

Children and Youth in Care: *Placement and Program Information*

Date: June 25, 2014



Georgia Department of Human Services

Vision, Mission and Core Values

Vision

Stronger Families for a Stronger Georgia.

Mission

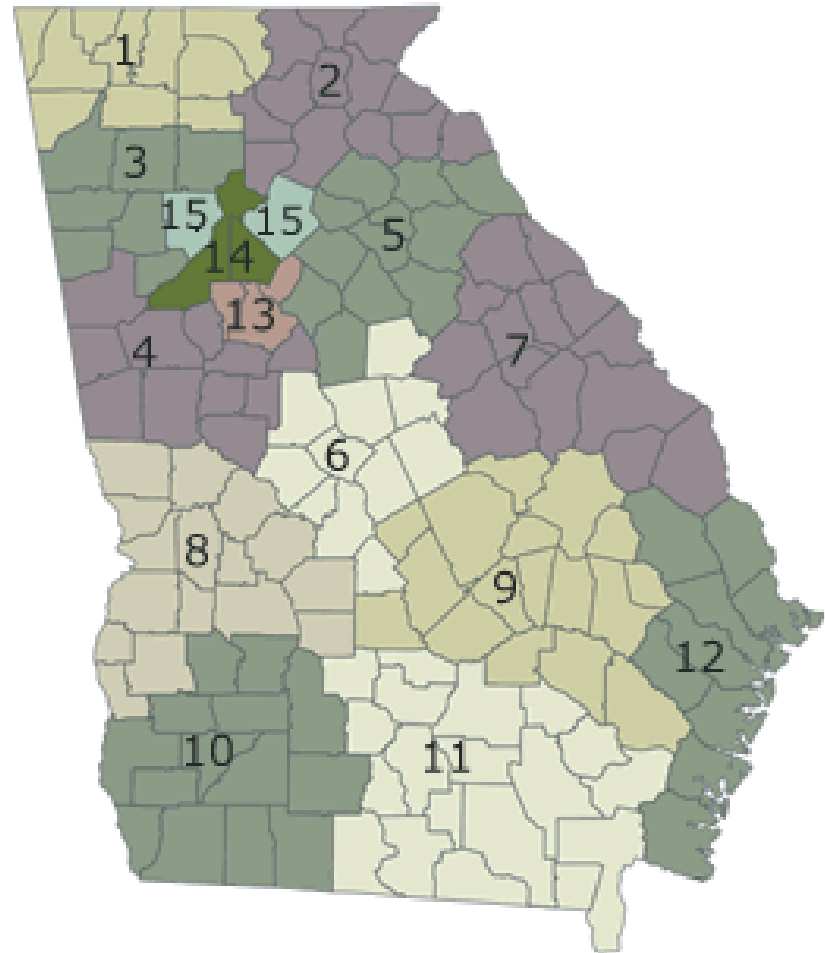
Strengthen Georgia by providing Individuals and Families access to services that promote self-sufficiency, independence, and protect Georgia's vulnerable children and adults.

Core Values

- **Provide access to resources that offer support and empower Georgians and their families.**
- **Deliver services professionally and treat all clients with dignity and respect. Manage business operations effectively and efficiently by aligning resources across the agency.**
- **Promote accountability, transparency and quality in all services we deliver and programs we administer.**
- **Develop our employees at all levels of the agency.**

Children in Care by Region

Region	Children In Care
1	593
2	496
3	1269
4	548
5	564
6	546
7	244
8	460
9	140
10	291
11	637
12	634
13	482
14	1115
15	694
State	8713



On June 23 there were 8,713 children in foster in care, including those over 18 who have voluntarily signed themselves in care.

Children Less Than 18 in Care

REGION	Age 0-5	Age 6-12	Age 13-17	Total
1	235	193	165	593
2	203	157	136	496
3	518	427	324	1269
4	244	149	155	548
5	254	170	140	564
6	234	161	151	546
7	104	81	59	244
8	199	141	120	460
9	58	39	43	140
10	119	80	92	291
11	282	204	151	637
12	273	208	153	634
13	181	158	143	482
14	453	297	365	1115
15	254	233	207	694
State	3611	2698	2404	8713

The number of foster children in Georgia has greatly increased since the first of the year.

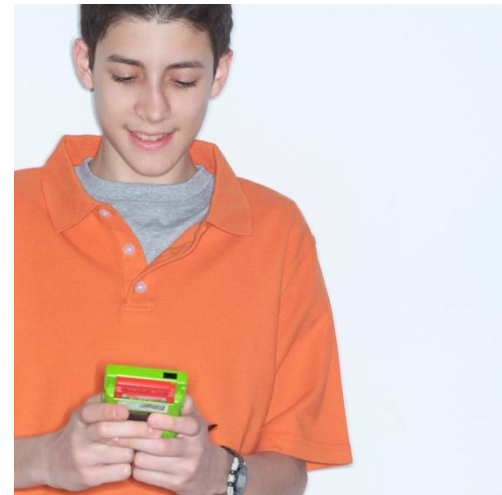
Youth Who Have Signed Themselves Back into Care

REGION	Child Count	Age 18	Age 19	Age 20	Age 21	Age 22
1	16	7	4	5	0	0
2	15	9	4	2	0	0
3	43	23	9	7	4	0
4	27	18	5	3	1	0
5	30	11	9	9	1	0
6	31	13	9	6	3	0
7	2	1	0	1	0	0
8	18	9	5	3	1	0
9	5	4	1	0	0	0
10	13	5	4	4	0	0
11	8	3	2	3	0	0
12	23	15	3	4	1	0
13	20	7	4	7	2	0
14	109	62	22	21	4	0
15	57	30	20	7	0	0
State	417	217	101	82	17	0

Upon reaching 18 a child in care is emancipated. Some youth choose to sign themselves back into care as “Temporary Voluntary” in order to access various services.

Children in CCI's

Region	Children In CCI
1	92
2	77
3	166
4	100
5	55
6	91
7	16
8	54
9	18
10	63
11	87
12	111
13	76
14	199
15	96
State	1301



About one out of six children in care resides in a CCI. Most are teenagers.

Children in CPA's

Region	Children In CPA
1	80
2	185
3	380
4	125
5	118
6	149
7	68
8	96
9	15
10	31
11	156
12	169
13	122
14	504
15	163
State	2361



About one out of four children in care resides in a CPA.

All Children in Care by Placement Types

Placement Type	<18	Youth
Missing	345	21
Adoptive Home	228	0
CCI Family Foster Home	2	1
Child Care Institution	1301	220
CPA Family Foster Home	2361	102
DFCS Family Foster Home	2623	35
Emergency Shelter	1	0
Hospital	92	2
ICPC - Relative	14	0
ILP/Aftercare	0	1
Other Person	66	9
Other Resource	19	14
Parent	136	3
Relative - Paid	931	3
Relative - Unpaid	488	1
Relative Foster Home	17	2
Runaway	52	1
Specialized Foster Home	2	0
YDC/RYDC	35	2
Totals	8713	417



The above shows the number of children by placement types. *Data are for children in care on June 22.*

Office of Provider Management
Catrechia Stokes-Bryan,
Director



nothing
changes
if

nothing
changes

Upcoming RBWO Changes/Improvements

- RBWO Minimum Standards
- Common Referral Forms/Match Screening Summary
- Placement Matching/MATCH Tool!



FY15 RBWO Minimum Standards

- Survey to review FY15 Standards posted on 6/10/14
- 23 out of 117 agencies responded
- 21 edits/changes

highlight

FY15 RBWO Minimum Standards changes

- Providers must have a DHS, OIG Fitness Determination Letter for all applicable staff and volunteers **before beginning work**.
- Providers must conduct and document at a minimum one General Contact occurring at least monthly for each child placed. A General Contact is a purposeful visit; however it does not have to occur in the home. The General Contact maybe documented in the standard narrative type in Georgia SHINES or the Safety, Permanency, and Well-being narrative type.
- Any collapsible (pack and play), sofas, cots or other such temporary sleeping structures may not be used as the **planned bed space** for children.
- CPA's requesting reimbursement must submit receipts for clothing within **three (3)** months of purchase.

FY15 RBWO Minimum Standards changes cont'd.

- Providers who utilize volunteers must ensure that they are supervised by a qualified RBWO Staff who is responsible for planning and coordinating the volunteer's assigned duties. An appropriate training/orientation program must be conducted by a qualified staff member prior to a volunteer engaging in any activities with youth.
- Providers (CCI's and CPA foster parents) must have a **written Emergency/Disaster Plan** to address large scale emergency situations. Emergency situations are defined as anything that will displace children during a statewide or agency disaster.
- CCI and CPA Human Service Professionals, Case Support Workers and Case Support Supervisors must complete RBWO *Foundations* new hire training **within 6 months** from their start date or be waived from training.
- DFCS will not place children with CPA foster parents who are also employees of the CPA agency. ***Any existing foster homes where foster parents are also CPA staff must be reported to the Director of the Office of Provider Management within 14 days from July 1, 2014.**



Review and acknowledge confirmation by August 1st at www.gascore.com



Quick Links +

YOU HAVE 3190 NEW MESSAGES Help

GA SCORE -> Provider -> Risk Management -> OPM Correspondence

Rachel's Place (Test Only)
Group Home (5106) - Child Caring Institution (Active)

Profile Audit Services Rosters Reports Risk Management

OPM Correspondence OPM Case History

OPM Correspondence

PBC Measurements and Standards Guide and RBWO Minimum Standards

Director/Designee Name: Cindy Davis
Date Reviewed: 6/28/2012 (Reported to GA+SCORE: 7/5/2012)
Reported By: rachelwahlig@caresolutions.com

Director/Designee Name: Charlie Brown
Date Reviewed: 10/2/2013 (Reported to GA+SCORE: 10/2/2013)
Reported By: dawnreed@caresolutions.com

Making the Placement Match!



How do you
make the
match?

Draft Common Referral Application

- Common Referral Application Draft posted for feedback May 2013
- Feedback received, modifications made (length/name) and DFCS Case Managers began using the draft form January 2014
- Final solicitation for feedback on 6/4/14
46 total responses
- **Full implementation 7/1/14** of the RBWO MSS will be the single process used by all CCIs and CPAs as the initial referral tool for potential placement matches



RBWO Match Screening Summary

MATCH!

Foster care placements with Child Placing Agencies (CPAs) and Child Caring Institutions (CCIs) generally account for over 45% of all DFCS placements. The process of referring children and youth to these providers can often be an overwhelming task considering that there are over 170 CCI sites and more than 60 different CPAs all with varying differences in their referral and administrative processes. To simplify and standardize the referral process, the common referral form or RBWO MATCH Screening Summary (RBWO MSS) has been developed.



is used by all CCIs and CPAs as the initial referral tool for providers may continue to use other referral forms until May 1, and no other referral forms will be used.

[RBWO MATCH Screening Summary \(RBWO MSS\) Form](#) - the RBWO MSS form is used to make referrals to RBWO providers. Please complete the form thoroughly and completely.

[Form Instructions](#)

[RBWO Referral Process Flowchart](#) -- overview of the RBWO referral and application process.

Selecting the best placement with the highest performing RBWO provider is now possible with the **MATCH! E-Tool**.

The **MATCH! E-Tool** is a placement search tool that pulls information in real-time from provider's data in GA+SCORE. It was developed to support DFCS case managers in finding RBWO placements. The **MATCH! E-Tool** does the following:

- Allows for multiple, flexible search options;
- Returns results using real-time capacity information on CCIs and CPA foster homes;
- Sorts by the provider's current Performance Based Placement quarterly grade.

With the **MATCH! E-Tool**, it's no longer necessary to call providers to see if they have space available. **MATCH! E-Tool** returns results for placement matches of providers who *actually* have space available, in order of their Performance Based Placement grade.

To learn more about placement matching and the **MATCH! E-Tool**, please watch the following informational webinar:

RBWO MATCH Screening Summary

Referral Date: _____	County: _____
Case Manager: _____	Phone: _____ Email: _____
Referral Contact: _____	Phone: _____ Email: _____

Placement Timeframe: Today 2-3 Days By: _____ Current Location of Child: _____

Type Caregiver Needed: Partnership Parent Resource Parent Community CCI Secure CCI TLP ILP
 Maternity Placement (CCI or Foster Home) Parenting Teen Placement (CCI or Foster Home) Other _____

Type Placement Needed: Individual Placement Sibling Placement (separate application must be completed for each child)

Child's Name: _____ SHINES ID: _____

DOB: _____ Age: _____ Gender: Male Female Current Program Designation: _____

Ethnicity: White African American Asian-Pacific Islander Hispanic American Indian Other _____

Primary Language: English Spanish Other: _____

FC Entry Date: _____ Dual DJJ Commitment: Yes No Permanency Plan: Reunification Adoption Relative Placement APPLA

Previous FC Episode Dates: _____ N/A

Current Behaviors: Sexually Aggressive Physically Aggressive Suicidal Ideations Gang Involved Substance Use Oppositional
 Other: _____

For any behavior checked, provide the date of last incident and a description of the event:

School Name: _____ School System: _____ Grade: _____

IEP? No Yes (State why) _____

Full Scale IQ: Unknown Average Above-Average Below Average (Must List #) _____

Special Needs: No Yes (Type) _____

List Last Evaluation Dates: Psychological _____ CCFA _____ Dental _____ Physical _____

If there are any other demographic/descriptive characteristics relevant to making a placement match, please describe below:



KEEP
CALM
AND
LETS GET
STARTED

The New RBWO Policy Violation Assessment Process

Helping Us Keep Safety First!

A Brief Look at the Numbers

- For the period between January 1 - June 15, 2014:
 - 213 incidents involving RBWO providers were reported to CPS
 - 176 of these incidents have been closed out
 - Of the 176 closed cases:
 - 104 cases were screened out
 - 57 cases were unsubstantiated
 - 15 cases were substantiated

A Few Notes Regarding the New Process

- **OPM is serving as the hub for the RBWO policy violation review process.**
 - Receives CPS alerts (in SHINES)
 - Notifies relevant parties (Provider, DFCS CM)
 - Provides concurrence review (of PV Assessment)
 - Tracks CAP implementation and completion
- **The RBWO policy violation review process is being brought into alignment with the new Resource Development policy.**
 - Policy 14.22 will replace Policy 1015 sections 25 – 34

A Few Notes Regarding the New Process

- **Providers may not be aware of the same CPS reportable events.**
 - Multiple reporting sources, e.g. providers, family members, mandated reporters (teachers, counselors, transporters, etc.)
- **Providers don't always know that a CPS investigation has been initiated.**
- **Policy violations associated with CPS reports are not consistently identified.**

The Process Steps

The Alert

- The OPM Risk Management section receives a SHINES alert for each CPS intake that is completed.
 - The provider must still make Significant Event notifications if they are aware of the event as well.
 - Each alert is assigned by OPM for Policy Violation Assessment (completed by the provider) and is either screened out or assigned for investigation by CPS (parallel processes).

Aligned with Policy Violation?

- OPM conducts an initial review of the CPS allegation as presented in SHINES within 1 business day.
- OPM notifies the RBWO Provider and DFCS Case Manager of the allegation.

Aligned with Policy Violation?

- If OPM determines the maltreatment allegation does not constitute a violation of DFCS policy, the provider is notified and no further action is required.
- If OPM determines that the allegation (as reported) may constitute a violation of DFCS policy, the agency is notified and the CPS home is placed on hold for further RBWO placements until the agency's assessment is complete.

Aligned with Policy Violation?

- The provider is instructed to begin a policy violation assessment within 24 hours.
- The provider completes and submits their policy violation assessment findings to OPM within 14 days.
 - Reports should be submitted to opmrequests@dhr.state.ga.us.

Concurrence Assessment

- Once the policy violation assessment is received from the provider, OPM completes a concurrence review within 10 days.
- If OPM does not concur with the provider's assessment, the provider completes and submits a corrective action plan (CAP) to OPM within 3 business days.

Concurrence Assessment

- If OPM concurs with the provider's assessment, and the policy violation was unsupported, no further action is required of the provider.
- If OPM concurs with the provider's assessment, and the policy violation was supported, the provider completes and submits a corrective action plan (CAP) to OPM within 3 business days.

Concurrence Assessment

- For any child with a permanency plan of foster home guardianship or adoption, if the policy violation is supported by the provider and concurred with by OPM, OPM notifies the State Permanency Unit.
- OPM notifies the DFCS Case Manager of the Policy Violation Assessment and CAP as applicable.
- OPM determines when the home hold will be lifted. At a minimum, the home will remain on hold until completion of the Policy Violation Assessment concurrence review.

Documentation

- OPM documents the expected CAP completion date in SHINES and GA+SCORE within 5 days of final determination.
- OPM also uploads a copy of the policy violation assessment and corrective action plan into SHINES and GA+SCORE.

Corrective Action

- OPM tracks the CAP process through to completion and provides technical assistance as required.
- CAP effectiveness will be evaluated during subsequent Safety and Comprehensive reviews.

If the CPS Report is Investigated

- As practical, both OPM and the provider will participate in the CPS 48 hour coordination staffing held by the DFCS County office or Special investigations Unit.
- Further coordination on corrective actions required as a result of this meeting will be discussed with the provider.
 - Typically issues will have already been identified and addressed through the PV assessment process.

QUESTIONS?

If not, let's eat!

DHS Vision, Mission and Core Values

Vision

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Mission

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Practice Matters

June 24, 2014



Georgia Department of Human Services

Agenda

- Welcome / Agenda Review
- DFCS Project Updates
- Provider Perspectives
- Data Snapshot
- FY 15 Standards
- OPM Risk Management
- Ted Talk
- CB 21
- LEAD

Speed Networking

Goal: Meet two new colleagues

- Talk to someone you've never met.
- Learn what they do; share what you do.
- Share something about yourself; learn something about them.
- Create a connection to build upon.

DFCS Updates

Leadership Changes

Focus-Safety

Privatization RFP

IV-E Waiver

APSR / CFSP

www.gacwplanning.org

Policy Release



Interim Division
Director Bobby Cagle



Interim Deputy
Division Director
Katie Jo Ballard

Provider Perspectives

Foster Care Services Section Independent Living Program

Connected By 21 (CB21)

Presented by: Dianne Kelly, FCS Director
June 24, 2014



Happy 18th Birthday

Jim Casey Youth Opportunities Initiative PSA

<http://vimeo.com/65332682>

This public service announcement raises awareness of the challenges young people face in transitioning out of foster care.

CB 21 Work Group

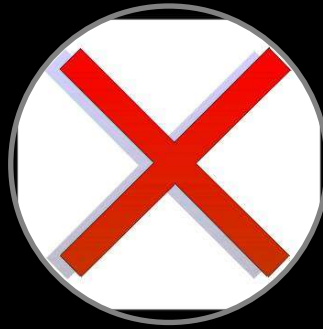
Youth
EmpowerMENT
Casey Rep
Regional Directors
Regional Staff
County SS Staff
ILP
Permanency
OPM
Policy
RBWO Providers
CASA
Judges
Faith Based-Community
Legal
Fiscal
Data
RCC
AFPAG



Key Messages From Parents



1st : Place a star next to the messages that you received from your parents that had a positive impact on your success as an adult.



2nd : Draw a line through messages that our youth DON'T get



3rd: Circle the messages our youth DO get



Text Poll Question

Youth should exit foster care at age 18 years.

Agree

Disagree

Depends

http://www.polleverywhere.com/multiple_choice_polls/Z0j1XK VX6LDMS

LL

Text Poll Question

The best thing we can do for older youth is.

- Ensure that they achieve permanency.
- Send them to college.
- Ensure that they have a job.
- Ensure that they graduate from high school.
- Provide IL Services

http://www.polleverywhere.com/multiple_choice_polls/WLyMq89vT2IhQdY

Connected By 21 (CB21)

- **CB21** is a 5-year project plan with the goal of ensuring that emancipated youth have the same building blocks for success in family, work, life that are generally afforded to their peers in intact families.

Goal: To create comprehensive, developmentally appropriate extended youth support program for emancipated youth up to age 21 years which is distinctively different from 0 to 18 Foster Care yet contains all components –permanency planning, RBWO, IL services and judicial oversight.

CB21 : July 1, 2014

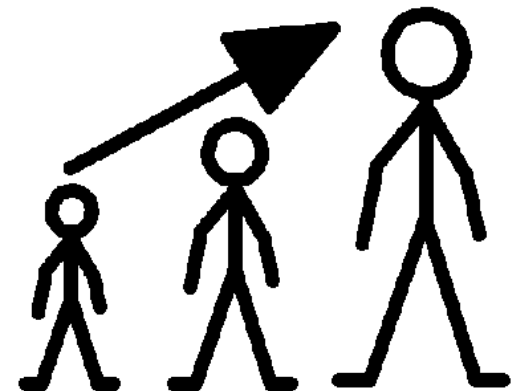
- **Step One** : Move from **Signing Back In** to Foster Care to **Signing Out** of Care -- Start Date: **July 1, 2014**
 - State the Case: Establish Sense of Urgency
 - Identify Low Hanging Fruit That Will Enhance What We Already Have
 - Identify and Address Barriers to Beginning
 - Change on Paper (Policy / Process)

ILP Is not an island; It is an integral part of our child placement system.

Learning to live independently is a lifelong process. For most children, the early stages of this process take place as part of growing up in a family. In the family setting, children receive continuous economic and emotional support from nurturing parents as they make the transitions from childhood to adolescence and from adolescence to adulthood.

OUR ISSUE:

How do we successfully replicate to the extent possible normalcy for all children in care and help older youth in care make a successful transition to adulthood ?



Independent Living Program

- Georgia's program started in 1987
 - First funded by Independent Living Program of 1986
 - Amended in 1990 to include youth up to age 21 years
 - Replaced by the John H Chafee Foster Care Independence Program Act of 1999
 - Doubled Funding
 - Authorized supportive housing funding for youth who had aged out
 - Promoting Safe and Stable Families Act Amendments of 2002
 - Included funding for Education and Training Vouchers
 - Fostering Connections Act of 2008
 - States given option to FC to 21 with federal funds



Independent Living Programming

State ILP Program

- State ILP Manager
- Regional IL Specialists
- Administers Chafee Program
- Youth must meet age and length of stay eligibility criteria.
- Provides aftercare services.

RBWO ILP Programming

- **RBWO Independent Living Standards:** applies to all placements of youth ages 14 years and up in CPA or CCI placements.
- **RBWO ILP Programs:** apartment and other non-congregate care placements for youth ages 18 and up.
- **Transitional Living Programs (TLP):** specialized congregate living arrangements for youth 16 years and older with a focus on developing independent living skills.

Nationally: Lessons Learned Since 1999

1. Permanence is vital for youth.
2. Young people must be served from a youth development and developmentally appropriate perspective.
3. Young people must be engaged in planning for their futures and advocacy.
4. Independent living programs have not been successful in preparing young people in foster care for adulthood.

What's Been Learned Since 1999?

5. Young people currently and formerly in foster care need to build financial resources and assets.
6. Data must be available to track outcomes and drive decisions.
7. Partnerships and resources are essential in achieving positive outcomes for youth. (Link/leverage ideas and money.)
8. Stable placements and housing are critical.

Text Poll Question

According to the latest brain science, at what age have youth acquired the skills and knowledge needed to gainfully participate in the workforce, establish their own households and develop positive social networks for themselves.

Age 18

Age 22

Age 25

Age 30

http://www.polleverywhere.com/multiple_choice_polls/

[DfM8vixf2LeXJxw](http://www.polleverywhere.com/multiple_choice_polls/DfM8vixf2LeXJxw)

Latest Brain Science

- Reflects that by 25 years of age youth would have acquired the skills and knowledge needed to participate in the workforce, establish their own households, develop positive social networks for themselves.
 - Have Full Brain Development
 - Completed Post Secondary Education
 - Connected to Employment
 - Have Own Social Networks

Text Poll Question

The youth that I work with have a GIP.

GIP? What's that?

Nope!

Some Do

Each one that can have one, has one!

http://www.polleverywhere.com/multiple_choice_polls/Lm1oQ10TzxfNVPt

Graduated Independence Plans (GIP)

- SS Policy 1015.41 Graduated Independence (April 2012)
 - Allows for youth ages 14 years and older to participate in unsupervised age appropriate activities.
 - Establishes in writing all permitted freedoms, expectations, parameters and grounds for terminating agreement.
 - Initiated by youth, caregiver, SSCM or provider.
 - Developed with the youth

Current State of ILP

Data Snapshot



of Older Youth in Care

Region	Age Range		Grand Total
	14 to 17	18 or Older	
01	142	18	160
02	113	15	128
03	275	43	318
04	131	35	166
05	123	30	153
06	119	31	150
07	49	3	52
08	103	18	121
09	35	5	40
10	80	15	95
11	120	12	132
12	127	22	149
13	115	26	141
14	313	123	436
15	178	57	235
Grand Total	2023	453	2476

Youth Placement Types

Placement Type	Age Range		Grand Total
	14 to 17	18 or Older	
Child Care Institution	976	214	1190
CPA Family Foster Home	366	105	471
DFCS Family Foster Home	221	35	256
Not Entered	106	55	161
Relative - Paid	73	3	76
Relative - Unpaid	61	3	64
Hospital	47	2	49
Runaway	47	2	49
Parent	35	3	38
YDC/RYDC	31	1	32
Other Person	17	11	28
Adoptive Home	24		24
Other Resource	6	15	21
Relative Foster Home	3	2	5
ICPC - Relative	4		4
CCI Family Foster Home	2	1	3
Emergency Shelter	1		1
Specialized Foster Home	1		1
ILP/Aftercare		1	1
Non-Relative Paid	1		1
Other Adoptive Home	1		1
Grand Total	2023	453	2476

Text Poll Question

The % of youth that typically remain in care post 18 years.

25%

50%

60%

85%

http://www.polleverywhere.com/multiple_choice_polls/0H5o1Nt6QeG5Cxt

EYSS Statistics

rptmonth	Turned 18	Exited	InCustody	Still In Custody Matrix											
				May-13	Jun-13	Jul-13	Aug-13	Sep-13	Oct-13	Nov-13	Dec-13	Jan-14	Feb-14	Mar-14	Apr-14
4/1/2013	35	13	22	19	18	18	17	16	15	15	15	15	14	14	14
5/1/2013	36	20	16		15	14	14	13	11	11	11	11	11	11	11
6/1/2013	34	15	19			16	16	15	13	13	12	12	12	11	11
7/1/2013	48	20	28				27	26	26	25	24	22	22	22	21
8/1/2013	34	17	17					14	14	14	13	12	12	12	11
9/1/2013	42	16	26						25	23	21	21	21	21	20
10/1/2013	40	19	21							21	21	20	17	17	16
11/1/2013	38	15	23								21	20	17	16	16
12/1/2013	38	13	25									22	18	16	16
1/1/2014	35	7	28										24	22	21
2/1/2014	39	12	27											24	22
3/1/2014	30	16	14												13
4/1/2014	37	12	25												25

About 60% Stay and about 75% of those remain after 12 months.



of Youth Turning 18 Years
July-43 ; August- 40 , September 32; October – 38,
November 33 and December 51

Identify 2-3 LHF's for Your Assigned Area

Low Hanging Fruit



World English Dictionary
low-hanging fruit

— n

1. the fruit that grows low on a tree and is therefore easy to reach
2. **a course of action that can be undertaken quickly and easily as part of a wider range of changes or solutions to a problem: first pick the low-hanging fruit**