DCF’s mission is working together with families & communities for children who are healthy, safe, smart & strong.

DCF’s has a consolidated statutory mandate over:

- Child Welfare
- Children’s Behavioral Health
- Juvenile Justice
- Prevention
- Education
Seven Cross-Cutting Themes

1. A family-centered approach to all service delivery, reflected in development and implementation of a Strengthening Families Practice Model and the Differential Response System;

2. Trauma-informed practice as related to children and families but also to the workforce that serves them;

3. Addressing racial inequities in all areas of our practice;

4. Application of the neuroscience of child and adolescent development to agency policy, practice and programs;

5. Development of stronger community partnerships;

6. Improvements in leadership, management, supervision and accountability; and

7. Establishment of a Department culture as a learning organization.
Regions and Facilities

Regional/Area Offices
• Region 1: Bridgeport, Norwalk
• Region 2: Milford, New Haven
• Region 3: Middletown, Norwich, Willimantic
• Region 4: Hartford, Manchester
• Region 5: Danbury, Torrington, Waterbury
• Region 6: Meriden, New Britain

Facilities
• Connecticut Juvenile Training School (CJTS)
• Albert J. Solnit Children’s Psychiatric Center – North & South Campuses
• Wilderness School
DCF SNAPSHOT

• DCF’s Careline received 109,186 calls in 2016:
  • 52,417 were reports of child abuse or neglect
  • 31,480 reports received an Child Protective Services (CPS) Investigation or Family Assessment Response (FAR).
  • For responses of both types, 95% were commenced in a timely manner and 85% were completed within 45 days.
• At any point in time, the Department serves:
  • Approximately 26,000 children and 11,500 families
  • 14,000 open cases with 2,500 investigations and 2,000 family assessments underway
  • Approximately, 4,200 children in placement:
    • 42% are with families or fictive kin
    • 11% in congregate settings
    • 300 children who are not committed to DCF receive voluntary services.
• Staffing: Over 3,200 employees
• Annual operating budget: $800 million
Practice Transformations

- Strengthening Families
- Fatherhood
- Engagement
- Announced Visits
- Family Assessment Response
- Permanency
- Teaming
- Considered-Removal
- Trauma-Informed Practice
- Roundtables
System Transformations & Practice Reforms

Since 2011, DCF has implemented the following practice reforms leading to improved outcomes for children & families:

- Reductions in use of congregate care
  - Restrictions on use for children under 12 years of age
  - Restrictions on out-of-state placements driven by clinical & geographic needs
  - Strong focus on reducing length of stay

- Investments in community-based services (.79 for every $1)

- Implementation of Differential Response System (DRS)
  - Family Assessment Response (FAR)

- Reductions in Other Planned Permanent Living Arrangement (OPPLA) as permanency goal

- Increased placements with family and fictive kin

- Implementation of a full teaming continuum

- Enhanced focus on racial justice lens throughout DCF
Entries into DCF Care per Quarter
2011 - 2016
Children in Congregate Care: Age Group & Out-of-State

Number of Congregate Care CP

- # Out-of-State
- Age >=13
- Age 7-12
- Age <=6
Projections of Children in Placement by Placement Type
PERMANENCY GOALS
Reductions in Number of Children with OPPLA
July 1, 2013 to January 1, 2017
Percent of Children with OPPLA Goal
July 1, 2013 to January 1, 2017

28.6%
15.6%
2017 Progress Highlights

- 7.6% reduction in DCF caseload
- 9.2% reduction in the number of children in placement
- 80% increase in the number of children placed with relatives & kin
- 99% reduction in the number of children placed in out-of-state congregate care settings
- 82.4% of children in placement are living with a family, compared to 67.5% in 2011
SFY 17 Compared to SFY 11

- 42 fewer congregate settings
- 888 fewer congregate beds being used (in-state and out-of-state)
- $58,942,899 more spending in community-based services
- $75,292,132 less spending in congregate care

$.79 of every dollar saved in congregate care has been reinvested in community-based services
DCF Expenditures FY 08 – FY 17

DCF
Actual General Fund Expenditures
(In Millions)

Source: Office of Fiscal Analysis, Connecticut General Assembly, Budget Books FY 08 through FY 15.
FY 16 expenditures based on preliminary estimates.
FY 17 expenditures based on revised appropriation.
2016 Child Outcomes

Child Safety & Stability

• 93.8% of children in in-home cases were not victims of repeat maltreatment (exceeding Juan F. standard)

• 99.8% of children in foster care were not victims of repeat maltreatment (exceeding Juan F. standard)

• 96.2% of children entering care did not have a foster care episode in the previous 12 months (exceeding Juan F. standard)

• 96.7% of children in care did not have multiple placements within 12 months (exceeding Juan F. standard)

• 95.6% of relative homes had no allegations of maltreatment (99.7% of relative homes were free of substantiations for maltreatment)

Permanency & Well-Being

• 65.6% of reunifications in 2016 happened within 12 months (exceeding Juan F. standard)

• 38.5% of adoptions in 2014 happened within 24 months (exceeding Juan F. standard)
Racial Disproportionality of DCF Served Families

### Racial/Ethnic Disproportionality Across The CT Child Protection System SFY16: STATEWIDE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Non-Hispanic, White Only</th>
<th>Non-Hispanic, Other* Race Only</th>
<th>Non-Hispanic, Black/Af Am Only</th>
<th>Hispanic/Latino, Any Race</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Child Population (2010 US Census)</td>
<td>61.2%</td>
<td>21.7%</td>
<td>10.8%</td>
<td>19.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children Referred via CPS (SFY16), N=23083</td>
<td>34.7%</td>
<td>9.0%</td>
<td>3.9%</td>
<td>5.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children Referred via FAR (SFY16), N=13404</td>
<td>41.5%</td>
<td>17.9%</td>
<td>5.3%</td>
<td>5.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children Substantiated as Victims (SFY16), N=7877</td>
<td>35.0%</td>
<td>19.0%</td>
<td>3.2%</td>
<td>2.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children in Cases Opened for Services (SFY16), N=6800</td>
<td>36.6%</td>
<td>20.1%</td>
<td>2.9%</td>
<td>2.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children Entering DCF Care (SFY16), N=1566</td>
<td>38.5%</td>
<td>19.0%</td>
<td>3.3%</td>
<td>2.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children In DCF Care (SFY16), N=5765</td>
<td>34.6%</td>
<td>21.4%</td>
<td>3.3%</td>
<td>2.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children in Congregate Care (SFY16), N=634</td>
<td>35.6%</td>
<td>23.0%</td>
<td>3.3%</td>
<td>2.2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Other Race includes: American Indian/Alaskan Native, Asian, Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, Other, Multi-Racial, and Missing/Unknown/UTD

Data Run Date: Statewide: 10/12/16
Opportunities

• Enhanced provider partnerships to support children and families:
  • Support for crisis respite/stabilization (SFIT)
  • Community-based services

• Better integration of child welfare & juvenile justice work

• Supports for kin through subsidized transfer of guardianship (TOG) legislation

• Children’s Behavioral Health Plan

• DCF Teaming Continuum

• Revised Juan F. Exit Plan

• Connecticut’s Pay for Success Family Stability Project

• Virtual Academy
QUESTIONS?