

Session 1: Effective Strategies to Strengthen
Practices Around Safety Planning, 1017's and
Kinship Foster Care

Presenters

James C Czarniak
Margaret Flynn-Khan

Session Overview



Welcome and Check-In (20 Minutes)



Overview of Safety Plans, 1017's and Kinship Foster Care (20 Minutes)



Safety, Support and Re-Entry Exercise (20 Minutes)



Break (15 Minutes)



Review Exercise on Safety, Support and Re-Entry (15 Minutes)



What Should Safety, Support and Re-Entry Prevention Look Like? (20 Min)



Group Report Out and Input (20 Minutes)



Check-Out and Next Steps (20 Minutes)

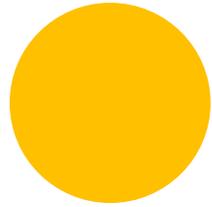
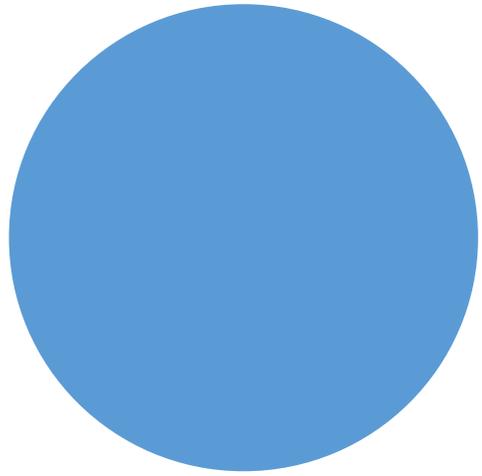
Desired Session Results



Counties are equipped with tools to assist them in reviewing the kinship continuum of supports to ensure safety and timely and lasting permanency

Welcome and
Check In

Your Name, Your
Position/Role in your County
and 'Why Did you Choose this
Session to Attend Today?'



Safety Plans, 1017's and Kinship Foster Care

Presenter:
James C Czarniak

Child Welfare Kinship Continuum

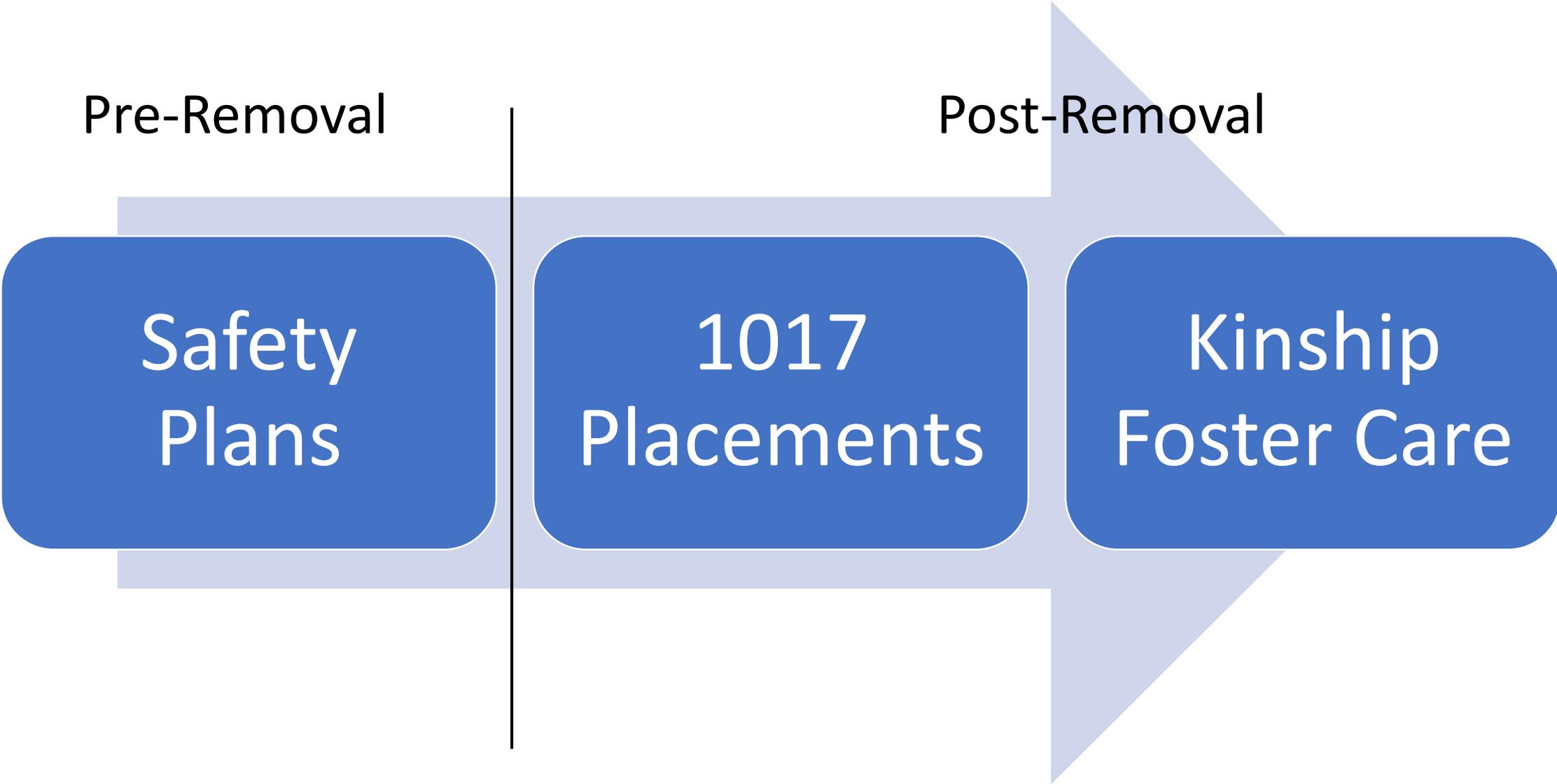
Pre-Removal

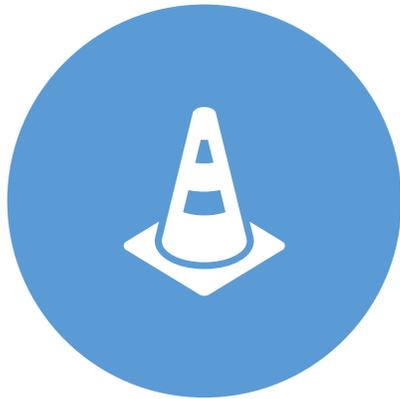
Post-Removal

Safety
Plans

1017
Placements

Kinship
Foster Care





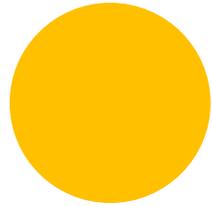
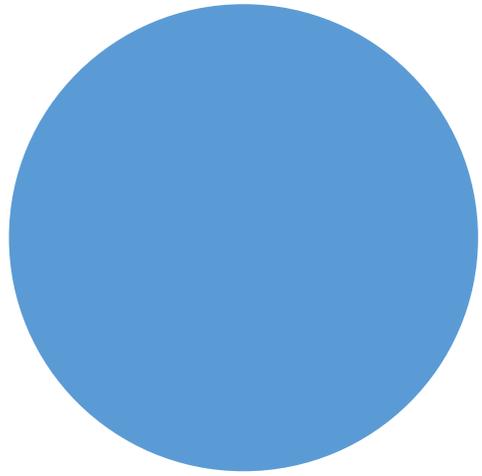
SAFETY



SUPPORTS TO ACHIEVE TIMELY
AND SAFE PERMANENCY



RE-ENTRY

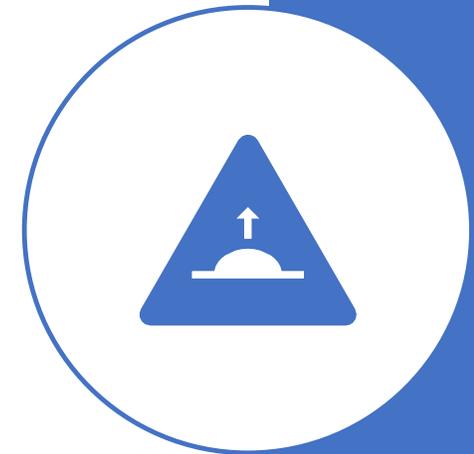


Pre-Removal: Using Kin for Safety Planning



Safety Plans

- Plans made during a CPS investigation in which a parent or guardian makes an alternative plan with their child(ren) to reduce risk or assist in addressing issues relating to the report
- Parent/Guardians let children stay at a place they deem safe and as an alternative to removal
- Supposed to be the Parent's Plan: There should be no prohibitions placed by the Department on the parents or require the relative/suitable other to restrict visitation. *HINT* If your workers use the terms 'You Can't' or 'Don't' or any order, it is no longer a families' plan but the County's and court intervention is needed



Safety Plan Critical Questions

- Who approves a Safety Plan?
- How are safety plans tracked?
- Who monitors the safety plans?
- How long can a safety plan be in place?
- What services are provided to relatives during a safety plan?
- Are relatives informed of their rights, responsibilities and if so how?
- Are you allowed to close Investigations with a safety plan in place?
- What are you telling relatives and how do you document safety plans in the case record?



Potential Impact of Safety Plans

The use of Safety Plans can be a positive thing when used in the short term to reduce unnecessary court petitions and removals

However, many counties use Safety Plans for long periods of time, plans are often untracked and it is left to individual workers on the use of this intervention

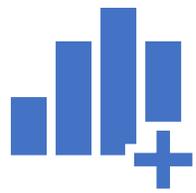
Over-used, under supported kin and relatives on safety plans can exhaust family resources if things continue to devolve

We have no data to track the use of this intervention and the effectiveness

Removal Needs to Occur

1017 Custody
Placement with
Relative or Suitable
Other

Foster Care



Statewide Data



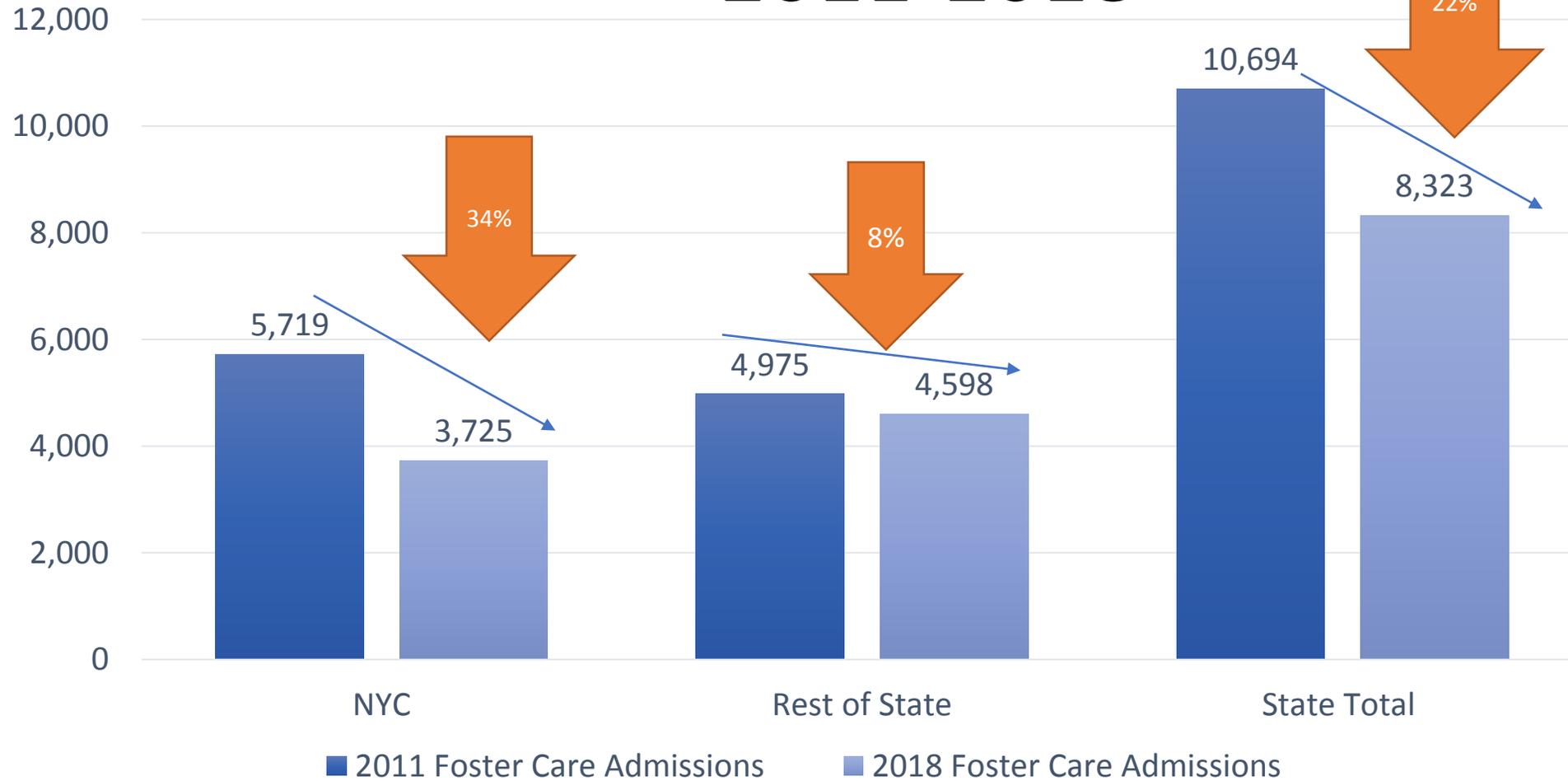
Data Sources:

-- Aggregate MAPS Children Admitted to Foster Care by District 1995-2018

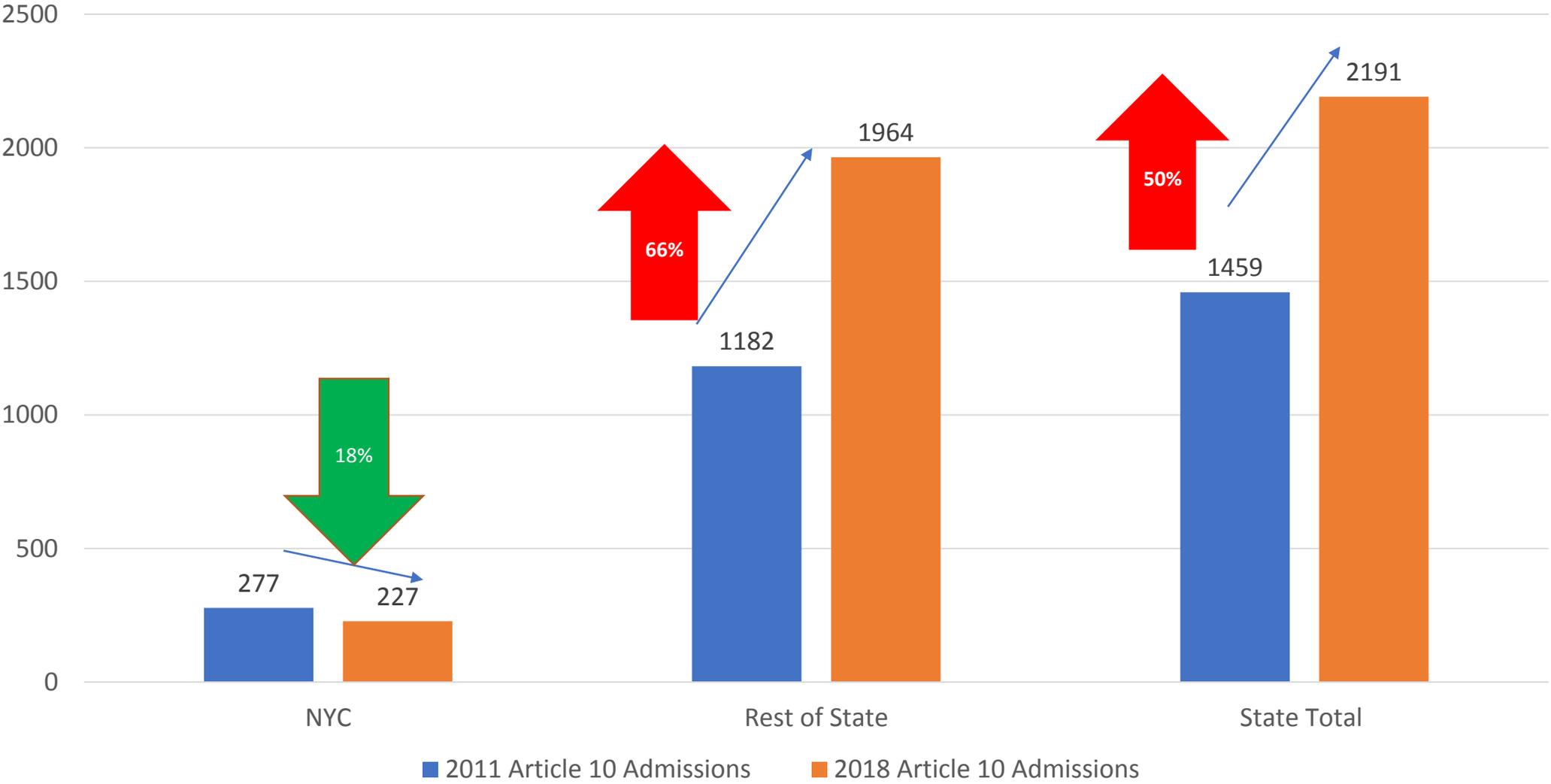
<https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/reports/aggregate/2018/Children-Admitted-to-Foster-Care-by-District-1995-2018.xlsx>

-- Table 6: Percentage Change in Children Placed Directly with a Relative or Other Suitable Adult Under Article 10 (Non-LDSS Custody) Cognos

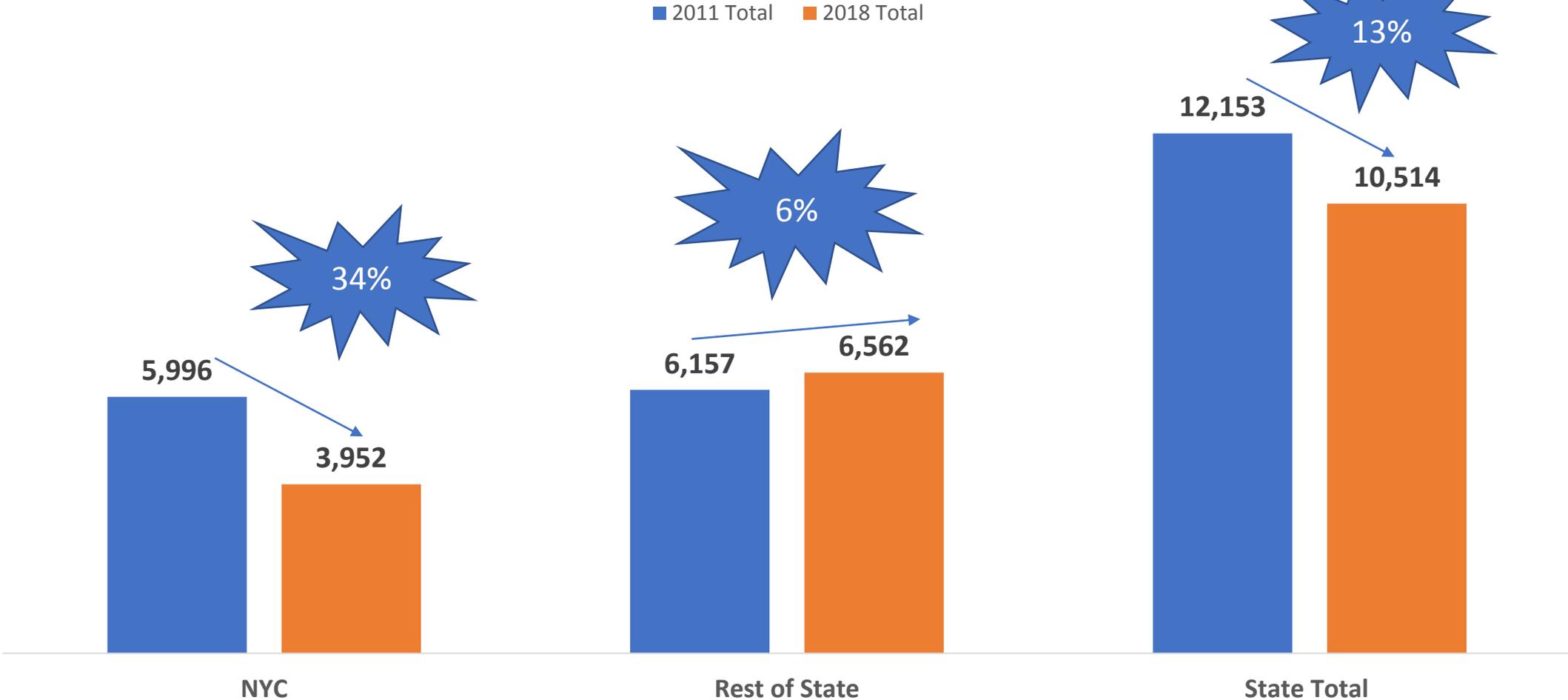
Foster Care Admissions 2011-2018



Children Removed on Article 10 Custody with Relative (2011-2018)



Overall Removals (FC + Custody) that are monitored by LDSS



1017 Custody Placements



In the custody of the relative/suitable other



Relative submits to the jurisdiction of the Family Court



Relative schedules, transports, facilitates and supervises (if court-ordered) visitation/family time between the child and the parents and siblings (most LDSS will not transport children not in their care and custody)



Relative ensures that children receive proper medical and dental care, including obtaining a verifiable plan of medical insurance, and assist with the provision of any services needed by the children,



Relative sends children to school/day care, daily and on time, and cooperates with the school/day care agency



Relative meets with the DCFS caseworker in your home and provides information on all person(s) in the household over the age of 18



Relative is expected to be the main care provider for the children and will ensure proper supervision of the children at all times. Any altering of this will require the pre-approval of LDSS caseworker



Critical Questions for 1017 Placements

- How do you determine the placement is safe?
- How do you educate relatives on their choices? Who is responsible for doing this?
- What are the services and supports you offer families/kin?
- How do you support families/kin in connecting to services and supports?
- Do you track your 1017 Placements? If so, do you know how many re-enter care within a year? Do you know how many fail and go into foster care? Do you know how many become foster parents?

TANF vs. Foster Care vs. KinGAP/Adoption Benefits

(Onondaga County Rates for 2019)

<p align="center"><u>TANF</u> (Age 6-11)</p>	<p align="center"><u>Foster Care</u> (Age 6-11)</p>	<p align="center"><u>KinGAP/Adoption</u> (Age 6-11)</p>
<p>One child living with relative outside foster care & relative does not receive any Public Assistance or subsidized rent Approximately \$ 431/month</p>	<p>One child placed in foster care with a fully certified relative *Includes clothing allowance \$ 22.59/day (Regular Rate) Approximately \$689/month</p>	<p>One child living with a relative under KinGAP or Adoption subsidy \$22.59/day Approximately \$ 689/month</p>
<p>Two Children living with relative outside foster care & relative does not receive any Public Assistance or subsidized rent Approximately \$ 616/month</p>	<p>Two Children placed in foster care with a fully certified relative \$ 45.18/day (Regular Rate x 2) Approximately \$1378/month</p>	<p>Two children living with relative under <u>KinGAP</u> or Adoption subsidy \$45.18/day Approximately \$ 1378/month</p>
<p>Three children living with relative outside foster care & relative does not receive any Public Assistance or subsidized rent Approximately \$ 794/month</p>	<p>Three Siblings placed in foster care with a fully certified relative \$ 135.51/day (Sibling Rate x 3) Approximately \$4,133/month (above rate is for a limited time only during transition to <u>KinGAP</u> or Adoption)</p>	<p>Three children living with relative under <u>KinGAP</u> or Adoption subsidy \$65.58/day Approximately \$1967/month</p>



Kinship Foster Care Placement

- In the Care and Custody of LDSS
- County is required to provide for the education of youth including transportation to home school district if needed (ESSA)
- County is required to ensure proper medical care for the child including an initial visit with a physician upon entry into care and ongoing medical, dental and mental health services
- County is required to schedule and oversee visitation and parenting time and maintain sibling visitation
- County is required to provide day care to support the placement
- County provides subsidy payments to family and other payments to support the child(ren)
- County is required to track outcomes for youth according to CFSR standards



Critical Questions for Kinship Foster Care

- Who determines in your County whether you use custody or foster care for kin?
- Who is having the conversation with your kin on whether they want to become certified or not and their rights as a relative care giver?
- What are the reasons your County denies foster care certification to kin?
- Do you provide the same/similar services to your 1017 Placements as you do in Foster Care Placement?
- Do you track your Kinship Foster Homes? If so, do you compare them to your regular foster homes for outcomes?

Safety, Support and Re-Entry Exercise

- Each County Work on Answering the Guided Questions provided for Safety Plans, 1017 Custody and Kinship Foster Care for your County Practice

Safety

Supports for Timely Permanency

Re-Entry

Safety Plan

Answer these questions for each:

- How are the relatives vetted to ensure the placement or arrangement is safe?
- Who does the safety assessment?
- Does the assessment require a review or approval?
- How often is the child seen to ensure safety is maintained?
- How are these placements / arrangements tracked?

Answer these questions for each:

- When a child is placed with a relative/kin, what services are available to them? (financial and supportive)
- Who explains these services to the relative/ kin?
- Who follows up with the relative/kin to ensure services are being followed up on?
- How often are the kin checked in on during placement / arrangement?
- How long is the placement/ arrangement allowed to occur before review to ensure permanency?

Answer these questions for each:

- *For Safety Plan Only* Do you close Investigations on a Safety Plan?
- When a child leaves the placement / arrangement, what services are offered/provided? (financial and supportive)
- Who explains these services to the relative/ kin?
- Do you track re-entry into care or into CPS for these cases?

1017 Placement

Kinship Foster Care

BREAK– 15 Minutes



Review Safety, Support and Re-Entry Exercise (15 Minutes)



Break-Out Groups (20 Minutes)

Safety

- Rockland
- Albany
- Westchester
- Broome
- Dutchess
- Erie

Services to Support Permanency

- Clinton
- Rensselaer
- Herkimer
- Oneida
- Chautauqua
- Oneida

Re-Entry Prevention

- NYS OCFS



What should Safety, Service and Re-Entry Prevention Look Like?

- Divide into three groups
- Each Group will take one of the factors and map out for Safety Planning, 1017 and Foster Care the desired process for each
- Groups should use the Guiding Questions from the last exercise in creating a best practice for each area

Use Flip Charts to Document Your Ideas and Thoughts

Reconvene and Report Out (20 Minutes)

Each Group elect a spokesperson to review the group's thoughts and ideas.

After each group presents, members from the session are able to make suggestions or additions to the group's ideas

Wrap-Up and Check-Out (20 Minutes)

Consultants will review the session and discuss available resources to counties to support the work back home

Check-Out Question: How are you feeling about the session topic and what is one thing that you will work on when you get back home?

Thank You!

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