



# Permanency Enhancement Project Annual Update

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## **Southern Region St. Clair Action Team**

*This report provides an update of all PEP activities of the **St. Clair Action Team** during Fiscal Year 2015. Information herein is based off of communication and correspondence with key Action Team members. These individuals potentially include action team lead contact persons, PEP regional staff, other division employees, area community members, and families involved in the PEP initiative in the related counties.*

### **Overview**

Due to a delay in the release of funds from the Department of Children and Family Services to the University Partner, SIUE, this fiscal year report does not capture Quarter 1 and Quarter 2 activities.

In Quarter 3, the Division worked with the University Partner (Southern Illinois University Edwardsville- SIUE) to retain faculty researchers and graduate students (who serve in the role of PEP Action Team Community Liaisons) to explore trends in racial disparity and disproportionality as it impacts permanency in the Southern Region of Illinois.

In the month of January, the division provided county level permanency data dating back to Quarter 1 (July 2014-September 2014) and Quarter 2 (October 2014 – December 2014) to SIUE, so that the University research team could analyze trends in permanencies, by age and race, over the periods in question. In the month of May, the division provided permanency data for Quarter 3 (January 2015 – March 2015). This data analysis is provided in a supplementary report including a narrative and Powerpoint Presentation.

In Quarter 4, the University Research Team continued to analyze trends in permanencies, by age and race. They also worked intimately with the action team to increase membership, monitor activities, and develop initiative to further enhance their works to reduce disparity and disproportionality within the child welfare system.

In addition to analyzing permanency data, the PEP Community Liaisons (University graduate assistants) contacted representatives who had been identified as leaders of the **St. Clair Action**

Team and explored PEP goal accomplishments and activities. Communication with the following individuals occurred on the following dates:

Name	Role in DCFS or PEP Action Team	Date(s) of Contact
James Tooles	St. Clair Action Team Co-Chair	April 2015
Vendetta Dennis	St. Clair Action Team Co-Chair	April 2015 May 2015

### **Action Team Status**

Explanation Early interactions with the St. Clair Action Team revealed that it was active. The Action Team held quarterly meetings and sponsors community events.

During Quarter 4 the Action Team noted improvements in metrics regarding the time to adjudication. In order to continue improving permanency outcomes for children and families, the members of the St. Clair County Action Team have expressed interest in working closely with the Madison County Action Team. Many of the children involved in the system in the area are likely to go between the two counties, and it would benefit families for both Action Teams to align their goals. Many different initiatives are being considered such as the Fathers First Initiative to help bring families and providers together.

### **Annual Action Team Activities**

Team meeting(s) held: March 2015; June 2015 at the St. Clair County Courthouse in Belleville, IL

### **Annual Action Team Goals**

1. Identify and work to meet the specific needs of the community's population
2. Establish and maintain a relationship with the judicial system

### **Fiscal Year 2016 Intentions**

For the next fiscal year, the Action Team plans to pursue the following:

1. Work in conjunction with the Madison County Action Team to help align fiscal year goals
2. Establish and maintain relationship with the judicial system including State's Attorney
3. Work to revitalize the Fathers First Initiative

The University Partner will continue to support these efforts by:

1. By helping the action team understand data trends
2. Maintain communication with action team members and division leaders
3. Provide guidance on the implementation of action team goals

# Permanency Enhancement Project: St. Clair Action Team Report FY 2015

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Compiled by Megan Arnett

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## Goals of Permanency Enhancement Project

1. Improve permanency
2. Reduce racial disproportionality
3. Reduce racial disparities
4. Reduce overrepresentation of African Americans in the child welfare system

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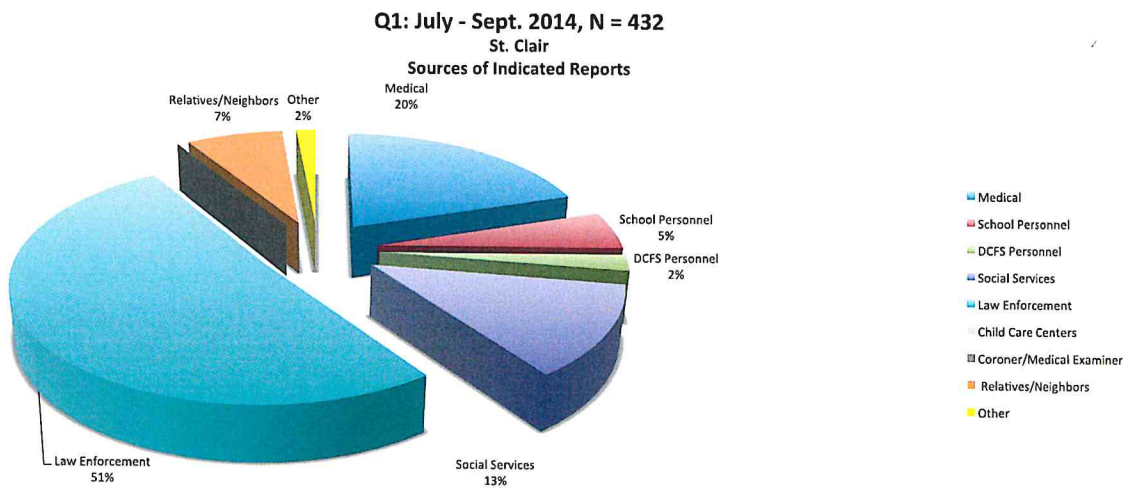
# Sources of Indicated Reports

## St. Clair Action Team

FY 2014/2015: Quarter 1 – Quarter 4



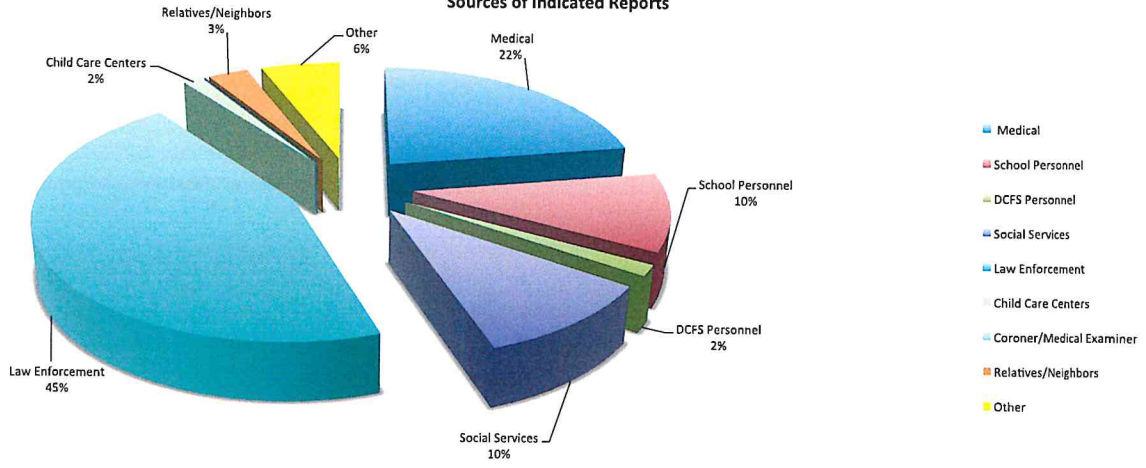
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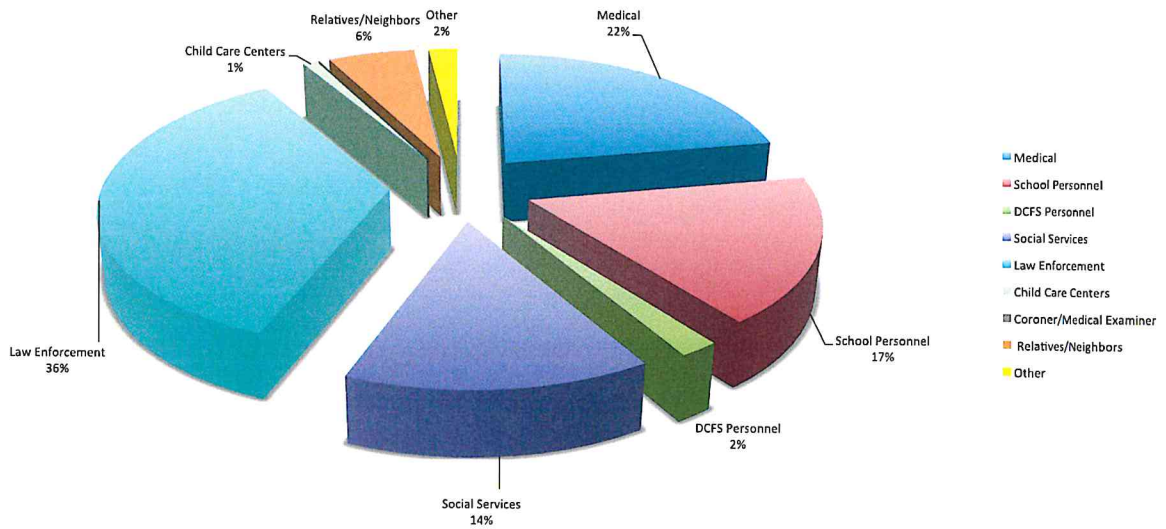
**Q2: Oct. - Dec. 2014, N = 76**  
**St. Clair**

**Sources of Indicated Reports**



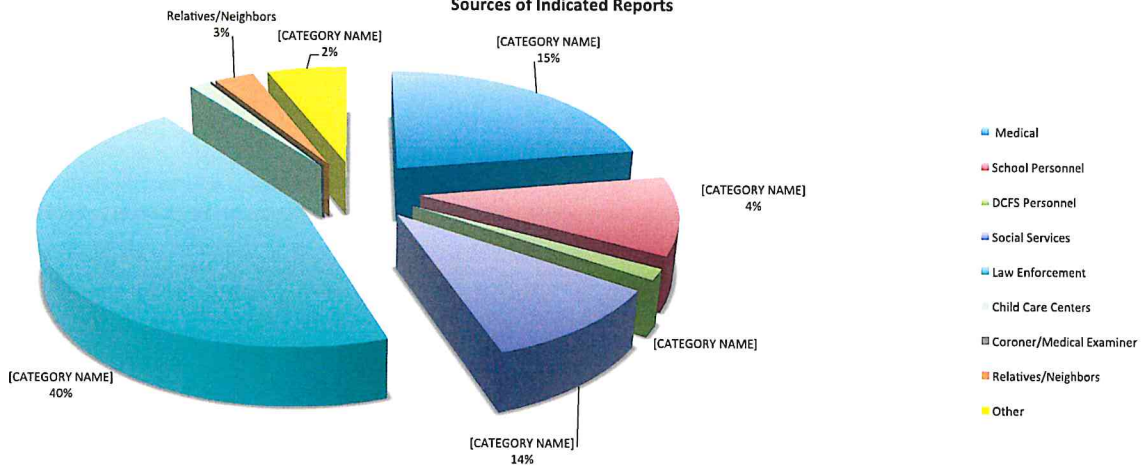
**Q3: Jan. - March 2015, N = 133**  
**St. Clair**

**Sources of Indicated Reports**



**Q4: April - June 2015, N =71**  
**St. Clair**

**Sources of Indicated Reports**



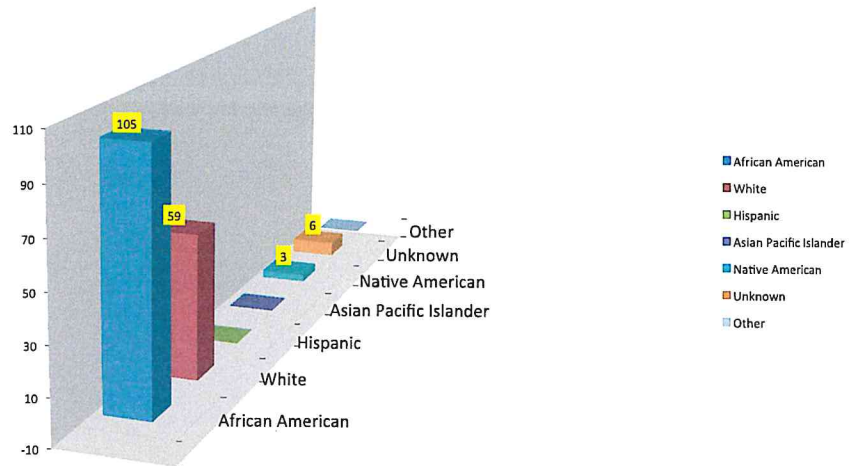
**Patterns in Sources of Indicated Reports for  
 St. Clair Action Team:**

July 2014 – June 2015

- Primary mandated reporters
  - Law enforcement
  - Medical
  - School
  - Social service
- Questions to consider
  - How are these cases presented to mandated reporters?
  - Why is the number of cases reported significantly higher during Quarter 1?
  - Are the primary mandated reporters included in action team PEP conversations?

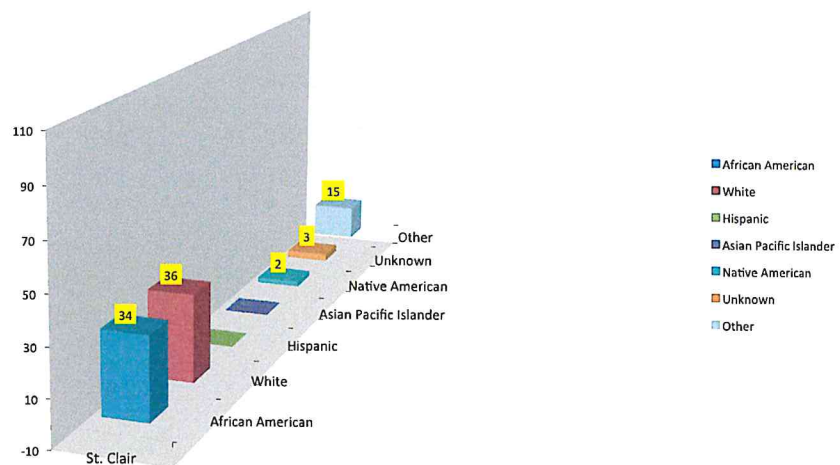
# St. Clair Action Team: Indicated Cases by Race

Q1: July – September 2014



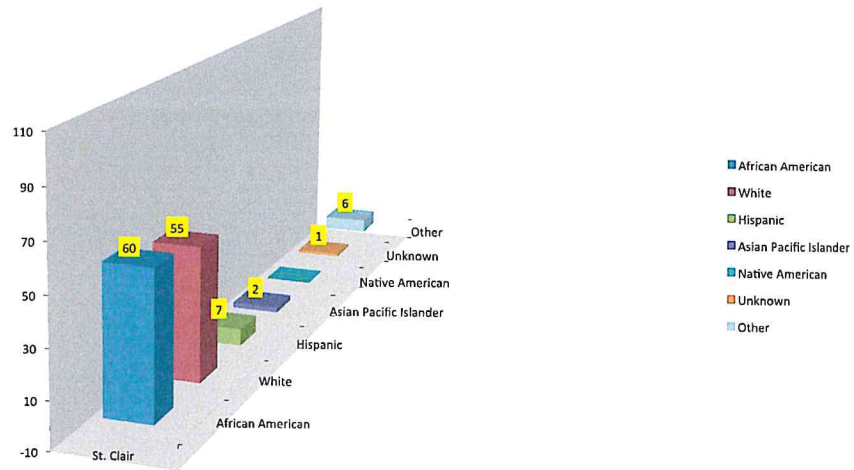
# St. Clair Action Team: Indicated Cases by Race

Q2: October - December 2014



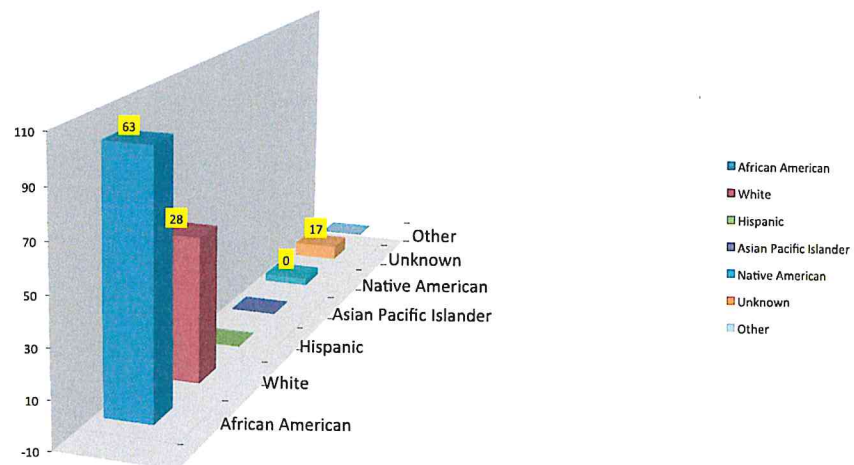
# St. Clair Action Team: Indicated Cases by Race

Q3: Jan. – March 2015



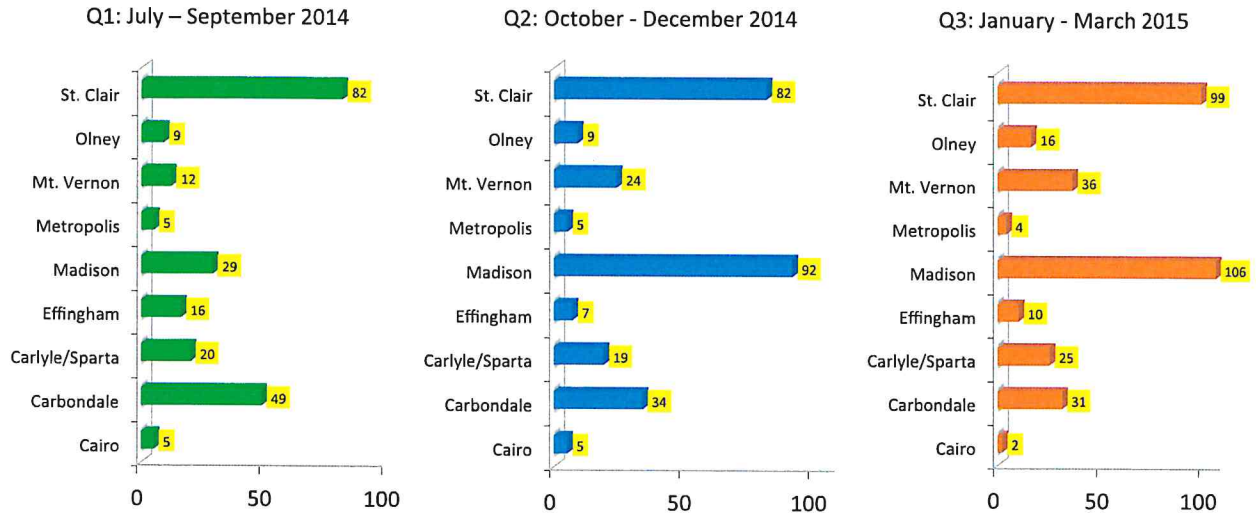
# St. Clair Action Team: Indicated Cases by Race

Q4: April – June 2015





# Entries into Out-of Home Care



## Entries into Out-of Home Care by Race & Age St. Clair Action Team

Quarter 1: July – September 2014				
Age x Race	African Americans	Unknown	White	TOTALS
age, 00-02	9	1	4	14
age, 03-05	4	2	3	9
age, 06-09	3	0	0	3
age, 10-13	0	0	3	3
age, 14-17	1	0	1	2
<b>TOTAL Race</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>31</b>
Quarter 2: October – December 2014				
Age x Race	African Americans	Unknown	White	TOTALS
age, 00-02	7	0	1	8
age, 03-05	3	0	1	4
age, 06-09	5	0	1	6
age, 10-13	3	0	0	3
age, 14-17	2	0	0	2
<b>TOTAL Race</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>23</b>
Quarter 3: January – March 2015				
Age x Race	African Americans	Unknown	White	TOTALS
age, 00-02	2	1	2	5
age, 03-05	2	0	0	2
age, 06-09	4	0	0	4
age, 10-13	3	0	0	3
age, 14-17	4	0	1	5
<b>TOTAL Race</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>19</b>

\*\*\*Do to the nature of the Quarter 4 data, no data on the Entries into Out-of-Home Care are available for Quarter 4.

## Number of Children in Out-of-Home Care Quarter 1 – Quarter 3

Action Team	Number in Care Q1: July – September 2013	Number in Care Q2: October – December 2013	Number in Care Q3: January – March 2014
Cairo	32	32	33
Carbondale	439	439	426
Carlyle/Sparta	257	124	124
Effingham	100	100	101
Madison	526	434	528
Metropolis	48	48	45
Mt. Vernon	257	257	271
Olney	163	163	162
St. Clair	438	393	417
<b>Total Southern Region</b>	<b>2260</b>	<b>1990</b>	<b>2107</b>

\*\*\*Do to the nature of the Quarter 4 data, no data on the number of children living in Out-of-Home Care were available for Quarter 4.

## Number in Children in Out-of-Home Care by Age

Action Team	Under 3 Years			3 to 5 Years			6 to 9 Years			10 to 13 Years			14 to 17 Years		
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q1	Q2	Q3
Cairo	5	5	5	8	8	7	9	9	10	5	5	6	4	4	4
Carbondale	116	116	105	84	84	78	87	87	86	63	63	63	71	71	73
Carlyle/Sparta	25	25	30	16	16	17	20	20	22	26	26	25	24	24	20
Effingham	24	24	24	30	30	28	16	16	19	9	9	11	13	13	11
Madison	127	127	128	136	146	131	134	140	130	94	97	88	90	91	92
Metropolis	8	8	7	9	9	7	12	12	10	8	8	9	8	8	9
Mt. Vernon	53	53	64	41	41	39	52	52	55	36	36	38	54	54	51
Olney	35	35	37	28	28	25	29	29	29	29	29	32	32	32	31
St. Clair	74	72	73	75	77	66	80	82	79	67	71	60	75	70	76
<b>Total Southern Region</b>	<b>467</b>	<b>460</b>	<b>473</b>	<b>436</b>	<b>439</b>	<b>398</b>	<b>435</b>	<b>448</b>	<b>440</b>	<b>349</b>	<b>344</b>	<b>332</b>	<b>371</b>	<b>367</b>	<b>367</b>

\*\*\*Do to the nature of the Quarter 4 data, no data on the number of children living in Out-of-Home Care were available for Quarter 4.

## Number of Children in Out-of-Home Care by Race

Action Team	African American			Hispanic			White			Asian/Pacific Islander			Native American			Unknown		
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q1	Q2	Q3
Cairo	13	13	13	0	0	0	19	19	20	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Carbondale	221	91	94	8	8	4	330	329	317	0	0	0	2	2	2	9	9	9
Carlyle/Sparta	10	10	10	3	3	3	117	111	116	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	1
Effingham	3	3	3	0	0	0	97	97	98	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Madison	143	143	159	5	5	5	362	362	384	0	0	0	0	0	0	16	16	12
Metropolis	1	1	3	1	1	1	46	46	41	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mt. Vernon	46	56	58	4	2	3	205	199	207	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	3
Olney	0	0	0	1	1	2	154	127	155	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	5	5
St. Clair	274	274	264	6	6	6	107	107	98	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	6	5
<b>Total Southern Region</b>	<b>581</b>	<b>591</b>	<b>604</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>1436</b>	<b>1397</b>	<b>1436</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>35</b>

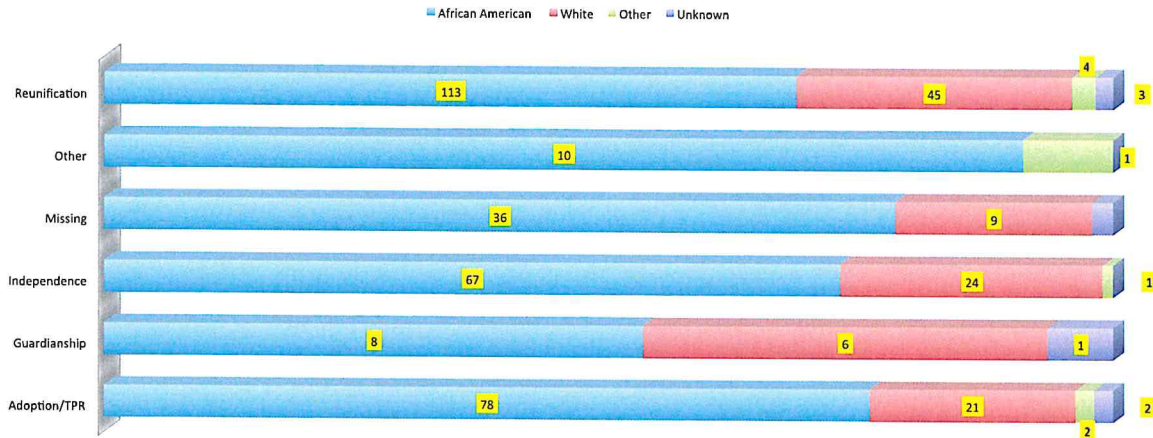
\*\*\*Do to the nature of the Quarter 4 data, no data on the number of children living in Out-of-Home Care were available for Quarter 4.

## Number in Children in Out-of-Home Care by Placement Type

Action Team	Foster/Relative			Residential			Independent			Other Institution			Other Care		
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q1	Q2	Q3
Cairo	25	25	27	4	4	3	0	0	2	1	1	1	2	2	1
Carbondale	331	331	332	39	39	36	6	6	8	10	10	5	53	53	44
Carlyle/Sparta	190	190	94	20	20	10	10	10	7	6	6	2	26	26	18
Effingham	75	75	76	5	5	5	6	6	5	0	0	2	14	14	13
Madison	434	434	462	29	29	28	27	27	25	8	8	11	28	28	34
Metropolis	32	32	34	6	6	4	1	1	1	2	2	1	7	7	4
Mt. Vernon	163	163	175	30	30	27	13	13	13	10	10	11	41	41	25
Olney	115	115	114	17	17	16	5	5	4	1	1	5	25	25	23
St. Clair	289	289	287	28	28	27	23	23	25	14	14	10	39	39	24
<b>Total Southern Region</b>	<b>1654</b>	<b>1654</b>	<b>1601</b>	<b>178</b>	<b>178</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>235</b>	<b>235</b>	<b>186</b>

\*\*\*Do to the nature of the Quarter 4 data, no data on the number of children living in Out-of-Home Care were available for Quarter 4.

## Permanency Goals – St. Clair Action Team Q1: July – September 2014

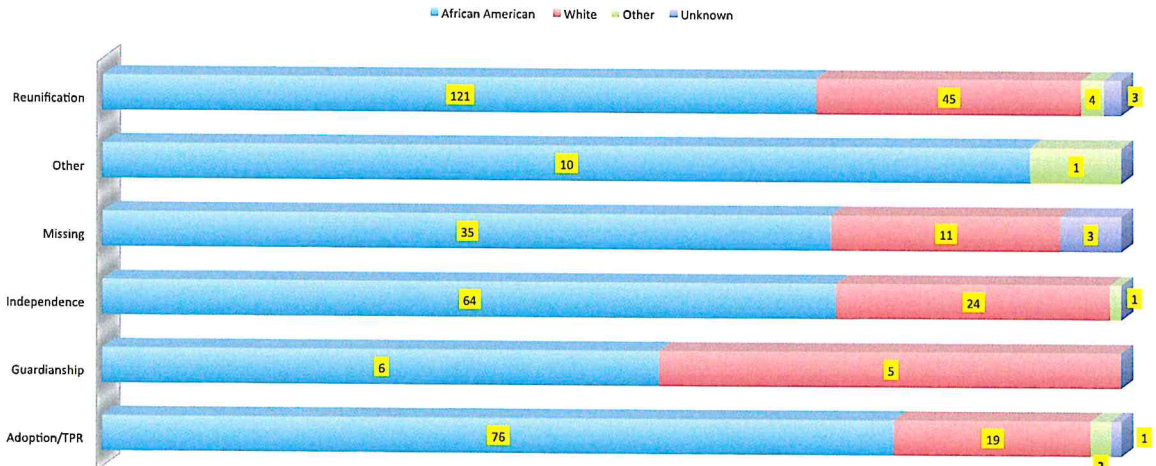


- 2 White Adoptions
- 3 African American Adoptions

### Completed Permanencies during Quarter 1

13 African American Reunifications  
 2 Hispanic Reunifications  
 3 White Reunifications

## Permanency Goals – St. Clair Action Team Q2: October – December 2014



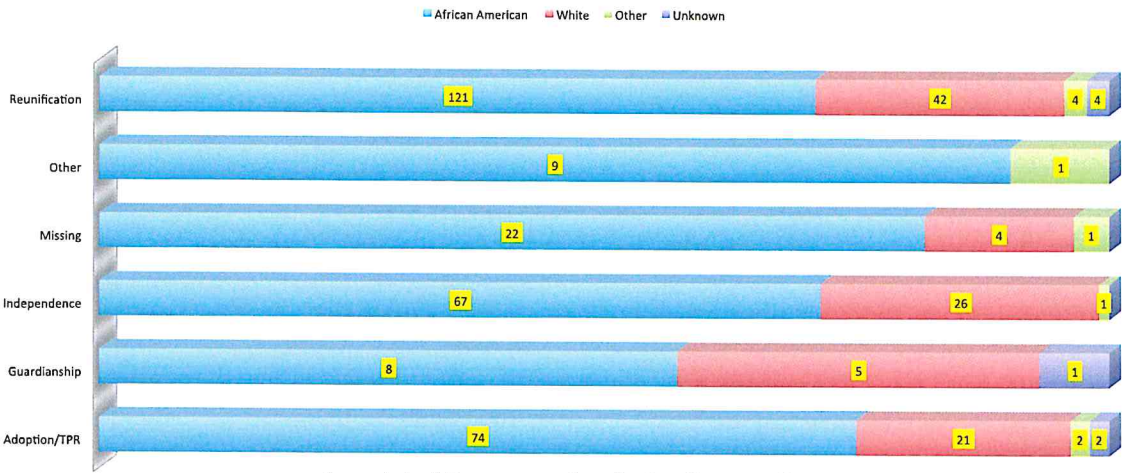
- 6 African American Adoptions
- 1 White Adoption
- 1 Unknown Adoption

### Completed Permanencies during Quarter 2

11 African American Reunifications      1 African American Substitute Guardianship  
 3 White Reunifications

# Permanency Goals – St. Clair Action Team

## Q3: January – March 2015



### Completed Permanencies during Quarter 3

- 9 African American Adoptions
- 3 White Adoptions
- 1 African American Reunifications
- 1 White Reunification
- 1 Unknown Reunification

# Permanency Goals by Race

## St. Clair Action Team

### Q4: April – June 2015

Do to the nature of the Quarter 4 data, no data on Permanency Goals were available for Quarter 4.

### Completed Permanencies during Quarter 4

# Permanencies for FY 14-15

## St. Clair Action Team

### Goal Trends

- More children with the goal of Reunification compared to any other permanency goal.
- Children with the goal of reunification increased from Q1 – Q3.

### Permanencies

- 43 African American children achieved permanency compared to 13 White children.
- African American children achieved permanency most often through adoption.
- White children achieved permanency most often through reunification.

## Disparity Indices

The graphs on the following slides provide a visual representation of disparity.

Throughout the next few slides the **disparity ratio** will be reported. The following table displays a widely used metric for interpreting disparity indices in child welfare.

Disparity Indices	Index Translation
0.00 – 0.99	No Disparity
1.00 – 1.49	Low Disparity
1.50 – 2.49	Moderate Disparity
2.5 – 3.49	Significant Disparity
3.5 or higher	Extreme Disparity

## INDICATED REPORTS DISPARITY INDICIES ST. CLAIR COUNTY

County	Index	Index Translation
St. Clair	0.84	No Disparity

No disparity exists when comparing the rate at which child welfare cases involving African American children and White children are indicated.

\*Disparity ratio on this variable = (number of African American children indicated divided by number of African American children with accepted reports) over (number of White children indicated divided by the number of White children with accepted reports).

## ENTRIES INTO OUT OF HOME CARE DISPARITY INDICES ST. CLAIR COUNTY

County	Index	Index Translation
St. Clair	1.97	Moderate Disparity

African American children with indicated cases are entering the child welfare system at disparate rates compared to their White counterparts.

\*Disparity ratio on this variable = (number of African American children who enter care divided by number of African American children indicated) over (number of White children who enter care divided by the number of White children indicated).

# PERMANENCIES DISPARITY INDICES ST. CLAIR COUNTY

County	Index	Index Translation
St. Clair	1.29	Low Disparity

African American children who enter out of home care are achieving permanency at disparate rates compared to their White counterparts.

\*Disparity ratio on this variable = (number of African American children achieving permanency divided by number of African American children who enter care) over (number of White children achieving permanency by the number of White children who enter care).