



Child Welfare Division Overview

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Vision for Transformation

All children deserve to experience safe, stable, healthy lives and grow up in the care of their loving family and community

- Racial equity and anti-racist
- The spirit of what we believe the child welfare system can and should be in Oregon
- Created through collaborative discussions with our workforce, community partners and Oregon Tribal Nations

Three Guiding Principles of the Vision for Transformation

1. Supporting families and promoting prevention



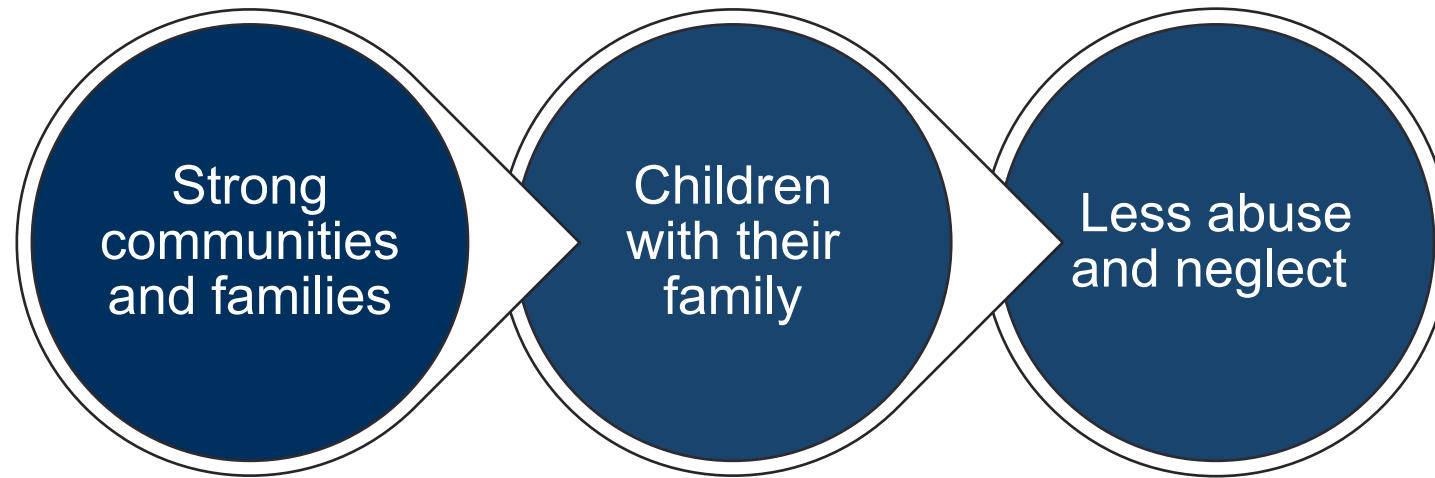
2. Enhancing our staff and infrastructure



3. Enhancing the structure of our system by using data with continuous quality improvement



Who we are



Family first | Community Centered | Culturally responsive

Story of transformation



Punitive and paternalistic

Lack of equity lens

Lack of implementation capacity



Investment in workforce and resource families

Engaged Tribes and communities

Data-informed strategies

ORCAH transformation



Prevention and preservation

Full equity framework

Community-driven

Implementation capacity

Who we serve

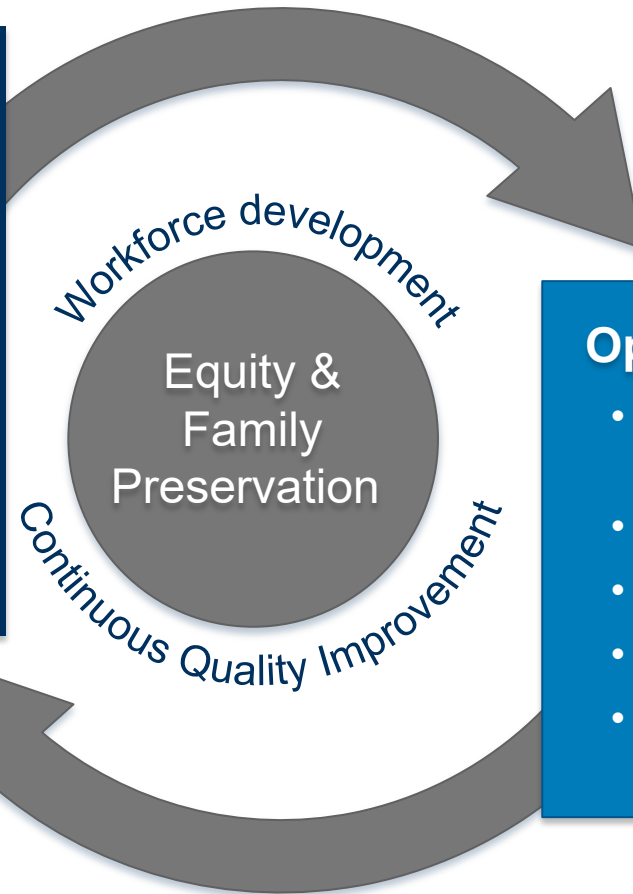
- All 36 counties in Oregon
- Tribal Nations
- Children and Young Adults and their families
- Resource Families (formerly foster families) and Caregivers
- Community Partners
- Providers



Child Welfare Division Areas of Work

Community-facing

- Oregon Child Abuse Hotline
- Child Safety
- Permanency
- Youth Transitions
- Treatment Services
- Foster Care
- Fatality Prevention and Review
- Resource Parent Retention & Recruitment



Operations & policy

- Interstate Compact for Placement of Children
- Federal and State Policy and Revenue
- Business Operations
- Contracts
- OR-Kids

Keeping Families Together









What is Family Preservation?



An approach to equitably serving families and children in their homes and communities, instead of foster care.

The myth of 'child rescue'

-  Children being separated from their parents, extended family, tribe or community
-  Punitive
-  Child Welfare knows best

-  Children and young people have better outcomes when they remain safely in their homes and communities
-  About relationships
-  Communities have the wisdom they need

Research: Placing children in foster care isn't working

- Poverty is often mistaken for neglect, resulting in increased rates of child abuse reports and unnecessary foster care
- Can cause further trauma
- Racial, ethnic and tribal disproportionality and disparities for children of color exist
- Children and young people can have better outcomes when they remain safely in their homes while receiving services and keep ties with their family, friends, schools and communities



What we know now



“When I started working for Child Welfare in 1994, I thought I was saving children by placing them in foster care. I believed foster care was the answer to protecting them from their “abusive and neglectful” biological families. After all these years, I now realize the harm our agency has caused, and the harm I caused as a worker with that mentality. I have now come to believe, after reading research, learning, and seeing impacts of our work, **children really do best with their biological families whenever possible.**”

-Kim Keller, Child Welfare Permanency Program Manager

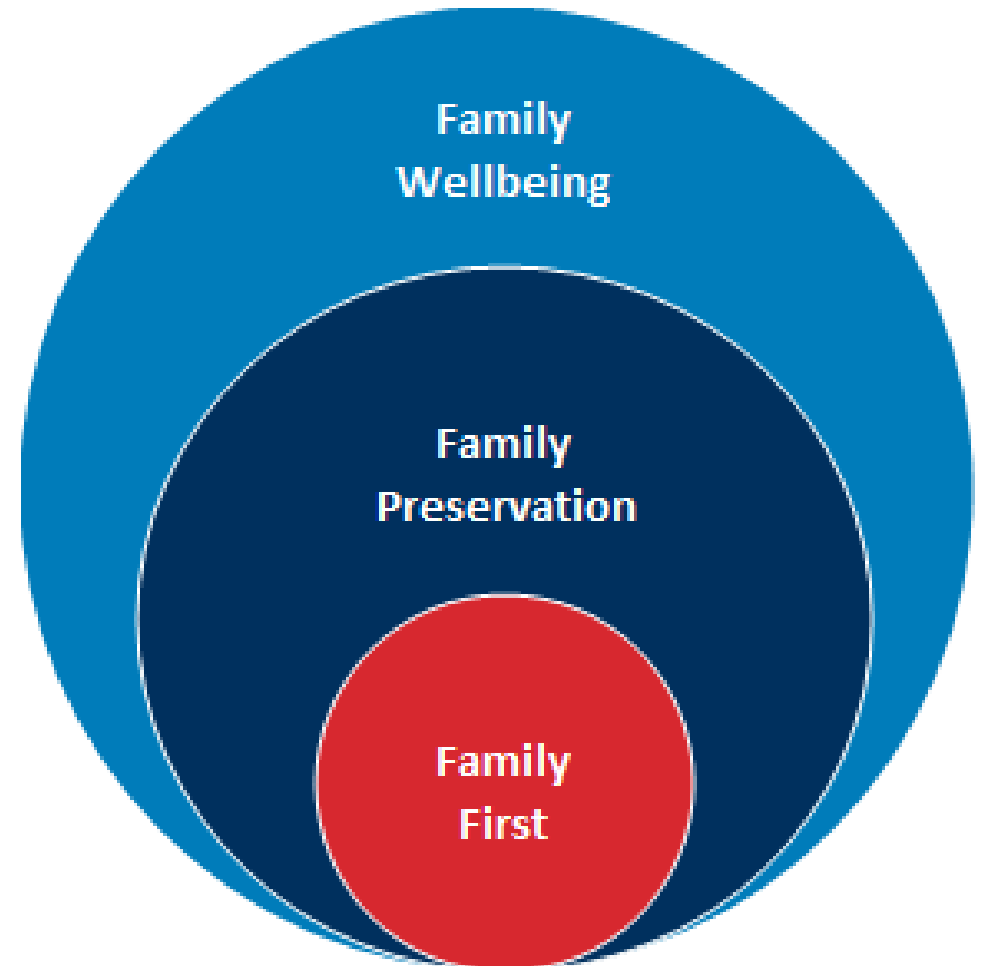
Laying the foundation for Family Preservation

Use Title IV-E funds for prevention services for families of children at risk of placement in foster care and pregnant or parenting foster youth.

- Funds for kinship navigator programs to support kin caregivers with or without involvement in the child welfare system.

Prevention plan:

- Functional Family Therapy
- Parent Child Interaction Therapy
- Parents As Teachers
- Motivational Interviewing



We're not doing this alone



Examples:

Morrison Parent Mentor Program

Oregon Association of Relief Nurseries

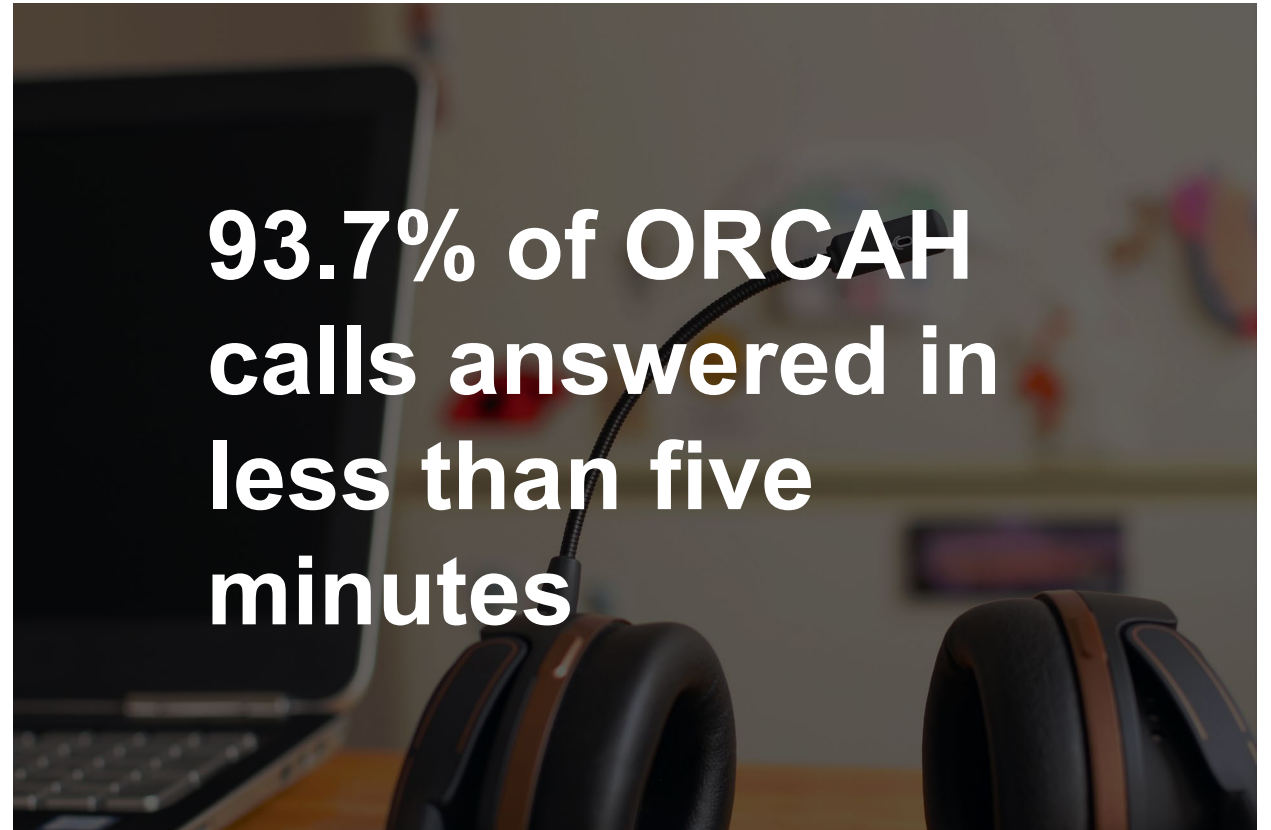
Oregon Attorney General's Sexual Assault Task Force (SATF)

Keeping Children Safe

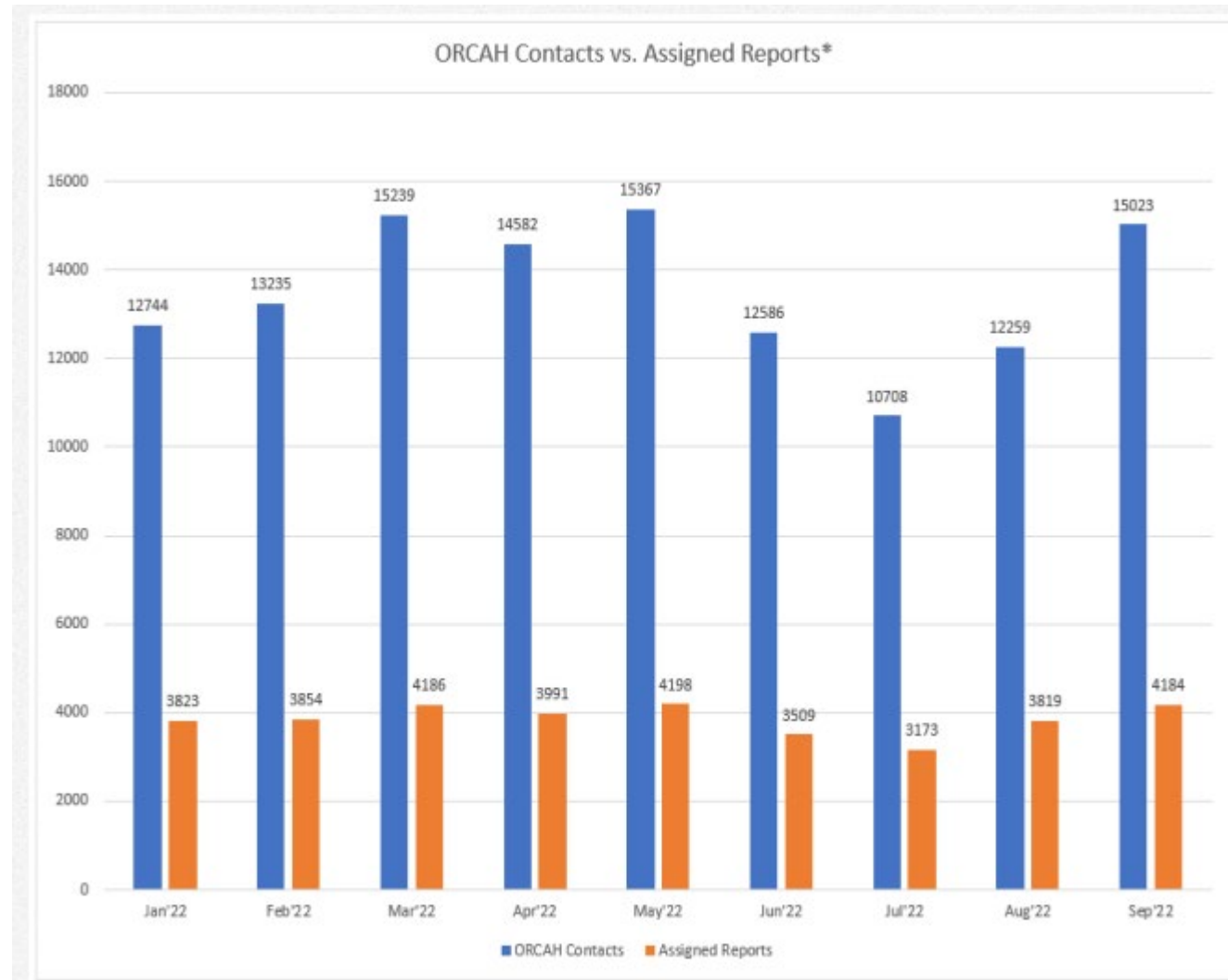


Oregon Child Abuse Hotline (ORCAH)

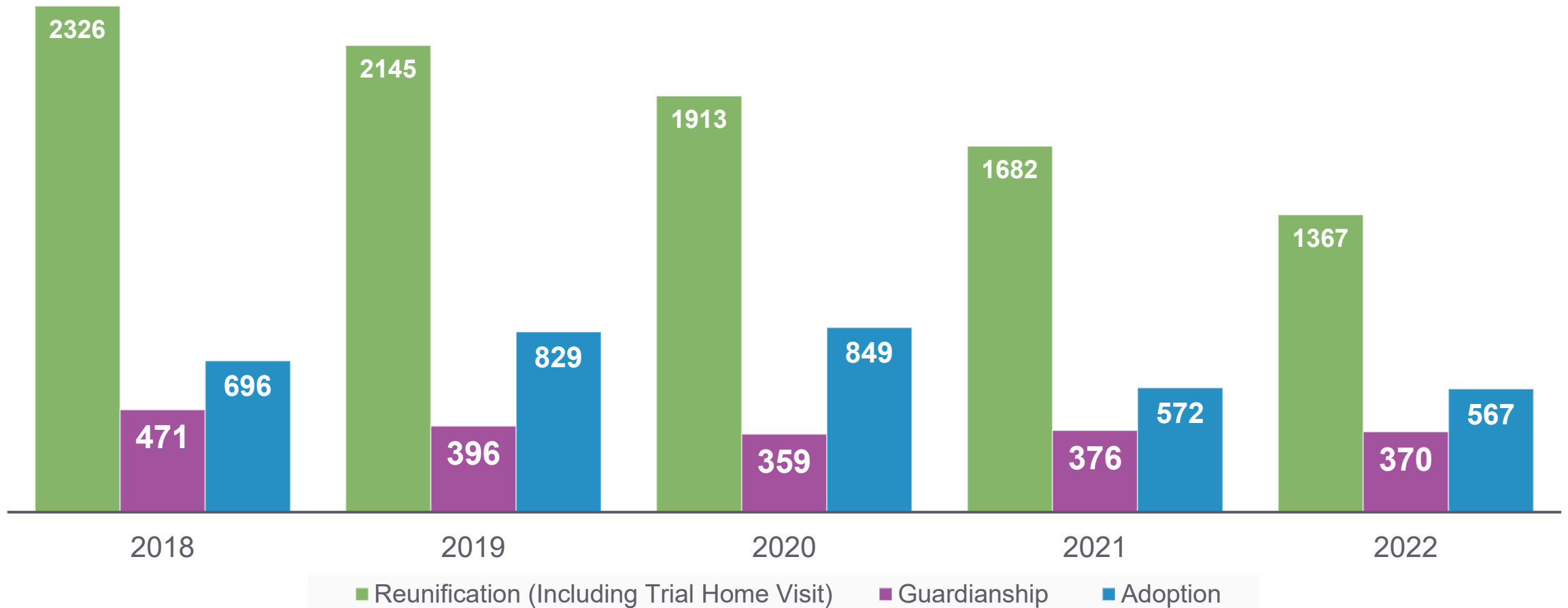
- **SAFETY:** First point of contact for Oregonians concerned about child safety and child abuse.
- **CONSISTENCY:** Determines Child Welfare's response to reported concerns and educates mandatory reporters on Oregon Revised Statutes definitions of child abuse.
- **CUSTOMER SERVICE:** Statewide 24/7 hotline at one toll free number, 1-855-502-SAFE (7233)



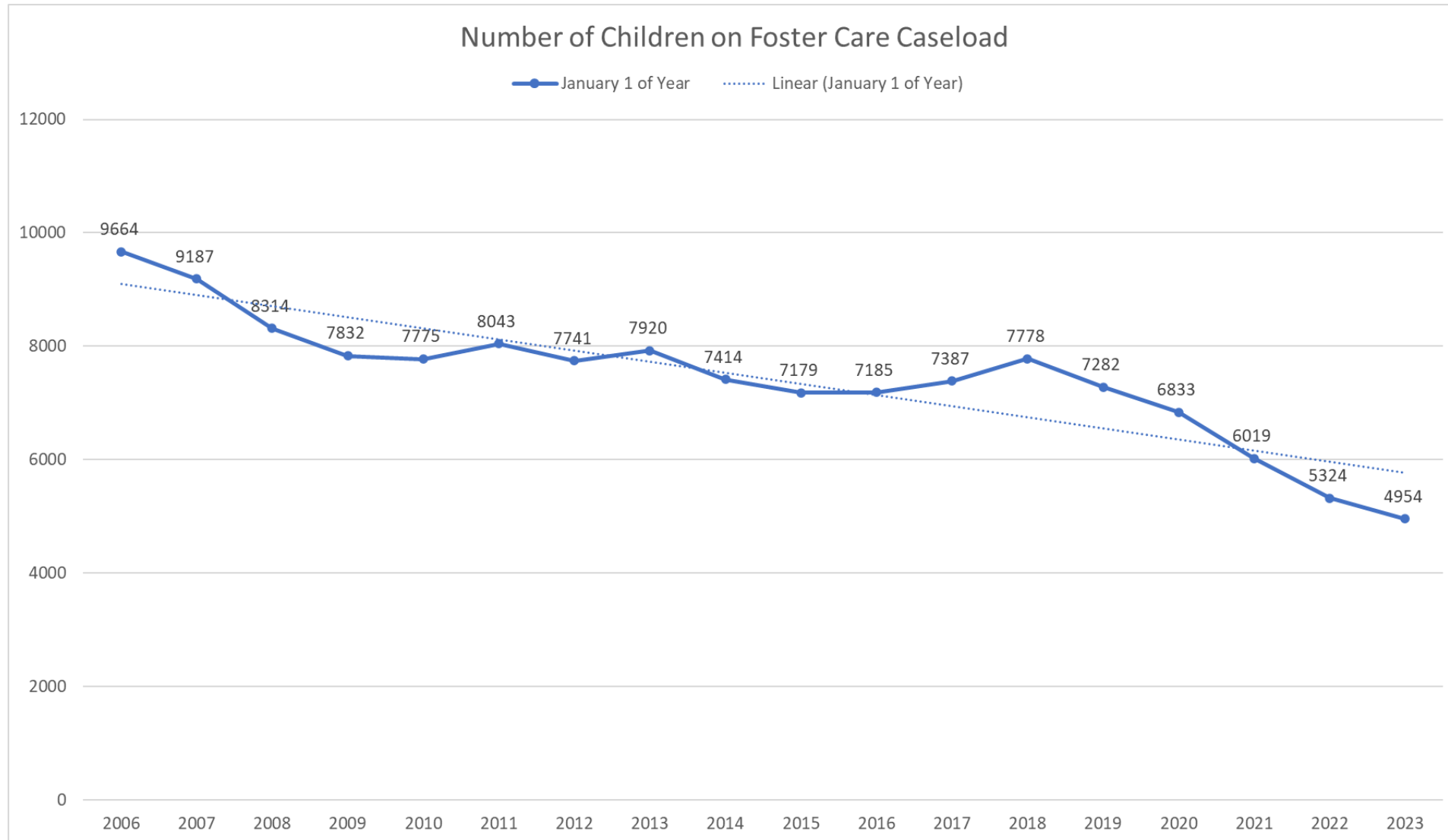
27.8% of ORCAH Contacts Result in CPS Assignment



Permanency results by year



Lowest Number of Children in Foster Care in 17 years





Questions?
