

TITLE IV-E PREVENTION PROGRAM

FEDERAL REPORTING FOR COMMUNITY PATHWAYS

DECEMBER 11, 2025

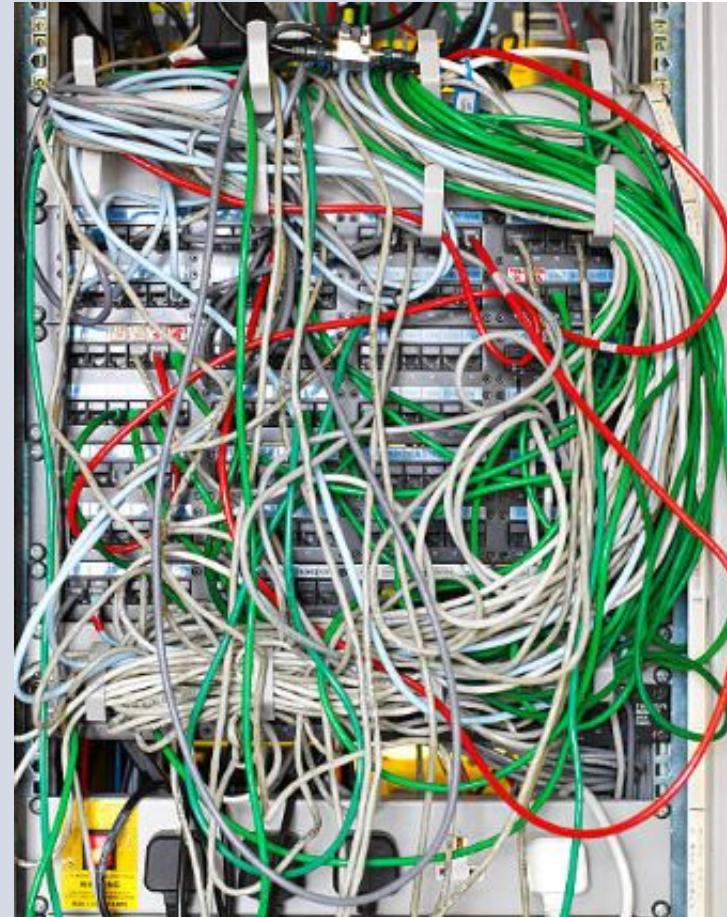


SESSION GOALS

- Clarify Title IV-E Prevention Program reporting requirements.
- Explore critical challenges in community pathway context:
 - Unique record identifier
 - Protecting privacy and confidentiality
- Jurisdictional guests
 - Hannah Robinson, Indiana Department of Child Services
 - Fred North, Connecticut Department of Children & Families

Q: Why has Family First
implementation been slow?

A: The back-end technical requirements are complex.





TODAY'S SESSION:

**A resource and discussion
on federal reporting for
community pathways**



Title IV-E Prevention Reporting Requirements

HELPFUL RESOURCES

Federal reporting is complex, but the resources from the Children's Bureau are helpful & clear.

Their limitation: complexities associated with community pathway reporting are out of scope.

- Children's Bureau (August 12, 2021). Technical Bulletin #1 (**REVISED**): Title IV-E Prevention Program Data Elements - <https://acf.hhs.gov/cb/training-technical-assistance/revised-technical-bulletin>
- Children's Bureau (January 27, 2020). Technical Bulletin #2: Title IV-E Prevention Program Data Submission Timelines - <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/cb/resource/title-iv-e-tb2>
- Children's Bureau (September 20, 2021). [The FFPSA Title IV-E Prevention Program Data Submission \(Webinar\)](#) - <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/cb/training-technical-assistance/title-iv-e-prevention-data>
- Children's Bureau (February 23, 2022). [Title IV-E Prevention Program Data Submission Spring 2022](#) -(Webinar) - <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/cb/training-technical-assistance/program-data-submission-spring-2022>
- Children's Bureau (November 1, 2022). Title IV-E Prevention Program Data Submission Fall 2022 (Webinar)



WHEN DOES DATA COLLECTION AND REPORTING BEGIN, AND HOW OFTEN DOES IT OCCUR?

- Data must be reported on **a six-month basis, bi-annually**: October 1 – March 31 and April 1 – September 30.
- Agencies must report the data **within 45 days of the end of each 6-month period**.
- There is a variable **grace period** before the start of data reporting for both initial and subsequent plans and amendments.

WHAT DATA NEEDS TO BE REPORTED?



Two reporting populations:

- Candidates for foster care
- Pregnant and parenting youth in foster care

Data in three primary domains:

- Child demographics
- Service information
- Foster care outcomes

Community Pathways Federal Reporting Process

From 40,000 feet



TITLE IV-E REPORTING: NOT COMMUNITY PATHWAY



Title IV-E Agency

*(1) Generates file using data in
child welfare information systems*

(2) Submits file

**Administration
for
Children & Families**

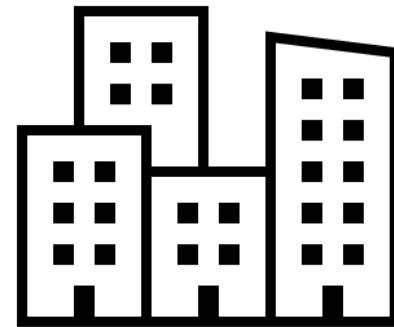
(3) Receives file

TITLE IV-E REPORTING: COMMUNITY PATHWAY



Community Pathway
Partner

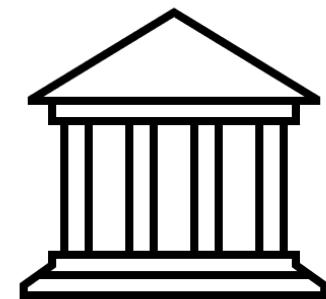
(1) Captures service & child data



Title IV-E Agency

*(2) Links child data
(3) Incorporates
AFCARS IDs & foster care outcomes*

*(4) Generates file
(5) Submits file*



Administration for
Children & Families

(6) Receives file

*Complexities and Challenges
with Federal Reporting*
AFCARS ID

WHAT IS AN AFCARS ID?



- **12-digit record number** used to track each child in federal submissions.
- Generated & assigned by the **Title IV-E agency**.
- **Consistent across time and files:** Title IV-E Prevention, AFCARS, NCANDS, & NYTD.
- Must be **encrypted & de-identified**.

IS AN AFCARS ID REQUIRED FOR COMMUNITY PATHWAYS REPORTING?



YES

- For consistency across federal data sets (Title IV-E Prevention, AFCARS, NCANDS, & NYTD).

HOW CAN AN AFCARS ID BE GENERATED AND ASSIGNED?



- AFCARS ID can only be **generated by the title IV-E agency**.
- A **CCWIS child record** typically must be created to assign an AFCARS ID.

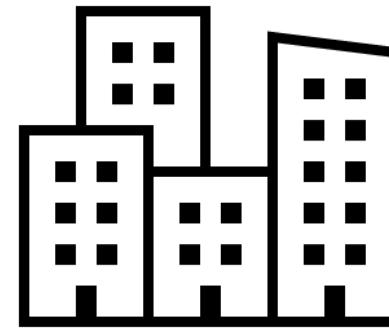
LINKING CHILD RECORDS



Community Pathway
Partner

Does the child already have a record in CCWIS?

- If yes, assign existing ACFARS ID
- If no, create new record and AFCARS ID



Title IV-E Agency

*Complexities and Challenges
with Federal Reporting*

Privacy & Confidentiality

FOR FEDERAL REPORTING FOR COMMUNITY PATHWAYS...

IS FAMILY CONSENT REQUIRED?

Answer Part 1:

- Consent is not required for reporting *to ACF alone*.
- Use of the encrypted AFCARS ID protects confidentiality.



Child Welfare Policy Manual

8.6A: Program Requirements

Q: Are title IV-E agencies and community partners required to inform a family receiving a title IV-E prevention services that information about the child, services provided, and outcomes will be collected and shared with ACF?

A: No. Nothing in section 471(e) of the Act specifically requires title IV-E agencies to inform families about the details of the data collection and submission requirements.... As clarified in Technical Bulletin #1..., the information shared with ACF for the purposes of the title IV-E prevention data collection must use a unique child identifier number that is encrypted in accordance with ACF standards. This ensures the confidentiality of the children and families receiving the title IV-E presentation services while allowing ACF to collect and analyze the data as required....

FOR FEDERAL REPORTING FOR COMMUNITY PATHWAYS...

IS FAMILY CONSENT REQUIRED?

Answer Part 2:

- Consent is required for sharing child PII with the title IV-E agency.
- PII is typically required for linking child records for AFCARS assignment and outcomes reporting.
- Reminder: A CCWIS child record often must be created to allow for future linking.



PRIVACY & CONFIDENTIALITY: KEY CONSIDERATIONS



- Some stakeholders assert that families outside of child welfare should **not have their information in CCWIS or be assigned an AFCARS ID**—even with controls and consent.
- Voluntary service providers who seek consent may risk a perception of **proximity to child welfare**.

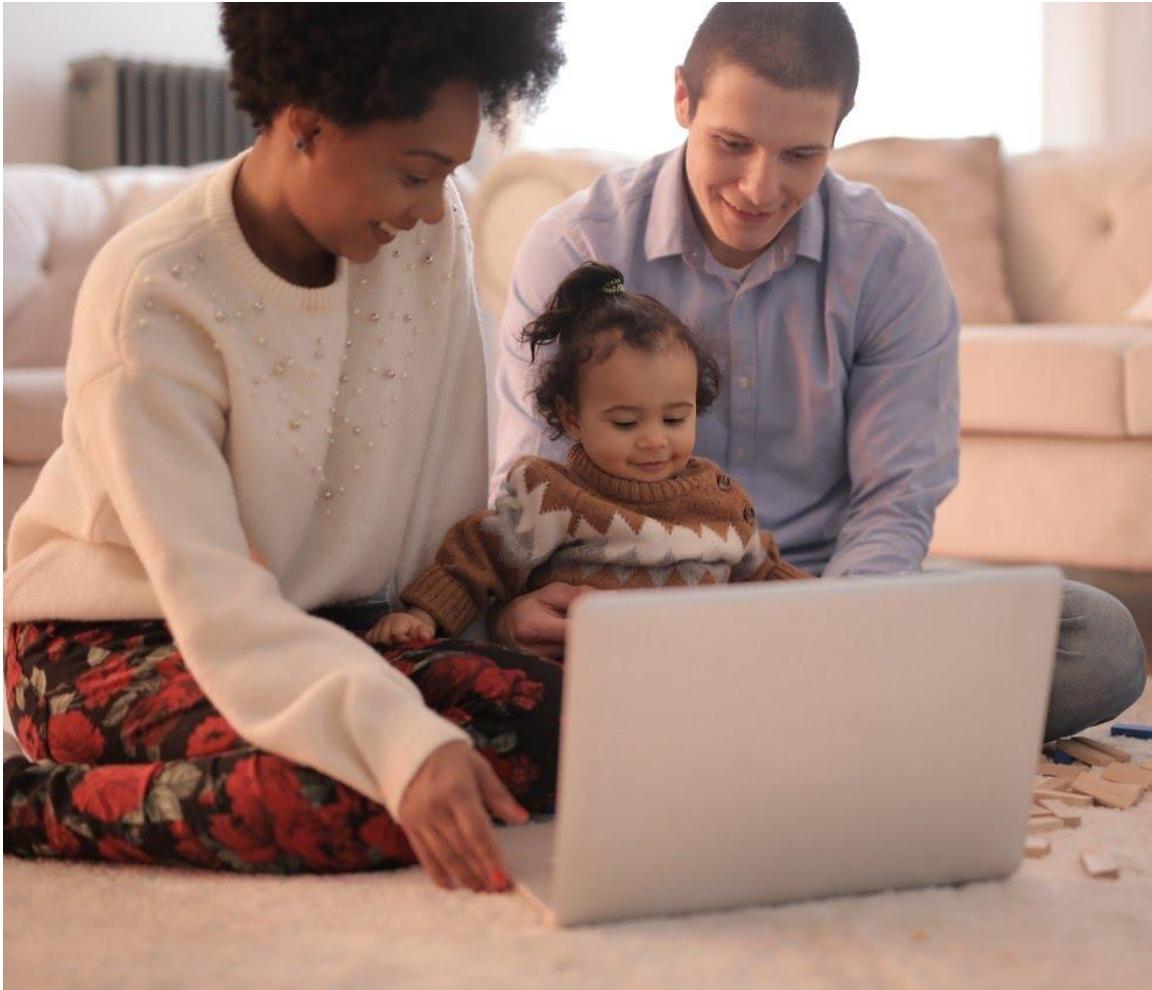
PRIVACY & CONFIDENTIALITY: FRAMEWORK & GUIDING PRINCIPLES

When sharing family data with the title IV-E agency, consider:

1. **Need to know / data minimization.** Share or give access to the minimum information required for ACF reporting purposes.
2. **Role based access controls.** E.g., give access to only to administrative staff who oversee reporting.
3. **Professional Ethics.** Ensuring trust, preventing harm, and meeting legal duties outlined in policy.



PRIVACY & CONFIDENTIALITY: KEY CONSIDERATIONS



If proceeding with sharing PII & consent, consider:

- The title IV-E agency could be **DHHS or child welfare**: consent language will vary accordingly.
- Community pathways in **partner agencies** in the same DHHS umbrella may not require additional consent.
- Consider leveraging your jurisdiction's **existing universal consent** if available.
- Consent may be integrated into **intake & service planning**.
- Confidentiality and privacy practices are typically reflected in agency **policy**.

JURISDICTIONAL SPOTLIGHT: INDIANA & CONNECTICUT



- **Hannah Robinson**, Indiana
Department of Child Services
- **Fred North**, Connecticut Department
of Children & Families

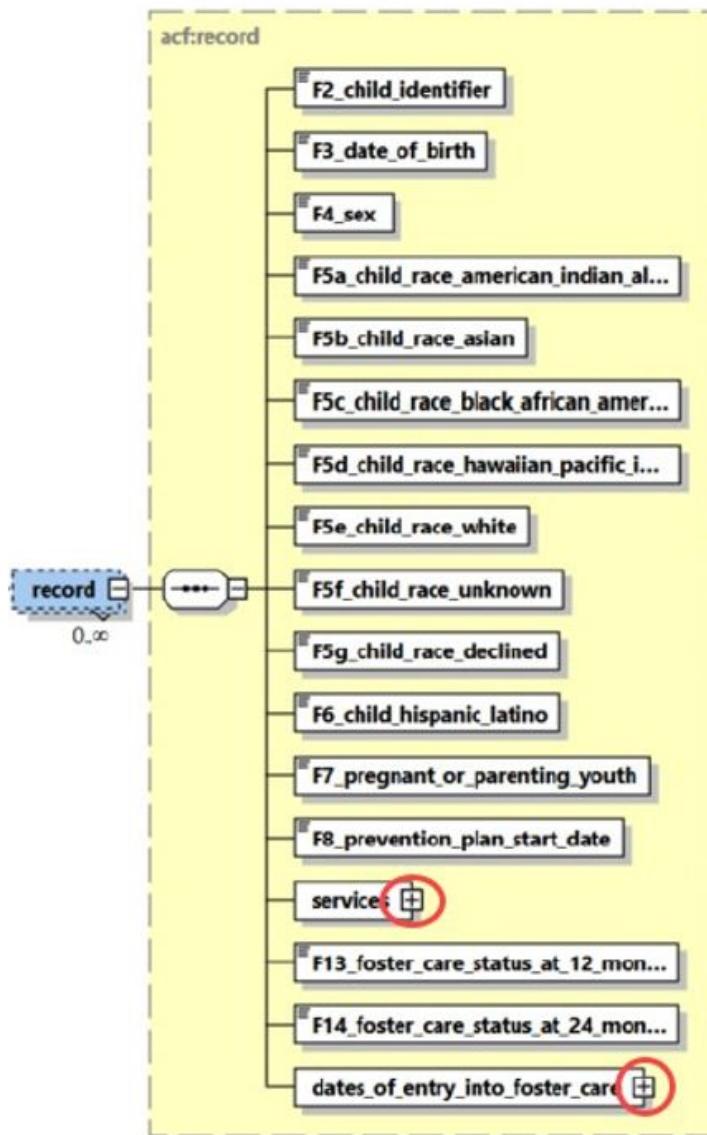
Questions & Discussion



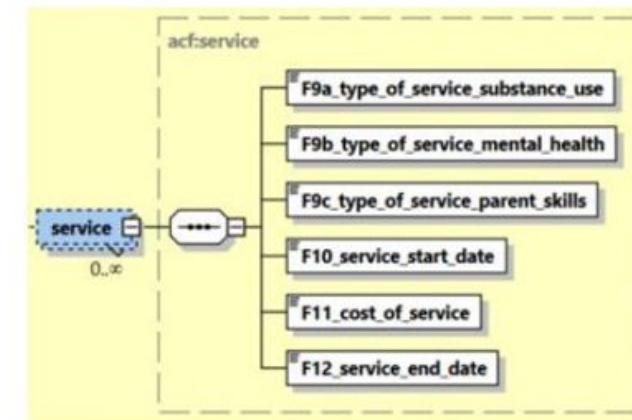
Appendix

What data needs
to be reported?

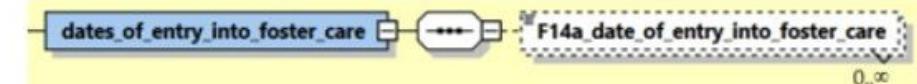
Record



Services

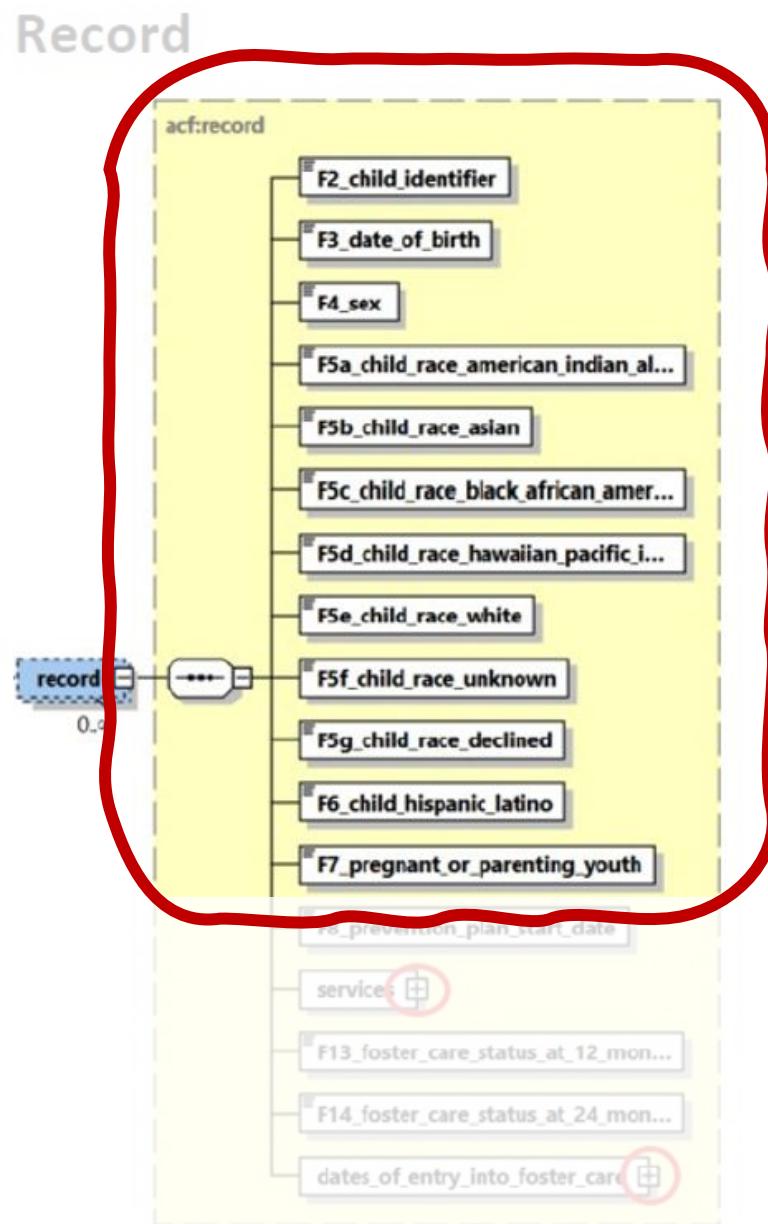


Dates of Entry into Foster Care

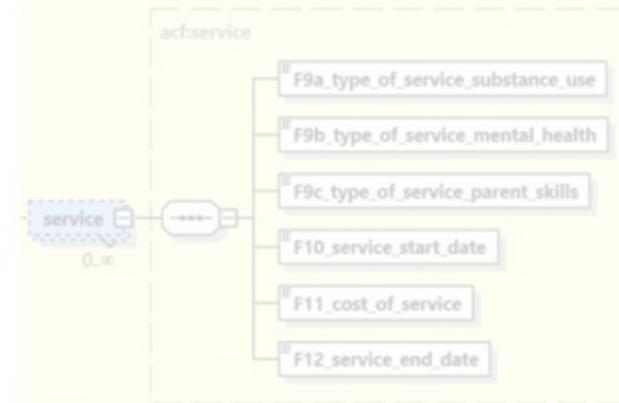


What data needs
to be reported?

(1) Child
demographics



Services



Dates of Entry into Foster Care



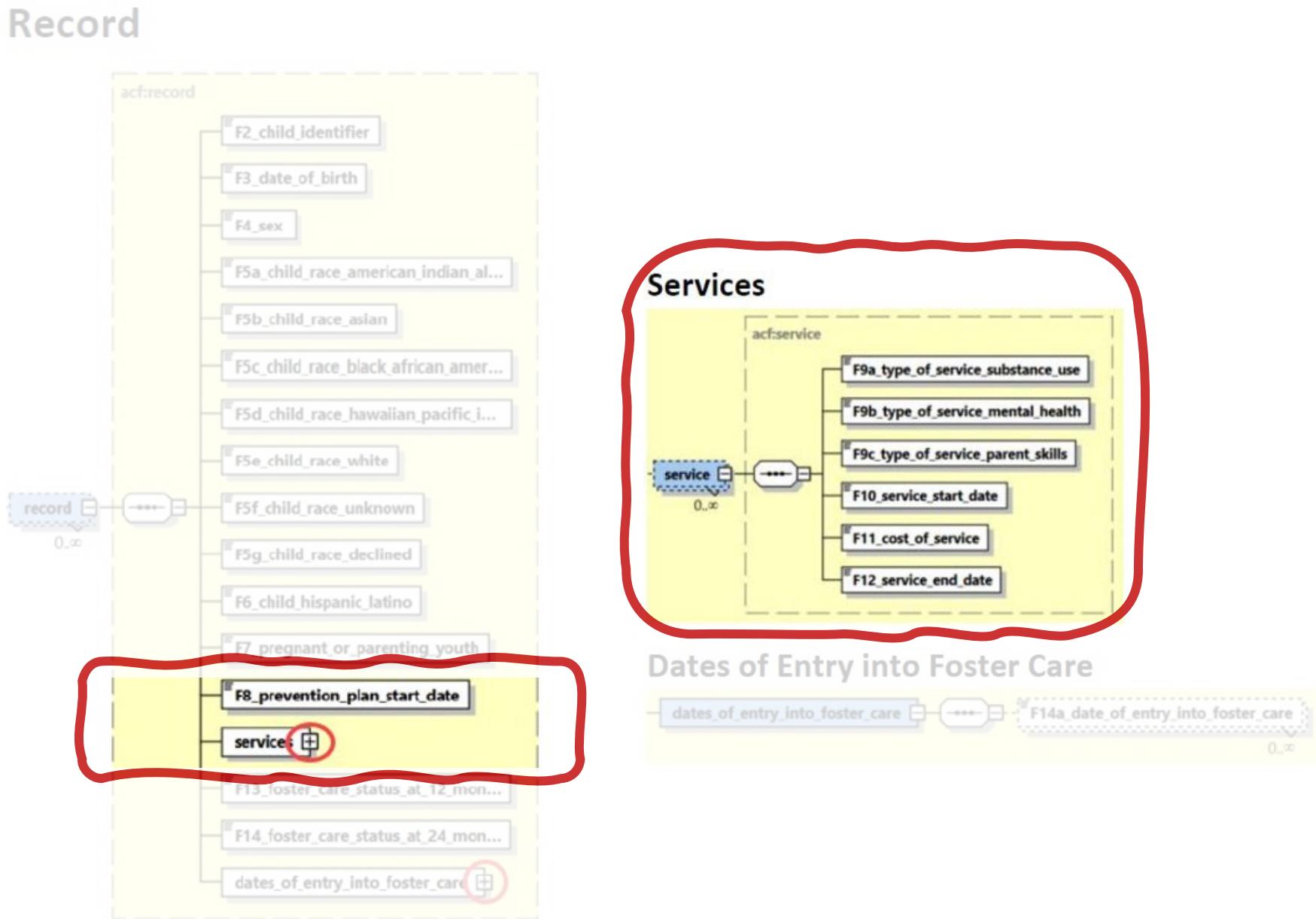
What data needs
to be reported?

(1) Child
demographics



What data needs to be reported?

- (1) Child demographics
- (2) Service info.



What data needs to be reported?

- (1) Child demographics
- (2) Service info.
- (3) Foster care outcomes

