



A Model Approach For Change In Child Welfare BOCC Work Session

Guilford County Department of Health and Human Services –
Division of Social Services

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A MODEL APPROACH FOR CHANGE IN CHILD WELFARE



Phase I Process

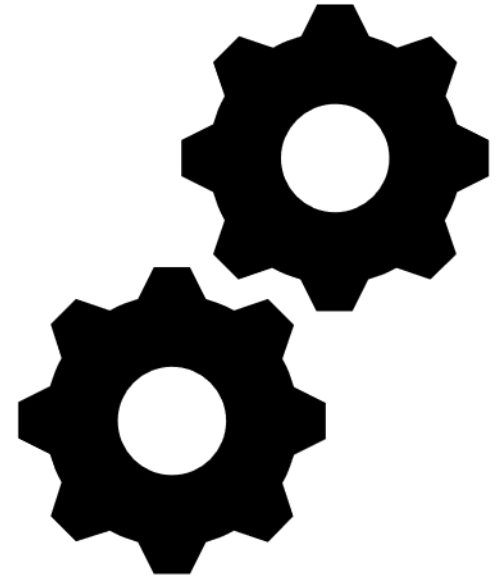


- Quantitative data analysis
 - Demographic and community data
 - Child welfare administrative data
 - Caseload and staffing data
 - Court continuance data
- Qualitative data analysis
 - Focus groups and interviews
 - Community partner survey
 - Core stakeholder meetings



Systemic Barriers to Reunification

- Child welfare system
 - Staff workload
 - Communication processes
 - Application and interpretation of policy
 - Post-reunification supports/services
- Court system
 - Court continuances and delays
 - Guardian ad Litem/DSS collaboration



Community Barriers to Reunification

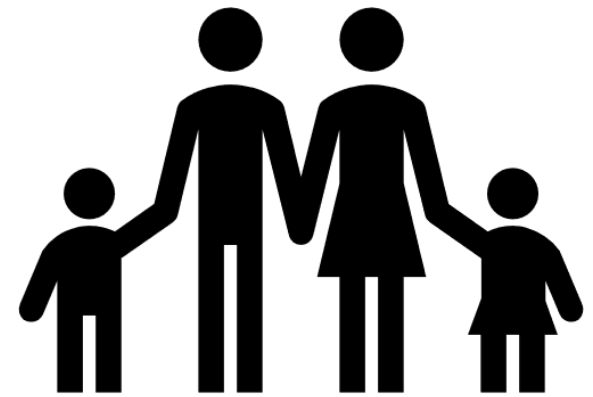


- Affordable, accessible, high quality services (substance abuse, mental health, parenting)
- In-county foster care placements
- Community resources: housing, transportation, employment, financial supports
- Understanding of DSS mandates and commitment to reunification



Family Factors Impacting Reunification

- Social determinants of health (SDOH)
- Financial insecurity/poverty
- Education and employment
- Prior engagement with the child welfare system
- Informal and concrete supports



Recommendations

- Court collaborative

- Convene a series of quarterly facilitated meetings
- Data sharing and analysis: How is District 18 functioning and how does that impact a child's likelihood of reunifying with their family?
- Set goals and timeline for achievement

- Case file review

- What is the profile of children entering care?
- What is the prior history with CPS/DSS?
- What internal factors are present (frontloaded services provided, #social workers, #placements, location of placements, etc.)?
- What external factors are present (#GAL, judicial rulings, court continuances, community services provided, etc.)?
- Review findings with court collaborative, internal and external partners



Recommendations

- Host internal and external meetings to review findings and recommendations; provide an opportunity for feedback
- Establish AMAC-CW leadership and governance, including the development of an internal Steering Committee and an external Advisory Council
 - Review findings and recommendations
 - Develop shared goals and vision for participation
 - Establish workgroups focused on critical outcomes
 - Determine opportunities for immediate action

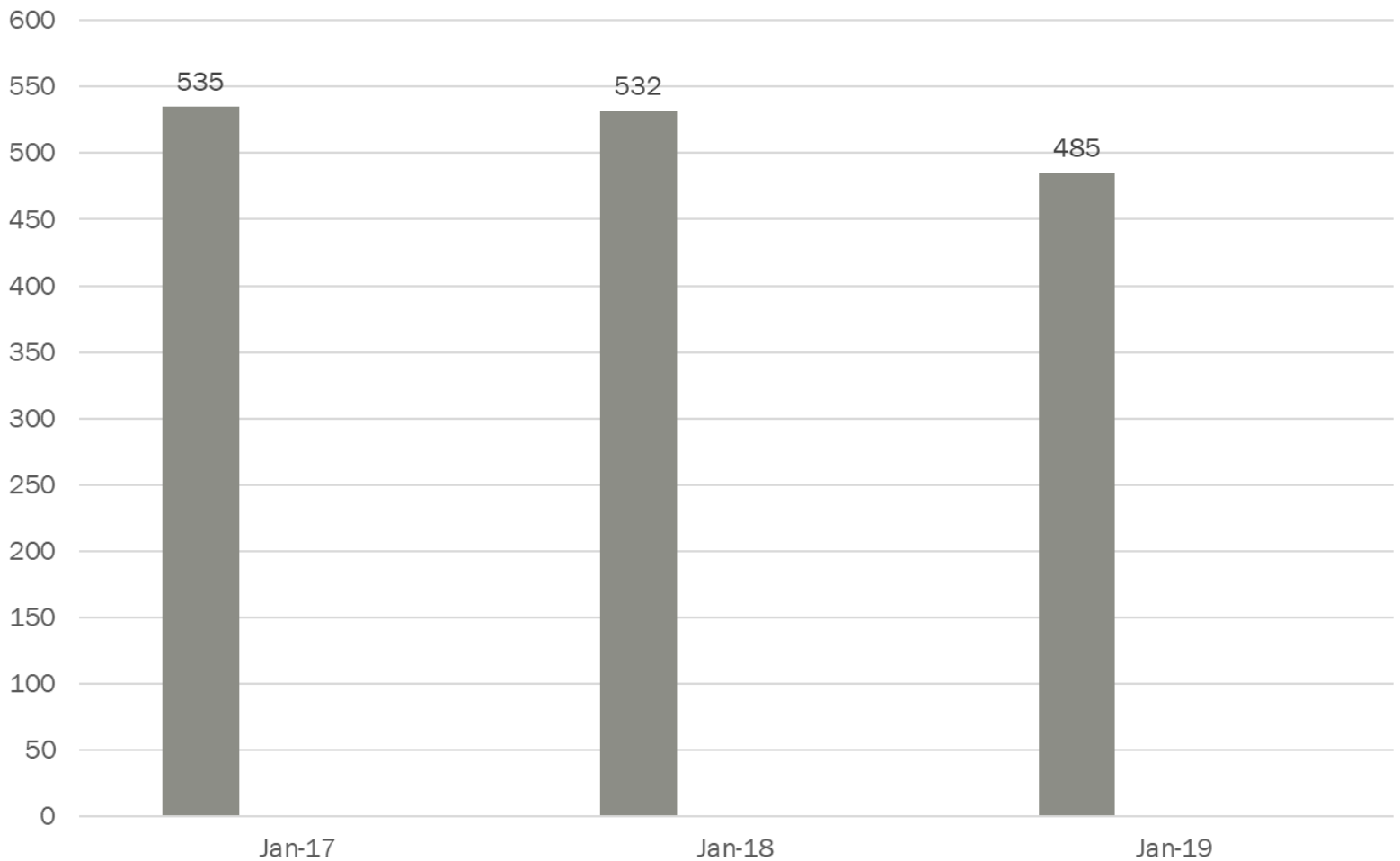


Meeting Standards and Benchmarks

- Children are safe and well, connected with a permanent home
 - Permanency within 12 months for children entering foster care
 - Permanency within 12 months for children in foster care for 2 years or more
 - Reduced re-entry into foster care
 - Placement stability
- The system is working in the best interests of children
 - Case review system (case planning and timely court processes)
 - Service array and resource development
 - Agency responsiveness to the community
 - Foster and adoptive parent licensing, recruitment, and retention



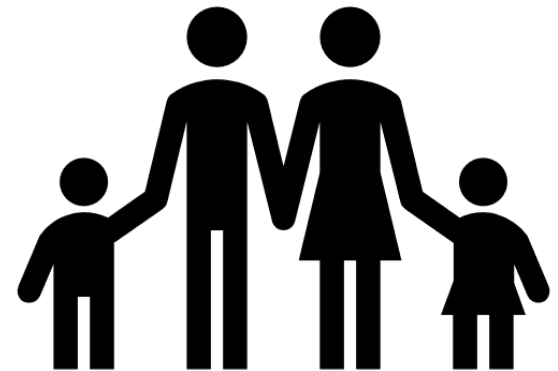
Children in Care on January 1.



Room & Board

- 2018-2019 Room & Board Budget
 - \$7,8000,000.00
 - \$4,876,419.00 Expended through 3/31/19
 - \$6,501,892.00 Projected through 6/30/19

**Projected savings of county funds –
\$415,394.00**



AMAC-CW Phase II

- Coordinate and Facilitate Quarterly Court Collaborative Meetings
 - Case File Reviews
 - Internal Steering Committee
 - AMAC-CW Community Advisory Council
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- \$200,000.00 - requesting to utilize Adoption Promotion Incentive Funds and to reallocate some of the savings from Room and Board for additional 1 year contract



Questions?

