



Oregon Department of Human Services
Child Welfare Division

Annual Progress and Services Report
2026

Rolanda Garcia, Child Welfare Interim Director
Oregon Department of Human Services
500 Summer Street NE, E67
Salem, OR 97301-1067

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This publication may be found at: <https://www.oregon.gov/odhs/data/Pages/cw-data.aspx>
Direct questions to: Megan Brazo-Erickson megan.j.brazo-erickson@odhs.oregon.gov

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I. Update to the Vision and Collaboration

A. Collaboration with Tribes, Families, Youth, and System Partners

Collaboration among staff, ODHS programs, community partners, Tribes, government agencies, resource parents, and those with lived expertise is necessary for positive outcomes. The following collaborations assess CW performance and review/update CW's goals, objectives, and interventions. Attachment 1 is an overview of most of CW's current collaborative relationships.

CW executive leadership holds regular community forums to share CW's work, answer questions, and request feedback. Similar forums are provided to CW staff.

Four main advisory councils provide CW with ongoing feedback, recommendations, and information. CW builds trust with these councils by developing intentional and continuous relationships.

The Indian Child Welfare Act Advisory Council meets quarterly to discuss CW practice, the experience Tribes and Tribal families have when receiving services from CW, and long-term policy and practice issues. Interim meetings are held in between the quarterly meetings to collaborate on practice and policy guidelines for staff. CW, ODHS Office of Tribal Affairs, and representatives from the Nine Federally Recognized Tribes in Oregon make up this council.

The Parent Advisory Council of Oregon (PAC) comprises parents from all over Oregon who have navigated the child welfare system and are in a successful parenting role. Many are also employed as parent mentors by community-based organizations. PAC meets with the CW executive leadership monthly to discuss current practice trends and long-term goals and to raise any specific practice issues. This council is statewide in scope. Several districts have local parent advisory councils made up of parents from their local communities.

The Child Welfare Advisory Committee counsels the agency on developing and administering policies, programs, and practices. Members represent other state agencies, professional, civic, or other private organizations, and private citizens. The committee meets every other month.

Beginning with its first meeting in September 2024, the CW Service Council focuses on ensuring that all families' needs are met when they are served by CW and that services are tailored to the unique needs of individual children and parents. The council is composed of:

- Representatives of the Nine Federally Recognized Tribes in Oregon, including a representative from the ODHS Tribal Affairs team
- Community-based organizations/providers
- Representatives of service recipients and participants, including former foster youth, caregiver/parents, relative providers, resource families, and others

B. Collaboration with State Courts and the Legal/Judicial Communities

CW is part of the Juvenile Court Improvement Project (JCIP) Advisory Council. The council meets quarterly to discuss active improvement projects, CW practice and its intersection with legal and judicial practice, and long-term trends in practice and outcome measures. The council has been involved in the assessment of

Oregon's performance during the past two years of CFSR Round 4 activities, and many members are actively involved in the PIP planning process.

Oregon does not have an active title IV-E PIP.

II. Assessment of Current Performance in Improving Outcomes

A. Child And Family Outcomes

The Child and Family Services Review (CFSR) is a federal, qualitative review of case-specific practice and systemic factors that impact how families are served. The case-specific practice data is drawn from the Onsite Review Instrument (OSRI). Oregon evaluates each district's performance on these 18 items using the OSRI.

Each district's local office undergoes an annual review of its performance on the Child and Family Outcomes of the CFSR. A permanent team reviews one or more local offices each month, and the CW Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) team follows this cycle to facilitate their CQI cycles in each district and local office.

The data below is updated through the end of FFY 2024 (9/30/24). The data does not include the case reviews done for CFSR Round 4 (November 2024 – February 2025). Oregon submitted final data to the Children's Bureau and is engaged in preliminary Performance Improvement Plan (PIP) planning while awaiting the final report.

The data presented in Figures 2, 4, 6-7, 9, and 12-14 is sourced from administrative records. Historically, this data was pulled from the Results-Oriented Management (ROM) system, maintained by the University of Kansas. In 2024, CW began transferring the ROM reports to an internal platform to manage this data. As a result, there are some changes in the historical trend data (previously published in the CFSP), due to differences in data acceptance criteria and other methodological factors.

1. Safety Outcome 1: Children are, first and foremost, protected from abuse and neglect

Item 1: Were the agency's responses to all accepted child maltreatment reports initiated, and face to face contact with the child(ren) made, within time frames established by agency policies or state statutes?

Figure 1

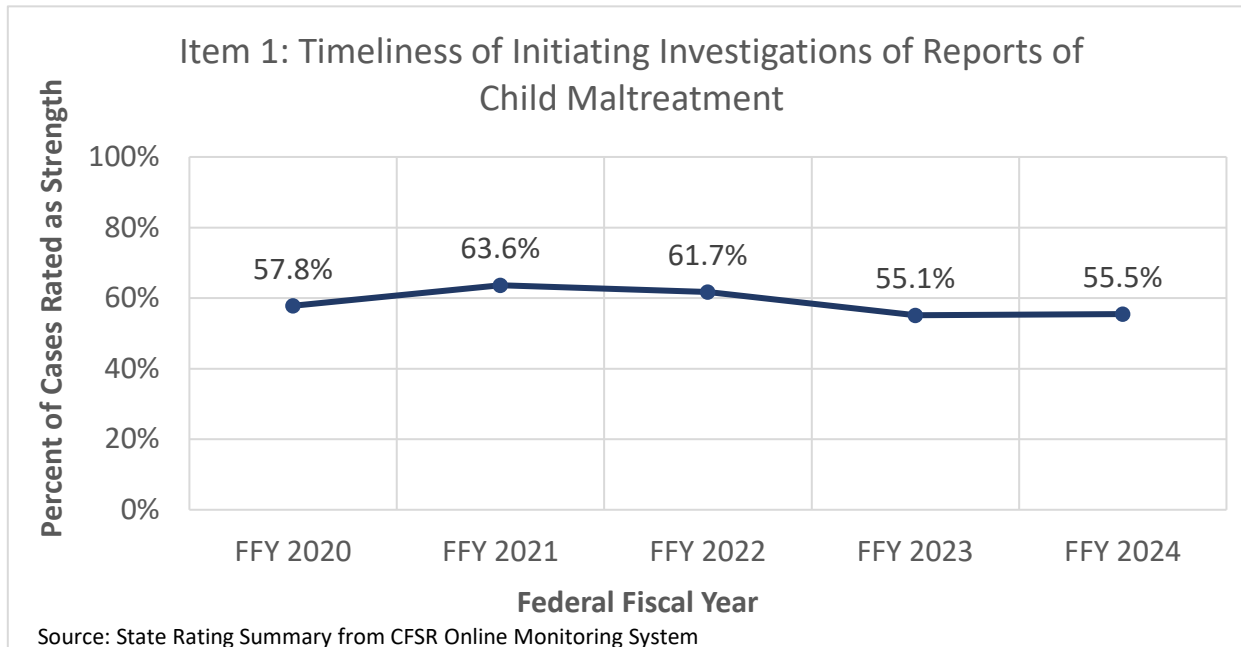


Figure 1 shows CW's performance regarding the timeliness of initiating investigations of reported child maltreatment. Two areas of practice affect performance:

- Screening performed by staff at the Oregon Child Abuse Hotline (ORCAH); and
- Child protective services (CPS) caseworkers making initial contact with families and documenting the contact in the Comprehensive Child Welfare Information System (CCWIS) system (OR-Kids).

ORCAH is focused on ensuring consistent, timely screening decisions using the Structured Decision-Making (SDM) tool. In calendar year 2024, screeners timely referred to CPS workers 89% of the time. Screeners made accurate screening decisions 96% of the time and chose the correct response time 88% of the time. Response time can be within 24 hours, 72 hours, or ten days depending on the report. Accurate and timely referral to CPS is the first step to timely initiation of investigations.

The SDM tool is currently in the process of revision in collaboration with technical assistance partner Evident Change. The revisions have been provided to Tribes, community partners, and advisory groups for review and comment before roll-out.

In FFY 2024, CPS caseworkers and their supervisors received targeted assistance from program consultants to identify and address barriers to having and documenting timely contact with families. The data in next year's APSR will show the effects of this work.

CW is working with national technical assistance provider Human Services Group (HSG) to evaluate tools, processes, and decision-making connected to initial safety assessments. The recommendations from this evaluation may improve timeliness to initial contact and quality of initial engagement with families.

Figure 2

Timeliness of Initial Contact by Federal Fiscal Year (Quantitative)			
FFY	Actual Contact Number Timely	Total Completed Investigations with Actual Contact Recorded	Actual Contact Percent Timely
2020	20,665	32,723	63.2%
2021	18,660	32,813	56.9%
2022	20,254	34,721	58.3%
2023	20,968	34,333	61.1%
2024	21,890	34,960	62.6%
Five-year Total	102,437	169,550	60.4%

Source: SA 2025-D Successful Initial Contact Report 2020 - 2023 Years pulled on 3/6/2024

Source: SA 2025-D Successful Initial Contact Report 2024 Year pulled on 2/19/2025

Figure 2 is the quantitative administrative data used together with the CFSR qualitative data above (in Figure 1) to monitor and assess the timeliness of initial contact. The administrative data can be used in real time at the local office level to track performance and adjust practice as needed. CFSR data has a significant lag time, but also involves a full qualitative review of the case practice. As noted in Figure 2, the percentage of timely initial contacts has consistently trended up since FFY 2021.

2. Safety Outcome 2: Children are safely maintained in their homes whenever possible and appropriate

Item 2: Did the agency make concerted efforts to provide services to the family to prevent children's entry into foster care or re-entry after reunification?

Figure 3

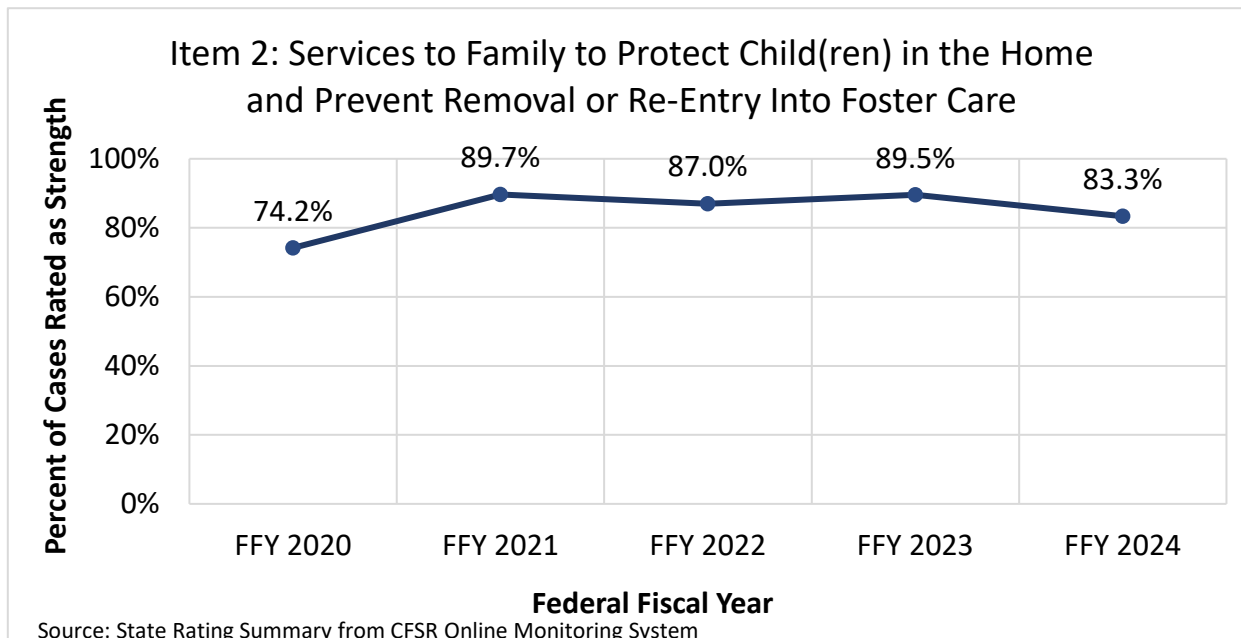


Figure 3 measures how diligently caseworkers are working to keep children at home safely with support whenever possible instead of removing them, including after they return home and may face re-entry. This is about parents and caregivers being able to maintain safety with supports without a need for traumatizing removal and placement. Caseworkers are expected to focus on family engagement, strengthening and building the family's team and natural supports, and getting parents or children into services designed to support the family as quickly as possible.

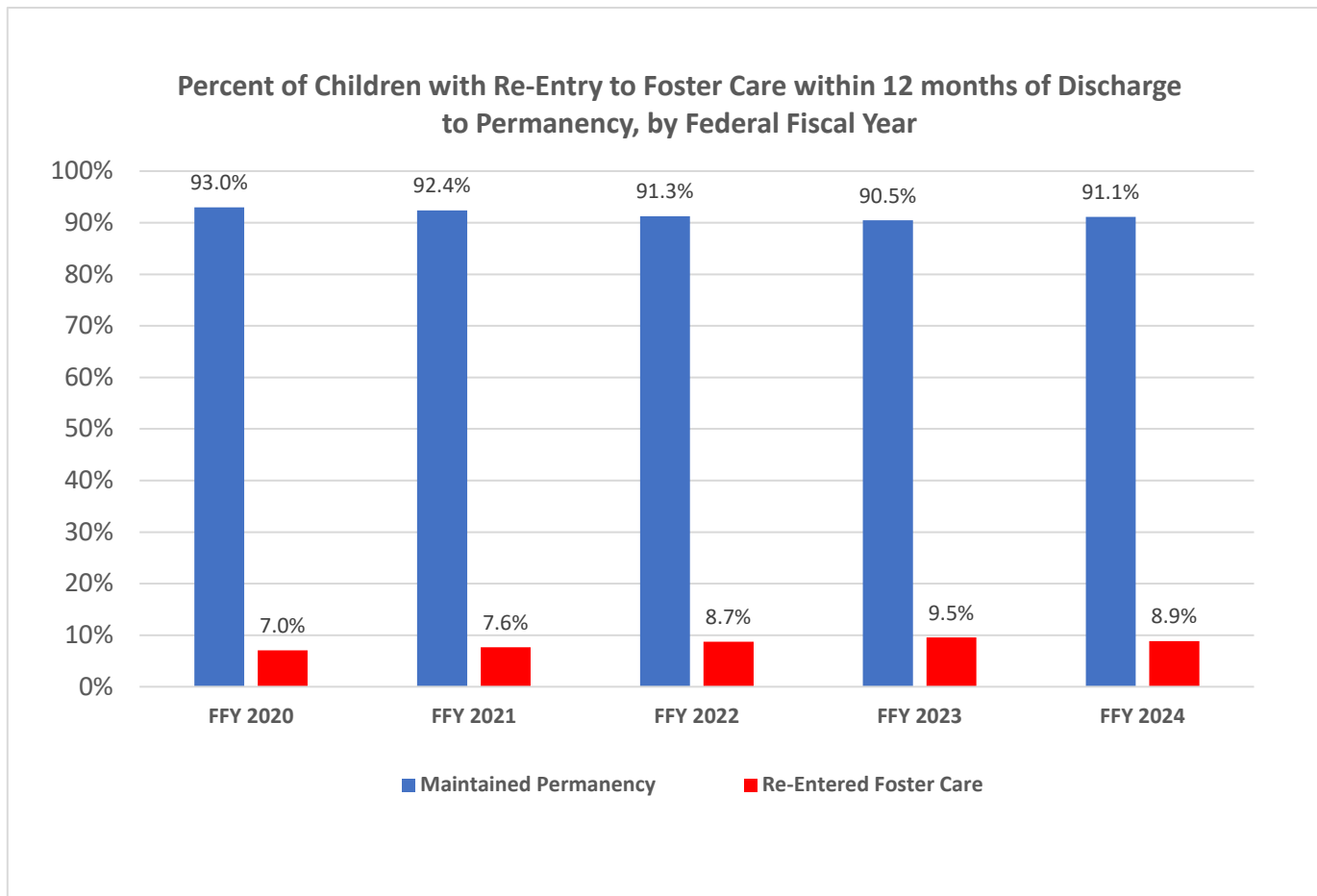
Four sites have focused their local CQI efforts on improving their use of the safety threshold criteria. The sites include:

- Alberta (in District 2, the Portland metropolitan area)
- East (in Portland, also District 2)
- Columbia County (in District 1)
- Tillamook/Clatsop Counties (also in District 1)

Although the theories of change differ slightly by site, they are all focused on improving the understanding and articulation of safety threats. This clarity should help staff apply the safety threat threshold criteria to all children consistently and then make more accurate and consistent decisions about removal and return home. This work will also improve performance on Item 3.

The Family Preservation approach to practice is being implemented in demonstration sites across the state. This supports best practice approaches to safely supporting families in their homes and communities.

Figure 4

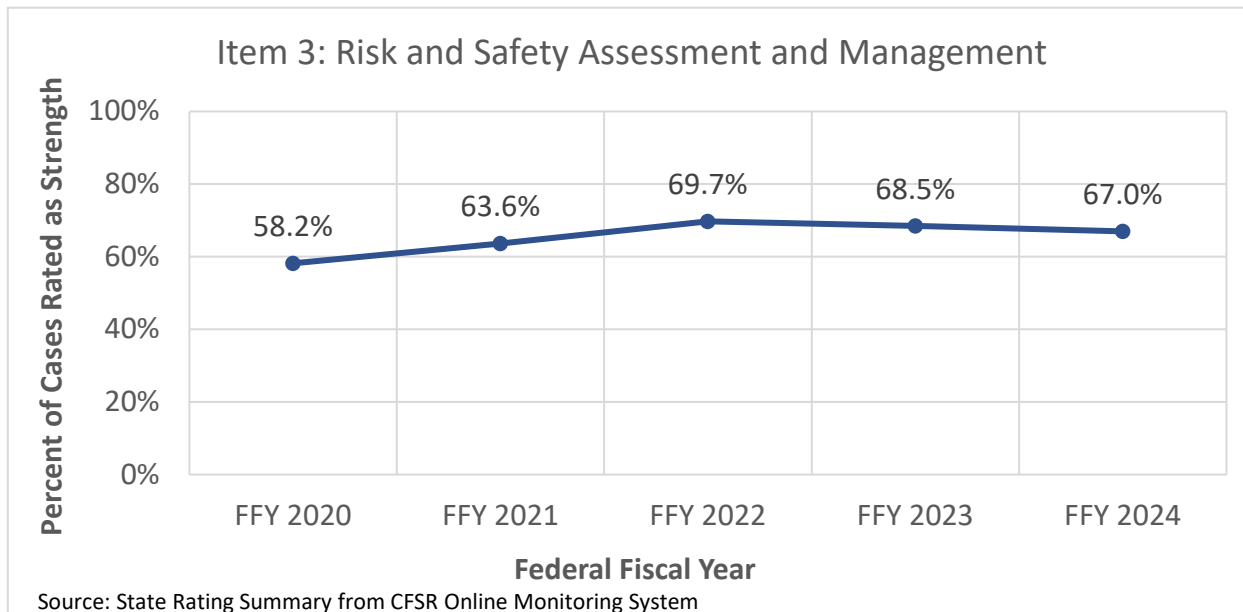


Re-entry to foster care within 12 months of discharge is a federal statewide data indicator. The federal standard for this measure is 5.1%. The federal definition of this measure does not include children who go home in a “trial reunification” placement designation and return to substitute care within six months. This is because the first six months of trial reunification are considered a continuation of the foster care episode by federal law.

The data provided above **does** include this population of children, artificially inflating CW’s re-entry number compared to the federal standard. CW has analyzed the FFY 2022A data from the federal data profile. When **including** children who left and re-entered within six months, national performance is about 9.6% as compared to CW’s performance of 7.5%. When **excluding** children who left and re-entered within six months, national performance is 5.6% and CW’s performance is 4.9%. As such, for both calculations, CW exceeded national performance for FFY 2022A.

Item 3: Did the agency make concerted efforts to assess and address the risk and safety concerns relating to the child(ren) in their own homes or while in foster care?

Figure 5

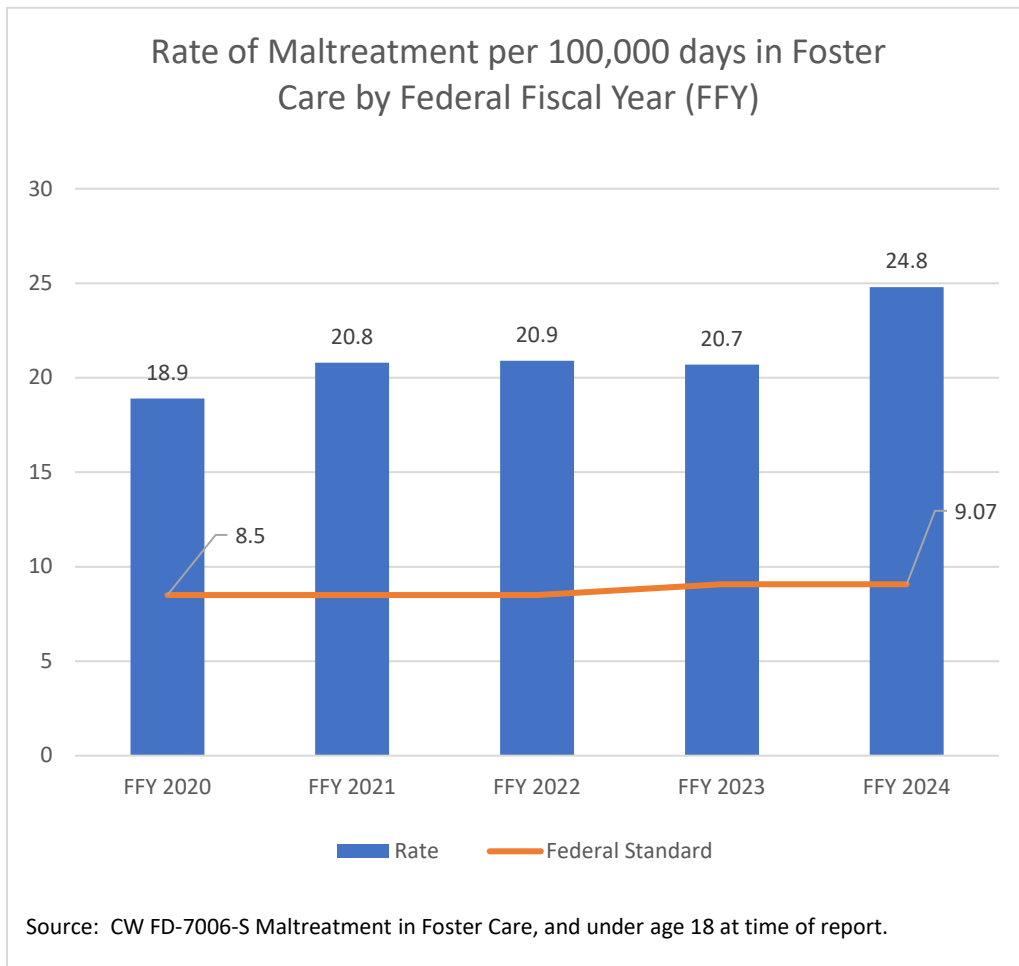


The following sites have focused their local CQI efforts on the accuracy and sufficiency of ongoing safety plans:

- Gresham (District 2)
- Polk County (District 3)
- Yamhill County (District 3)
- Lincoln County (District 4)
- Linn County (District 4)
- Lane County (District 5)
- District 7
- District 10
- District 11

Although action plans vary by site, the theory of change generally is that improved quality of ongoing safety plans will positively affect performance on Item 3 and other related lag measures, including maltreatment in care, recurrence of maltreatment, and re-entry.

Figure 6

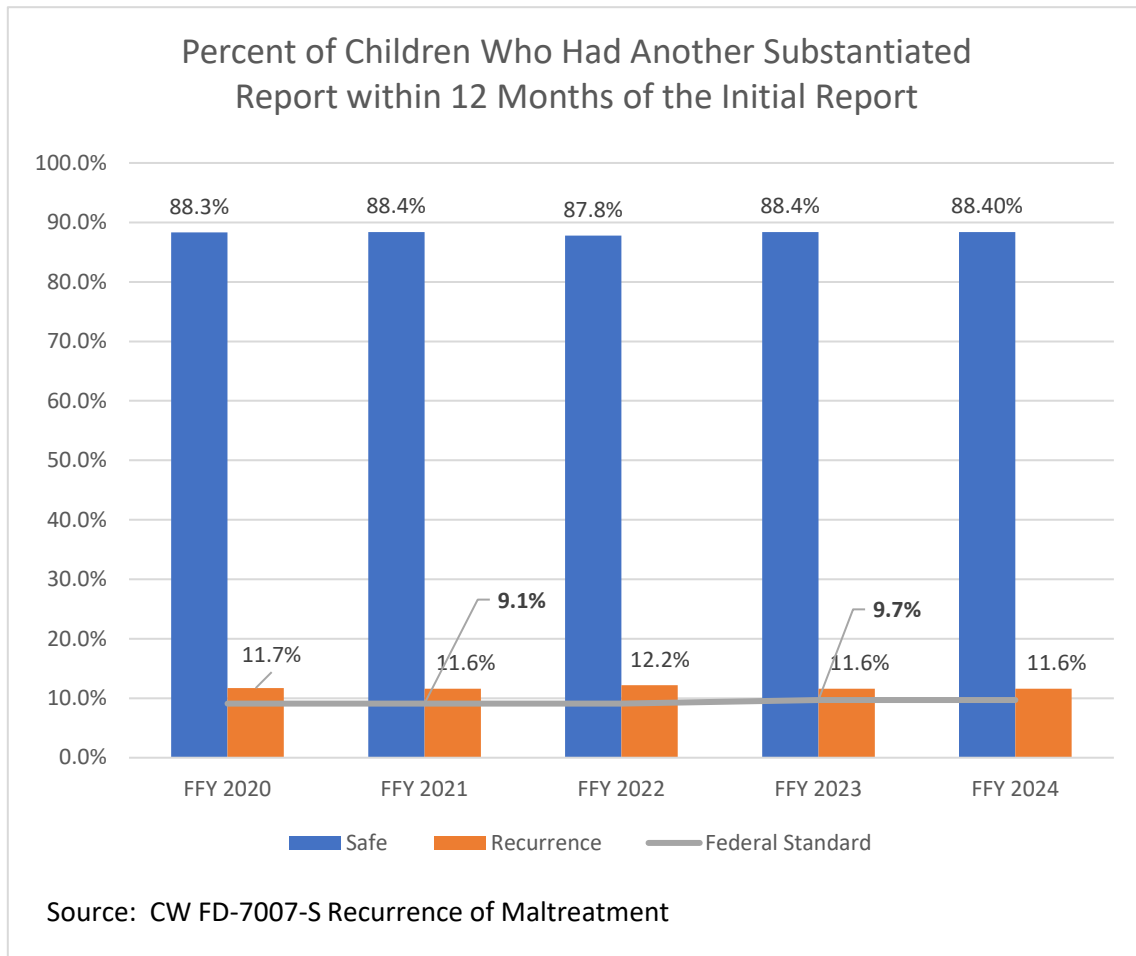


This measures the rate of maltreatment per 100,000 days in foster care by federal fiscal year. This measure is designed to identify how often children experience maltreatment from their caregiver (parent or resource family) or another third party while they are in the care and custody of the child welfare agency. Oregon's maltreatment data is unusual in three different ways that complicate interpretation of the data, especially when considering the measure's intent. It also contributes to the high numbers seen here compared to the federal standard.

1. Oregon does not limit CW child abuse/neglect investigations to parents and caregivers. Oregon data includes maltreatment by third parties (not primary caregivers or parents).
2. Oregon has historically tracked this data by the date it was reported AND the date the maltreatment occurred (incident date), which initial reports with reports that occurred in the past, but were reported first when the child is in care, perhaps in a treatment setting.
3. By practice, Oregon uses six months of trial home visit for most children returning to their parent(s). These extensions of the foster care episode mean that disruption due to neglect or abuse counts as "maltreatment in care," though the child was home.

CW is breaking down the data to better understand what portion represents the intended scope: children who experience maltreatment by a parent or primary caregiver while in CW's custody.

Figure 7

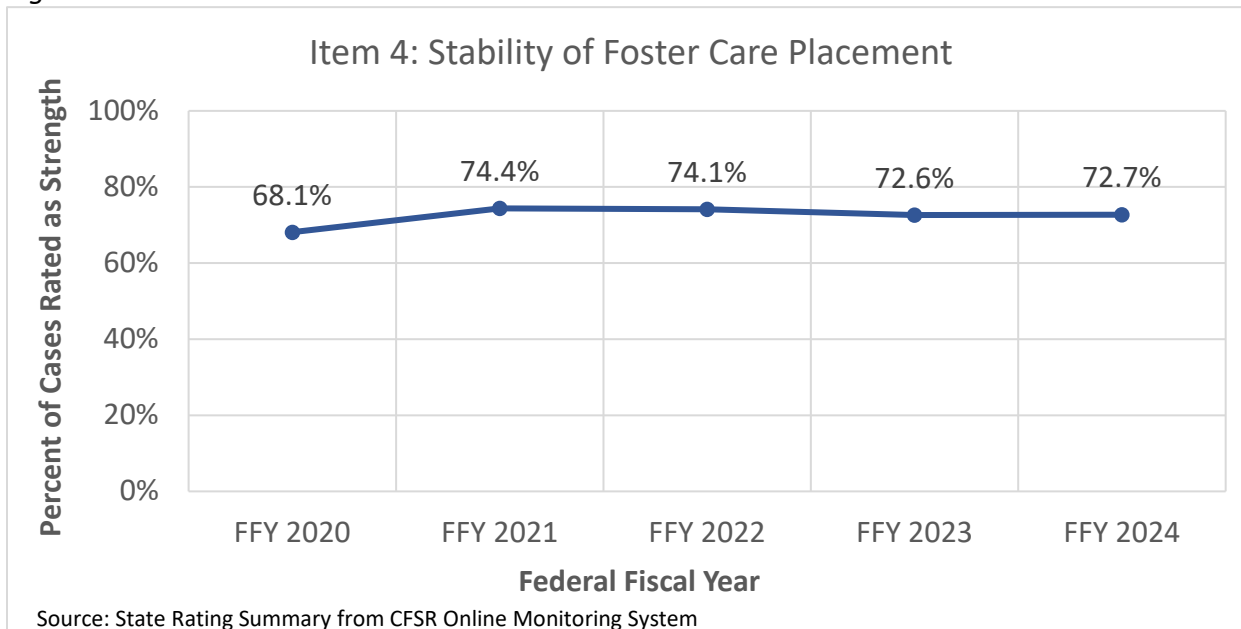


This statewide data indicator looks to see how safe children are within the first year after the initial report of maltreatment. The federal standard (gray line) applies to the recurrence percentage, seen as the orange bars in Figure 7. The federal standard changed beginning in FFY 2023 based on overall national performance. Oregon's performance has remained steady over the past five federal fiscal years.

3. Permanency Outcome 1: Children have permanency and stability in their living situations.

Item 4: Is the child in foster care in a stable placement and were any changes in the child's placement in the best interests of the child and consistent with achieving the child's permanency goal(s)?

Figure 8

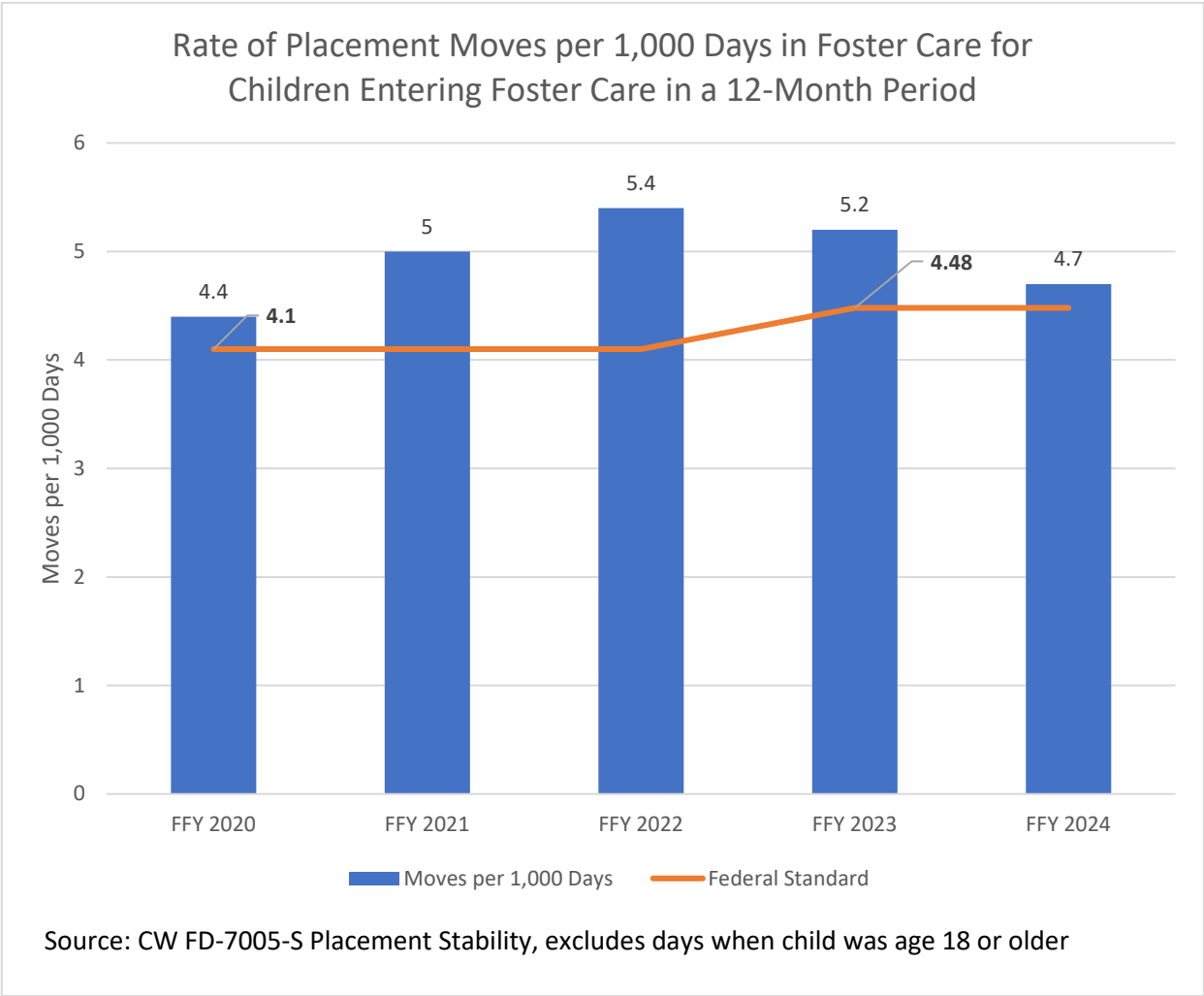


Placement stability continues to be an area of focus for CW. Supplemental context data shows that older children, particularly ages 11-16 (and to a lesser extent ages 17-18) experience a higher rate of placement instability, especially when they have complex mental and behavioral health needs.

As described on pages 6-7 and page 32, CW is collaborating with partners across many child and family serving systems to expand services to:

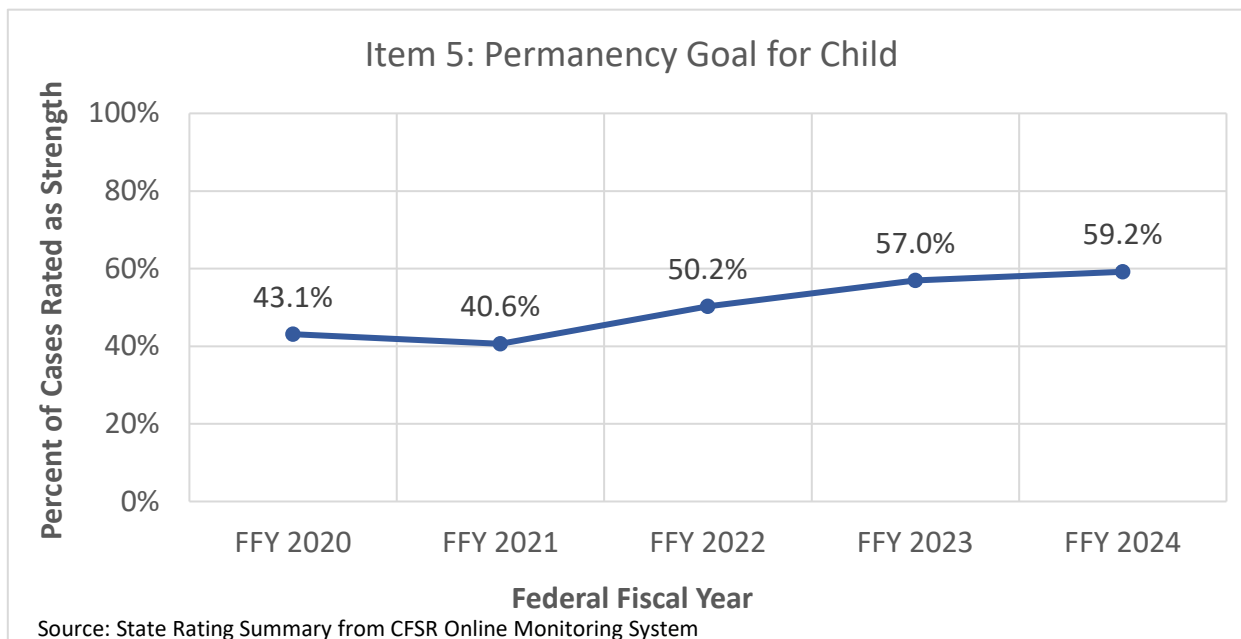
- Meet children's needs in-home before they require higher levels of care
- Ensure there is sufficient capacity in residential levels of care to support children who need it
- Ensure parents can help their children access needed care without CW involvement when safety is not at issue
- Meet children's needs in family resource homes when safety is an issue, but residential care is not required

Figure 9



Item 5: Did the agency establish appropriate permanency goals for the child in a timely manner?

Figure 10



Oregon continues the upward trajectory on Item 5. Initial case plan completion is tracked as a companion measure through the CCWIS system. In February 2025, 84.7% of initial case plans were created timely.

Item 6: Did the agency make concerted efforts to achieve reunification, guardianship, adoption, or other planned permanent living arrangement for the child?

Figure 11

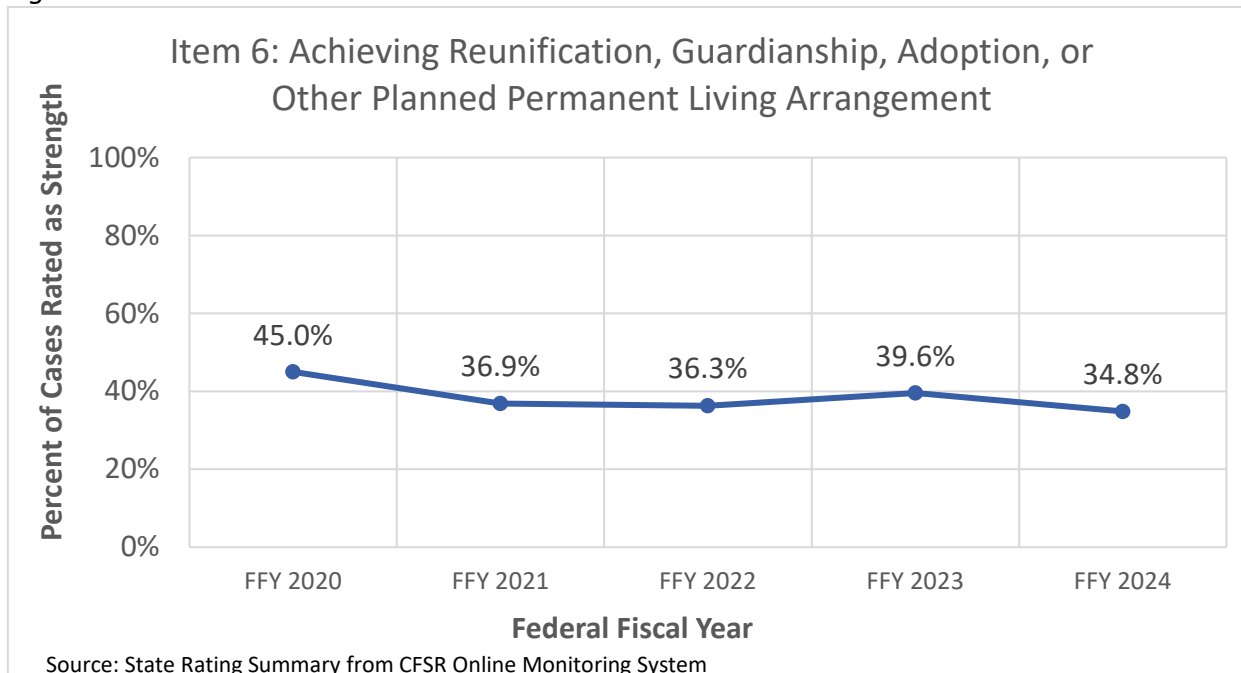


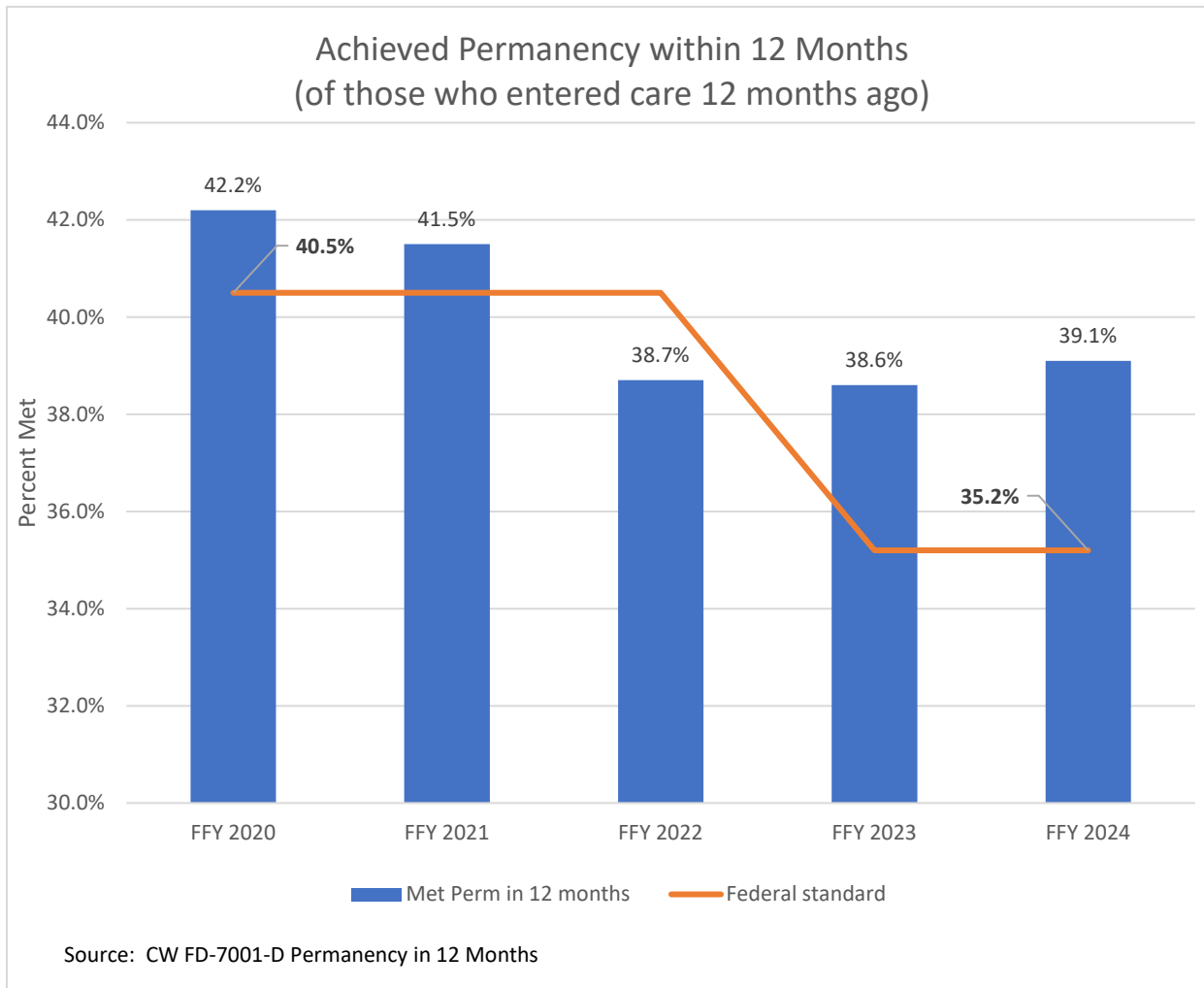
Figure 11 shows performance on Item 6 which is tied to federal standards of timeliness for three major permanency types:

- Reunification with parent within **12 months**
- Finalized guardianship within **18 months**
- Finalized adoption within **24 months**

Permanency for Children in Care Less than 12 Months

For all three of the following statewide data indicators (Figures 12-14), CW is aiming for numbers above the federal target.

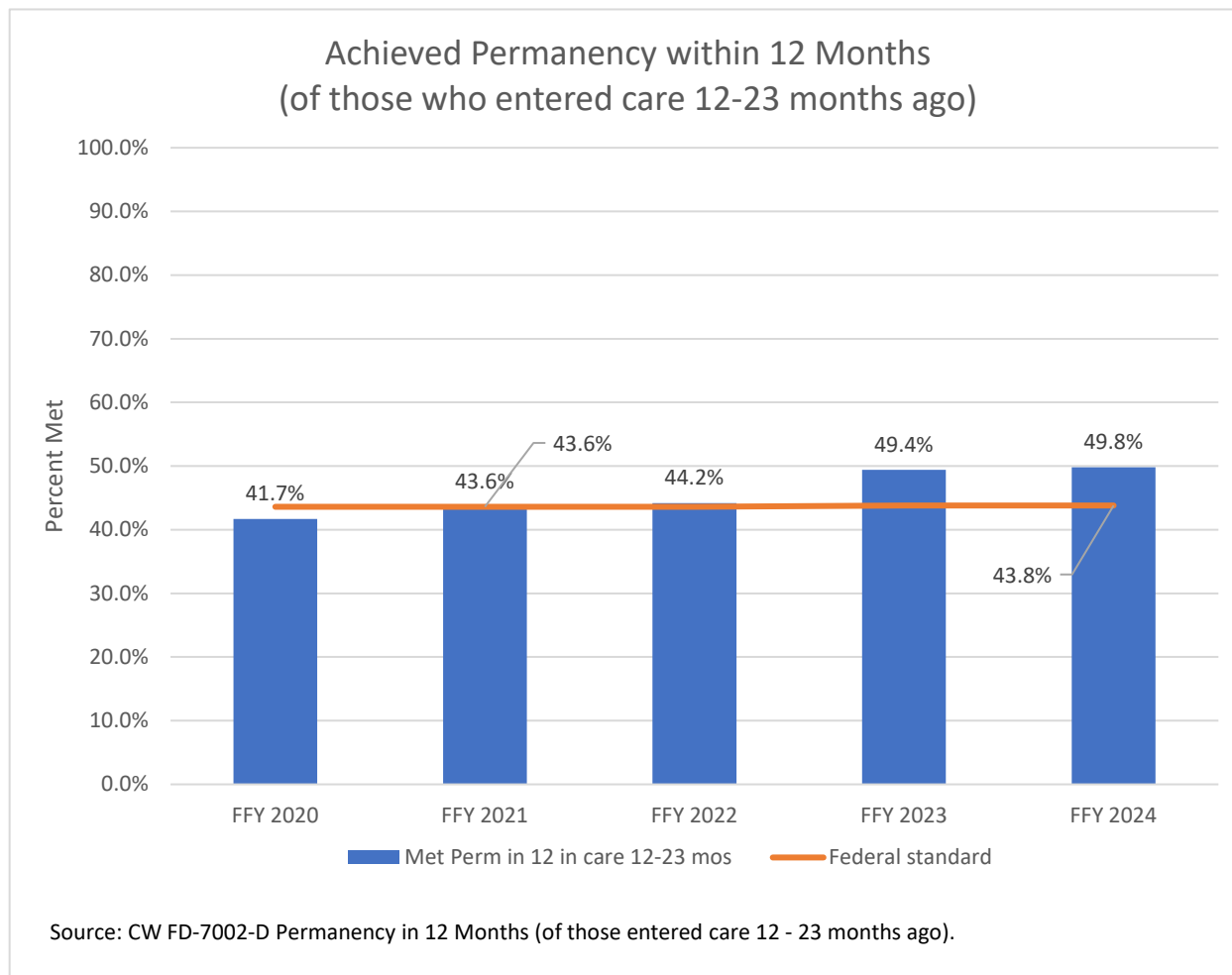
Figure 12



CW's performance on this measure has stayed fairly steady over the last three years. The federal target changed in FFY 2023, and Oregon has outperformed it in both years.

Permanency for Children in Care 12 to 23 Months

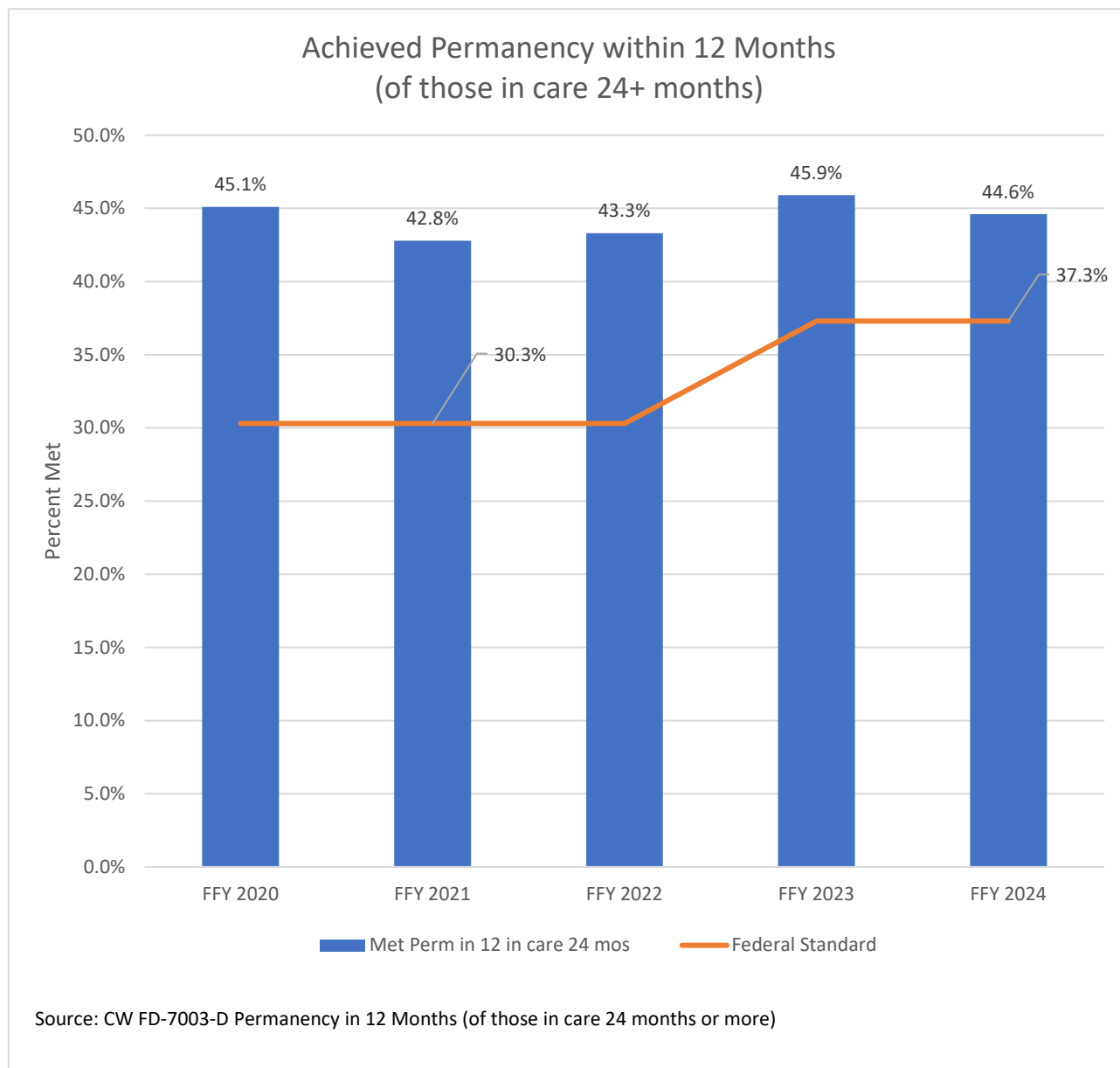
Figure 13



CW's performance on this measure has remained steady since the CFSP was submitted.

Permanency for Children in Care 24+ Months

Figure 14

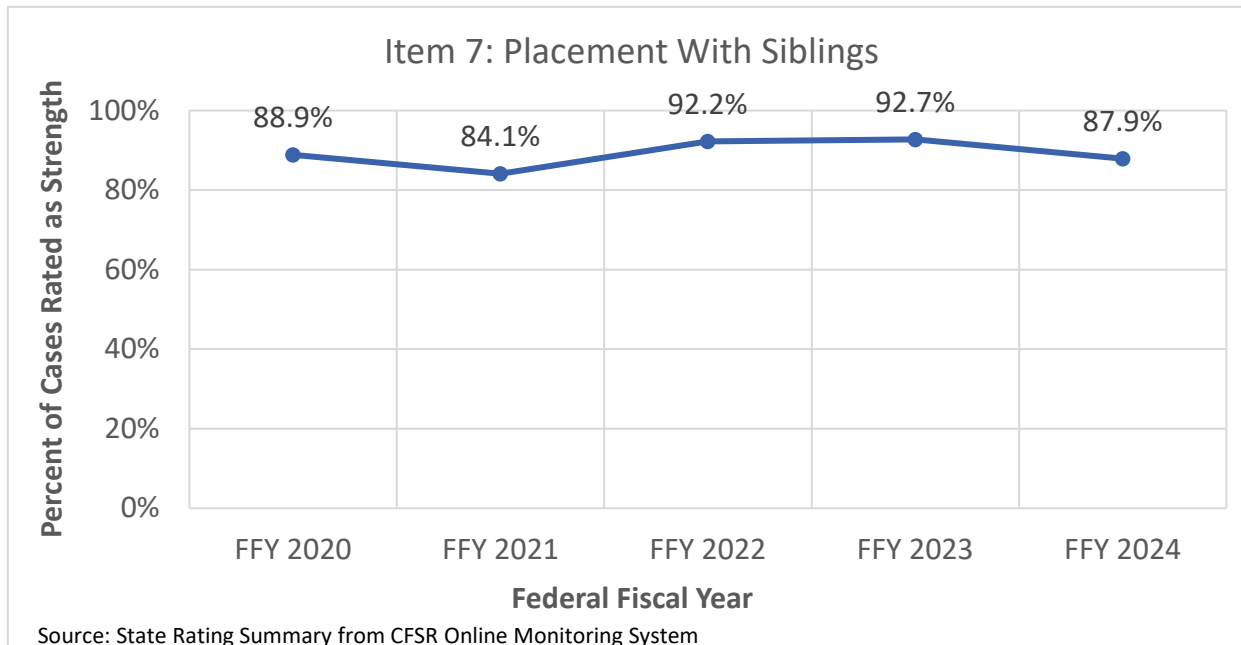


CW's performance remained steady and continues to outperform the federal standard.

4. Permanency Outcome 2: The continuity of family relationships is preserved for children.

Item 7: Did the agency make concerted efforts to ensure that siblings in foster care are placed together unless separation was necessary to meet the needs of one of the siblings?

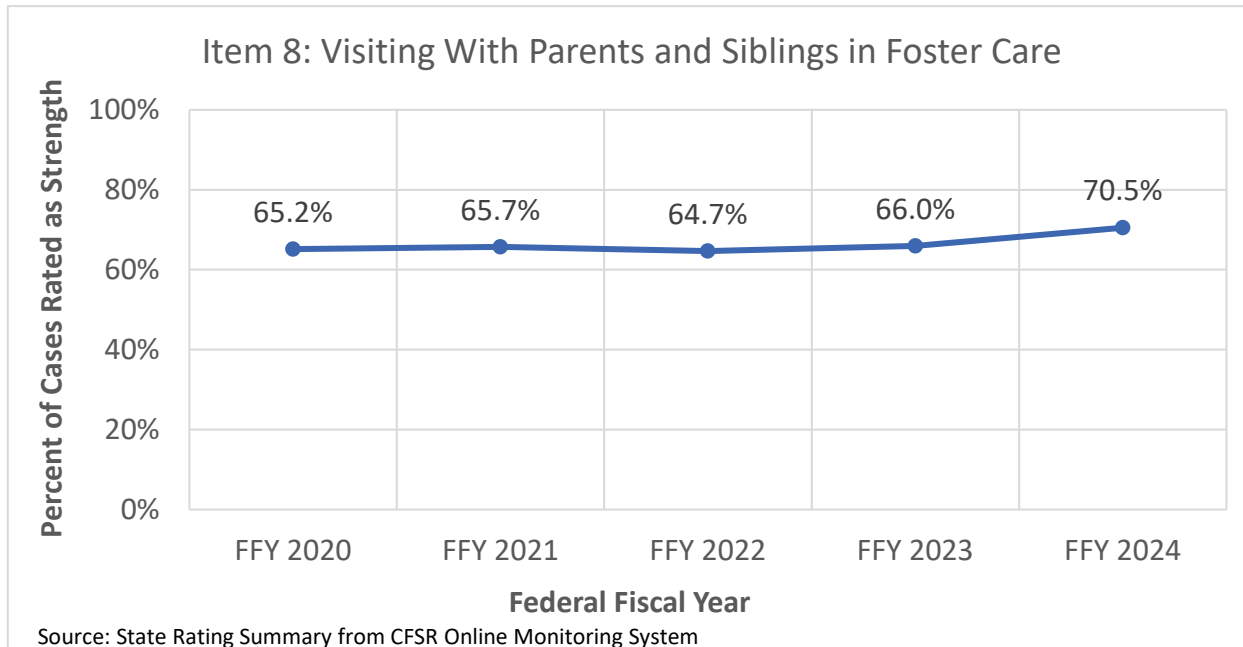
Figure 15



In Oregon, placement with siblings is a statutory right and a practice value. CW prioritizes placing siblings together as a key part of minimizing trauma and maintaining children's connections. The high prioritization shows in Oregon's continued high performance.

Item 8: Did the agency make concerted efforts to ensure that visitation between a child in foster care and his or her mother, father, and siblings was of sufficient frequency and quality to promote continuity in the child's relationships with these close family members?

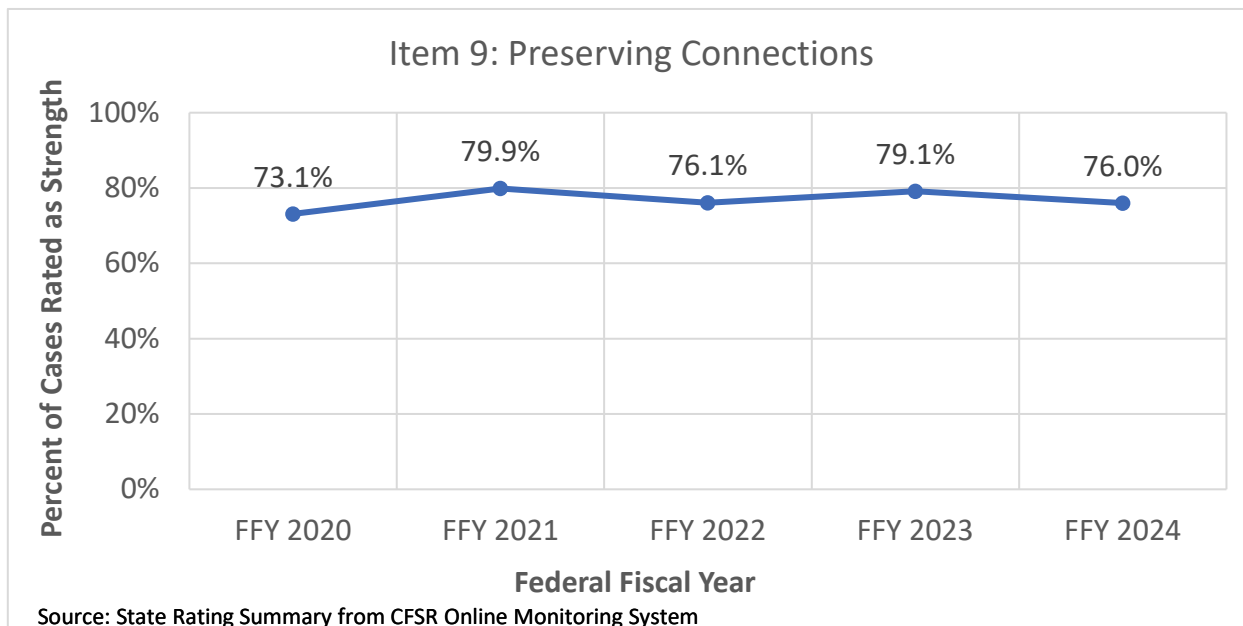
Figure 16



Family Time is a key indicator in successful reunification. CW's guidance document, reported in last year's CFSP, has been in use since June 2024. Performance continues to improve.

Item 9: Did the agency make concerted efforts to preserve the child's connection to his or her neighborhood, community, faith, extended family, Tribe, school, and friends?

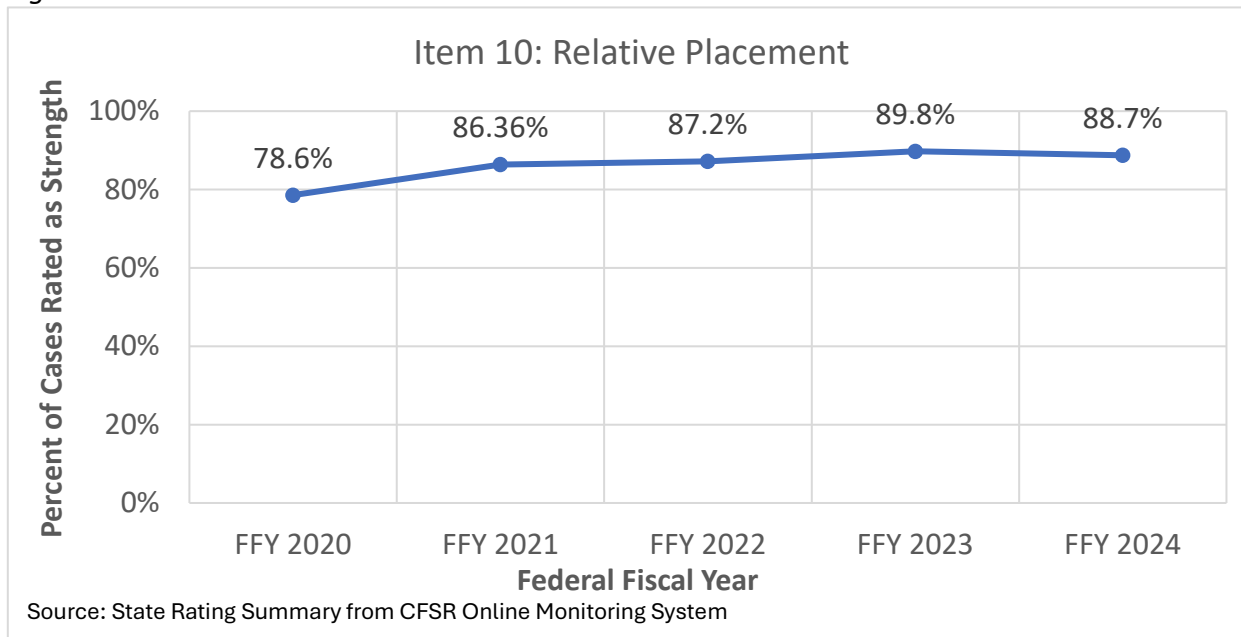
Figure 17



Preserving every child's connection to their Tribe, community, culture, and extended family continues to be a high priority in Oregon. Three local ICWA courts have been developed, for example. Two sites focused their CQI efforts on improving performance on this item: the Midtown local office in District 2 and Columbia County in District 1. Both sites provided training on how to engage families effectively to learn about their connections and culture and added check-in questions about the family's culture and connections to regular staffings and group supervision.

Item 10: Did the agency make concerted efforts to place the child with relatives when appropriate?

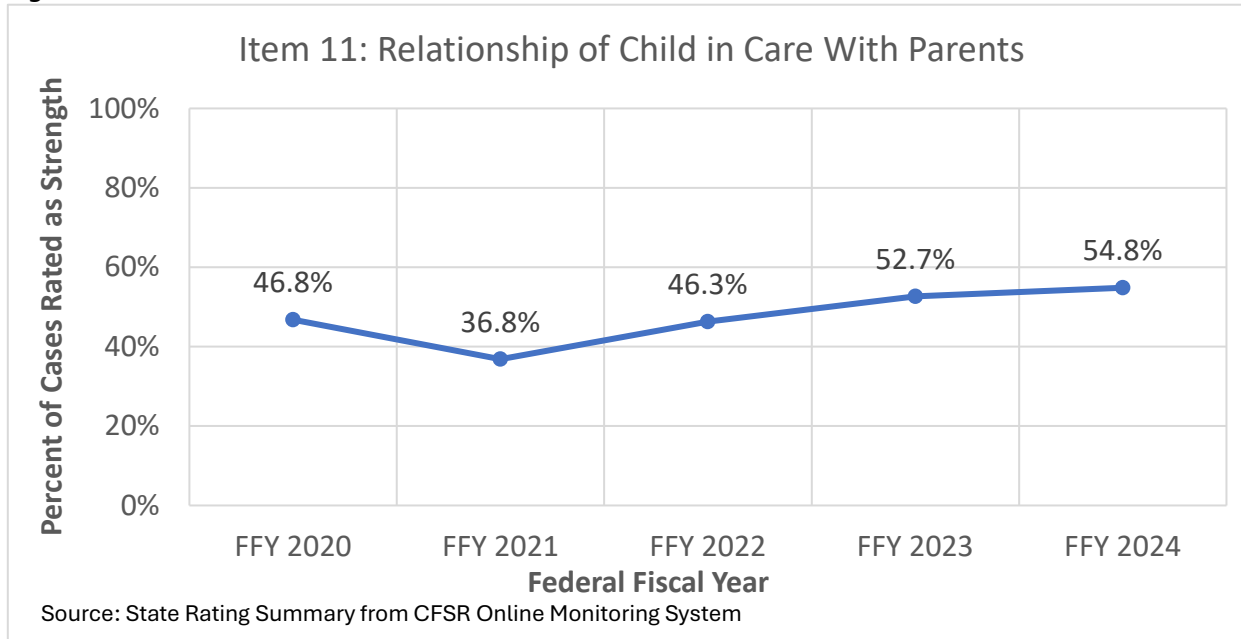
Figure 18



Placement with relatives is a CW value, demonstrated by ongoing high performance in Figure 18. See the update on the Relative Pathways project on pages 46-47 for more information.

Item 11: Did the agency make concerted efforts to promote, support, and/or maintain positive relationships between the child in foster care and his or her mother and father or other primary caregivers from whom the child had been removed through activities other than just arranging for visitation?

Figure 19



This measure focuses on all the ways CW facilitates the relationship between a child and their parent(s) aside from Family Time. Parents should continue to be involved in their children's education, activities, and in understanding their needs and how they are being met (whether medical, mental health, or behavioral).

District 9 is working on this item in their CQI cycle. The district focused on ensuring this is discussed at 90-day staffings and family decision meetings so opportunities for parental involvement in activities are identified early and often. In December 2024, CW facilitated a learning collaborative on this item, featuring Polk County's improvements from a prior cycle and Tillamook and Clatsop counties' combined work.

5. Well-being Outcome 1: Families have enhanced capacity to provide for their children's needs.

Item 12: Did the agency make concerted efforts to assess the needs of and provide services to children, parents, and foster parents to identify the services necessary to achieve case goals and adequately address the issues relevant to the agency's involvement with the family?

Overall

Figure 20

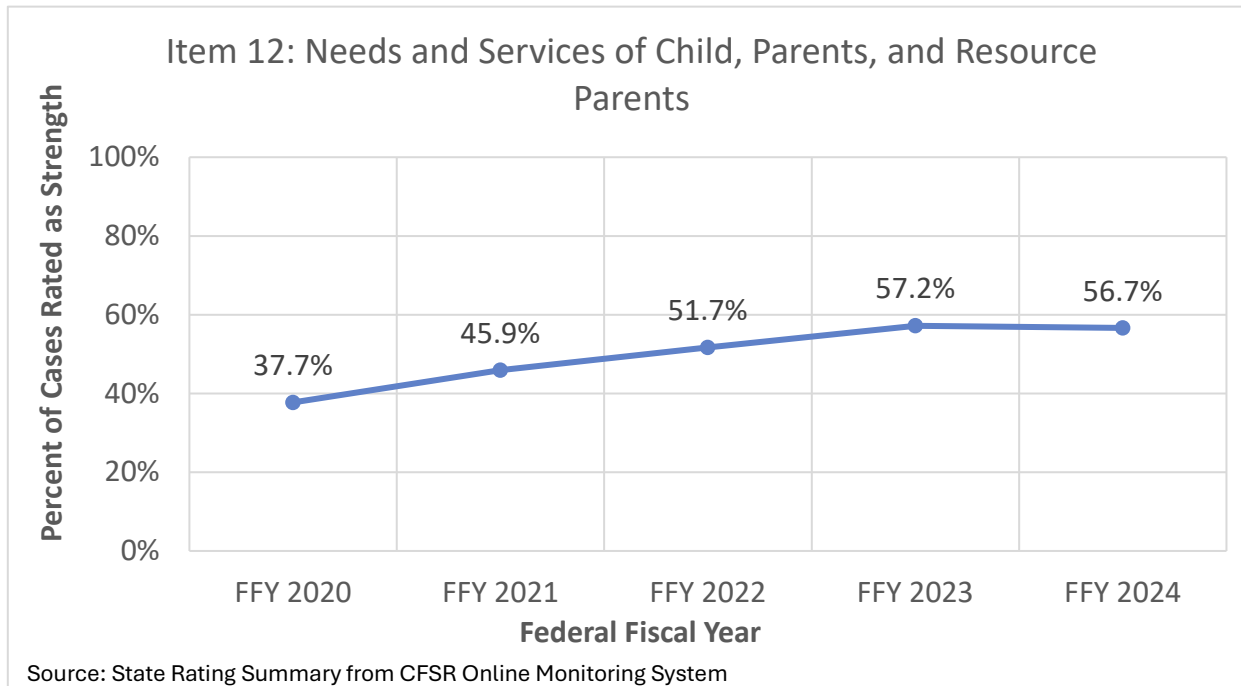


Figure 20 is an overall measure of performance for three distinct groups: children, parents, and resource parents. It is not an average; Item 12 is only rated a strength if all three sub-items were rated a strength. The three groups have differing needs and CW's efforts are tailored to each group, discussed below.

Children
Figure 21

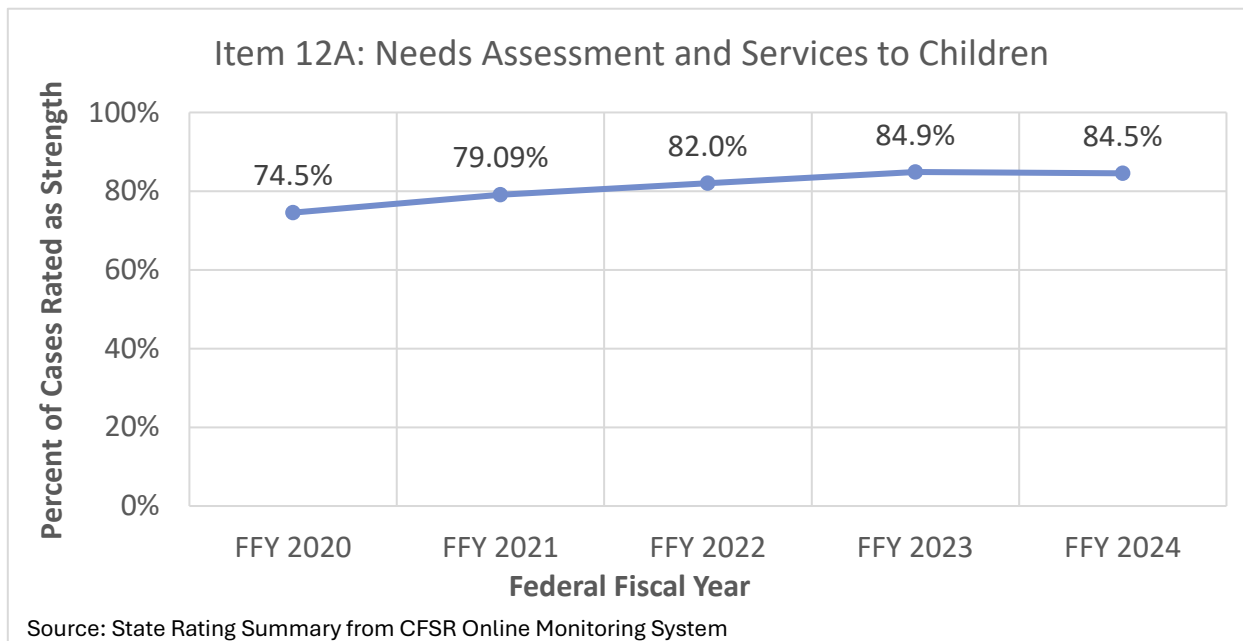


Figure 21 demonstrates the high value CW has for identifying children's individual needs and meeting them. See Items 17 and 18 (page 31-32) for discussion of physical and mental health needs.

Parents
Figure 22

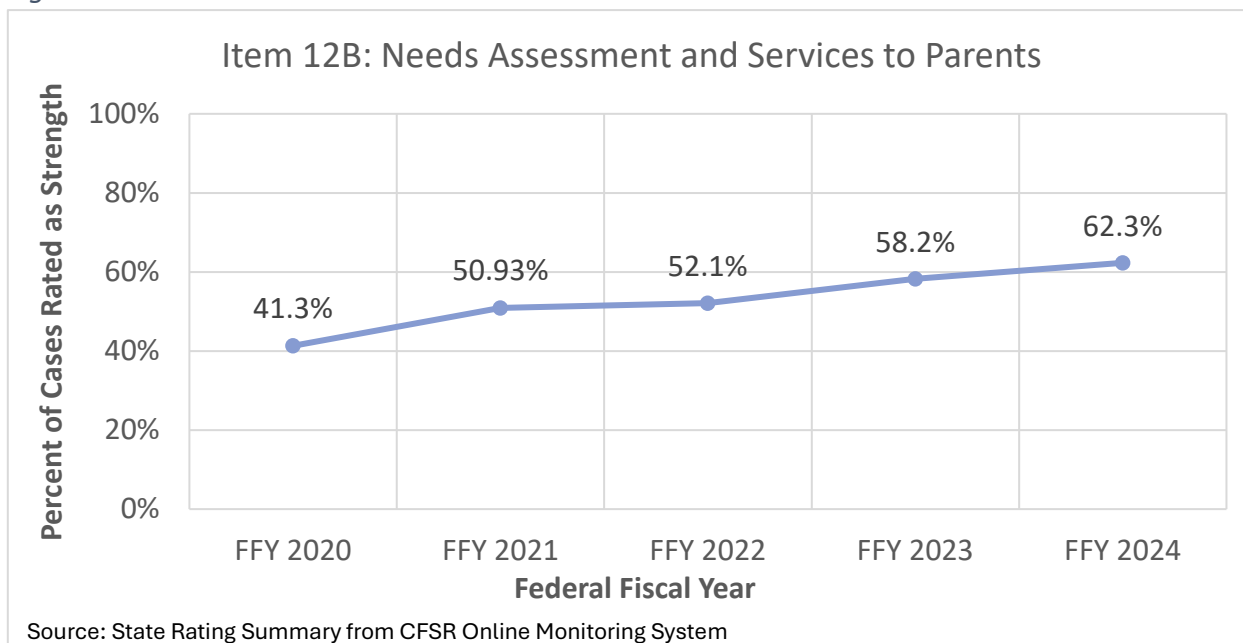


Figure 22 shows CW's steady improvement in assessing parents' needs and providing appropriate services. Parent mentor services, highly valued in districts that have had them for many years, are now available statewide in Oregon.

Resource Parents

Figure 23

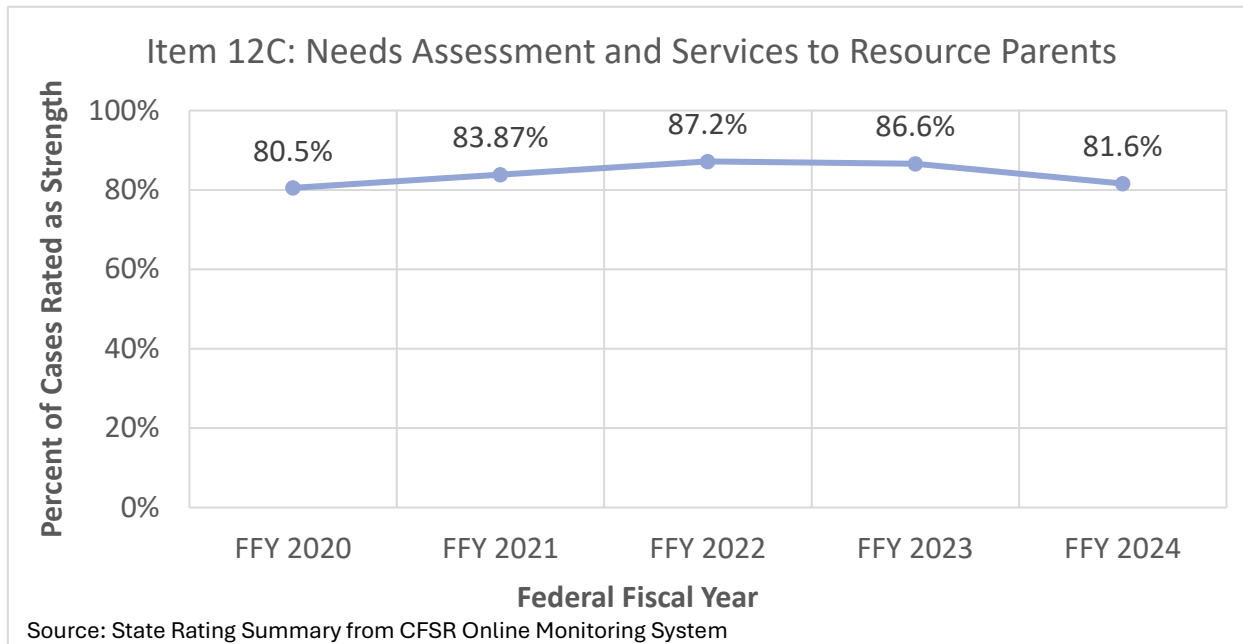


Figure 23 shows consistent high performance on this measure. CW's evidence-based program, KEEP, supports resource parents and provides skill enhancement. It is available statewide and groups are organized by geography and affinity.

Item 13: Did the agency make concerted efforts to involve the parents and children (if developmentally appropriate) in the case planning process on an ongoing basis?

Figure 23

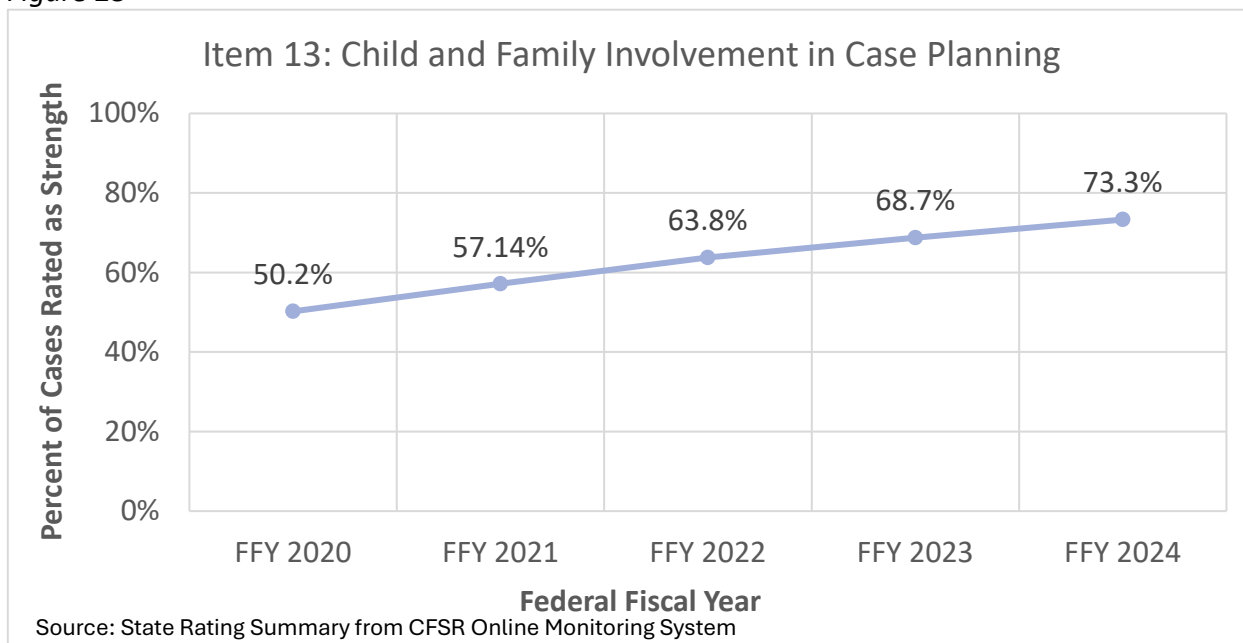


Figure 23 shows continued improvement in involving parents and children (when developmentally appropriate) in case planning.

Youth Transition Plans provide specialized support to teens aged 14 to 20 who are in foster care. Figure 24 shows that barriers related to the pandemic impacted performance, particularly in FFY 2020.

Figure 24

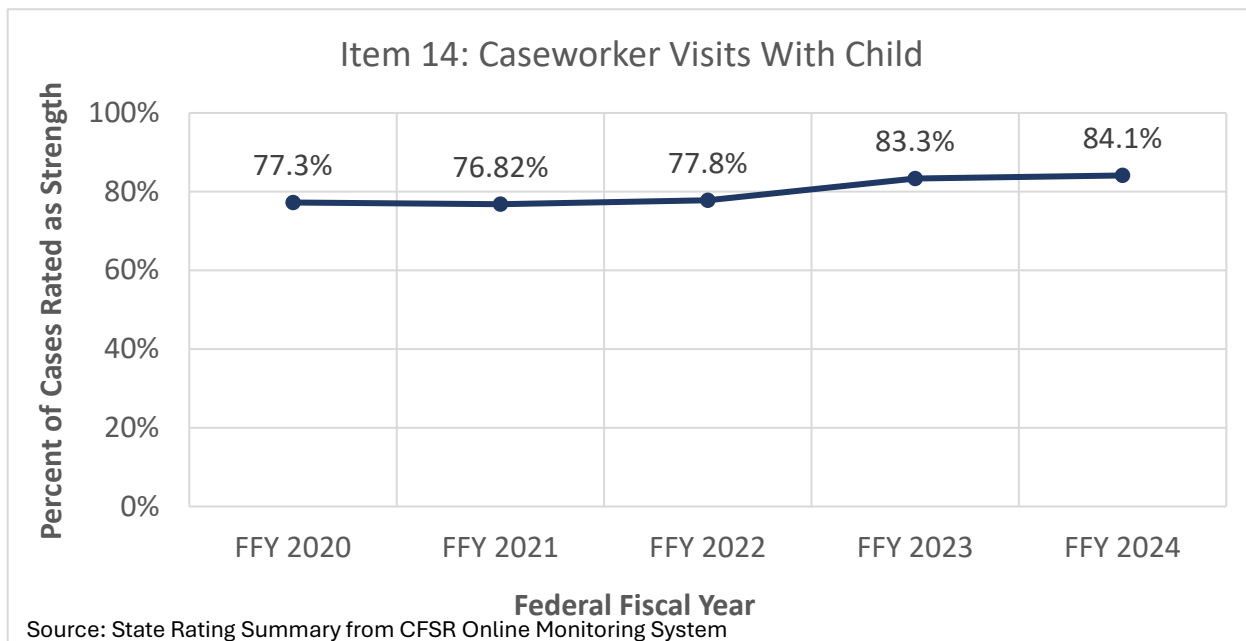
Percent of Youth with Completed Youth Transition Plans by FFY and Age Group on last day of Federal Fiscal Year				
Federal Fiscal Year	Age Group 14-15	Age Group 16-17	Age Group 18-20	Total Ages 14 to 20
FFY 2020	5.2%	24.2%	64.2%	28.4%
FFY 2021	20.9%	45.5%	76.1%	45.3%
FFY 2022 *	16.9%	45.3%	74.4%	43.2%
FFY 2023	7.6%	38.7%	74.1%	37.1%
FFY 2024	22.1%	41.6%	51.7%	37.9%

Data Source: OR-Kids and Administrative Data

* FFY 2022 was corrected 3/19/2024.

Item 14: Were the frequency and quality of visits between caseworkers and child(ren) sufficient to ensure the safety, permanency, and well-being of the child(ren) and promote achievement of case goals?

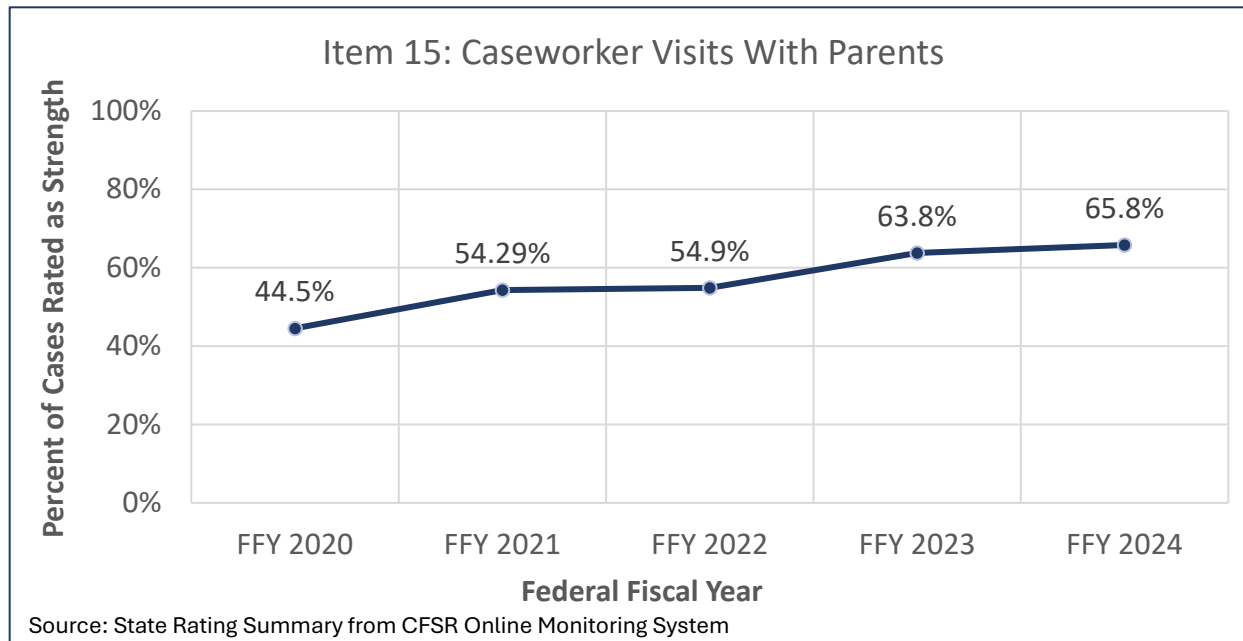
Figure 25



Frequent visits between caseworkers and children are one of CW's strengths. Data on face-to-face contact is shared at least monthly with staff. Figure 25 shows the percentage of cases rated as a strength on the qualitative CFSR measure for monthly face-to-face contact with a child in care. Performance continues to improve at a steady, sustainable rate.

Item 15: Were the frequency and quality of visits between caseworkers and parents of the child(ren) sufficient to ensure the safety, permanency, and well-being of the child(ren) and promote achievement of case goals?

Figure 26



Performance on this rating continues to improve as CW intentionally focuses on the importance of frequent and quality contact with parents. Marion County, in District 3, is focused on this measure in their current CQI cycle.

6. Well-Being Outcome 2: Children receive appropriate services to meet their educational needs.

Item 16: Did the agency make concerted efforts to assess the children's educational needs, and appropriately address identified needs in case planning and case management activities?

Figure 27

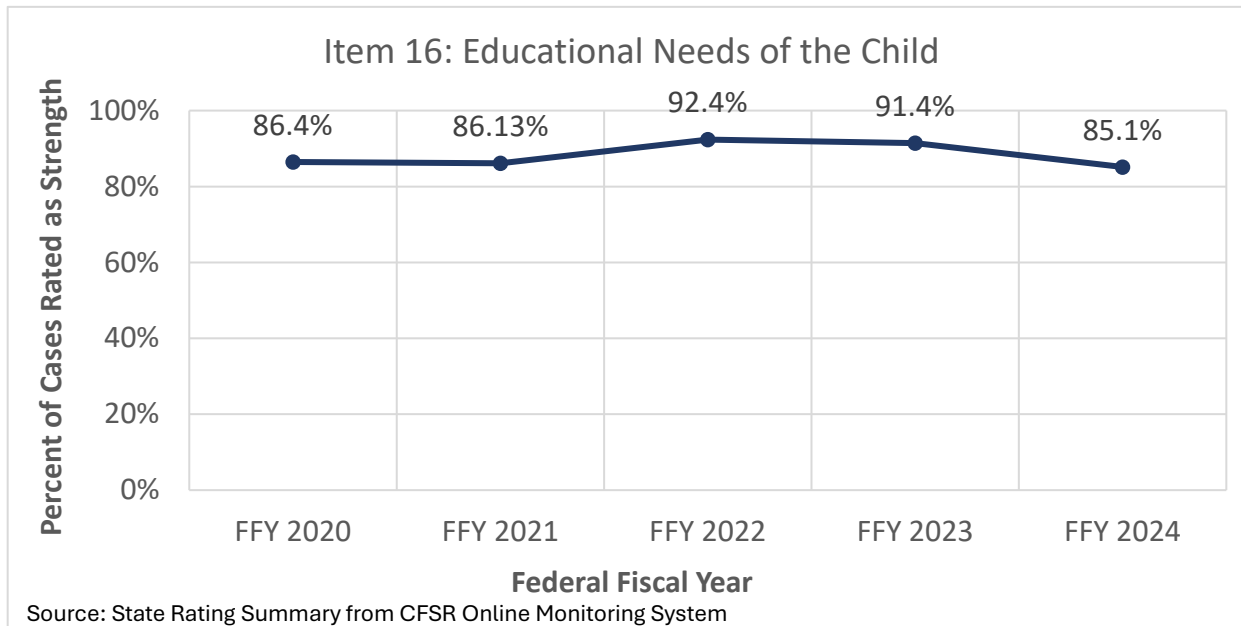


Figure 27 shows CW's continued high performance in meeting children's educational needs when they are in substitute care. CW has long-term collaborative relationships with the Oregon Department of Education (ODE) and other state agencies and organizations across the educational services continuum. These relationships ensure that the needs of children experiencing foster care are met across early childhood, K-12 (elementary, middle, and high school), and into post-secondary education.

7. Well-Being Outcome 3: Children receive adequate services to meet their physical and mental health needs.

Item 17: Did the agency address the physical needs of children, including dental health needs?

Figure 28

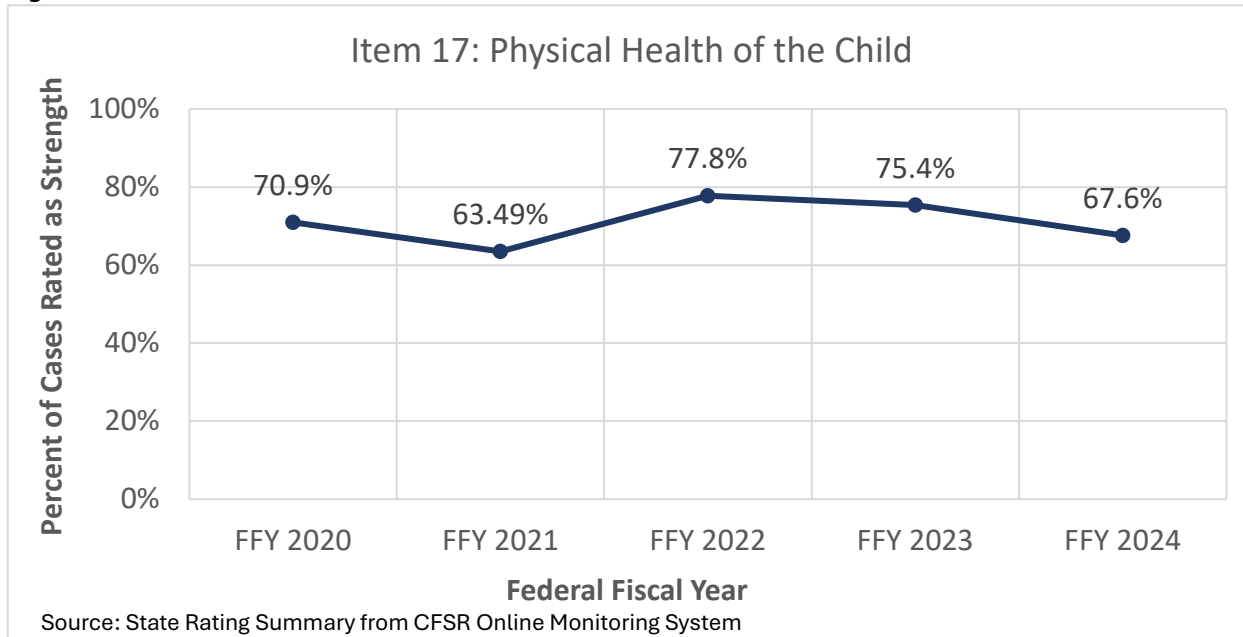


Figure 28 shows the ongoing focus on assessing and addressing children’s physical health and dental needs. CW is developing a consistent onboarding process for new registered nurse contractors. A new health and wellness dashboard is in development. The dashboard will streamline assignment of assessments to nurses and entering of assessment/screening results into OR-Kids (Oregon’s CCWIS system).

Item 18: Did the agency address the mental/behavioral health needs of children?

Figure 29

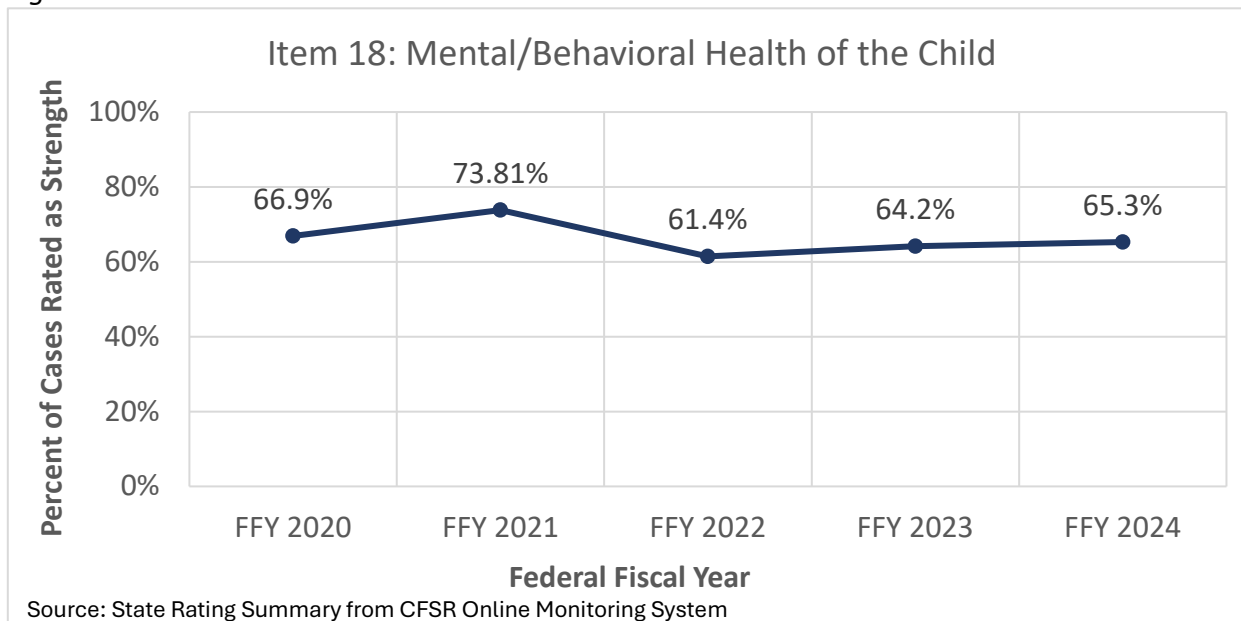


Figure 29 shows how well CW meets children’s mental health needs through regular ongoing assessments and necessary services. The following are initiatives to improve child outcomes in this area:

- Safe Systems mapping for youth substance use.
- Behavioral Health Treatment Foster Care (BH-TFC) pilot evaluation completed in preparation for a solicitation to extend the service availability.
- Three projects in collaboration with the Office of Developmental Disability Services (ODDS) to prioritize children served by CW:
 - Placement of children who are not yet eligible for DD services in DD-certified homes under a new memorandum of understanding
 - Placement of DD-eligible children in settings that are DD-certified and meet the Individual Residential Care solicitation requirements (one child with extraordinary needs served by trained providers)
 - Demonstration project using contracted services certified under ODDS’ Direct Support Professional Standard Model Agency to support children who are at risk of or experiencing temporary lodging
- Developing Individual Residential Care Services.

B. Systemic Factors

1. Information Systems

Item 19: How well is the statewide information system functioning statewide to ensure that, at a minimum, the state can readily identify the status, demographic characteristics, location, and goals for the placement of every child who is (or within the immediately preceding 12 months, has been) in foster care?

CW’s statewide information system is called OR-Kids. It captures:

- Time of entry and exit of each child in foster care

- Demographic characteristics
- Location data for children in foster care¹
- Each child's permanency goals

2. Case Review System

Item 20: How well is the case review system functioning statewide to ensure that each child has a written case plan that is developed jointly with the child's parent(s) and includes the required provisions?

Refer to Item 13 on p. 27 for additional data demonstrating the consistent improvement in involving parents in the development of the case plan.

The primary case plan document is the Family Report (form 2873). The case plan contains the following required provisions:

- Description of services offered and provided to prevent removal of the child from the home and to reunify the family
- Description of the type of home or setting in which the child is placed (if not in-home)
- Discussion of the safety and appropriateness of the placement and how CW plans to ensure safe and appropriate care while the child is placed out of home
- A plan for ensuring that the child receives safe and proper care, and services are provided to the parent, child, and resource parents to improve the conditions in the parents' home to facilitate the child's return to their own safe home or a different permanent placement
- A plan for ensuring that services are provided to the child and resource parents to address the needs of the child
- Discussion of the appropriateness of the services that have been provided to the child under the plan
- Where appropriate for a child aged 14 or older, a transition plan developed in consultation with the child
- During the 90-day period prior to the child turning 18, a transition plan including specific options on housing, health insurance, education, mentors, workforce supports and employment services, etc.
- Documents the steps to finalize a placement when the case plan goal is or becomes adoption or placement in another permanent home
- When the permanency plan is placement with a relative for guardianship, it includes:
 - Steps CW has taken to determine return home and adoption are not appropriate
 - The reason for any sibling separation
 - Why kinship guardianship assistance is in the child's best interests, including:
 - Eligibility for kinship guardianship assistance
 - Efforts the state has made to discuss adoption and why it was not pursued
 - Efforts the state made to discuss guardianship assistance payments or why efforts were not made
- How the case plan is designed to achieve a safe placement for the child in a least restrictive (most family-like) setting available and close to the parents' home
- If the child is placed a substantial distance from the parents' home, the reasons why such a placement is in the best interests of the child

¹ CW is adjusting procedure and technical elements of OR-Kids to move location data for children experiencing temporary lodging into OR-Kids. This data is currently tracked by the relevant local office.

- If the child is placed in substitute care outside the area of the parents' home, a caseworker from the area where the parents live visits the child in-person at least every six months and submits a report on the visit
- A plan for ensuring the educational stability of the child while in substitute care
- Health and education records of the child

Item 21: How well is the case review system functioning statewide to ensure that a periodic review for each child occurs no less frequently than once every 6 months, either by a court or by administrative review?

Oregon's Citizen Review Boards (CRBs) track children in foster care in 33 of Oregon's 36 counties and ensure they receive a periodic review every six months by the CRB or the court. Oregon law requires substantial court oversight, resulting in frequent reviews of cases. Analysis provided in Oregon's Statewide Assessment² shows that the case review system is functioning statewide to ensure that a periodic review for each child occurs no less frequently than once every six months, either by court or administrative review.

Item 22: How well is the case review system functioning statewide to ensure that, for each child, a permanency hearing in a qualified court or administrative body occurs no later than 12 months from the date the child entered foster care and no less frequently than every 12 months thereafter?

Analysis provided in Oregon's Statewide Assessment shows this item to be a strength. CW does not track this data directly and relies on data provided by the Juvenile Court Improvement Project (JCIP), including whether a case has an initial permanency hearing within 14 months of filing the petition. This data is a proxy for when a permanency hearing is required, assuming the petition is filed within a day or two of the children being placed in foster care (Oregon consistently defines "the date the child entered foster care" as 60 days from initial placement).

Figure 30

Calendar Year	% Timely to First Permanency Hearing
2020	84%
2021	85.5%
2022	87%
2023	88.3%
2024	88%

Initial permanency hearings are timely if conducted within 425 days (14 months) of the initial petition filed.

Figure 31

Calendar Year	% Timely to Later Permanency Hearing
2020	89.4%
2021	92.6%
2022	93%
2023	93.4%
2024	91%

² Submitted to the Children's Bureau 8/30/2024.

Later permanency hearings (the second through case closure) are considered timely if held within 365 days of the prior permanency hearing.

Item 23: How well is the case review system functioning to ensure that the filing of termination of parental rights (TPR) proceedings occurs in accordance with required provisions?

Analysis provided in Oregon's Statewide Assessment notes that a qualitative review of CFSR results³ showed TPR petitions were filed timely (or an exception existed) in 93.3% of cases where children had been in care for 15 of 22 months.

The median number of days from filing a dependency petition to filing a TPR petition decreased over the past year, from 520 in 2023 to 475 in 2024. The median number of days from filing a dependency petition to completing the termination or voluntary relinquishment of parental rights (for all parents) decreased from 707 days in 2023 to 631 days in 2024.

An area for improvement includes system development and report creation to identify children who have been in care for 15 of 22 months, and have not had a TPR petition filed, to determine how many of these cases have a good cause judicial finding. Because OR-Kids does not currently require judicial exception information, obtaining this data requires manual file review.

Item 24: How well is the case review system functioning to ensure that foster parents, pre-adoptive parents, and relative caregivers of children in foster care are notified of, and have a right to be heard in, any review hearing held with respect to the child?

This item is a strength for Oregon, as described in the Statewide Assessment. The data below is steady with that from FFY 2023.

The Family Report requires the caseworker to document whether they notified the resource parent(s) of the associated court hearing. For this requirement to show up in the Family Report, two criteria must be met (or the built-in logic hides the question):

1. There is court involvement (so there are court hearings to notify about)
2. There is substitute care (so potentially resource parents to notify)⁴

The data below in Figure 32 includes all Family Reports created in, effective in, and approved in FFY 2024. All of the Family Reports in Figure 32 also meet the two criteria above: court involvement and any time in a substitute care placement.

³ The reviewed cases covered the two years prior to the Statewide Assessment, submitted 8/30/2024.

⁴ It is possible that the case is "in-home/out of home" meaning that there have been both types of plans, and then the field will show up on the Family Report to allow for documentation if "out of home" is currently the case.

Figure 32

Resource Family Notified?	Number of Family Reports	Percent
Yes	7,354	90.4%
Not Applicable	743	9.1%
No	40	0.5%
Grand Total	8,137	100.0%

Source: ORRAI Data Warehouse Query

When answering the question, a caseworker marks “not applicable” when the placement does not have resource parents to notify. Some examples include:

- Trial home reunification
- Residential treatment facility
- Hospitalization
- Independent living
- Detention or youth correctional placement

3. Quality Assurance

Item 25: How well is the quality assurance system functioning statewide to ensure that it is (1) operating in the jurisdictions where the services included in the CFSP are provided, (2) has standards to evaluate the quality of services (including standards to ensure that children in foster care are provided quality services that protect their health and safety), (3) identifies strengths and needs of the service delivery system, (4) provides relevant reports, and (5) evaluates implemented program improvement measures?

CW has a robust Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) and quality assurance (QA) system statewide.

1. It operates in all counties across the state.
 - a. All counties/districts are part of a CQI cycle that aligns with the ongoing CFSR case review cycle.
 - b. The program specific quality assurance programs for safety (reviewing CPS practice), permanency (reviewing ongoing reunification/permanency practice), and foster care (reviewing certification of resource parents) all align with a district’s ongoing CQI and CFSR case review cycle.
 - c. Critical incident reviews occur statewide to address child fatalities (and other critical incidents) when the child was known to CW.
 - d. CW has contracts with child caring agencies (CCAs) and audits each CCA every two years to ensure compliance with federal Medicaid requirements and Oregon Administrative Rules.
 - e. Oregon Child Abuse Hotline (ORCAH) has its own internal CQI program to review performance on its key performance measures.
2. The following reviews specifically address the quality of services:
 - a. Certification QA reviews
 - b. Ongoing CFSR case reviews
 - c. ORCAH
 - d. CCA audits

3. The following reviews identify strengths and needs of the service delivery system:
 - a. Certification QA reviews
 - b. Ongoing CFSR case reviews
 - c. ORCAH
 - d. CCA audits
 - e. District/county Service Delivery Data Report (used in the CQI cycle)
 - f. Safety Program fidelity reviews
4. All the identified CQI and QA reviews produce reports describing their results and identifying strengths and areas for improvement in their scope. The CQI Program produces a Service Delivery Data Report for each CQI site (county or district) that assembles all the critical data about the site itself (population, cost of housing, demographics) and performance on child and family outcomes to inform the site's choice of improvement measure for the year.
5. The following reviews evaluate implemented program improvement measures:
 - a. District/county CQI cycles include root cause analysis, theory of change, and ongoing evaluation of action steps to assess their impact on outcomes.
 - b. ORCAH's CQI system evaluates the effect of improvement initiatives on the program's key performance measures.

4. Staff Training

Item 26: How well is the staff and provider training system functioning statewide to ensure that initial training is provided to all staff who deliver services pursuant to the CFSP that includes the basic skills and knowledge required for their positions?

Caseworkers

Initial training for caseworkers (classification is Social Service Specialist 1 – SSS1) and Family Time Coordinators (FTCs) is provided through a university partner, Portland State University.

When caseworkers are hired, they spend the first three weeks of employment orienting to their local office while completing e-learnings as required by Department of Administrative Services (DAS) and ODHS. Next, caseworkers engage in a virtual learning environment and begin part one of Essential Elements for Child Welfare Practice taught by instructors from Portland State University. Once this is complete, they return to their office and receive on the job training called On-Ramp. On-Ramp introduces workers to eight key tasks through experiential learning and provides opportunities to research statute, rules, and procedure, while observing a variety of casework duties. New caseworkers begin performing these duties, while being observed by Coaching & Training Specialists (CTS) or supervisors before being released to do it on their own.

While going through On-Ramp training, caseworkers are assigned cases on a limited basis with increased supervision. The number of cases assigned may vary across the state as this decision is dependent on many factors including but not limited to proficiency/comfort of the worker, the unit the worker is assigned to, and staffing needs. Finally, caseworkers receive four to five additional virtual learning courses via Portland State University to complete their learning competencies before the end of their first year of employment.

Coaching and Training Specialists (CTS)

Coaching and Training Specialists receive a seven-day initial pre-service training before they begin performing their duties. This course covers coaching, training, child welfare practice, collaboration, and engagement. Components of this training are integrated with supervisor training to support their role as trainers in the local office.

Supervisors

Supervisor pre-service is a two-week training designed to provide the necessary tools to lead CW staff. Subjects include leadership, coaching, human resources, and child welfare practice. Following training, supervisors participate in a monthly cohort call that further establishes connections between supervisors in other branches, leading to expanded support networks, communities of practice, and wellbeing. They also have an on-ramp they must complete as part of their training, as well as intensive field follow-ups that they schedule with consultants from Human Resources, Child Safety, Permanency, Foster Care, OR-Kids, and other design programs.

ORCAH Screening Training Academy

Each Screening Training Academy consists of 80 hours of training, 12 Screening Practice modules and 13 Technical Training modules, and presentations from ORCAH's Continuous Quality Improvement unit and partners. The training process for new screeners is completed within 10 to 12 weeks.

Upon completion of the Screening Training Academy and Post-Academy Coaching (PAC) activities, screeners are evaluated in three areas of competency. Once screeners graduate from PAC, they perform screening duties with tiered expectations.

Initial Training Initiatives

The Workforce Training Team has begun development of enhancements for SSS1 training in their first 18 months of service. This content will consist of a new orientation for CW staff, introductory content to prepare for Essential Elements of Child Welfare Practice, transfer of learning materials to bridge the gap between Essential Elements and on-the-job training, and ongoing professional development (in-service) coursework for staff once they have completed their pre-service training. This content will take a variety of formats, including but not exclusive to video micro-learning, self-paced e-learning, instructor-led training, seminars, and conferences.

A cohort-based academy is in development for new caseworker (SSS1) training. The new pre-service training will increase the number of classroom days and establish a structured on-the-job training program. During this time, they will receive additional blocks of instruction on fundamentals of casework, advanced skills, and program-specific training. Upon completion of the classroom portion of the academy, new workers will receive on-the-job training. They will carry a reduced caseload, receive increased supervision, and engage in additional transfer-of-learning activities.

Item 27: How well is the staff and provider training system functioning statewide to ensure that ongoing training is provided for staff that addresses the skills and knowledge needed to carry out their duties with regard to the services included in the CFSP?

Several structures are in development to support ongoing training of CW staff.

District Training Teams

These teams are a collaboration between local office staff and design training staff. The objective of this team is to identify all available training resources, determine training needs, and provide proactive and reactive solutions to the development needs of staff. Training plans are created or in development statewide.

Ongoing Training

Additional requirements, content, and events are being developed to support the professional development of child welfare staff after they have completed their pre-service training:

- Review and update of current initial and annual trainings
- Establish a minimum number of ongoing training hours staff are required to complete annually
- Development of specialized training content intended to refresh or enhance skillsets
- Development of periodic in-service training events

Current offerings of ongoing training:

- **LEAD Summit:** A triannual event for the professional development of coaching and training specialists, office managers, program consultants, regional ICWA specialists, recovery support team leads, and supervisors. This is a conference style training event with guest speakers, workshops, and breakout sessions designed to provide collaborative training opportunities for the invitees related to leadership, child welfare work, and other specialized content.
- **Trainer's Institute:** A triannual conference-style event for trainers (or staff with training responsibilities).
- **Indian Child Welfare Act/Oregon Indian Child Welfare Act Triannuals:** The ICWA/ORICWA Triannual is an opportunity for Tribes, partners, and CW to engage in learning and discussion on ICWA/ORICWA policy/practice. It also serves as an opportunity to strengthen relationships with Tribes within the State of Oregon and across the United States.
- **Program Quarterlies:** These include training and communication events hosted by CW programs to include staff on updates to policy, procedure, statute, rule, and best practice.
- **Local Training Efforts:** Districts and branches host a multitude of localized training events including but not exclusive to writing labs, group supervision, facilitated discussion, instructor-led training, one-on-one coaching and tutoring, and development of job aids.

Item 28: How well is the staff and provider training system functioning to ensure that training is occurring statewide for current or prospective foster parents, adoptive parents, and staff of state licensed or approved facilities (that care for children receiving foster care or adoption assistance under Title IV-E) that addresses the skills and knowledge needed to carry out their duties with regard to foster and adopted children?

Orientation

All prospective and temporarily certified resource families complete orientation training. Orientation is an on-demand training available in the state's learning management system and is available in both English and Spanish.

Resource Adoptive Family Training (RAFT)

CW uses Resource and Adoptive Family Training (RAFT) statewide as the initial training series. RAFT is a curriculum adapted from the National Training and Development Curriculum and is available in English and Spanish, and with language interpretation services. Each district has staff who are RAFT Facilitators so the

training can be delivered statewide. Participants register for RAFT through the state's Learning Management System.

Ongoing Training for Resource Families

All ongoing training for resource families is delivered virtually and offered statewide. Some trainings are available in-person. The team coordinates various monthly topics. On-demand training (videos, podcasts, computer-based trainings) are also available for review.

Registration occurs using Workday Learning. Data including registration details, training completion, and county of residence of participants, is tracked. A training catalog is available for all families and contains over 110 training options including mandatory initial trainings (Orientation and RAFT) and all ongoing training options to meet the unique parenting needs and skill development. Ongoing training options include computer-based on-demand trainings resource parents can access for practical topics like trauma-informed parenting strategies or learning about parenting with the child's family. The catalog of on-demand trainings available in Spanish is growing. Usage data will continue to inform future training development.

5. Service Array

Item 29: How well is the service array and resource development system functioning to ensure that the following array of services is accessible in all political jurisdictions covered by the CFSP?

Services available in Oregon to families served by CW are listed by category below. Most are available in all political jurisdictions covered by the CFSP. Exceptions are identified.

Services that Assess Strength & Needs

These services are intended primarily to assess the needs of the individual and identify other services the individual may need.

- Child protective services assessment
- Intake nursing assessment
- Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths screening
- Early Intervention screening
- Mental health screening
- Psychological evaluation
- Qualified Residential Treatment Program assessment
- Legal services
- Substance use assessment

Services that Address Needs to Create a Safe Home Environment

- Parent Child Interaction Therapy
- Recovery Support Teams
- In-home nursing assessment
- In-home Safety and Reunification Services
- Wraparound case management
- Shelter provision
- Family-based services
- Interpersonal/domestic violence services (services are available for survivors and abusers)
- Safe sleep bundle resource with infant sleep sack and crib

- Family Involvement Team
- Hands-on parenting training
- Parent mentor
- Youth mentor
- Individual and/or group mental health services
- Placement services
- Sexual offender treatment
- Long-term housing for youth receiving ILP services

The following services are only available in some jurisdictions, as noted.

- Tribal programs, within Tribal service areas
- Functional Family Therapy, within Family Preservation demonstration sites
- Parents as Teachers, within Family Preservation demonstration sites
- Motivational Interviewing, within Tribal service areas
- Concrete supports using Family Preservation funding, within Family Preservation demonstration sites

Services that Enable Children to Remain Safely with their Parents

- Parent Child Interaction Therapy
- Addiction Recovery Teams
- In-home nursing assessment
- In-home Safety and Reunification Services
- Educational training to prevent disruption and promote stabilization
- Childcare
- Strengthening, Preserving, and Reunifying Families (SPRF)
- Plan of Care for infants with prenatal substance exposure
- Family Involvement Team (FIT) navigator
- Housing navigator
- Short-term housing shelter
- Long-term housing
- Transitional housing
- Family Decision Meetings
- Parent education, coaching, and skills training

The following services are only available in some jurisdictions, as noted.

- Tribal programs, within Tribal service areas
- Child-Specific Caregiver Supports, available in Multnomah, Clackamas, Washington, Lane, Linn, Marion, Yamhill, and Polk counties
- Response and Support Network, in Multnomah, Clackamas, and Washington counties
- Functional Family Therapy, within Family Preservation demonstration sites
- Parents as Teachers, within Family Preservation demonstration sites
- Leveraging Intensive Family Engagement (LIFE) meetings, in waiver pilot sites⁵;

⁵ LIFE was initiated as Oregon's IV-E Waiver in 2014 and piloted in several districts in Oregon. When the waiver ended, the legislature funded ongoing services, but only at the existing service level.

- Motivational Interviewing, within Tribal service areas
- Concrete supports using Family Preservation funding, within Family Preservation demonstration sites

Services that Help Children Achieve Permanency

- Personal care services
- Adoption and guardianship mediation;
- Cultural Continuity mediation when ICWA applies, guardianship or adoption is the plan, and the mediation is requested by the Tribe
- The array of services provided by the Oregon Post Adoption Resource Center (ORPARC)
- Adoption Assistance
- Permanency planning
- Independent Living Program (ILP)
- Relative/family search and engagement
- Interstate Compact for Children's Placement home study and placement supervision
- Trauma therapy support
- Grief and loss therapy
- Equine therapy
- Tutoring
- Anti-trafficking mentoring
- Mental health navigator

Tribal customary adoption is only available to children eligible under ICWA, when requested by the child's Tribe.

Item 30: How well is the service array and resource development system functioning statewide to ensure that the services in item 29 can be individualized to meet the unique needs of children and families served by the agency?

See Item 12 on pages 25-27 for case review data demonstrating Oregon's excellent performance assessing children's individual needs and meeting them. CW has maintained steady improvement over the past five years in assessing and meeting parents' individual needs.

At the systems level, CW collaborates with the System of Care Advisory Council to improve availability of mental and behavioral health services for children and parents. See also Items 16-18 regarding CW's work to meet the educational, physical health, and mental/behavioral health needs of children.

6. Agency Responsiveness to the Community

Item 31: How well is the agency responsiveness to the community system functioning statewide to ensure that, in implementing the CFSP and developing related APSRs, the state engages in ongoing consultation with Tribal representatives, consumers, service providers, foster care providers, the juvenile court, and other public and private child- and family-serving agencies and includes the major concerns of these representatives in the goals, objectives, and annual updates of the CFSP?

CW maintains a strong system for engaging in ongoing consultation with Tribes, consumers, service providers, resource family providers, the juvenile courts, and other partners when developing and implementing the plans in the CFSP. As described in the collaboration section on page 6-7, CW relies on four major advisory

groups to consult on new initiatives, progress in ongoing work, and prioritization. CW executive leadership hold quarterly community forums to update the public and respond to questions. A similar forum is available for staff. The collaboration with the Juvenile Court Improvement Project and court system is also described on page 6-7.

Item 32: How well is the agency responsiveness to the community functioning statewide to ensure that the state's services under the CFSP are coordinated with services or benefits of other federal or federally assisted programs serving the same population?

The state's services under the CFSP are well-coordinated with services/benefits of other federal or federally assisted programs serving the same population. CW has long-standing collaborative relationships with the following:

- Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention Grant (CBCAP), which funds the Family Support and Connections organizations across the state
- Self-Sufficiency policy teams, including:
 - TANF
 - Employment-Related Daycare (ERDC)
 - SNAP
 - Refugee
 - Employment and training programs
- Oregon Attorney General Sexual Assault Task Force
- Home Visiting System Collaborative
- Oregon Parenting Education Collaborative
- Juvenile Court Improvement Project
- System of Care Advisory Council, aligning Medicaid and other federal and state investments
- Raise Up Oregon: Statewide Early Learning System Plan, aligning MIECHV, Medicaid, and other investments for early childhood

7. Resource & Adoptive Parent Licensing, Recruitment, and Retention

Item 33: How well is the foster and adoptive parent licensing, recruitment, and retention system functioning statewide to ensure that state standards are applied to all licensed or approved foster family homes or childcare institutions receiving Title IV-B or IV-E funds?

This is an area of strength for Oregon. The resource and adoptive parent licensing, recruitment, and retention system is functioning to ensure the state standards are applied to all licensed or approved foster family homes and childcare institutions receiving Title IV-B or IV-E funds.

Prospective general applicants for resource and adoptive parents are assessed by the Structured Analysis Family Evaluation (SAFE) homes study method. Quality assurance reviews of the certification process are completed in coordination with the CFSR team and follow their schedule, ensuring all local offices are reviewed annually. Reviews include all certificate types. The QA reviews have found that adherence to certification rules, including timely criminal history and child welfare background checks, was a strength. Foster care coordinators review visit documentation data with certification supervisors per required timelines. Each local office's sample (3%) is randomized. The reviewer pool may include certification supervisors, foster care coordinators and additional CW staff.

Child-caring agencies (CCAs) in Oregon must be licensed. The ODHS Children's Care Licensing Program (CCLP) licenses and regulates CCAs in Oregon. CCLP sets licensing requirements, ensures agencies meet the requirements prior to licensure, and conducts announced and unannounced site visits. CCAs must renew their license every two years through an application process.

Item 34: How well is the foster and adoptive parent licensing, recruitment, and retention system functioning statewide to ensure that the state complies with federal requirements for criminal background clearances as related to licensing or approving foster care and adoptive placements, and has in place a case planning process that includes provisions for addressing the safety of foster care and adoptive placements for children?

This is an area of strength for Oregon. The system is functioning statewide to ensure that:

1. The state complies with federal requirements for criminal background clearances as related to licensing or approving resource care and adoptive placements; and
2. The state has in place a case planning and certification processes that includes provisions for addressing the safety of foster care for children.

Criminal Background Clearances

Quality assurance reviews monitor background check compliance. There is a detailed procedure for completing background checks and assessing the information received. A weighing test helps analyze the impact of criminal convictions on child safety. The ODHS provider record in the CCWIS system requires the entry of necessary background checks to issue a certificate of approval for certification.

Oregon passed its federal Title IV-E review in September 2024, which includes confirmation of appropriate criminal background checks on sample cases.

Safety of Placements

CW has an established process for out-of-home care assessments when reports are received regarding suspected violations, abuse allegations, or other concerns about the safety of resource family homes and CCAs. Allegations against CCAs are investigated by the Office of Training, Investigations, and Safety (OTIS).

Item 35: How well is the foster and adoptive parent licensing, recruitment, and retention system functioning to ensure that the process for ensuring the diligent recruitment of potential foster and adoptive families who reflect the ethnic and racial diversity of children in the state for whom foster and adoptive homes are needed is occurring statewide?

CW developed the Resource Home Dashboard with real time data on the following:

- Characteristics of children in care
- Resource family inquiries
- Certified resource families and their characteristics
- Resource family survey data

This data is used with the GIS map that geocodes all certified resource families and children in care in Oregon. The map and dashboards help CW assess gaps and are used to develop targeted recruitment campaigns. Each district has an action plan based on the characteristics of children and resource families in their area.

Item 36: How well is the foster and adoptive parent licensing, recruitment, and retention system functioning to ensure that the process for ensuring the effective use of cross-jurisdictional resources to facilitate timely adoptive or permanent placements for waiting children is occurring statewide?

The CW Interstate Compact for Placement of Children (ICPC) central office staff provides virtual and in-person training to CW delivery staff. Most training and consultation are provided individually via instant message, video conferencing, email, or phone. Increased availability of video communication with other state ICPC offices enhances professional relationships and bolsters cross-jurisdictional collaboration, as does attendance at the annual Association of Administrators of the ICPC training and business meeting/child welfare conference.

Oregon ICPC continues to have a team of workers dedicated solely to completing home studies for incoming placement requests. The data shows that Oregon can meet the Safe and Timely Interstate Placement of Foster Children Act deadline when home studies are assigned to ICPC home study workers rather than local offices. Figure 33 shows the number of home studies or preliminary reports completed timely (within 60 days of assignment):

Figure 33

Home studies due 10/01/2023-09/30/2024		
	Number Timely/Total	Percentage Timely
ICPC workers	129/163	79%
Assigned to branch	8/23	35%
Total for the state	137/186	74%

III. Plan for Enacting the State's Vision

A. Supporting Families and Promoting Prevention

Define the Door to Child Welfare

House Bill 4086

During the 2024 Legislative Session House Bill 4086 was passed and signed into law by Governor Kotek on March 27, 2024. This bill creates two study committees specific to child welfare to review the following:

1. Child Welfare Jurisdiction – to review the scope of mandatory child abuse and neglect investigations, definitions of abuse/neglect, best practices in multidisciplinary responses, and due process.
2. Problematic Sexual Behavior (PSB) – to review the current service array for children exhibiting PSB and their families/caregivers, identification of gaps in services, review of best practices, and analysis of solutions to improve access to support, treatment, and resources available.

Both groups are meeting regularly and have created workgroups to address specific issues and develop recommendations for the legislature. Both will submit recommendations to the legislature in September 2025, and the legislature's response will determine CW's next steps.

Community Response Guide

This work, in collaboration with the technical assistance of Evident Change, is on hold.

Mandatory Reporter Training and Communication

The new training for Oregonians who are mandatory reporters is complete. All ODHS staff were required to complete this training in quarter 1 of 2025. The same training has been made available to the public on April 15, 2025, via a public website. CW is contracting with learning management platforms to host the training.

Structured Decision-Making in Screening

Updates to the SDM tool were shared with the following groups:

- CW's advisory councils
- System of Care State Standing Committee
- Nine federally recognized Tribes in Oregon
- Evident Change
- Office of Training, Investigation, and Safety (OTIS – responsible for screening and investigating allegations against CCAs)

Feedback was gathered and incorporated. Technical development of the tool will begin in summer 2025. CW anticipates certification of the new tool in winter 2025. Future changes will be driven by the HB 4086 committee recommendations.

Integrate Prevention in Screening

ORCAH process improvements for sending closed at screening (CAS) reports to Lifeworks NW, community partner, are on track. Lifeworks is at capacity for the number of referrals it can process monthly. Data is being gathered and analyzed to identify actions to improve family outcomes.

Through the Doris Duke Opt-In Initiative, described in the CFSP, ORCAH sends CAS reports to the Self-Sufficiency Programs family coaches in Klamath Falls. Data about this process improvement is also being tracked and analyzed.

Deepen Family Engagement & Increase Relative Placement

Relative Pathways for Care

CW launched the relative pathway initiative to align Oregon with new federal regulations that allow for separate licensing standards for relative or kinship foster family homes. Oregon was asked to be one of six national sites to demonstrate the kin-specific model standards and tools. To date, the following have been accomplished:

- Completion of ASCI Readiness Assessment and Kinship Strengths Assessment
- Implemented Temporary Oregon Administrative Rules - Relative Certification Division 203
- Adapted nationally designed Oregon Relative Caregiver Home Study Assessment
- Implemented relative pathway in demonstration districts 5, 8, 9, 11, 12, 16, February 2025 through April 2025
- Implemented data tracker in demonstration districts
- Developed form for gathering ongoing feedback from demonstration districts
- ASCI values training for Oregon staff in demonstration districts to be completed by June 2025

- Statewide roll-out coaching and trainings scheduled to occur, in-person, June through August 2025
- Permanent Oregon Administrative Rules - Relative Certification Division 203 to be implemented August 2025
- Revision to Oregon's Title IV-E State Plan approved by the Children's Bureau

Increase Access to Service & Supports

Family Preservation Approach

Oregon's Family Preservation approach seek to build a pathway that can support families staying together, safe, and stable in their homes and communities. The foundational elements of the approach are:

- Intra-agency relationships to coordinate the services families receive from ODHS
- Practice: focused on identifying and building structures for collaboration, including modifying current policy and practice as needed
- Supports and services, including economic and concrete supports, and navigation
- Community engagement to build sustainable partnerships

Cohort 3 sites have been identified. Data over all the demonstration sites shows that supporting children in-home is less costly than out of home care.

Portland State University continues to provide implementation evaluation to study practice, observe meetings, and analyze impact.

Family First Prevention Services

Work on amendments to the Family First Prevention Plan continues. CW has a design team identified and meeting. The following work is in progress:

- Identifying additional target populations for candidacy
- Analyzing survey results regarding service array
- Addressing impacts to the state cost allocation plan

B. Enhancing Our Staff and Infrastructure

Enhance Workforce Development and Cross Agency Collaboration

Expand University Partnerships

CW is expanding the number of partnerships it has with universities across the state of Oregon for the purpose of training development and delivery, IV-E tuition stipends, and research support to local offices.

Training Development and Delivery:

Partnerships are planned with additional universities to move towards a cohort-based regional academy system from a centralized one. This program will signal a return to in-person classroom instruction, an increased number of training days, and an extended training timeline that utilizes formal instruction, transfer-of-learning activities, on-the-job training opportunities, and coaching to create a more competent and confident workforce. The first site is the University of Oregon in Eugene. The projected completion date of the curriculum design is June of 2025. CW will contract with UO for the delivery, administration and evaluation of the course, with the first iteration projected for fall of 2025.

Additional sites are tentatively planned as listed below, with a phased implementation approach that will see a new academy stand up when the previous site has completed 1-2 successful cycles.

- Southern Oregon
- Central Oregon
- Portland/Metropolitan Area

Tuition Stipends:

CW is expanding the Title IV-E Tuition Stipend program in Oregon to include more universities and degree types. The first partnership in development under this initiative is a bachelor's degree in applied psychology through the Oregon Institute of Technology in Klamath Falls. The initial analysis of this curriculum is in progress, and the agency hopes to have the first tuition stipend established by fall of 2025 with the first tuition stipend offered for the 2026 school year.

Additional bachelor's degrees are being explored at Western Oregon University, Eastern Oregon University, Southern Oregon University, University of Oregon, Oregon State University, and Portland State University. Associate's degrees are also being researched as possible candidates for IV-E tuition stipends, as this could further reduce the barrier of entry into the workforce. CW is also exploring expanding the tuition stipend beyond the last year of a bachelor's degree.

CW maintains the Title IV-E Tuition Stipend with Portland State University School of Social Work for Bachelors and Masters of Social Work degrees.

Standardize the Training Policy

CW is developing policy that will define standards for training that staff and resource parents are required to attend, as well as standards for how training is developed and delivered. This policy will align all training with ODHS requirements and Oregon Department of Administrative Services (DAS) requirements.

CW is partnering with the Self-Sufficiency Program to incorporate the Core Competencies and Supporting Skills that SSP developed when establishing their engagement model. These competencies and skills are universal, foundational, and align with CW. CW plans to add an additional layer, technical skills, to identify the tasks, duties and responsibilities specific to CW. This will be used to inform pre-service training plans, required refresher trainings, and ongoing professional development opportunities.

Standards for instructional design, curriculum development, course evaluation, training delivery, training administration, and communications have been finalized and implemented. The enterprise level unit is currently reviewing these standards for implementation across all of ODHS.

Annual training requirements are proposed at a minimum of 24 hours per year, broken down as follows:

- Eight hours mandatory trainings that all staff must complete annually
- Eight hours of training and refresher courses directed by local leadership
- Eight hours of self-development driven by the staff member

Retain and Engage the Workforce

CW is creating local training teams that will design and maintain their district training plan. These teams consist of local staff identified by leadership, including coaching and training specialists, supervisors, program

consultants, and program managers. The team is facilitated by learning and development specialists from the design program, who are also responsible for authoring the training plan. Eleven of 16 district training teams have begun developing their training plans. Of those districts, seven training plans have been finalized. The remaining five training teams are expected to be in place by the June of 2025, and the four remaining training plans that are being developed are expected to be finalized by the end July.

Triannual trainings are currently in place for coaching and training specialists, supervisors, and program consultants. The trainings are focused on the leadership, coaching, and training skills these positions require of staff. This format is going to return to position based periodic in-service training, with coaching and training specialists, supervisors, and consultants each getting dedicated triannual training opportunities. A conference combining all of these positions will be held semi-annually to provide the opportunity for collaborative learning across positions.

In-service training is in development for caseworkers and support staff. It will provide refresher training, ongoing professional development, and other learning opportunities. The first iteration is planned for September 2025. During the in-service trainings, one dedicated topic will be covered throughout the month. Trainings will be delivered by either subject matter experts or design training staff. Each topic will be offered in two iterations for the month: training content will be presented in week one and followed by a practice application session in week two. The format will repeat in weeks three and four.

Oregon Leadership Coaching

In collaboration with the Children's Bureau technical assistance contractor, ODHS CW and Self-Sufficiency Program (SSP) are adapting a coaching model to implement for staff and supervisors that will have a parallel process for work with families. The Atlantic Coast Child Welfare Implementation Center (ACCWIC) Model was chosen in 2022.

Updated Timeline

Q1 2025

- Create and implement communications plan.
- Form implementation sub teams.
- Onboard implementation sub teams.
- Adapt the ACCWIC curriculum.
- Begin developing a CQI plan.
- Procure contracts to support coaching element.

Q2 & Q3 2025

- Infuse ODHS Context and practices into Oregon Leadership Coaching (OLC).
- Document a process for onboarding people to OLC (training, transfer of learning, fidelity measures).
- Develop a communications plan for the pilot and later implementation.

Q4 2025

- Finalize content.
- Resource roll-out.

Q1 2026

- Launch pilot.

C. Enhancing the Structure of Our System by using Data with Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI)

Implementation and Program Supports

CW provides implementation and program supports to district staff serving families primarily through centralized design programs. The Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) team works with local offices annually to analyze local practice and outcomes, choose a focus area for improvement, and act each year. As described on pages 36-37, quality assurance reviews are tied to the CFSR case review schedule and assist local office staff in identifying strengths and areas for improvement.

Technical Assistance in Support of CFSP Goals

The technical assistance relationships identified in the CFSP continue in support of those goals.

Progress in Planned Enhancements to CQI/QA System

CW's CQI/QA system is robust, as described on pages 36-37.

CCWIS Enhancements to Support CQI/QA & Coordination

The OR-Kids team facilitated several hundred releases since the last reporting period ended, including data and emergency fixes. Figure 34 lists significant enhancements:

Figure 34

Update Description	Date
Certified Respite	7/2/2024
ILP Portal Release 02	7/11/2024
ILP Maintenance Release	8/16/2024
Screening Case Maintain Update	8/22/2024
Health and Wellness	9/17/2024
Screening Person Create Upgrade	10/15/2024
Screening Maintenance Release 18	10/28/2024
Maintenance Release 43	11/21/2024
Case Notes Update	1/7/2025
Screening Maintenance Release 19	1/16/2025
Maintenance Release 43	1/21/2025
Relative Pathway Update	1/23/2025
Document Management Error Handling Update	1/23/2025
CPS Alerts	1/28/2025
ICPC Regulation 1 Status	3/11/2025
Maintenance Release 45	4/8/2025
CW Home Family Report Alerts	5/6/2025
Health and Wellness Maintenance Release 01	5/13/2025
OTIS Case Update	5/20/2025

Current Case Review Instrument

Oregon uses the federal Onsite Review Instrument (OSRI) with an ICWA Addendum. The data is used extensively in collaboration with the CQI team to support ongoing improvement in practice, supporting focused action based on local performance.

Sustaining State-Led Review Process

Oregon completed state-led case reviews for CFSR Round 4 in November 2024-February 2025. The data has been accepted by the Children's Bureau and is in review for the final report.

Feedback Loops

CW has several forums to provide information gathered in CQI/QA processes to parents, families, youth, young adults, Tribes, and other system partners. These include:

- CQI process in local offices, where all the listed partners are invited to attend and be involved in the site's choice of focus for the year, and then in the actions and evaluations.
- Advisory councils and committees, where members (and in some cases the public) get updates from CW on initiatives and performance and provide feedback.
- CW Community Chats, where the public is invited to hear from CW's executive leadership on initiatives and can ask questions/make comments.

CW sought feedback from Tribes, parents, families, youth, and other system partners in 2024 through focus groups to inform the Statewide Assessment and CFSR Round 4 process. This year, workgroups have been developed to support the PIP planning process.

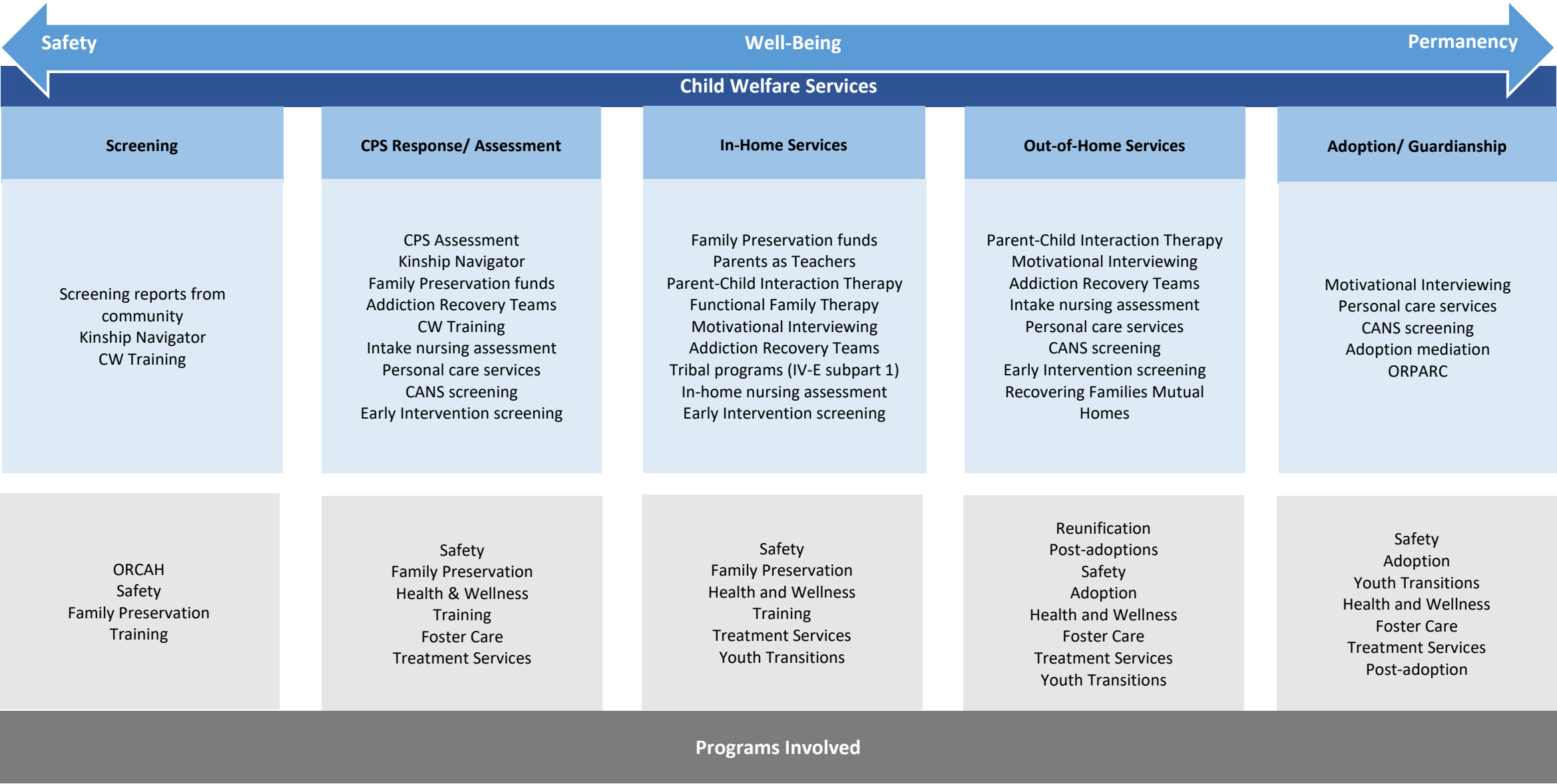
The information gathered in these forums and in the CQI/QA processes is used to review, update, and revise goals, objectives, and interventions in Oregon. Information generated or acquired through the CQI/QA processes is used to measure progress of achieving goals, objectives, and interventions. Oregon uses the CFSR, statewide data indicator, and other related practice measures to assess performance and adjust interventions as needed.

V. Services

A. Journey of a Family

Oregon offers an array of child and family programs and services to prevent child abuse and neglect and promote safety, permanency, and well-being.

Figure 35: Services and Programs available throughout the journey of a family.



B. The Stephanie Tubbs Jones Child Welfare Services Program (Title IV-B, Subpart 1)

1. Services

Title IV-B, subpart 1 resources supported the following services during the past year:

Recovery Support Teams (RST Teams)

RST Teams provide coordinated multi-disciplinary approach and services to families referred to CW who need substance use services. RST Teams use a short-term crisis intervention model. Each team may include an alcohol and drug counselor, an outreach navigator, and a social service specialist. They work with resource providers in local communities and other ODHS agencies. The RST Teams focus on family strengths and providing parents with clean and sober support networks to assist with their alcohol and drug addiction recovery. Team members assist parents with the initial response to their addiction, assessment, referral to treatment, and relapse prevention. RST social service specialists coach, guide, and support caseworkers on early identification of substance use to increase access to treatment services while also breaking down barriers to recovery.

Tribal Programs

The Tribes in Oregon use Title IV-B, subpart 1 fund to serve the needs of their communities by investing in services, systems change, community development, and capacity building that target child maltreatment, adult substance abuse, poverty, kindergarten readiness, parent engagement and foster care reduction. The Tribes also use these funds for transportation to alleviate barriers to accessing services, improving family management and life skills.

Family Preservation Funds

The Title IV-B subpart 1 fund helps families maintain children safely at home. Services include family and youth mentoring, counseling and communication services. Local CW offices use family preservation funds to purchase services to safely support children in their own homes and support family stability. Services are identified and planned for through family engagement and involvement in case planning.

Additional Services

CW contracts for the following services using Title IV-B, subpart 1 funds:

- Kindred Matters
 - Sibling Camp: Summer camp connecting siblings not placed together
 - Sibling Connect events: Events throughout the year for siblings not placed together, focusing on fun, emotional empowerment and sibling connection
 - Family Camp: Summer camp for certified resource families (all children in the home), including fun camp events and training for resource parents
- Oregon Kinship Navigator: Provides services and support for children cared for by relatives or close non-related family in Oregon, primarily families not currently involved with CW
- With Love Oregon:
 - Physical Goods: provides critical tangible goods, such as diapers, wipes, formula, bottles, car seats, cribs, sheets, blankets, nightlights, baby gates, strollers, books, clothing, shoes, and

culturally and developmentally specific items, to resource families caring for children 0-6 years of age.

- Resource Family Retention: hosts events throughout the year that provide additional support, engagement and educational opportunities for resource families. Events are designed to foster connection and provide opportunities for resource parents to build relationships with each other, increasing retention and feelings of satisfaction within the resource parent community.

See the CFS-101, Part II form for the estimated number of individuals and families served in FY 2025, the populations served, and the geographic service availability.

2. Services for Children Adopted from Other Countries (section 422(b)(11) of the Act)

CW does not provide services specifically designed for children adopted from other countries.

3. Services for Children Under the Age of Five (section 422(b)(18) of the Act)

Addressing Developmental Needs

Early Intervention

CW refers all children under age three for screening for early intervention services using the CPS Early Intervention Referral Form (CF 0323). Districts throughout the state have interagency agreements outlining the referral process for areas covered by the Educational Service District. Infants and toddlers eligible for early intervention services receive services tailored to the child's specific needs and may include:

- Assistive technology (devices a child might need)
- Audiology or hearing services
- Speech and language services
- Counseling and training for a family
- Medical services
- Nursing services
- Nutrition services
- Occupational therapy
- Physical therapy
- Psychological services

Children ages 3-5 who have disabilities may be referred to Early Intervention/Early Childhood Special Education Services.

Parent Child Interaction Therapy:

Parent Child Interaction Therapy (PCIT) is a nationally recognized therapeutic intervention for children ages two through six years and their parents. It is one of the most effective treatments for young children experiencing significant social or behavioral problems. The average length of treatment is 16 sessions, though PCIT is not time-limited.

In PCIT, caregivers establish and strengthen a nurturing and secure relationship with their child while encouraging pro-social behavior and decreasing maladaptive behavior. Ideally, during coaching sessions, the therapist observes the interaction behind a one-way mirror and guides the parent through a wireless communication system. OHA made a significant investment in PCIT service expansion, which increased PCIT accessibility to families and resource families who care for young children with behavioral health needs.

Home Visiting Programs:

CW refers children in care to various community home visiting programs such as Family Connects, Nurse Family Partnership, Babies First, and CaCoon for children with complex medical needs.

Other Community Home Visiting Programs used across the state:

- Early Head Start
- Healthy Families Oregon
- Children's Relief Nursery
- Parents as Teachers
- Family Support and Connections
- Healthy Families America

Reducing Length of Time in Foster Care without a Permanent Family

Permanency Consultants

Permanency Consultants provide expertise and creative problem-solving for cases at key decision points and guide caseworkers or supervisors on a case-by-case basis when requested.

Group Supervision

Group Supervision provides an opportunity to review fidelity to the practice model, case planning decisions, conditions for return, and engage in creative group case planning to address barriers to permanency.

The Statewide Transfer Protocol

The statewide transfer protocol strengthens cooperation and collaboration between the protective services and permanency caseworkers and has improved each worker's understanding of the practice model. Early and frequent collaboration ensures that case planning and engagement continue through the transfer process, there is no pause in service provision, and that the family and workers are clear on the safety threats, conditions for return, and expected outcomes.

The Family Report

The Family Report, Oregon's case planning document, focuses on case planning through engagement with parents, primary caregivers, and children, where appropriate.

4. Efforts to Track and Prevent Child Maltreatment Deaths (section 422(b)(19))

Child Fatality Prevention and Review Program (CFPRP) focuses on systemic issues in the broader child safety system that may help prevent child maltreatment, including serious physical injuries/near fatalities, and fatalities. Their work is detailed in the Comprehensive Statewide Plan to Prevent Child Maltreatment Fatalities (Attachment 2).

- Coordinating Critical Incident Review Teams (CIRT) as required by ORS 418.806.
- Co-chairing and coordinating the work of the State Child Death Review and Prevention Team in partnership with Oregon Health Authority and Public Health, including the support of county child death review teams as required by ORS 418.748.
- Gathering and reporting child fatality data using REDCap and other agency electronic databases.
- Exploring Safe systems analysis employs the Safe Systems Improvement Tool (SSIT) and individual safe systems debriefings to better understand the factors influencing improvement opportunities (case-specific actions or inactions relevant to the outcome or industry standards) identified through critical incident reviews.
- Promoting and coordinating the advancement of safety culture in the workplace to improve outcomes for children and families.

- Coordinating and supporting the development and implementation of recommendations for system-level improvements as identified in the CIRT.
- Coordinating and supporting prevention of:
 - Suicide
 - Sleep-related infant death
 - Chronic neglect
 - Infants exposed to substances

C. MaryLee Allen Promoting Safe and Stable Families Program (Title IV-B, Subpart 2)

Title IV-B, subpart 2 resources supported services in the following categories during the past year:

1. Family Support

- *Early Learning Division* – See the Early Learning Division’s Title IV-B, subpart 2 annual report for 2024 (Attachment 3).

2. Family Preservation

- *Early Learning Division* – See the Early Learning Division’s Title IV-B, subpart 2 annual report for 2024 (Attachment 3).
- *Family Preservation Funds* – These funds were used to stabilize families at risk or in crisis. Local CW offices use family preservation funds to purchase services to safely support children in their own homes and support family stability. Services are identified and planned through family engagement and involvement in case planning.

3. Family Reunification

- *Family Reunification Funds* - Title IV-B, subpart 2 funds facilitated family reunification. Various services were provided, including counseling, parent training/mentoring, and transportation for visits. As with Family Preservation Funds, local CW staff identify and plan for services through family engagement and involvement in case planning.
- *Recovering Families Mutual Homes* – These homes served young parents, with their children, coming out of residential alcohol and drug treatment with no community-based housing. The program provides up to one year of monitored, alcohol and drug-free housing. It tracks parent and child participation in other programs and services supporting their reintegration into the community. These services include alcohol, drug, and mental health counseling attendance, 12-step attendance, and completion of formalized plans that may be in place with treatment, CW, and the Department of Corrections. There are two homes in Oregon, one in Clackamas County and one in Lane County.

4. Adoption Promotion and Support Services

- *Adoption and Guardianship Mediation* – CW contracts with trained, impartial mediators to help birth and adoptive/guardian families create a plan to guide communication and contact after finalizing adoption or guardianship. CW used the funds to train new mediators to replace several who retired. The funds also support contracts with experienced mediators to new mentors.

- *Oregon Post Adoption Resource Center and Oregon Adoption Resource Exchange* – CW contracts with Northwest Resource Associates to operate the Oregon Post Adoption Resource Center (ORPARC) and Oregon Adoption Resource Exchange (OARE).
 - ORPARC serves Oregon adoptive and guardianship families, including access to a free lending library of books, therapeutic guides, and children’s stories focused on the needs of youth in care or post-permanency. ORPARC services enhance the stability and skills of Oregon adoptive and guardianship youth and families by providing a support network that includes information and referral services, consultation, advocacy, response to imminent family crises, support groups, and training.
 - OARE provides support with adoption, guardianship, and long-term caregiver recruitment for children in foster care who do not have an identified permanency resource. OARE assists permanency caseworkers and family adoption workers with locating and matching a permanent resource based on a child’s specific needs. OARE provides a secure website to assist with statewide recruitment and for a child’s caseworker to review profiles of families with approved adoption/guardianship home studies.
- *Home Supervision* – Post-placement support and services provided to adoptive parents before adoption finalization.

See the CFS-101, Part II form for the estimated number of individuals and families for FY 2026, the population served, and the geographic areas where the services will be available.

5. Planned Spending on IV-B, Subpart 2 Service Categories

CW plans to spend at least 20% of the Title IV-B, subpart 2 award for services in each of the four service categories. See the CFS-101, Part 1 form for the specific amounts. The distribution between categories is mathematical: the total was divided by four, with a small percentage dedicated to administrative costs. As required, the amounts allocated to each of the service categories includes only funds for service delivery.

6. Populations at Greatest Risk of Maltreatment (section 432(a)(10) of the Act)

This is addressed in the Comprehensive Statewide Plan to Prevent Child Maltreatment Fatalities (Attachment 2).

7. Kinship Navigator Funds (Title IV-B, subpart 2)

Oregon Kinship Navigator (OKN) program continues to provide an array of services and supports necessary for kinship families in Oregon.

Oregon has broadened the scope of kinship to include all kinship families in Oregon, not just those already involved with the public child welfare system. The Oregon Kinship Navigator model remains focused on two program designs: a core model incorporating the tenets of the federal regulations and an enhanced model for additional supports and services.

The core model includes the following:

- Coordinating with other state and local agencies including the Oregon 211 Info line

- Accessing feedback from kinship caregivers and others impacted by kinship care through conversation, survey, and a formal Kinship Advisory Committee comprised of kinship caregivers and public and private organizations
- Providing a toll-free phone line, website, and Facebook page—for routine and ongoing conversation and information sharing.
- Supporting a website with resources and referrals for public assistance, legal guidance, and resource guides

The enhanced model includes the following:

- Online education support KEEP for kin, an evidence-based program
- Positive Parenting Program—Triple P. Provides parents with simple and practical strategies to help them build strong, healthy relationships, confidently manage their children’s behavior, and prevent problems from developing. This program has a supported rating with the IV-E Clearinghouse.
- My Neighbor is a partnership between Oregon Kinship Navigator and Every Child to provide tangible support for kinship families. This model accesses and leverages community resources to help with immediate needs and help build family capacity for the future.

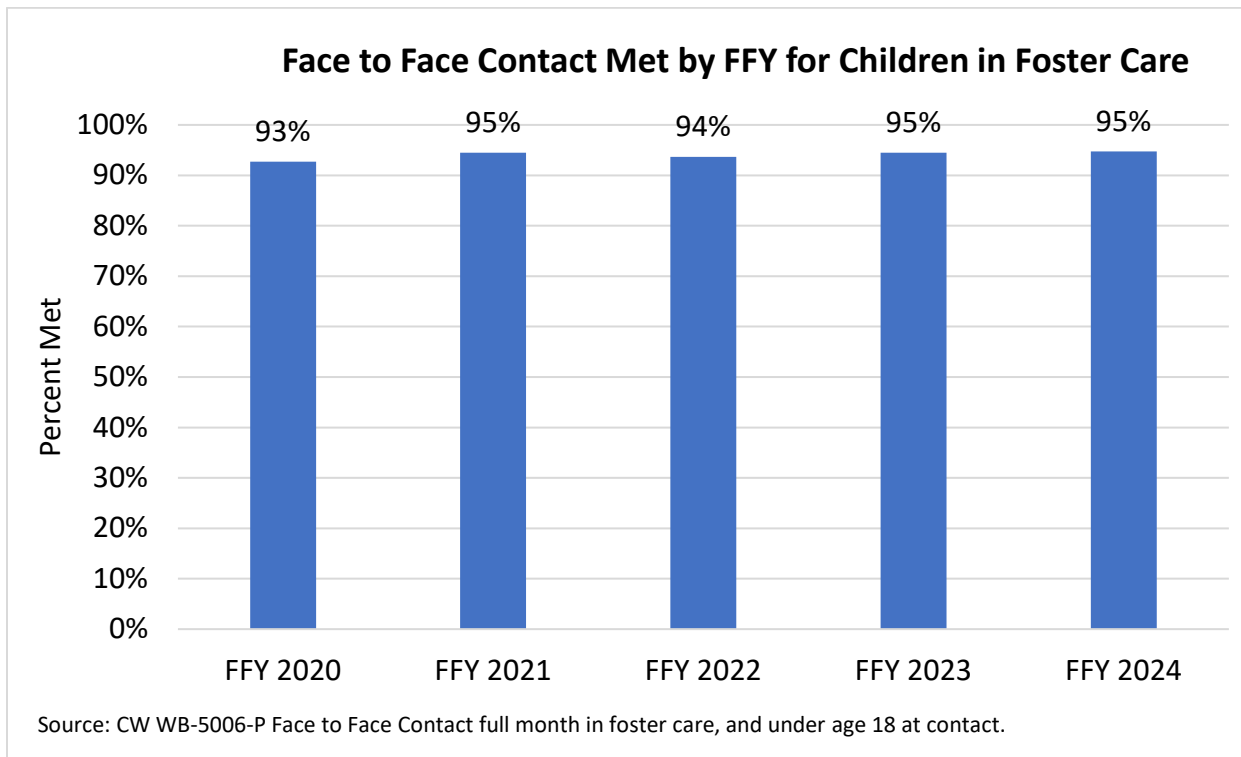
Implementation of OKN has led to the development of a broader system of care for kin caregivers through coordination with other systems of care, such as Self-Sufficiency (including TANF, SNAP, and childcare subsidies), Aging and People with Disabilities, and Behavioral Health. Community supports for this population have also increased, including the KEEP for Kin and the MyNeighbor Program, which provide both emotional support and concrete and economic supports to kin caregivers. The following program components have also developed since federal funding became available in FFY 2018:

- Basic Service Center (1-800 Toll-free phone line, website, email and social media presence and access to resources and support)
- Resource Guide for Relatives Raising Children in Oregon
- Oregon's Legal Guide for Relatives
- Oregon Kinship Navigator Advisory Committee
- Online support groups for relatives via social media
- Resource and legal guides, pamphlets, and other materials both online and in-person at community events (with targeted outreach in education systems, faith communities, and health care settings) in English, Spanish, and other languages as appropriate
- Outreach to other local and national organizations supporting kin caregivers
- Manual for Kinship Navigator Best Practices and program protocols

These services support the well-being of children and youth by placement stability with relatives within their family systems and communities. CW incorporates evidence-based and evidence-informed programs to enhance support to caregivers. Oregon has chosen a two-program design that caregivers experience as one program. Oregon is not formally evaluating OKN at this time. In administering the program, the federal regulations guide CW in the Kinship Navigator grant. CW applies for and receives annually federal funds that are made available for Kinship Navigator programs.

D. Monthly Caseworker Visit Formula Grants and Standards for Caseworker Visits

Figure 36



As discussed on page 28 (Item 14 – Caseworker Visits with Child), frequency of face-to-face contact with children is a strength for CW. CFSR data (on page 28) and administrative data (above in Figure 36) show performance holding steady. The federal goal for face-to-face contact with children in care is 95%, a bar that CW is currently meeting. Data on face-to-face contact is shared at least monthly with staff.

E. Additional Services

1. Adoption and Legal Guardianship Incentive Payment Funds

CW does not anticipate any changes to spending of these funds. CW does anticipate some challenges in spending the funds fully as contracts are going through revision.

Bridge Meadows

The Bridge Meadows contract supports relative adoptions through a multi-generational housing community. Bridge Meadows uses the power of community to help children heal from the trauma of foster care. This program includes high-quality, affordable housing, therapeutic programs, and intergenerational community support. Elders live in the community, serving as mentors, friends, and caregivers to the children and each other, forming a safety net of care and interdependence.

Mediation

Mediation contracts provide mediation between adoptive/guardian families and families of origin for contact after case closure. CW also used these funds to pay for mediator training.

Independent Living Program

Independent Living Program (ILP) funds support youth who are not eligible for the Chafee Education and Training Voucher or other Independent Living Program (ILP) services because of their age at adoption.

2. Adoption Savings

Services Provided Using Adoption Savings

The Adoption Savings service categories are post-adoption/post-guardianship services, supporting positive, permanent outcomes for children at risk of entering foster care, and any service allowable under titles IV-B or IV-E. During FFY 2024, CW used Adoption Savings as described below.

Post-Adoption/Post-Guardianship Services

- ORPARC is the statewide hub for adoptive and guardianship families in Oregon. They provide a variety of personalized supports centered around the permanency needs of youth and families:
 - They facilitate an extensive library of digital material, books and resource guides in multiple languages that can be accessed for free by caregivers, youth, child welfare staff and professionals.
 - KEEP groups for guardianship and adoptive parents, created by Oregon Social Learning Center and adapted to meet the unique needs of parenting after adoption or guardianship, including groups centered on parenting children with different cultural identities and teen issues.
 - Training for Adoption Competency (TAC) a certificate program for licensed mental health clinicians working with adoption, foster and guardianship youth and families. Oregon provides one cohort of 20 graduates per academic year of the nationalized recognized program. Oregon's TAC program seeks to have graduates from culturally, geographically and lived experience diverse backgrounds, along with acceptance of varying insurance programs and Medicaid.
 - Advanced Certificate in Therapeutic Life Story Work International (TLSWi) for professionals and caregivers working with foster, adopted, and guardianship youth. TLWi is an internationally recognized program focused on learning how to support a youth to process trauma, loss, and understand their personal journey while working to support attachment and trust with their parents and caregivers. Oregon provided funding for 27 participants from across the state, with 78% accepting Medicaid reimbursement for service.
- Response and Support Network (RSN) provides 24/7 response and stabilization services to post adoption and guardianship families, including non-clinical peer specialists, skill building and whole family support trained in addressing the unique needs youth and family may require. RSN has been integral in helping families access in-home mental health services. RSN incorporates Medicaid support from the CCOs serving Multnomah, Washington and Clackamas County. In FFY 2024, utilization hours increased 64% from FFY23.

- Bridge Meadows supports relative adoptive and guardianship families through an income-based intergenerational housing community. Bridge Meadows uses the power of community to help children heal from the trauma of foster care. Elders live in the community, serving as mentors, friends, and caregivers to the children and each other, forming a safety net of care and interdependence.
- Adoptee Mentoring Society provides adoptee to adoptee virtual mentoring services to youth 12 and up. Mentoring support is client driven and values the connection of shared experience to help youth and young adults process and discuss adoption in a safe and supported space. Services are open to any adoptee in Oregon or adopted through ODHS.
- Adoption Mosaic provides adoptive/guardianship parent and caregiver education, and support led by lived experience professionals. Trainings and support centers on lifelong parenting skills that are needed when addressing the trauma and loss that occurs in adoption and guardianship.
- Guardianship Mediation provides services to develop post guardianship communication agreements between prospective guardians, biological parents and extended relatives which assist to outline openness and support continued vital relationships for children unable to be reunified.

Services Allowable Under IV-B or IV-E

CW provided reimbursement to certified resource and relative parents for childcare. The reimbursement is currently limited to \$375 per child per month. Since August 2019, the reimbursement has been available to support resource parents for children in foster care.

Expected Use of Funds Next Year

During the next year, CW plans to make the following changes to the use of Adoption Savings.

Post-Adoption/Post-Guardianship Services

ODHS has grown access to programs previously only serving youth in foster care, including durable good assistance through:

- With Love for items needed for children 0-6
- Project Lemonade for school aged youth after guardianship finalization
- Oregon Kinship Navigator for relative caregivers

Funding has been provided for specialized youth and family camp programs for post-adoption/guardianship youth and families to promote community and increase support connections. In collaboration with ORPARC, ODHS developed an intentional engagement process with eligible families at evidenced-based developmental stages when a youth or family may need support or assistance with navigating resources.

Services Allowable Under IV-B or IV-E

CW does not anticipate changes to the childcare reimbursement next year.

Spending Unused Savings

CW does not currently have an estimated timetable for spending unused savings calculated for previous years.

Challenges in Accessing or Spending the Funds

The Adoption Applicable Child Savings Fund, established by the 2011 Oregon Legislature, allows CW to carry over unspent Adoption Savings to the following biennium rather than having the General Fund dollars revert to the State. This means the Adoption Savings are available for spending by CW.

Any significant program expansion using the Adoption Savings must follow the usual process for approval by the Department of Administrative Services and the Legislature. It is difficult to scale new programs to the exact amount of the Savings and to meet the requirement to spend at least 30% on post-adoption/post-guardianship services or services to support positive, permanent outcomes for children at risk of entering foster care.

Methodology Changes

CW uses the same Adoption Savings calculation and procedures for the current FFY as the latest FFY report period submission. CW is not required to complete the Adoption Savings Methodology form.

3. Family First Prevention Services Act Transition Grants

CW is currently utilizing the Family First Prevention Services Act transition grants to support initial start-up and infrastructure development necessary to sustainably implement prevention services. CW is on track for all funds to be obligated and liquidated within the deadlines.

Prevention Services

CW is using these funds to launch the evidence-based practices (EBPs) outlined in the Oregon Title IV-E Prevention Services Plan, including Functional Family Therapy, Parents as Teachers, Parent Child Interactive Therapy, Motivational Interviewing, and Family Spirit. These funds have led to contracts with model developers and certified trainers to provide training and technical assistance to providers in Oregon on the models. These funds are supporting initial contracts with providers of each EBP to build the capacity to provide the services and participate in the Family First CQI and Evaluation process. Oregon has at least two providers under contract for each EBP and is recruiting additional providers.

Comprehensive Policy Review

This grant will conduct a full policy review. The goal is a deliverable describing the current array of CW's rules, policies, and procedures, and improvement recommendations focused on ensuring that rule, policy, and procedure are in the right place (i.e., administrative rule does not contain what should be policy or procedure, and vice versa).

Thriving Families, Safer Children

CW was selected to participate in *Thriving Families. Safer Children*, a first-of-its-kind effort of the U.S. Children's Bureau, Casey Family Programs, the Annie E. Casey Foundation, and Prevent Child Abuse America that provides the opportunity to receive technical assistance from national partners and to participate in the national learning collaborative.

Family First Transition Grant funds support The Contingent as the lead community organization. The Contingent is in process of implementing and evaluating the pilot project, following community engagement

and program design that began in 2021. The project is focused on developing web-based technology that connects families to community-based services and supports that can meet their specific needs.

4. Family First Transition Act Funding Certainty Grants

CW is currently utilizing the Family First Prevention Services Act Funding Certainty Grants to support initial start-up and infrastructure development necessary to sustainably implement prevention services. CW is on track for all funds to be obligated and liquidated within the deadlines.

Evaluation

CW is using the Certainty Grants to support the development of the Family First evaluation and CQI process. CW has awarded a contract to ICF International to thoroughly analyze Oregon's Title IV-E Prevention Plan implementation, utilization, and effectiveness of the EBPs, per FFPSA requirements.

ICF will thoroughly, methodically, and scientifically assess services provided using quantitative and qualitative analysis to determine the strengths and opportunities for improvement in Oregon's FFPSA implementation. This work includes a cost-benefit analysis for FFPSA services to meet the FFPSA evaluation and reporting requirements.

ICF is working closely with Oregon Tribes, ODHS staff, partner agencies, service providers, and community partners to analyze and provide feedback on Oregon's FFPSA implementation.

In addition to the Family First Evaluation, CW is using these funds to contract with Portland State University's Center for Improvement of Child and Family Services (CCF) to conduct an implementation evaluation of Family Preservation (FP).

Future EBPs

CW is using Certainty Grant funds to support the development and rigorous evaluation of evidence-based prevention services that are used in Oregon, and which may be able to be included in future amendments to the Oregon Title IV-E Prevention Plan. These efforts include supporting and promoting culturally specific services and Tribal-based practices supported by Tribes in Oregon.

People with Lived Experience

CW is using Certainty Grant funds to compensate youth, parents, resource parents, and other community members in participation in Family First and Family Preservation planning efforts and policy and practice development across CW. Compensation includes prep time, meeting debriefing, and food for in-person meetings.

F. John H. Chafee Foster Care Program for Successful Transition to Adulthood

The services funded under the John H. Chafee Foster Care Program for Successful Transition to Adulthood are administered by the CW Youth Transitions program.

1. Collaboration

Refer to pages 6-7 and Attachment 1 for information on collaborations.

2. Program Design and Delivery

Services for All Ages & Stages

Independent Living Plan (ILP) Services

Youth Transitions contracts with community-based nonprofits, for-profits, and two community consortia to provide independent living skills training. ILP skill-building services are available to young people ages 14-20 currently in foster care and young people who experienced the child welfare system, discharged from care at age 14 or older with at least 180 days of substitute care placement services after age 13, and who are not yet 24. The permanent living situation for young people no longer in foster care does not impact eligibility. They can be reunited with parents/family, in a finalized permanency plan such as guardianship or adoption or living interdependently and still retain eligibility.

The ILP service model requires consistent peer groups, including experiential learning activities and co-facilitation/leadership opportunities for the older ILP participants to coach and mentor younger youth. Groups do not require enrollment in ILP skill-building and are open to ILP-eligible young people ages 14-23 within the community. This allows ILP providers to conduct regular, direct outreach through peer events without requiring a referral. ILP skill-building services are offered statewide to 14 to 23-year-olds, including:

- More service flexibility for providers in how they serve youth ages 16-23
- Engagement to inform services
- Services responsive to the needs of young people

Discretionary Funds for Concrete Supports

Discretionary funds are flexible funds available to assist eligible young people with items, services, or extra-curricular activities to help them achieve the goals identified in their transition plan while gaining life skills for a successful transition to adulthood. Guidelines for frequently accessed items include:

- \$1,200 in auto insurance coverage if the young person completed a driver education course (or \$500 if a young person did not)
- Up to \$400 for the cost of a cell phone
- Up to \$400 to assist with phone service needs
- A housing start-up kit up to \$1,200 (with furniture included) or \$800 (without furniture)
- Up to \$350 for laptops through junior year and up to \$500 for laptops senior year and beyond
- Up to \$500 for camp fees and other extra-curricular activities

Independent Living Housing Subsidy

Youth Transitions facilitates the Independent Living Housing Subsidy program for young people in the legal care and custody of CW. This step-down model allows a maximum rate of \$1,022 per month based on the need for the first 12 months. The rate gradually decreases from month 13 through month 30. Young people must have court approval, 36 hours of productive time activities per week (paid employment, school, volunteer activities, or a combination of the three), high school completion (diploma or GED), or be actively working towards educational goals and be enrolled in ILP skill building services (including financial literacy).

Chafee Housing Services

This program serves young adults who left CW care and custody at age 18 or older with at least 180 days of placement services after age 13. It allows for a maximum rate of \$1,022 per month based on need, with a

\$12,000 maximum amount available before a young person's 22nd birthday. Young adults must have 36 hours of productive activities per week, such as paid employment, school, volunteer activities or a combination of the three which requires at least four hours of paid employment, high school completion (diploma or GED) or actively working towards educational goals and be enrolled in ILP skill-building services (including financial literacy).

Transitional Living Program (TLP)

Youth Transitions also contracts with three Transitional Living Programs (TLP), supporting young people ages 18-23 preparing to leave foster care or those that have recently exited and need some support. They are designed to help young people gain and practice self-sufficiency skills. The funding sources support different populations:

- The foster care budget supports young adults who remain in CW custody
- Chafee funds support young adults who are no longer in CW custody ages 18 – 22
- The general fund (GF) supports young adults who are 23 years old.
- Youth Experiencing Homelessness Program (YEHP) is partnering to pilot a new braided funding contract with one of the TLPs which allows either young people with foster care experience or youth experiencing homelessness to access the program.

Consumer Credit Reports

CW ensures that children in foster care 14-17 receive a copy of a consumer credit report annually from each of the three main credit reporting agencies (Equifax, Experian, and TransUnion) until discharged from foster care. This work includes analyzing and interpreting the credit reports, discovering, and researching any potential fraud, resolving any inaccuracies, and undoing the damage resulting from the theft of a child's identity. Once the young person is over age 18, their written consent is required for such checks to continue.

Social Security Benefits and Supplemental Security Income

CW identifies children who are eligible for Social Security benefits when they are in CW's custody, typically near the time the case is opened. CW then proceeds with establishing those benefits for the child, as they provide additional financial resources and stability to the child (and their family).

Social Security benefits under Title II – commonly known as survivor benefits – typically end when the child turns 18. At that time, SSA automatically switches to direct pay, issuing benefits directly to the young adult. However, this direct payment technically continues for only one month following the 18th birthday. All conserved benefits held by the agency may be disbursed to the young adult with authorization from the Social Security Administration (SSA). Alternatively, the funds will be returned to SSA, which will then issue the payment directly to the young adult. CW mails a letter to the young adult with this information and also notifies the caseworker.

Supplemental Security Income (SSI) continues as long as the young adult remains disabled. CW continue to serve as the representative payee until the case is closed, and custody is officially dismissed. At that time the young adult is notified that CW will no longer serve as the representative payee and advised to take appropriate action with SSA. Ultimately, it is up to SSA to determine whether the young adult is capable of serving as their own payee or if a new representative payee is required.

ABLE accounts (Achieving a Better Life Experience Account) are tax-advantaged savings accounts for individuals with disabilities and their families. The agency is responsible for establishing and monitoring accounts for children receiving SSI benefits under Title XVI of the Social Security Act, due to the program's resource limit, which is currently set at \$2,000. When the CW case is closed, the parent or the young adult must take action to assume full ownership of the account. The agency provides detailed instructions to guide them through this transition process. These accounts offer families a valuable financial resource – a safety net – that supports long-term needs and promotes stability while living with a disability. Currently, the agency oversees around 110 ABLE accounts.

3. Serving Youth across the State

Chafee services are available in all districts in Oregon. In some areas, youth are experiencing waitlists for services. Providers are now required to report their waitlist (when the provider is at 100% contract utilization) or their enrollment hold list (when the provider is unable to serve due to staffing or other issues but is not at 100% contract utilization). The report must be submitted via the monthly invoice submission.

Oregon makes these services available to youth formerly in foster care who moved to the state after exiting foster care in another state. Oregon certifies that assistance and federally funded Chafee Program services are available to youth who have aged out of foster care and not attained 23 years of age.

4. Serving Youth of Various Ages and Stages

See the description of services provided on pages 64-65.

5. Collaboration with Other Private & Public Agencies

CW has the following collaborations with other private and public agencies:

- Oregon Health Authority, especially regarding the Former Foster Youth Medical Program
- Local public housing authorities for Foster Youth Independence awards and Family Unification Program awards
- Regional HUD representatives

6. Determining Eligibility for Services

Eligibility for services is described in detail on pages 64-65. There have been no changes since the submission of the CFSP.

7. Education and Training Vouchers (ETV) Program

Services Provided

ETVs continue to be provided in the manner described in the CFSP.

Changes to Administration

There have been no changes to the administration of ETVs.

ETVs Awarded

Please see Attachment C.

8. Chafee Training

The information provided in the CFSP continues to be accurate.

V. Consultation and Coordination with the Nine Federally Recognized Tribes of Oregon

A. Engagement with the Tribes

1. Tribal Representatives

Burns Paiute Tribe

Shannan Mehringer

Email: shannan.mehringer@burnspaiute-nsn.gov

Phone: 541-573-8013 | Fax: 541-573-4217

P.O. Box HC71 Burns, Oregon 97720

Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua, and Siuslaw Indians

Shayne Platz

Email: splatz@ctclusi.org

Phone: 541-744-1334 | Fax: 541-453-4020

1245 Fulton Avenue, Coos Bay, Oregon 97420

Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde

Kristi Petite

Email: kristi.petite@grandronde.org

Phone: 503-879-2045 | Fax: 503-879-2142

9615 Grand Ronde Road, Grand Ronde, OR 97347

Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians

Michelle Moore

Email: mmoore@cowcreek.com

Phone: 541-677-5575 | Fax: 541-677-5575

2371 NE Stephens St Ste. 100 Roseburg, OR 97470

Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians

Jaime Pineda

Email: jaimep@ctsi.nsn.us

Phone: 541-444-8210 | Fax: 541-444-9613

P.O. Box 549 Siletz, OR 97380

Coquille Indian Tribe

Roni Jackson

Email: ronijackson@coquilletribe.org

Phone: 541-888-9494 x2219 | Fax: 541-888-3431

PO Box 3190, Coos Bay, OR 97420-0407

Klamath Tribes

Lisa Ruiz

Email: lisa.ruiz@klamathtribes.com

Phone: 541-783-2219 x129

PO Box 436 Chiloquin OR 97624

Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation

Julie Taylor

Email: julietaylor@ctuir.org

Phone: 541-429-7315 | Fax: 541-278-5385

46411 Ti' Mine Way Pendleton, Oregon 97801

Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs

Cyrille Mitchell

Email: cyrille.mitchell@wstribes.org

Phone: 541-553-3209 | Fax: 541-553-1894

PO Box C Warm Springs, Oregon 97761

B. Plan for Ongoing Coordination and Collaboration

The following collaborations described in detail in the CFSP are ongoing:

- Tribal Consultation Policy
- Quarterly ICWA Advisory Council meetings, including interim planning meetings
- CQI team dedicated Tribal Engagement analyst
- Supporting unique Tribal Prevention programs through IV-E agreements
- Child Fatality Prevention and Review program consultation

C. Update on Provision of Child Welfare Services for Tribal Children

The arrangements described in the CFSP submitted last year remains in force.

D. Complying with ICWA

The CFSR team (see pages 36-37) applies an ICWA addendum to five ICWA cases in each district throughout the year. The addendum was formulated collaboratively between the Tribes and the CFSR team. The addendum provides additional information about how ICWA requirements are being met in these cases. The CFSR provides ongoing data to ICWA Advisory Council regarding overall ICWA compliance (data primarily drawn from the ICWA Addendum), and how ICWA cases compare to non-ICWA cases in performance on the CFSR items.

The Oregon Child Abuse Hotline (ORCAH) program quality assurance reviews include a determination of whether sufficient information is gathered from reporters regarding Native heritage. The QA review also evaluates whether Tribes were notified when one was named by the reporter, in alignment with ORICWA. This information is provided to the nine Tribes in Oregon on a quarterly basis at ICWA Advisory Council.

E. Chafee & ETV Benefits for Tribal Youth

CW reached out to the Tribes in Oregon to discuss collaboration, updates, services, funding, and eligibility for Tribal children in Oregon. The Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs currently administer their own allocated portion of the ETV award for Oregon and collaborate with the Children's Bureau to ensure full use of the funds.

F. Exchange of State and Tribal APSRs

CW and the Office of Tribal Affairs provide copies of the APSR to each Tribe for feedback and comment during the revision period before the reports are finalized and approved by the Children's Bureau.

Tribes in Oregon with active Title IV-E Tribal-State Agreements provide a copy of their final APSRs to the Federal Policy & Resources Program within CW.

VI. CAPTA State Plan Requirements and Updates

A. Changes

1. Substantive Changes to State Law Affecting CAPTA Eligibility

There have been no substantive changes to state law or regulations that affect Oregon's eligibility for the CAPTA State Grant.

2. Significant Changes to Proposed Use of CAPTA Funds

There have been no significant changes to proposed use of CAPTA funds.

B. Use of Funds Since June 30, 2024

Oregon does not use CAPTA funds to improve legal preparation and representation. Those activities are funded through cost allocation and Title IV-E foster care administrative reimbursement. CAPTA funds were used for the four positions (described on p. 71) and remaining funds were used for:

- **Implementation of Family Care Plans (CARA):**

To advance statewide implementation of Family Care Plans required under the Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act (CARA), CAPTA funds supplemented an interagency agreement between Oregon Health Authority (OHA) and Comagine Health. This consulting firm is facilitating cross-sector work to establish a system of care for pregnant individuals with substance use disorder (SUD) and infants exposed to substances prenatally.

- OHA–Comagine Health Contract: \$54,797.34
- Stipends for Lived Experience Community Board Members: \$8,400

- **Support for Nurture Oregon and Project Nurture Sites:**

CAPTA funds were awarded to seven sites (five Nurture Oregon and two Project Nurture) to support pregnant and parenting individuals in SUD treatment and recovery. Funds were used to purchase goods and services necessary to access and maintain in treatment or recovery.

- Nurture Oregon (5 sites): \$90,000
- Project Nurture (2 sites): \$60,000

- **Infant Safe Sleep Initiatives:**

CAPTA funds were used to purchase and distribute safe sleep surfaces to local ODHS offices and community partners. These were provided alongside education during prenatal and postpartum periods.

- Infant Safe Sleep Surfaces: Over \$30,000

- **Concrete Supports for Families with a Family Care Plan:**

Local child welfare offices used CAPTA funding to meet the concrete needs of over 400 families impacted by substance use disorder, as identified in their Family Care Plans.

- Family Care Plan Supports: Over \$150,000
- Klamath SSP/CARA Program: \$35,000

- **Additional Uses of CAPTA Funding:**

- Stipends for Statewide Father's Advisory Board Panel Members: \$7,800
- Stipends for young people who shared lived expertise in a focus group for the Youth Substance Use Disorder project, informing an upcoming Safe Systems Mapping to identify barriers to treatment and support: \$700
- AWAKEN Training for ORCAH Screeners: \$52,000
- Child Welfare Staff Training (e.g., Child Abuse Summit): \$7,827
- State of Oregon Judicial Department – Citizens Review Board: \$36,000 annually

CW is using CAPTA COVID-19 supplemental funding (American Rescue Plan Act Funding) to reduce barriers and to support voluntary, community-based approaches. These efforts promote family self-determination and reduce trauma by offering support outside of mandated interventions.

To date, Oregon has awarded CAPTA COVID-19 Supplemental funds to over 20 community-based organizations and substance use disorder (SUD) treatment programs that serve pregnant and parenting individuals. Organizations are using funds to address gaps in the SUD continuum of care and mitigate barriers such as lack of childcare, transportation, and complex insurance coverage.

- Examples of grant awards include:

- Residential SUD treatment programs for parenting individuals (e.g., CODA, NARA, OnTrack, etc.) – \$140,000
- Street outreach programs (DaisyCHAIN, Black Thistle) – \$65,000
- Transcending Hope Recovery Housing – \$248,296

- Parent and family-focused supports (e.g., Oregon Family Support Network, Peace at Home, Carrie Love Inc.) – \$209,115
- Father engagement (West Coast Father’s Summit) – \$85,000
- Programming (e.g., firearm safety, infant safe sleep) – \$36,000
- The Wave Foundation – \$80,000
- Longhouse flooring replacement at Celilo Village – \$31,122
- Injury prevention efforts include:
 - OHSU household safety kits – \$123,906
 - Firearm safety devices (16 ODHS districts, 9 Tribes, Celilo Village) – \$59,792
 - Life jackets for water safety (local offices and 3 Tribes) – \$7,817

Since the last update on June 30, 2024, CAPTA State Grant funds have supported the state’s approved CAPTA plan through a variety of initiatives aimed at improving child safety and well-being. A portion of the funding was also used to support four key CAPTA Coordinator positions, each aligned with specific areas of the CAPTA program’s purpose:

- **Child Fatality Prevention and Review Program Implementation and Policy Lead:** Oversees statewide implementation of the Child Fatality Review process, supports policy development, and ensures findings translate into actionable prevention strategies.
- **Community Promotion and Prevention Coordinator:** Focuses on strengthening community-based prevention efforts, expanding awareness of protective factors, and supporting the implementation of family care plans for substance-exposed infants and their families in partnership with local and statewide collaborators.
- **Infant Safety and Wellbeing Coordinator:** Leads initiatives to improve outcomes for infants, including safe sleep practices, coordination with healthcare and community partners, and supports the development and implementation of family care plans for infants exposed to substances and their families.
- **Assistant Manager (one-year job rotation):** A newly established position (effective January 25, 2024) that provides strategic and operational support across CAPTA-aligned programs, contributing to leadership development and continuity.

These positions have enhanced the state’s capacity to implement the CAPTA plan effectively by coordinating cross-system efforts, advancing prevention strategies, and improving responses to vulnerable children and families.

C. Annual Citizen Review Panel Report and Response

See the attached Citizen Review Panel Report. (Attachment 4). The report made seven recommendations to CW. All seven recommend that CW continue efforts to improve compliance, and are followed here with a reference to the portions of this report that address the issue:

1. Caseworker monthly face-to-face contact with children in substitute care (addressed on pages 28, 59).

2. Creating a Supervision Plan if the child has an enhanced supervision level (addressed on pages 15, 22-23).
3. Timely referrals for children's mental health and/or therapeutic support services (addressed on page 32).
4. Timely implementation of children's mental health and/or therapeutic support services (addressed on page 32).
5. Creating a comprehensive transition plan for youth in foster care aged 14 or older and ensuring it is updated annually (addressed on pages 17, 26).
6. Holding a Family Engagement meeting within 60 days after a child enters foster care (addressed on page 22-23).
7. Ensuring each parent has a current Action Agreement or Letter of Expectations when the permanency plan is reunification (addressed on pages 17, 26-29).

D. Oregon's Efforts to Address Substance-Affected or Exposed Infants

1. Plans to Use CAPTA Funding for Substance-Exposed Infants

Use of CAPTA State Grant funding is described on pages 69-71 and supports:

- Training for child welfare staff and partners on plans of safe care (POSC) development and monitoring
- Concrete supports for over 400 families to reduce treatment and recovery barriers
- Infant safe sleep education and materials
- Stipends for lived expertise advisors to inform implementation

2. Changes in Policy

CW has strengthened screening processes and child protective services policies and procedures to further support infants exposed to substances and their families. Enhancements were made to the structured decision-making tool used at screening to support clarity as to when to assign reports involving infants exposed to substances. These changes are aimed at meeting the unique needs of each family without unnecessary system involvement.

3. Multi-Disciplinary Outreach, Consultation, or Coordination

Cross-system collaboration is led jointly by ODHS and OHA through an Interagency Agreement and the CARA Workgroup, coordinated by Comagine Health. Partners include public health, hospitals, substance use providers, and nonprofit organizations. These partners work together to align training, develop shared protocols, and improve referral and monitoring processes. Specifically, efforts included training for CW and healthcare providers on trauma-informed responses and collaborative family care plan development and protocols to improve hospital referrals and warm hand-offs to local ODHS offices and community-based providers.

4. Process for Plans of Safe Care

All screened-in reports involving infants with known or suspected prenatal substance exposure continue to prompt the development of a Family Care Plan, Oregon's approach to Plans of Safe Care. These plans are

designed to be collaborative, trauma-informed, and family-centered, with an emphasis on preserving a family's autonomy. Local CW offices coordinate with healthcare providers, substance use treatment programs, and community-based organizations to ensure families are referred to the appropriate supports, which may include:

- Medication-assisted treatment and recovery supports
- Parenting education and home visiting programs
- Infant safe sleep education
- Injury prevention kits and firearm safety materials
- Emergency housing and transportation assistance

Family Care Plans outline services for both the infant and affected family members and are monitored through ongoing caseworker engagement and multidisciplinary coordination meetings.

5. Challenges and Technical Assistance

Challenges include capacity constraints in treatment programs that serve parenting individuals. To strengthen implementation, Oregon would benefit from technical assistance in the following:

- Enhancing system-wide data integration
- Building workforce capacity to address SUD through a trauma-informed, family-centered lens

E. CAPTA State Liaison Officer

Tami Kane-Suleiman, M.S.W. (*she, her, hers*)
 Child Fatality Prevention and Review Program Manager
 Oregon Department of Human Services, Child Welfare
 Tami.j.kane-suleiman@odhs.oregon.gov
 Cell: 503.931.6153

VII. Targeted Plans

A. Resource and Adoptive Parent Diligent Recruitment Plan

Oregon's Resource and Adoptive Parent Diligent Recruitment Plan has not changed since the submission of the CFSP.

B. Health Care Oversight and Coordination Plan

Oregon's Health Care Oversight and Coordination Plan has not changed since the submission of the CFSP.

C. Disaster Plan

Oregon's Disaster Plan has not changed since the submission of the CFSP. Since July 1, 2024, Oregon had several wildfires across the state and flooding in Harney County. None of these disasters impacted CW business operations. When local offices were forced to close temporarily, staff were able to work remotely. The current disaster plan was sufficient to maintain operations.

D. Training Plan

See the attached training matrix (Attachment 5). The training plan has not otherwise changed since the submission of the CFSP.

VIII. Statistical and Supporting Information

A. CAPTA Annual State Data Report Items

1. Information on Child Protective Service Workforce

Education, Qualifications, and Training Requirements for CPS Professionals

Caseworkers (SSS1)

The following are the minimum qualifications for an SSS1 regarding education and experience.

- A Bachelor's degree in Social Work/Human Services or a closely related field; **OR**
- A Bachelor's degree in any field and either:
 - 1) One year of direct, full-time experience that prepares the incumbent for services to children and families, such as performing work in a social work, child welfare services, or family services setting, or a related field; **OR**
 - 2) Completion of coursework equivalent to a current certification in social work/human services or related field; **OR**
- An Associate degree in any field and either:
 - 1) Two years of direct, full-time experience that prepares the incumbent for providing protective services to children, such as work in a social work, child welfare services, or family services setting, or in a related field; **OR**
 - 2) One year of social work-related experience and a current certification in a social work/ human service-related field, such as children's services, social services, child development, early childhood education, counseling, or juvenile corrections.

Supervisors (Child Welfare Supervisor 2)

The following are the minimum qualifications for a Child Welfare Supervisor 2 in terms of education and experience.

- Bachelor's or higher-level degree in Social Work/Human Services or a closely related field and two (2) years' experience related to social or human services protective services; **OR**
- Bachelor's degree in a field not closely related to Social Work/Human Services and two (2) years of experience in supervision, staff technical, or professional-level social or human services related experience (e.g., experience, paid or non-paid, assisting individuals and groups with issues such as economically disadvantaged, employment, abuse and neglect, substance abuse, aging, disabilities,

prevention, health, cultural competencies, inadequate housing). One year of this experience must have included program/project leader responsibility involving one or more of the following areas:

- Development of program rules and policies
- Development of long- and short-range goals and plans
- Program evaluation and/or project evaluation, or
- Monitoring and controlling or preparing a budget

Data on Education, Qualifications, and Training of CPS Personnel

**The data reflected in Figures 37-46 is a point in time snapshot of all SSS1s and supervisors employed on June 6, 2025, and is self-reported by employees.*

Education Data by Highest Reported Degree

Child Welfare Supervisor 2 (supervises caseworkers (SSS1s) primarily)

Figure 37

Degree	Number
Bachelor's Degree	175
Doctoral Degree	2
Master's Degree	55
Associate's Degree	4
Certificate Program	6
Unreported	28

Social Service Specialist 1 (includes CPS and permanency caseworkers, certifiers, and screeners)

Figure 38

Degree	Number
Associate's Degree	102
Bachelor's Degree	759
Certificate Program	70
Doctoral Degree	10
Education Specialist (EDS)	0
High School Diploma or Equivalent	3
Master's Degree	189
Post-Graduate Diploma	1
Unreported	426

Demographic Data

Child Welfare Supervisor 2

Figure 39

Race/Ethnicity	Number
American Indian or Alaska Native	4
Asian	5
Black or African American	8
Hispanic or Latino	19
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	1
Two or More Races	11
White	219
I do not wish to answer.	3

Figure 40

Disability	Number
Disability Reported	4
No Reported Disability	266

Figure 41

Binary Gender	Number
Female	212
Male	58

Figure 42

Age Range	Number
20-29	2
30-39	55
40-49	121
50-59	79
60+	13

Social Service Specialist 1

Figure 43

Race/Ethnicity	Number
American Indian or Alaska Native	46
Asian	40
Black or African American	69
Hispanic or Latino	241
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	9
Two or More Races	57
White	1054
I do not wish to answer.	44

Figure 44

Disability	Number
Disability Reported	13
No Reported Disability	1547

Figure 45

Binary Gender	Number
Female	1253
Male	307

Figure 46

Age Range	Number
20-29	294
30-39	534
40-49	404
50-59	261
60+	67

Caseload/Workload Requirements for CPS Personnel

CW uses the Oregon Caseload Standard Ratios. The ratio goal is seven assigned assessments per month (1:7 worker/assessment). There are circumstances under which caseloads may vary from these standards. For example, caseloads may be higher when CW is faced with staff vacancies (due to promotions, rotations, leaves, or other reasons), or if administrative case functions (for example, entering notes, filing, etc.) are assigned to other personnel. CW has a caseload data dashboard to analyze the current caseload for safety workers, permanency workers, and certification caseworkers.

2. Juvenile Justice Transfers

In FFY 2024, CW transferred 21 children to the custody of the Oregon Youth Authority (OYA).

B. Education and Training Vouchers

Refer to Federal Attachment C.

C. Inter-Country Adoptions

CW reviewed the cases of children who entered care during FFY 2024 to determine if any previously experienced an international adoption. No children met these criteria.

IX. Financial Information

A. Payment Limitations

1. Title IV-B, Subpart 1

Payment Limitations

1. Title IV-B, Subpart 1

- The amount of FY 2005 title IV-B, subpart 1 funds that the State expended for childcare, foster care maintenance and adoption assistance payments for comparison purposes.
Response: The amount expended in FY 2005 was \$2,737,077.
- The amount of non-federal funds the state expended for foster care maintenance payments and used as part of the title IV-B, subpart 1 state match for FY 2005.
Response: The amount of foster care maintenance payments applied as match in FY 2005 was \$938,153.
- Estimated and actual expenditures for administrative costs.
Response: Administrative cost expenditures are reported on the CFS-101, Parts I, II and III forms. They do not exceed 10% of title IV-B, subpart 1 federal funds spending.

2. Title IV-B, Subpart 2

- States are required to spend a significant portion of their title IV-B, subpart 2 PSSF grant for each of the four service categories of PSSF: family preservation, family support, family reunification, and adoption promotion and support services.
For each service category with a percentage of funds that does not approximate 20% of the grant total, the state must provide in the narrative portion of the CFSP a rationale for the disproportion.
Response: Actual and estimated spending in each service category is at least 20% of the title IV-B, subpart 2 grant total. Actual and estimated expenditures are reported on the CFS-101, Parts I, II and III forms.
- Estimated and actual expenditures for administrative costs.
Response: Administrative cost expenditures are reported on the CFS-101, Parts I, II and III forms. They do not exceed 10% of expenditures for the PSSF program or the Monthly Caseworker Visit grant.

- Provide the state and local share expenditure amounts for the purposes of Title IV-B, Subpart 2 for comparison with the state's 1992 base year amount, as required to meet non-supplantation requirements in section 432(a)(7)(A) of the Act.

Response: The FY 1992 Child Welfare state and local base year amount was \$59,196,600. FY 2023 Child Welfare state and local expenditures were \$496,152,726.