



Texas Department of
Family and Protective Services

Senate Health and Human Services

6C: CPS Improvements

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Department of Family and Protective Services

September 12, 2018



DFPS Catchment Areas



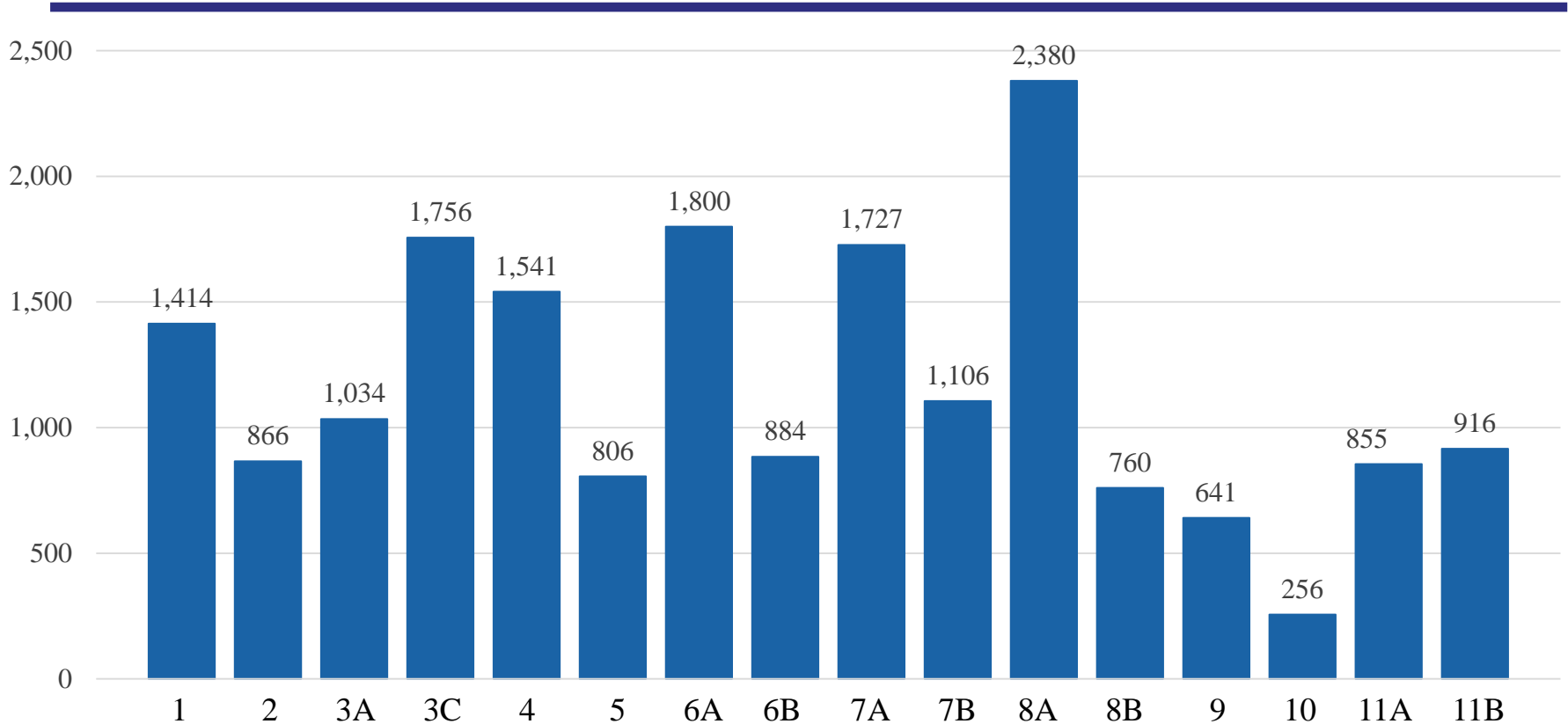
FY 17 Foster Care Needs Assessment

Total Available Capacity

- Private Agency Foster Homes: 9,858
- Private Agency Foster Home Licensed Capacity: 28,735
- DFPS Foster Homes: 1,133
- DFPS Foster Home Licensed Capacity 3,133
- Licensed Capacity for GROs: 35,594



FY 17 Removals



1: Panhandle

2: Abilene/Wichita Falls

3A: Denton/McKinney

3C: Dallas

4: Texarkana/Tyler

5: Beaumont

6A: Harris County

6B: Conroe/Galveston

7A: Central Texas

7B: Central Texas/Travis County

8A: Bexar County

8B: Counties Surrounding Bexar

9: West Texas

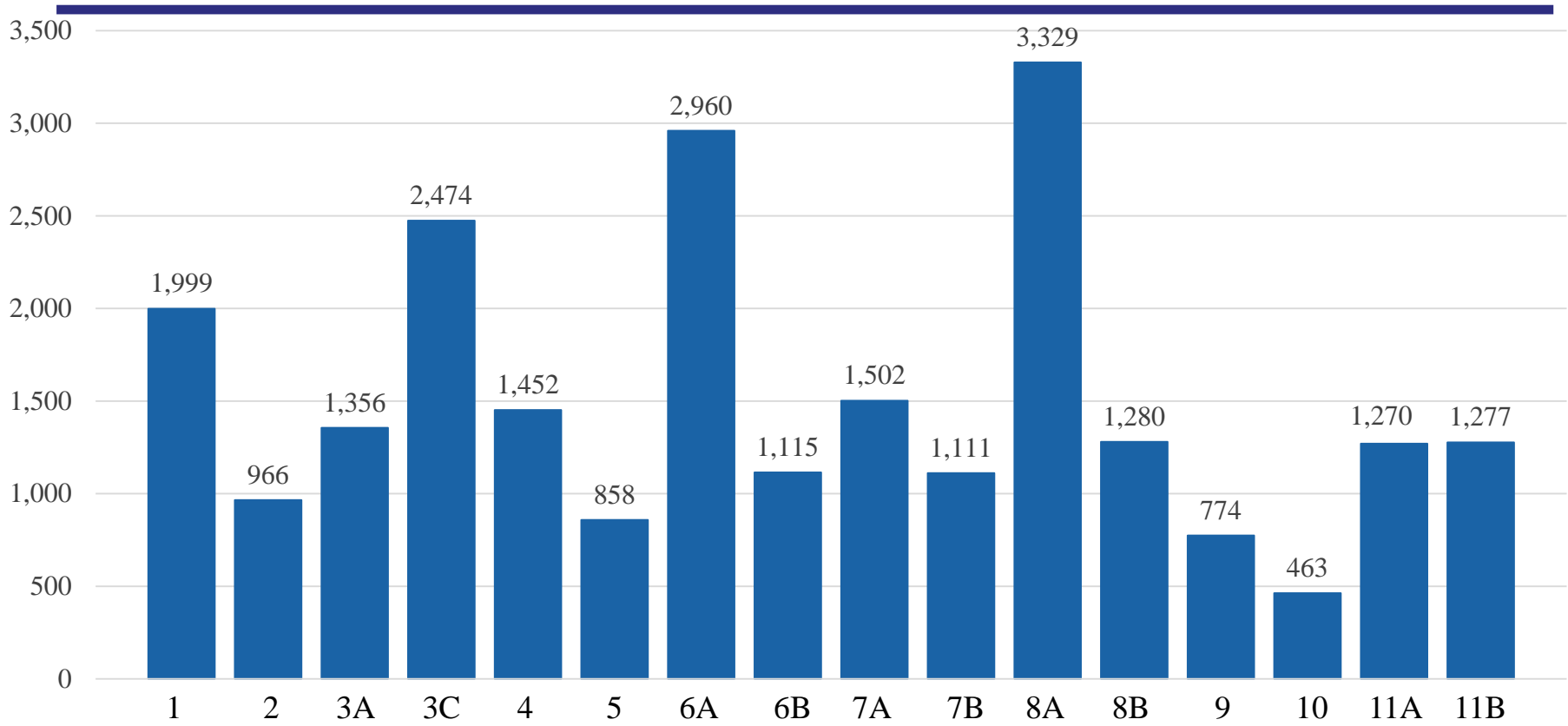
10: El Paso

11A: South Texas

11B: Far South Texas



FY 17 Total Foster Care Placements



1: Panhandle

2: Abilene/Wichita Falls

3A: Denton/McKinney

3C: Dallas

4: Texarkana/Tyler

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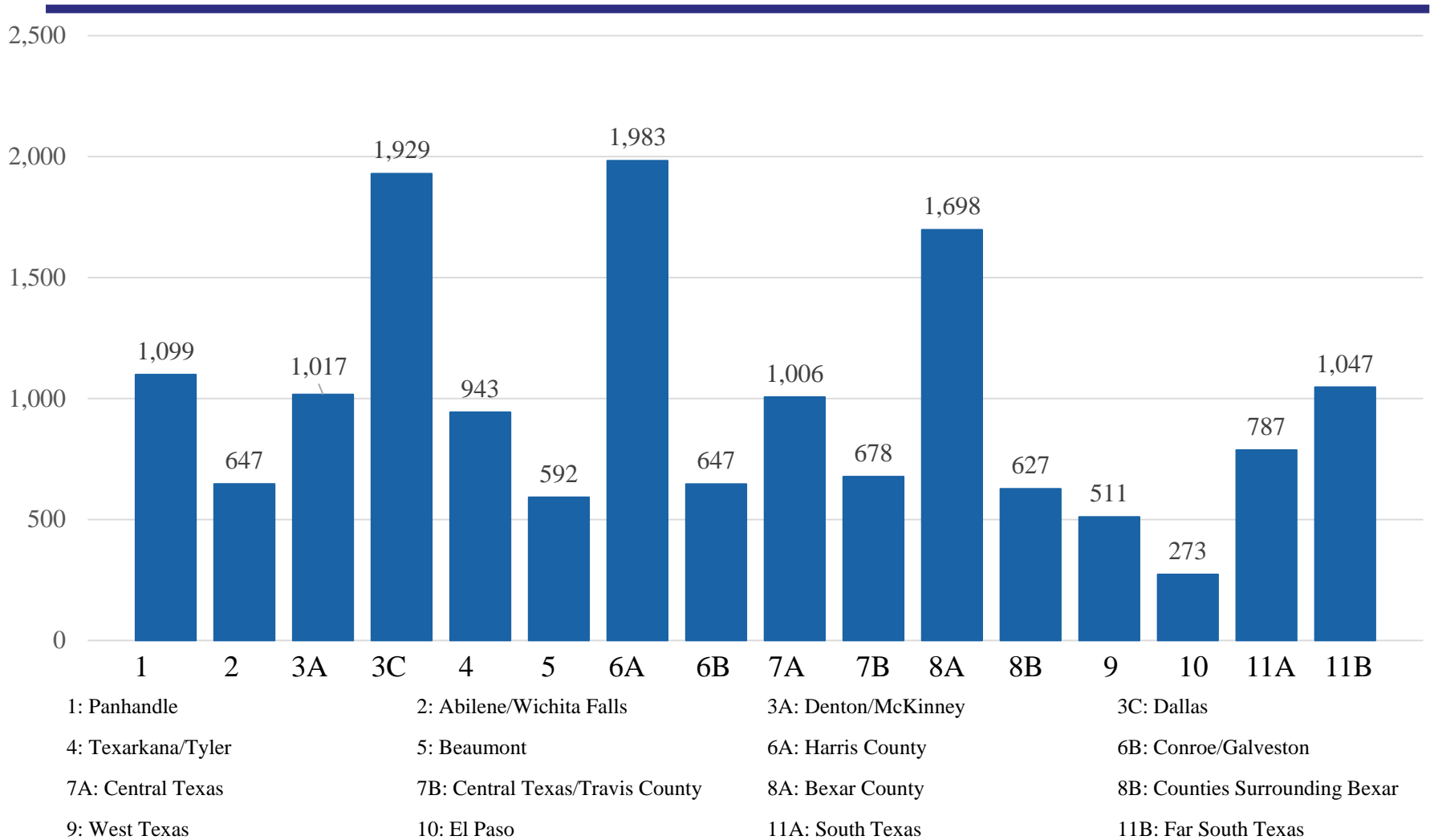
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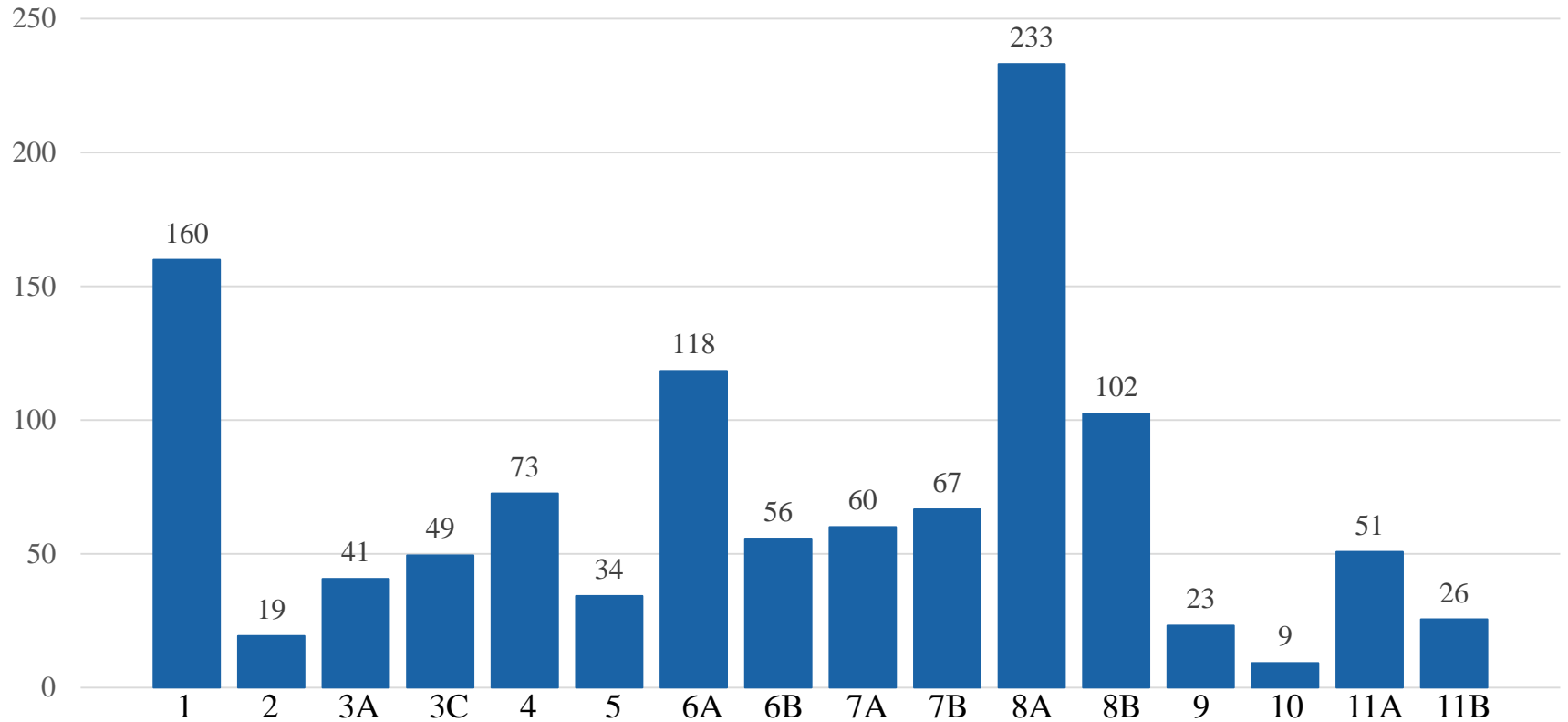


FY 17 Foster Family Home Placements





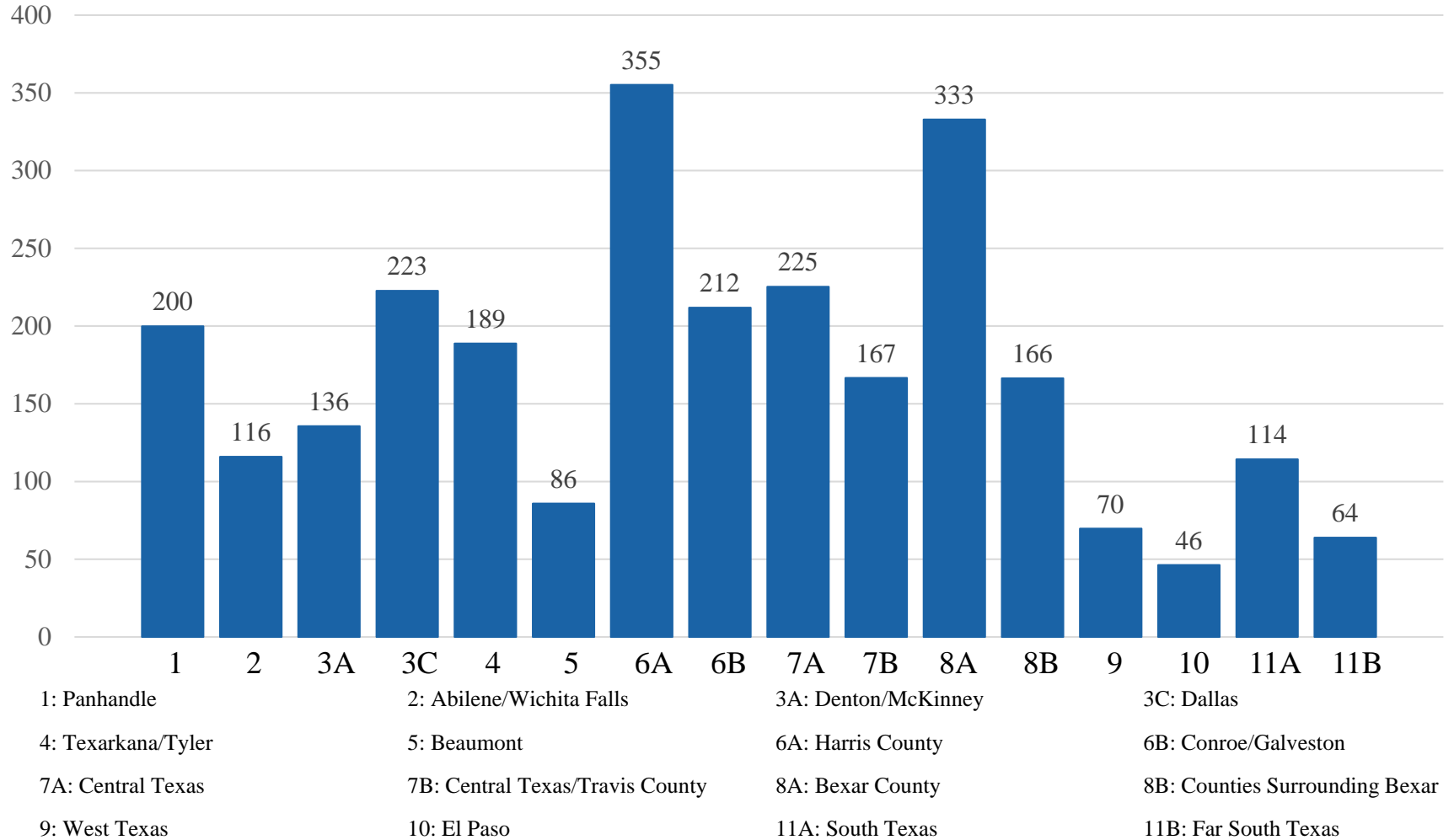
FY 17 Basic GRO Placements



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|--------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1: Panhandle | 2: Abilene/Wichita Falls | 3A: Denton/McKinney | 3C: Dallas |
| 4: Texarkana/Tyler | 5: Beaumont | 6A: Harris County | 6B: Conroe/Galveston |
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| 9: West Texas | 10: El Paso | 11A: South Texas | 11B: Far South Texas |



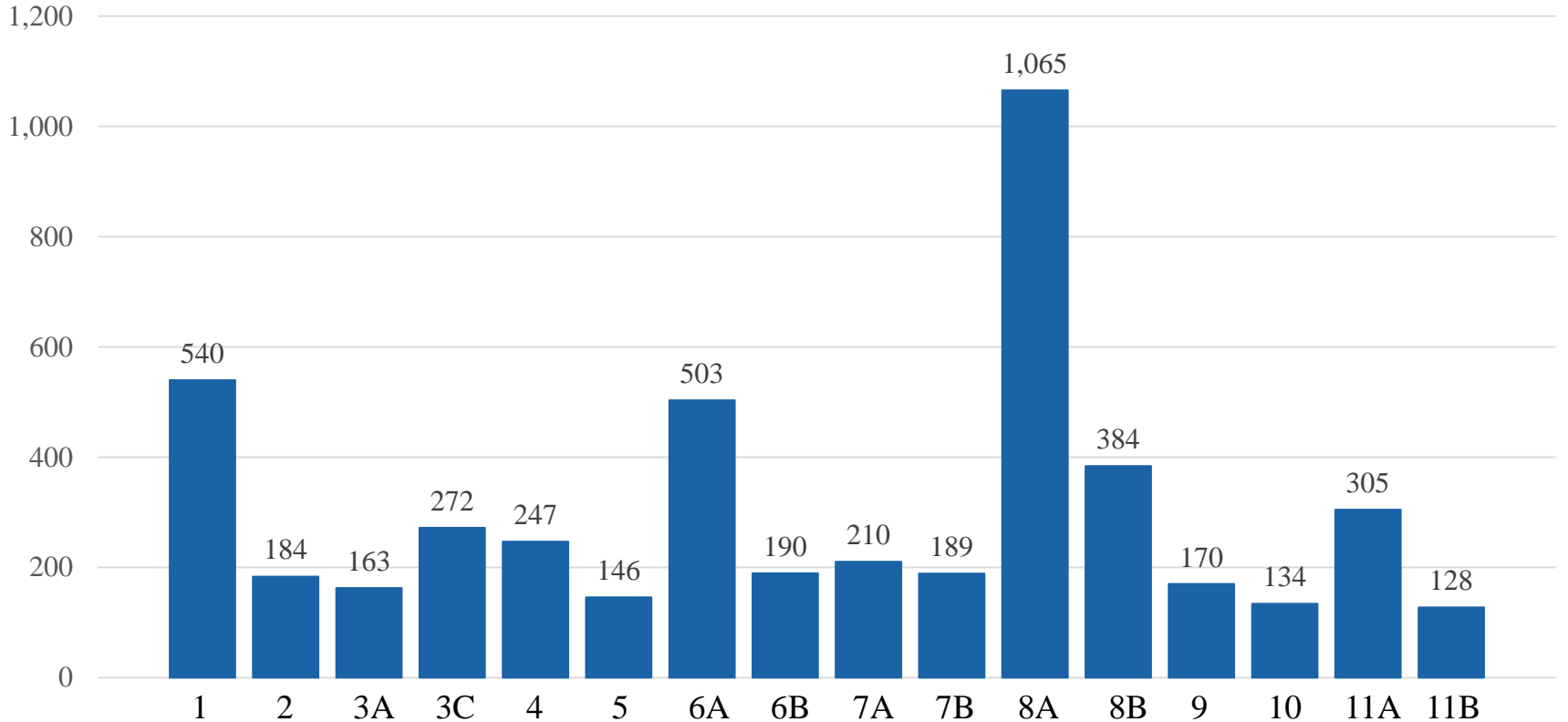
FY 17 RTC Placements



Source: August 2018 DFPS Foster Care Needs Assessment



FY 17 Emergency Shelter Placements



1: Panhandle

2: Abilene/Wichita Falls

3A: Denton/McKinney

3C: Dallas

4: Texarkana/Tyler

5: Beaumont

6A: Harris County

6B: Conroe/Galveston

7A: Central Texas

7B: Central Texas/Travis County

8A: Bexar County

8B: Counties Surrounding Bexar

9: West Texas

10: El Paso

11A: South Texas

11B: Far South Texas

Changes in Capacity

- **568** placements lost since Fiscal Year 2017 (actual lost beds)
 - placements in RTCs and GROs serving high needs children due to contract actions, contract terminations, Hurricane Harvey, or provider imposed capacity limits
- **351** General Residential Operation placements gained through **new** contracts in Fiscal Year 2018 (estimate)
 - contracts with thirteen new providers join existing capacity expansion through existing contracts
- **50% reduction** in DFPS Home and Community Services (HCS) waiver slots for aging-out youth (currently 110 total for DFPS) and a **100% reduction** in general residential operation division slots
- Providers are hesitant to risk financial and programmatic resources until there is more clarity around the FFPSA

Capacity Building Strategies

Foster Care Needs Assessment

- Released in August 2018
- Provides a roadmap for the agency and its stakeholder's to more strategically build foster care capacity in Texas while identifying patterns, calculating available supply, and better estimating local-area capacity

Treatment Foster Care

- New program designed to provide intensive services to children in a highly structured home environment that can be a cost-effective alternative to residential treatment.
- Three contracts with providers to serve an estimated 500 children statewide

Intense Plus Rate

- Supports providers in serving high-needs kids through a specialized rate.
 - DFPS worked with nine providers, who expressed interest in providing this service and submitted the required documents for considerations, and DFPS has a contract with one provider for this level of care.
 - DFPS program and residential contracts continue to outreach and offer assistance.
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Total Child Specific Contracts

Contractor Type	FY17 Approved Contract Dollars	FY17 Unduplicated children in CSC	FY18 Approved Contract Dollars	FY18 Unduplicated Children in CSC
Psychiatric Hospital	\$55,483,167.76	600	\$34,956,001.24	638
Out of State Psychiatric Hospital	\$214,500.00	3	\$737,510.00	11
Medical Hospital	\$1,040,500.00	5	\$940,400.00	8
In State RTC/GRO	\$9,441,691.66	72	\$9,610,197.75	78
Out of State RTC	\$3,426,476.98	24	\$10,418,327.14	71
Home & Community Based Services	\$5,052,467.33	67	\$6,303,917.75	60
Emergency Shelters	\$611,899.72	43	\$1,139,297.91	54
In State CPA	\$80,366.70	2	\$336,422.18	5
Out of State CPA	\$73,302.02	6	\$46,148.00	3
Totals	\$75,424,372.17	822	\$64,488,221.97	928



FY 18 YTD Child Specific Contracts

- Active Child Specific Contracts on 08/24/2018: 246
- Total Number as of 08/24/2018 YTD: 980
- FY 2018 Average Length of Stay
 - Non Hospital Placements: 172 days
 - Hospital Placements: 35.27 days



- 526 Psychiatric Hospitals- These contracts are executed because Medicaid days have expired, the child is determined as cleared for discharge from the hospital and a placement has not been located or the parties do not agree to the placement DFPS locates.
 - 8 Medical Hospitals
 - 224 General Residential Operations/Emergency Shelters(GRO) and Residential Treatment Centers (RTCs);
 - 136 were executed with In State RTC's and GRO's
 - 49 were executed with Out of State RTC's
 - 39 were executed under the Office of the Governor(OOG) and Temporary Emergency Placement(TEP) Initiatives.
 - 106 Home and Community Based Services (HCS);
 - 20 Child Placing Agencies(CPAs) for placement in foster homes
 - 18 of these were executed with Out of State CPA's
-



3-in-30 Medical Exams

3 IN 30

A COMPREHENSIVE APPROACH TO BETTER CARE FOR CHILDREN



3-Day Initial Medical Exam

In 3 business days, children entering DFPS care must see a doctor to be checked for injuries or illnesses and get any treatments they need.



CANS Assessment

In 30 days, children (ages 3-17) must get a CANS assessment. The CANS is a comprehensive trauma-informed behavioral health evaluation. It gathers information about the strengths and needs of the child and helps in planning services that will help the child and family reach their goals.



Texas Health Steps Medical Check-Up

In 30 days, children must see a doctor for a complete check-up with lab work.

This makes sure:

- We address medical issues early.
- Kids are growing and developing as expected.
- Caregivers know how to support strong growth and development.



3-Day Medical Exam

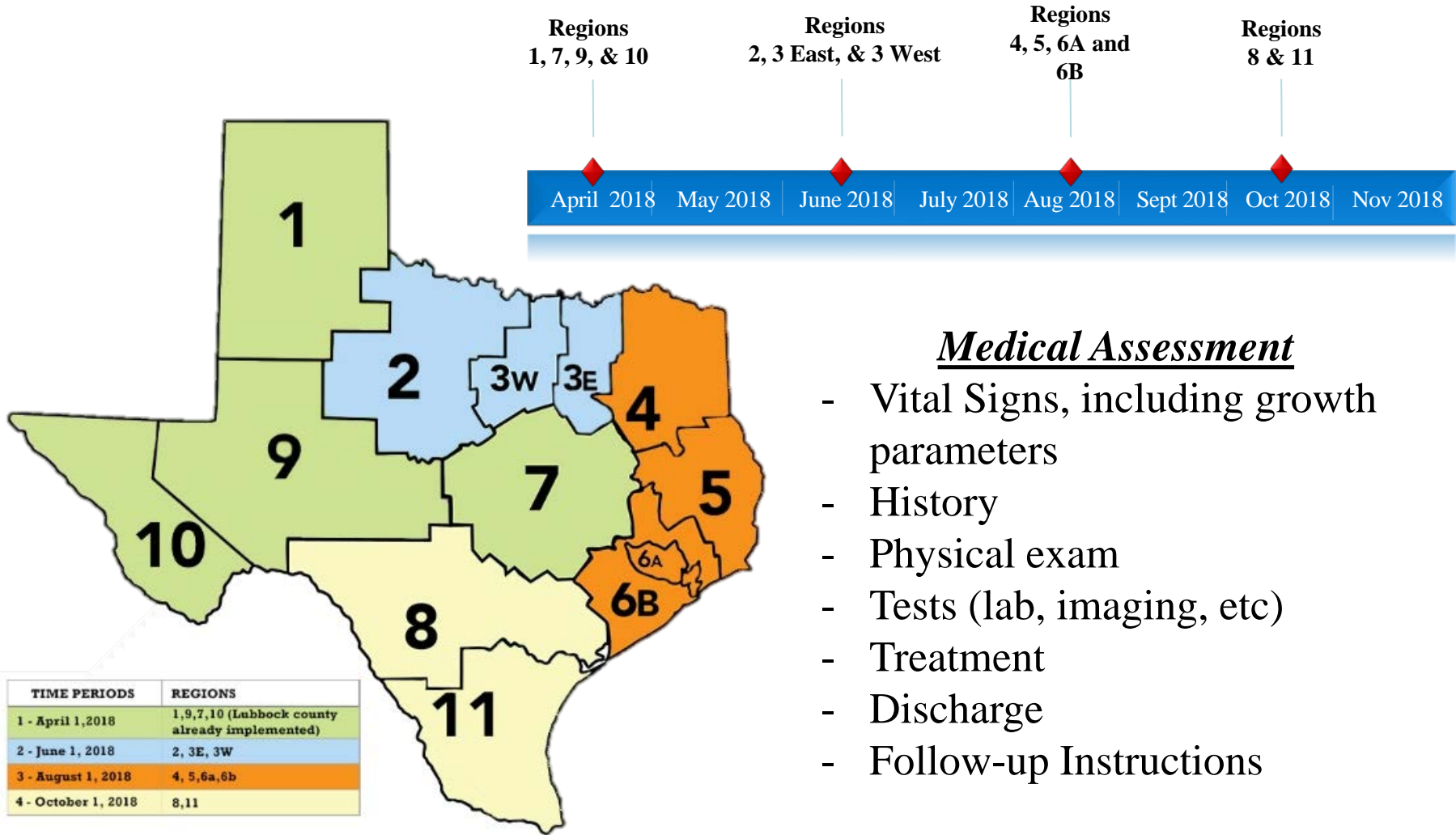
Senate Bill 11 (85th R) by Schwertner requires each child entering care receive a medical exam in the first three business days after removal and is part of the “3 in 30” protocol.

3 in 30 includes:

- 3-day Medical Exam¹
- Texas Health Steps Medical Checkup
- Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths Assessment



3-Day Medical Exam Implementation



Medical Assessment

- Vital Signs, including growth parameters
- History
- Physical exam
- Tests (lab, imaging, etc)
- Treatment
- Discharge
- Follow-up Instructions

- The 3-day exam **DOES NOT** replace the Texas Health Steps (THSteps) medical checkup or the Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths (CANS) Assessment. The 3-day medical exam is required in addition to THSteps and CANS.
- Children and youth **MAY NOT** receive vaccinations at the 3-day exam unless the medical professional determines that a *tetanus* vaccination is necessary.

Family First Prevention Services Act

- On February 9, 2018, U.S. Congress passed the Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA)
- FFPSA restructures child welfare Title IV-E and Title IV-B funding that pays for children in foster care and services for families.
- Effective date of key provisions is October 1, 2019 or Texas can request an effective date of September 29, 2021.
- DFPS has until November 6, 2018 to request an effective date delay for certain provisions.

Family First Prevention Services Act

Title I: Prevention Services

- Beginning in FFY20, title IV-E (uncapped partial matching dollars) would be available for up to 12 months for services (per family/episode) for families of children who, without services, would likely enter foster care, and pregnant and parenting foster youth (Family-Based Safety Services).
- Services would include mental health services, substance abuse services, and in-home parent “skill-based” programs; services must be evidenced-based using promising, supported, or well-supported practices

Title II: New Standards for Non-Family Placements

- After a two week grace period, FFPSA would prohibit IV-E maintenance payments for any foster care placements other than:
 - Family foster homes
 - Placements for pregnant or parenting youth
 - Supervised independent living for youth 18+
 - Qualified Residential Treatment Programs for youth with treatment needs
 - Specialized placements for victims of sex trafficking
 - Family-based residential treatment facility for substance abuse

Additional Provisions

- Regional Partnership Grants: Partnerships to address parental substance abuse (only 1 currently in Texas)
 - Chafee: Education/training funds for youth aging out of foster care
 - Interstate Placement: Using electronic system when placing children across state lines
 - Licensing standards: Ensuring states work with for relatives to take in children
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Family First Prevention Services Act

Throughout the analysis process of FFPSA, DFPS is focused on:

- Child Safety
- Quality of Care and Services for Children
- Working with Stakeholders, including Providers

Approximately 3,015 children may be impacted by the new congregate care limitations from FFPSA.

FFPSA has the potential to affect the 98,730 children from 35,725 families in FBSS and 50,293 children in DFPS conservatorship.

FFPSA Fiscal Implications

- FFPSA has fiscal implications regardless of the decision made on how and when to implement. Many of the provisions of the bill, if implemented, will require additional state investment beyond current levels.
- Texas has the option of allowing children to continue to live in congregate care settings, where they receive intense therapeutic services by using General Revenue dollars to make up for the lost federal funds.
- Full cost estimate for FFPSA is incomplete; however, DFPS is finalizing its full cost estimate for implementation and expects to provide leadership with a range of options.
- Texas has applied for a grant to explore a business case for the implementation of a Kinship Navigator Program.

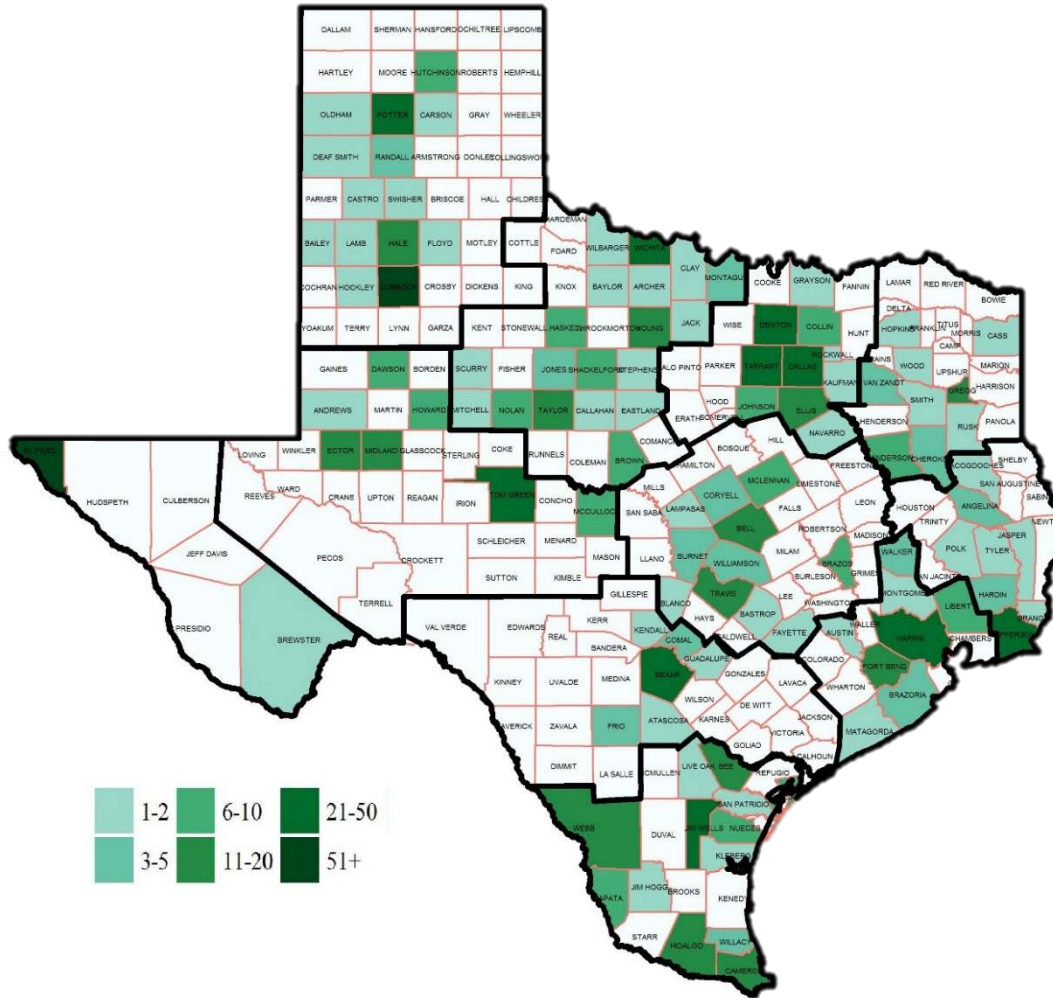
Faith-Based Programs

Services provided to families by faith-based communities include:

- Day Care
- Parties for Special Occasions
- Transportation
- Respite Care
- Babysitting
- Foster Parents
- Adoptive Homes



Faith-Based Partnerships



Faith-Based Partnerships

- Texas Catholic Conference of Bishops launched the St. Joseph Ministry in March 2018.
- North Texas District of Assemblies of God launched the Family First initiative.
- First United Methodist Church in Pasadena opened Second Story at First, an emergency shelter for young men ages 13-17 in May 2018.
- Various foster/adopt ministries across the state.

- House Bill 5 (85R) by Frank/Schwertner
 - Transferred Child Care Licensing Regulatory to HHSC
 - Created a new Investigations division at DFPS
 - Responsibilities of Investigations include:
 - Investigates allegations of child abuse and neglect including allegations at licensed child care facilities
 - Works with law enforcement on joint investigations
 - Assists in the fight against human trafficking
 - SB 11 also aligned the CPS and CCL definitions of abuse and neglect
-



High-Acuity Children

	June 2017	June 2018	Increase
Children in Substitute Care	29,765	30,988	1,223
Children in foster care	16,778	17,271	493
Children with Serious Emotional Disturbance whose parents could no longer meet their needs	117	142	25
Refusal to Accept Parental Responsibility	1,907	1,996	89
Emotional Disturbance	3,830	4,163	333
Medical	1,080	1,096	16
Special needs	4,141	4,468	327
Intellectual or Developmental Disability	1,815	1,879	64

- **Emergency Discharges**
 - Effective 9/1/18, GROs must take a child back after stabilization from hospitalization.
 - **Intensive Psychiatric Transition Program**
 - Removing requirement that a youth must be in DFPS conservatorship at least 90 days to access program.
 - **Treatment Foster Care Services**
 - Goal is to increase foster care capacity and reduce the number of children in RTCs.
 - **Intense Plus Rate**
 - 85th Legislature approved an “Intense Plus” rate to be paid to providers who care for children with the highest needs. One provider approved to provide this service.
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FY 17 Pregnant Foster Youth

218: Youth who were parents themselves in DFPS Conservatorship in FY 2017.

48: Children born while their parents were in DFPS Conservatorship in FY 2017.

332: Pregnant youth in DFPS Conservatorship in FY 2017.

- The goal of DFPS is to help the foster youth be a successful parent.
- These youth may be best served in a foster family home where they can take an active role in parenting and be taught through modeling.
- Upon discovering a youth is or may be pregnant, ensure the youth sees a Star Health provider as soon as possible.
- DFPS helps identify services to meet the youths needs and assess if youth is a victim of sexual abuse or a criminal offense.
- We encourage the youth to discuss options regarding the pregnancy with supportive persons and ensure that the youth is aware of available community resources and provide referrals to appropriate providers of pre- and postnatal care.



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6D: Community Based Care

Kristene Blackstone

Associate Commissioner, Child Protective Services

Department of Family and Protective Services

September 12, 2018

Community Based Care



CBC (formerly known as Foster Care Redesign) is a community-based approach to meeting the individual and unique needs of children, youth, and families. Within a geographic catchment area, a single contractor (officially a Single Source Continuum Contractor or SSCC) is responsible for duties traditionally handled by CPS.

- **CBC Stage I:** SSCC responsible for placement of children in foster homes and other living arrangements as appropriate with a “no eject, no reject” clause and performance-based contract
- **CBC Stage II:** SSCC responsible for full case management and reunification services that move children to permanency
- **CBC Stage III:** SSCC performance metrics inform incentives and penalties for the time a child spends in foster care

Rollout of CBC

REGION 3B: ACH serving Region 3B (Fort Worth and surrounding counties) in Stage I (since Jan. 2014)

- ACH and DFPS have reached agreement (pending Legislative Approval) to transfer Stage II Case Management as required by SB 11; anticipated rollout of Stage II in Spring 2019;
- As of July 2018, ACH was serving 1,322 children, approximately 8% of children in paid foster care in Texas.

REGION 2: In June 2018, *2INGage* (a new partnership between *Texas Family Initiative LLC* and *New Horizons Ranch and Center Inc*) signed a contract to serve as the SSCC in Region 2 (30 Counties in Northwest Texas, including Abilene and Wichita Falls).

- Readiness activities are underway and *2INGage* plans to begin serving children in Stage I in December 2018. Stage II case management services will begin based on SSCC readiness
- *2INGage* will serve an estimated 754 children or 4% of children in paid foster care in Texas.

REGION 8A: In August 2018, *Family Tapestry* (a division of the *San Antonio Children's Shelter*) signed a contract to serve as the SSCC in Region 8A (Bexar County).

- Readiness activities are underway and *Family Tapestry* plans to begin serving children in Stage I in February 2019. Stage II case management services will begin based on SSCC readiness (in previous experience, an SSCC requires at least one year in Stage I before they can contemplate readiness for Stage II).
- *Family Tapestry* will serve an estimated 1,982 children or 11% of all children in paid foster care in Texas.

REGION 1: In August 2018, DFPS announced that it would be expanding CBC into Region 1 (41 counties in the panhandle, including Amarillo and Lubbock); DFPS expects to release an RFA for Stage I in fall 2018.

- An estimated 1,076 children or 6% of all children in paid foster care in Texas will be served by an SSCC in Region 1.

REGION 8B: In August 2018, DFPS announced that it would be expanding CBC into Region 8B (27 counties in south central Texas, surrounding (but excluding) Bexar County); DFPS expects to release an RFA for Stage I in March 2019.

- An estimated 1,296 children or 7% of all children in paid foster care in Texas will be served by an SSCC in Region 8B.
-

DFPS has requested an Exceptional Item for FY 2020-2021 to sustain and expand Community Based Care

- As directed by SB 11, 85th Legislative Session, this request supports the continued phased in expansion of the Community Based Care (CBC) model to a total of nine geographic catchment areas serving an estimated 74% of children in paid foster care by the end of the biennium.

SSCC contracts:

- Competitively Procured
 - Approximately 6 months from release of RFA to contract award
 - Performance-based with financial incentives and remedies related to permanency
 - No eject, no reject philosophy
-

Performance Review and Evaluation

- Readiness Review determines placement and case management start dates
- DFPS conducts quarterly contract performance and monitoring reviews with each SSCC
- Rider 21 completed biannually
- DFPS has contracted with Chapin Hall of Chicago to develop contract monitoring systems, rate-setting methodology, startup funding
- DFPS will hire case management oversight staff to oversee and ensure accountability

CBC Contract Performance Measures

- The foundation for the contract performance measures for the SSCC contracts are based on federal and/or state requirements.
- When an SSCC begins to serve kids, DFPS begins to monitor their quality and provide oversight.
- If DFPS saw through SSCC-reported data that turnover for example was spiking, it would trigger the agency to work with the SSCC to make sure there was continuity of staff.
- These are not punitive measures, rather they are the agency's tools for oversight and quality assurance.
- Unresolved issues impacting performance can result in something beyond a quality improvement plan, like a contract action, if that were to become necessary.

CBC Contract Performance Measures

PM #1 The percentage of children/youth who do not experience a validated incidence of abuse, neglect or exploitation.

PM #2 Foster care placements per child/youth.

PM #3 The percentage of days that are in a Least Restrictive placement.

PM #4 The percentage of children/youth in foster care placements within 50 miles of their home.

PM #5 The percentage of sibling groups placed together in foster care.

PM #6 The percentage of youth age 16 or older who have a driver's license or state identification card.

PM #7 The percentage of youth who turned 18 and have completed required PAL Life Skills Training.

PM #8 The percentage of approved Service Plans where children/youth age 5 or older participated in development of the service plan.

PM #9 The percentage of court hearings attended by children/youth.

PM #10 The percentage of school aged children who are attending their school of origin.

PM# 11 The percentage of children placed with kin.

PM# 12 The percentage of classified regular full- and part-time SSCC caseworkers who voluntarily and involuntarily separate from the SSCC agency.

CBC and Children with High Acuity

- No Eject, No Reject Contracts
 - SSCC's must build appropriate capacity to serve all children in the catchment area.
 - SSCC's held accountable through Performance Measures
 - Treatment Foster Care Capacity
 - Professional Home-Based Care
 - Turning Point – Crisis Respite
 - Skill Builders – Intensive In-Home Mental Health Services
 - Care Coordination consistency throughout the child's case
 - Lower caseloads for children with high-acuity
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- Data Access & Standards Governance Council (Texas Family Code 264.159):
 - First Council meeting held on July 12, 2018 – Region 2 and 3b SSCC representatives attended, along with Pathways (FBSS Pilot Contractor)
 - Exploring the viability of the transfer of data between DFPS and SSCC
 - Making recommendations for resources needed
 - Establishing protocols and procedures
 - Plan to meet quarterly with each SSCC having a representative on the Council
-

- Report Published March 2018
 - DFPS worked with SAO and ACH to conduct and finalize audit.
 - SAO Recommendations:
 - Strengthen processes to consistently document and analyze internal communications between DFPS and ACH
 - Develop and implement methods to verify accuracy of self-reported Performance Management Evaluation Tool (PMET) data
-

- CBC Process, Outcome and Financial Evaluations utilized to inform and improve the CBC model
 - September 2018, DFPS will begin working with Texas Tech University on the CBC Process Evaluation
 - Contract with Chapin Hall of Chicago will conduct a CBC outcome & cross-SSCC evaluations
 - Contract with Chapin Hall amended to include a CBC financial evaluation of the blended foster care rate and SSCC start-up costs