

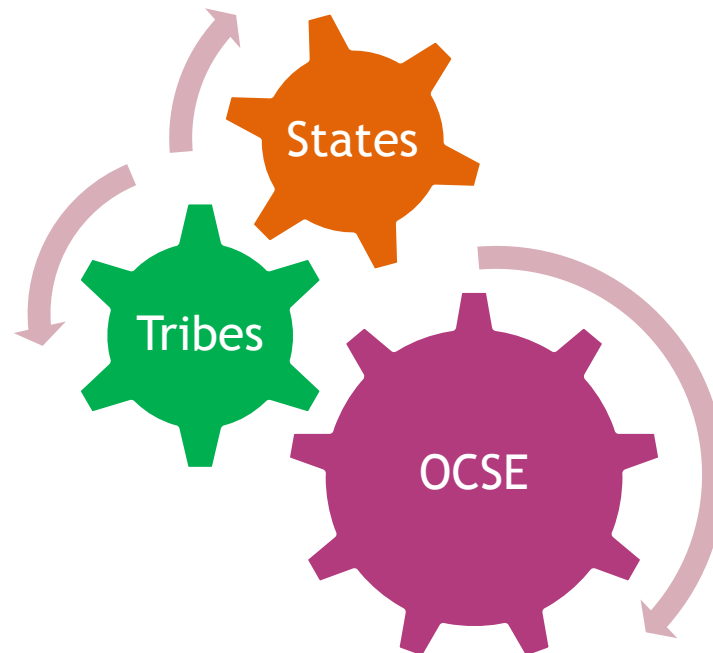
CHILD SUPPORT AND CHILD WELFARE WORKING TOGETHER TO FOSTER CONNECTIONS

The Children's Bureau
2011 Policy to Practice Dialogue
October 12, 2011



WHAT IS THE CHILD SUPPORT PROGRAM?

Federal, state and tribal child support enforcement agencies work together to collect and distribute child support payments and to provide health care coverage.



CHILD SUPPORT'S MISSION

To enhance the well-being of children by assuring that assistance in obtaining support—financial and medical—is available to children through:

Locating
Parents

Establishing
Paternity

Establishing
Support
Obligations

Monitoring
and
Enforcing
Obligations

CHILD SUPPORT TOOLKIT- FAMILY CENTERED SERVICES



CASELOAD & OUTCOMES DATA

BASED ON FY 2010 PRELIMINARY ANNUAL REPORT

- ❑ Caseload - 15.9 million total cases (increase of 0.4% from FY09)
- ❑ Collections Due and Distributed
 - Support due - over \$32 billion
 - Support collected - more than \$20 billion (62% collected from total amounts due)
- ❑ Cost-effective ratio - \$4.88 collected per \$1 spent
- ❑ Paternities established - 1.7 million (4.1% decrease from FY09)
- ❑ Children - 17.5 million (.5% increase from FY09)
- ❑ Arrearages - \$110 billion collected (2% increase from FY09)

HOW WE WORK TOGETHER

The child support program works with child welfare by:

- ❑ Providing **locate** services to find relatives and other individuals that may have rights with respect to a child
- ❑ Providing **full child support services**, as appropriate, when children are in foster care

THE BENEFITS OF US WORKING TOGETHER

We serve many of the same families. By working together we may be able to:

- ❑ Increase child support collections.
- ❑ Obtain information that IV-E agencies can use for case planning and management.
- ❑ Improve outcomes for children and families.
- ❑ Increase the chances of making appropriate referrals.

MANAGING OUR SHARED CASELOAD IN THE BEST INTERESTS OF CHILDREN

A title IV-E plan:

“provides that, **where appropriate**, all steps will be taken, including cooperative efforts with the State agencies administering the program funded under part A...and part D of this subchapter, to secure an assignment to the State of any rights to support on behalf of each child receiving foster care maintenance payments under this part[.]”

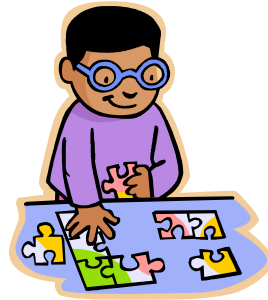
42 U.S.C. 671(a)(17)

2012 PRESIDENT'S BUDGET PROPOSAL

Includes a requirement that when children are in foster care, the child support payments made on their behalf are used in their best interests (e.g., for day to day or special needs, passed through to the child's custodian or guardian, or saved in a child support trust account).

FEDERAL CHANGES

- ❑ Fostering Connections to Success and Increasing Adoptions Act of 2008



- ❑ Safeguarding Child Support Information Final Rule



FOSTERING CONNECTIONS TO SUCCESS AND INCREASING ADOPTIONS ACT OF 2008

- ❑ child welfare agencies must provide notice to relatives within 30 days of removing a child from his or her home.
- ❑ child welfare agencies must make reasonable efforts to place siblings together.
- ❑ child welfare agencies may obtain additional child support data to administer the IV-B or IV-E program.

CHILD SUPPORT SAFEGUARDING FINAL RULE

- ❑ Specifies requirements for State Parent Locator Service responses to authorized location requests.
- ❑ Specifies state child support program safeguards for confidential information and authorized disclosures of this information.
- ❑ Addresses release of information to State IV-B and IV-E agencies to assist state child welfare agencies in carrying out their program responsibilities to notify relatives of a child removed from parental custody in response to changes made by the Fostering Connections to Success and Increasing Adoptions Act.
- ❑ Effective December 30, 2010

75 Fed. Reg. 81894 (OCSE-AT-10-12), amending 45 CFR 302.35 (Dec. 29, 2010)

LOCATING PARENTS, CHILDREN AND RELATIVES

	Parents and Children	Relatives
Authorized Person/Program	State agency that is administering a Child and Family Services program (IV-B) or a Foster Care and Adoption IV-E program.	<u>State agency that is administering a Child and Family Services program (IV-B) or a Foster Care and Adoption IV-E program.</u>
Authorized Purpose of the Request	To facilitate the location of any individual who has or may have parental rights with respect to the child; and to assist states in carrying out their responsibilities under title IV-B and IV-E programs.	<u>To assist states in carrying out their responsibilities under title IV-B and IV-E programs.</u>

LOCATING PARENTS, CHILDREN AND RELATIVES

	Parents and Children	Relatives
Persons About Whom Info May Be Asked	Noncustodial Parent Putative Father Custodial Parent Child	<u>Relatives of a child involved in a title IV-B or IV-E case</u>
Sources Searched	Federal Parent Locator Service In-state sources in accordance with State law	<u>Federal Parent Locator Service</u> <u>In-state sources in accordance with State law</u>

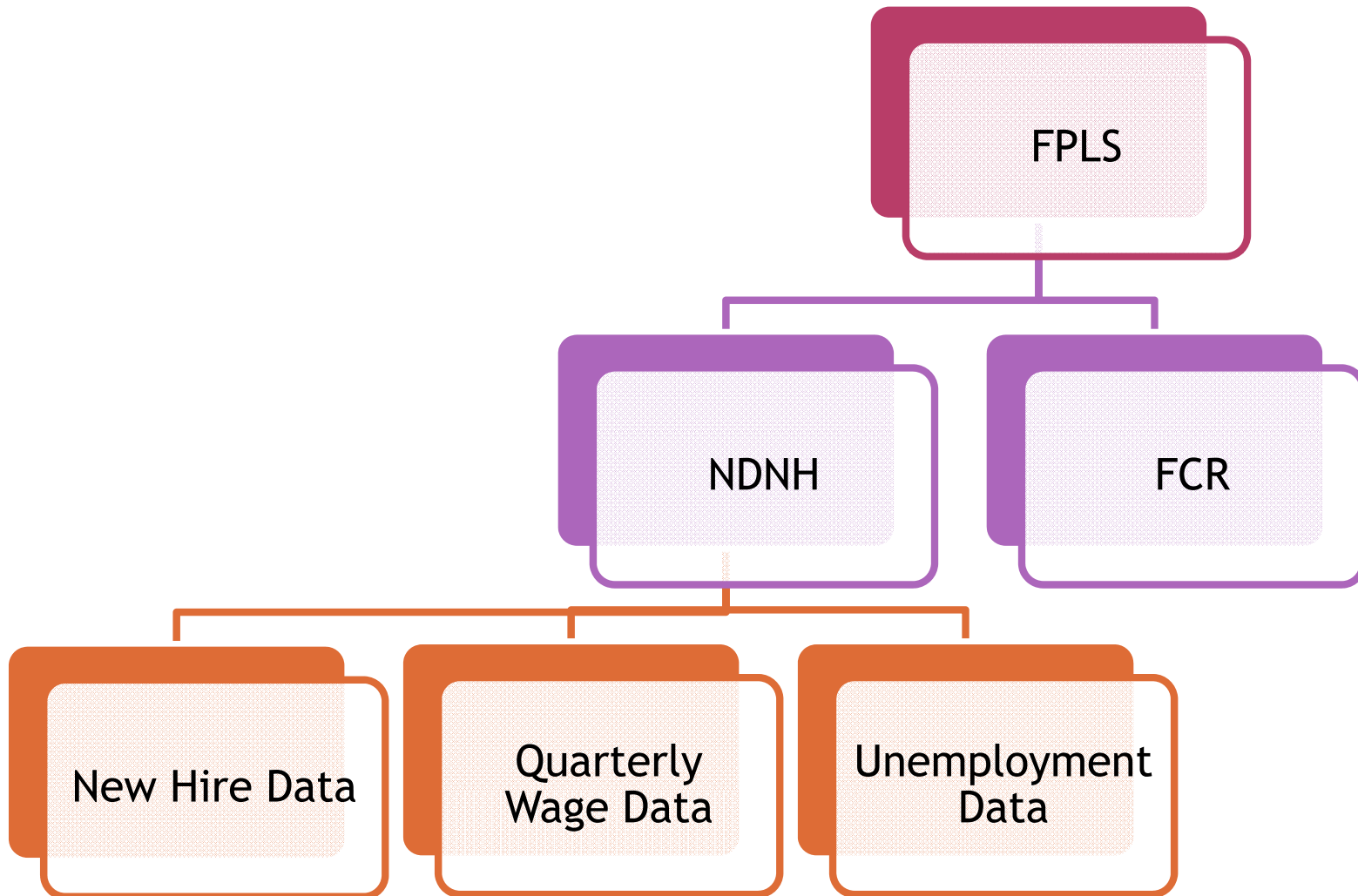
LOCATING PARENTS, CHILDREN AND RELATIVES

	Parents and Children	Relatives
Authorized Information Returned	Person's Name Person's SSN Person's address Employer's name Employer's address Employer ID Number <u>Wages, income, and benefits of employment, including health care coverage</u> <u>Type, status, location, and amount of assets or debts owed by or to the individual</u>	<u>Person's Name</u> <u>Person's SSN</u> <u>Person's address</u> <u>Employer's name</u> <u>Employer's address</u> <u>Employer ID Number</u>

LOCATING PARENTS, CHILDREN AND RELATIVES

	Parents and Children	Relatives
Limitations	<p>No IRS information unless independently verified.</p> <p>No MSFIDM information and no State FIDM information provided.</p> <p>Any information outside the purpose stated in Section 453(a)(2) and Section 453(j)(3) requires independent verification</p>	<p><u>No IRS information unless independently verified.</u></p> <p><u>No MSFIDM information and no State FIDM information provided.</u></p> <p><u>Any information outside the purpose stated in Section 453(j)(3) requires independent verification</u></p>

FEDERAL LOCATE SOURCES



STATE LOCATE SOURCES

State workforce agencies

Motor vehicles

Public utilities

Welfare agencies (TANF)

Department of Corrections

State lottery agencies

Internal Revenue Service

Private sources, social networks

PUTTING PROTECTIONS IN PLACE

- ❑ No information shall be disclosed if the disclosure of such information would contravene the national policy or security interests of the United States or the confidentiality of census data.
- ❑ No information shall be disclosed if the State has reasonable evidence of domestic violence or child abuse and the disclosure of such information could be harmful to the CP or child.

FAMILY VIOLENCE INDICATOR (FVI)

- ❑ FVI is placed on anyone in the caseload who needs to be protected
- ❑ FVI prevents locate information from being shared
- ❑ FVI is not placed on the perpetrator

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CONTACT INFORMATION

- ❑ Contact information for each state's domestic violence agency is housed on OCSE's website under the Intergovernmental Referral Guide (IRG) and is available to the public.
- ❑ Contains each organization's name, mailing address, telephone number, fax number, and a website address.
- ❑ The public can view all Profile information but only select state information can be viewed without a logon and password.

ACCESSING STATE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

Access the domestic violence contact information on the IRG at (<https://extranet.acf.hhs.gov/irgauth/login>) using the following steps:

- ❑ Click on Public User.
- ❑ Select the “Location and Addresses” radio button on the right.
- ❑ Click on the Map for the desired State information.
- ❑ Under your selected state, click the “state” Bar to view the addresses.
- ❑ From the drop down box, select the “Domestic Violence” address type
- ❑ Click on the “Address Type Search” Bar
- ❑ Contact information for your selected state will appear.

WHEN SHOULD I REFER A CASE FOR FULL CHILD SUPPORT SERVICES

- ❑ A child is expected to remain in foster care for a significant period of time.
- ❑ Establishing a child support case will help the child welfare agency determine an appropriate case plan goal.
- ❑ The case plan is to reunify children with the custodial parent or other relatives.

WHEN SHOULDN'T I REFER A CASE FOR FULL CHILD SUPPORT SERVICES

- ❑ If children are expected to be in foster care only for a short time.
- ❑ If a noncustodial parent is a potential placement source.
- ❑ If termination of parental rights is imminent.
- ❑ If a child in foster care is not eligible for title IV-E.

HOW CHILD SUPPORT COLLECTS MONEY FOR FAMILIES

Federally Mandated Tools

Income withholding

- 70% of total support collections nationwide
- Standardized IWO forms all states issue to employers

Credit reporting of arrearages

In-state Financial Data Match (FIDM)

Posting security, bond or guarantee



FEDERAL COLLECTION TOOLS

Federally Administered Tools

- Passport denial
- Federal tax refund offset
- Administrative offset
- Insurance match
- MSFIDM

STATE COLLECTION TOOLS



Individual State-Option Tools

- State tax refund offset
- Lottery/casino winnings interception
- Liens/garnishments/levies
- Property seizure
- Restriction or revocation of professional, driver or recreational licenses; vehicle registration
- US Attorney referral for criminal prosecution

PUTTING THE PIECES TOGETHER

- ❑ Workgroup established
- ❑ Joint guidance being issued
- ❑ Fact Sheet
- ❑ Workshops and presentations

CONTACT INFORMATION

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