

Foster Care Overview: Regional Directors of DCF Part 2

Deputy Secretary Tanya Keys | Health and Human Services Committee | 3.2.2022

Pamela Beach, Northwest Regional Director

Thomas Buell, Wichita Regional Director

Anita Cooper, Southeast Regional Director

Shanelle Dupree, Kansas City Regional Director

Caroline Hastings, Northeast Regional Director

Stacey Tweedy, Southwest Regional Director

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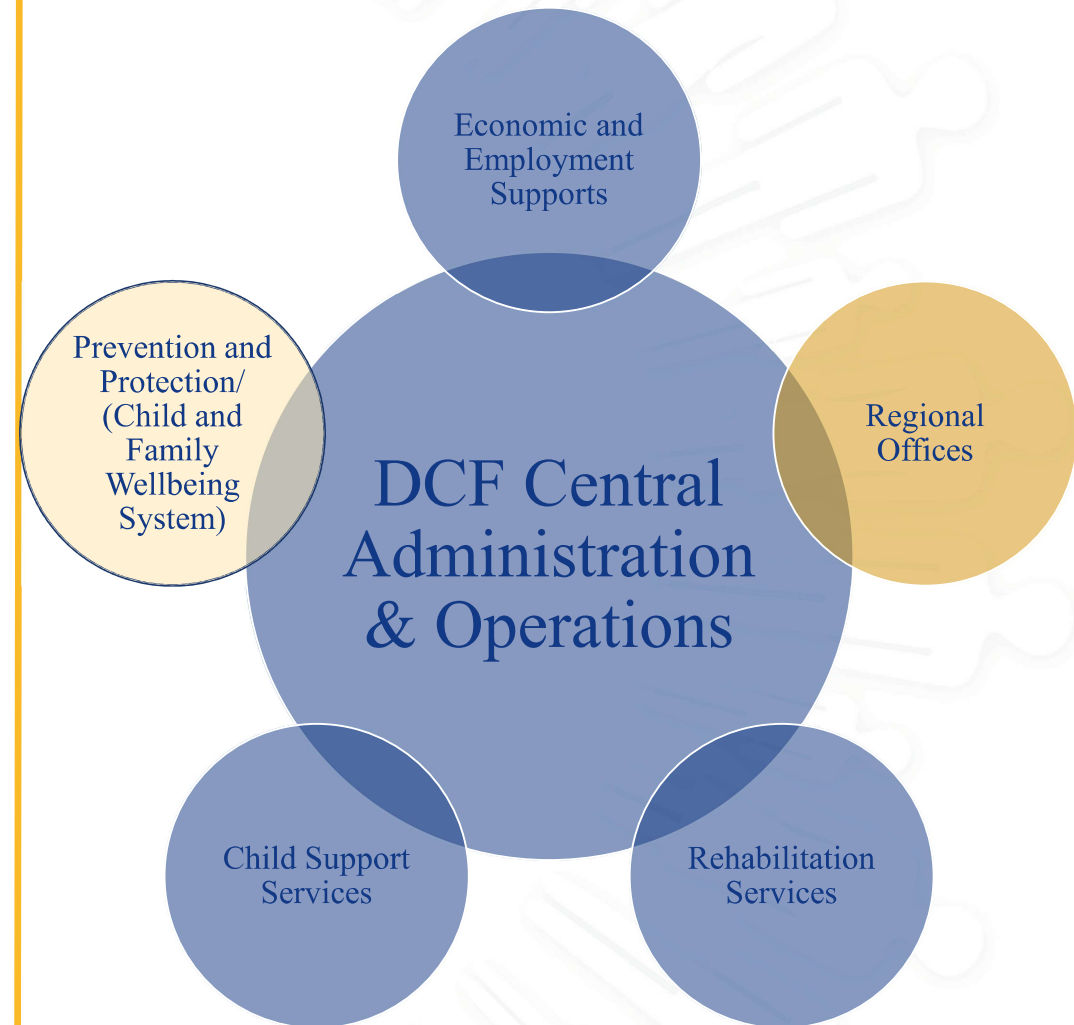
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Refresher: Setting the Context: DCF Major Programs

- Programs collaborate for family and individual outcome achievement
- Programs are supported by core operations.
- Program and practice are carried out by teams in 36 service centers across 6 Regional Offices



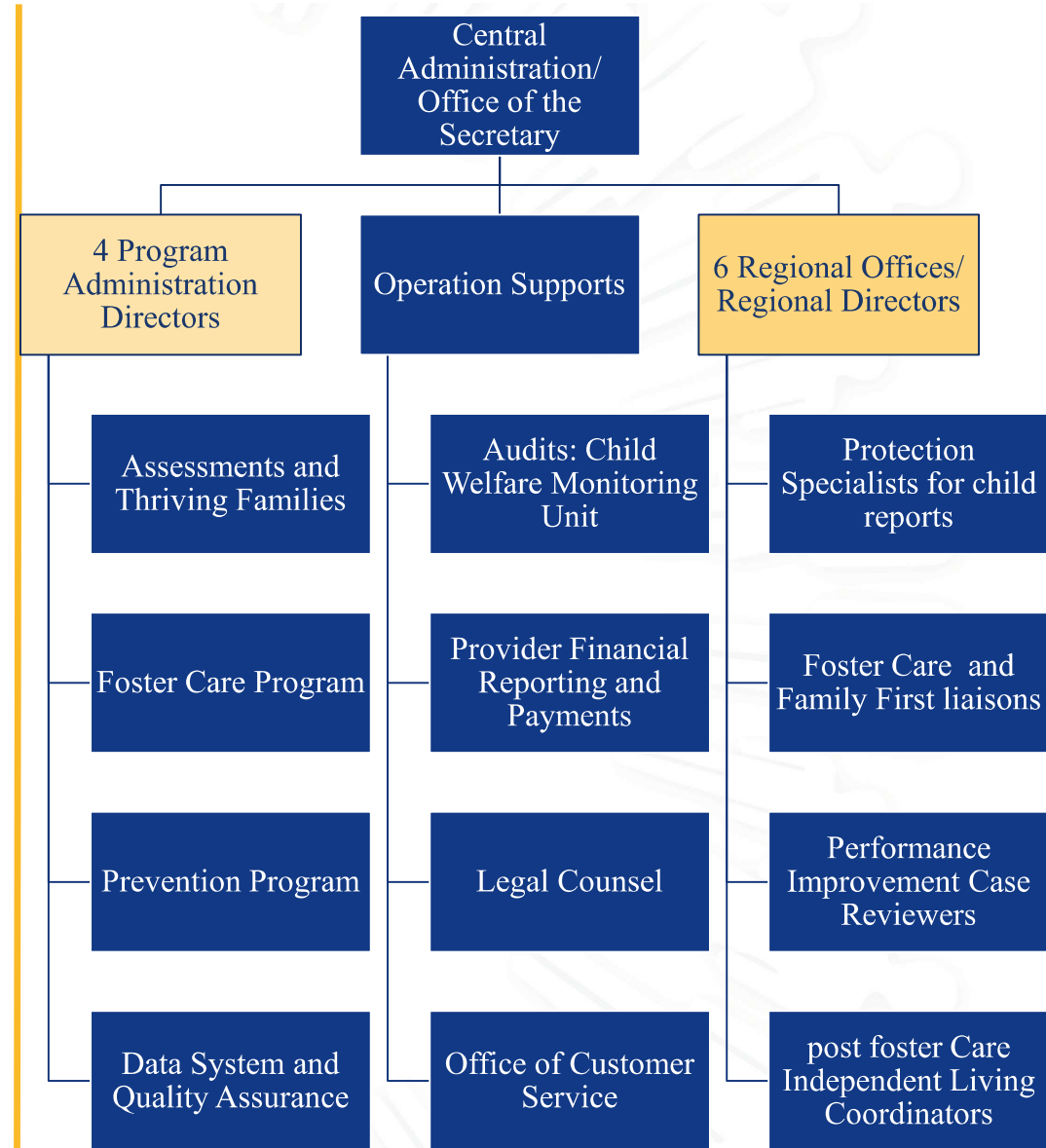
Detail: Child & Family Well-Being Org

- Within Prevention and Protection Services organized programs

- Program administration
 - policy development
 - grant and contract administration
 - federal reporting
 - performance improvement plans



- Regions
 - manage teams carrying out field work direct services
 - contract or grant monitoring
 - DCF information system data entry
 - performance improvement case reads



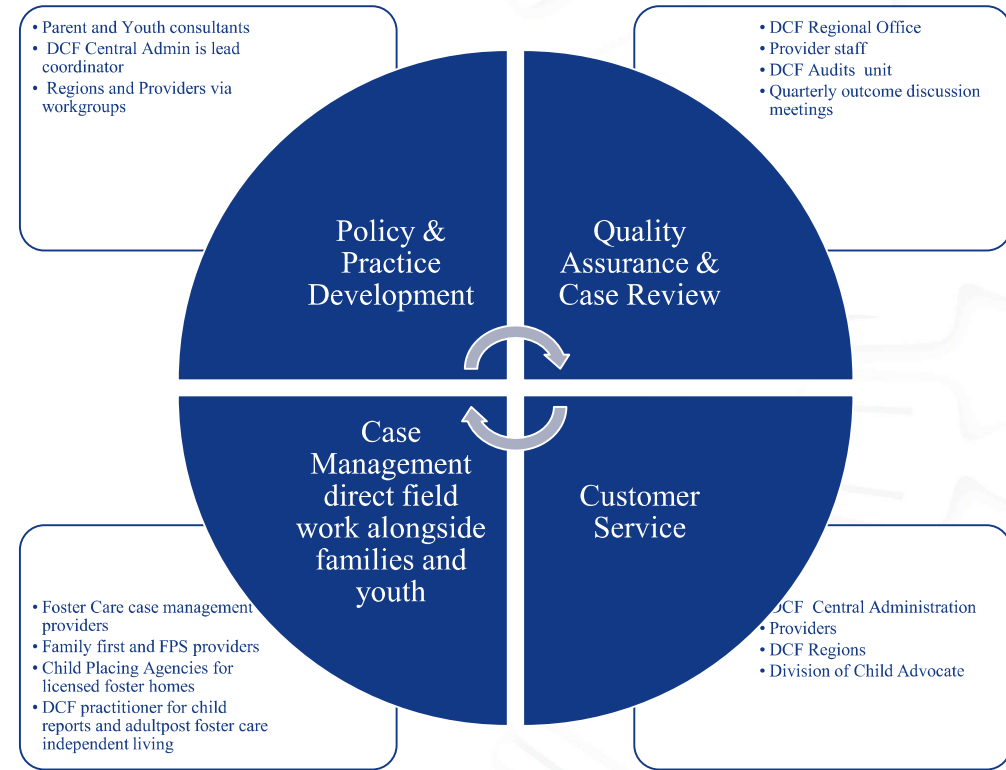
Detail: DCF and Provider Intersections

- Local case management agencies:
 - Receive referral from DCF
 - Engage field work alongside families
 - Perform case reviews independently or jointly with DCF
 - Resolve concerns locally at lowest level possible before elevating for assistance

Day to Day Management:

Regional Director ⇔ Case Management Agency Program President

Regional FC Liaison Manager ⇔ Case Management Agency Catchment Manager



Foster Care QA Duties & Collaborations 1

Central Administration

- Quarterly outcome review meetings, support Program Improvement Plans
- Review & monitor customer service tickets
- Monitor and reconcile data quality
- Review quarterly grantee reports
- Coordinate Case Reviews (federal CFSR or targeted / focused reviews)
- Review financial reports monthly
- Conduct audits on administrative requirements of the grant
- Participate in family or child level service problem solving
- Coordinate resources for practice model trainings
- On site technical assistance as needed

Region General Support

- Identify relative resources and bridge information for first case plan
- Facilitate regular meetings with providers and court
- Support resolution of customer service tickets
- Convene or facilitate stakeholder collaborative meetings
- Some support for team decision making facilitation
- Share training opportunities
- Support and monitor performance improvement plans
- Bridge services for families reunified for after care not released from custody
- Reviewers in formal case reviews (federal CFSR, etc.)

QA Duties & Collaborations 2

Region Foster Care Liaison

- Attend Best Interest Decisions regarding same school attendance
- Attend Placement Stability Team Decision Making Mtgs.
- Attend court hearings in some judicial districts
- Review and reconcile data quality
- Attending multidisciplinary complex case staffing
- Monitor due dates for court reports and case plans to ensure timely completion
- Monitoring Case Plan completion
- Review, edit, correct case plans
- Participating in staffings for focus on specific populations: adoption cases, children/youth on run status, high acuity staffings, children who experience a failure to place.
- Assist with court order journal entry receipt processing and adoption consents

Decision	Authority/ Responsibility	Collaboration
DCF prevention or community-based service	DCF, school, community agency or a family may self refer	During the DCF assessment, discussion occurs with the family and their network
Removal into foster care	Law enforcement or Court	DCF convenes a team decision making meeting to discuss safest decision for child
Case plan goal	Foster care provider	Through team and family meetings
Placement decision	Foster care provider	Through a team decision making meeting. Notice of planned move required. Court approval may be required. (e.g. Qualified Residential Treatment Provider or other)
Same school attendance	School and foster care provider	School of origin and case management provider meet for a best interest decision about same school attendance
Reintegration (permanency)	Foster care provider	Through team and family meetings and notice to court.

Foster Care Provider Services



Wellness

- Screenings and assessments
- Service referrals
- coordination with MCO



Alongside family

- Facilitate family meetings
- Arrange parenting time
- Parent skill building



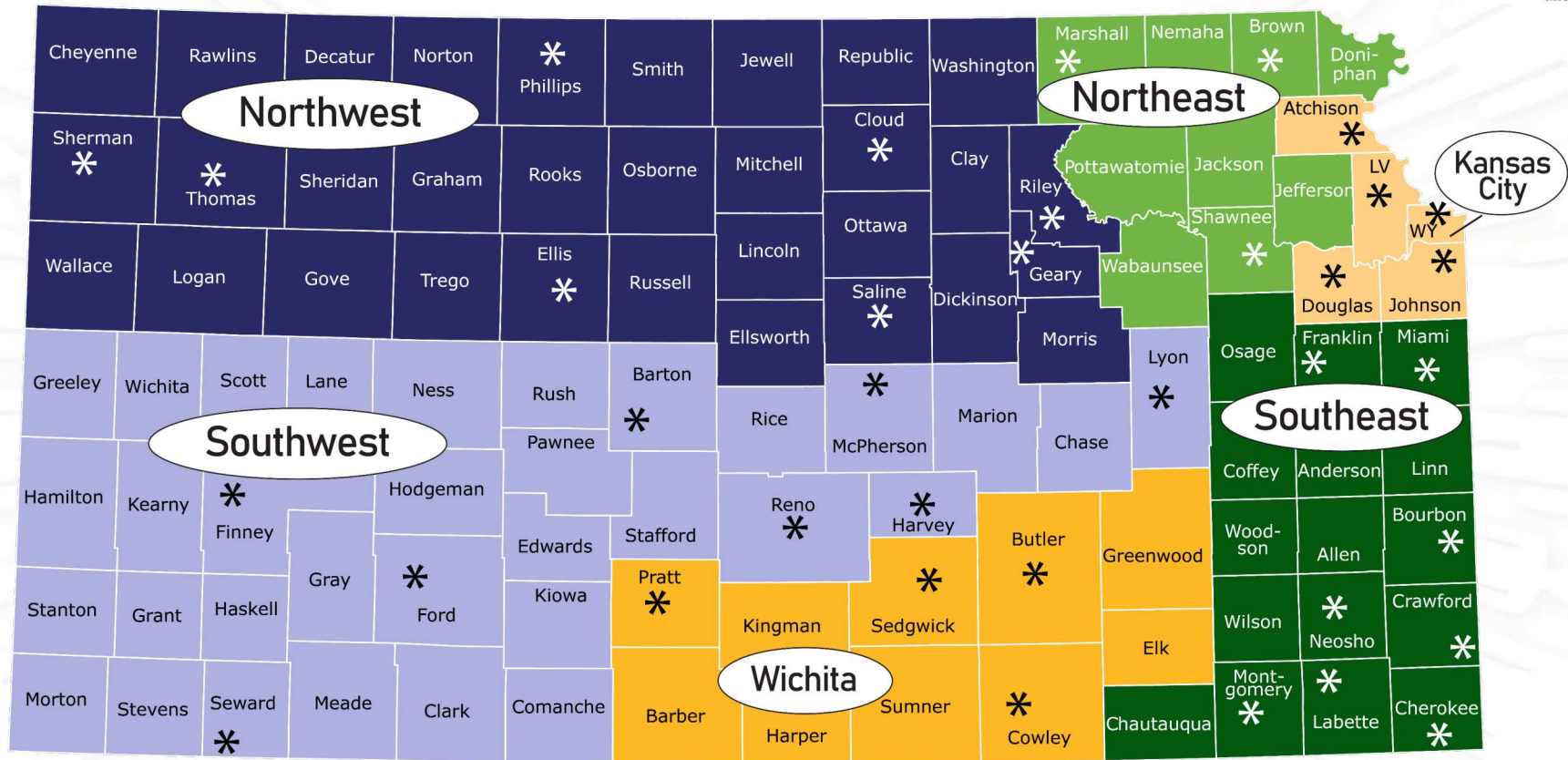
Case Management

- case plan development
- Placement stability support
- monthly worker/child interactions
- court reports

Maps

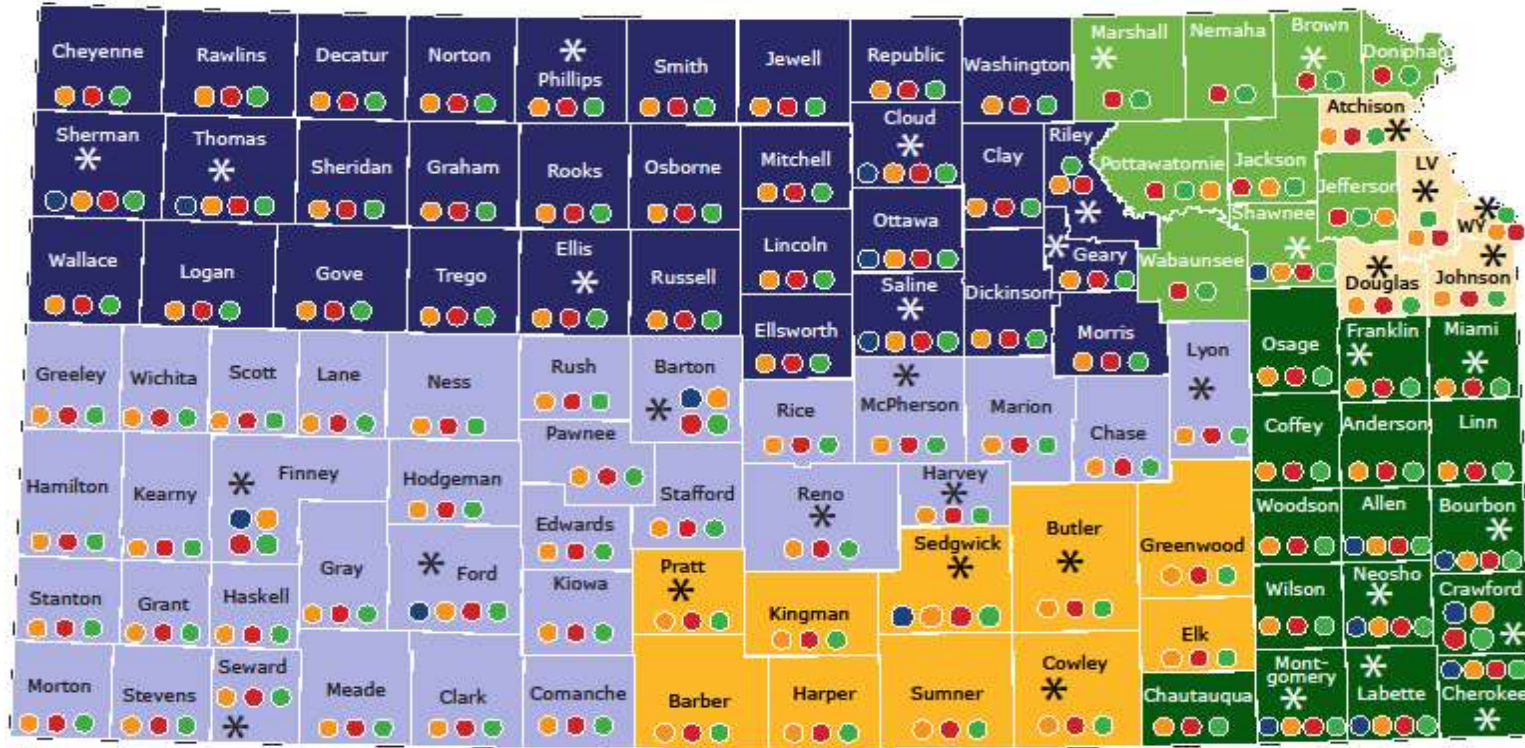
DCF, FOSTER CARE, FAMILY FIRST AND FPS

DCF Regions



* DCF Service Center

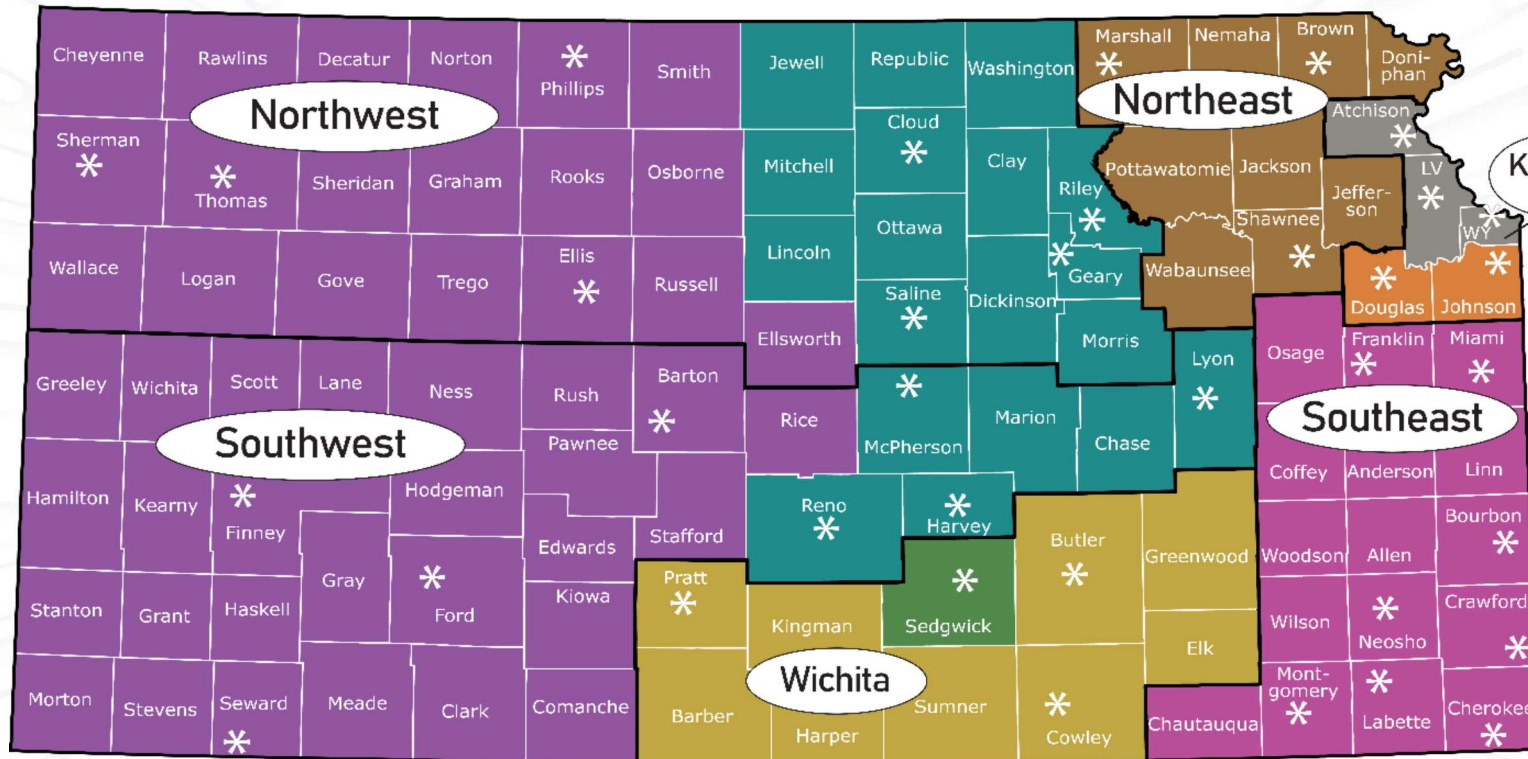
Family First Prevention Services Act Programs



* DCF Service Center



DCF Regions & Catchment Areas

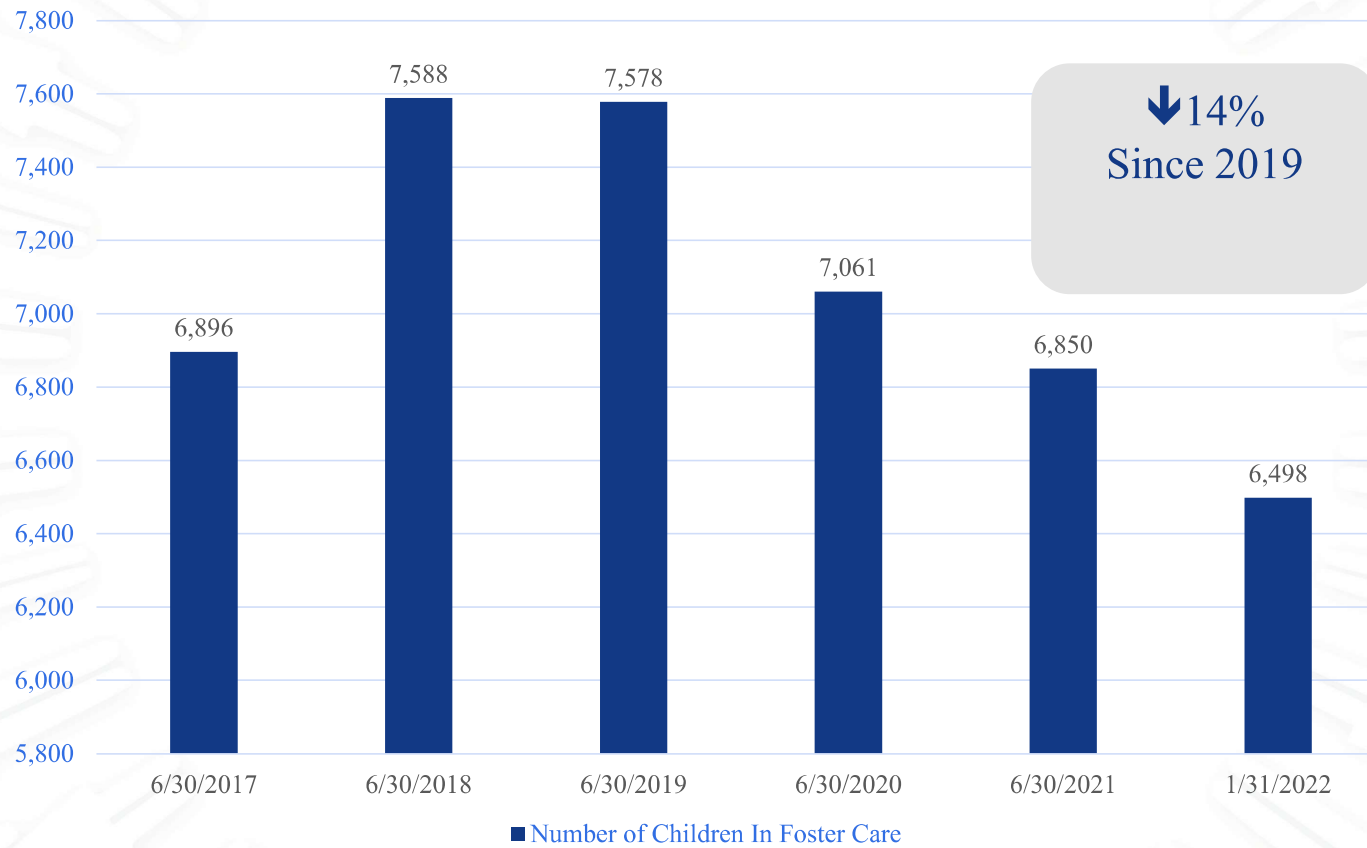


- | | | | | |
|----------------------|--|---------------------------------------|--|--|
| * DCF Service Center | AREA #1
<i>Saint Francis Ministries</i> | AREA #3
<i>KVC</i> | AREA #5
<i>Cornerstones of Care</i> | AREA #7
<i>Saint Francis Ministries</i> |
| | AREA #2
<i>Saint Francis Ministries</i> | AREA #4
<i>TFI Family Services</i> | AREA #6
<i>KVC</i> | AREA #8
<i>TFI Family Services</i> |

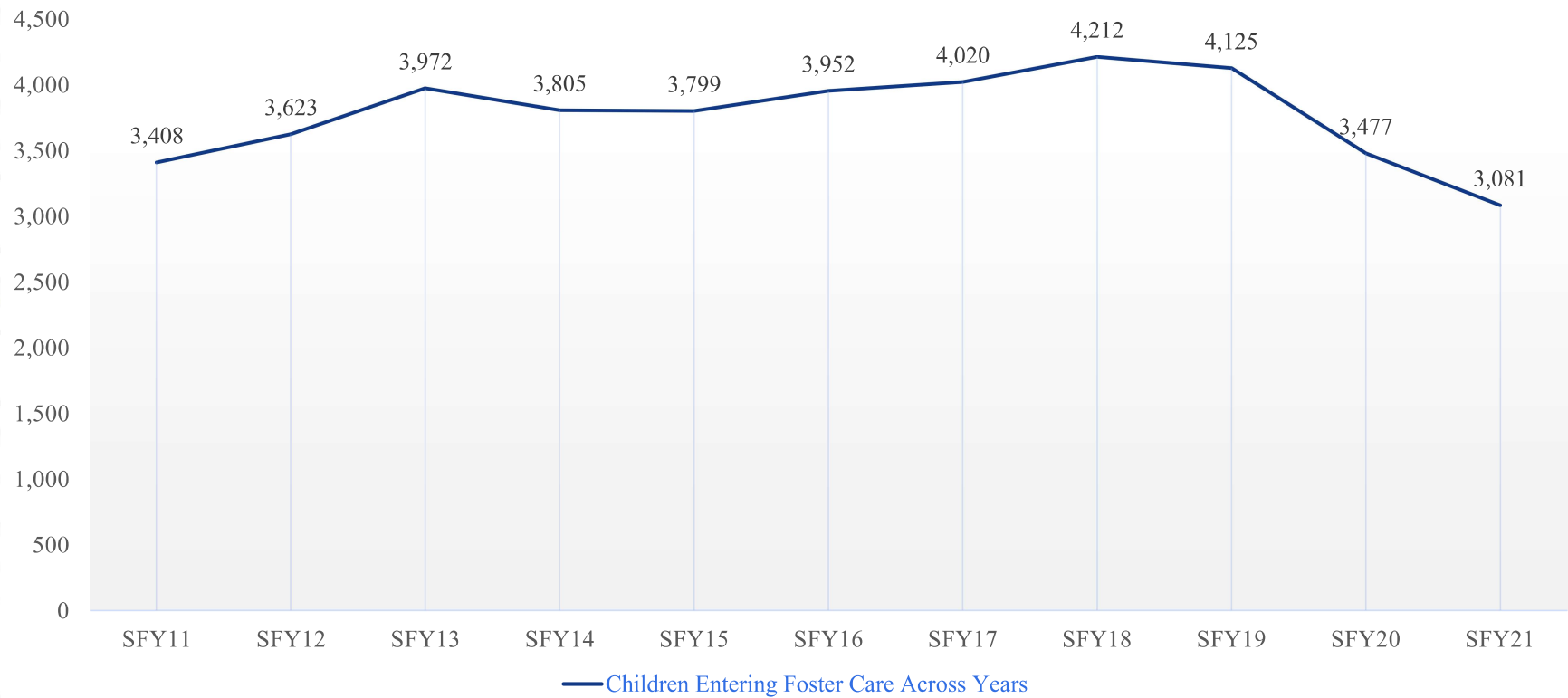
Trend Data

FOSTER CARE

Number of Children In Foster Care



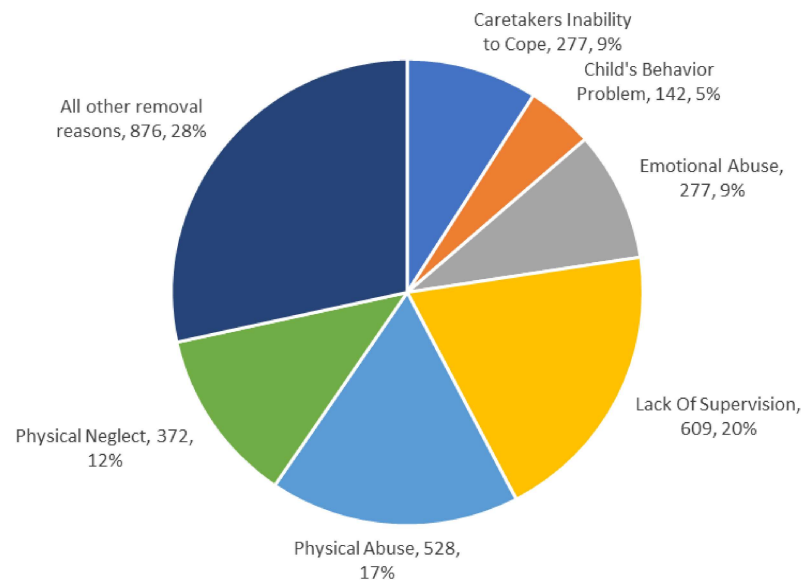
Children Entering Foster Care Across Years



HIGHLIGHTS IN SFY21 CONSIDERING ALL POSSIBLE REASONS FOR REMOVAL:

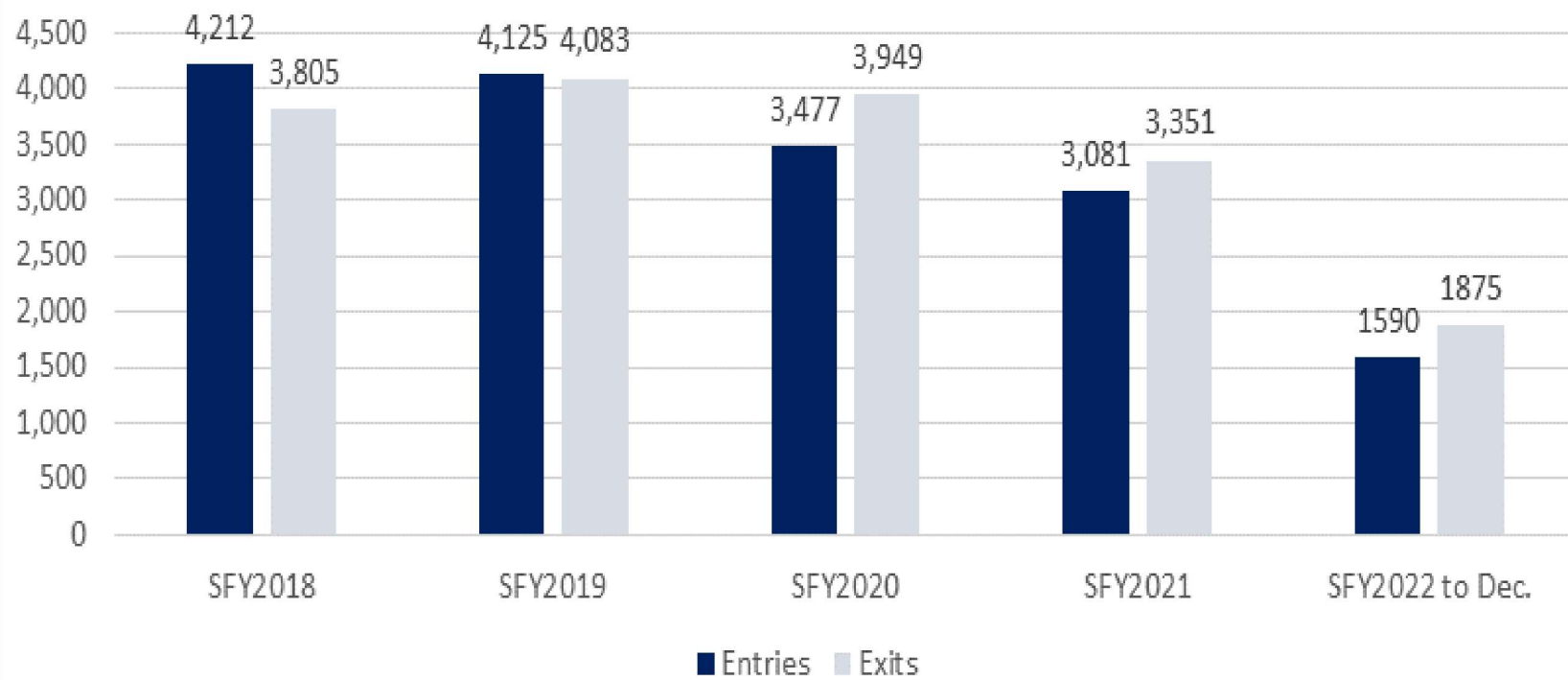
- 76% of all children removed were for reasons of abuse or neglect and 24% were for reasons related to a family in need of assessment which are not abuse or neglect.
- The most frequent reason for removal is related to neglect reasons (35%): Lack of supervision, 20%; physical neglect 12%; medical neglect 2%; and educational neglect 1%.

Figure 2: Statewide Children Removed SFY21



- 9% of children enter care related to a parent's inability to cope with circumstances of their situation to meet the child's needs that is not neglect.
- Across these reasons for removal, there were few differences between SFY20 and 21 with exception to lack of supervision, which increased from 15% in SFY20 to 20% in SFY21

Children Entering and Exiting Foster Care Across Years



DCF Regional Directors

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND LEADERSHIP

Pamela Beach, Northwest Regional Director
Thomas Buell, Wichita Regional Director
Anita Cooper, Southeast Regional Director
Shanelle Dupree, Kansas City Regional Director
Carolyn Hastings, Northeast Regional Director
Stacey Tweedy, Southwest Regional Director

Becoming a child and family well-being system

- Collaboration
 - Communities and families are experts and innovators.
 - Cultivate community-based continuums of supports.
 - As a learning organization, engage others in co-design.
- Community Engagement
 - Earliest support possible
 - Prevent unnecessary reports or contact a child welfare formal system.
 - Shift: from Mandated Reporters to *Mandated Supporters*.
 - Understanding responses to adversity related needs and distinguishing adversity from neglect.
- Community Supporting Family Model with Emporia Schools and more districts
- Partners refer families to needed services before they have formal contact with DCF

Reports Assigned for Assessment

- 70% statewide are related to allegations of abuse or neglect.
- 30% statewide are related to a presenting situation a of family in need of assessment or service.
- A report may be assigned related to more than one presenting circumstance.
- One report may involve more than one child.
- Five (5) greatest report assignment types involved in the alleged/ described presenting situations of families is on the right of this slide.



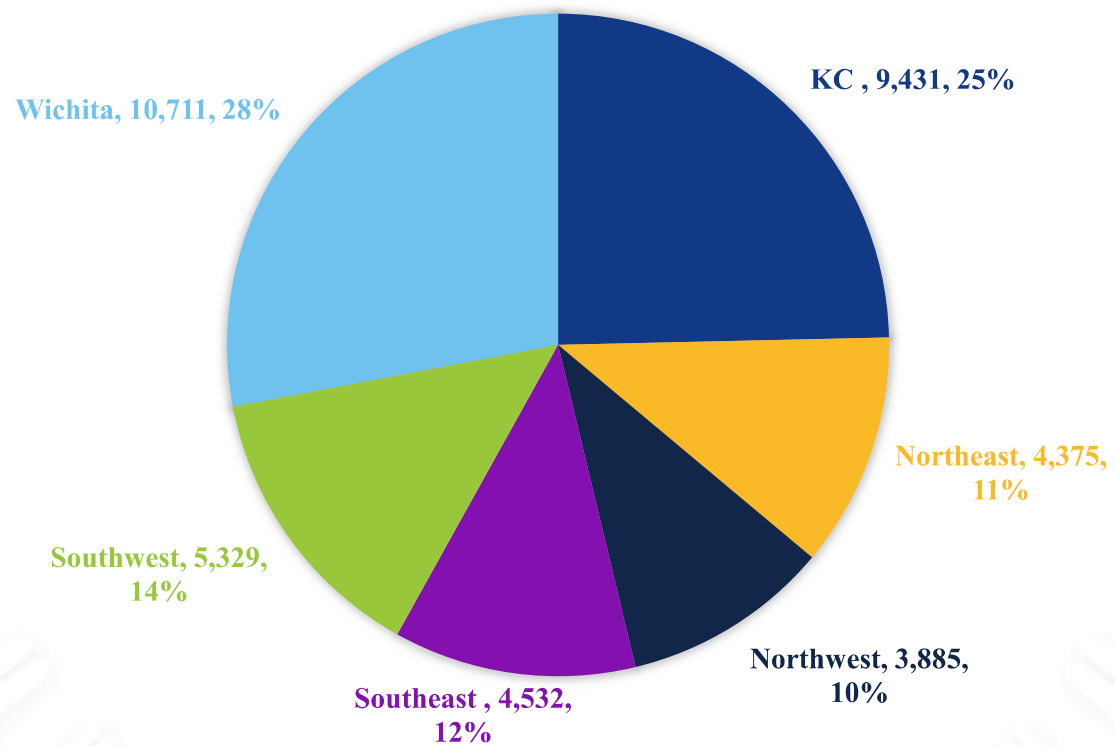
of those reports assigned for alleged abuse/neglect:

- 31% Physical Abuse
- 25% Emotional Abuse
- 19% Lack of Supervision
- 11% sexual abuse
- 8% physical neglect

of those reports assigned for family in need of assessment circumstances:

- 32% caregiver unable to care
- 31% child behavior problem
- 15% caregiver substance use
- Truancy 11%
- 4% infant positive for substance

SFY 21 NUMBER OF FAMILIES/ REPORTS ASSIGNED BY DCF REGION



GOVERNANCE



Child welfare begins in the...

COMMUNITY

...with primary prevention.

DCF PRIMARY FUNCTIONS

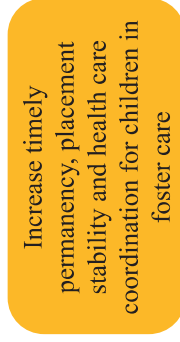
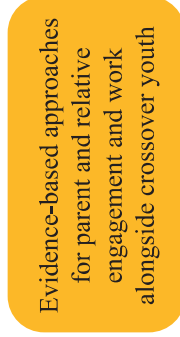
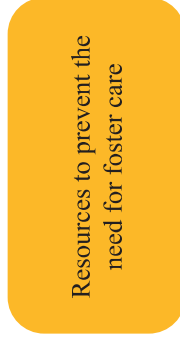
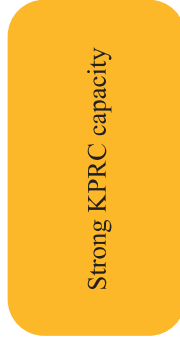


PARTNERS



STRATEGIES FOR PROTECTING CHILDREN

Strong safety, resiliency and prevention networks



Child welfare efforts are made possible by our **FOUNDATION**.

Strong Workforce:

Recruit and develop child welfare workforce partnerships and practice implementation

Informed Decisions:

Outcomes-based, safety- and data-informed alongside families in communities

Evidence-Based Practice that Engages Families:

Mental Health, Substance Use, Parent Skill Building, Kinship Navigation

Our strategies for protecting children lead to our GOALS AND SUCCESS FACTORS



- Timely and consistent report screening, safety assessment and planning alongside families

- Collaborate to implement evidence-based prevention and child welfare programs
- Support families, relatives and youth to navigate systems for access to meaningful resources
- Increase children placed with relatives
- Collaborate to remove barriers to legal permanency

- Amplify university partnership for practicums and increase recruiting and job advertisement media

FY22 data is through Dec. 2021



FY22 SNAPSHOT

KPRC

- 34,818 child reports received
- Call sites include Kansas City, Topeka and Wichita

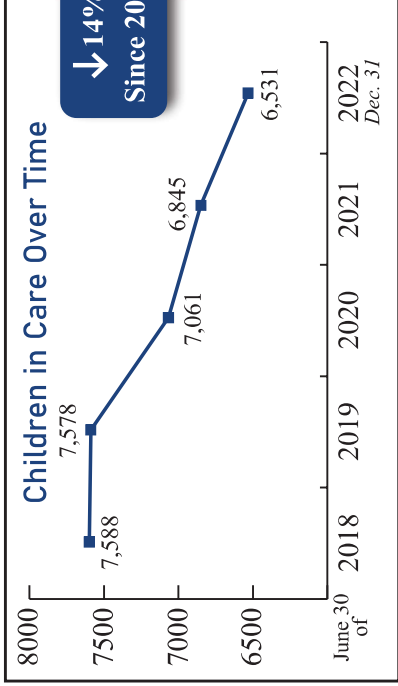
Child Protection Assessment & Investigation

- 269 frontline staff went out on 19,361 assigned reports
- 97% of reports have timely response with the family either the same day of report or within 72 hours (Oct. 2021)

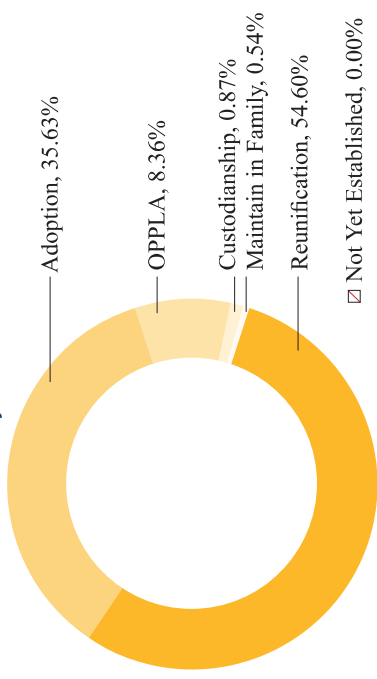
Prevention

- 663 families referred for Family Preservation (FPS, Oct. 2021)
- 92% of children receiving FPS did not experience a need for foster care
- 556 families referred for Family First Prevention Services
- 91% of those families' children do not enter care

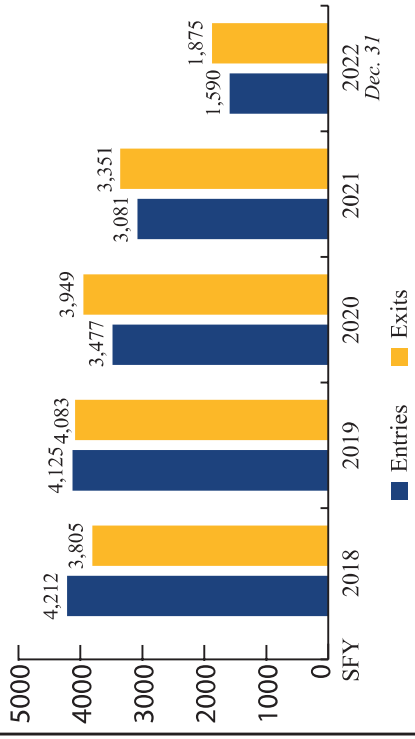
STATEWIDE CHILDREN IN CARE



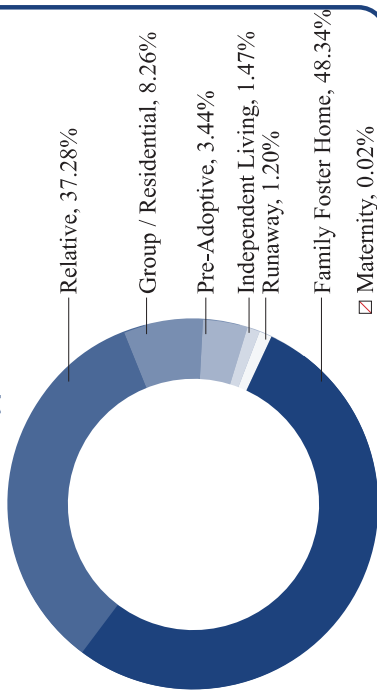
Permanency Goal - Dec. 31, 2021



Children Entering and Exiting Care



Placement Type - Dec. 31, 2021





A report is made to Kansas Protection Report Center (KPRC). An intake protection specialist uses Structured Decision Making (SDM) to determine the assignment of the report.



The report is sent to a DCF Regional Service Center if it meets any criteria of abuse/neglect or family in need of assessment (FINA).



The report is assigned to a Child Protection Specialist (CPS) to visit and assess family.



The CPS and family work together to find services that promote family well-being and/or child safety to keep families together.

SERVICE TRACK

RISK LEVEL: **NOT REQUIRED**

COMMUNITY-BASED PROVIDERS

Any family can be connected to community-based providers and there is no risk level requirement. Unique to each community and offering a range of services, these providers share the common vision of helping families facing challenges achieve positive outcomes.

To locate community-based providers and services in your area, contact your local DCF service center or visit <https://1800childrenks.org>.

RISK LEVEL: **AT-RISK OF REMOVAL**

FAMILY FIRST PREVENTION SERVICES

Child is at risk of removal. Evidence-based services are unique to counties and can be selected to best suit a family's individual needs in mental health, substance use disorder, parent skill building and kinship navigator programs. **DCF CPS must fill out a Prevention Plan and make referral to the Family First provider.**

Mental Health

West	4 providers
Wichita	4 providers
East	2 providers
Kansas City	2 providers

Kinship Navigator

West	1 provider
Wichita	1 provider
East	1 provider
Kansas City	1 provider

Substance Use Disorder

West	1 provider
Wichita	1 provider
East	2 providers
Kansas City	X

Parent Skill Building

West	4 providers
Wichita	2 providers
East	3 providers
Kansas City	4 providers

See regional service menus for provider info at <http://www.dcf.ks.gov/services/PPS/Pages/FFPSA.aspx>

RISK LEVEL: **AT-RISK OF REMOVAL**

FAMILY PRESERVATION

Child is at risk of removal. Services provided to protect child and strengthen family. 24/7 access to staff. Family Preservation providers perform case management for families. Available statewide.

See more info on Family Preservation at: <http://www.dcf.ks.gov/services/pps/Pages/ServicesToPreserveFamilies.aspx>

Tier 1 Intensive services provided by master's level practitioners to mitigate immediate child safety concerns and stabilize family crisis. Services up to 6 weeks, 1 additional referral may occur.	Tier 2 Case Manager and Family Support Worker provide case management and will assess family. A Tier 1 family may transition up to Tier 2. Services are 3-6 months.
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RISK LEVEL: **HIGH-RISK OF REMOVAL**

TEAM DECISION MAKING



Team Decision Making (TDM) is a facilitated meeting in which child welfare agencies invite families and their supporters and other community organizations to work together to make informed decisions about a child's safety.