>	<b>Rarely</b>	<b>Occasionally</b>	<b>Often</b>	<b>Usually</b>
a. Parent assessments or evaluations				
b. Child assessments or evaluations				
c. Relative or parent searches				
d. Absent parent searches				
e. Home studies				
f. Changes in placement				
g. Specific visitation provisions				
h. Specific treatment services (counseling, vocational, education, therapy, etc.)				
i. Family preservation services				
j. Intensive in-home services				
k. Family assistance services (housing, food, clothing, etc.)				

**53** Has your court (or county) established any local rules or internal procedures to govern the handling (specifically, timeliness) of CHINS proceedings?

YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

**54** Has your court (or county) established any local rules or internal procedures to govern the handling (specifically, timeliness) of Termination of Parental Rights (TPR) proceedings?

YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

**55** How often do you believe court orders in CHINS cases set clear expectations and are understood by all parties in the case?

1 \_\_\_\_\_ Rarely 2 \_\_\_\_\_ Occasionally 3 \_\_\_\_\_ Often 4 \_\_\_\_\_ Usually

**56** How often does the court take steps or actions to gauge or determine how well parties in CHINS cases understand what is expected from orders the court is making (or made)?

1 \_\_\_\_\_ Rarely 2 \_\_\_\_\_ Occasionally 3 \_\_\_\_\_ Often 4 \_\_\_\_\_ Usually

**57** Do you believe the process for making decisions and issuing orders in CHINS cases is conducive to clearly stating/defining what a successful outcome or result of a case should be?

YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

**58** How often do you believe all parties in a CHINS case have ample opportunity to provide input into decisions in the case relative to defining what a successful outcome of the case will be?

1 \_\_\_\_\_ Rarely 2 \_\_\_\_\_ Occasionally 3 \_\_\_\_\_ Often 4 \_\_\_\_\_ Usually

**59** How often do you believe families involved in CHINS cases have the financial means to meet the expectations established in the case?

1 \_\_\_\_\_ Rarely 2 \_\_\_\_\_ Occasionally 3 \_\_\_\_\_ Often 4 \_\_\_\_\_ Usually

**60** How often do you believe families involved in CHINS cases have the capacity to meet the expectations established in the case?

1 \_\_\_\_\_ Rarely 2 \_\_\_\_\_ Occasionally 3 \_\_\_\_\_ Often 4 \_\_\_\_\_ Usually

**Indiana Court Improvement Program ~ Reassessment Study**

**61** How often do you believe the following factors are thoroughly assessed and considered in setting requirements or issuing orders for a successful conclusion in CHINS cases?:

	<b>Never</b>	<b>Rarely</b>	<b>Occasionally</b>	<b>Often</b>	<b>Usually</b>
a. A Child’s cultural characteristics, traditions, or values					
b. A Child’s family’s economic status (e.g., are they living in poverty?)					
c. A Child’s health (physical, mental, and emotional)					
d. A Child’s education (present and future)					
e. A Child’s safety and security					
f. A Child’s social conditions					

**62** How often do you believe the following factors impact the outcomes or results of CHINS cases?

	<b>Never</b>	<b>Rarely</b>	<b>Occasionally</b>	<b>Often</b>	<b>Usually</b>
a. A Child’s cultural characteristics, traditions, or values					
b. A Child’s family’s economic status (e.g., are they living in poverty?)					
c. A Child’s health (physical, mental, and emotional)					
d. A Child’s education (present and future)					
e. A Child’s safety and security					
f. A Child’s social conditions					

**63** Do you believe the performance and effectiveness of the CHINS system should be assessed based on the outcomes or results of cases?

YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

**64** What do you believe constitutes a credible, successful outcome or result in a CHINS case? (Please specify)

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Section 2 – CHINS PARTICIPANTS**

**65** Based on your observations of their behavior in court, how often would you estimate the parties involved in the review hearing or their attorneys have met on a day prior to the hearing to discuss the matter?

1\_\_\_\_Rarely 2\_\_\_\_Occasionally 3\_\_\_\_Often 4\_\_\_\_Usually

**Indiana Court Improvement Program ~ Reassessment Study**

**66** How often would you estimate indigent *custodial* parents are represented by attorneys in child abuse and neglect cases?:

	<b>Rarely</b>	<b>Occasionally</b>	<b>Often</b>	<b>Usually</b>
a. At detention hearings				
b. At adjudication				
c. During review hearings				
d. During termination of parental rights proceedings				

**67** How often would you estimate parents in child abuse and neglect cases are represented by the following in child abuse and neglect cases?:

	<b>Rarely</b>	<b>Occasionally</b>	<b>Often</b>	<b>Usually</b>
a. Attorneys appointed by a judge				
b. Public defenders				
c. Legal services attorneys				
d. Attorneys hired by the parents				

**68** How often would you estimate the same attorney who initially represented a parent or parents is present throughout an entire CHINS case?

1 \_\_\_ Rarely 2 \_\_\_ Occasionally 3 \_\_\_ Often 4 \_\_\_ Usually

**69** How often would you estimate the same attorney who initially represented a parent or parents is present throughout an entire case involving the Termination of Parental Rights?

1 \_\_\_ Rarely 2 \_\_\_ Occasionally 3 \_\_\_ Often 4 \_\_\_ Usually

**70** Please estimate how often children (or their interests) in your court are represented by:

	<b>Rarely</b>	<b>Occasionally</b>	<b>Often</b>	<b>Usually</b>
a. Attorneys appointed by a judge				
b. Attorneys not appointed by a judge				
c. Non-attorney Guardians Ad Litem or CASAs				
d. Attorney Guardians or CASAs				
e. Not represented by attorneys, GALs or CASAs				
f. CASAs appointed by a judge				
g. Guardians Ad Litem appointed by a judge				

**71** How often would you estimate the same CASA or Guardian Ad Litem (GAL) who initially represented a child is present through an entire case involving Termination of Parental Rights?

1 \_\_\_ Rarely 2 \_\_\_ Occasionally 3 \_\_\_ Often 4 \_\_\_ Usually

**72** Please estimate how often children are represented by Guardians Ad Litem or CASAs in child abuse and neglect cases in the following proceedings:

	<b>Rarely</b>	<b>Occasionally</b>	<b>Often</b>	<b>Usually</b>
a. At detention hearings				
b. At adjudication				
c. During review hearings				
d. During termination of parental rights proceedings				

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**73** How often would you estimate the same Guardian Ad Litem or CASA is assigned to and/or present throughout an entire case?

1 \_\_\_ Rarely 2 \_\_\_ Occasionally 3 \_\_\_ Often 4 \_\_\_ Usually

**74** Please estimate how often Agency Attorneys assigned to a particular child abuse and neglect case are present at the following proceedings pertaining to that case:

	<b>Rarely</b>	<b>Occasionally</b>	<b>Often</b>	<b>Usually</b>
a. At detention hearings				
b. At adjudication				
c. During review hearings				
d. During termination of parental rights proceedings				

**75** How often would you estimate the same Agency Attorney who is initially assigned to a particular child abuse and neglect case is present throughout the entire CHINS case?

1 \_\_\_ Rarely 2 \_\_\_ Occasionally 3 \_\_\_ Often 4 \_\_\_ Usually

**76** How often would you estimate the same Agency Attorney who is initially assigned to a particular child abuse and neglect case is present throughout the entire case involving Termination of Parental Rights?

1 \_\_\_ Rarely 2 \_\_\_ Occasionally 3 \_\_\_ Often 4 \_\_\_ Usually

**77** Please estimate how often Office of Family & Children Case Managers assigned to a particular child abuse and neglect cases are present at the following proceedings pertaining to that case:

	<b>Rarely</b>	<b>Occasionally</b>	<b>Often</b>	<b>Usually</b>
a. At detention hearings				
b. At adjudication				
c. During review hearings				
d. During termination of parental rights proceedings				

**78** How often would you estimate that the same Case Manager who is initially assigned to a particular child abuse and neglect case is present throughout the entire CHINS case?

1 \_\_\_ Rarely 2 \_\_\_ Occasionally 3 \_\_\_ Often 4 \_\_\_ Usually

**79** How often would you estimate that the same Case Manager who is initially assigned to a particular child abuse and neglect case is present throughout the entire case involving Termination of Parental Rights?

1 \_\_\_ Rarely 2 \_\_\_ Occasionally 3 \_\_\_ Often 4 \_\_\_ Usually

**80** How often would you estimate that implementation of a parental participation agreement ultimately contributes to reunification of the family?

1 \_\_\_ Rarely 2 \_\_\_ Occasionally 3 \_\_\_ Often 4 \_\_\_ Usually

**81** How often do you order parents to participate in a child’s treatment or services at the start of a CHINS case?

1 \_\_\_ Rarely 2 \_\_\_ Occasionally 3 \_\_\_ Often 4 \_\_\_ Usually

**82** How often would you estimate you order parents to participate in a child’s treatment while in placement?

1 \_\_\_ Rarely 2 \_\_\_ Occasionally 3 \_\_\_ Often 4 \_\_\_ Usually

**Indiana Court Improvement Program ~ Reassessment Study**

**83** How often would you estimate parents follow your orders and actually participate in a child's treatment while the child is in placement?

1 \_\_\_ Rarely    2 \_\_\_ Occasionally    3 \_\_\_ Often    4 \_\_\_ Usually

**84** Do you meet regularly with county Office of Family & Children Director/Supervisor to work on issues of mutual concern?

1. \_\_\_ Yes, at least one meeting per month    4. \_\_\_ Less than one meeting per year  
 2. \_\_\_ Yes, at least one meeting per quarter    5. \_\_\_ Do not meet  
 3. \_\_\_ Yes, at least one meeting per year

**85** How would you characterize the quality of your working relationship with your county Office of Family & Children?

1 \_\_\_ Good    2 \_\_\_ Adequate    3 \_\_\_ Not Very Good    4 \_\_\_ Poor

**86** How often do the following people play an important role in ensuring timely permanence for children and families?

<b>Person/Group</b>	<b>Rarely</b>	<b>Occasionally</b>	<b>Often</b>	<b>Usually</b>
a. Parent counsel				
b. Substitute Care Giver				
c. (Foster Parent)				
d. OFC Attorney				
e. OFC County Director				
f. OFC Case Manager				
g. CASAs/GALs				
h. Kinship Care Givers				
i. Service Providers				

**87** How often do you order family conferencing (beyond a conference hosted by the County OFC) to establish permanency?

1 \_\_\_ Rarely    2 \_\_\_ Occasionally    3 \_\_\_ Often    4 \_\_\_ Usually

**88** How often do believe OFC Case Managers/directors should be expected to meet with:

<b>Group/Person</b>	<b>Weekly</b>	<b>Bi-monthly</b>	<b>Monthly</b>	<b>Every 60 Days</b>	<b>Every 90 Days or More</b>
a. Children					
b. Substitute Care Givers (Foster Parents)					
c. Parents					
d. Service Providers					
e. OFC Attorney(s)					

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**Section 3 – SERVICES ~ PLACEMENTS (Outcomes)**

**89** In your court, how often would you estimate the child’s wishes conflict with what participants (e.g., OFC case managers, attorneys, CASAs, etc.) in child abuse and neglect cases determine are the best interests of the child in **CHINS cases**?

1 \_\_\_\_\_ Rarely    2 \_\_\_\_\_ Occasionally    3 \_\_\_\_\_ Often    4 \_\_\_\_\_ Usually

**90** In your court, how often would you estimate the child’s wishes conflict with what participants (e.g., OFC case managers, attorneys, CASAs, etc.) in child abuse and neglect cases determine are the best interests of the child in **Termination of Parental Rights cases**?

1 \_\_\_\_\_ Rarely    2 \_\_\_\_\_ Occasionally    3 \_\_\_\_\_ Often    4 \_\_\_\_\_ Usually

**91** How often do you believe the following factors are thoroughly assessed and considered in ordering services, placements, or treatment in CHINS cases?

	<b>Never</b>	<b>Rarely</b>	<b>Occasionally</b>	<b>Often</b>	<b>Usually</b>
a. A Child’s cultural characteristics, traditions, or values					
b. A Child’s family’s economic status (e.g., are they living in poverty?)					
c. A Child’s health (physical, mental, and emotional)					
d. A Child’s education (present and future)					
e. A Child’s safety and security					
f. A Child’s social conditions					

**92** Which of the following services are **not** available in your county to assist in making foster care or institutional placements? (Please check any/all responses that apply):

- a. \_\_\_\_\_ Drug and alcohol abuse counseling
- b. \_\_\_\_\_ Crisis counseling
- c. \_\_\_\_\_ Mental health counseling
- d. \_\_\_\_\_ Emergency shelters
- e. \_\_\_\_\_ Procedures and arrangements for access to available emergency financial assistance
- f. \_\_\_\_\_ Home based family services
- g. \_\_\_\_\_ Visitation
- h. \_\_\_\_\_ Transportation
- i. \_\_\_\_\_ Day care
- j. \_\_\_\_\_ Individual and family counseling
- k. \_\_\_\_\_ Vocational counseling or vocational rehabilitation
- l. \_\_\_\_\_ Arrangement for the provision of temporary child care to provide respite to the family for a brief period, as part of a plan for preventing children’s removal from the home
- m. \_\_\_\_\_ Self help groups
- n. \_\_\_\_\_ Support for relative care givers
- o. \_\_\_\_\_ Post adoption groups
- p. \_\_\_\_\_ Other Services (please specify)

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- 93** How often would you estimate you could avoid a foster care or institutional placement if one or more of the services of the type listed in question #92 above were available?  
1 \_\_\_ Rarely 2 \_\_\_ Occasionally 3 \_\_\_ Often 4 \_\_\_ Usually
- 94** How often are you satisfied the Foster Care Home placements you make meet the child's educational, social, and other needs?  
1 \_\_\_ Rarely 2 \_\_\_ Occasionally 3 \_\_\_ Often 4 \_\_\_ Usually
- 95** How often are the Foster Care Home placements you make within a child's home county or in a contiguous county?  
1 \_\_\_ Rarely 2 \_\_\_ Occasionally 3 \_\_\_ Often 4 \_\_\_ Usually
- 96** How often are you satisfied the Therapeutic Foster (Care) Home placements you make meet the child's educational, social, and other needs?  
1 \_\_\_ Rarely 2 \_\_\_ Occasionally 3 \_\_\_ Often 4 \_\_\_ Usually
- 97** How often are the Therapeutic Foster (Care) Home placements you make within a child's home county or in a contiguous county?  
1 \_\_\_ Rarely 2 \_\_\_ Occasionally 3 \_\_\_ Often 4 \_\_\_ Usually
- 98** How often are you satisfied the Institutional placements you make meet the child's educational, social, and other needs?:  
1 \_\_\_ Rarely 2 \_\_\_ Occasionally 3 \_\_\_ Often 4 \_\_\_ Usually
- 99** How often are the Institutional placements you make within a child's home county or in a contiguous county?  
1 \_\_\_ Rarely 2 \_\_\_ Occasionally 3 \_\_\_ Often 4 \_\_\_ Usually
- 100** How often are the Institutional placements you make within the state of Indiana?  
1 \_\_\_ Rarely 2 \_\_\_ Occasionally 3 \_\_\_ Often 4 \_\_\_ Usually
- 101** How often are you satisfied the Relative Care giver placements you make meet the child's educational, social, and other needs?:  
1 \_\_\_ Rarely 2 \_\_\_ Occasionally 3 \_\_\_ Often 4 \_\_\_ Usually
- 102** How often are the Relative Care giver placements you make within a child's home county or in a contiguous county?  
1 \_\_\_ Rarely 2 \_\_\_ Occasionally 3 \_\_\_ Often 4 \_\_\_ Usually
- 103** How often are the Relative Care giver placements you make within the state of Indiana?  
1 \_\_\_ Rarely 2 \_\_\_ Occasionally 3 \_\_\_ Often 4 \_\_\_ Usually
- 104** How often do you have to delay permanent placements (including placements for adoption, returning home, independent living arrangements, or guardianships) of children because of delays in the availability of services for parents or children?  
1 \_\_\_ Rarely 2 \_\_\_ Occasionally 3 \_\_\_ Often 4 \_\_\_ Usually

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**105** In making decisions relative to placement or assignment of children or their family members into different types of services in CHINS cases, please indicate which of the following reasons have caused or is likely to cause you **not** to choose the specific service listed below:

<u>Type of Service</u>	<u>Price is too high</u>	<u>Availability of Services</u>	<u>Quality of Services</u>	<u>Insufficient Information</u>
a. Therapeutic Foster (Care) Home				
b. Institutional placement				
c. Substitute (Foster) Care Home placements				
d. Mental health counseling				
e. Drug and alcohol abuse counseling				
f. Emergency shelters				
g. Home based family services				
h. Family counseling				
i. Vocational Counseling/Rehabilitation				
j. Crisis counseling				
k. Post Adoption Groups				
l. Individual counseling				
m. Relative or Kinship Care				

**106** In making decisions relative to placement or assignment of children or their families (family members) into different types of services in CHINS cases, please indicate which of the following reasons have caused or are likely to cause you **not** to choose specific services other than those mentioned in the previous question? (Please list the services)

<u>Type of Service</u>	<u>Price is too high</u>	<u>Availability of Services</u>	<u>Quality of Services</u>	<u>Insufficient Information</u>
a.				
b.				
c.				

**107** What types of services are in greatest demand for children and families?

<u>Type of Service</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
a. Therapeutic Foster (Care) Home		
b. Institutional placement		
c. Substitute (Foster) Care Home placements		
d. Mental health counseling		
e. Drug and alcohol abuse counseling		
f. Emergency shelters		
g. Home based family services		
h. Family counseling		
i. Vocational Counseling/Rehabilitation		
j. Crisis counseling		
k. Post Adoption Groups		
l. Individual counseling		
m. Relative or Kinship care		

**Indiana Court Improvement Program ~ Reassessment Study**

**108** Please list any other types of services other than those cited in the previous question, which are in greatest demand for children and families?

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**109** Does your county Office of Family & Children provide you with periodic reports as to?:

	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
a. Cost of placements		
b. Estimated length of placement and expenditure per child and/or family		
c. Information on discharge or reunification planning		
d. Summaries of placement with outcomes of such placements		

**110** Do you believe expectations are clearly defined for services your court orders in CHINS cases?  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

**111** How often do you believe service providers clearly understand and attempt to meet the expectations of services ordered in CHINS cases by your court?  
 1 \_\_\_\_\_ Rarely 2 \_\_\_\_\_ Occasionally 3 \_\_\_\_\_ Often 4 \_\_\_\_\_ Usually

**112** Do you believe standards or criteria should be established for determining the **appropriateness** of services available to utilize in CHINS cases?  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

**113** Do you believe standards or criteria should be established for determining the **adequacy** of services available to utilize in CHINS cases?  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

**114** Do you believe incentives should be created to prompt service providers to develop and offer an adequate level of quality services to meet the demand for the types and number of distinct services in CHINS cases?  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

**Section 4 – SYSTEM CAPACITY**

**115** Based on your observations of their behavior in court, how often would you estimate parents’ attorneys do the following in advance preparation for proceedings in **CHINS cases**?:

	<b>Rarely</b>	<b>Occasionally</b>	<b>Often</b>	<b>Usually</b>
a. Talk to their clients				
b. Talk to a case worker before the day of the hearing				
c. Interview service providers before the day of the hearing				
d. Investigate alternative services that might be provided or the child or family				
e. File Motions				
f. Serve Interrogatories on a party				
g. Take Depositions				

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**116** Based on your observations of their behavior in court, how often would you estimate parents' attorneys do the following in advance preparation for proceedings in **Termination of Parental Rights cases**?:

	<b>Rarely</b>	<b>Occasionally</b>	<b>Often</b>	<b>Usually</b>
a. Talk to their clients				
b. Talk to a case worker before the day of the hearing				
c. Interview service providers before the day of the hearing				
d. Investigate alternative services that might be provided or the child or family				
e. File Motions				
f. Serve Interrogatories on a party				
g. Take Depositions				

**117** To what extent would you characterize the average level of training of Guardian Ad Litem or CASAs who represent children's interests in **CHINS cases** (using the word training to mean in child abuse and neglect cases)?

- a. \_\_\_\_\_ Extremely well-trained
- b. \_\_\_\_\_ Well-trained
- c. \_\_\_\_\_ Not very well trained
- d. \_\_\_\_\_ Not trained

**118** To what extent would you characterize the average level of training of Guardian Ad Litem or CASAs who represent children's interests in **Termination of Parental Rights cases** (using the word training to mean in child abuse and neglect cases)?

- a. \_\_\_\_\_ Extremely well-trained
- b. \_\_\_\_\_ Well-trained
- c. \_\_\_\_\_ Not very well trained
- d. \_\_\_\_\_ Not trained

**119** To what extent would you characterize the average level of training of attorneys who appear for parents in **CHINS cases** (using the word training to mean in juvenile law and procedures)?

- a. \_\_\_\_\_ Extremely well-trained
- b. \_\_\_\_\_ Well-trained
- c. \_\_\_\_\_ Not very well trained
- d. \_\_\_\_\_ Not trained

**120** To what extent would you characterize the average level of training of attorneys who appear for parents in **Termination of Parental Rights cases** (using the word training to mean in juvenile law and procedures)?

- a. \_\_\_\_\_ Extremely well-trained
- b. \_\_\_\_\_ Well-trained
- c. \_\_\_\_\_ Not very well trained
- d. \_\_\_\_\_ Not trained

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**121** To what extent would you characterize the average level of training of OFC attorneys (or other attorneys representing the state, who along with OFC attorneys will collectively be referred to as “Agency Attorneys”) in the law and procedure of **CHINS cases** (using the word training to mean training in child abuse and neglect cases)?

- a.  Extremely well-trained
- b.  Well-trained
- c.  Not very well trained
- d.  Not trained

**122** To what extent would you characterize the average level of training of OFC attorneys (or other attorneys representing the state, who along with OFC attorneys will collectively be referred to as “Agency Attorneys”) in the law and procedure of **Termination of Parental Rights cases** (using the word training to mean training in child abuse and neglect cases)?:

- a.  Extremely well-trained
- b.  Well-trained
- c.  Not very well trained
- d.  Not trained

**123** Based on your observations of their behavior in court how often would you estimate Agency Attorneys have talked to the Case Manager and/or other relevant individuals before the day of the hearing in advance preparation for proceedings in **CHINS cases**?

- 1  Rarely    2  Occasionally    3  Often    4  Usually

**124** Based on your observations of their behavior in court how often would you estimate Agency Attorneys have talked to the Case Manager and/or other relevant individuals before the day of the hearing in advance preparation for proceedings in **Termination of Parental Rights cases**?

- 1  Rarely    2  Occasionally    3  Often    4  Usually

**125** To what extent would you characterize the average level of training of Case Managers assigned to **CHINS cases** (using the word training to mean training in child abuse and neglect cases)?

- a.  Extremely well-trained
- b.  Well-trained
- c.  Not very well trained
- d.  Not trained

**126** To what extent would you characterize the average level of training of Case Managers assigned to **Termination of Parental Rights cases** (using the word training to mean training in child abuse and neglect cases)?

- a.  Extremely well-trained
- b.  Well-trained
- c.  Not very well trained
- d.  Not trained

**127** Based on your observations of their behavior in court, how often would you estimate Case Managers have done the following in advance preparation for proceedings in **CHINS cases**?:

	<b>Rarely</b>	<b>Occasionally</b>	<b>Often</b>	<b>Usually</b>
a. Obtain up-to-date information on the child and family				
b. Interview service providers before the day of the hearing				
c. Investigate alternative services that might be provided or the child or family				

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**128** Based on your observations of their behavior in court, how often would you estimate Case Managers have done the following in advance preparation for proceedings in **Termination of Parental Rights** cases?:

	<b>Rarely</b>	<b>Occasionally</b>	<b>Often</b>	<b>Usually</b>
a. Obtain up-to-date information on the child and family				
b. Interview service providers before the day of the hearing				
c. Investigate alternative services that might be provided or the child or family				

**129** Please indicate the number of times you have attended different types of training and/or educational programs noted below **in the past five years** (Please write the number in the space provided to the left of the specified training or educational program):

***National Programs***

1. \_\_\_\_\_ National Council on Juvenile and Family Court Judges
2. \_\_\_\_\_ National Foster Parent Conferences
3. \_\_\_\_\_ Child Welfare League of America Conferences (CWLA)
4. \_\_\_\_\_ National Association of Social Workers Conferences (NASW)
5. \_\_\_\_\_ Other Federal/National Education and/or Training
6. \_\_\_\_\_ The North American Council on Adoptable Children Conferences (NACAC)
7. \_\_\_\_\_ Other National Programs

***State Level Programs*** (sponsored by the following)

8. \_\_\_\_\_ Indiana Judicial Center
9. \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter for the Prevention of Child Abuse
10. \_\_\_\_\_ Indiana Advocates for Children
11. \_\_\_\_\_ Foster Care and Adoption Association
12. \_\_\_\_\_ Indiana Youth Institute
13. \_\_\_\_\_ Indiana Family & Social Services Administration
14. \_\_\_\_\_ Indiana Department of Health programs
15. \_\_\_\_\_ Step Ahead
16. \_\_\_\_\_ Other State Education and/or Training programs

***Local Level Programs*** (Sponsored by the following)

17. \_\_\_\_\_ Local Bar Association programs
18. \_\_\_\_\_ CASA Program
19. \_\_\_\_\_ Public Schools
20. \_\_\_\_\_ Department of Health (local offices)
21. \_\_\_\_\_ Community Mental Health Centers
22. \_\_\_\_\_ Step Ahead (local councils, boards)
23. \_\_\_\_\_ Hospitals
24. \_\_\_\_\_ Other Locally sponsored Education and/or Training programs

**130** Would you say that opportunities to participate in training and/or educational programs on how to handle child abuse and neglect cases are?:

	<b><u>Yes</u></b>	<b><u>No</u></b>
a. Offered enough times a year		
b. Offered in convenient locations		
c. Focused on relevant subject matter/issues		

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**131** Have you participated in training encompassing the topics noted below prior to hearing CHINS cases (=“PRIOR”), since you started hearing CHINS cases (=“SINCE”), and what additional training would you find beneficial in the future (=“FUTURE”)? Please *check all that apply*:

	<b><u>PRIOR</u></b>	<b><u>SINCE</u></b>	<b><u>FUTURE</u></b>
a. No Training			
b. Legal and procedural aspects of dependency/neglect cases			
c. State and federal requirements related to dependency/neglect cases			
d. Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA)			
e. Child Development			
f. Mental health issues and services of dependency/neglect cases			
g. Medical issues and services in dependency/neglect cases			
h. Diversity training/special ethnic and cultural issues related to dependency/neglect cases			
i. Special Education			
j. Drug and alcohol abuse and its impact on parenting/treatment options			
k. Evaluating case plans			
l. Family dynamics including domestic violence and co-dependency			
m. Judicial case management of dependency/neglect cases			
n. Foster case placement issues including grief, loss and attachment			
o. Mediation			
p. Other (please specify)			
q. Other (please specify)			

**132** How long have you handled CHINS cases as a judge, magistrate, or referee?

1. \_\_\_\_\_ Less than one year
2. \_\_\_\_\_ One to three years
3. \_\_\_\_\_ Four to six years
4. \_\_\_\_\_ Seven years or more

**133** Please estimate the percentage of your time at work that is devoted to child abuse and neglect cases, according to the following categories of casework (e.g., total time you dedicate to child abuse and neglect cases, either directly or indirectly): *(The sum should equal 100%)*

- \_\_\_\_\_ % Child abuse and neglect cases (directly on cases)
- \_\_\_\_\_ % Child abuse and neglect cases (indirectly – e.g. speeches, administrative work travel, etc.)
- \_\_\_\_\_ % Delinquency cases (directly and indirectly)
- \_\_\_\_\_ % Paternity cases
- \_\_\_\_\_ % Termination cases
- \_\_\_\_\_ % Other (non-juvenile cases)

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**134** Please estimate your average number of hours per week preparing (e.g., reading files, case plans, and reports or doing research) for scheduled hearings in child abuse and neglect cases, by checking the appropriate response:

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Less than One Hour | 4. <input type="checkbox"/> 5 to 10 Hours      |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> 1 or 2 Hours       | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> 11 to 25 Hours     |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> 3 to 4 Hours       | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> More than 25 Hours |

**135** Please estimate your average hours per week hearing child abuse and neglect cases in court, by checking the appropriate response:

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Less than One Hour | 4. <input type="checkbox"/> 5 to 10 Hours      |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> 1 or 2 Hours       | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> 11 to 25 Hours     |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> 3 to 4 Hours       | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> More than 25 Hours |

**136** Please estimate the average number of hours per week you spend working on child abuse and neglect cases following scheduled hearings (e.g., reading files and reports, doing research, or preparing and entering orders), by checking the appropriate response:

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Less than One Hour | 4. <input type="checkbox"/> 5 to 10 Hours      |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> 1 or 2 Hours       | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> 11 to 25 Hours     |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> 3 to 4 Hours       | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> More than 25 Hours |

**137** Do you believe the purpose or mission of the state’s CHINS system is well-defined and understood?

- Yes  No

**138** How often do you believe the use of resources and especially funding is aligned with the priorities or requirements of the CHINS system?

- 1  Rarely 2  Occasionally 3  Often 4  Usually

**139** Do you believe there is greater awareness than ever before of the issues relevant to CHINS cases among:

	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
a. The General Public		
b. State Legislators		
c. The Media		

**140** Do you believe if the issue of child abuse and neglect has a higher profile publicly it would generate (or is generating) improvements in the CHINS system?

- Yes  No

**141** Do you believe state and federal requirements are realistic to meet or comply with given the capacity of the CHINS system (in terms of financial and human resources, as well as time demands)?

- Yes  No

**142** How often do you believe requirements of the CHINS system compromise the quality of outcomes or results in CHINS cases?

- 1  Rarely 2  Occasionally 3  Often 4  Usually



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**151** Are there specific state policies that you think should be modified, expanded or eliminated, that would improve the process in child abuse and neglect cases, and if so why?

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**152** What are the biggest challenges facing the court and the child protection system in adequately addressing the needs of these children in a timely manner?

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*(If you need more space for any of the questions, please use the space below and additional pages)*

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Once you have completed the survey, please return it to (an envelope already addressed to Anne should have been included with the survey):

The Indiana Judicial Center  
Attn: Anne Jordan  
115 West Washington St., Suite 1075  
Indianapolis, IN 46204-3424

***THANK YOU for your participation!***