

TITLE IV-E PREVENTION PROGRAM

FEDERAL REPORTING FOR COMMUNITY PATHWAYS

DECEMBER 11, 2025

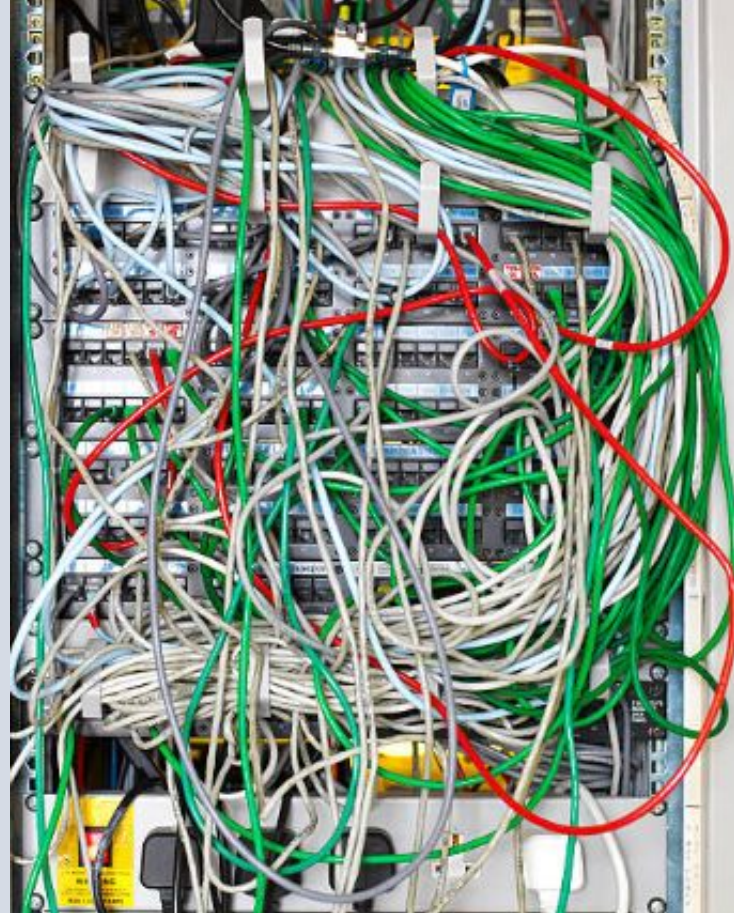


SESSION GOALS

- 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:

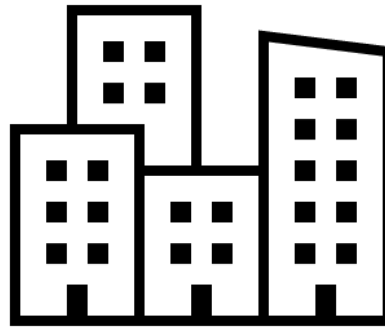
- Child demographics
- Service information
- Foster care outcomes

Community Pathways Federal Reporting Process

From 40,000 feet



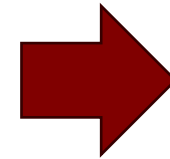
TITLE IV-E REPORTING: NOT COMMUNITY PATHWAY



Title IV-E Agency

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

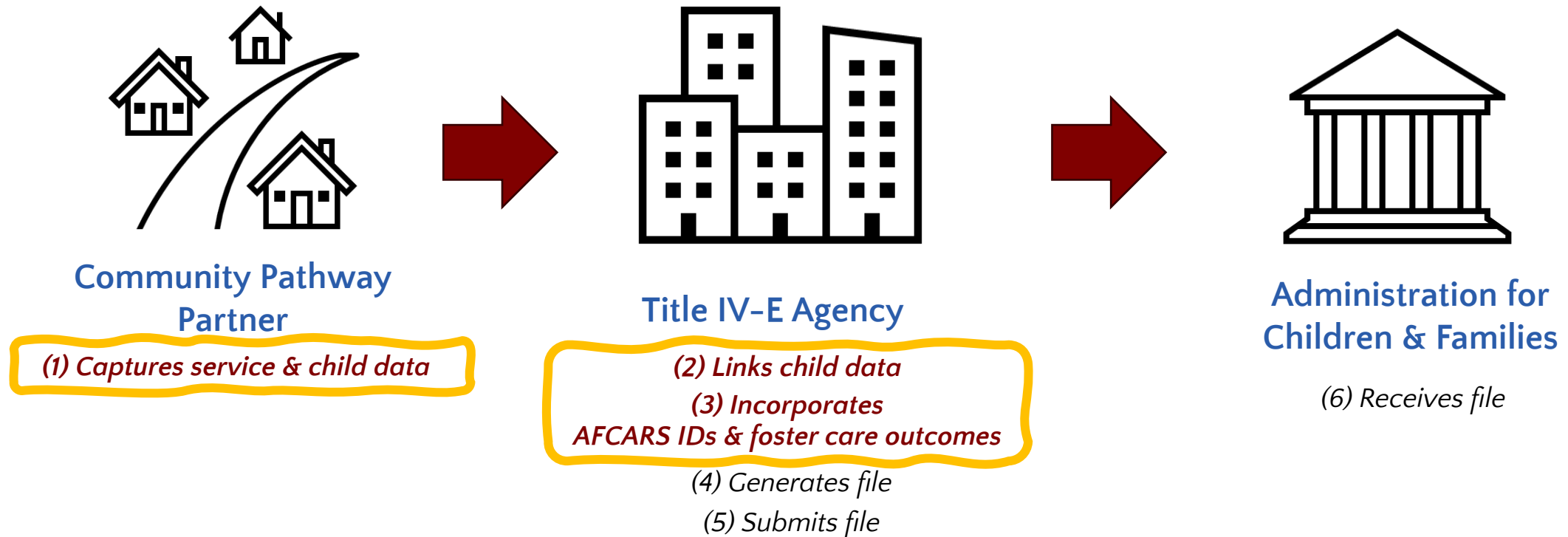
(2) Submits file



**Administration for
Children & Families**

(3) Receives file

TITLE IV-E REPORTING: COMMUNITY PATHWAY



*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

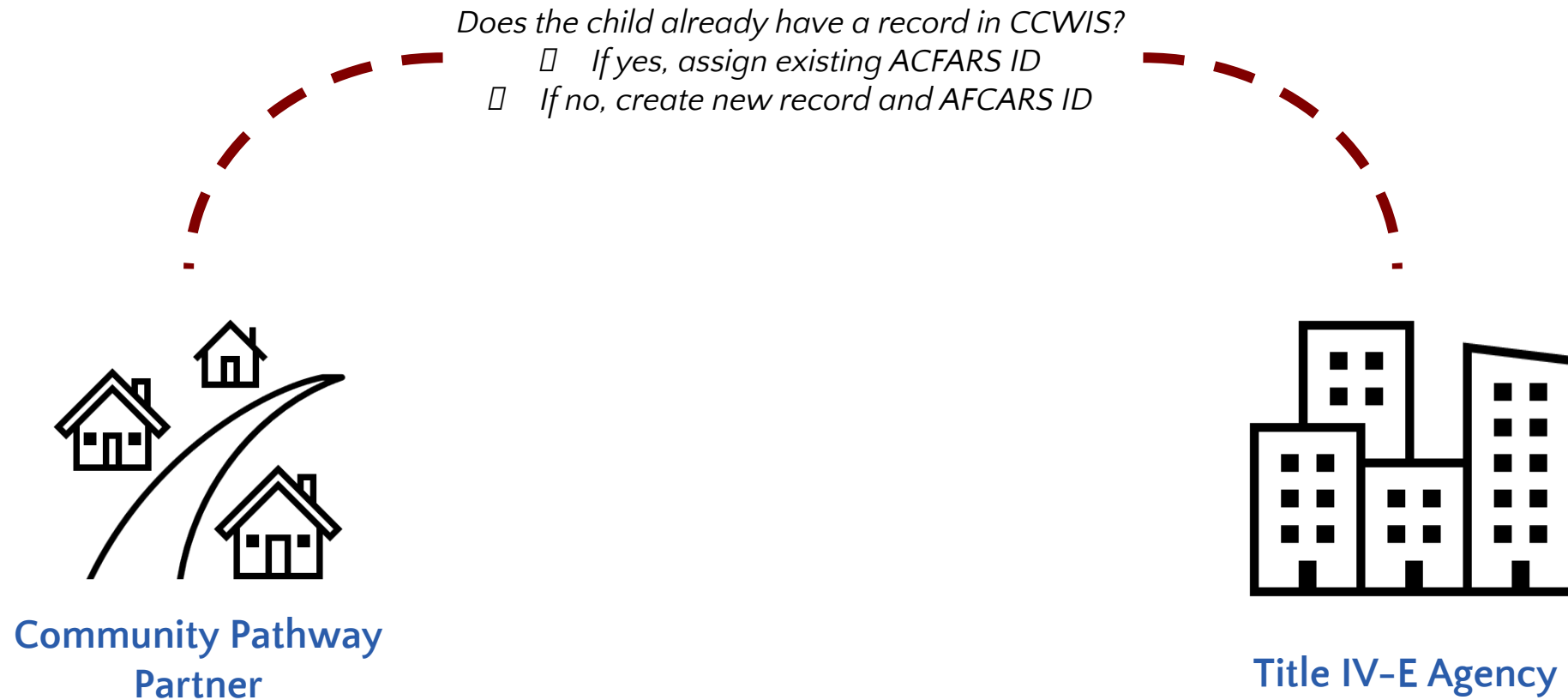
- For consistency across federal data sets (Title IV-E Prevention, AFCARS, NCANDS, & NYTD).

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



*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

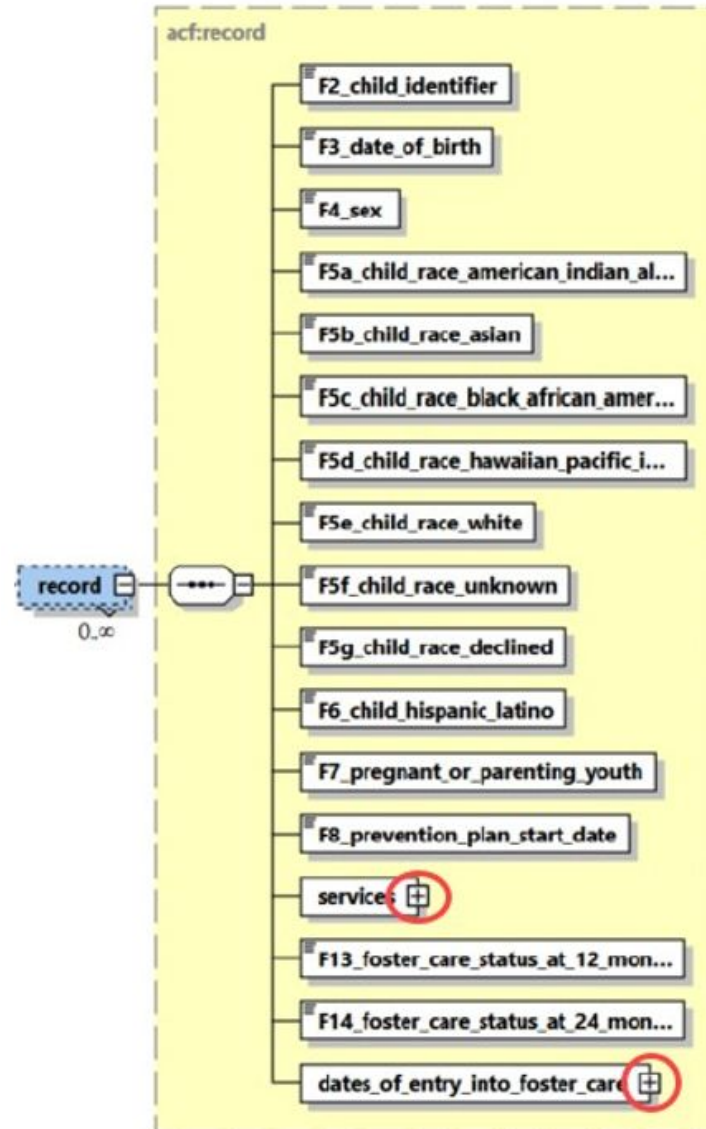
Questions & Discussion



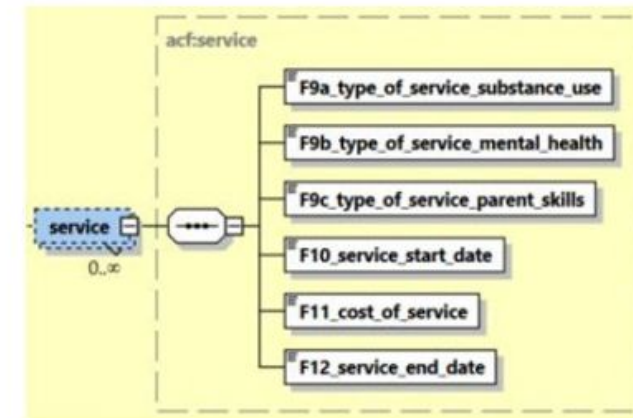
Appendix

What data needs to be reported?

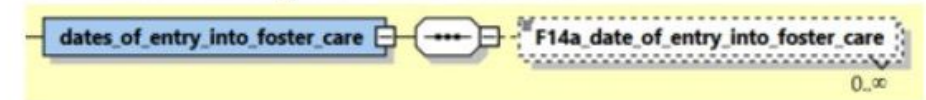
Record



Services



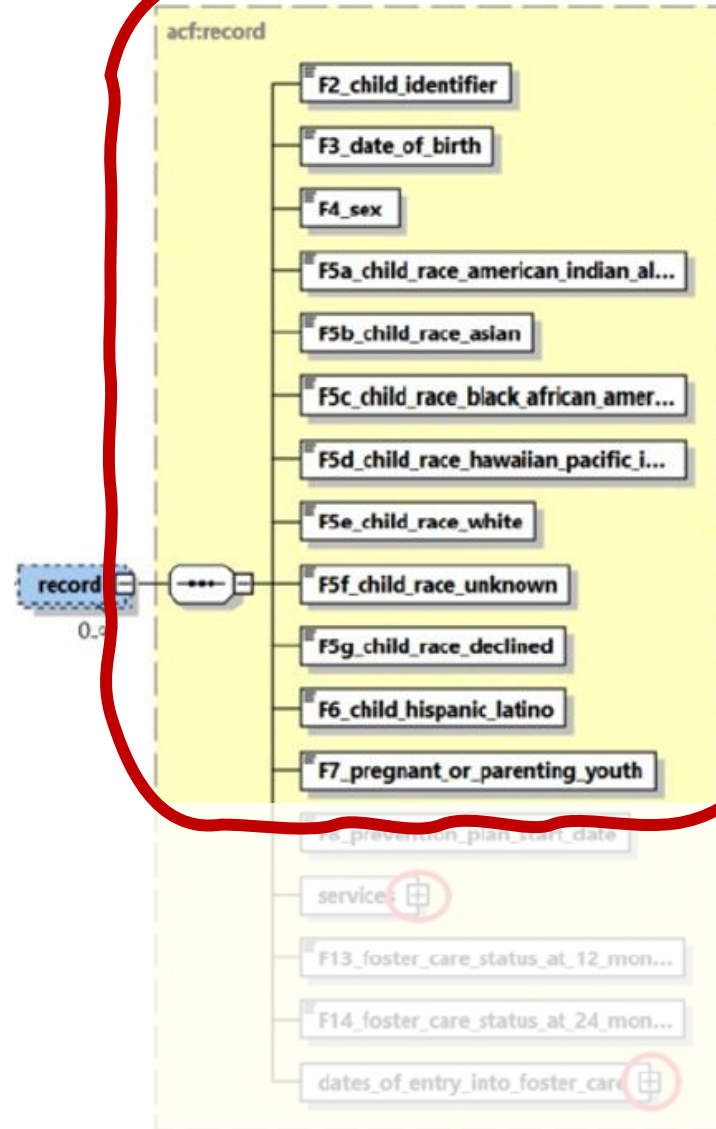
Dates of Entry into Foster Care



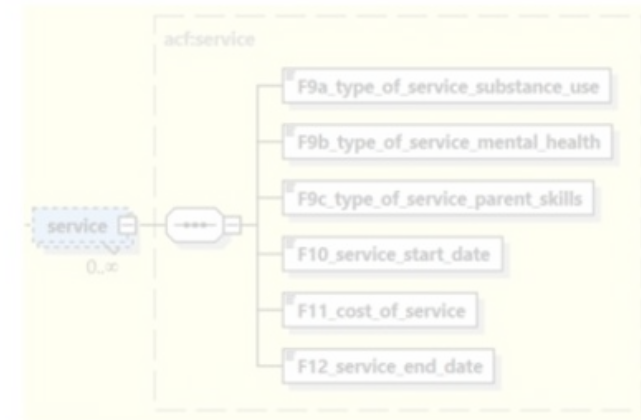
What data needs to be reported?

(1) Child demographics

Record



Services



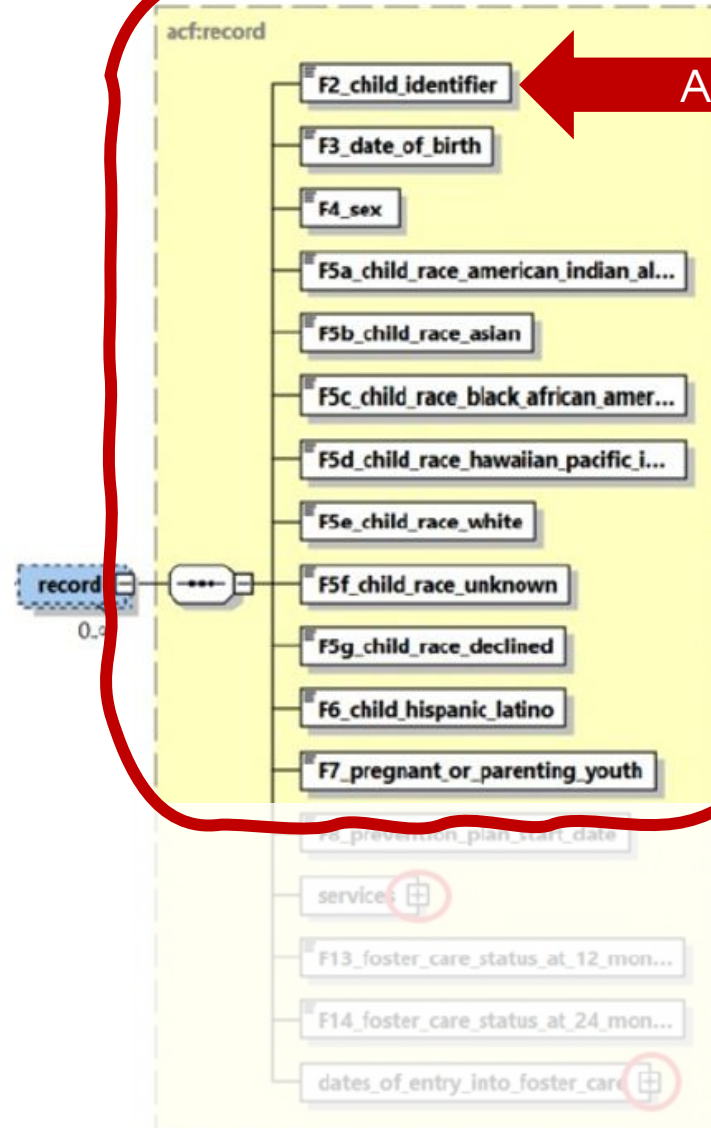
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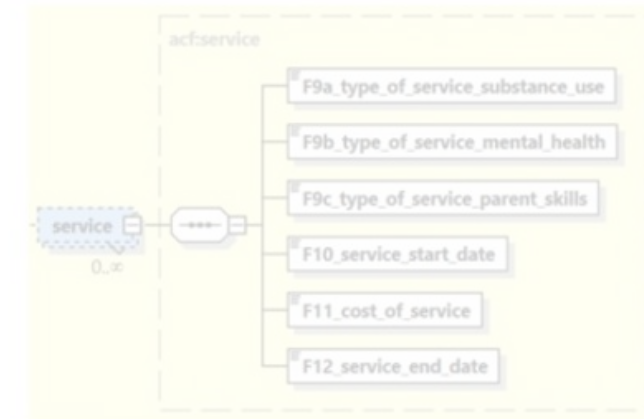
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Dates of Entry into Foster Care



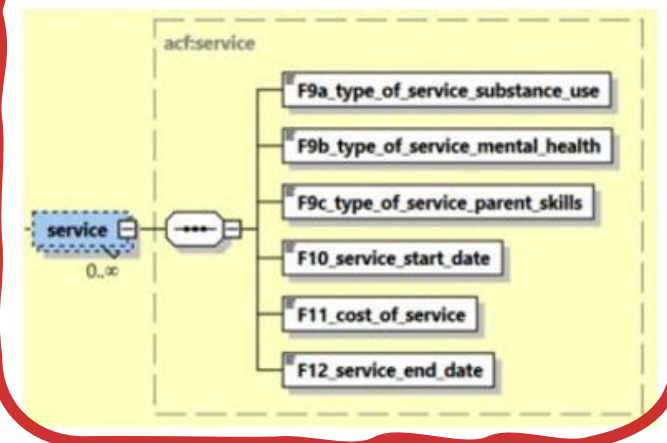
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- (1) Child demographics
- (2) Service info.

Record



Services



Dates of Entry into Foster Care



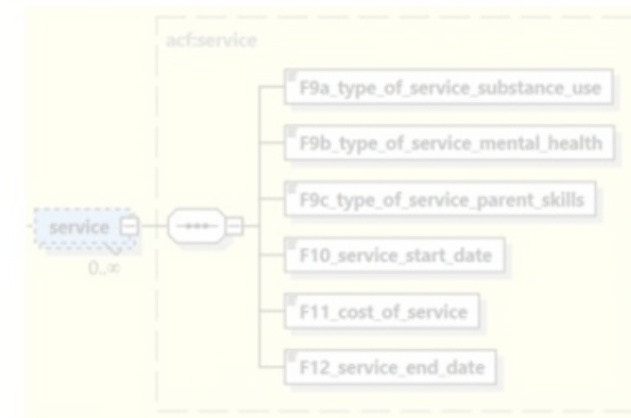
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Record



Services



Dates of Entry into Foster Care

