



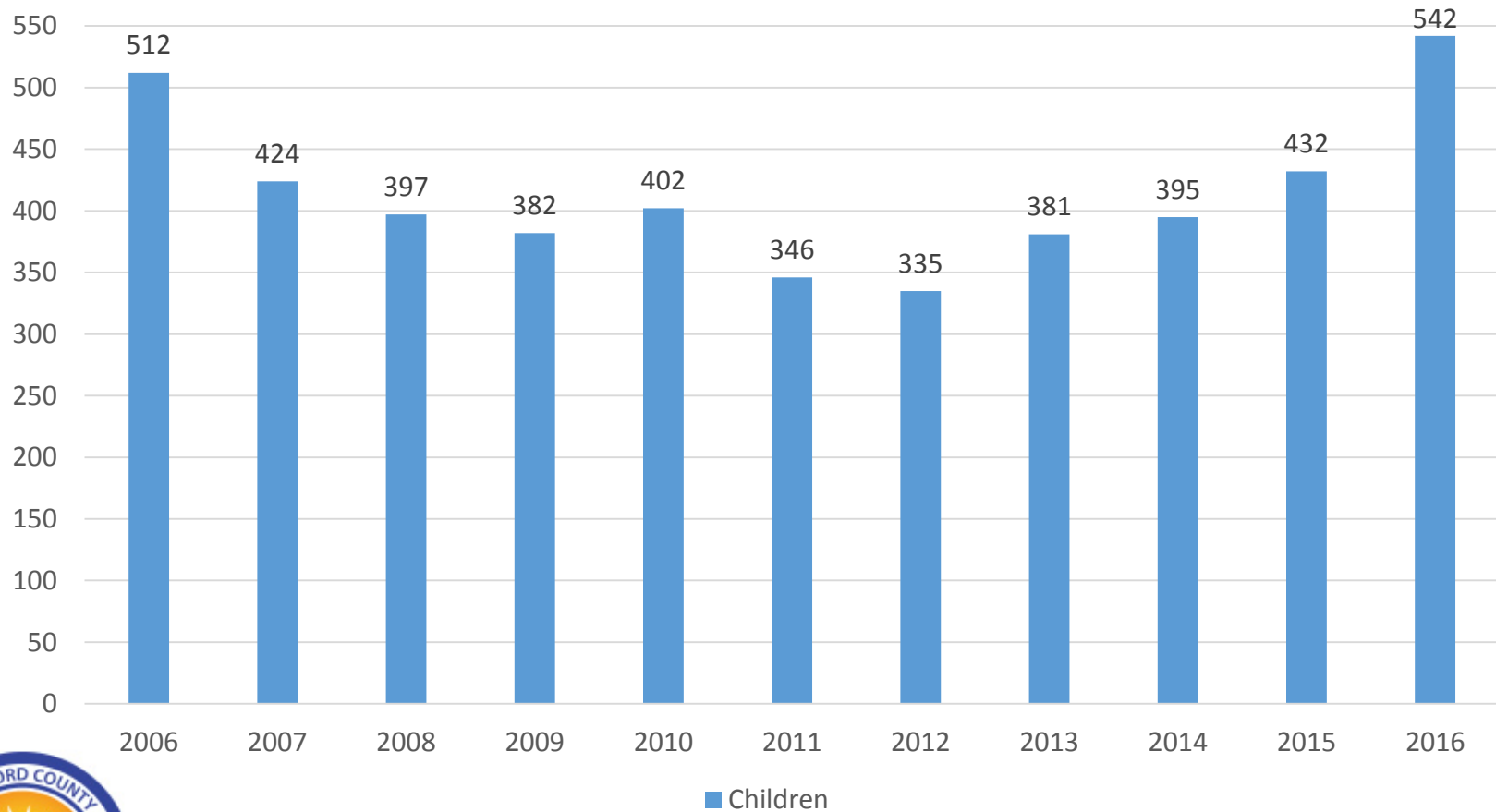
Foster Care Updates

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

Heather Skeens, Director

January 2017

Guilford County Children in Care



Why the increase

- More families struggling with poverty, substance abuse and mental health issues
- Lack of programs to address these issues
- Domestic Violence
- New legislation and state policy – Safety Planning Policy and 18 to 21 Foster Care



Demographics

2015	2016
46% of our youth were age 5 & under	46% of our youth are age 5 and under
24% were ages 6-10	28% are ages 6-10
18% were ages 11-15	15% are ages 11-15
12% were 16 years or older	11% are ages 16 or older
28% were Caucasian	25% are Caucasian
58% were African American	59% are African American
7% were bi-racial or other	15% are biracial or other (Hispanic, Asian, Other)
51% were females	52% are females
48% were males	48% are males



Placements: Where are our children?

- Traditional Placements (Foster Homes)
145 children (27%)
- Residential Placements
54 children (10%)
- Therapeutic Placements (Mental Health)
41 children -Therapeutic Foster Homes(8%)
14 children– Therapeutic Group Homes (3%)
- Private Agency Traditional Placement
197 children (37%)
- Other
77 children-(15%)
(kinship placements, trail home placement, etc)

Board Rate

0 to 5 years old	\$475
5 to 12 years old	\$581
13 and older	\$634

Therapeutic/Outside Agencies

0 to 5 years old	\$1433
5 to 12 years old	\$1564
13 and older	\$1638

Residential Placements

0 to 5	\$4279
5 to 12	\$4437
13 and older	\$4516



Placement Types

- Traditional Foster Homes – DHHS
- Traditional Foster Homes – Private Agencies
- Medicaid Levels of Care
 - Therapeutic Foster Care
 - Requires advanced training for foster parents
 - Residential Group Homes (Level II, Level III and Level IV)
 - Requires license from N.C. Division of Health Service Regulation and approval from Managed Care Organization (MCO)
 - ***Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility
 - ***Acute hospitalization
- *** No direct cost to county UNLESS child undocumented



Challenges

- **Reasons for Custody (2016 – 277 children came into care)**
 - 47% substance abuse concerns
 - 80% mental health concerns
 - 38% domestic violence concerns
 - Some petitions have multiple issues that all must be addressed to minimize abuse/neglect.
- **Complex issues to address with parents and children**
- **Legal mandates versus treatment/recovery process**
- **Lack of available court time for our cases**



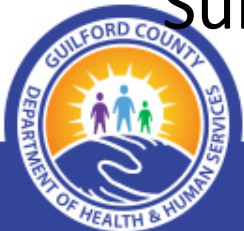
Service Gaps

- Lack of available placement options
- Placements out of county
- Transitioning children between levels of care leads to instability
- Complex clinical presentation of youth (i.e. behavioral challenges, developmental disabilities)
- Housing options for our families
- Loss of Medicaid for parents when their children come into foster care



Efforts to address challenges and gaps:

- Ongoing conversations with our judges and judicial partners
- Compression Planning with Casey Family Programs – includes a hard look internally and externally
- Partnership with Greensboro Housing Coalition
- Trauma Informed Leadership Training – TILT
- Attachment and Bio-behavioral Catch-up Learning Community
- Participating in Sandhills Regional Leadership Summit



Recruitment Efforts

- Licensed 35 new homes in 2016 and have 9 pending with the state for approval.
- Currently using Time Warner Cable ads, and Radio ads on Rock 92; 93.1 (Wolf); 97.1 (WQMG), 98.7 (Simon); 107.5 (KZL); 1510 (WEAL); 950 (WPET)
- Fox 8 ads began in January 2017
- Increased efforts of recruitment in faith community through various activities, conferences and ministerial alliance.
- Exploring corporate partnerships for support to foster parents and literature distribution.



Financials

Foster Care Room and Board Payments (as of December 31, 2016)

	FY 17 Approved	FY 17 Projections thur year end	Additional funds needed thur year end
Room and Board	\$ 5,200,000	\$ 7,800,000	\$ 2,600,000
Reimbursement			
Federal	\$ 1,858,480	\$ 2,787,720	\$ 996,331
State	\$ 1,674,920	\$ 2,512,380	\$ 809,238
County	\$ 1,666,600	\$ 2,500,633	\$ 794,431
	\$ 5,200,000	\$ 7,800,000	\$ 2,600,000



Conclusion

Based on the numbers of children in care and the continuing challenges in meeting their needs, we are overspending in foster care by \$ 2,600,000.

❑ \$ 794,431 in County Funds needed



Request for Approval

- An increase in Federal/State Revenue by \$1,805,569
- An increase County Funds by \$794,431
- Appropriation to Health & Human Services (Social Services) by \$2,600,000.

