SCAN Policies Database State profile: Colorado 2021 Mathematica® Inc. 1 SCAN Policies Database State Profile 2021: Colorado Overview of the SCAN Policies Database The State Child Abuse and Neglect (SCAN) Policies Database compiles data on the definitions and policies that states use in their surveillance of child maltreatment, along with data on associated risk and protective factors. The SCAN Policies Database is funded by the Office of Planning, Research, and Evaluation in collaboration with the Children’s Bureau in the Administration for Ch ildren and Families , U.S. Department of Health and Human S ervices . Mathematica leads this project in partnership with Child Trends. The project ’s purpose is to review and compile information from states’ definitions and policies to c reate a database of th ose definitions and policies that can be used for analysis. The SCAN Policies Database is a resource for researchers, analysts, child welfare agency staff, and others interested in examining differences between states in their definitions and policies on child maltreatment and how they change over time . Content The scope of the SCAN Policies Database includes information about state definitions and policies related to child abuse and neglect for all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. The SCAN Policies Database team gathered t his information through a document collection, review, and coding process. The team obtained input from states on data collection through a confirmation and verification process. More information about these data collection procedures can be found in the d ata user’s g uide and d ata collection protocol , accessible at https://www.scanpoliciesdatabase.com/data -use-resources . The SCAN Policies Database 2021 represents data collected, reviewed, and verified between July 2021 and January 2022. The data reflect the state definitions and policies for the calendar year 2021. The scope of topics in the database includes states’ definitions of child abuse and neglect, as well as information about policies related to reporting, screening, and investigating child maltreatment. Key aspects of the child welfare systems’ response and context are also included. The content in the SCAN Policies Database is or ganized into six domains. The state profiles, codebook, data collection protocol, and data file are also organized by these domains. In the protocol, each question begins with a letter prefix identifyin g the domain for each variable. The six domains with the identifying protocol number prefix are listed below. Domain Question prefix Definitions D Reporting R Screening S Investigation I Child welfare response W Child welfare system context C SCAN Policies Database State profile: Colorado 2021 Mathematica® Inc. 2 State profile This SCAN Policies Database state profile is a summary of the information collected about the definitions and policies for the identified state. It is organized by six domains, with each section containing a set of tables that depict the state’s information for all variables within that domain. The state profile presents data for each variable with “yes,” “no,” “unknown,” or other response as appropriate. The response of “unknown” appears for topics that could not be located from the state’s available resources or verified with that state . In some cases, “logical skip” appears when a question was not applicable to a particular state, given a related response on a preceding question. Data use resources Several data use resources are available to support users of the SCAN Policies Database: • Data user ’s guide: The guide has detailed information about the data set, including the process used to collect and review the data, the scope of information included in the data set, guidance on using the data, such as how to link the data with other data sources, and notes about specific topics . The data user’s guide includes appendices with information on corrections to the SCAN Policies Database 2019 and a summary of changes to the data between 2019 and 2021 that reflect changes to state laws and policies during that time period. There is one data user’s guide that is updated and applicable for all rounds of data collection for the SCAN Policies Database. • Codebook: The codebook provides information about each variable in the data set, including variable names, labels, definitions, protocol number, variable type, and frequencies. The codebook includes several appendices , including a list of all sources used to review and code data. There are separate codebooks to summarize the data from each round of data collection. • Data collection protocol: The protocol has the questions used to collect information about states’ statutes and policies as part of the data review and coding process. There are separate data collection protocols for each round of data collection for the SCAN Policies Database. These data use resources can be found on the SCAN Policies Database website (https://www.scanpoliciesdatabase.com/data -use-resources ) or from the National Data Archive for Child Abuse and Neglect (NDACAN) ( https://www.ndacan.acf.hhs.gov/ ). More information More information about the SCAN Policies Database can be found at https://www.scanpoliciesdatabase.com. General inquiries can be submitted to SCANPoliciesDatabase@mathematica -mpr.com .SCAN Policies Database State profile: Colorado Mathematica® Inc. 3 State identifying information Table I. S tate identifying information Response a. State abbreviation CO b. State Federal Information Processing Standard (FIPS) code 08 c. Census region code West d. State verified coding of information Yes e. State confirmed documents reviewed Yes f. State definitions and policies for calendar year 2021 g. Data version 2021v1 SCAN Policies Database State profile: Colorado 2021 Mathematica® Inc. 4 Domain D: Definitions of child maltreatment Table II. State’s definition of child maltreatment Response 1. Types of maltreatment included in state definition a. Physical abuse Yes b. Excessive corporal punishment Yes c. Sexual abuse Yes d. Emotional maltreatment Yes e. Neglect Yes f. Inadequate clothing Yes g. Inadequate shelter Yes h. Malnourishment, inadequate food Yes i. Medical neglect, inadequate medical care Yes j. Failure to thrive Yes k. Educational neglect Yes l. Abandonment Yes m. Injurious environment. Likelihood of harm to child’s health, physical well -being Yes n. Drug lab. Child present within structure where methamphetamine is being created Yes o. Inadequate supervision. Failure to meet parent or caretaker responsibilities Yes p. Drug or alcohol misuse. Parental drug or alcohol misuse causing harm to child Yes q. Prenatal exposure to drugs or alcohol Yes r. Illicit substance. Illegally providing a controlled substance to a child No s. Human trafficking, involuntary servitude, sexual servitude Yes t. Female genital mutilation Yes u. Shaken baby syndrome, abusive head trauma Yes v. Failure to protect. Failure to protect from harm Yes w. Domestic violence. Exposure to domestic violence Yes x. Factitious disorder by proxy No y. Institutional abuse/neglect Yes z. Other definition (specify) Yes - Third -party abuse and/or neglect SCAN Policies Database State profile: Colorado 2021 Table II (continued) Mathematica® Inc. 5 Response 2. Subtypes of maltreatment included in state definition a. Subtypes of maltreatment considered abuse Abuse includes physical abuse, malnutrition, failure to thrive, subdural hematoma (shaken baby syndrome), sexual abuse, inadequate clothing, inadequate shelter, inadequate medical care, parental responsibilities, emotional abuse, presence near or access to controlled substance (including methamphetamine), prenatal exposure to controlled substance, human trafficking of a minor for involuntary or sexual servitude, failure to protect, punishment, and genital mutilation b. Subtypes of maltreatment considered neglect Neglect includes physical abuse, malnutrition, failure to thrive, subdural hematoma (shaken baby syndrome), sexual abuse, inadequate clothing, inadequate shelter, inadequate medical care, parental responsibilities, emotional abuse, presence near or access to controlled substance (including methamphetamine), prenatal exposure to controlled substance, human trafficking of a minor for involuntary or sexual servitude, f ailure to protect, punishment, and genital mutilation c. Subtypes of maltreatment considered other than abuse or neglect Abuse or 'child abuse or neglect' includes physical abuse, malnutrition, failure to thrive, subdural hematoma (shaken baby syndrome), sex ual abuse, inadequate clothing, inadequate shelter, inadequate medical care, parental responsibilities, emotional abuse, presence near or access to controlled substance (including methamphetamine), prenatal exposure to controlled substance, human trafficking of a minor for involuntary or sexual servitude, failure to protect, punishment, and genital mutilation 3. Level of harm included in state’s definition of child maltreatment a. Inflicts harm Yes b. Imminent danger or substantial risk of harm Yes 4. Differences in level of harm included in state’s definition of child maltreatment by type of maltreatment No 5. Type of harm or injury specified in state’s definition of child maltreatment a. Death, bodily injury, impairment of physical condition Yes b. Impairment of mental or emotional condition Yes c. Harmful environment, conditions Yes d. Type of harm or injury not specified No e. Other (specify) No SCAN Policies Database State profile: Colorado 2021 Table II (continued) Mathematica® Inc. 6 Response 6. Variation in extent of injury or harm by maltreatment type in the state’s definition of child maltreatment No 7. Perpetrator identified as part of state’s definition of child maltreatment Yes 8. Types of perpetrators specified as part of state’s definition of child maltreatment a. Any adult Yes b. Parent Yes c. Guardian Yes d. Caregiver/caretaker Yes e. Family member/parent /paramour Yes f. Household member Yes g. Person responsible for child Yes h. Other (specify) No 9. Types of perpetrators vary by type of maltreatment Yes 10. Explanation of variation in types of perpetrator by maltreatment type For institutional abuse, the perpetrators are specific to any public or private facility in the state that provides childcare out of the home, supervision, or maintenance; For third-party abuse and/or neglect, the perpetrator is any person who is not a parent, stepparent, guardian, legal custodian, spousal equivalent, or any other person not included in the definition of intrafamilial abuse or institutional abuse 11. Child age included in definition of child maltreatment Yes 12. Specific child age in definition of child maltreatment Under age 18 with variability over 18 13. Variability of child age by type of maltreatment Yes - Institutional abuse applies to persons under 21 years of age ’SCAN Policies Database State profile: Colorado 2021 Table III. Child maltreatment definition exemptions Response: Yes/No/Unknown 1. Exemption included in state’s definition of child maltreatment a. Financial issues, financial inability to provide for a child No b. Discipline ; physical discipline, as long as it is reasonable and causes no bodily injury to the child Yes c. Safe haven exemption; newborn relinquished or abandoned in accordance with infant safe haven laws Yes d. Infant testing positive for drugs – medical ; newborn with positive test for controlled substance as a result of parent’s medical treatment Yes e. Religious observance; parent relies on spiritual or religious forms of medical treatment Yes f. Other exemption (specify) Yes - For exemption to involuntary servitude, those investigating reports of child abuse shall take into account accepted childrearing practices of the culture in which the child participates including, but not limited to, accepted work -related practices of agricultural communities; Genital mutilation is exempted if it is necessary to preserve the health of the child on whom it is performed, or it is performed on a child who is in labor or who has just given birth when there is a medical need. In both instances, it must be performed by a person licensed to practice medicine. 2. Sa fe haven exemption included in state’s definition of child maltreatment a. M ust l eave a child at specific safe haven locations Yes b. Child must be left by parent or parent’s agent Yes c. Child must be left by a certain age (specify) Yes - 72 hours old or younger d. No intent to return Yes e. Child must be left unharmed No f. Other (specify) No Mathematica® Inc. 7 ’ - - -SCAN Policies Database State profile: Colorado 2021 Table IV . Definitions and response for child fatalities and near -fatalities cases Response: Yes/No/Unknown 1. State’s definition of fatalities or deaths caused by child maltreatment a. Not specified/not defined No b. Injury from abuse or neglect caused death Yes c. Abuse or neglect was contributing factor in death Yes d. Death of child was in child welfare custody/foster care No e. Other (specify) No f. Unknown No 2. State conducts case reviews with a child fatality review team or a similar review process for fatalities caused by child abuse or neglect a. No case review or review process No b. Reviews are required of all or some cases Yes c. Reviews can be conducted but are not required No d. Other (specify) No e. Unknown No 3.State’s definition of near - fatalities or near -deaths caused by child maltreatment a. Not specified/not defined No b. General reference to a serious or critical condition/injury that is life threatening with a substantial risk of death Yes c. Specific injury or specific medical treatment/intervention (specify) No d. Other (specify) No e. Unknown No 4. State conduct s case reviews with a review team or similar review process for near -fatalities caused by child abuse or neglect a. No case review or review process No b. Reviews are required of all or some cases Yes c. Reviews can be conducted but are not required No d. Other (specify) No e. Unknown No Mathematica® Inc. 8 SCAN Policies Database State profile: Colorado 2021 Domain R: Reporting child abuse and neglect Table V. Reporting policies Response 1. Statewide centralized reporting Other -Reports of known or suspected child abuse or neglect are made to the county department, the local law enforcement agency, or through the child abuse reporting hotline system; There is a statewide hotline system that routes calls to appropriate county department. Some counties or regions also have their own reporting hotline. 2. How reporting is decentralized a. Each county or region has its own reporting hotline Logical Skip b. Some counties or regions have their own reporting hotline Logical Skip c. During some times of the day, counties or regions have their own reporting hotline Logical Skip d. Other (specify) Logical Skip 3. Standard for reporting child maltreatment a. Known abuse and neglect Yes b. Reasonable cause to believe a child was abused or neglected Yes 4. Universal mandated reporting No 5. Required training for mandated reporters No 6. Penalties for failure to report Yes, all mandated reporters 7. Specific penalties for failure to report a. Criminal charges Yes b. Civil charges Yes c. Professional licensure suspended or revoked Yes d. Other (specify) No 8. Penalties for false reporting Yes 9. Specific penalties for false reporting a. Criminal charges Yes b. Civil charges Yes c. Professional license suspended or revoked No d. Other (specify) No e. Unknown No 10. Immunity for reporters of child abuse and neglect Yes 11. Information requested at the time of report a. Identifying information of child Yes b. Location/contact information of child and family Yes c. Type/severity of suspected maltreatment Yes Mathematica® Inc. 9 -SCAN Policies Database State profile: Colorado 2021 Table V ( continued) Response d. Date of suspected maltreatment Yes e. Identifying and other information of alleged perpetrator(s) Yes f. Identifying and other information of reporter Yes g. Identifying information of child’s parents, guardian, or caregiver/caretaker Yes h. Identifying and other information of family/household members Yes i. Information on prior maltreatment Yes j. Other (specify) Yes - The nature of any other environmental hazards in the home which may impact child(ren)/youth or worker safety; The name and contact information of any individuals who may have information about the referral, and/or the identity and contact information of collateral agencies and individuals involved with the family; Date and time referral was received; Family strengths and supports, and/or other protective factors or actions taken 12. Anonymity of reporter a. All reporters (including mandated reports) can stay anonymous No b. The general public can be anonymous (mandated reporters cannot remain anonymous) Yes c. Reporters (including mandated reporters) cannot be anonymous No d. Unknown No 13. Tribal involvement in accepting reports of tribal cases a. Tribes are not involved No b. Tribes accept reports (specify tribes) No c. Collaboration of tribes with state/local public child welfare agency to accept reports (specify tribes) No d. Tribes accept reports and c ollaborat e with state/local public child welfare agency (specify tribes) Yes - The Southern Ute and Ute Mountain Ute e. Unknown No 14. State requires all notifications of substance-exposed newborns (SENs) t o be submitted as reports of child maltreatment a. State does not require all cases of SEN s to be reported for child maltreatment, but they could be reported if they meet certain criteria Yes b. State requires all SEN s to be reported as child maltreatment No c. Other (specify) No d. Unknown No Mathematica® Inc. 10 -SCAN Policies Database State profile: Colorado 2021 Table V ( continued) Response 15. Accepts r eports of risk without an allegation of child maltreatment (risk -only reports ) a. No Yes b. Yes No c. Other (specify) No d. Unknown No Mathematica® Inc. 11 ’SCAN Policies Database State profile: Colorado 2021 Table VI . Types of mandated reporters Response Response Response 1. Types of mandated reporters Included in state’s definition of mandated reporters Training required1 Subject to penalties for failure to report2 a. Foster parents Yes Logical Skip Yes b. School staff -teachers Yes Logical Skip Yes c. School bus drivers or other transportation staff Yes Logical Skip Yes d. Before- /after -school program staff Yes Logical Skip Yes e. Child care staff Yes Logical Skip Yes f. Camp counselors, directors, or administrators No Logical Skip Logical Skip g. Athletic coaches or staff Yes Logical Skip Yes h. Medical or dental professionals Yes Logical Skip Yes i. Substance abuse disorder treatment providers No Logical Skip Logical Skip j. Mental health, counselors , or other social service professionals Yes Logical Skip Yes k. Police or other law enforcement Yes Logical Skip Yes l. Emergency medical technicians, firefighters, or other emergency personnel Yes Logical Skip Yes m. Judges No Logical Skip Logical Skip n. District attorneys or other attorneys No Logical Skip Logical Skip o. Guardian ad litems or court-appointed special advocates No Logical Skip Logical Skip p. Other court personnel Yes Logical Skip Yes q. Shelter staff Yes Logical Skip Yes r. Those who work in fields processing or monitoring print, film, or computer images Yes Logical Skip Yes s. Religious clergy Yes Logical Skip Yes t. Volunteers No Logical Skip Logical Skip u. Coroner s or medical examiner s No No No v. St aff or contractor s of state and county agencies Yes No No Mathematica® Inc. 12 ’SCAN Policies Database State profile: Colorado 2021 Table VI (continued) Response Response Response 1. Types of mandated reporters Included in state’s definition of mandated reporters Training required1 Subject to penalties for failure to report2 w. Other type of mandated reporter (specify) Yes - Christian science pract itioner; Social worker or worker in any facility or agency that is licensed or certified; Veterinarian; Victim's advocate; Officers and agents of the state bureau of animal protection and animal control officers; The child protection ombudsman; Educator providing services through a federal special supplemental nutrition program for w omen, infants, and children Logical Skip Yes - Christian sci ence practitioner; Social worker or worker in any facility or agency that is licensed or certified; Veterinarian; Victim's advocate; Officers and agents of the state bureau of animal protection and animal control officers; The child protection ombudsman; Educator providing services through a federal special supplemental nutrition program for women, infants, and children 1Responses in this column can equal logical skip when the given type of mandated reporter is not included in the state’s definition of mandated reporters or when no training is required for mandated reporters ( Table V.5). Responses in this column can be yes when a state has universal mandated reporting (Table V.4) and all mandated reporters require training (Table V.5). 2Responses in this column can equal logical skip when the given type of mandated reporter is not included in the state’s definition of mandated reporters or when no mandated reporters are subject to penalties (Table V.6). Reponses in this column can be yes when a state has universal mandated reporting (Table V.4) and when all adults or all mandated reporters are subject to penalties (Table V.6). Mathematica® Inc. 13 SCAN Policies Database State profile: Colorado 2021 Domain S: Screening reports of child abuse and neglect Table VII. Screening policies Response 1. Statewide centralized screening No 2. How screening is decentralized a. Each county or region has its own screening unit Yes b. Some counties or regions have their own screening units No c. During certain times of the day, counties or regions have their own screening units No d. Other (specify) No 3. Information required to screen in report a. Identifying information of child No b. Location/contact information of child and family No c. Type/severity of suspected maltreatment No d. Date of suspected maltreatment No e. Identifying and other information of alleged perpetrator(s) No f. Other (specify) Yes - State does not require any information to screen in a report g. Unknown No Mathematica® Inc. 14 SCAN Policies Database State profile: Colorado 2021 Table VIII. Screening decision process and activities Response Required cases Conditions or types of cases 1. Decision processes used during screening a. Supervisory review Yes Required for all — b. Team -based decision Yes Required for some — c. Individual screener No Logical Skip — d. Other (specify) No Logical Skip — e. Unknown No — — 2. Variability of decision process used for screening a. Consistent statewide Yes — — b. Varies locally No — — c. Unknown No — — 3. Certain activities or information are required as part of screening Yes 4. Activities/information required as part of screening a. Safety or risk assessment Yes Required for some Counties using differential response use Review, Evaluate and Direct (RED) Team framework to review referrals, determine response times, and determine the appropriate track assignment b. Review agency records for prior involvement with child protective services Yes Required for all Not applicable c. Other (specify) Yes - Review child/youth's vulnerability; Report allegation of sex trafficking to local law enforcement agency Required for all Not applicable 5. Types of safety/risk assessment used during screening a. Structured decision making Yes — — b. Other (specify) No — — 6. Consistency of screening activities/information a. Consistent statewide Yes — — Mathematica® Inc. 15 SCAN Policies Database State profile: Colorado 2021 Table VIII ( continued) Response Required cases Conditions or types of cases b. Varies locally (specify) No — — c. Unknown No — — Mathematica® Inc. 16 SCAN Policies Database State profile: Colorado 2021 Table IX . Screeners Response 1. Screener of abuse and neglect reports a. Caseworkers (frontline staff) Yes b. Case managers (supervisors) Yes c. Staff in specialized screening unit Yes d. Other (specify) No 2. Qualifications of screener a. Associate’s degree No b. Bachelor’s degree No c. Master’s degree No d. Training for screening (specify) Yes - Complete the pre-service hotline training for workers; Complete all required Transfer of Learning exercises with the assistance of a supervisor, or supervisor's designee; Demonstrate competence through pre- and post -tests, trainer observation, and verification by the county department as outlined in the request for certification; To be re-certified as a hotline worker, the staff person must participate in 10 hours of in-service training each state fiscal year e. Years of experience (specify) No f. Other (specify) Yes - High School diploma or equivalent g. Unknown No 3. Degree in social work or related field for screeners a. Not required Logical Skip b. Required Logical Skip c. Recommended or preferred, but not required Logical Skip d. Other (specify) Logical Skip e. Unknown Logical Skip 4. Tribal involvement in screening process of tribal cases a. Tribes are not involved No b. Tribes conduct screening (specify tribes) No c. Collaboration of tribes with state/local public child welfare agency (specify tribes) No d. Tribes cond uct screening and c ollaborat e with state/local public child welfare agency (specify tribes) Yes - The Southern Ute and Ute Mount ain Ute e. Unknown No Mathematica® Inc. 17 SCAN Policies Database State profile: Colorado 2021 Domain I: Investigations of child abuse and neglect Table X . Investigations policies Response 1. Child maltreatment investigations lead to criminal penalties Yes 2. Investigator for reports a. Caseworkers (frontline staff) Yes b. Case managers (supervisors) No c. Staff in specialized investigations unit No d. Law enforcement Yes e. Other (specify) Yes - The county department coordinates all investigations, including assigning persons trained to conduct the investigation; The investigation may include other appropriate agencies (state resources do not specify agenc ies); Institutional abuse may be investigated by an agency that contracts with the state and has staff trained to conduct investigations, the county departments, or any other entity the state department deems appropriate 3. Qualifications of investigator a. Associate’s degree No b. Bachelor’s degree Yes c. Master’s degree No d. Training for conducting investigations (specify) Yes - To be re-certified as a social caseworker, the staff person must participate in 40 hours of in- service training each state fiscal year, with a minimum of 16 of those hours focused in the area of the social caseworker's primary job responsibilities e. Years of experience (specify) Yes - 1 year of professional caseworker, case management, or human services experience in a public or private human services agency, with bachelor's degree; Successful completion of an approved field placement in a county department of human services, with a bachelor's of social work degree; No experience required for a master's degree in social work or a human behavioral science field f. Other (specify) No g. Unknown No 4. Degree in social work or related field for investigators a. Not required No Mathematica® Inc. 18 “SCAN Policies Database State profile: Colorado 2021 Table X (continued ) Response b. Required Yes c. Recommended or preferred, but not required No d. Other (specify) No e. Unknown No 5. Level of evidence required for substantiation (founded/indicated/confirmed) a. Preponderance of evidence Yes b. Credible or substantial evidence No c. Probable or reasonable cause No d. Unknown No 6. Investigation determination can result in an “inconclusive” f inding a. No No b. Yes Ye s c. Unknow n No Mathematica® Inc. 19 SCAN Policies Database State profile: Colorado 2021 Table XI . Required activities/information for investigation Response Required cases Conditions or types of cases 1. Certain activities/information required for the investigation process Yes 2. Specific activities or information required for investigation a. Review agency records for prior involvement with child protective services Yes Required for all Not applicable b. Visit to child’s home Yes Required for some The home conditions are the subject of the assessment; Information obtained in the interview process indicates assessment of the home environment is necessary due to current or impending danger c. Interview or observation of child victim Yes Required for all Not applicable d. Interview or observation of other children living in child’s home Yes Required for all Not applicable e. Risk or safety assessment Yes Required for all Not applicable f. Evaluation of home environment or home study Yes Required for some The home conditions are the subject of the assessment; Information obtained in the interview process indicates assessment of the home environment is necessary due to current or impending danger g. Interviews with child’s parents, caregivers, or other adults residing in child’s home Yes Required for all Not applicable h. Check of criminal records for adults in home Yes Required for all Not applicable i. Check of child welfare or central registry for prior child maltreatment allegations against adults in home Yes Required for all Not applicable j. Medical evaluation No Logical Skip Not applicable k. Mental health evaluation No Logical Skip Not applicable l. Interview alleged perpetrator Yes Required for some Reasonable or documentation of efforts to interview and advise the alleged perpetrator Mathematica® Inc. 20 SCAN Policies Database State profile: Colorado 2021 Table XI (continued) Response Required cases Conditions or types of cases m. Interview reporter or collateral source Yes Required for some When child(ren)/youth are unable to be interviewed within the assigned response time; Institutional abuse and/or neglect n. Other (specify) Yes - Credibility and source of the report; The nature, extent, and cause of the abuse or neglect; The identity of the person responsible for such abuse or neglect; The names and conditions of any other children living in the same place; The environment and the relationship of any children to the person responsible for the suspected abuse or neglect; Obtain culturally relevant and appropriate resourc es for the alleged victim child(ren)/ youth and their families; All other data deemed pertinent Required for all Not applicable Mathematica® Inc. 21 SCAN Policies Database State profile: Colorado 2021 Domain W: Child welfare response Table XII. Differential or alternative response Response 1 Differential/alternative response a. No No b. Yes - implemented statewide No c. Yes - implemented in specific counties or regions (specify) Yes - The executive director of the state department approves any county department of human or social services that chooses to participate in the differential response program. The program is a dual-track response system for referrals that meet the criter ia for assignment. The two response options are the High Risk Assessment (HRA) and the Family Assessment Response (FAR). The alternative response track is the FAR. As of 10/2021, 70% of counties in Colorado utilize a differential response system and another 12% are in the process of implementing one. d. Unknown No 2. Types of maltreatment eligible for differential/alternative response a. All types of maltreatment are eligible No b. Only certain types of maltreatment are eligible Yes c. Unknown No 3. Types of maltreatment not eligible for differential/alternative response a. Cases involving child fatalities Yes b. Substance-exposed infants No c. Physical abuse No d. Sexual abuse Yes e. Neglect No f. Abandoned infants No g. Other (specify) Yes - Institutional abuse 4. Eligibility for differential/alternative response determined by a risk determination a. No No b. Yes Yes c. Other (specify) No d. Unknown No 5. Tools used to determine risk for differential/alternative response No 6. Risk level eligible for differential/alternative response a. No risk No b. Low risk Yes c. Moderate risk Yes d. Other (specify) No e. Unknown No Mathematica® Inc. 22 SCAN Policies Database State profile: Colorado 2021 Table XII (continued) Response 7. Other types of cases or conditions eligible for differential/alternative response a. No other cases or conditions No b. No immediate safety concerns Yes c. No or few prior reports of child abuse or neglect Yes d. Other (specify) No 8. When is determination made for differential/alternative response a. At time of screening to screen out to differential response No b. After a report is screened in Yes c. Other (specify) No 9. Referrals to community services for cases engaged in differential response a. No No b. Yes - for all cases No c. Yes - when families express interest No d. Yes - when there is a determination of risk No e. Yes - other (specify) Yes - The participating county departments, in administering the program, shall cooperate with local community service organizations in addressing known or suspected incidents of intrafamilial abuse or neglect Mathematica® Inc. 23 - -SCAN Policies Database State profile: Colorado 2021 Table XIII. In-home services, foster care, and permanency Response 1. In-home services provided for unsubstantiated cases to maintain intact families a. No No b. Yes -imp lemented statewide Yes c. Yes - implemented in specific counties or regions No d. Unknown No 2. In-home services provided post reunification a. No No b. Yes -im plemented statewide Yes c. Yes - implemented in specific counties or regions No d. Unknown No 3. Tribal involvement in foster care for tribal cases a. Tribes do not provide foster care No b. Tribes provide foster care (specify tribes) Yes - Ute Mount Ute; Southern Ute Indian Tribe c. Unknown No 4. Foster care extension for those older than 18 Yes 5. Age youth are allowed to remain in extended foster care a. Age 21 Yes b. Other (specify) No 6. Permanency a. Kinship guardianship as a permanency option Yes b. Subsidized guardianship Yes c. Subsidized kinship guardianship Yes d. Subsidized adoption Yes 7. Foster care case management staff a. State/county public agency staff Yes b. Contracted provider staff No c. Tribal agency staff Yes d. Unknown No 8. Qualifications of foster care case managers a. Associate degree No b. Bachelor’s degree Yes c. Master’s degree No d. Training for case management (specify) Yes - To be re-certified as a social caseworker, the staff person must participate in 40 hours of in- service training each state fiscal year, with a minimum of 16 of those hours focused in the area of the social caseworker's primary job responsibilities Mathematica® Inc. 24 SCAN Policies Database State profile: Colorado 2021 Table XIII (continued) Response e. Years of experience (specify) Yes - 1 year of professional caseworker, case management, or human services experience in a public or private human services agency, with bachelor's degree; Successful completion of an approved field placement in a county department of human services, with a bachelor's of social work degree; No experience required for a master's degree in social work or a human behavioral science field f. Other (specify) No g. Unknown No 9. Degree in social work or related field for foster care case managers a. Not required No b. Required Yes c. Recommended or preferred, but not required No d. Other (specify) No e. Unknown No Mathematica® Inc. 25 SCAN Policies Database State profile: Colorado 2021 Table XIV. Agency staff dedicated to equity Response 1. Child welfare agency uses staff roles/functions dedicated to addressing disproportionality and/or equity a. No staff or roles No b. Uses cultural brokers No c. Uses manager, administrator, or office focused on diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) or multicultural or tribal affairs No d. Other (specify) Yes e. Unknown No 2. Aspects of child welfare process that involve cultural brokers a. Screening process Logical Skip b. Investigation process Logical Skip c. Case management/child welfare response Logical Skip d. Other (specify) Logical Skip e. Unknown Logical Skip 3. Specify other staff role s/job function s dedicated to addressing disproportionality and/or equity Each office has an identified person who is trained and available to help others choose the right equity and inclusion strategies to implement 4. Aspects of child welfare process that involve other staff roles/functions used to address disproportionality and/or equi ty a. Screening process No b. Investigation process No c. Case management/child welfare response No d. Other (specify) Yes - Equity coaches are not tied to specific case practice processes e. Unknown No Mathematica® Inc. 26 - - -SCAN Policies Database State profile: Colorado 2021 Domain C: Child welfare system context Table XV . Child welfare system context Response 1. State- or county -administered child welfare system a. State ad minis tered No b. County administered Yes c. Hybrid (partially administered by the state and partially administered by the counties ) No d. Unknown No 2. State operates under legal consent decree or other court -ordered monitoring No Mathematica® Inc. 27 SCAN Policies Database State profile: Colorado 2021 Supplemental Notes on State Definitions Drug lab includes a perpetrator having knowledge of or in a position where they reasonably should know another person possesses ephedrine, pseudoephedrine, or phenylpropanolamine, or their salts, isomers, or salts of isomers, with the intent to use the product as an immediate precursor in the manufacture of methamphetamine. Prenatal exposure to a controlled substance as a type of maltreatment is defined by children born affected by alcohol or substance exposure, except when taken as prescribed or recommended and monitored by a licensed healthcare provider, and the newborn child's health or welfare is threatened by substance use. Parents may rely on religious forms of healing, except during life- threatening situations or when the condition will result in se rious disability if access to medical care is limited. A child whose parent, guardian, or legal custodian inhibits or interferes with the provision of medical treatment in accordance with a court order is considered to have been neglected or dependent and injured or endangered. The religious observance exemption for classification of child maltreatment does not apply if the child's condition is determined to be life- threatening or could result in serious physical impairment or serious disability without professional medical care. The county department must seek a court order authorizing the provision of the necessary medical care if the parent, guardian, or legal custodian refuses such care. Reporting For substance -exposed newborns (SENs), substance abuse is expected to be reported when it meets the definition of child abuse or neglect: "Any case in which a child is born affected by alcohol or substance exposure, except when taken as prescribed or recommended and monitored by a licensed health care provider, and the newborn child's health or welfare is threatened by substance use." There is no documented process for notifications at time of data collection, though the Colorado Plan of Safe Care Rules is scheduled to go into effect in May 2022. Screening No inf ormation is required when screening in a report, but certain information is requested, including the including: 1. The reporting party's name, address, phone number, reporter type, and relationship to the alleged child victim 2. The alleged victim's name, address, current location, school or child care, age, any developmental delays, physical disabilities, or competency or cultural considerations, and primary language 3. A narrative describing the case, including the time and date, location, witnesses, whether any injury was sustained, and any medical treatment given 4. The alleged perpetrator's name, age, location, address, any developmental delays, physical disabilities, or competency or cultural considerations, and phone number Mathematica® Inc. 28 SCAN Policies Database State profile: Colorado 2021 5. Information on where the incident took place, including the name, address, phone number, and whether the institution has been notified of the allegation 6. Name of the victim's parent or guardian, address, phone number, and whether they have been notified 7. Who has legal custody of the child 8. Date and time of the referral As part of the screening process, as available and appropriate, the screener will obtain information from collateral sources such as schools, medical personnel, law enforcement agencies, or other care providers. Investigations The education and experience qualifications are the minimum requirements for caseworkers. Child welfare response Colorado's differential response is a dual -track response system: 1. Family Assessment Response (FAR) is the differential response track established for low - and moderate -risk situations where no finding of abuse or neglect is made. The FAR is used by counties participating in the state's differential response program and is implemented at the county level. 2. High Risk Assessment (HRA) is the differential response track established for high-risk situations where the alleged child victim(s) are identified and a finding of abuse or neglect is made. 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