



# Michigan Child Welfare Improvement Task Force

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*Improving the safe, fair, and equitable treatment of all Michigan's children and families.*





# MDHHS Updates

# Kinship Initiatives

Current  
Family  
Finding  
Projects

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Connect Our Kids

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Kinship Support  
Workers

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Kinship  
Connections

# Kinship Support

KINDER-CARES

Kinship Support Program

Kinship Support Workers\*

Kinship Connections\*

# Additional Kinship Projects

Kinship Month

Respite  
Program

Relative  
Approval  
(Licensing)

Maltreatment  
in Care  
Project

Kinship  
Advisory  
Council



# Director Updates

MDHHS CSA Updates

# Prevention Barriers

Food Insecurity

Housing Insecurity

Strategy

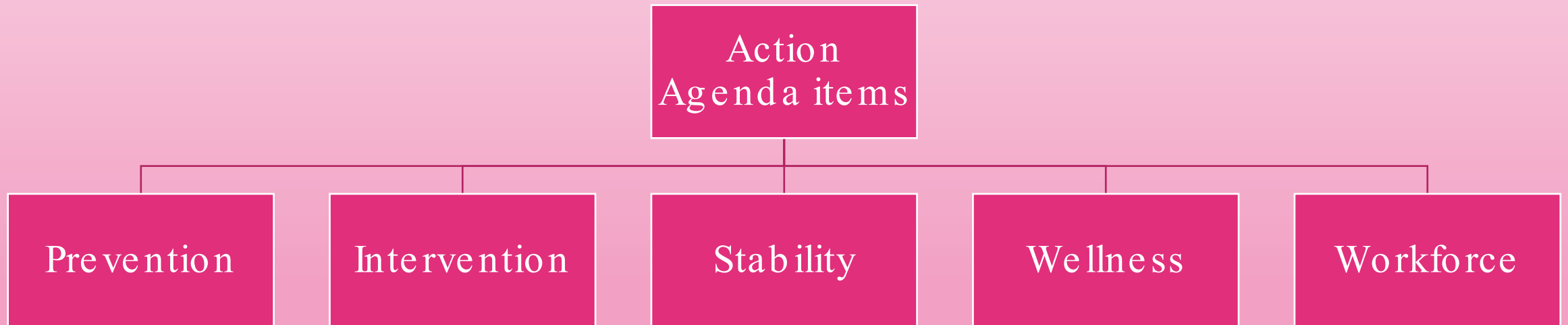
Mental Health Services

Transportation

# Prevention Solutions

- Family Resource Specialist (FRS)
  - Connecting parent to departmental programs
  - FIT Team (Family Impact Teams) Project
  - Eligibility specialist
  - Go to homes or meet families within the office
  - Connecting families to external reports
  - Social Determinants of Health

# Keeping Kids Safe Action Agenda



# Keep Kids Safe Action Agenda

## Prevention

- Family Resource Centers
- Partnership with Chapin Hall

## Intervention

- Communication
- Collaborations

## Stability

- Child Stat
- FIT Team

## Wellness

- Increased access to mental health services
- Expanding mobile crisis care

## Workforce

- Motivational interviewing
- Safety planning

# Child Welfare Improvement Task Force

## Charge Statement

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

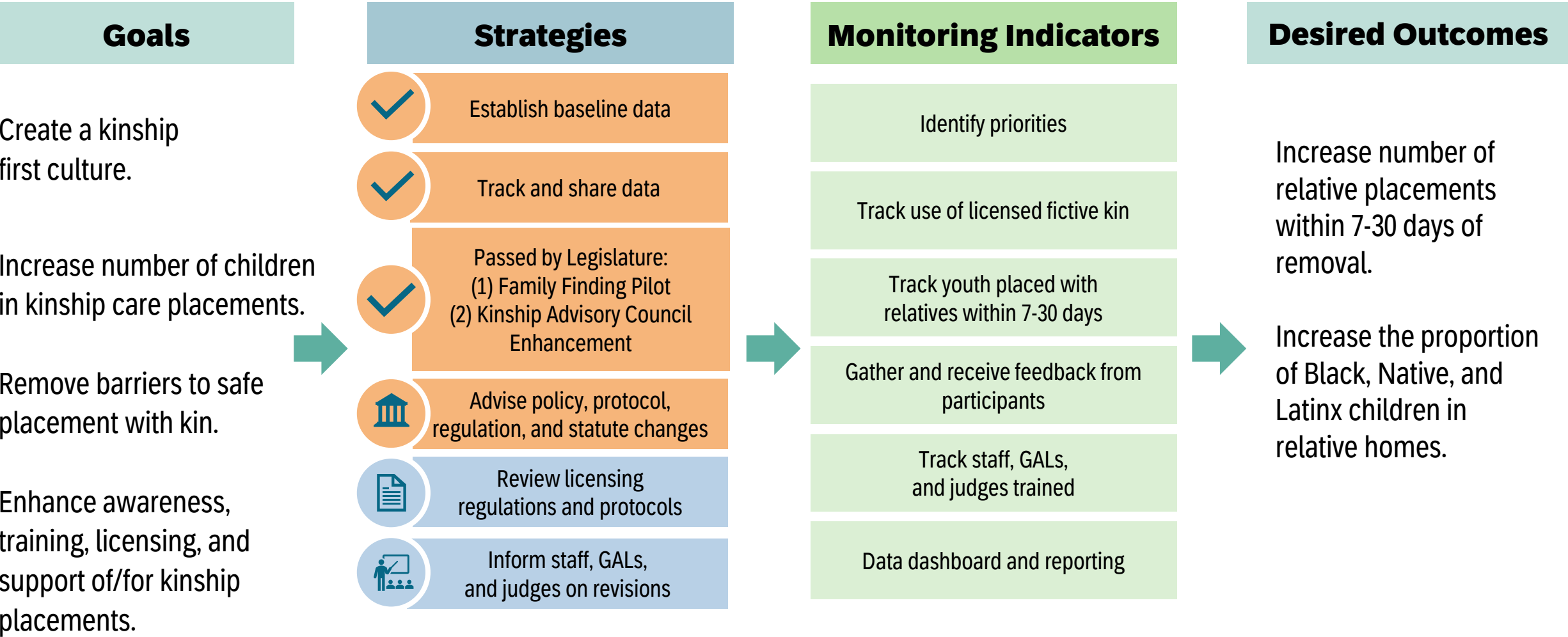
- Redesigning a front-end response to allegations of abuse and neglect that is free from bias and distinguishes between crisis and a need for family services and support.
- Reducing racial disparities in child welfare outcomes by:
  - Increased use of supported, safe kinship care
  - Improved access to community mental health services
  - Elimination of improper placements in residential settings



# Working Kinship Care Action Plan

**Problem Statement:** Children are entering foster care when they could be placed safely with relatives or fictive kin

**Recommendation:** Increase specialized services and supports for relative and fictive kin caregivers



# DRAFT: CCI Action Plan

**Problem Statement:** Children of color are disproportionately placed in CCIs and have longer lengths of stay.  
**Recommendation:** Implement appropriate services to reduce CCI placements and length of stay.

