# Vermont Part C: Early Intervention Program of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)

Annual Performance Report Federal Fiscal Year 2010 (July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2011)

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### Part C State Annual Performance Report (APR) for FFY 2010

#### **Overview of the Annual Performance Report Development:**

Vermont's Part C Program is known as Children's Integrated Services-Early Intervention (CIS-EI). Children's Integrated Services (CIS) is Vermont's unique model for integrating early intervention (Part C), health, early childhood and family mental health, and specialized child care services for pregnant women and children prenatal to six years old. The model is designed to improve child and family outcomes by providing family-centered, holistic, prevention, early intervention, and health promotion services; effective service coordination; and flexible funding to address gaps in services. The Vermont Interagency Coordinating Council (VICC) functions in an "advise and assist" role for Children's Integrated Services.

Vermont Part C's FFY 2009 APR noted that YahaSoft was awarded a contract in FFY 2010 to develop Vermont Part C's electronic data management system (which will be the system for all Children's Integrated Services), with a planned implementation of the system in FFY 2011. This system will substantially enhance Part C CIS-EI's ability to collect, analyze and report data. Work continues on the data management system, but the devastating effects of Tropical Storm Irene in August 2011 had a significant impact on forward progress. The state agency building was damaged to the point that all Agency of Human Services staff had to be relocated to different locations throughout Vermont. As a result, the Information Technology staff had to devote essentially all efforts to restoring core IT functions for the different locations, and work on the CIS electronic data management, known as VFACTS (Vermont Family and Child Tracking System), was suspended for a period of time. The timeline for full implementation therefore was revised to September 15, 2012. This revision is reflected in this 2010 APR and in the State Performance Plan-Revised for February 2012 submission.

Vermont Part C continued to collect data with a manual data management system during FFY 2010. The data source and time period for the data reported in this 2010 APR is the entire Part C State Database, July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011. Technically, Vermont Part C's findings of noncompliance identified during a desk audit of the Part C State Database 7/1/10 to 6/30/11 should have been issued in FFY 2010, but having a manual system prevented Part C CIS-EI staff from analyzing the data in a timely way to issue the findings in FFY 2010. As a result, written notification of findings identified from the FFY 2010 data occurred in FFY 2011 and no new findings are reported for FFY 2010 in this FFY 2010 APR. These findings will be reported in the FFY 2011 APR submitted February 2013. Since regional early intervention programs that received new findings of noncompliance have up to one year to demonstrate correction of the findings, the timeline for correction is FFY 2011 or FFY 2012. This 2010 APR accounts for FFY 2010 noncompliance in those regional CIS-Early Intervention Programs (CIS-EIPs) that corrected the noncompliance prior to being issued written findings of noncompliance.

During FFY 2010, the VICC discussed and provided input into the development of this Annual Performance Report at each of its quarterly meetings and during meetings of the VICC Executive Council. In an effort to enhance communication and information-sharing between and among the VICC members and staff from the regional CIS-Early Intervention Programs. Vermont's Part C Coordinator combined the two annual meetings of the regional CIS-EIP Directors with two of the four VICC meetings. This provided rich discussions, opportunities for VICC members to ask questions of staff from all 12 regional EIPs, and the benefit of face-to-face interactions that make information-sharing more immediate, relevant and meaningful. The VICC members participated in a special conference call in December 2011 during which the Part C Coordinator reviewed the APR indicators and actual target data for FFY 2010. Discussion of the APR continued to be integrated into the weekly meetings of the Children's Integrated Services (CIS) State Team as well as into the weekly meetings of state CIS-EI staff. For this 2010 APR, VICC members, regional CIS-EIP Directors/staff, and/or CIS State Team members provided specific input related to: 1) use of the revised ECO Family Outcomes Survey sent to families in spring 2011, 2) strategies for maintaining Vermont CIS-EI's substantial compliance in meeting the timely statutory/regulatory requirements under the IDEA and fulfilling the requirements of OSEP Memo 09-02: 3) Child Outcomes and further refining data collection; and 4) strategies to maintain Vermont Part C's FFY 2011 "Meets Requirements" status that it received in June 2011 based on the 2009 APR.

## **APR Template - Part C (4)**

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Vermont Part C continued to receive input into, and technical assistance related to, the development of this 2010 APR from its Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) State Contact, Northeast Regional Resource (NERRC) and National Early Childhood Technical Assistance Center (NECTAC) staff, staff from the Early Childhood Outcomes (ECO) Center and Data Accountability Center (DAC), and from state/regional/national colleagues administering their states' Parts B and C Programs. State CIS-EI and other CIS staff participated in monthly OSEP SPP/APR technical assistance calls; other multiple regional and national webinars and teleconferences addressing the APR and/or SPP, including the NERRC-sponsored State to Local General Supervision and Monitoring Workgroup monthly conference calls/webinars; attended the 2010 OSEP Mega Conference that incorporated the annual Data Accountability Center Meeting and Early Childhood Outcomes Conference; and accessed the "Right IDEA" web site for technical assistance, resources and materials. The VICC reviewed a draft of this 2010 APR prior to submission.

The Agency of Human Services/Vermont Part C CIS-EI will report to the public in spring 2012 on Vermont's and each of the 12 regional CIS-EIP's progress or slippage in meeting FFY 2010 targets in the State Performance Plan. Data from the 2010 APR will be posted to the Agency of Human Services/Child Development Division's website at <a href="http://dcf.vermont.gov/cdd/reports/IDEA\_Part\_C">http://dcf.vermont.gov/cdd/reports/IDEA\_Part\_C</a>, the Vermont Department of Education's and Vermont Family Network's web sites, and disseminated statewide via listservs, including on the CIS blog maintained and used regularly statewide; in newspapers; during meetings and teleconferences; and through other media.

### Part C State Annual Performance Report (APR) for FFY 2010

Overview of the Annual Performance Report Development: Please see description on pages 3 and 4.

Monitoring Priority: Early Intervention Services In Natural Environments

**Indicator 1:** Percent of infants and toddlers with IFSPs who receive the early intervention services on their IFSPs in a timely manner.

(20 U.S.C. 1416(a)(3)(A) and 1442)

#### Measurement:

Percent = [(# of infants and toddlers with IFSPs who receive the early intervention services on their IFSPs in a timely manner) divided by the (total # of infants and toddlers with IFSPs)] times 100.

Account for untimely receipt of services, including the reasons for delays.

FFY	Measurable and Rigorous Target
2010 7/1/10-6/30/11)	100%

#### **Actual Target Data for FFY 2010:**

Data Method/Source: Desk audit of entire Part C State Database, July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011

Infants and Toddlers with IFSPs who receive Early Intervention Services in a Timely Manner:

Number of infants and toddlers with IFSPs who receive the early intervention services on their IFSPs in a timely manner	708
b. Total number of infants and toddlers with IFSPs	725
Percent of infants and toddlers with IFSPs who receive the early intervention services on their IFSPs in a timely manner (Percent = [(a) divided by (b)] times 100)	97.7%

Of the 725 children with new services on both initial and subsequent IFSPs, all services were initiated for 664 children within 30 days of signed parental consent (Vermont's criteria). Services for 44 children were not initiated in a timely manner due to exceptional family circumstances. These 44 children are included in the numerator as well as the denominator. Exceptional family circumstances included family requests to reschedule meetings, families cancelling or failing to attend scheduled meetings, family vacation schedules, deployment of a family member, a safety issue that arose in a family's home, illness and a family surgery, and families who moved.

## **APR Template – Part C (4)**

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Discussion of Improvement Activities Completed <u>and</u> Explanation of Progress or Slippage that occurred for FFY 2010:

Vermont CIS-EI demonstrated slight slippage in FFY 2010, going from 98.7% compliance in FFY 2009 to 97.7% compliance in this reporting year. During FFY 2010, the number of children with IFSPs upon which the percentage of compliance is based increased by 174 (725 in FFY 2010, 551 in FFY 2009). There were 17 children for whom delays in initiating services were attributable to circumstances other than documented exceptional family circumstances. State Part C CIS-EI staff verified that services ultimately were initiated for these 17 children. The number of days services were initiated beyond the 30-day timeline for these 17 children ranged from 5 to 57; the average number of days beyond the 30-day timeline was 21. Delays in timely initiation of services for all 17 children were attributable to scheduling conflicts/provider unavailability: occupational and physical therapists (4 children), speechlanguage pathologists (9 children), and service coordinator and early interventionist (4 children). The lack of a sufficient number of speech-language pathologists continued to present challenges related to timely service provision.

All CIS service providers, not just Part C CIS-EI providers, now are required to follow Part C timeline requirements for timely service provision. As discussed in Indicator 3, an integrated family service plan (i.e., One Plan) based on the IFSP was developed, revised and rolled out to CIS practitioners during FFY 2010. The plan is supportive to many CIS teams that include practitioners who may not be familiar with regulations and quality practices promoted by Part C CIS-EI. To further reinforce Part C timeline requirements, state CIS staff began developing an online technical assistance and training module outlining Part C timeline requirements. This module is targeted for all regional CIS Intake Coordinators, administrators, and providers. It is anticipated this module will be completed shortly after submission of this 2010 APR. In the meantime, state CIS staff disseminated a written timeline to all regional CIS providers, and reinforced timeline requirements for the CIS Intake Coordinators who receive direct referrals and "fast track" them to regional Part C CIS-EI Programs.

State CIS-EI staff continued providing ongoing support to all regional CIS-EIPs to ensure timely submission of accurate data on the monthly child count forms that are entered into the State Part C Database. The instructions and forms continued to require CIS-EIP staff to document for each child and family on each initial and subsequent One Plan/IFSP for each service the date of signed parental consent, projected and actual initiation date, whether services were "timely/not timely," and family or other reasons for delays. This enables state CIS-EI data management staff reviewing the data forms to determine immediately, for the majority of children, compliance or noncompliance, and to determine actual number of days beyond the 30-day period of time from signed parental consent that services were initiated. If dates for initiation of services were not documented for any reason, e.g., forms were submitted prior to the projected date of initiation of services, CIS-EI staff followed up by telephone and/or email to obtain the initiation date(s).

As discussed in the Overview on page 3, although Vermont Part C is experiencing a delay in the implementation of its electronic data management system, the FFY 2009 transition to an electronic statewide billing system (Hewlett Packard Enterprise System-HPES) discussed in the 2009 APR continued to provide a mechanism for verifying that data were complete and accurate. State CIS-EI data management staff compared on a weekly basis the data entered into the Early Intervention ACCESS database with data entered into the HPES system to check for accuracy and query for any duplicate data. In addition, several regional CIS-EIPs have developed their own internal databases to collect, verify and report data until full implementation of VFACTS in September 2012. Several CIS-EIP Directors conduct regular internal file reviews to monitor timeliness of services, and require staff to do systematic self-assessments of their files to ensure accurate and complete documentation and to flag areas of concern. The director of the regional CIS-EIP that provides services to the greatest number of families and their children in Vermont continued to communicate regularly with the LEAs that provide early intervention services to reinforce the requirements and directed her CIS-EI staff to communicate regularly with LEA personnel to determine if there would be potential challenges in meeting the timelines and take action to ensure timeliness.

During the annual determination process conducted in spring 2011 when reviewing regional CIS-EIPs' timely and accurate submission of data, information provided by state CIS-EI data management staff indicated that three regional CIS-EIPs had challenges in this area. These three regions lacked a systematic internal structure to verify accuracy of data prior to submitting them to the state office. Data management staff conducted onsite visits in spring 2011 to these programs to provide technical assistance and support in implementing internal administrative systems for data management until the transition to the CIS electronic data management system.

As discussed in the FFY 2009 APR, two state CIS-EI staff provided extensive and targeted technical assistance to a regional CIS-EIP that went from 100% compliance in FFY 2008 to 92% compliance in FFY 2009. This regional program demonstrated 100% compliance for Indicator 1 in FFY 2010.

Correction of FFY 2009 Findings of Noncompliance: There were no findings of noncompliance in FFY 2009 in Indicator 1.

Level of compliance Vermont Part C reported for FFY 2009 for Indicator 1: 98.7%

#### Verification of Correction of FFY 2009 Noncompliance Reported in the 2009 APR:

As reported in the 2009 APR, three regional CIS-EIPs demonstrated noncompliance in FFY 2009 based on analysis of the entire 2009 Child Count Database. CIS-EIP 4 was at 98.5% compliance (137/139), CIS-EIP 8 at 92% compliance (24/26), and CIS-EIP 9 at 92% compliance (35/38). This noncompliance was corrected prior to issuing written findings of noncompliance.

Consistent with OSEP Memorandum 09-02, dated October 17, 2008 (OSEP Memo 09-02): 1) In a desk audit of updated data from the first quarter of the 2010 Child Count Database (December 2009 to February 2010), CIS-EIPs 4, 8 and 9 achieved 100% compliance for 60 consecutive days, indicating that these three programs were correctly implementing the timely service provision requirements in 34 CFR §\$303.340(c), 303.342(e), and 303.344(f)(1); and 2) Part C staff verified immediately upon review of the 2009 Child Count forms (the data source for identifying the noncompliance) that, although late, all services ultimately were initiated for the 7 children for whom services were not initiated in a timely manner. The number of days services were initiated beyond the 30-day timeline from signed parental consent for the two children in CIS-EIP 4 were 16 and 30 days; for the two children in CIS-EIP 8, 19 and 93 days; and for the three children in CIS-EIP 9, 12 and 13 days. The delays were due to the lack of availability of speech language pathologists and occupational and physical therapists who could provide the services in a timely way.

Regional EIPs 4, 8 and 9 also demonstrated 100% compliance for Indicator 1 in their FFY 2010 self-assessments, providing additional and more current data indicating that these CIS-EIPs were correctly implementing the timely service provision requirements for Indicator 1.

#### Verification of Correction of FFY 2010 Noncompliance Reported in this 2010 APR:

Two regional CIS-EIPs that demonstrated noncompliance based on analysis of the entire Part C State Database (July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011) corrected the noncompliance prior to being issued written findings of noncompliance. CIS-EIP 4 was at 96% compliance (191/198) and CIS-EIP 6 at 96% compliance (45/47).

Consistent with OSEP Memorandum 09-02, dated October 17, 2008 (OSEP Memo 09-02): 1) In a desk audit of updated data from the first and second quarters of the 2011 State Database (July 2011 to November 2011), CIS-EIPs 4 and 6 achieved 100% compliance for 60 consecutive days, indicating that these two programs are correctly implementing the timely service provision requirements in 34 CFR §§303.340(c), 303.342(e), and 303.344(f)(1); and 2) Part C staff reviewed the 2011 Child Count forms submitted during the first and second quarters by these two regional CIS-EIPs and were immediately able to verify that, although late, all services were initiated for the 9 children for whom services were not initiated in a timely manner. In CIS-EIP 4, the delay for one child was 4 days beyond the 30-day timeline,

for two children it was 5 days, for one child 6 days, for one child 13 days, for one child 26 days, and for one child, initiation of services on the initial One Plan/IFSP was 34 days beyond the 30-day timeline, and on a subsequent IFSP/One Plan, there was a 7-day delay. For the 2 children in CIS-EIP 6, the delays were 6 and 54 days beyond the 30-day timeline. The reason for the majority of the delays in these two regions was lack of the availability of speech language pathologists who could provide the services in a timely way. Other delays were attributable to scheduling conflicts of the early interventionists.

As discussed in the Overview on page 3, two new findings of noncompliance that had an impact on statewide compliance for this indicator in FFY 2010 were issued in FFY 2011 and will be reported on in the FFY 2011 APR submitted February 2013.

#### Additional Information Required by the OSEP APR Response Table for this Indicator:

Statement from the Response Table	State's Response
If the State does not report 100% compliance in the FFY 2010 APR, the State must review its improvement activities and revise them, if necessary.	During FFY 2010, state Children's Integrated Services staff began developing an online technical assistance and training module clarifying Part C timeline requirements for all CIS personnel. This module is anticipated to be completed in spring 2012. Revisions to Indicator 1 are documented below and in the February 1, 2012 revised version of the SPP posted on the Vermont Part C website: <a href="http://dcf.vermont.gov/cdd/reports/IDEA_Part_C">http://dcf.vermont.gov/cdd/reports/IDEA_Part_C</a>

# Revisions, <u>with Justification</u>, to Proposed Targets / Improvement Activities / Timelines / Resources for FFY 2011:

Revisions to Indicator 1: 1) The timeline for full implementation of the electronic data management system was revised from December 2011 to September 15, 2012 (see Overview, page 3); 2) the timeline for revisions to the Part C-B Interagency Agreement and submission for approval to OSEP was revised to March 2012 to meet OSEP timeline for submission with the Part C Application; 3) a new activity was added related to legislative rule-making and revisions to Part C rules, regulations, policies and procedures to ensure congruence with the revised IAA and September 2011 Part C Regulations; and 4) a new activity was added related to the development/implementation of an online training and technical assistance module for Part C timeline requirements. These revisions are in the February 1, 2012 revised version of the SPP posted on the Vermont Part C website:

http://dcf.vermont.gov/cdd/reports/IDEA Part C.

### Part C State Annual Performance Report (APR) for FFY 2010

Overview of the Annual Performance Report Development: Please see description on pages 3 and 4.

Monitoring Priority: Early Intervention Services In Natural Environments

**Indicator 2:** Percent of infants and toddlers with IFSPs who primarily receive early intervention services in the home or community-based settings.

(20 U.S.C. 1416(a)(3)(A) and 1442)

**Measurement:** Percent = [(# of infants and toddlers with IFSPs who primarily receive early intervention services in the home or community-based settings) divided by the (total # of infants and toddlers with IFSPs)] times 100.

FFY	Measurable and Rigorous Target
2010 7/1/10-6/30/11)	96.1%

#### Actual Target Data for FFY 2010: 99%

**Data Source:** Child Count Database 12/1/10, 12/2/09 to 12/1/10. These Indicator 2 data are consistent with Vermont's 618 data reported in Table 2 and submitted 1/27/11.

#### **Data Analysis for Indicator 2, FFY 2010:**

	# Active Children 12/1/10	# Children in Home or Community- Based Settings	# Children in Service Provider Location	# and % Children in Home or Community-Based Settings	State Target
State Totals	790	782	8	782/790 = 99%	96.1%

Discussion of Improvement Activities Completed <u>and</u> Explanation of Progress or Slippage that occurred for FFY 2010:

Vermont Part C CIS-EI increased its actual target data from 98% in FFY 2009 to 99% in FFY 2010, exceeding its FFY 2010 target of 96.1%. State CIS-EI staff developed and disseminated a standardized form to the regional CIS-EIPs during FFY 2010 that reinforced requirements and ensured statewide consistency in documenting service setting decisions. State CIS-EI staff continued to closely monitor data to ensure that One Plan/IFSP teams were making service setting decisions on an individualized basis consistent with 34 CFR §§303.12, 303.18, and 303.344(d)(1)(ii). During June 2011, as part of Vermont's ongoing implementation of the professional development initiative known as Foundations for Early Learning (FEL), Dr. Tweety Yates conducted a "Home Visiting and Playgroup Workshop" for CIS-EI/CIS service providers statewide. Dr. Yates shared the PIWI (Parents Interacting with Infants) model and philosophy and practices for promoting children's social emotional competence.

# **APR Template - Part C (4)**

Vt-apr-2012c

Revisions, <u>with Justification</u>, to Proposed Targets / Improvement Activities / Timelines / Resources for FFY 2011:

Revisions to Indicator 2: 1) The timeline for full implementation of the electronic data management system was revised from December 2011 to September 15, 2012 (see Overview, page 3); 2) the timeline for revisions to the Part C-B Interagency Agreement and submission for approval to OSEP was revised to March 2012 to meet OSEP timeline for submission with the Part C Application; and 3) a new activity was added related to legislative rule-making and revisions to Part C rules, regulations, policies and procedures to ensure congruence with the revised IAA and September 2011 Part C Regulations. These revisions are in the February 1, 2012 revised version of the SPP posted on the Vermont Part C website: http://dcf.vermont.gov/cdd/reports/IDEA Part C.

Part C State Annual Performance Report for FFY 2010 (OMB NO: 1820-0578/Expiration Date: 11/30/2012)

Vermont

### Part C State Annual Performance Report (APR) for FFY 2010

Overview of the Annual Performance Report Development: Please see description on pages 3 and 4.

Monitoring Priority: Early Intervention Services In Natural Environments

Indicator 3: Percent of infants and toddlers with IFSPs who demonstrate improved:

- A. Positive social-emotional skills (including social relationships);
- B. Acquisition and use of knowledge and skills (including early language/ communication); and
- C. Use of appropriate behaviors to meet their needs.

(20 U.S.C. 1416(a)(3)(A) and 1442)

#### Measurement:

#### Outcomes:

- A. Positive social-emotional skills (including social relationships);
- B. Acquisition and use of knowledge and skills (including early language/communication); and
- C. Use of appropriate behaviors to meet their needs.

Progress categories for A, B and C:

- a. Percent of infants and toddlers who did not improve functioning = [(# of infants and toddlers who did not improve functioning) divided by (# of infants and toddlers with IFSPs assessed)] times 100.
- b. Percent of infants and toddlers who improved functioning but not sufficient to move nearer to functioning comparable to same-aged peers = [(# of infants and toddlers who improved functioning but not sufficient to move nearer to functioning comparable to same-aged peers) divided by (# of infants and toddlers with IFSPs assessed)] times 100.
- c. Percent of infants and toddlers who improved functioning to a level nearer to same-aged peers but did not reach it = [(# of infants and toddlers who improved functioning to a level nearer to same-aged peers but did not reach it) divided by (# of infants and toddlers with IFSPs assessed)] times 100.
- d. Percent of infants and toddlers who improved functioning to reach a level comparable to same-aged peers = [(# of infants and toddlers who improved functioning to reach a level comparable to same-aged peers) divided by (# of infants and toddlers with IFSPs assessed)] times 100.
- e. Percent of infants and toddlers who maintained functioning at a level comparable to sameaged peers = [(# of infants and toddlers who maintained functioning at a level comparable to same-aged peers) divided by (# of infants and toddlers with IFSPs assessed)] times 100.

### Summary Statements for Each of the Three Outcomes (use for FFY 2009-2010 reporting):

**Summary Statement 1:** Of those infants and toddlers who entered or exited early intervention below age expectations in each Outcome, the percent who substantially increased their rate of growth by the time they turned 3 years of age or exited the program.

#### **Measurement for Summary Statement 1:**

Percent = # of infants and toddlers reported in progress category (c) plus # of infants and toddlers reported in category (d) divided by [# of infants and toddlers reported in progress category (a) plus # of infants and toddlers reported in progress category (b) plus # of infants and toddlers reported in

progress category (c) plus # of infants and toddlers reported in progress category (d)] times 100.

**Summary Statement 2:** The percent of infants and toddlers who were functioning within age expectations in each Outcome by the time they turned 3 years of age or exited the program.

**Measurement for Summary Statement 2:** Percent = # of infants and toddlers reported in progress category (d) plus [# of infants and toddlers reported in progress category (e) divided by the total # of infants and toddlers reported in progress categories (a) + (b) + (c) + (d) + (e)] times 100.

### Target Data and Actual Target Data for FFY 2010:

#### Targets and Actual Data for Part C Children Exiting in FFY 2010 (2010-11)

	Summary Statements	Actual FFY 2009 (% and # of children)	Actual FFY 2010 (% and # of children)	Targets FFY 2010 (% of children)
Ou	tcome A: Positive social-emotional skills (including social relation	nships)		
1.	Of those children who entered or exited the program below age expectations in Outcome A, the percent who substantially increased their rate of growth by the time they exited the program	60.8% n = 525	61.5% n = 523	61%
2.	The percent of children who were functioning within age	59.4%	57.7%	59.6%
	expectations in Outcome A by the time they exited the program	n = 525	n = 523	
	Outcome B: Acquisition and use of knowledge and skills (including early language/communication and early literacy)			
1	Of those children who entered or exited the program below age expectations in Outcome B, the percent who substantially increased their rate of growth by the time they exited the program	67.9% n = 525	71.7% n = 523	68.1%
2.	The percent of children who were functioning within age expectations in Outcome B by the time they exited the program	53.4% n = 525	50.5% n = 523	53.6%
Ou	Outcome C: Use of appropriate behaviors to meet their needs			
1	Of those children who entered or exited the program below age expectations in Outcome C, the percent who substantially increased their rate of growth by the time they exited the program	72.9% n = 525	71.2% n = 523	73.1%
2.	The percent of children who were functioning within age expectations in Outcome C by the time they exited the program	60.6% n = 525	62% n = 523	60.8%

#### Progress Data for Part C Children FFY 2009

A. Positive social-emotional skills (including social relationships):	Number of children	% of children
a. Percent of children who did not improve functioning	4	0.8%

A. Positive social-emotional skills (including social relationships):	Number of children	% of children
<ul> <li>Percent of children who improved functioning but not sufficient to move nearer to functioning comparable to same-aged peers</li> </ul>	127	24.3%
c. Percent of children who improved functioning to a level nearer to same-aged peers but did not reach	90	17.2%
d. Percent of children who improved functioning to reach a level comparable to same-aged peers	119	22.8%
e. Percent of children who maintained functioning at a level comparable to same-aged peers	183	35%
Total	N= 523	100%
B. Acquisition and use of knowledge and skills (including early language/communication):	Number of children	% of children
a. Percent of children who did not improve functioning	1	0.2%
<ul> <li>Percent of children who improved functioning but not sufficient to move nearer to functioning comparable to same-aged peers</li> </ul>	127	24.3%
c. Percent of children who improved functioning to a level nearer to same-aged peers but did not reach	131	25.0%
<ul> <li>d. Percent of children who improved functioning to reach a level comparable to same-aged peers</li> </ul>	194	37.1%
e. Percent of children who maintained functioning at a level comparable to same-aged peers	70	13.4%
Total	N= 523	100%
C. Use of appropriate behaviors to meet their needs:	Number of children	% of children
a. Percent of children who did not improve functioning	0	0%
<ul> <li>b. Percent of children who improved functioning but not sufficient to move nearer to functioning comparable to same-aged peers</li> </ul>	112	21.4%
c. Percent of children who improved functioning to a level nearer to same-aged peers but did not reach	87	16.6%
d. Percent of children who improved functioning to reach a level comparable to same-aged peers	190	36.3%
e. Percent of children who maintained functioning at a level comparable to same-aged peers	134	25.6%
Total	N= 523	100%

#### Discussion of Summary Statements and a-e Progress Data for FFY 2010:

For Summary Statement 1 (SS 1), between 61.5% and 71.7% of infants and toddlers showed greater than expected growth across the three child outcomes at the time they exited Part C services. The results for Outcomes 3A (61.5%) and 3B (71.7%) were both above last year's actual data and the FFY 2010 target. However, the result for Outcome 3C (71.2%) was slightly below (< 2%) last year's actual data and the FFY 2010 target.

For Summary Statement 2 (SS2), between 50.5% and 62% of infants and toddlers showed functioning within age expectations across the three child outcomes at the time they exited from Part C services. When findings for SS2 from this year were compared to last year's actual data and the FFY 2010 target, a

reverse pattern from SS1 findings emerged. For Outcome 3C (62%), the result for this year was slightly above last year's data and the FFY 2010 target, while Outcomes 3A (57.7%) and 3B (50.5%) were slightly lower than both last year's actual data and this year's target (Outcome 3A was lower by just under 2% and Outcome 3B was lower by approximately 3%).

The number of children in this year's data set is nearly identical to last year. This year, child outcome data was collected on 523 children for all three outcomes, while last year we had data on 525 children across the three outcomes. During FFY 2010, data was collected on 99% of children who exited between 7/1/10 and 6/30/11 and who received 6 months of services. The range of complete data for regions fell between 90 and 100% with eleven out of 12 regions collecting data on 95% of children. The percentage of data completion is based on the number of exits occurring within the FFY, minus children receiving services for < 6 months, including a handful of families that programs were unable to contact.

An examination of state progress categories shows the data to be within an acceptable range for all three outcomes. As expected, progress category 'a' is very low across all outcomes for the state; this is also the case for the regions. For categories 'b' through 'e', data is balanced throughout, neither too low (< 5%) or too high (> 60%).

# Discussion of Improvement Activities Completed <u>and</u> Explanation of Progress or Slippage that occurred for FFY 2010:

Baseline and targets were revised last year to reflect a substantial increase (over 70%) in the percentage of data collected in FFY 2009 and the concomitant drop in the outcome ratings. With few exceptions, regions were able to maintain the high percentage of returns this year. This is now the second year with a high percentage of returns. Since Vermont does not yet have a data management system, regions receive quarterly child outcome data grids with names of children who have missing or inaccurate data highlighted and are asked to complete/correct data within 30 days. Regions are also asked to give the rationale for incomplete data which allows regions and the state to track potential patterns in incomplete data.

A consistent return over time is important because it will allow Vermont to examine data trends (in summary statements, progress categories and entry/exit ratings) and highlight regions that continue to perform consistently – one step in calculating the trustworthiness of the child outcome data. As an example, the differential for summary statements between FFY 2009 and FFY 2010 was rather large for some regions while very similar for others. It is especially important for Vermont to have a consistently high return because the total number of families served is relatively small.

In examining areas of slippage, several factors were considered related to data quality and program characteristics. The findings for regions were analyzed for unusual data patterns that might suggest problems with data quality. Several concerns were noted. A few programs had summary statements substantially lower than the rest of the state. In addition, these regions had patterns that were out of sync with the other regions when progress categories were compared for categories 'b', 'd' and 'e'.

A related observation was that 2 of the regions with low percentages comprise a larger portion of the state population (nearly one-third) and as such have a stronger influence on state results. If their numbers are substantially below target, then the state is more likely to follow suit. Plans are being implemented to verify data quality with regions.

#### Activities:

- Part C continues to provide ongoing monitoring of child outcomes data to insure a high percentage of returns and complete data sets.
- The child outcomes needs assessment survey conducted in spring, 2010 highlighted formal
  training in child assessment as a need. Stakeholders supported a focus on curriculum-based
  assessment to support the link between assessment and intervention. In FFY 2010, joint
  assessment training for part C and 619 in the TPBA was conducted and five of twelve regions
  participated. This year, training in the AEPS system will be jointly offered to Part C and 619
  and nine of twelve regions will participate.

- Vermont Foundations in Early Learning (FEL) training was delivered to the third and final
  region of the state. FEL comprises two national technical assistance grants, CSEFEL and
  CELL, addressing social-emotional (Outcome 3A) and early literacy learning (Outcome 3B).
  In all, participants from ten Part C regions were represented in the training. Last year, an
  inclusive toddler demonstration site was identified and support is being provided to support
  classroom fidelity and sustainability.
- In FFY 2010, training was offered to regions regarding a revised outcome form to support the development of meaningful and functional outcomes. This year, Part C will host a conference with Dr. Robin McWilliam to address family engagement and writing outcomes.
- This year, joint regional child outcome trainings and clinics will be offered to Part C and 619 providers. The purpose of the training is twofold: to serve as an orientation and refresher of the COS process and to support regional understanding of their child outcome findings and discuss various paths to interpretation of the data. Regions are expected to develop program improvement plans that address findings that are below state targets. In addition, data is presented to Stakeholders (including the ICC) with a discussion of its potential meaning and follow-up, as well as the status of family involvement in determining ratings.
- Continued attendance at Child Outcomes CoP sessions and webinars sponsored by ECO as is possible.

# Revisions, <u>with Justification</u>, to Proposed Targets / Improvement Activities / Timelines / Resources for FFY 2011:

Revisions to Indicator 3: 1) The timeline for full implementation of the electronic data management system was revised from December 2011 to September 15, 2012 (see Overview, page 3); 2) the timeline for revisions to the Part C-B Interagency Agreement and submission for approval to OSEP was revised to March 2012 to meet OSEP timeline for submission with the Part C Application; and 3) a new activity was added related to legislative rule-making and revisions to Part C rules, regulations, policies and procedures to ensure congruence with the revised IAA and September 2011 Part C Regulations. These revisions are in the February 1, 2012 revised version of the SPP posted on the Vermont Part C website: http://dcf.vermont.gov/cdd/reports/IDEA Part C.

### Part C State Annual Performance Report (APR) for FFY 2010

Overview of the Annual Performance Report Development: Please see description on pages 3 and 4.

#### Monitoring Priority: Early Intervention Services In Natural Environments

**Indicator 4:** Percent of families participating in Part C who report that early intervention services have helped the family:

- A. Know their rights;
- B. Effectively communicate their children's needs; and
- C. Help their children develop and learn.

(20 U.S.C. 1416(a)(3)(A) and 1442)

#### Measurement:

- A. Percent = [(# of respondent families participating in Part C who report that early intervention services have helped the family know their rights) divided by the (# of respondent families participating in Part C)] times 100.
- B. Percent = [(# of respondent families participating in Part C who report that early intervention services have helped the family effectively communicate their children's needs) divided by the (# of respondent families participating in Part C)] times 100.
- C. Percent = [(# of respondent families participating in Part C who report that early intervention services have helped the family help their children develop and learn) divided by the (# of respondent families participating in Part C)] times 100.

#### Target Data and Actual Target Data for FFY 2010:

Target Data and Actual Target Data	FFY 2010 Target	FFY 2010 Actual	
A. Know their rights	81%	152/192	79.2%
B. Effectively communicate their children's needs	86%	167/192	87%
C. Help their children develop and learn	88.1%	149/191	78%

The statewide return rate for FFY 2010 Family Outcome survey is 29.3%, slightly less than this year's target of 31%, and last year's return rate of 34%. Many regions that had not experienced low returns over the last several years were below target this year. Of the 720 surveys disseminated, 196 were returned (with a small number of surveys also returned either undeliverable or outside study parameters). Protocols for mailing and collecting returned surveys followed revisions of FFY 2008, including multiple survey collection options, informing families about outcome purpose and goals through brochures (discussed at program entry and attached to the survey) and giving service providers talking points to review with families prior to mailing the survey. There were, however, two changes that might have

negatively affected survey return rate. One, surveys were collected several months earlier this year. In addition, Family Outcome surveys were inadvertently mailed to regions at the same time as the first program evaluation from Children's Integrated Services, which includes Part C.

In order to examine representativeness of survey data, comparisons between Vermont's 618 report (12/09 – 12/10) and the Family survey (a demographic sheet is attached to the survey) were made on gender and race/ethnicity. Comparisons indicate data are similar. A comparison of race/ethnicity between the two data sets indicates both include 7% minority groups. In terms of gender, the 618 report shows 63.3% of exits were male and 36.7% were female, while the surveys indicated 58.1% were male and 41.9%, female. The data management system will allow a more comprehensive and accurate analysis of representativeness, including a comparison to the population currently being served and the inclusion of additional family demographic descriptors.

# Discussion of Improvement Activities Completed <u>and Explanation of Progress or Slippage that occurred for FFY 2010:</u>

In FFY 2010, Vermont's ICC approved the use of the revised ECO Family Outcomes survey which has only two pages (as opposed to 7 pages), and has a more familiar and simplified response format (please see Appendix A). The features of the revised survey were shared with Host Agency Directors in quarterly meeting and with service providers through email. Although the response rate was disappointing (it was expected that a simpler and smaller questionnaire would increase the rate of returns), data gleaned from the revised survey are more differentiated and substantive than the original. The current survey has multiple questions that address the components of each family outcome versus the single item approach of the original survey. The state and regions can now pinpoint areas within each of the outcomes where there are strengths as well as areas in need of improvement. This additional information will help regions in need of improvement to focus their improvement plans.

Each year, regions receive individual profiles of the results of the family outcome data, including their raw data and comparisons to state data. In FFY 2010, an additional feature was added to this report to help regions identify trends in their data. Monitoring trends in outcome data over time has been very useful for regions as well as for the state. Percentage of returned surveys can represent a very small 'n' for a state such as Vermont with a small population. As a result, small changes in survey responses can often have a major impact on results for some of our smallest, most rural regions. In FFY 2010, recommendations were made to regions based on trends from four years' worth of family outcomes data. A rating system with justifications was designed to help regions identify challenging trends in their outcome data and regions in need of support were identified.

Technical assistance was offered to three regions during FFY 2010, related to issues identified in an analysis of data trends in the old ECO survey. In the first region, an interview was designed to support an examination of their practices related to engaging families in IFSP process and home visits. Based on findings from the interview and multiple conversations, the regional team determined an action plan. Meetings were also held with the other two regions. Based on input from the findings, both regions established priorities and developed improvement plans. All three regions demonstrated improvement this year.

An integrated family service plan (i.e., One Plan) based on the IFSP was developed and after revisions, rolled out to Children's Integrated Services (CIS) practitioners during FFY 2010. A primary purpose of the One Plan and its guidelines is to provide a roadmap for family involvement in their child's team throughout process of assessment, planning and service delivery. The plan is supportive to many CIS teams that

helped their families'.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Criterion for defining "Families who report that early intervention services have helped their family" for the survey: The rating scale for ECO's revised Family Outcome Survey ranges from 1 to 5 (1 = 'not at all helpful' to 5 = 'extremely helpful'). The score for each indicator is culled from several survey items pertaining to each outcome. A mean score across items was calculated for each family within an outcome. A mean score of 4.0 or above identifies 'families who report that early intervention services

include practitioners who may not be familiar with regulations and quality practices promoted by Part C and has also served as a boost to CIS: EI practitioners. This year, a common request heard throughout many regions of the state was for training in family engagement and is considered a positive outcome of this initiative.

In the five years since Vermont has been collecting family outcomes data, Vermont has met or exceeded its annual target for all three outcomes. Interestingly, with the introduction of the revised ECO survey, comparisons yielded very different results. This year although the percentage of families reporting early intervention has helped their family remains high, only outcome 4B (87%) met the state target (86%) and it was slightly below FFY 2009 (91%). Both 4A (79.3%) and 4C (78%) were below the FFY 2010 targets (81% and 88.1%, respectively) and the state's performance for FFY 2009 (84% and 93.4%, respectively).

There may be several reasons for these results. As already mentioned, the change to the revised edition of the ECO survey gives more detail through multiple questions for each Outcome than the single item approach of the original survey. Having multiple questions for each outcome provides a level of specificity that may encourage families to be more selective in their responses. This selectivity was evident in the variability in ratings across and within the three outcomes. In this regard, the outcome survey highlights the capacity of the 'assessment as intervention' as the revised survey better informs families as to the parameters of early intervention services. This additional information will help stakeholders at every level.

It is not surprising that Outcome 4B met its target. Vermont has a strong belief in family involvement and giving voice to families. This commitment is evident in the incorporation of Part C regulations into CIS's service delivery system. Five out of the six questions were above the state target for this outcome, ranging from 87.5% to 95.8%, while only one question was slightly below the target (83.7%). As Part C's partners in CIS adjust to the level of family involvement in assessment and service delivery, this outcome is expected to surpass previous year's performance.

In a comparison of region's performance on each of the outcomes, several programs had strong positive results for all three outcomes while two programs were not only below target but were considerably lower than other regions in all three outcomes. One of these regions had already been identified as needing support through the new rating system and both will receive technical assistance in developing a program improvement plan.

Outcome 4A was slightly below the state target in FFY 2010. With the exception of one question under this outcome (71.2%), the ratings were very high with positive responses ranging from 87.2% to 89.5%. For that reason, it is not surprising that 4 out of the 5 questions under this outcome were well above the target for FFY 2010 as well as above state performance over the previous 5 years. Although overall state performance has seen improvement in this outcome over time, the results of the revised survey highlights regions and specific areas that can improve. In a review of the regions that scored low on this outcome, it is important to note that 3 of these regions have experienced significant staff turnover and two others have very small numbers (small changes in data can have a major impact on results). These results are sent to the regions and will be reviewed during the Outcome clinics to explore issues affecting results and identify potential program improvement plans. Data trends will continue to be analyzed for regions over time to uncover whether the current FFY's result is an anomaly or part of a pattern of poor results.

Outcome 4C was well below the state target and had the highest number of regions below target. This was surprising because this outcome has always been well above state targets and demonstrated consistent improvement over the last five years. With the exception of one question under this outcome, ratings were high with positive responses ranging from 85.6% to 89.5%. The state's focus on writing individualized family outcomes in FFY 2010 (with a revised outcome form that stresses family priority, functionality and criteria), may have contributed to high results for item 17 on the ECO survey, indicating that CIS: EI has been 'very to extremely helpful' in working with families' to know when their child is making progress'. Although two items in outcome 4C (identifying how families help their child grow and helping families to include their child in daily routines) had high ratings at the state level, ratings were low for many of our regions. While staff turnover and small numbers may account for some of the low ratings at the regional level, these outcomes will be addressed on a regional and state level. Regional clinics

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which review outcome data will highlight the relationships between program characteristics, quality practices and outcome results as well as help regions to identify trends in their data over time. This support is expected to help regions to identify program improvement plans. Finally, a statewide training is planned that will address engaging families in all aspects of service delivery.

# Revisions, <u>with Justification</u>, to Proposed Targets / Improvement Activities / Timelines / Resources for FFY 2011:

Revisions to Indicator 4: 1) The timeline for full implementation of the electronic data management system was revised from December 2011 to September 15, 2012 (see Overview, page 3); 2) a new activity was added to reflect continued use of the revised ECO survey; 3) the timeline for revisions to the Part C-B Interagency Agreement and submission for approval to OSEP was revised to March 2012 to meet OSEP timeline for submission with the Part C Application; and 4) a new activity was added related to legislative rule-making and revisions to Part C rules, regulations, policies and procedures to ensure congruence with the revised IAA and September 2011 Part C Regulations. These revisions are in the February 1, 2012 revised version of the SPP posted on the Vermont Part C website: http://dcf.vermont.gov/cdd/reports/IDEA Part C.

### Part C State Annual Performance Report (APR) for FFY 2010

Overview of the Annual Performance Report Development: Please see description on pages 3 and 4.

Monitoring Priority: Effective General Supervision Part C / Child Find

Indicator 5: Percent of infants and toddlers birth to 1 with IFSPs compared to national data.

(20 U.S.C. 1416(a)(3)(B) and 1442)

**Measurement:** Percent = [(# of infants and toddler birth to 1 with IFSPs) divided by the (population of infants and toddlers birth to 1)] times 100 compared to national data.

FFY	Measurable and Rigorous Target
2010 7/1/10-6/30/11)	.98%

#### Actual Target Data for FFY 2010: 1.01%

**Data Source:** Child Count Database 12/1/10, 12/2/09 to 12/1/10. These Indicator 5 data are consistent with Vermont's 618 data reported in Table 1 and submitted 1/27/11.

#### Data Analysis for Indicator 5, Child Find Infants Birth to One, FFY 2010:

FFY 2010	# Infants Served in Part C	Total # VT Infants Birth to 1	# and % VT Infants Birth to 1 Served in Part C	2010 SPP State Target
Infants Birth to 1	60	5968	60/5968 = 1.01%	.98%

In FFY 2010, Vermont exceeded by .03% its target figure of serving .98% of its infants born in the most recent year of census figures. FFY 2010 is the first APR reporting year since 2005 that Vermont Part C did not exceed the national baseline figure of 1.03% (50 states, District of Columbia and Puerto Rico).

# Discussion of Improvement Activities Completed <u>and</u> Explanation of Progress or Slippage that occurred for FFY 2010:

Vermont demonstrated a slight decrease (0.11%) in its FFY 2010 actual target data from its actual target data of 1.12% in FFY 2009. Based on Vermont Part C's trend of decreasing actual target data since FFY 2007 for Indicator 5, state CIS-EI staff addressed this specific indicator with their OSEP state contact and in FFY 2010 implemented a new improvement activity to address this indicator. Vermont Part C participated in the Targeting Indicator Improvement (TII) process facilitated by the Northeast Regional Resource Center (NERRC) in June 2011. This intensive two-day structured process helped state CIS-EI staff identify performance drivers and barriers to improvement for Indicator 5. During the process, state CIS-EI staff identified three specific regional CIS-EIPs that were significantly below the FFY 2010 target of .98% and state performance of 1.01%. Two of these programs provide services in dense population areas and both were above the state targets and state performance in FFYs 2008 and 2009; the other program provides services in a large rural and geographically broad area, and has been consistently below the state target and state performance since APR reporting year FFY 2005. As a result of the TII process, specific, prioritized action steps informed by indicator data and contributing factors were

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developed to address the barriers to improved performance. Part of the resulting TII Action Plan specifically targets the three regional CIS-EIPs for focused technical assistance. State CIS-EI staff will continue to collaborate with NERRC staff through FFY 2012 to implement the TII Action Plan for Indicator 5.

Although it would be anticipated that Vermont's actual target data might increase given that there were 541 fewer infants birth to one in FFY 2010 than in FFY 2009, it is not possible to determine factors that contributed to the slippage given the relatively small number of children identified in FFY 2010. The November 2011 KIDS COUNT Working Paper from the Annie E. Casey Foundation entitled "The Changing Child Population of the United States: Analysis of Data from the 2010 Census" documents that Vermont had the biggest percentage decrease (12%) in its child population (under age 18) between 2000 and 2010 among all 50 states and the District of Columbia. Although it is impossible to make a direct correlation, given this significant decrease in child population, there may be fewer children in the birth to one population identified with disabilities.

Members of the state CIS Team continued to provide training and extensive ongoing and targeted technical assistance to regional CIS providers and partners. In December 2010, the state CIS Team, with assistance from NERRC state liaisons, conduced a statewide conference - "Moving CIS Forward" – that brought together service providers and administrators from all CIS services to provide resources and information to ensure CIS providers statewide continue to collaborate and engage in effective child find activities. Regional Part C CIS-EIPs and the Local Education Agencies within their respective regions continued to focus on child find birth to one. As part of the annual determination process following submission of the 2009 APR, state CIS-EI staff reviewed updated FFY 2010 child find data and targeted and collected anecdotal data from staff in those regional CIS-EIPs in which FFY 2010 data did not meet the FFY 2010 target. As discussed above, these data were critical to informing the TII process.

Regional CIS-EIP staff continue to submit monthly child count data to the state office and regional CIS Intake Coordinators continue to collect cumulative data on referrals and submit monthly reports to the state Child Development Division. The Part C CIS-EI Coordinator, along with administrators from the other CIS services, regularly tracks the referrals and "flags" regions that demonstrate a decrease in referrals. In addition, as reported in Indicator 1, Vermont Part C's implementation of a new electronic billing system in FFY 2009 enhances its ability to collect accurate and comprehensive data and track statewide child find. Vermont's Part C Coordinator and state education agency staff continue to track statewide child find as part of the Maintenance of Effort and the Part C-B Interagency Agreement.

# Revisions, <u>with Justification</u>, to Proposed Targets / Improvement Activities / Timelines / Resources for FFY 2011:

Revisions to Indicator 5: 1) The timeline for full implementation of the electronic data management system was revised from December 2011 to September 15, 2012 (see Overview, page 3); 2) a new activity was added related to the implementation of the Targeting Indicator Improvement Action Plan; 3) the timeline for revisions to the Part C-B Interagency Agreement and submission for approval to OSEP was revised to March 2012 to meet OSEP timeline for submission with the Part C Application; and 4) a new activity was added related to legislative rule-making and revisions to Part C rules, regulations, policies and procedures to ensure congruence with the revised IAA and September 2011 Part C Regulations. These revisions are in the February 1, 2012 revised version of the SPP posted on the Vermont Part C website: <a href="http://dcf.vermont.gov/cdd/reports/IDEA\_Part\_C">http://dcf.vermont.gov/cdd/reports/IDEA\_Part\_C</a>.

### Part C State Annual Performance Report (APR) for FFY 2010

Overview of the Annual Performance Report Development: Please see description on pages 3 and 4.

Monitoring Priority: Effective General Supervision Part C / Child Find

Indicator 6: Percent of infants and toddlers birth to 3 with IFSPs compared to national data.

(20 U.S.C. 1416(a)(3)(B) and 1442)

**Measurement:** Percent = [(# of infants and toddler birth to 3 with IFSPs) divided by the (population of infants and toddlers birth to 3)] times 100 compared to national data.

FFY	Measurable and Rigorous Target
2010 7/1/10-6/30/11)	3.5%

#### Actual Target Data for FFY 2010: 4.23%

**Data Source:** Child Count Database 12/1/10, 12/2/09 to 12/1/10. These Indicator 6 data are consistent with Vermont's 618 data reported in Table 1 and submitted 1/27/11.

#### Data Analysis for Indicator 6, Child Find Infants and Toddlers Birth to Three, FFY 2010:

FFY 2010	# VT Birth to 3 Served in Part C	# Total VT Birth to 3	# and % VT Birth to 3 Served in Part C	2010 SPP State Target
Infants and Toddlers Birth to 3	790	18676	790/18676 = 4.23%	3.5%

In FFY 2010, Vermont exceeded by .7% its target figure of serving 3.5% of its birth to three population born in the most recent year of census figures. Vermont also exceeded by 1.41% the FFY 2010 national baseline figure of 2.82% (50 states, District of Columbia and Puerto Rico).

# Discussion of Improvement Activities Completed <u>and</u> Explanation of Progress or Slippage that occurred for FFY 2010:

Vermont demonstrated a significant increase (.3%) in its FFY 2010 actual target data from its actual target data of 3.93% in FFY 2009. There were 1,092 fewer births in Vermont's total birth to three population than reported in FFY 2009 (19768). FFY 2010 continues Vermont Part C's trend of exceeding its targets and the national baseline data in all APR reporting years since 2005.

Data collected during FFY 2010 indicated that Vermont's Children's Integrated Services, targeting families and children prenatally to six years old, is continuing to receive the majority of its referrals for children ages birth to three. As Children's Integrated Services continues to evolve and becomes fully implemented in Vermont, it is anticipated CIS will continue to have a positive impact on Vermont Part C's child find efforts birth to three. Although the TII Action Plan does not specifically target Indicator 6, this plan, along with other improvement activities discussed in Indicator 5, apply to Indicator 6 as well.

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Revisions, <u>with Justification</u>, to Proposed Targets / Improvement Activities / Timelines / Resources for FFY 2011:

Revisions to Indicator 1: 1) The timeline for full implementation of the electronic data management system was revised from December 2011 to September 15, 2012 (see Overview, page 3); 2) the timeline for revisions to the Part C-B Interagency Agreement and submission for approval to OSEP was revised to March 2012 to meet OSEP timeline for submission with the Part C Application; and 3) a new activity was added related to legislative rule-making and revisions to Part C rules, regulations, policies and procedures to ensure congruence with the revised IAA and September 2011 Part C Regulations. These revisions are in the February 1, 2012 revised version of the SPP posted on the Vermont Part C website: http://dcf.vermont.gov/cdd/reports/IDEA Part C.

Part C State Annual Performance Report for FFY 2010 (OMB NO: 1820-0578/Expiration Date: 11/30/2012)

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### Part C State Annual Performance Report (APR) for FFY 2010

Overview of the Annual Performance Report Development: Please see description on pages 3 and 4.

Monitoring Priority: Effective General Supervision Part C / Child Find

**Indicator 7:** Percent of eligible infants and toddlers with IFSPs for whom an evaluation and assessment and an initial IFSP meeting were conducted within Part C's 45-day timeline.

(20 U.S.C. 1416(a)(3)(B) and 1442)

#### Measurement:

Percent = [(# of eligible infants and toddlers with IFSPs for whom an evaluation and assessment and an initial IFSP meeting was conducted within Part C's 45-day timeline) divided by the (# of eligible infants and toddlers evaluated and assessed] times 100.

Account for untimely evaluations, assessments, and initial IFSP meetings, including the reasons for delays.

FFY	Measurable and Rigorous Target
2010 7/1/10-6/30/11)	100%

#### **Actual Target Data for FFY 2010:**

96.6%

Data Method/Source: Desk audit of entire Part C State Database, July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011

# Infants Evaluated and Assessed and provided an Initial IFSP meeting Within Part C's 45-day timeline:

a. Number of infants and toddlers with IFSPs for whom an evaluation and assessment and an initial IFSP meeting was conducted within Part C's 45-day timeline	712
b. Number of infants and toddlers with IFSPs evaluated and assessed for whom an initial IFSP meeting was required to be conducted	737
Percent of eligible infants and toddlers with IFSPs for whom an evaluation and assessment and an initial IFSP meeting were conducted within Part C's 45-day timeline (Percent = [(a) divided by (b)] times 100)	

Of the 737 children with new IFSPs who were evaluated and assessed and for whom an initial IFSP meeting was required to be conducted, 464 children received an evaluation and assessment and initial IFSP meeting within Part C's 45-day timeline. 248 children did not receive these services in a timely manner due to exceptional family circumstances. These 248 children are included in the numerator as

well as the denominator. Exceptional family circumstances included families experiencing homelessness; family requests to reschedule meetings; families cancelling or failing to attend scheduled meetings; extreme weather conditions, including severe flooding in May 2011 in central Vermont that displaced many families; family vacation schedules; deployment of a family member; family illnesses/surgeries; families who moved; and issues related to child custody.

# Discussion of Improvement Activities Completed <u>and</u> Explanation of Progress or Slippage that occurred in FFY 2010:

Vermont Part C's FFY 2010 compliance of 96.6% for Indicator 7 reflects <u>slight</u> slippage from the 97% achieved in FFY 2009. During FFY 2010, the number of children with IFSPs upon which the percentage of compliance is based increased by 181 (737 in FFY 2010, 551 in FFY 2009). 25 children did not receive an evaluation and assessment and initial IFSP meeting within Part C's 45-day timeline due to delays attributable to circumstances other than documented exceptional family circumstances. State Part C CIS-EI staff verified that evaluations and assessments and initial IFSP meetings ultimately were conducted for these 25 children. The number of days these services were conducted beyond the 45-day timeline for these 25 children ranged from 2 to 79. The average number of days beyond the 45-day timeline was 19. The 79 day-delay for one child was due to a delay in assigning an educational surrogate. Scheduling issues on the part of service providers accounted for delays in timely services for the other children.

Data analysis specific to timeliness of evaluations and assessments demonstrated that evaluations and assessments were completed within Part C's 45-day timeline for 99% of the children (731/737). The 731 included 118 for whom exceptional family circumstances caused a delay. These data demonstrate that the majority of noncompliance occurred primarily between completion of the evaluation and assessment and conducting the initial IFSP meeting, i.e., for 19 of 25 children.

The instructions and forms for monthly data submission required regional CIS-EIP staff to document for each child the dates of the referral, evaluation and assessment, and initial IFSP meeting, and family or other reasons for delays. This enabled state CIS-EI staff reviewing the child count forms to immediately determine compliance or noncompliance and the actual number of days children received their services beyond the 45-day time period.

Almost half of the families and their children who did not receive a timely evaluation and assessment and initial IFSP meeting (12 of 25 children) received their services in the regional CIS-EIP that provides services for approximately 20% of Vermont's Part C population. As described in the 2009 APR, staff from the LEAs in this particular region provide service coordination and conduct evaluations and assessments, presenting unique challenges in coordinating two different service systems (C and B) and personnel. State CIS-EI staff, however, continue to be impressed by this program's progress in implementing improvements that have significantly increased its compliance for Indicator 7, from 73% in FFY 2005 to 91% in FFY 2010. In addition, this regional CIS-EIP continued to significantly decrease the number of days that it exceeded the 45-day timeline for children and their families. During FFY 2008, the range of delay was 52 to 80 days; in FFY 2009, 4 to 39 days; and in FFY 2010, 2 to 37 days. The Director of this regional CIS-EIP and state CIS-EI data management staff continued to work closely together to monitor the data for Indicator 7. In two other regional CIS-EIPs, the reasons for exceeding the 45-day timeline were scheduling conflicts on the part of LEA personnel and unavailability of the early interventionist and speech-language pathologist. Regional CIS-EIPs and their partner LEAs that provide service coordination and conduct evaluations and assessments continued to implement the strategies on their collaboratively developed written agreements to address, e.g., scheduling conflicts of LEA personnel and/or personnel shortages that potentially can impact the LEAs' ability to meet the 45-day timeline.

As discussed in Indicator 1, all CIS service providers, not just CIS-EI providers, now are required to follow Part C timeline requirements for timely service provision. An integrated family service plan (i.e., One Plan) based on the IFSP was developed, revised and rolled out to Children's Integrated Services (CIS) practitioners during FFY 2010. The plan is supportive to many CIS teams that include practitioners who may not be familiar with regulations and quality practices promoted by Part C CIS-EI. To further reinforce Part C timeline requirements, state Children's Integrated Services staff began developing an online technical assistance and training module outlining Part C timeline requirements. This module is targeted

for all regional CIS Intake Coordinators, administrators, and providers. It is anticipated this module will be completed shortly after submission of this 2010 APR. In the meantime, State CIS staff disseminated a written timeline to all regional CIS providers, and reinforced timeline requirements for the CIS Intake Coordinators who receive direct referrals and "fast track" them to Part C CIS-EI Programs.

Correction of FFY 2009 Findings of Noncompliance: There were no findings of noncompliance in FFY 2009 for Indicator 7.

Level of compliance Vermont Part C reported for FFY 2009 for Indicator 7: 97%

#### Verification of Correction of FFY 2009 Noncompliance Reported in the 2009 APR:

As reported in the 2009 APR, three regional CIS-EIPs demonstrated noncompliance in FFY 2009 based on analysis of the entire 2009 Child Count Database. CIS-EIP 4 was at 91% compliance (127/139), CIS-EIP 11 at 98% compliance (45/46), and CIS-EIP 12 at 96% compliance (27/28). This noncompliance was corrected prior to issuing written findings of noncompliance.

Consistent with OSEP Memorandum 09-02, dated October 17, 2008 (OSEP Memo 09-02): 1) In a desk audit of updated data from the first quarter of the 2010 Child Count Database (December 2009 to February 2010), CIS-EIPs 11 and 12 achieved 100% compliance for 60 consecutive days, and in a desk audit of updated data from the second guarter of the 2010 Child Count Database (March to May 2010) CIS-EIP 4 achieved 100% compliance for 60 consecutive days, indicating that these three programs were correctly implementing the timely service provision requirements in 34 CFR §§303.321(e)(2), 303.322(e)(1), and 303.342(a); and 2) Part C staff verified immediately upon review of the 2009 Child Count forms (the data source for identifying the noncompliance) that, although late, all services ultimately were initiated for the 14 children for whom services were not initiated in a timely manner. The number of days children received their services beyond the 45-day timeline for the 12 children in CIS-EIP 4 ranged from four to 39 days; for the one child in CIS-EIP 11, services were delayed one day beyond the 45 day timeline; and for the one child in CIS-EIP 12, services were delayed 14 days beyond the 45-day timeline. In CIS-EIP 4, delays for 10 of the 12 children were attributed to LEA scheduling difficulties; for one child, the physical therapist's scheduling conflict; and for the other child, the IFSP Team's scheduling conflict. In CIS-EIP 11, the IFSP Team for the one child experienced scheduling difficulties, and for the one child in CIS-EIP 12, the LEA providing the services had a scheduling conflict.

#### Verification of Correction of FFY 2010 Noncompliance Reported in this 2010 APR:

Three regional CIS-EIPs that demonstrated noncompliance based on analysis of the entire Part C State Database (July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011) corrected the noncompliance prior to being issued written findings of noncompliance. CIS-EIP 1 was at 96% compliance (26/27), CIS-EIP 6 at 98% compliance (47/48), and CIS-EIP 10 at 97% compliance (69/71).

Consistent with OSEP Memorandum 09-02, dated October 17, 2008 (OSEP Memo 09-02): 1) In a desk audit of updated data from the first and second quarters of the 2011 State Database (July 2011 to November 2011), CIS-EIPs 1, 6 and 10 achieved 100% compliance for 60 consecutive days, indicating that these two programs are correctly implementing the timely service provision requirements in 34 CFR §§303.321(e)(2), 303.322(e)(1), and 303.342(a); and 2) Part C staff reviewed the 2011 Child Count forms submitted during the first and second quarters by these two regional CIS-EIPs and were immediately able to verify that, although late, all services were initiated for the 4 children. The number of days services were initiated beyond the 45-day timeline for the 4 children was 32 (CIS-EIP 1), 9 (CIS-EIP 6) and 19 and 79 (CIS-EIP 10). Reasons for the delays were scheduling conflicts/unavailability of LEA personnel, a speech-language pathologist, and service coordinator; and delay in assigning an Educational Surrogate.

As discussed in the Overview on page 3, three new findings of noncompliance that had an impact on statewide compliance for this indicator in FFY 2010 were issued in FFY 2011 and will be reported on in the FFY 2011 APR submitted February 2013.

#### Additional Information Required by the OSEP APR Response Table for this Indicator:

Statement from the Response Table	State's Response
If the State does not report 100% compliance in the FFY 2010 APR, the State must review its improvement activities and revise them, if necessary.	During FFY 2010, state Children's Integrated Services staff began developing an online technical assistance and training module clarifying Part C timeline requirements for all CIS personnel. This module is anticipated to be completed in spring 2012. Revisions to Indicator 7 are documented below and in the February 1, 2012 revised version of the SPP posted on the Vermont Part C website: <a href="http://dcf.vermont.gov/cdd/reports/IDEA_Part_C">http://dcf.vermont.gov/cdd/reports/IDEA_Part_C</a> .

#### Revisions, with Justification, to Proposed Targets / Improvement Activities / Timelines / Resources for FFY 2011:

Revisions to Indicator 7: 1) The timeline for full implementation of the electronic data management system was revised from December 2011 to September 15, 2012 (see Overview, page 3); 2) the timeline for revisions to the Part C-B Interagency Agreement and submission for approval to OSEP was revised to March 2012 to meet OSEP timeline for submission with the Part C Application; 3) a new activity was added related to legislative rule-making and revisions to Part C rules, regulations, policies and procedures to ensure congruence with the revised IAA and September 2011 Part C Regulations; and 4) a new activity was added related to the development/implementation of an online training and technical assistance module for Part C timeline requirements. These revisions are in the February 1, 2012 revised version of the SPP posted on the Vermont Part C website:

http://dcf.vermont.gov/cdd/reports/IDEA Part C.

### Part C State Annual Performance Report (APR) for FFY 2010

Overview of the Annual Performance Report Development: Please see description on pages 3 and 4.

Monitoring Priority: Effective General Supervision Part C / Effective Transition

**Indicator 8A:** Percent of all children exiting Part C who received timely transition planning to support the child's transition to preschool and other appropriate community services by their third birthday including:

A IFSPs with transition steps and services

(20 U.S.C. 1416(a)(3)(B) and 1442)

#### Measurement:

Percent = [(# of children exiting Part C who have an IFSP with transition steps and services) divided by the (# of children exiting Part C)] times 100.

FFY	Measurable and Rigorous Target
2010 (7/1/10- 6/30/11)	100%

#### **Actual Target Data for FFY 2010:**

99%

Data Method/Source: Desk audit of entire Part C State Database, July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011

Children Exiting Part C who Received Timely Transition Planning (Plan with Steps and Services):

a. Number of children exiting Part C who have an IFSP with transition steps and services	845
b. Number of children exiting Part C	852
Percent of all children exiting Part C who received timely transition planning to support the child's transition to preschool and other appropriate community services by their third birthday (Percent = [(a) divided by (b)] times 100)	99%

845 children of the 852 children who exited Part C had written transition plans in place upon exiting Part C.

# Discussion of Improvement Activities Completed <u>and</u> Explanation of Progress or Slippage that occurred in FFY 2010:

Vermont Part C demonstrated 99% compliance for Indicator 8A in FFY 2010, the same level of compliance achieved in FFY 2009. Seven children did not have <u>written</u> transition plans. Although no written transition plans were in place for these 7 children, State CIS-EI staff verified during an onsite visit with one regional EIP that transition planning did occur for 3 children. State CIS-EI staff conducted conference calls with three other regional EIPs to verify that transition planning occurred for the other 4 children.

The FFY 2009 APR submitted February 2011 discussed the fact that the noncompliance identified in Indicator 8A in FFY 2009 occurred in the regional CIS-EIP that provides early intervention services for the greatest number of Vermont's infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families. It also is the region in which LEAs provide early intervention services, including service coordination. During FFY 2010, the Director of this regional CIS-EIP continued to closely monitor this indicator and regularly followed up with the LEA personnel staff to clarify the requirements in 34 CFR §303.148(b)(4) and 303.344(h) and 20 U.S.C. 1436(a)(3) and reinforce the fact that all children require a written transition plan, not just children moving into Part B. As discussed in Indicator 1, the CIS-EIP director also conducted regular file reviews and required staff to conduct self-assessments of their files to ensure accurate and complete documentation. As a result of continued vigilance in this regional CIS-EIP, this program demonstrated 100% compliance in FFY 2010.

During FFY 2010, state CIS-EI and Part B staff continued to collaborate in providing ongoing technical assistance and guidance to CIS and Part B preschool administrators and providers to address <u>all</u> transition indicators. The Part C-B transition team regularly posted transition technical assistance and resources on the Children's Integrated Services blog and Part B Essential Early Education listserv to ensure timely and comprehensive dissemination of information and resources. During FFY 2010, CIS-EI and Part B launched the online transition training modules for family members. These modules provide a resource for understanding transition requirements and "best" transition practices, and are resources for service providers as well as families. These modules can be found at:

http://www.vermontfamilyetwork.org/training/online-trainings/. Families with limited internet access have access to DVDs of the modules, and the modules were transported into written documents for families who do not have computer access. State CIS-EI and Part B staff also developed an online transition training module clarifying requirements and providing guidance for Part C and Part B administrators and service providers related to late referrals to Part C CIS-EI. This module is at: <a href="http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/pgm">http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/pgm</a> earlyed/webinar/latereferralguidance/.

Vermont Family Network (VFN) continued to partner with CIS-EI to provide parent trainings on request and through scheduled webinars and onsite workshops. Regional CIS-EIPs received transition profiles from the state CIS-EI staff so they could review their data and, if experiencing <u>any</u> noncompliance, could conduct a root cause analysis and implement strategies to address the noncompliance.

#### Verification of Correction of FFY 2009 Noncompliance Reported in the 2009 APR:

As reported in the 2009 APR, one regional CIS-EIP demonstrated noncompliance based on analysis of the entire 2009 Child Count Database. Regional CIS-EIP 4 was at 96% compliance (187/194). This noncompliance was corrected prior to issuing a written finding of noncompliance.

Consistent with OSEP Memorandum 09-02, dated October 17, 2008 (OSEP Memo 09-02): 1) In a desk audit of updated data from the second quarter of the 2010 Child Count Database (March to May 2010), CIS-EIP 4 achieved 100% compliance for 60 consecutive days, indicating that this program was correctly implementing the transition requirements in 34 CFR §303.148(b)(4) and 303.344(h) and 20 U.S.C. 1436(a)(3); and 2) Part C state staff verified in an onsite visit with the CIS-EIP 4 administrative staff that, although there were no written transition plans, transition planning did occur for the 7 children.

Additional and updated data gathered during the third quarter of FFY 2010 further indicated that this CIS-EIP was correctly implementing the transition requirements for Indicator 8A. During August 2010, all regional CIS-EIPs conducted annual self-assessments of files and submitted these to the state CIS-EI office for review and verification. Regional CIS-EIP 4 demonstrated 100% compliance (21/21 files).

#### Verification of Correction of FFY 2010 Noncompliance Reported in this 2010 APR:

Three regional CIS-EIPs that demonstrated noncompliance based on analysis of the entire Part C State Database (July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011) corrected the noncompliance prior to being issued written findings of noncompliance. CIS-EIP 5 was at 99% compliance (96/97), CIS-EIP 6 at 97% compliance (68/70), and CIS-EIP 12 at 98% compliance (50/51).

Consistent with OSEP Memorandum 09-02, dated October 17, 2008 (OSEP Memo 09-02): 1) In a desk audit of updated data from the first and second quarters of the 2011 State Database (July 2011 to November 2011), CIS-EIPs 5, 6 and 12 achieved 100% compliance for 60 consecutive days, indicating that these three programs are correctly implementing the transition requirements in 34 CFR §303.148(b)(4) and 303.344(h) and 20 U.S.C. 1436(a)(3); and 2) Part C state staff verified in conference calls with staff in CIS EIPs 5, 6 and 12 that, although there were no written transition plans, transition planning did occur for the 4 children.

As discussed in the Overview on page 3, one new finding of noncompliance that had an impact on statewide compliance for this indicator in FFY 2010 was issued in FFY 2011 and will be reported on in the FFY 2011 APR submitted February 2013.

#### Additional Information Required by the OSEP APR Response Table for this Indicator:

Statement from the Response Table	State's Response
If the State does not report 100% compliance in the FFY 2010 APR, the State must review its improvement activities and revise them, if necessary.	During FFY 2010, state Children's Integrated Services staff began developing an online technical assistance and training module clarifying Part C timeline requirements for all CIS personnel. This module is anticipated to be completed in spring 2012. Revisions to Indicator 8 are documented below and in the February 1, 2012 revised version of the SPP posted on the Vermont Part C website: <a href="http://dcf.vermont.gov/cdd/reports/IDEA_Part_C">http://dcf.vermont.gov/cdd/reports/IDEA_Part_C</a> .

# Revisions, <u>with Justification</u>, to Proposed Targets / Improvement Activities / Timelines / Resources for FFY 2011:

Revisions to Indicator 8: 1) The timeline for full implementation of the electronic data management system was revised from December 2011 to September 15, 2012 (see Overview, page 3); 2) the timeline for revisions to the Part C-B Interagency Agreement and submission for approval to OSEP was revised to March 2012 to meet OSEP timeline for submission with the Part C Application; 3) a new activity was added related to legislative rule-making and revisions to Part C rules, regulations, policies and procedures to ensure congruence with the revised IAA and September 2011 Part C Regulations; and 4) a new activity was added related to the development/implementation of an online training and technical assistance module for Part C timeline requirements. These revisions are in the February 1, 2012 revised version of the SPP posted on the Vermont Part C website:

http://dcf.vermont.gov/cdd/reports/IDEA Part C.

### Part C State Annual Performance Report (APR) for FFY 2010

Overview of the Annual Performance Report Development: Please see description on pages 3 and 4.

Monitoring Priority: Effective General Supervision Part C / Effective Transition

**Indicator 8B:** Percent of all children exiting Part C who received timely transition planning to support the child's transition to preschool and other appropriate community services by their third birthday including:

A Notification to LEA, if child potentially eligible for Part B;

(20 U.S.C. 1416(a)(3)(B) and 1442)

#### Measurement:

Percent = [(# of children exiting Part C and potentially eligible for Part B where the notification to the LEA occurred) divided by the (# of children exiting Part C who were potentially eligible for Part B)] times 100.

FFY	Measurable and Rigorous Target
2010 (7/1/10-6/30/11)	100%

#### **Actual Target Data for FFY 2010:**

98%

Data Method/Source: Desk audit of entire Part C State Database, July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011

#### Children Exiting Part C who Received Timely Transition Planning (Notification to LEA):

a. Number of children exiting Part C and potentially eligible for Part B where the notification to the LEA occurred	587
b. Number of children exiting Part C who were potentially eligible for Part B	597
Percent of all children exiting Part C who received timely transition planning to support the child's transition to preschool and other appropriate community services by their third birthday (Notification to LEA) (Percent = [(a) divided by (b)] times 100)	98%

In Vermont, children exiting Part C who received special instruction, developmental therapy services or speech services through an IFSP/One Plan are (automatically) eligible for Part B, Essential Early Education (EEE-VT's Early Childhood Special Education) without the need for additional evaluation. Children who did not receive special instruction, developmental therapy or speech services through an IFSP, <u>may potentially be eligible</u> for EEE services if the Evaluation and Planning Team determines that the child has a medical condition which may result in significant delays by the time of the child's sixth birthday. Vermont rules state that Part C's timely notification to Part B is at least six months prior to the child's third birthday.

The local education agencies (LEAs) received timely notification from Part C CIS-EI for 587 of 597 children potentially eligible for Part B. 120 of the 597 children potentially eligible for Part B were referred seven months or sooner prior to their third birthday. State CIS-EI staff verified with all 12 CIS-EIPs that a written notification occurred as soon as possible upon determination of Part C eligibility for all 120 children. These 120 children are in the numerator and denominator.

# Discussion of Improvement Activities Completed <u>and</u> Explanation of Progress or Slippage that occurred in FFY 2010:

Vermont Part C demonstrated 98% compliance during FFY 2010, a slight decrease from the 99% compliance reported in FFY 2009. Notification to the LEA for 10 children potentially eligible for Part B was not timely in five regional CIS-EIPs due to staff error in calculating notification due dates. State CIS-EI staff were able to verify immediately through a desk audit of the monthly data forms and in follow up communication with staff in the five programs that notification, although late, did occur for these 10 children.

Some FFY 2010 noncompliance was identified in the regional CIS-EIP in which LEAs provide early intervention services, including service coordination. The CIS-EIP Director continued her efforts to provide information and support related to transition for all Part C and B staff involved in providing early intervention services. Discussions under Indicators 1 and 7 highlighted specific strategies that the director of this CIS-EIP implemented to ensure compliance in all service areas. This regional CIS-EIP achieved 98% compliance in FFY 2010, progress from 97% compliance in FFY 2009.

Improvement activities discussed in Indicator 8A apply to Indicator 8B.

### Verification of Correction of FFY 2009 Noncompliance Reported in the 2009 APR:

As reported in the 2009 APR, two regional CIS-EIPs demonstrated noncompliance based on analysis of the entire 2009 Child Count Database in FFY 2009 APR. CIS-EIP 4 was at 97% compliance (125/129) and CIS-EIP 7 was at 97% compliance (37/38). This noncompliance was corrected prior to issuing written findings of noncompliance.

Consistent with OSEP Memorandum 09-02, dated October 17, 2008 (OSEP Memo 09-02): 1) In a desk audit of data from the first quarter of the 2010 Child Count Database (December 2009 to February 2010), CIS-EIPs 1 and 7 achieved 100% compliance for 60 consecutive days, indicating that the programs were correctly implementing the transition requirements in 34 CFR §303.148(b)(1); and 2) Part C state staff verified immediately upon review of the 2009 Child Count forms (the data source for identifying the noncompliance) and in following up with the staff in CIS-EIPs 1 and 7 that, although notification was late, it did occur for the 5 children in these programs.

#### Verification of Correction of FFY 2010 Noncompliance Reported in this 2010 APR:

Four regional CIS-EIPs that demonstrated noncompliance based on analysis of the entire Part C State Database (July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011) corrected the noncompliance prior to being issued written findings of noncompliance. CIS-EIP 4 was at 98% compliance (129/132), CIS-EIP 6 at 98% compliance (52/53), CIS-EIP 11 at 95% compliance (38/40) and CIS-EIP 12 at 96% compliance (26/27).

Consistent with OSEP Memorandum 09-02, dated October 17, 2008 (OSEP Memo 09-02): 1) In a desk audit of updated data from the first and second quarters of the 2011 State Database (July 2011 to November 2011), CIS-EIPs 4, 6, 11 and 12 achieved 100% compliance for 60 consecutive days, indicating that these four programs are correctly implementing the transition requirements in 34 CFR §303.148(b)(1); and 2) Part C state staff verified in a desk audit of monthly child count forms and conference calls with staff in the five programs that, although notification was late, it did occur for the 7 children in these programs.

Additional updated data gathered during the second quarter of FFY 2011 further indicated that CIS-EIP 4 is correctly implementing the transition requirements for Indicator 8B. During November 2011, state CIS-EI/CIS staff conducted an onsite file review of records of children who exited this program between July 1, 2011 and November 15, 2011. Regional CIS-EIP 4 demonstrated 100% compliance (22/22 files).

As discussed in the Overview on page 3, one new finding of noncompliance that had an impact on statewide compliance for this indicator in FFY 2010 was issued in FFY 2011 and will be reported on in the FFY 2011 APR submitted February 2013.

#### Additional Information Required by the OSEP APR Response Table for this Indicator:

Statement from the Response Table	State's Response
If the State does not report 100% compliance in the FFY 2010 APR, the State must review its improvement activities and revise them, if necessary.	During FFY 2010, state Children's Integrated Services staff began developing an online technical assistance and training module clarifying Part C timeline requirements for all CIS personnel. This module is anticipated to be completed in spring 2012. Revisions to Indicator 8 are documented below and in the February 1, 2012 revised version of the SPP posted on the Vermont Part C website: <a href="http://dcf.vermont.gov/cdd/reports/IDEA_Part_C">http://dcf.vermont.gov/cdd/reports/IDEA_Part_C</a>

# Revisions, <u>with Justification</u>, to Proposed Targets / Improvement Activities / Timelines / Resources for FFY 2011:

Revisions to Indicator 8: 1) The timeline for full implementation of the electronic data management system was revised from December 2011 to September 15, 2012 (see Overview, page 3); 2) the timeline for revisions to the Part C-B Interagency Agreement and submission for approval to OSEP was revised to March 2012 to meet OSEP timeline for submission with the Part C Application; 3) a new activity was added related to legislative rule-making and revisions to Part C rules, regulations, policies and procedures to ensure congruence with the revised IAA and September 2011 Part C Regulations; and 4) a new activity was added related to the development/implementation of an online training and technical assistance module for Part C timeline requirements. These revisions are in the February 1, 2012 revised version of the SPP posted on the Vermont Part C website:

http://dcf.vermont.gov/cdd/reports/IDEA Part C.

### Part C State Annual Performance Report (APR) for FFY 2010

Overview of the Annual Performance Report Development: Please see description on pages 3 and 4.

### Monitoring Priority: Effective General Supervision Part C / Effective Transition

**Indicator 8C:** Percent of all children exiting Part C who received timely transition planning to support the child's transition to preschool and other appropriate community services by their third birthday including:

C. Transition conference, if child potentially eligible for Part B.

(20 U.S.C. 1416(a)(3)(B) and 1442)

#### Measurement:

Percent = [(# of children exiting Part C and potentially eligible for Part B where the transition conference occurred) divided by the (# of children exiting Part C who were potentially eligible for Part B)] times 100.

Account for untimely transition conferences, including reasons for delays.

FFY	Measurable and Rigorous Target
2010 (7/1/10-6/30/11)	100%

#### **Actual Target Data for FFY 2010:**

99%

Data Method/Source: Desk audit of entire Part C State Database, July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011

### Children Exiting Part C Who Received Timely Transition Planning (Transition Conference):

a. Number of children exiting Part C and potentially eligible for Part B where the transition conference occurred	587
b. Number of children exiting Part C who were potentially eligible for Part B	*593
Percent of all children exiting Part C who received timely transition planning to support the child's transition to preschool and other appropriate community services by their third birthday (Transition Conference) (Percent = [(a) divided by (b)] times 100)	99%

\*Although there were 597 children exiting Part C and potentially eligible for Part B, 4 families did not provide the requisite approval for holding the transition conference in two regional EIPs. Therefore, these 4 children are not included in either the numerator or denominator in calculating compliance for 8C.

The transition conference was timely for 413 of the 593 children potentially eligible for Part B services and whose families provided the requisite approval. There were 103 children for whom the transition conference did not occur in a timely way due to exceptional family circumstances. These 103 children are included in the numerator and the denominator. Exceptional family circumstances included cancellations, requests to delay, family illness, and child hospitalization. State CIS-EI staff confirmed that these transition conferences, although late, did occur. 68 children whose referral to Part C occurred fewer than 120 days prior to their third birthday, and whose transition conferences occurred as soon as Part C eligibility was established, also are included in the numerator and denominator. There were 3 children whose families chose to delay the conference so that the LEA personnel could attend the transition conference in person when scheduling conflicts prevented them from participating in the originally-scheduled conference. These 3 children are included in the numerator and denominator.

Timely transition conferences did not occur for 6 children in three regional CIS-EIPs due to scheduling conflicts for LEA personnel. State Part C staff verified that transition conferences ultimately did occur for these six children between 83 and 10 days prior to the children's third birthdays. In some instances, the child's IEP meeting was combined with the transition conference.

# Discussion of Improvement Activities Completed <u>and</u> Explanation of Progress or Slippage that occurred in FFY 2010:

Vermont Part C demonstrated 99% compliance in FFY 2010, progress from 98% compliance in FFY 2009.

The 2009 APR discussed the fact that 9 of 10 instances of noncompliance occurred in the region in which partner LEAs provide services and the CIS-EIP provides services for the greatest number of Vermont's infants and toddlers and their families. Given the continued vigilance of this program's director and her implementation of specific strategies to monitor compliance with all transition requirements, this program went from 93% compliance in FFY 2009 to 98% compliance in FFY 2010.

Improvement activities discussed in Indicator 8A apply to Indicator 8C.

#### Verification of Correction of FFY 2009 Noncompliance Reported in the 2009 APR:

As reported in the 2009 APR, two regional CIS-EIPs demonstrated noncompliance based on analysis of the entire 2009 Child Count Database used for reporting statewide data for Indicator 8C. CIS-EIP 4 was at 93% (120/129) and CIS-EIP 9 was at 97% (36/37). This noncompliance was corrected prior to issuing written findings of noncompliance.

Consistent with OSEP Memorandum 09-02, dated October 17, 2008 (OSEP Memo 09-02): 1) In a desk audit of data from the first quarter of the 2010 Child Count Database (December 2009 to February 2010), CIS-EIPs 4 and 9 achieved 100% compliance for 60 consecutive days, indicating that the programs were correctly implementing the transition requirements in 34 CFR §303.148(b)(2)(i) (as modified by IDEA section 637(a)(9)(A)(ii)(II)); and 2) Part C state staff verified immediately upon review of the 2009 Child Count forms (the data source for identifying the noncompliance) and in following up with the staff in CIS-EIPs 4 and 9 that, although late, the transition conferences occurred for all 10 children between 85 and 8 days prior to their third birthdays. Personnel scheduling conflicts and the unavoidable delay in hiring another service coordinator to share a staff member's workload resulted in noncompliance.

#### Verification of Correction of FFY 2010 Noncompliance Reported in this 2010 APR:

Two regional CIS-EIPs that demonstrated noncompliance based on analysis of the entire Part C State Database (July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011) corrected the noncompliance prior to being issued written

findings of noncompliance. CIS-EIP 4 was at 98% compliance (129/132) and CIS-EIP 12 at 96% compliance (26/27).

Consistent with OSEP Memorandum 09-02, dated October 17, 2008 (OSEP Memo 09-02): 1) in a desk audit of updated data from the first and second quarters of the 2011 State Database (July 2011 to November 2011), CIS-EIPs 4 and 12 achieved 100% compliance for 60 consecutive days, indicating that the programs are correctly implementing the transition requirements in 34 CFR §303.148(b)(2)(i) (as modified by IDEA section 637(a)(9)(A)(ii)(II)); and 2) Part C state staff, in a desk audit of monthly child count forms and in following up with staff in the two regional CIS-EIPs, verified immediately that, although late, the transition conferences occurred for the 4 children between 83 and 10 days prior to their third birthdays. As noted above, the delays were attributable to LEA scheduling conflicts.

Additional updated data gathered during the second quarter of FFY 2011 further indicated that CIS-EIP 4 is correctly implementing the transition requirements for Indicator 8C. During November 2011, state CIS-EI/CIS staff conducted an onsite file review of records of children who exited this program between July 1, 2011 and November 15, 2011. Regional CIS-EIP 4 demonstrated 100% compliance (22/22 files).

As discussed in the Overview on page 3, one new finding of noncompliance that had an impact on statewide compliance for this indicator in FFY 2010 was issued in FFY 2011 and will be reported on in the FFY 2011 APR submitted February 2013.

#### Additional Information Required by the OSEP APR Response Table for this Indicator:

Statement from the Response Table	State's Response
If the State does not report 100% compliance in the FFY 2010 APR, the State must review its improvement activities and revise them, if necessary.	During FFY 2010, state Children's Integrated Services staff began developing an online technical assistance and training module clarifying Part C timeline requirements for all CIS personnel. This module is anticipated to be completed in spring 2012. Revisions to Indicator 8 are documented below and in the February 1, 2012 revised version of the SPP posted on the Vermont Part C website: <a href="http://dcf.vermont.gov/cdd/reports/IDEA_Part_C">http://dcf.vermont.gov/cdd/reports/IDEA_Part_C</a>

# Revisions, <u>with Justification</u>, to Proposed Targets / Improvement Activities / Timelines / Resources for FFY 2011:

Revisions to Indicator 8: 1) The timeline for full implementation of the electronic data management system was revised from December 2011 to September 15, 2012 (see Overview, page 3); 2) the timeline for revisions to the Part C-B Interagency Agreement and submission for approval to OSEP was revised to March 2012 to meet OSEP timeline for submission with the Part C Application; 3) a new activity was added related to legislative rule-making and revisions to Part C rules, regulations, policies and procedures to ensure congruence with the revised IAA and September 2011 Part C Regulations; and 4) a new activity was added related to the development/implementation of an online training and technical assistance module for Part C timeline requirements. These revisions are in the February 1, 2012 revised version of the SPP posted on the Vermont Part C website: http://dcf.vermont.gov/cdd/reports/IDEA Part C.

### Part C State Annual Performance Report (APR) for FFY 2010

Overview of the Annual Performance Report Development: Please see description on pages 3 and 4.

Monitoring Priority: Effective General Supervision Part C / General Supervision

**Indicator 9:** General supervision system (including monitoring, complaints, hearings, etc.) identifies and corrects noncompliance as soon as possible but in no case later than one year from identification.

(20 U.S.C. 1416 (a)(3)(B) and 1442)

#### Measurement:

Percent of noncompliance corrected within one year of identification:

- a. # of findings of noncompliance.
- b. # of corrections completed as soon as possible but in no case later than one year from identification.

Percent = [(b) divided by (a)] times 100.

States are required to use the "Indicator C 9 Worksheet" to report data for this indicator (see Attachment A).

FFY	Measurable and Rigorous Target
2010 7/1/10-6/30/11)	100%

#### Actual Target Data for FFY 2010: NA

As Vermont Part C reported in the FFY 2009 APR, we identified no new findings of noncompliance for FFY 2009. All noncompliance identified in FFY 2009 was corrected prior to issuing written findings of noncompliance. Since Vermont Part C had no findings in FFY 2009 to correct in FFYs 2009 or 2010, we are not attaching the Indicator C-9 Worksheet (Attachment 1) with this FFY 2010 APR.

**Data sources for identifying noncompliance in FFY 2009:** 2009 Child Count Database,12/2/08 to 12/1/09; ECO Family Survey conducted spring FFY 2010.

Data sources for verifying correction of noncompliance prior to issuing written notification of findings: 2010 Child Count Database, 12/2/09 to 12/1/10; Annual Self-Assessment conducted by regional CIS-EIPs.

**Describe the process for selecting EIS programs for Monitoring:** Vermont Part C monitored all 12 CIS-EIPs during FFY 2009 by: 1) conducting a comprehensive desk audit of the entire 2009 Child Count Database, and 2) analyzing results of the ECO Family Survey conducted in all 12 CIS-EI regions in spring 2010.

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# Discussion of Improvement Activities Completed <u>and</u> Explanation of Progress or Slippage that Occurred for FFY 2010:

Vermont did not issue findings of noncompliance in FFY 2009. Any noncompliance identified was corrected prior to issuing written findings of noncompliance (see "Verification of Correction of FFY 2009 Noncompliance Reported in the 2009 APR" below). As discussed previously in this 2010 APR, Vermont Part C continued to collect, analyze and report data for the 618, APR and SPP reports using a manual data management system that has substantial checks and balances to ensure data is timely and accurate. Although work on the underdevelopment CIS electronic data management system was delayed due to the impact of Tropical Storm Irene on the Agency of Human Services' IT system, the electronic statewide billing system implemented in FFY 2009 continued to provide a mechanism for verifying that data were complete and accurate. The availability of state CIS-EI staff whose majority of time is dedicated to data management has significantly increased VT Part C's ability to collect, enter, verify and report data. During FFYs 2009 and 2010, along with ensuring timely and accurate submission of monthly child count data and data entry for July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011, data management staff further refined the system for timely, accurate, and complete submission of Child Outcomes data. As reported in Indicator 3, this resulted in maintaining in FFY 2010 a high percentage of returns for Child Outcomes data.

Vermont Part C CIS-EI continued to refine its determination process in FFY 2010. Data management staff developed a scoring system to evaluate each regional CIS-EIP's performance in consistently submitting data to the state office that are on time, complete and accurate. As reported previously in this 2010 APR, data management staff conducted onsite visits to provide technical assistance to three programs whose performance did not meet the scoring criteria and provided specific technical assistance. As reported in Indicator 4, state CIS-EI staff also developed for use in the determination process a rating system with justifications to support regional CIS-EIPs in identifying challenging trends in four years' worth of their family outcomes data. As a result, technical assistance was provided to three regional CIS-EIPs and FFY 2010 data demonstrated improvement for all three programs.

The Vermont Part C State Performance Plan and Part C policies and procedures provide a foundation for Vermont's Children's Integrated Services. Part C's APRs and Public Reporting documenting the substantial amount of state and regional data continue to inform the implementation of Children's Integrated Services. In November 2010, all CIS services were required to use the One Plan/IFSP, which was developed and reviewed by service providers from all CIS services. As discussed in the compliance indicators, in FFY 2010 the state CIS Team required all CIS providers to comply with the Part C timelines for service provision, including transition, and provided technical assistance related to the timeline provisions via the CIS blog, during conference calls, through the CIS listsery, and during monthly meetings of the CIS Intake Coordinators. As noted previously, state CIS staff began developing an online module clarifying the timeline provisions, which is anticipated to go "live" in spring 2012. The state CIS Team also has discussed adapting the Part C determination process for all CIS services, and began to discuss with other state CIS staff adapting and refining the Part C onsite focused monitoring process to encompass all of CIS. Although Vermont Part C CIS-EI did not conduct onsite focused monitoring in FFY 2010 due to lack of staff capacity, onsite focused monitoring is planned in two regional CIS-EI programs in FFY 2011 based on areas of concern identified during the spring 2011 determination process and qualitative data collected since the determination process. The implementation of VFACTS in September 2012 will contribute significantly to VT Part C's ability to conduct onsite focused monitoring.

Children's Integrated Services conducted a two-day statewide conference in December 2011 entitled "Moving CIS Forward." A significant part of the conference was devoted to Child Outcomes and the development of functional and meaningful child and family outcomes. Vermont Part C brought Larry Edelman to Vermont in February 2011 for a two-day statewide applied workshop focused on the effective use of technology in providing services. Mr. Edelman conducted follow-up conference calls/webinars to provide technical assistance as workshop participants used some of the technology presented during the workshop. During FFY 2010, Part C CIS-EI and Part B Preschool SEA staff continued to provide statewide professional development as part of Vermont's Foundations for Early Learning (FEL – VT's name for its combination of the national professional efforts, CSEFEL and CELL). As part of FEL, Dr.

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Tweety Yates conducted a workshop in Vermont on Home Visiting and Playgroups, highlighting the PIWI model (Parents Interacting with Infants).

In late FFY 2010, a state Part C CIS-EI staff member attended the national workshop "Streamlining and Integrating Part C General Supervision." This workshop was extremely beneficial, and it is anticipated that the information and materials provided will contribute significantly to enhancing Vermont Part C's/CIS's General Supervision system.

With the release of the September 2011 Part C Regulations and impending revisions to the Part C-B Interagency Agreement and Part C rules, regulations, policies and procedures, the timeline for completion of Vermont Part C's General Supervision Manual was moved to FFY 2012 to ensure congruence with the revised Part C-B IAA and new/revised Part C rules, regulations, policies and procedures.

Information regarding the correction of noncompliance reported related to specific indicators and reported in the 2009 APR is under Indicators 1, 7, 8A, 8B and 8C in this 2010 APR.

# Revisions, <u>with Justification</u>, to Proposed Targets / Improvement Activities / Timelines / Resources for 2011:

Revisions to Indicator 9: 1) The timeline for full implementation of the electronic data management system was revised from December 2011 to September 15, 2012 (see Overview, page 3); 2) the timeline for revisions to the Part C-B Interagency Agreement and submission for approval to OSEP was revised to March 2012 to meet OSEP timeline for submission with the Part C Application; 3) a new activity was added related to legislative rule-making and revisions to Part C rules, regulations, policies and procedures to ensure congruence with the revised IAA and September 2011 Part C Regulations; 4) the timeline for development of the General Supervision Manual was revised from Fall 2011 to FFY 2012 to ensure congruence with the revised Part C-B Interagency Agreement and VT Part C policies and procedures; and 4) a new activity was added related to the development/implementation of an online training and technical assistance module for Part C timeline requirements. These revisions are in the February 1, 2012 revised version of the SPP posted on the Vermont Part C website: http://dcf.vermont.gov/cdd/reports/IDEA Part C.

### Part C State Annual Performance Report (APR) for FFY 2010

Overview of the Annual Performance Report Development: Please see description on pages 3 and 4.

Monitoring Priority: Effective General Supervision Part C / General Supervision

**Indicator 10:** Percent of signed written complaints with reports issued that were resolved within 60-day timeline or a timeline extended for exceptional circumstances with respect to a particular complaint.

(20 U.S.C. 1416(a)(3)(B) and 1442)

**Measurement:** Percent = [(1.1(b) + 1.1(c))] divided by 1.1] times 100.

FFY	Measurable and Rigorous Target
2010 7/1/10-6/30/11)	100%

**Actual Target Data for FFY 2010:** There were no signed written complaints for the Part C program during this reporting period. This is consistent with Vermont's 618 data reported in Table 4 and submitted 10/21/11.

# Discussion of Improvement Activities Completed <u>and</u> Explanation of Progress or Slippage that occurred for FFY 2010:

Part C continued to collaborate with Part B to support Part B's improvement activities. As reported in Indicator 4, Outcome 4A, *Percent of Families participating in Part C who report that early intervention services have helped the family know their rights*, was slightly below the state target in FFY 2010 on the ECO Family Outcomes Survey. State Part C CIS-EI staff, as part of the determination process conducted in spring 2011, identified regional CIS-EIPs that demonstrated challenging trends in their data based on analysis of four years' worth of Family Outcomes data, made recommendations, and provided targeted technical assistance during FFY 2010.

# Revisions, <u>with Justification</u>, to Proposed Targets / Improvement Activities / Timelines / Resources for FFY 2011:

Revisions to Indicator 10: 1) the timeline for revisions to the Part C-B Interagency Agreement and submission for approval to OSEP was revised to March 2012 to meet OSEP timeline for submission with the Part C Application; and 2) a new activity was added related to legislative rule-making and revisions to Part C rules, regulations, policies and procedures to ensure congruence with the revised IAA and September 2011 Part C Regulations. These revisions are in the February 1, 2012 revised version of the SPP posted on the Vermont Part C website: http://dcf.vermont.gov/cdd/reports/IDEA Part C.

### Part C State Annual Performance Report (APR) for FFY 2010

Overview of the Annual Performance Report Development: Please see description on pages 3 and 4.

Monitoring Priority: Effective General Supervision Part C / General Supervision

**Indicator 11:** Percent of fully adjudicated due process hearing requests that were fully adjudicated within the applicable timeline.

(20 U.S.C. 1416(a)(3)(B) and 1442)

**Measurement:** Percent = [(3.2(a) + 3.2(b))] divided by 3.2 times 100.

FFY	Measurable and Rigorous Target
2010 7/1/10-6/30/11)	100%

**Actual Target Data for FFY 2010:** There were no hearing requests and no adjudications for the Part C program during this reporting period. This is consistent with Vermont's 618 data reported in Table 4 and submitted 10/21/11.

Part C continued to collaborate with Part B to support Part B's improvement activities. As reported in Indicator 4, Outcome 4A, *Percent of Families participating in Part C who report that early intervention services have helped the family know their rights*, was slightly below the state target in FFY 2010 on the ECO Family Outcomes Survey. State Part C CIS-EI staff, as part of the determination process conducted in spring 2011, identified regional CIS-EIPs that demonstrated challenging trends in their data based on analysis of four years' worth of Family Outcomes data, made recommendations, and provided targeted technical assistance during FFY 2010.

# Revisions, <u>with Justification</u>, to Proposed Targets / Improvement Activities / Timelines / Resources for FFY 2011:

Revisions to Indicator 11: 1) the timeline for revisions to the Part C-B Interagency Agreement and submission for approval to OSEP was revised to March 2012 to meet OSEP timeline for submission with the Part C Application; and 2) a new activity was added related to legislative rule-making and revisions to Part C rules, regulations, policies and procedures to ensure congruence with the revised IAA and September 2011 Part C Regulations. These revisions are in the February 1, 2012 revised version of the SPP posted on the Vermont Part C website: <a href="http://dcf.vermont.gov/cdd/reports/IDEA\_Part\_C">http://dcf.vermont.gov/cdd/reports/IDEA\_Part\_C</a>.

### Part C State Annual Performance Report (APR) for FFY 2010

Overview of the Annual Performance Report Development: Please see description on pages 3 and 4.

Monitoring Priority: Effective General Supervision Part C / General Supervision

**Indicator 12:** Percent of hearing requests that went to resolution sessions that were resolved through resolution session settlement agreements (applicable if Part B due process procedures are adopted).

(20 U.S.C. 1416(a)(3)(B) and 1442)

**Measurement:** Percent = (3.1(a) divided by 3.1) times 100.

FFY	Measurable and Rigorous Target
2010 7/1/10-6/30/11)	Coordinate with and support Part B Targets

Actual Target Data for FFY 2010: There were no Part C requests for hearings that went to resolution sessions that were resolved through resolution settlement agreements during this reporting period. This is consistent with Vermont's 618 data reported in Table 4 and submitted 10/21/11.

Part C continued to collaborate with Part B to support Part B's improvement activities. As reported in Indicator 4, Outcome 4A, *Percent of Families participating in Part C who report that early intervention services have helped the family know their rights*, was slightly below the state target in FFY 2010 on the ECO Family Outcomes Survey. State Part C CIS-EI staff, as part of the determination process conducted in spring 2011, identified regional CIS-EIPs that demonstrated challenging trends in their data based on analysis of four years' worth of Family Outcomes data, made recommendations, and provided targeted technical assistance during FFY 2010.

# Revisions, <u>with Justification</u>, to Proposed Targets / Improvement Activities / Timelines / Resources for FFY 2011:

Revisions to Indicator 12: 1) the timeline for revisions to the Part C-B Interagency Agreement and submission for approval to OSEP was revised to March 2012 to meet OSEP timeline for submission with the Part C Application; and 2) a new activity was added related to legislative rule-making and revisions to Part C rules, regulations, policies and procedures to ensure congruence with the revised IAA and September 2011 Part C Regulations. These revisions are in the February 1, 2012 revised version of the SPP posted on the Vermont Part C website: <a href="http://dcf.vermont.gov/cdd/reports/IDEA\_Part\_C">http://dcf.vermont.gov/cdd/reports/IDEA\_Part\_C</a>.

### Part C State Annual Performance Report (APR) for FFY 2010

Overview of the Annual Performance Report Development: Please see description on pages 3 and 4.

Monitoring Priority: Effective General Supervision Part C / General Supervision

Indicator 13: Percent of mediations held that resulted in mediation agreements.

(20 U.S.C. 1416(a)(3)(B) and 1442)

**Measurement:** Percent = [(2.1(a)(i) + 2.1(b)(i))] divided by 2.1] times 100.

FFY	Measurable and Rigorous Target
2010 7/1/10-6/30/11)	Assist Part B in promoting mediation and in reaching Part B Targets

**Actual Target Data for FFY 2010:** There were no mediation requests for Part C that resulted in mediation agreements during this reporting period. These Indicator 13 data are consistent with Vermont's 618 data reported in Table 4 and submitted 10/21/11.

Part C continued to collaborate with Part B to support Part B's improvement activities. As reported in Indicator 4, Outcome 4A, *Percent of Families participating in Part C who report that early intervention services have helped the family know their rights*, was slightly below the state target in FFY 2010 on the ECO Family Outcomes Survey. State Part C CIS-EI staff, as part of the determination process conducted in spring 2011, identified regional CIS-EIPs that demonstrated challenging trends in their data based on analysis of four years' worth of Family Outcomes data, made recommendations, and provided targeted technical assistance during FFY 2010.

# Revisions, <u>with Justification</u>, to Proposed Targets / Improvement Activities / Timelines / Resources for FFY 2011:

Revisions to Indicator 13: 1) the timeline for revisions to the Part C-B Interagency Agreement and submission for approval to OSEP was revised to March 2012 to meet OSEP timeline for submission with the Part C Application; and 2) a new activity was added related to legislative rule-making and revisions to Part C rules, regulations, policies and procedures to ensure congruence with the revised IAA and September 2011 Part C Regulations. These revisions are in the February 1, 2012 revised version of the SPP posted on the Vermont Part C website: http://dcf.vermont.gov/cdd/reports/IDEA Part C.

### Part C State Annual Performance Report (APR) for FFY 2010

Overview of the Annual Performance Report Development: Please see description on pages 3 and 4.

Monitoring Priority: Effective General Supervision Part C / General Supervision

**Indicator 14:** State reported data (618 and State Performance Plan and Annual Performance Report) are timely and accurate.

(20 U.S.C. 1416(a)(3)(B) and 1442)

**Measurement:** State reported data, including 618 data, State performance plan, and annual performance reports, are:

- a. Submitted on or before due dates (February 1 for child count and settings and November 1 for exiting and dispute resolution); and
- b. Accurate, including covering the correct year and following the correct measurement.

States are required to use the "Indicator 14 Data Rubric" for reporting data for this indicator (see Attachment B).

FFY	Measurable and Rigorous Target
2010 7/1/10-6/30/11)	100%

Actual Target Data for FFY 2010: 100% See Attachment 2: Part C Indicator 14 Data Rubric.

Tables 1, 2, 3 and 4 of the 618 reports were submitted prior to the February 1<sup>st</sup> and November 1<sup>st</sup> due dates and accurate. The State Performance Plan-Revised and 2009 APR were submitted prior to the February 1<sup>st</sup> due date and were accurate.

Discussion of Improvement Activities Completed <u>and</u> Explanation of Progress or Slippage that occurred for FFY 2010:

Vermont Part C has achieved 100% compliance in five of six APR reporting years (VT reported 93% compliance in FFY 2007).

As discussed in the Overview, Vermont Part C continued to use a manual data management system in FFY 2010 and experienced a significant delay in the planned timeline for implementation of its electronic data management system, VFACTS, due to the devastating impact of Tropical Storm Irene. VFACTS now is scheduled for full implementation September 15, 2012. Continued use of an internal system of checks and balances (described in the 2009 APR) ensured that data submitted to DAC and OSEP were timely, valid and reliable. As described in Indicator 1, the FFY 2009 transition to an electronic statewide billing system (Hewlett Packard Enterprise System-HPES) continued to provide a mechanism for verifying that data were complete and accurate. CIS-EI state staff compared on a weekly basis the data entered into the ACCESS database with data entered into the HPES system to check for accuracy and query for any duplicate data. Prior authorizations (PAs) were not approved for children who were not active in the CIS-EI system, and PA requests had to match the frequency of services stated on the current service grid.

During FFY 2010, Data management staff participated in the Data Managers' meeting held during the OSEP Mega Conference and in webinars and conference calls in preparation for submitting the 618 and

# **APR Template - Part C (4)**

Vt-apr-2012c

APR/SPP reports. Regionally, data management staff provided specific technical assistance during FFY 2010 to three CIS-EIPs that experienced challenges in submitting timely and accurate data.

Revisions, <u>with Justification</u>, to Proposed Targets / Improvement Activities / Timelines / Resources for FFY 2011:

The **timeline** for phase-in of the electronic data management system was revised in Indicator 14 from December 2011 to September 15, 2012 (see Overview, page 3). This revision is in the February 1, 2012 revised version of the SPP posted on the Vermont Part C website: <a href="http://dcf.vermont.gov/cdd/reports/IDEA">http://dcf.vermont.gov/cdd/reports/IDEA</a> Part C.

Part C State Annual Performance Report for FFY 2010 (OMB NO: 1820-0578/Expiration Date: 11/30/2012)

Vermont

# **Vermont Part C 2010 APR**

# **Appendix A**

# APR Indicator 4: Revised ECO Family Survey

# FAMILY OUTCOMES SURVEY Revised Version Section A: Family Outcomes

Instructions: Section A of the Family Outcomes Survey focuses on the ways in which you support your child's needs. For each statement below, please select which option best describes your family right now: not at all, a little, somewhat, almost, or completely.		Not at all	A little	Somewhat	Almost	Completely
Out	come 1: Understanding your child's strengths, needs, and abilities					
1.	We know the next steps for our child's growth and learning.	0	0	0	0	0
2.	We understand our child's strengths and abilities.	0	0	0	0	0
3.	We understand our child's delays and/or needs.	0	0	0	0	0
4.	We are able to tell when our child is making progress.	0	0	0	0	0
	come 2: Knowing your rights and advocating for your child					
5.	We are able to find and use the services and programs available to us.	0	0	0	0	0
6.	We know our rights related to our child's special needs.	0	0	0	0	0
7.	We know who to contact and what to do when we have questions or concerns.	0	0	0	0	0
8.	We know what options are available when our child leaves the program.	0	_	0	_	0
9.	We are comfortable asking for services & supports that our child and family need.	0	0	0	0	0
Out	come 3: Helping your child develop and learn					
10.	We are able to help our child get along with others.	0	0	0	0	0
11.	We are able to help our child learn new skills.	0	0	0	0	0
12.	We are able to help our child take care of his/her needs.	0	0	0	0	0
13.	We are able to work on our child's goals during everyday routines.	0	0	0	0	0
Out	come 4: Having support systems					
14.	We are comfortable talking to family and friends about our child's needs.	0	0	0	0	0
15.	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	0	0	0	0	0
16.	We are able to talk with other families who have a child with similar needs.	0	0	0	0	0
17.	We have friends or family members we can rely on when we need help.	0	0	0	0	0
	I am able to take care of my own needs and do things I enjoy.	0	0	0	0	0
Out	come 5: Accessing the community					
19.	Our child participates in social, recreational, or religious activities that we want.	0	0	0	0	0
20.	We are able to do things we enjoy together as a family.	0	0	0	0	0
21.		0	0	0	0	0
22.		0	0	0	0	0
23.	Our transportation needs are met.	0	0	0	0	0
24.	Our food, clothing, and housing needs are met.	0	0	0	0	0



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