

Presentation to the
House Committee on Human Services and Housing

CHILD WELFARE UPDATE

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Presentation Outline

- Foster Care Supports
- Foster Care Certification
- Oregon Child Abuse Hotline
- Out of State Placements



Foster Care Supports

- Relationship between Foster Parent and Caseworker
- Supports for Foster Parent
- Training opportunities for Foster Parents
- Respite care for Foster Parents



Foster Care Certification

- Exploration of Foster Parent certification processes
- Exploration of kith, kin and relative certification process
- Foster Parent application tracking process
- Equity and inclusion improvements in certification process
- Development of hybrid Foster Parent training


Oregon Child Abuse Hotline

- History
- Rollout
- Challenges

Oregon Child Abuse Hotline

The Basics

- The state has begun to transition to one central hotline for reports of child abuse.
- The Oregon Child Abuse Hotline will go live in April 2019 with a focus on safety, consistency and customer service.
- When in full operation, the Hotline will be open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year.




Background

Currently, there are 15 decentralized hotlines in operation across Oregon. Most counties have hotlines within their districts. Screening practice at hotlines varies significantly across the state; including these:

- Interpretation of rule
- Interpretation of the Child Welfare procedure manual
- Screen-in and out rates

Over the past decade, inconsistent screening practices have been identified in the below as a barrier to achieving positive outcomes for child safety:

- Internal audits
- Numerous Critical Incident Response Team (CIRT) cases
- Litigation
- External reports

 Oregon Department of Human Services
CHILD WELFARE

Out of State Placements

- 78 Children placed out of state
- 16 Programs
- \$400 Average daily rate
- Next steps



Thank you



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