

## The Linkages Project Evaluation Statewide Outcomes Worksheets

# WORKSHEET – Outcomes 1 & 2

### Outcome 1: Percent of children with a substantiated recurrence (3m, 6m, 9m)

This outcome measures whether Linkages families have lower rates of substantiated recurrence (another allegation of maltreatment that has been investigated and substantiated) than other child welfare clients. **Required fields are in red.**

**Linkages Group**

<b>Step 1</b>	In this step, you will enter the number of children in your CWS/CMS database with a Linkages start date during a specified time period ending <u>at least 10 months</u> earlier than today. <b>Suggested time period: July – December 2009.</b>	
	Select a <u>time period</u> from these drop-down menus:	<b>October 2009</b> through <b>April 2010</b>
	If you selected a time period <u>different from</u> July – December 2009, please explain why:	<b>Tracking of Linkages Clients within CWS began in October 2009.</b>
	Enter the <u>number of children</u> with a Linkages start date during the Selected time period:	<b>44</b>
	<i>NOTE: If you would like to look at only a subset of your Linkages cases, for example only children of substance-using parents or only cases from one regional office, that is fine. Please define your population here:</i>	
<b>Step 2</b>	Of the children identified in Step 1, how many had a substantiated recurrence <b>within 3 months</b> after their Linkages start date?	0
	Calculate and enter the <b>3-month percent</b> . (Divide the number entered in Step2 by the number in Step 1 and multiply by 100.)	<b>0%</b>
<b>Step 3</b>	Of the children identified in Step 1, how many had a substantiated recurrence <b>within 6 months</b> after their Linkages start date?	1
	Calculate and enter the <b>6-month percent</b> . (Divide the number entered in Step 3 by the number in Step 1 and multiply by 100.)	<b>2%</b>
<b>Step 4</b>	Of the children identified in Step 1, how many had a substantiated recurrence <b>within 9 months</b> after their Linkages start date?	2
	Calculate and enter the <b>9-month percent</b> . (Divide the number entered in Step 4 by the number in Step 1 and multiply by 100.)	<b>4%</b>

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**Comparison Group**

**Step 5** Repeat the above calculations for **one of the following comparison groups (a) and (b)**. Enter a checkmark next to the one(s) you are using:

- a. **Same time period, but Non-Linkages clients.** In Step 1, select the children from CWS/CMS in the same time period, but who are NOT Linkages clients – use their CWS/CMS case start date.
 

▪ Total number of (non-Linkages) children in this category:	337
▪ 3-month percent	3%
▪ 6-month percent	5%
▪ 9-month percent	6%
  
- b. **Different time period, similar clients.** In Step 1, select children from CWS/CMS from a time period prior to the start of your Linkages initiative. If possible, select children whose families had cases open in both Child Welfare and in CalWORKs (i.e., they are similar to Linkages families).
 

▪ Time period specified:	<i>from</i>	January	[enter year]
	<i>through</i>	[enter month]	[enter year]
▪ Total number of children in this category:			
▪ 3-month percent	%		
▪ 6-month percent	%		
▪ 9-month percent	%		

**Analysis Questions**

1. Compared to your Comparison Group, does your Linkages Group have a **higher, lower, or similar** percentage of substantiated recurrences at 3 months, 6 months, and 9 months? (Note: your answer may be different for each time period.)

Lower

2. Why do you think you might be seeing these results?

The data seems to suggest that clients who receive Linkages services are less likely to experience recurrence of maltreatment. However, the small size of the Linkages population makes it difficult to make broad assumptions when compared with our comparison group.

3. Any further comments or explanations about your calculations?

N/A

Outcome 2 on next page → → →

**Outcome 2: Percent of children not removed from home with substantiated recurrence (3m, 6m, 9m)**

This outcome measures whether Linkages families have lower rates of children being removed from the home than other child welfare clients. *NOTE: This outcome requires that you have already completed calculations for Outcome 1.*

**Linkages Group**

**Step 1** Starting with your calculations from Outcome 1 (Steps 2-4), what percent of **Linkages children** with a substantiated recurrence at each time point below were **not** removed from the home?

▪ 3-month percent <i>(From your Linkages group, find children with a substantiated recurrence at 3-months NOT removed from the home; divide by all children with a substantiated recurrence at 3-months. Multiply by 100.)</i>	0%
▪ 6-month percent	0%
▪ 9-month percent	100%

**Comparison Group**

**Step 2** Starting with your calculations from Outcome 1 (Step 5), what percent of **Comparison Group children** with a substantiated recurrence at each time point were **not** removed from the home?

▪ 3-month percent <i>(From your Comparison Group, find children with a substantiated recurrence at 3-months NOT removed from the home; divide by all children with a substantiated recurrence at 3-months. Multiply by 100.)</i>	94%
▪ 6-month percent	80%
▪ 9-month percent	75%

**Analysis Questions**

1. Compared to your Comparison Group, does your Linkages Group have a **higher, lower, or similar** percentage of substantiated recurrences **not** removed from the home at 3, 6, and 9 months? (Note: your answer may be different for each time period.)

Varying

2. Why do you think you might be seeing these results?

There were only two (2) recurrences among Linkages Clients. At this stage, the sample size is too small to make generalizable conclusions.

3. Any further comments or explanations about your calculations?