



Texas Department of
Family and Protective Services

Senate Health and Human Services

Charge 2A: Family-Based Safety Services (FBSS)

Kristene Blackstone, Associate Commissioner for
Child Protective Services

March 22, 2018



85R Senate Interim Charges

2A: Family-Based Safety Services (FBSS)

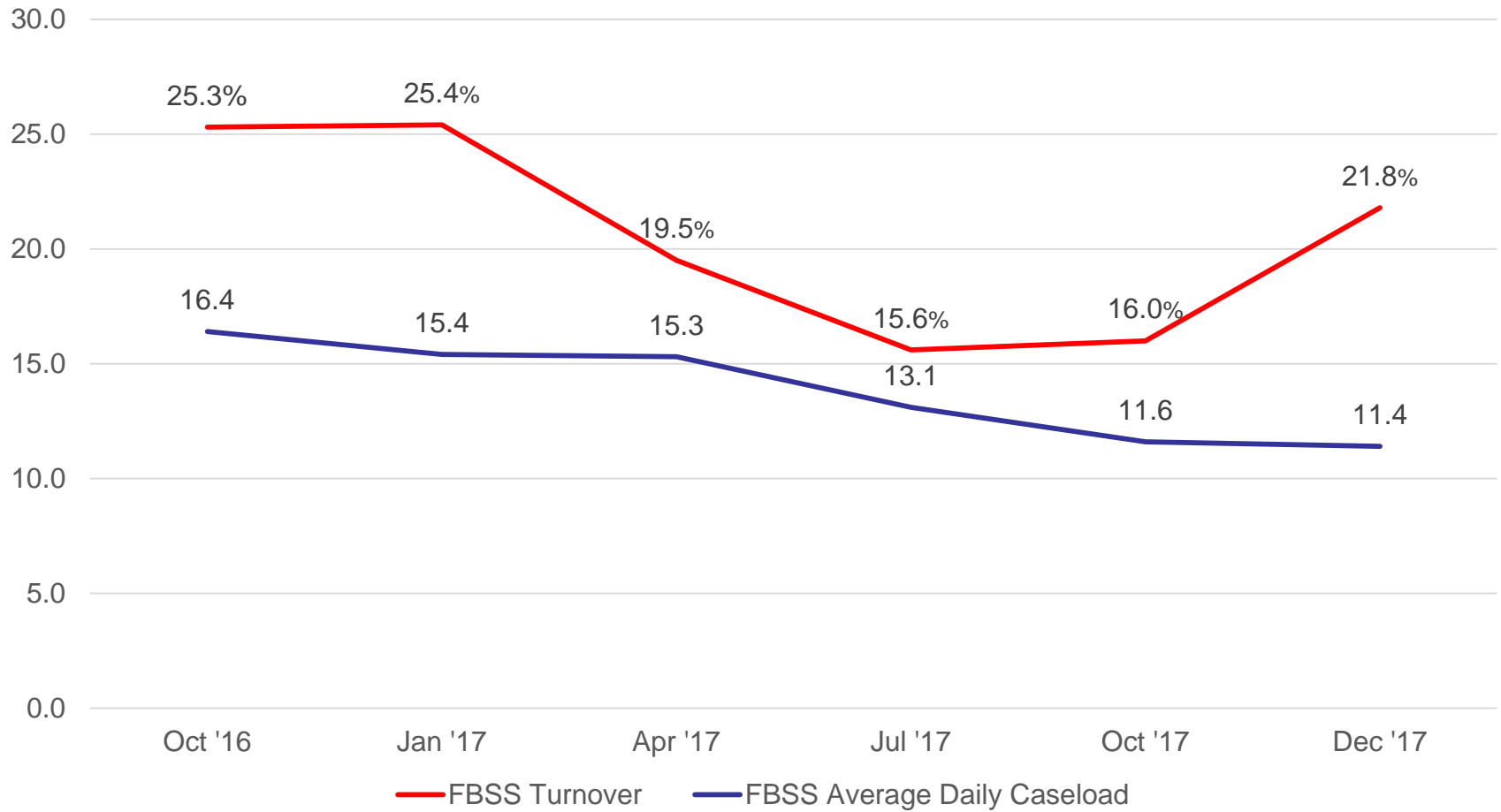
2B: Face-to-Face Visits

2C: Transitional Living Services

2D: Foster Parent Recruitment



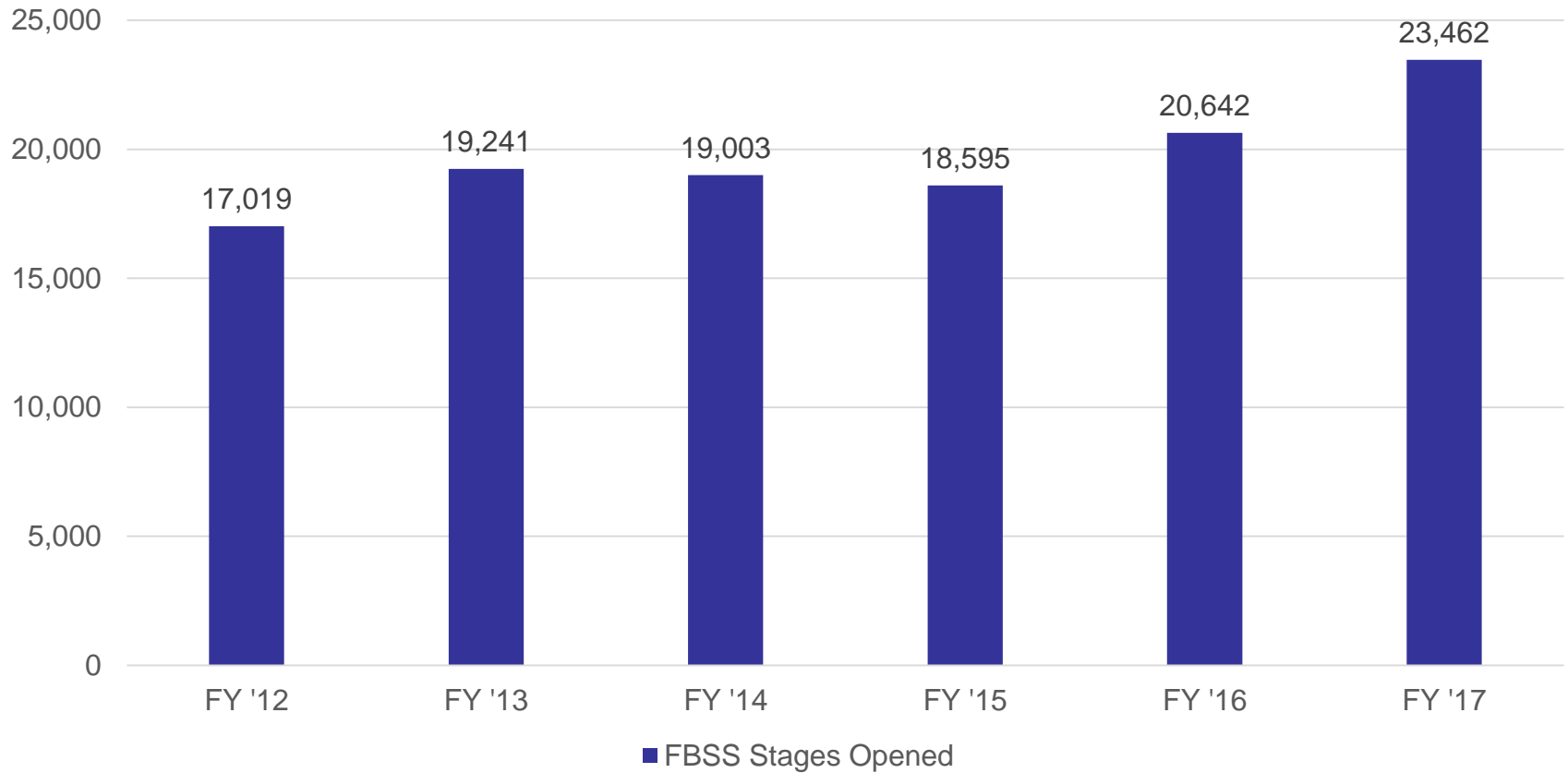
Family-Based Safety Services





Family-Based Safety Services

FBSS Cases Opened





Services available to families

- Family counseling
- Crisis intervention
- Substance abuse services
- Domestic violence intervention
- Housing assistance
- Personal care items
- Utility payments
- Essential household items
- Full array of community resources

- Service array and availability vary by region
 - Rural clients may have to drive farther to access services, especially highly-specialized services like substance abuse treatment
- Services are prioritized by the Family Strengths and Needs Assessment
 - Statewide analysis of service array

- Specific concerns around child safety, parental protective ability and home environment drive what services are ordered for a parent
 - Example: Nutrition classes or protective parenting classes can be ordered for parents who struggle to properly feed or clothe their children
 - Services may be court ordered or required by CPS
 - Assessment of behaviors, safety and risk are made before any case is closed
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CPS measures quality of services and outcomes by:

- Client and caseworker surveys, and
- Evaluation of client goals and treatment plans.

Partnering with Casey Family Programs to improve outcomes.

Recidivism rates within 12 months after FBSS case closed:

- FY 2016 – 7.6%
- FY 2017 – 10.3%

The Stephen Group Recommendations

- INSIGHT Management Tool
- SDM practice implementation includes use of the Family Strengths and Needs Assessment (FSNA) and Safety Assessment
- Upcoming implementation of the Risk Reassessment
- Enhanced curriculum
- New training tools for CPS Mentors and Supervisors for field-based to improve identification of family needs.
- E&T contracts reimbursing providers for travel to families and no shows
- FBSS Statewide workgroup underway focused on family engagement, safety planning and safe case closure

Family-Based Safety Services

- SB 11 (85R) (Schwertner) requires DFPS to develop a performance based contract with a single source to establish pilot programs for FBSS services.
- Contract was signed with Pathways on January 9, 2018 to deliver services in Region 10 (El Paso) beginning March 2018.
- The purpose of the pilot is to:
 - Increase quality, availability, and effectiveness;
 - Improve safety, permanency, and well-being of children; and
 - Test this approach to case management.

FBSS Pilot Performance Measures

- Engage with FBSS families until case is successfully closed
- Reduce the length of time to successfully close a case
- Clients enhance protective factors during their participation
- Reduce recidivism
- Caregivers achieved all or most of their goals prior to case closure
- Services viewed positively by family