

Implementation Workgroup Update Meeting

OCTOBER 22, 2021





WELCOME



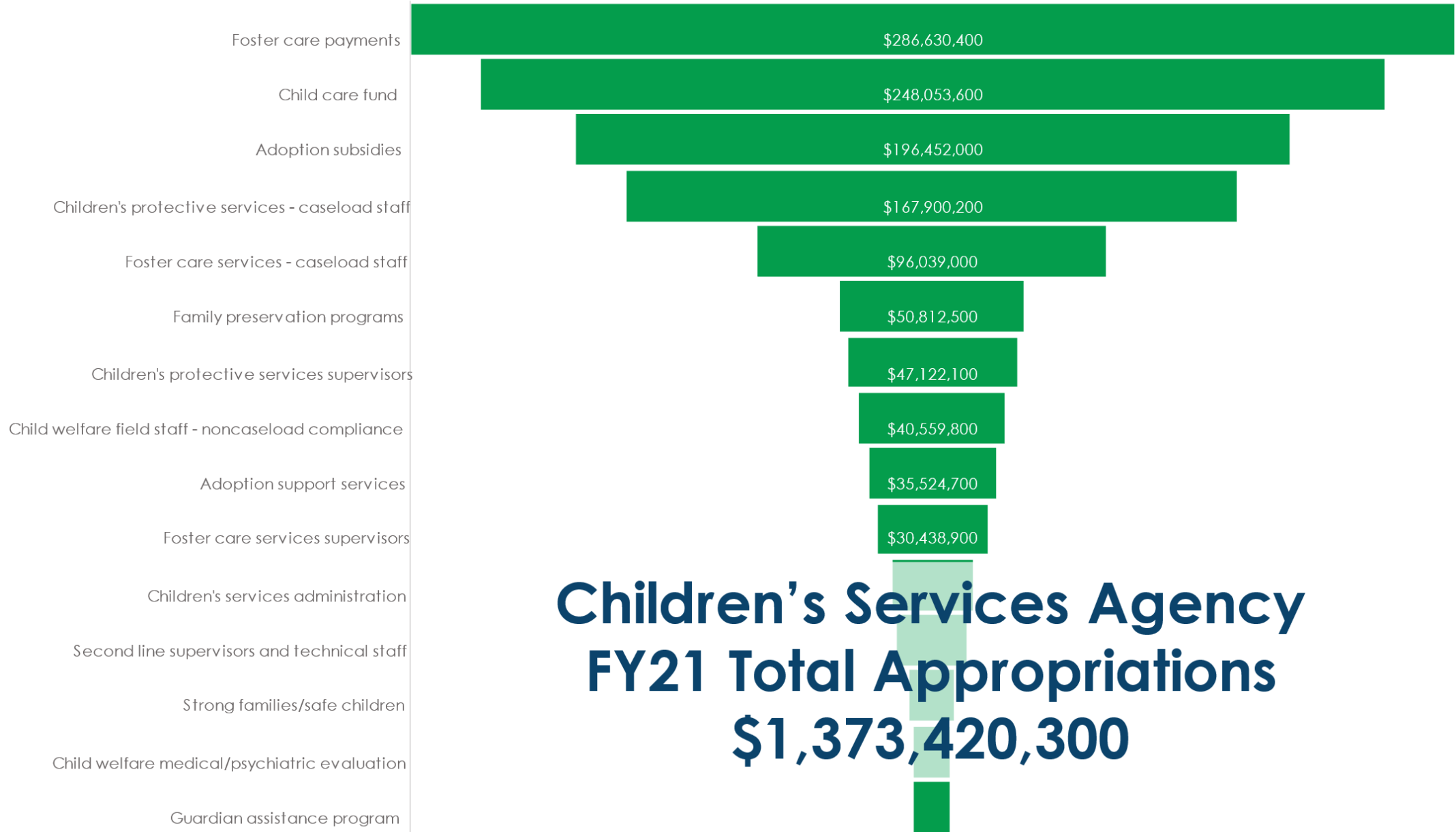
Michigan Child Welfare Improvement Task Force

October 22, 2021

CSA Priorities

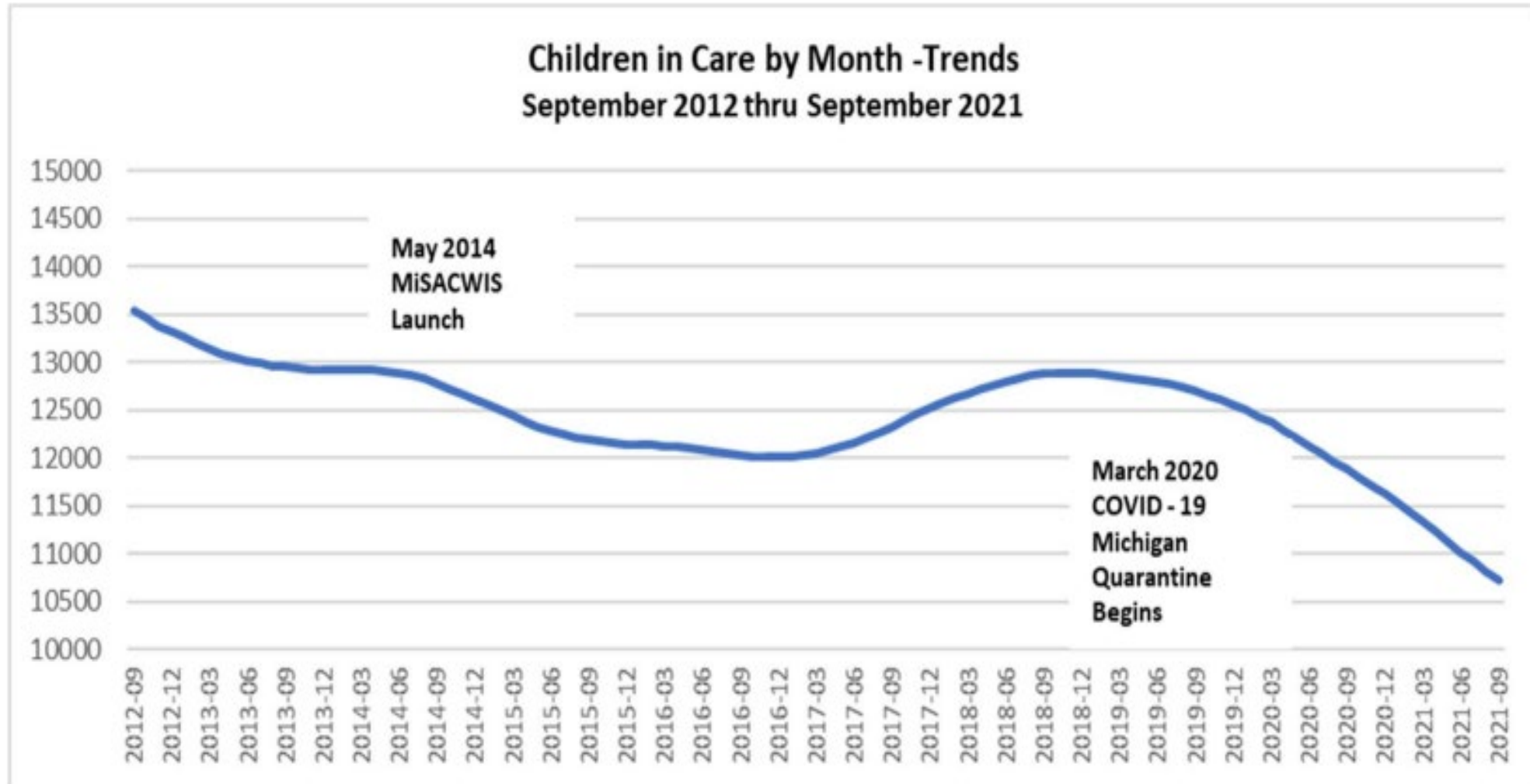


Top 15 Highest Funding Lines

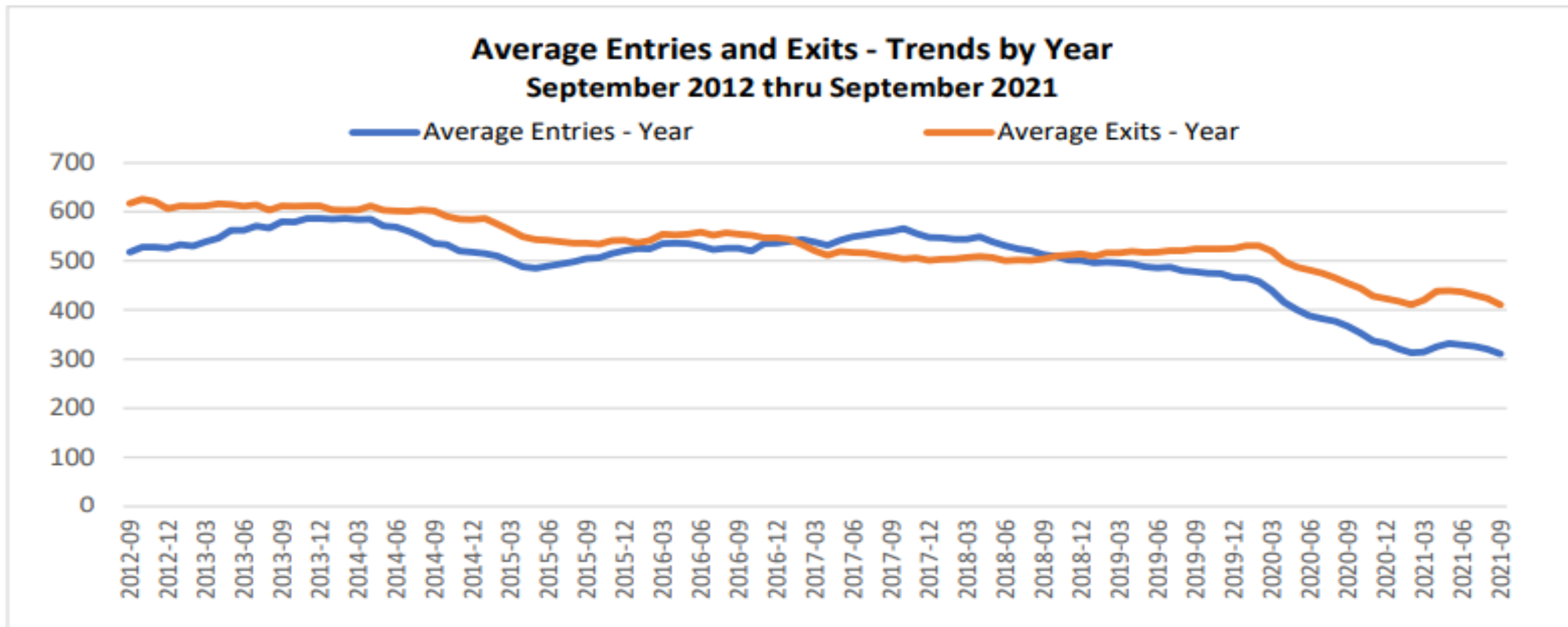


**Children's Services Agency
FY21 Total Appropriations
\$1,373,420,300**

Rolling Average Children in Care - Trends by Month

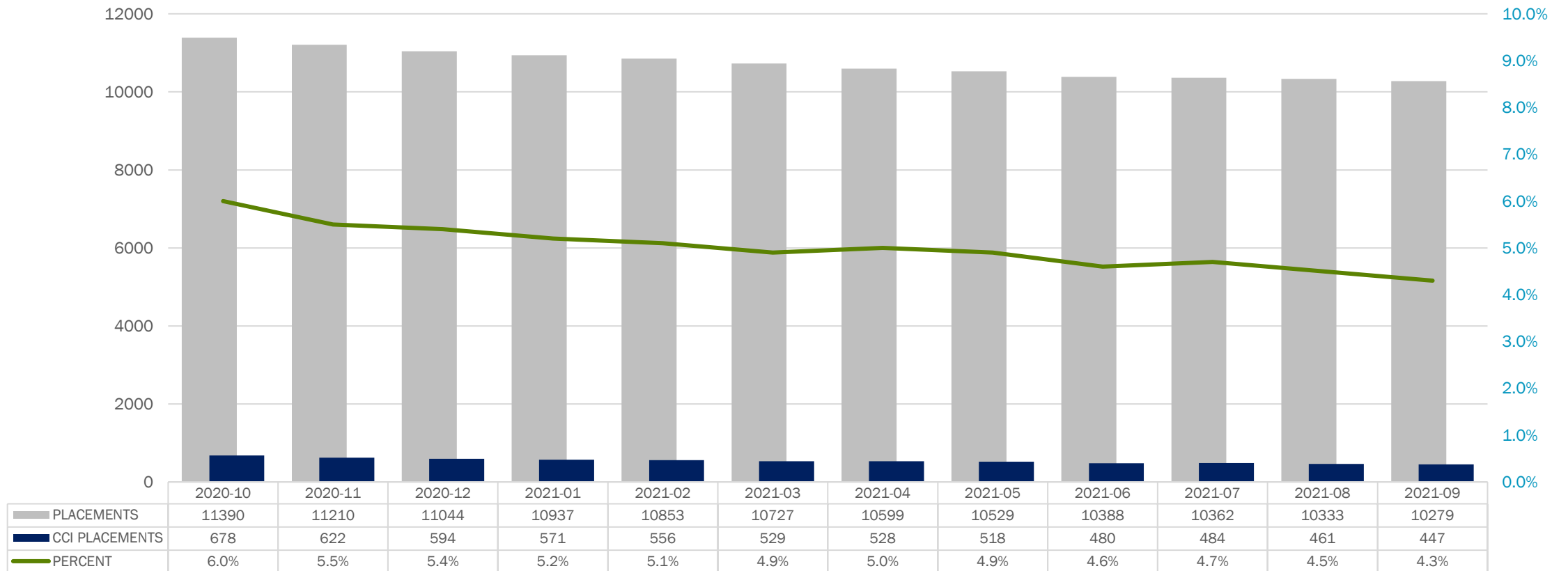


Rolling Average for Entries and Exits - Trends by Month



Data Updates: Children Receiving Treatment in a Congregate Care Setting

October 2020 - September 30, 2021



Development and implementation of a new SDM Centralized Intake assessment and prevention at intake

In Progress

Revisions to Michigan's maltreatment type definitions

In Progress

Development and implementation of a new SDM safety assessment, risk assessment, and risk reassessment

In Progress

Create a referral pathway to community prevention services from Centralized Intake

We Are Here

Analysis and overhaul of mandated reporter training curriculum and materials

Legislative changes to modify Michigan's Child Protection Law

Policy modifications to align with legislative changes and implementation of new tools and practices

Training enhancements and new training opportunities

Other strategies to address workflows and workloads

Challenge #1: SDM Centralized Intake Assessment Tool

Timeline

SMARTIE Objectives*

Supporting Tasks

Lead

Indicator/
Monitoring

Desired
Outcomes

2020-2023

By 2023, the Department will develop a Centralized Intake SDM tool that:
Upholds anti-racism principles; Does not confuse poverty with maltreatment; Be consistent across counties and families; Be based on the information available for the concern and balance relevant history; and comply with statutes and laws.

Analysis of CI policy, procedures, & data

In-Home
Services Bureau

Collaborate with partners & experts to draft new SDM tool

In-Home
Services Bureau

Test tool, revise, & validate. Draft updated policies re: SDM tool use

In-Home
Services Bureau
+ Policy Unit

SDM tool sent to IT for automation. When complete, re-test, & re-validate

In-Home
Services Bureau

Employee training, full implementation. Then full CQI review, updates, & revalidation as necessary

In-Home
Services Bureau
+ DCQI

Validated tool, consistent decision making, reduction of bias

How this can affect equity: increase consistency of decision making, decrease bias

Additional Information:

- SMARTIE: Strategic, Measurable, Ambitious, Realistic, Time-Bound, Inclusive, and Equitable.
- Supporting Actions that are grayed-in are currently in progress.

Child Welfare Improvement Task Force

Purpose: Time-limited task force to provide legislative, policy, and practice recommendations to MDHHS on the following:

Redesigning a front-end response to allegations of abuse and neglect that is free from bias and distinguishes between crisis and a need for family services and support.

Reducing racial disparities in foster care outcomes through:

- Increased use of supported, safe kinship care
- Improved access to community based mental health services
- Elimination of improper placements in residential settings



Review Recommendations



Implementation Recommendation Status

1. New Strategy for Relative Care

Draft Completed

2. Implement New SDM Tool

Draft Completed

3. Redefine Abuse and Neglect/Physical Neglect

Draft in Progress

4. Work with partners to identify alternative interventions to minimize the number of children admitted to Child Caring Institutions, and to shorten their length of stay

Draft in Progress

5. Use Child Care Fund for Prevention Services to Avoid Removal

Draft not Started

6. Increase Access to Mental Health Services for Children and Families to Reduce the Removal of Children from Homes

Draft not Started

7. Work to shift budget line items to allow for more prevention and family preservation

Draft not Started

Implementation Recommendations

Reduction in Placements and Placement Disparities

Next Steps

- Redefine Abuse and Neglect/Physical Neglect
- Implement New SDM Tool
- New Strategy for Relative Care

- Checking next steps against current MDHHS work
- MDHHS to coordinate with their front-end reform efforts
- MDHHS review & input and assuring culturally responsive approaches

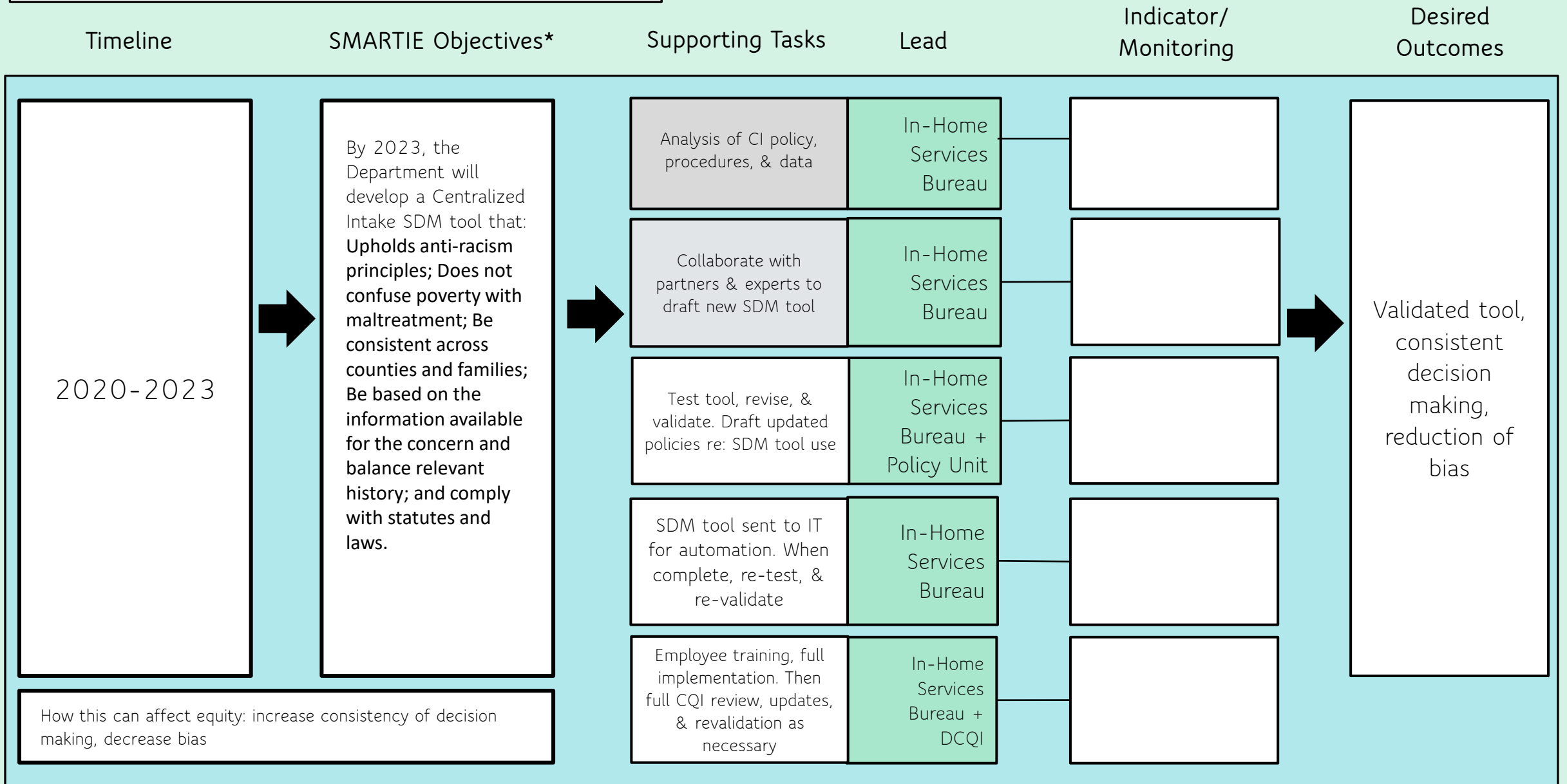
Expand Community-Based Resources for Children at Risk of Residential Placement

Next Steps

- Work to shift budget line items to allow for more prevention and family preservation
- Use Child Care Fund for Prevention Services to Avoid Removal
- Work with partners to identify alternative interventions to minimize the number of children admitted to Child Caring Institutions, and to shorten their length of stay
- Increase Access to Mental Health Services for Children and Families to Reduce the Removal of Children from Homes

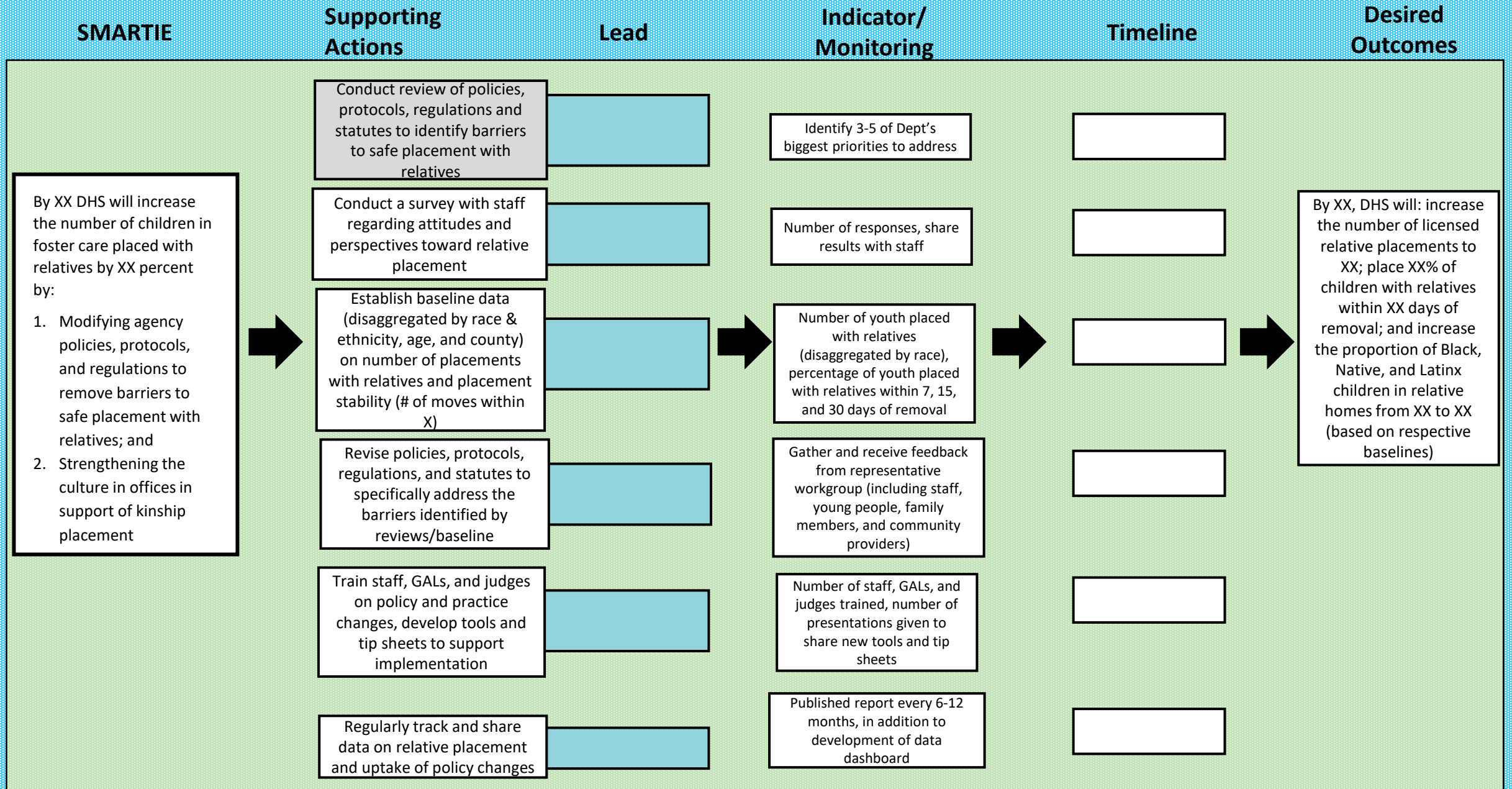
- Discussions under way
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- Working to identify next steps
- Gather additional information

Challenge #1: SDM Centralized Intake Assessment Tool

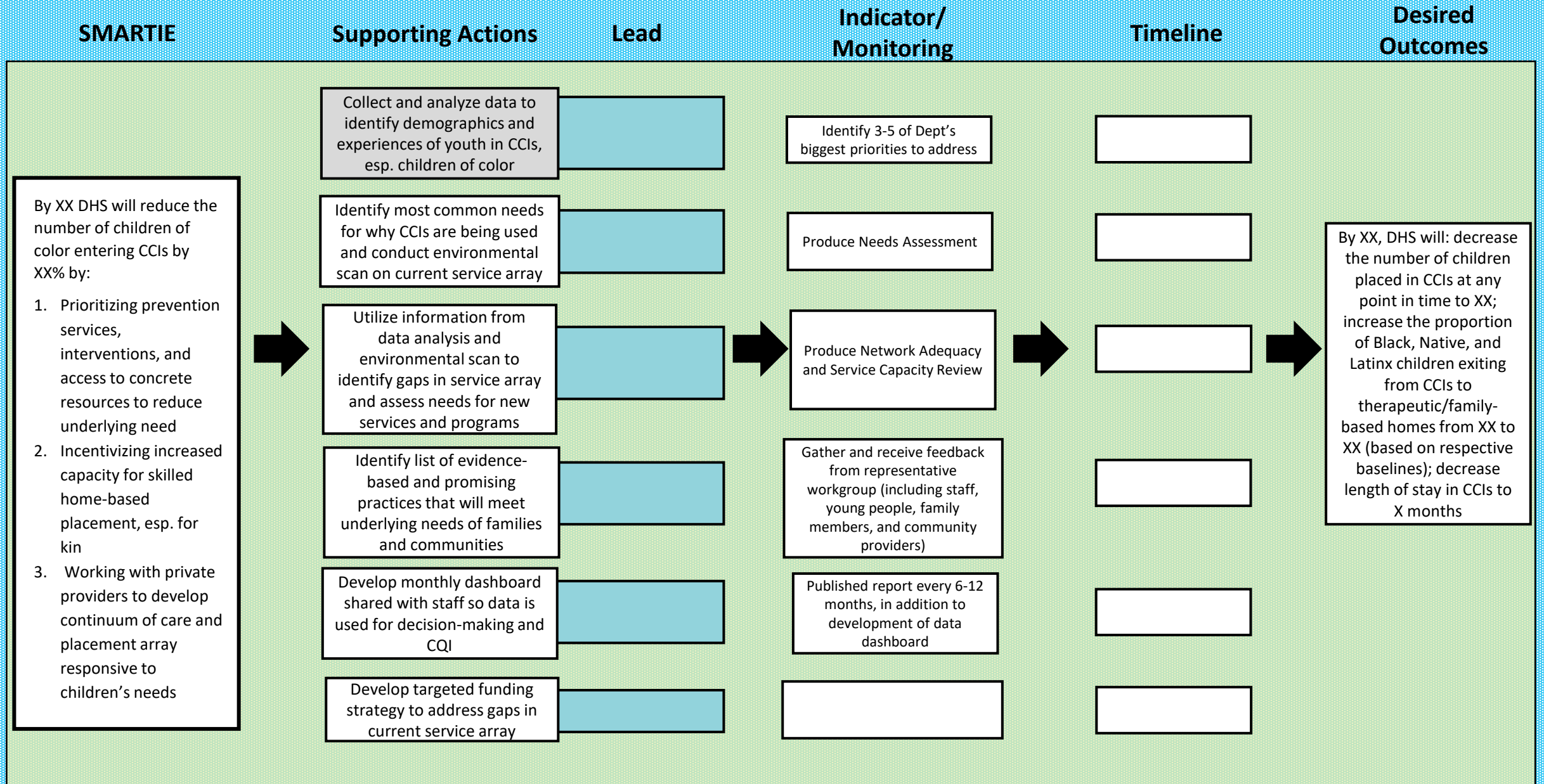


Supporting Actions that are grayed-in are currently in progress.

Challenge #5: New Strategy for Kinship Care



Identify Alternative Interventions to Minimize the Number of Children Admitted to CCIs and Shorten their Length of Stay



Possible Strategies

Increase Community-Based Resources (reduce entry)

- Expansion of and funding support for the state's pilot of Enhanced Foster Care (EFC) in Kent County
- Emphasize and operationalize commitment to case practice model
- Increase recruiting, licensing and training for therapeutic foster parents
- Incentivize and support kin caregivers to provide specialized services
- Design and Implement performance-based continuum contracts that incentivize providers to develop specialized services that are delivered in community

Reduce Length of Stay

- Conduct quality case reviews of all young people in CCI every six months
- Develop monthly dashboard that is shared with staff and used for decision-making and CQI

Possible Strategies

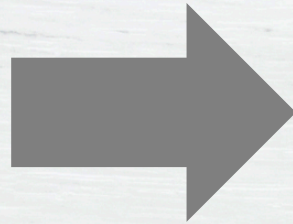
Improve Quality of CCIs

- Implement updated policies and procedures for use of restraints and seclusion
- Implement safety quality monitoring process for CCIs
- Establish process for responding appropriately to concerns raised by children and parents about the conditions of CCIs

Combining Similar Recommendations

Work to shift budget line items to allow for more prevention and family preservation

Use Child Care Fund for Prevention Services to Avoid Removal



Explore all possible sources of funding to support the development of a range of prevention and intervention services that allow children and families to receive including but not limited to redirecting existing funding streams, utilizing Families First Funding, etc.



Additional Proposed Recommendation

MDHHS shall develop a new case practice model that emphasizes prevention and early intervention; family engagement in problem definition and case planning and facilitating access to community-based resources, both concrete and socio-emotional.

Task Force Timeline



November:

SDM Meeting &
Task Force Meeting to
approve SDM action plan



January:

Task Force Meeting to
approve budget action plan



Summer 2022:

Meeting to monitor
implementation plan

