

# Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts (AOIC) Illinois Child Protection Data Courts (CPDC) Project

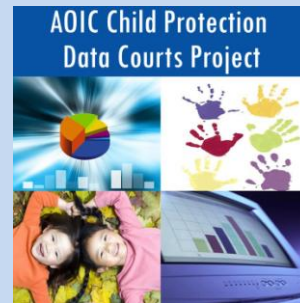
## Types of CPDC Data Collected



- *Child Safety While Under Court Jurisdiction*
- *Child Safety after Release from Court Jurisdiction*
- *Achievement of Child Permanency*
- *Children not Reaching Permanency*
- *Number Judicial Officers per Case*
- *Service of Process to Parties*
- *Appointment of Advocates for Children*
- *Early Appointment of Counsel for Parents*
- *Presence of Advocates during Hearings*
- *Changes in Advocates for Children*
- *Changes in Counsel for Parents*
- *Time to Permanent Placement*
- *Time to Adjudication and Timeliness of Adjudication*
- *Time to Disposition Hearing*
- *Time to First Permanency Hearing*
- *Time to Termination of Parental Rights Petition*
- *Time to Termination of Parental Rights*
- Additional demographic and case specific characteristics such as: *Incarcerated Parents, Number and Type of Allegations, Number of Putative Fathers, Number of Continuances, Continuance Reasons, Applicability of ICWA and ICPC, Military Parents*



Supreme Court of Illinois  
Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts  
Courts, Children and Families Unit  
Court Services Division



### **PURPOSE:**

The purpose of the Child Protection Data Courts (CPDC) Project is to establish a data collection structure to track nationally recognized child protection court performance measures in order to enable the courts to improve efficiency and effectiveness in ensuring safety, permanency, due process, and timeliness in child protection court cases. The primary long-term goal is to put into operation a statewide, uniform automated data collection and case tracking structure to measure all 30 court performance measures and track outcomes for children and families.

### **PROJECT DESIGN:**

The CPDC Project, established in October 2009, began with partnerships between the AOIC, the National Center for State Courts (NCSC) and Kankakee-Iroquois, Madison, McLean, McHenry, and Winnebago Counties. Original CPDC sites were involved in manual court data collection activities to track 18 of the 30 child protection court performance measures; while one site acted as a test site for automated implementation of the 30 court performance measures. CPDC sites are given comprehensive data reports that provide the foundation for sites to identify strengths and areas needing improvement. With assistance from the AOIC, CPDC sites work to develop data-driven action plans that promote change in local practice to improve the court process in abuse, neglect and dependency proceedings.

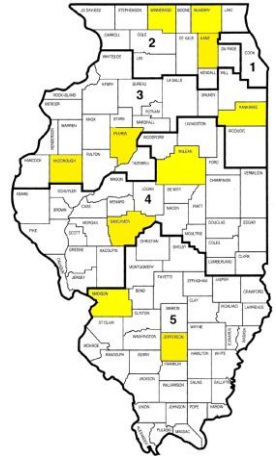
### **PROJECT EXPANSION:**

To further the AOIC's *Child Protection Data Courts (CPDC) Project* initiative, the project was expanded to include five new partnering courts. New CPDC manual data collection project sites included Kane, McDonough, Jefferson and Peoria Counties in July 2013. Sangamon County joined the CPDC Project during the fall 2017.

# Illinois Child Protection Data Courts (CPDC) Project

## Initial Onsite Reviews

The AOIC completed introductory two-day site visits with each CPDC site in order to learn about specific local child protection court practices and business processes. The AOIC conducted: 1) child protection courtroom stakeholder interviews; 2) observed courtroom practice and circuit clerk's office data entry procedures; 3) and reviewed child protection court case files. The site reviews assisted the AOIC in identifying each site's particular strengths and challenges, assessed anticipated technical assistance needs, and began developing a close working relationship.



## Data Training and Data Collection

The AOIC hosted a one day training for CPDC site data coders on the utilization of the data collection instrument and procedure manual. Data coders perform data collection on all closed child protection cases within the current calendar year. Coded cases are submitted to and analyzed by the AOIC and Sophia Gatowski, consultant. The AOIC team conducted local site visits to each CPDC site to perform a round of quality assurance reviews and present detailed and comprehensive data reports and findings.

## CPDC Project Networking Meetings

Additionally, the AOIC hosts annual networking meetings, bringing all CPDC sites together, to engage in collaborative learning, constructive work sessions, information and resource sharing. The AOIC team presents county comparison data, statistically significant findings and reports on the progress of the CPDC automated test process.



## CPDC Data Driven Systems Change

The CPDC sites manually collected court data for 2010-2018. The AOIC team conducted local data presentations of performance measure outcomes for each CPDC site. The AOIC team continues to work with each site to help identify strengths and weaknesses, provide recommendations, and help foster meaningful and sustainable data-driven changes in court practice to improve the quality of the court process for children and families involved in abuse, neglect and dependency proceedings.