



Children's Services Agency Child Welfare Overview

House Appropriations Subcommittee

February 20, 2019



CSA Vision and Mission

VISION

MDHHS will lead Michigan in supporting our children, youth, and families to reach their full potential.

MISSION

Child welfare professionals will demonstrate an unwavering commitment to engage and partner with families we serve to ensure safety, permanency and well-being through a trauma-informed approach.



Children's Services Agency

➤ **State-administered child welfare system**

- 83 counties (dual and tri-county configurations)
- 5 Business Service Center (BSC) regions

➤ **Children's Services Agency Units**

- Office of Child Welfare Policy and Programs
- Juvenile Justice Programs
- Child Welfare Field Operations
- Child Welfare Services and Supports
- Centralized Intake
- Children's Trust Fund
- Division of Continuous Quality Improvement
- Office of Family Advocate
- Division of Child Welfare Licensing
- MiSACWIS

Staff Numbers:

- CPS Investigators: 1,217
- CPS Ongoing: 579
- Foster Care (public): 674
- Foster Care (private): 636
- Adoption (private): 280
- Licensing (public): 132
- Licensing (private): 318




Child Welfare Continuum of Services



- Children remain in home whenever safely possible.
- Court order is required for removal/placement into Foster Care and for reunification or termination of parental rights.
- Reunification with parent(s) is goal.
- If reunification is not possible, other options for permanency are explored.

Priorities throughout are

SAFETY * PERMANENCY * WELL-BEING



MiTEAM Practice Model & Continuous Quality Improvement

Teaming Engagement Assessment Mentoring

MiTEAM competencies have been implemented into practice to achieve SAFETY, PERMANENCY, and WELL-BEING.

Local CQI Teams exist in each county to:

- Review various local data measures
- Analyze data to identify strengths and areas of opportunity
- Enhance local child welfare practice



Family Preservation & Reunification

Program Goal: Prevent removal/placement of children into foster care whenever safely possible; successfully reunify children with parents as soon as possible.

Program	Intervention/Goals	Timeframe	FY18 Families Served; Success Rate
Families First of Michigan	Intensive; Risk reduction and stabilization	Minimum 10 hours/week	3,204 families served; 88% success rate
Family Reunification Program	Therapeutic and skill development; safe reunification and permanency	Minimum 4 hours/week; 4-6 months	741 families served; 89% success rate
Families Together Building Solutions	Low-Moderate Risk; step-down to FFM or FRP or independent	3-6 month intervention	1,562 families served; 91% success rate
Parent-Partner Program	Reducing length of stay in FC; support by parents with previous involvement in child welfare	Minimum 6 months	



2019 Focus for Family Preservation

- **Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA)**
 - Significant federal funding change
 - Use of Title IV-E Funds for Evidence Based Prevention Programming
 - Qualified Residential Treatment Programs
- **Substance Use Disorder Family Support Program (SUDFSP)**
 - Supports families affected by substance use who are at high risk of having children removed
- **Comprehensive Opioid Abuse Program (COAP) Grant**
 - Statewide multi-disciplinary team; Expansion of SUDFSP; “Connection between Trauma, Substance Abuse and Mental Health” trainings; Creation and maintenance of online mandated reporter training
- **Guy Thompson Parent Advisory Council**
 - Involving parents in statewide policy and programming decisions



Children's Protective Services

Program Goal: Investigate complaints of alleged child abuse and/or neglect; assess and ensure safety of children; provide families with resources and support when needed.

Timeframe: CPS investigation is typically 30 days; in open cases, concerns are typically resolved within 6 months.

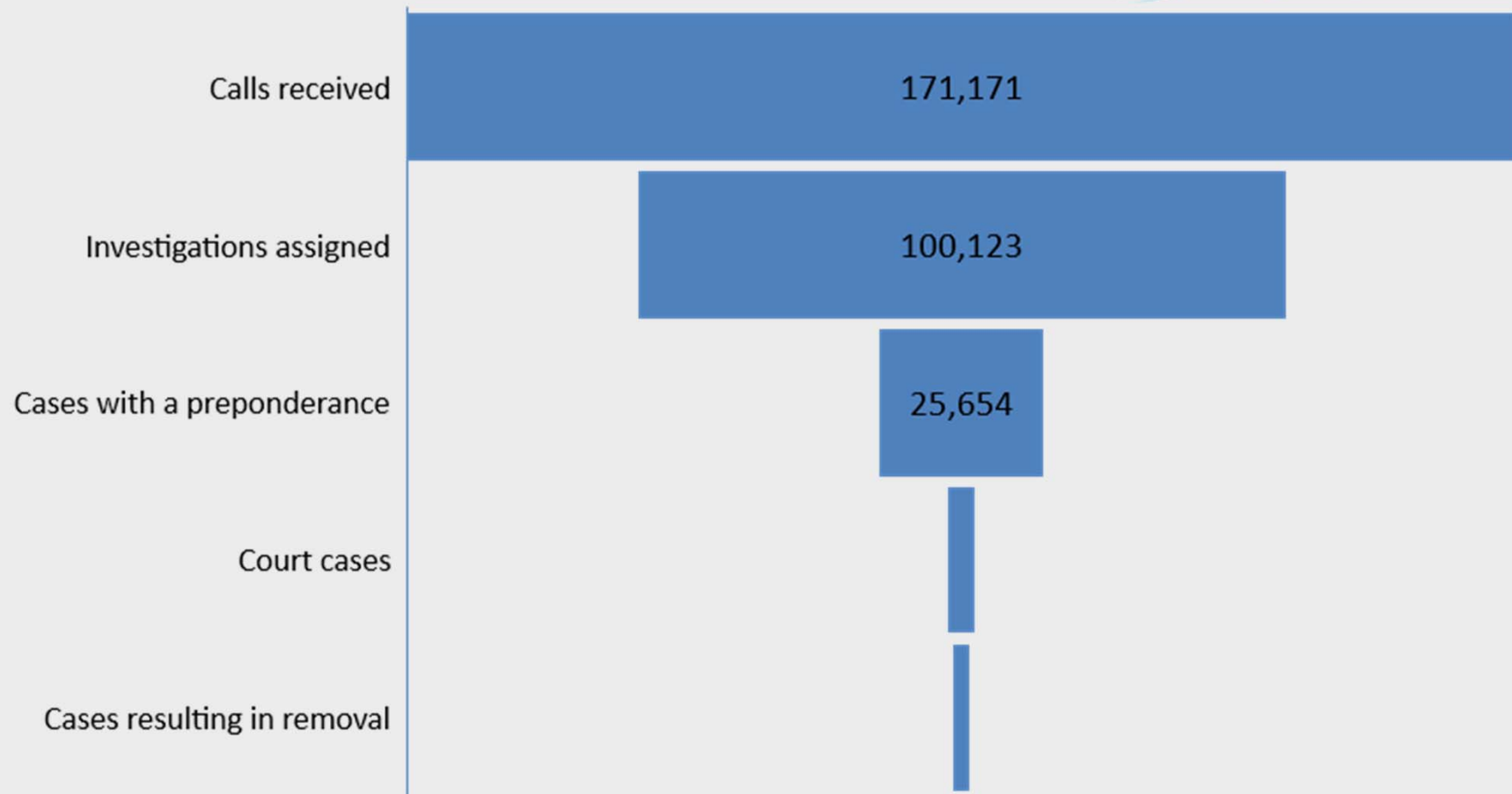
	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018
# of Investigations Completed	94,533	92,267	90,152	95,465
# of Complaints Made by Mandated Reporters	60,732 (64.2%)	61,983 (66.5%)	63,485 (68.7%)	66,730 (69.9%)
# of Children Separated from a Parent/Legal Guardian	5,810	6,019	7,429	6,969



Children's Protective Services

Category Dispositions	# for FY2015	# for FY2016	# for FY2017
Category I: Abuse/neglect confirmed ; Child unsafe and/or court petition required.	4,279	4,410	4,595
Category II: Abuse/neglect confirmed ; high or intensive risk of future harm to child; services required.	6,512	6,897	7,227
Category III: Abuse/neglect confirmed ; low or moderate risk of future harm to child; community services needed; referral to services.	13,022	14,202	14,195
Category IV: Abuse/neglect NOT confirmed .	65,781	63,575	62,838
Category V: Abuse/neglect NOT confirmed . Family can't be located or allegations are based on false or erroneous information.	4,909	3,183	1,295
Other	30	0	2
TOTAL	94,533	92,267	90,152

Children's Protective Services





Foster Care

CPS determines abuse/neglect AND court determines child cannot remain safely in home.

Court places child with MDHHS for care, supervision, and out of home placement.

MDHHS providers direct foster care case management or refers to a private child placing agency.

➤ **Program Goal:** Ensure the safety, permanency, and well-being of children who are temporary court wards placed under the care and supervision of MDHHS.

➤ Meant to be a short-term solution to an emergency situation; permanency planning continues through placement in care.

➤ Provides an array of services to families tailored to meet their unique needs, resolve safety concerns, reunify whenever safely possible.

Children Currently in Foster Care

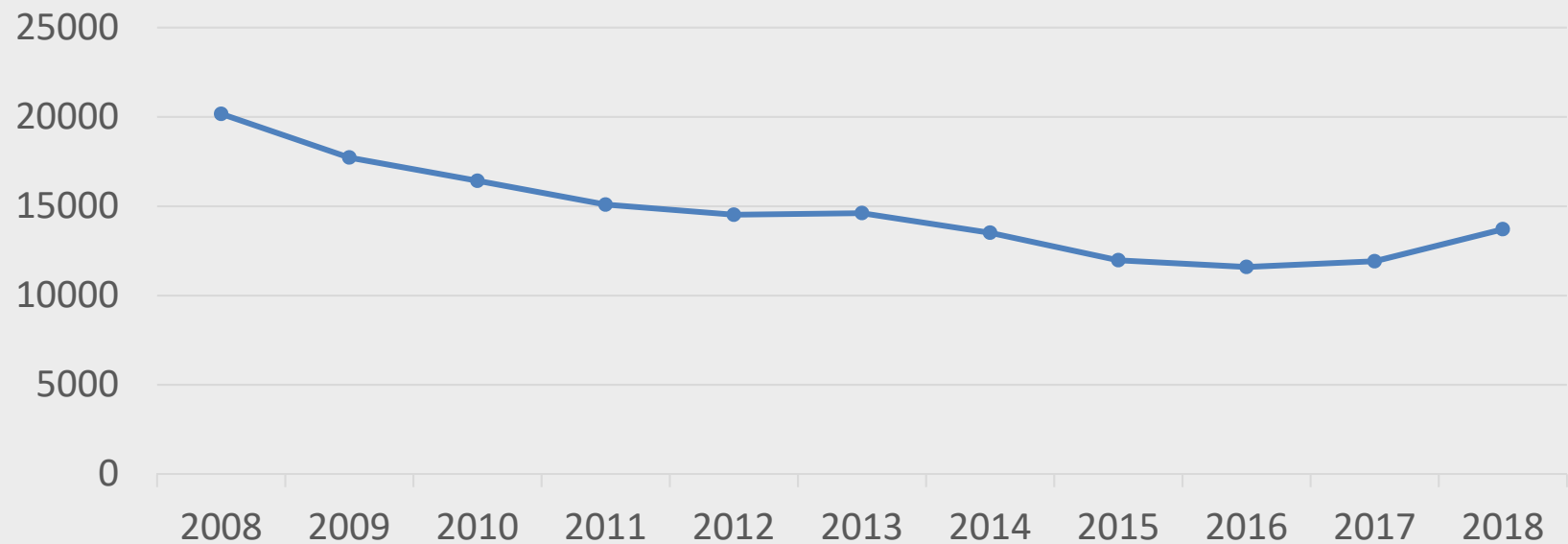
MDHHS is currently responsible for the care and supervision of approximately 13,500 children.

% of Children in Care	Placement Setting
34%	Unrelated Licensed Foster Home (if no relative available)
32%	Relative Care (preferred placement)
16%	Supervised in Own Home
11%	Other (adoptive home, emergency shelter, detention, hospital, etc.)
7%	Child Caring Institutions



Children in Care Trend by Year

Children in Care Trend





Permanency Goals for Children in Care

- Reunification (preferred)
- Adoption (requires termination of parental rights by the court)
- Guardianship
- Permanent Placement w/ Relative
- Another Planned Permanent Living Arrangement (APPLA)
 - Permanent Arrangement w/ Foster Parent
 - Independent Living--Young Adult Voluntary Foster Care



Adoption

Program Goal: Ensure a safe, permanent, loving adoptive family for each child that becomes available for adoption.

- Approx. 2,800 children/year are available for adoption.
- Occurs through termination of parental rights.
- Fully privatized. MDHHS contracts with 48 licensed adoption agencies.



Adoption Facts

- In 2018, 2,002 children were adopted.
 - More than 300 children are currently in need of an adoptive family.
- Average cost of adopting a child from the child welfare system is \$250.
- 95% of children available for adoption qualify for Michigan's Adoption Assistance Program.
- 24,000 receive Adoption Assistance.



Looking Ahead

- Focus on Evidence Based Prevention
- More Targeted Supervisory Oversight of CPS Investigation Process
- Placement with Relatives
- Limited use of congregate care and ONLY with QRTPs
- Trauma Informed Approach
- Workforce Recruitment and Retention



Questions?

Karla Ruest

Director of Legislative Affairs

Michigan Dept. Health & Human Services

RuestK@Michigan.gov

(517)373-1629

