

Attachment 1
January 29, 2025

Child Welfare Overview




IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH & WELFARE



Evaluation report
February 2017

Child Welfare System

Office of Performance Evaluations
Idaho Legislature




Promoting confidence and accountability in state government

Evaluation report
March 2018

Child Welfare System: Reducing the Risk of Adverse Outcomes

Office of Performance Evaluations
Idaho Legislature




Promoting confidence and accountability in state government

Evaluation report
September 2021

Evaluation and Retention of Child Neglect Referrals

Office of Performance Evaluations
Idaho Legislature




Promoting confidence and accountability in state government

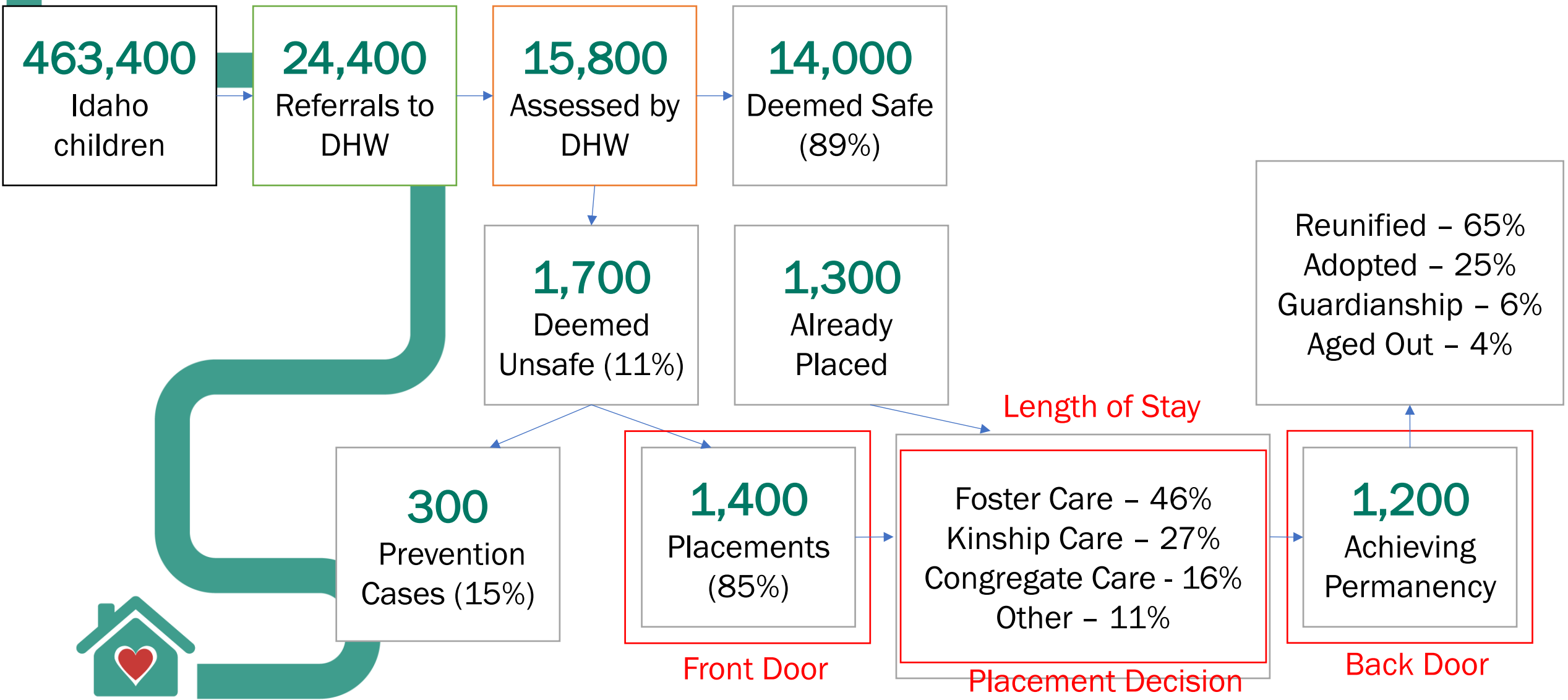
Courts and Justice | Health and Welfare | Legislature

Oversight committee raises child welfare concerns

🕒 FEBRUARY 23, 2024

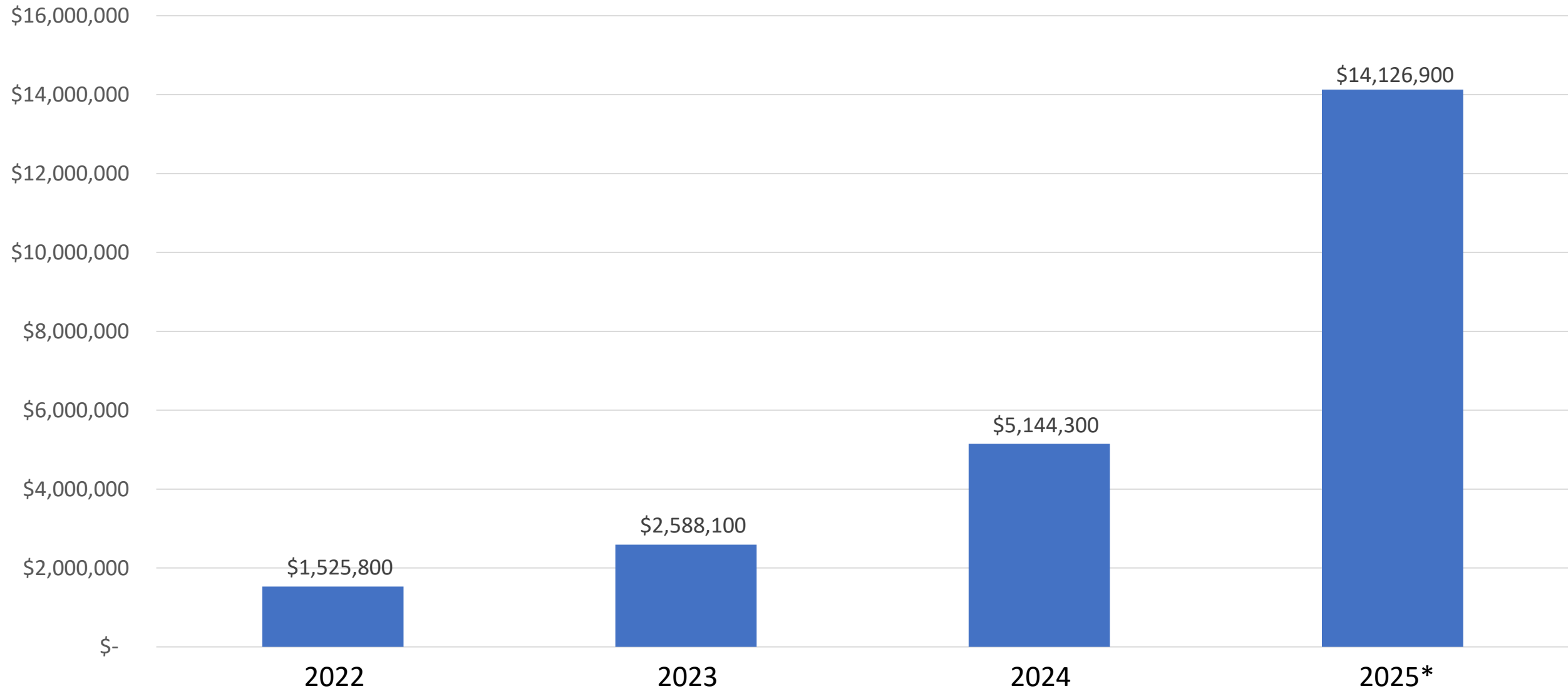


The Child Welfare Journey



Supplemental History

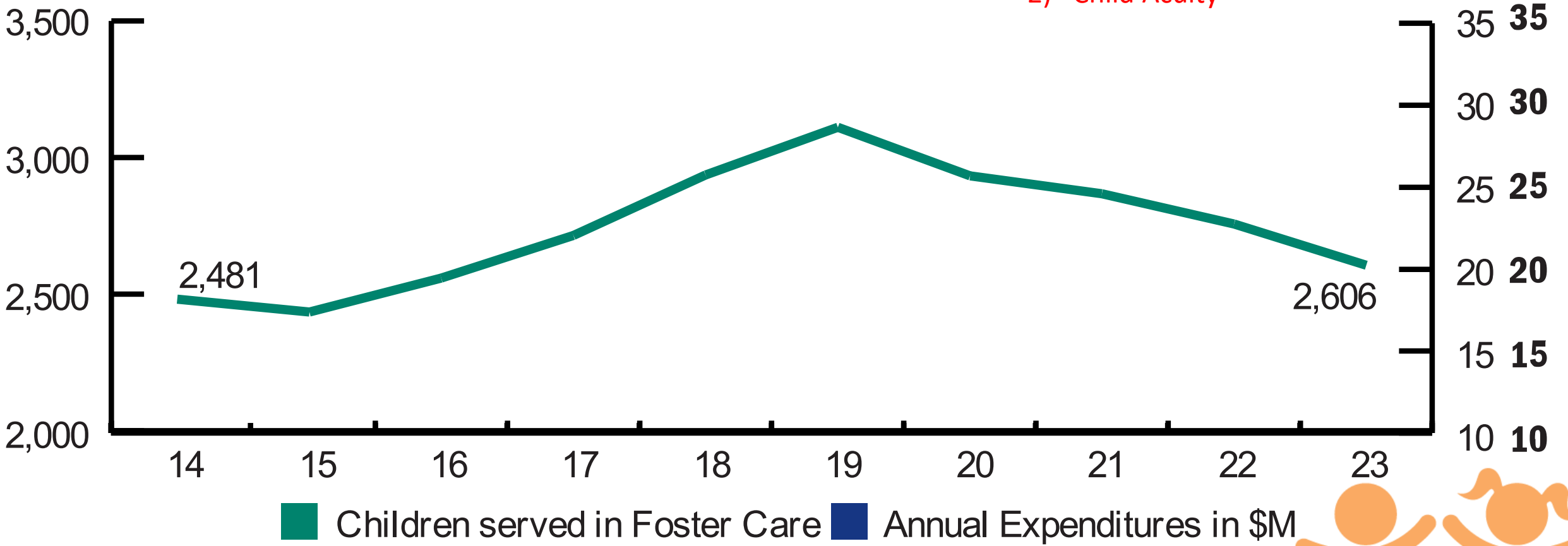
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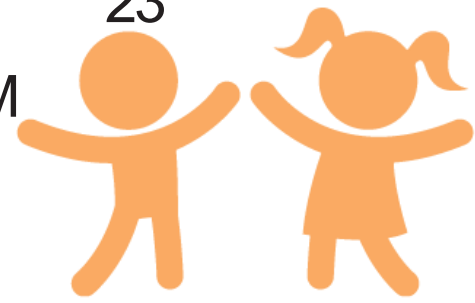
Children Served and Annual Expenditure



- 1) Congregate care
- 2) Child Acuity



Children served in Foster Care Annual Expenditures in \$M



Costs Per Setting

6



Setting	Average Daily Cost/Kid*	Average Annual Cost/Kid*
General Foster Care	\$16	\$5,840
Kinship Care	\$16	\$5,840
Congregate Care	\$385 (\$225 to \$800)	\$140,525
Prevention Case	\$1.80	\$657

*Based on FY 2024 data

Trends in Congregate Care

7



State Fiscal Year	Percent of Placements	Average Daily Cost	Total Cost
2018	8.3%	\$205	N/A
2019	8.7%	\$225	\$8,601,700
2020	9.7%	\$175	\$6,330,600
2021	13.6%	\$165	\$8,676,100
2022	14.5%	\$226	\$11,594,700
2023	18.2%	\$275	\$16,957,300
2024	17.9%	\$385	\$29,416,400



- Now seeing 15% to 19% of children entering where the initial removal was due to:
 - Child alcohol abuse
 - Child behavior problem
 - Child disability
 - Child drug use
 - Child mental illness
 - Danger to others
 - Danger to self
 - Runaway
 - Etc.



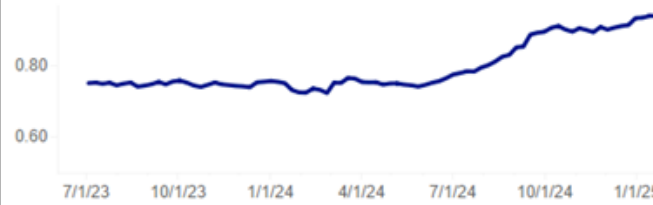
CYFS Foster Homes and Foster Children - January 20, 2025

Statewide Ratio

0.94 ▼

Last Week: 0.94 (0.000)

Ratio of Foster Homes to Foster Children



Ratio by Region

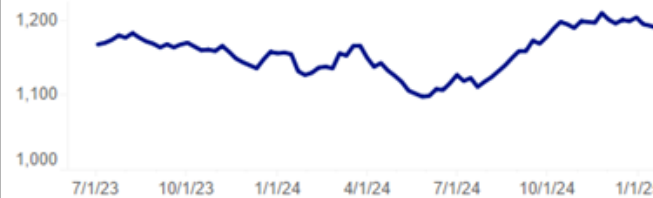
Region 1	1.34	▼
Region 2	1.17	▲
Region 3	0.76	▼
Region 4	0.86	▼
Region 5	0.82	▲
Region 6	0.89	▼
Region 7	1.22	▲
State Total	0.94	▼

Licensed Foster Homes

1,190 ▼

Last Week: 1,193 (-3)

Licensed Foster Homes



Foster Homes by Region

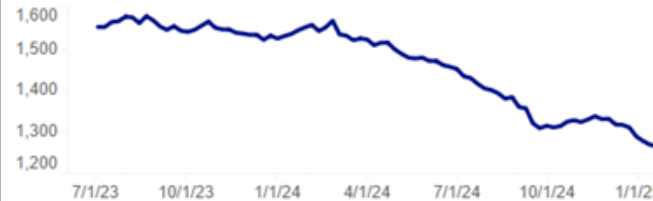
Region 1	192	▼
Region 2	63	▲
Region 3	252	▲
Region 4	252	▼
Region 5	107	▲
Region 6	158	▼
Region 7	166	▲
State Total	1,190	▼

Foster Children

1,266 ▼

Last Week: 1,269 (-3)

Foster Children



Foster Children by Region

Region 1	143	▲
Region 2	54	▲
Region 3	331	▲
Region 4	294	▼
Region 5	131	▼
Region 6	177	▲
Region 7	136	▼
State Total	1,266	▼

IDHW Goal: Ratio of 1.5 Foster Homes for each Foster Child



Congregate Care Placement Trends - January 20, 2025

Congregate Care Statewide

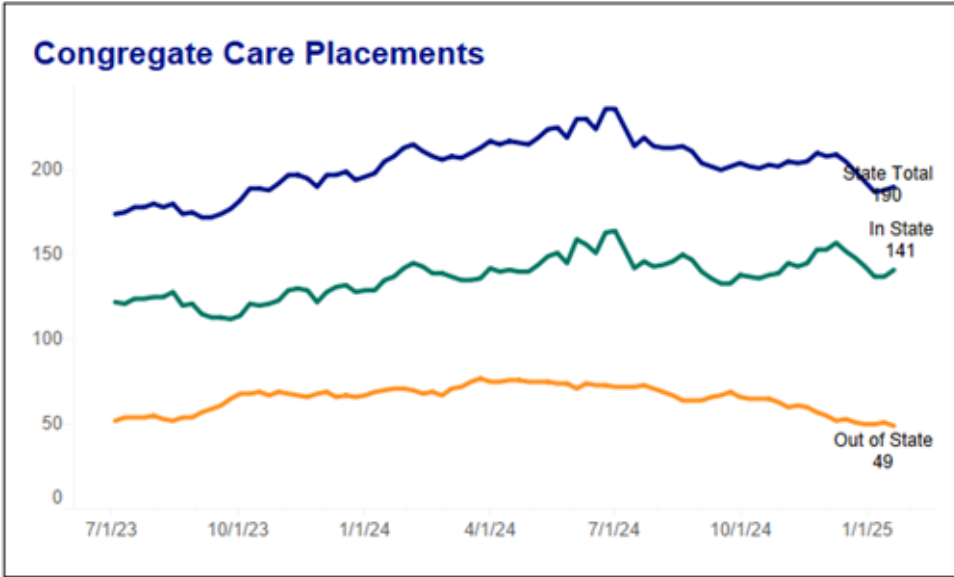
190 ▲
Last Week: 188 (2)

In-State

141 ▲
Last Week: 137 (4)

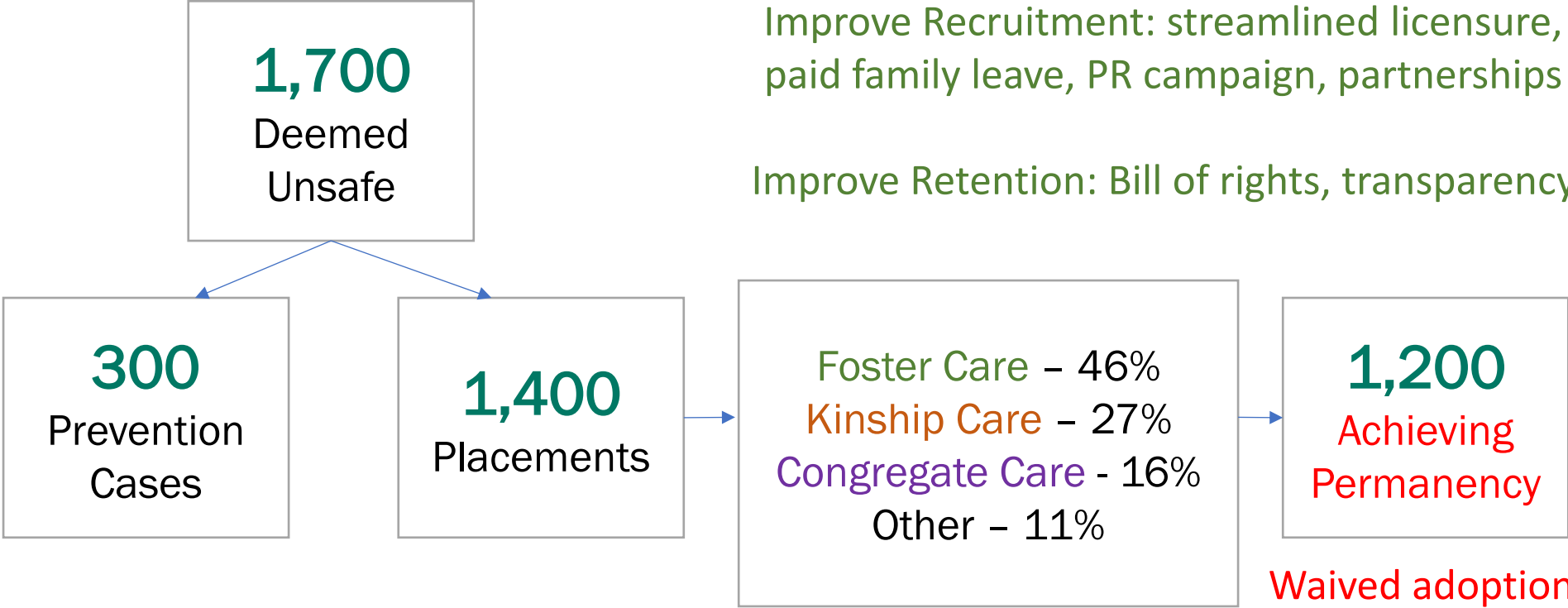
Out of State

49 ▼
Last Week: 51 (-2)



Count & Ratio by Region

Region	Count	Ratio	Trend
Region 1	20	(14.0%)	(▲→)
Region 2	10	(18.5%)	(▲→)
Region 3	40	(12.1%)	(▲)
Region 4	52	(17.7%)	(▼)
Region 5	26	(19.8%)	(▲)
Region 6	24	(13.6%)	(▲)
Region 7	18	(13.2%)	(▼)
State Total	190	(15.0%)	(▲)



Improve Recruitment: streamlined licensure, paid family leave, PR campaign, partnerships

Improve Retention: Bill of rights, transparency

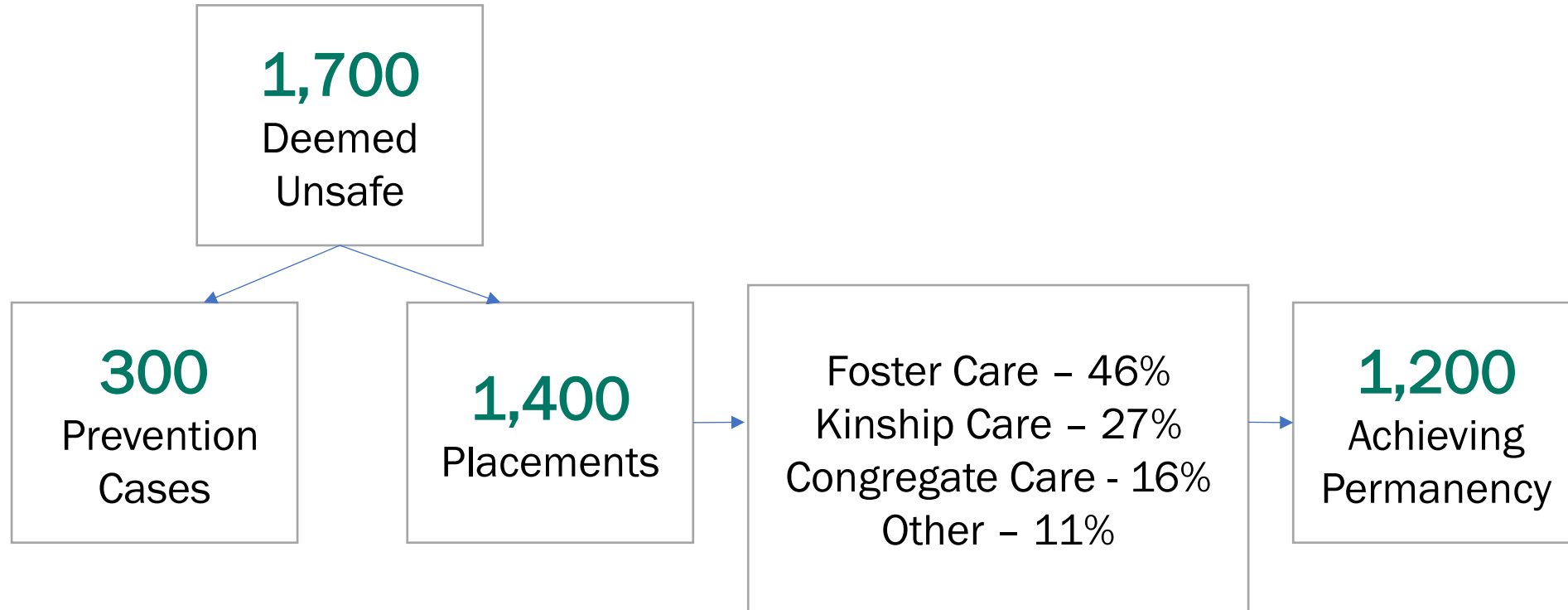
Improved software to identify kin, streamlined licensure

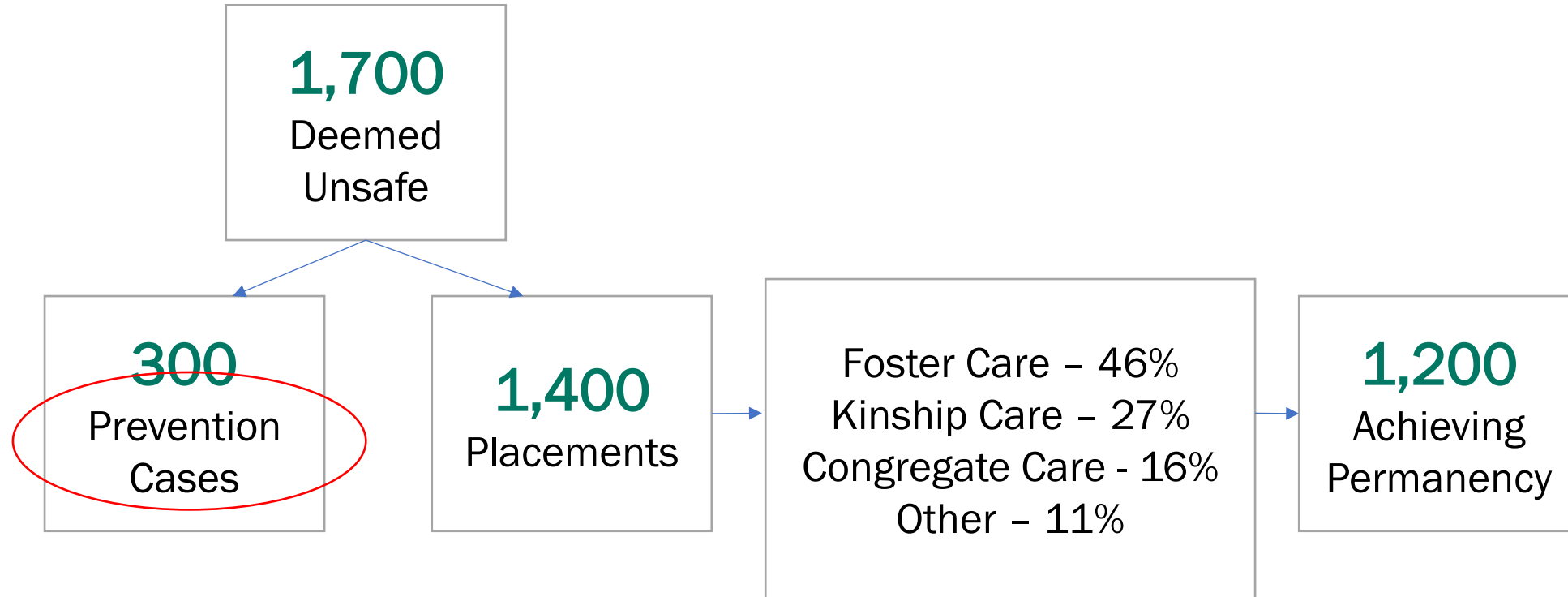
Implement SB 1379, Payette Assessment Care Center





- In general, all other divisions were held to a maintenance budget to prioritize investment in child welfare
- Our bet: investing more in prevention and increasing foster families will lower “non-discretionary” growth and supplementals



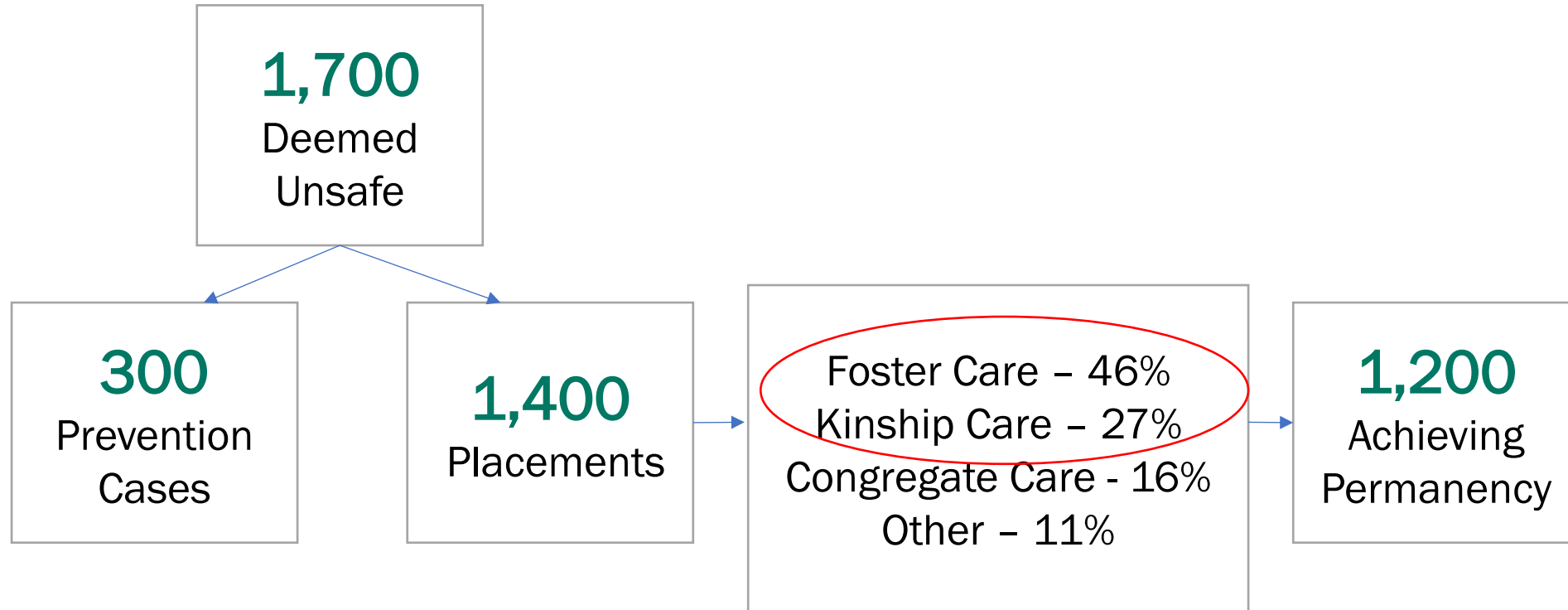


Prevention Specialists - 36 FTP





- Prevention ROI: Reduces the average daily rates.
 - Every 100 kids kept out of foster care through providing prevention services saves \$518,300 annually and increases the availability of foster homes.
 - Every 10 kids kept out of congregate care through placement in a proper foster home saves \$1.3 million annually.
- Goal: create a positive cascade that allows budget savings by leveraging lower cost, highest outcome settings.



Recruitment Efforts
5% Foster Family Pay Increase
Warm Line / Family Support Clinicians
Placement Fit & Stability in Foster Care
Licensing Staff





- Costs are going up due to congregate care costs and child acuity
- Maintenance budgets to prioritize child welfare
- Goal: create a cascade that allows continued reinvestment in prevention as the lowest cost, highest outcome area
- Using a known successful model to meet this goal.
- Entire organization is focused on this goal to ensure success.



IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF
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Questions?

