



Child and Family Services Review Round 4

AZ Program Improvement Plan Pilot

A Home for Every Child

Submission Date: July 1, 2026

Effective Date: September 1, 2026

Submitted to the
U.S. Department of Health and Human
Services Administration for Children and
Families Children's Bureau

Minor formatting adjustments may have been made to this document for 508 compliance.
Content is unaffected.

Table of Contents

Section I: Introduction	3
Section II: TB14 Goals, Strategies, Interventions & Lead Measures	3
Section III: Conclusion	4

Section I: Introduction

Arizona is currently implementing its approved CFSR PIP and remains committed to the opportunity for continuous ongoing improvement to strengthen the state's child welfare system and improve outcomes for children and families. Through the CFSR process and stakeholder engagement, Arizona was able to identify opportunities for improvement of the system. Initiatives were identified in both Arizona's CFSR PIP and the Department's Strategic Plan. The simultaneous efforts and priorities highlighted the potential for increased coordination and intention.

Following a review of Technical Bulletin 14 (TB14), Arizona elected to transition to the PIP Pilot to consolidate and effectively align the Department's Strategic Plan and PIP goals and activities. This allows Arizona to focus on activities and outcomes that will yield meaningful results, while reducing administrative burdens. Participation in the pilot program reflects Arizona's strong and ongoing commitment to enhancing child welfare practice and improving outcomes. Through this effort, Arizona will continue to advance strategies that promote child safety, support timely permanency, and strengthen the overall well-being of children and families. In addition, Arizona will submit the ratio and chaser measures, and the identified lead measures, on a monthly basis. The pilot serves as an opportunity to test innovative approaches, deepen system collaboration, and apply data-informed decision-making to better meet the needs of those served.

Arizona opted into the "Home for Every Child" initiative on 5/26/2026.

Section II: TB14 Goals, Strategies, Interventions & Lead Measures

Goal 1: Prevent Foster Care Entry		
Strategy	Interventions	Lead Measures
Increase referrals to eligible families to FFPSA prevention services to prevent foster care involvement	Implement a proactive outreach process for families of newborns with marijuana-only substance exposure who do not meet investigation criteria to receive a voluntary referral to Healthy Families so that early supports and prevention services are accessible without formal child welfare involvement	1. Number of referrals to Healthy Families 2. Number of new enrollments to Healthy Families
Increase use of Community Hubs to support social determinants of health by providing concrete supports and resources through community-based interventions to prevent foster care involvement	Increase the number of families served through Community Hubs by increasing the number of Community Hubs available to receive referrals of families for community-based prevention services	1. Number of screened out intakes 2. Number of screened out intakes contacted by Community Hubs

Goal 2: Increase Children’s Opportunity to Reside in Family-Like Settings		
Strategy	Interventions	Lead Measures
Increase placement of children experiencing foster care in family-like settings	Targeted recruitment of foster families in Pima and Yuma Counties to exit youth from out-of-county congregate care placement back into their communities of origin by piloting an increased reimbursement rate, additional training and behavioral health supports	1. Number of children placed in congregate care in Maricopa County who transition to a family-like setting in Pima and Yuma Counties
Increase the capacity of foster homes in Arizona through diligent recruitment efforts	Partner with faith-based communities and places of worship to implement targeted strategies for foster care recruitment Develop and implement outreach strategies to connect National Training & Development Curriculum trainers to potential foster parent leads to provide education about the foster care experience and support to begin the licensing process	1. Number of new licensed foster homes 2. Number of new licensed beds 3. Number of outreaches by NTDC trainers to foster leads 4. Percentage of care days spent in congregate care, not including children receiving DDD services

Section III: Conclusion

Arizona’s prevention strategy focuses on reducing the number of children entering foster care by increasing access to supportive services before families reach a crisis point. By proactively referring eligible families to FFPSA prevention services, including voluntary outreach to families of newborns with marijuana-only substance exposure, Arizona expands early access to Healthy Families and other supports without requiring formal child-welfare involvement. At the same time, the state is strengthening the role of Community Hubs to address social determinants of health by providing concrete resources and community-based interventions to families whose intakes are screened out. Together, these efforts increase referrals to prevention programs, expand the number of families served in the community, and ultimately decrease monthly foster-care entries by stabilizing families long before safety concerns escalate.

Arizona’s strategy to increase family-like settings is structured to advance the goals of the A Home for Every Child initiative. By prioritizing the placement of children within their own communities, particularly through targeted recruitment of foster families connected to their local places of worship and through focused efforts in Pima and Yuma Counties to transition youth out of out-of-county congregate care, Arizona is strengthening continuity, stability, and a sense of belonging grounded in community-centered values and principles. This community-anchored

approach aligns directly with the initiative's emphasis on expanding family-based care options and moving toward a one-to-one foster home-to-child ratio.

Through these strategies, Arizona is advancing a system where every child has the opportunity to grow up in a safe, stable, and family-centered environment within the community they know best.