

# **The Evolving Child and Family Wellbeing Landscape**

Welcome!

# **Strengthening Systems of Support for Fort Bend Families**

Insights from the Community Needs Assessment & Strategic Plan

# Thoughts...

1

Key findings from  
the 2024  
Community Needs  
Assessment

2

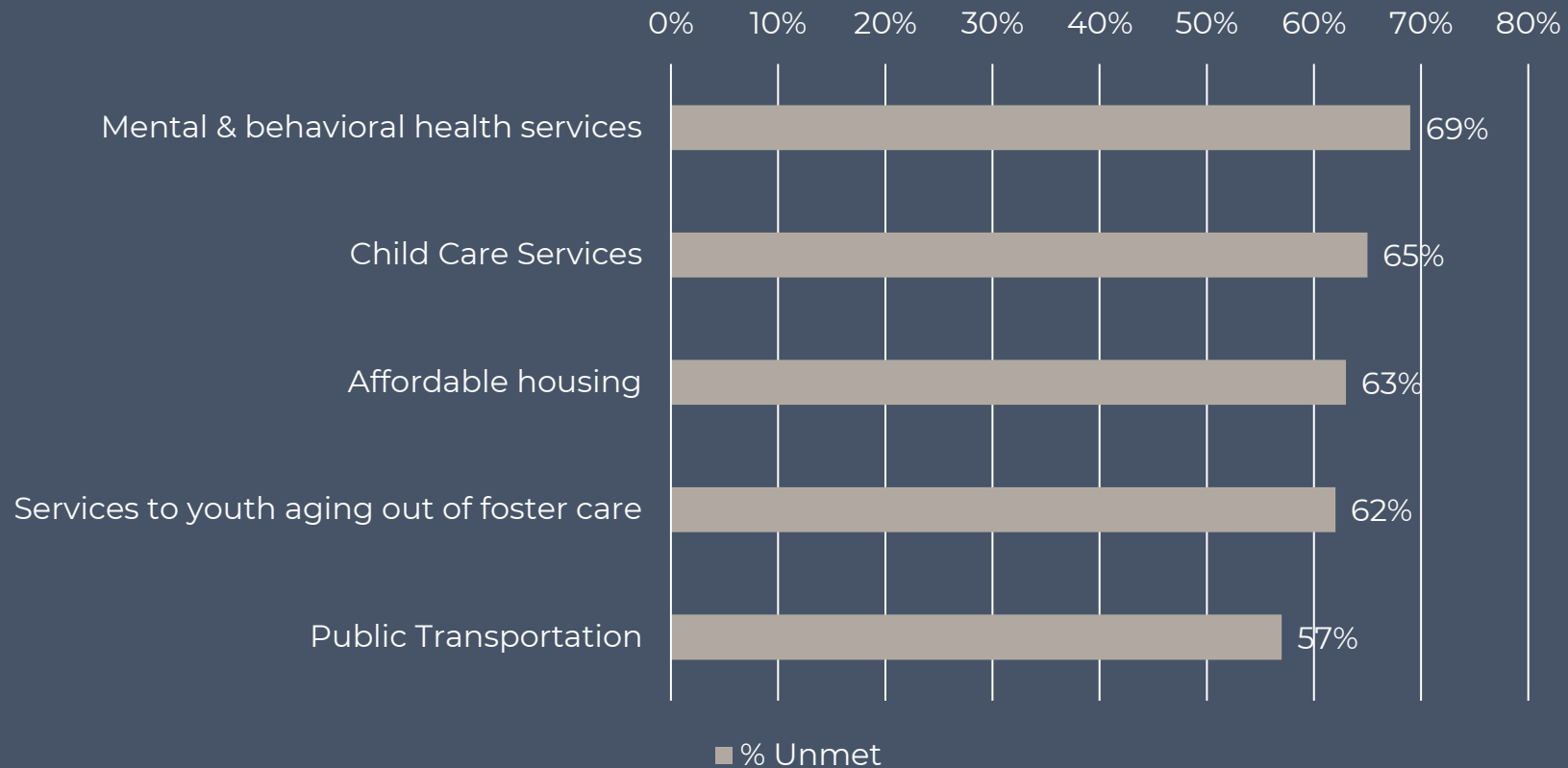
Strategic priorities  
aligned with child  
welfare

3

Explore  
opportunities to  
strengthen  
collaboration and  
close gaps in  
services

# Top 4 Priority Needs

## Top Community Needs Identified by Nonprofits



# Mental & Behavioral Health

69% of nonprofit leaders say it's a major need

90% say needs are less than half met

85% expect this need to increase significantly over the next 10 years

Key gaps:  
Medicaid access,  
language capacity,  
workforce  
shortage

TGF Response: Increased investments through Health & Wellness pillar

# Childcare

94% see it as a moderate or major need

88% say need is largely unmet

Limits family stability, workforce access, and parent engagement

A top barrier to accessing services overall

TGF Response: Integrated in Human Needs funding focus on thriving families

# Affordable Housing



60%+ cite it as a major need, with rental assistance also high



Rapidly rising costs cited by nonprofits ("rent doubled")



High unmet need for housing for individuals with mental health issues



TGF Response: New pillar dedicated to Affordable Housing



Goal: Deliver 300 units by 2030; 200 by Year 5

# Youth Aging Out of Foster Care

89% say this is a major or moderate need



92% report current services are less than half met



Lacking in wraparound support: housing, mental health, job readiness



77% expect this need to grow over time



TGF Lens: Services to special populations is a cross-cutting funding priority



# Transportation – A Barrier to All Services

90% of leaders say  
it's a major or  
moderate need

Current systems  
unreliable and  
inequitable,  
especially in rural  
areas

Limits access to  
jobs, childcare,  
healthcare, and  
housing

# Gaps & Opportunities

## Identified Gaps:

- Fragmented service delivery
- Lack of data sharing and client tracking
- Siloed supports for transition-age youth

## Opportunities:

- Build formalized nonprofit networks
- Create centralized referral and data systems
- Improve collaborative service models

# Introducing the Thriving Index



Community-wide human needs assessment tool in development



Will measure impact on housing stability, food security, workforce, and more

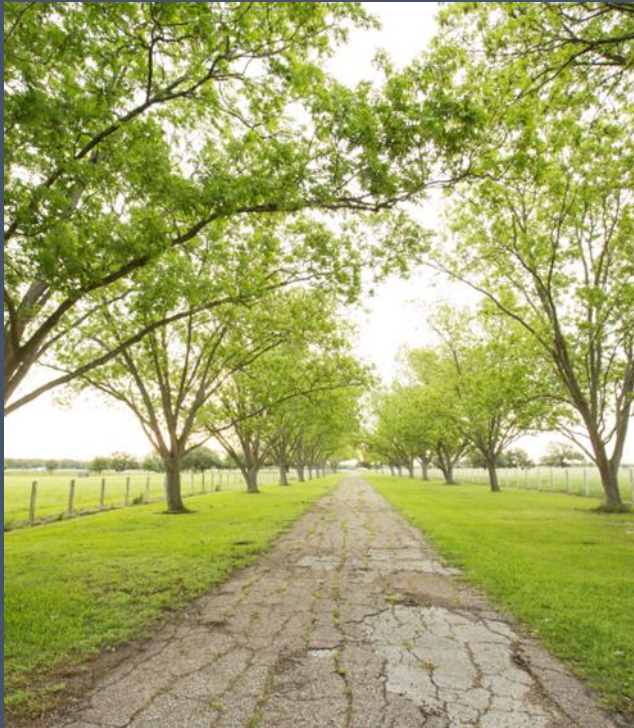


A resource for collective tracking, alignment, and accountability



Launch Goal: Initial index in place by end of 2027

# The George Foundation's Strategic Direction



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Expanded investment in strategic pillars:

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Health & Wellness

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Human Needs

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Affordable Housing

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Education

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Commitment to playing a convener and capacity builder role

# Questions?

# Book Time with the Grants Team



# Thank you!

Stay connected:

[www.thegeorgefoundation.org](http://www.thegeorgefoundation.org)

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**DePelchin**  
CHILDREN'S CENTER



## Community Based Care In Region 6



# About DePelchin



## Our Mission

DePelchin Children Center's mission is to strengthen the lives of children by enhancing their mental health and physical well-being.

## What We Do

We provide comprehensive services focused on ensuring all children are part of safe, caring homes.



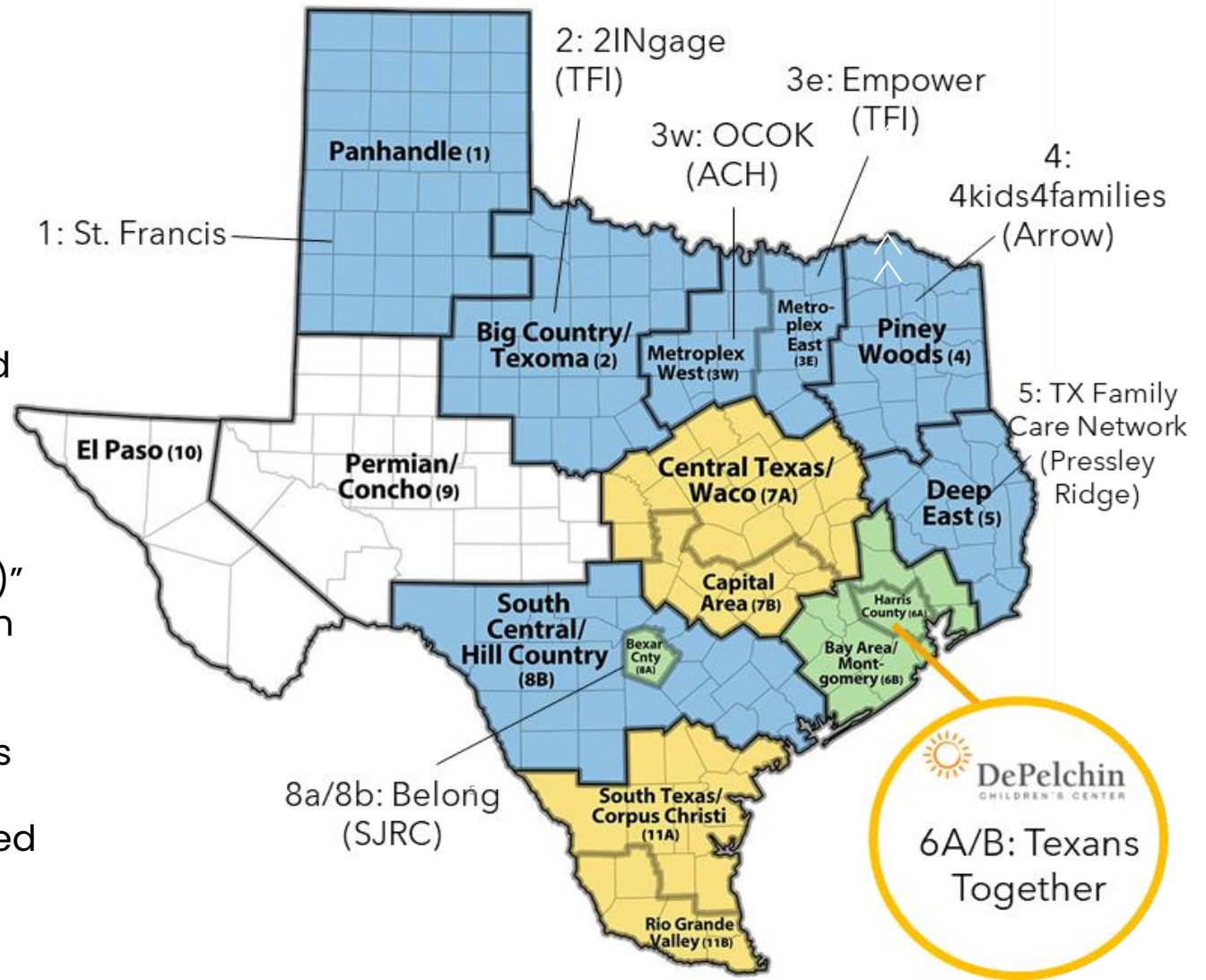
DePelchin is based in Houston and serves children and families in the surrounding counties as well as Austin, San Antonio, and Lubbock.

## Community Based Care: A Regional Approach

Texas is transitioning responsibility for all foster care services away from state management and toward a regional model through its Community Based Care (CBC) initiative.

In each region, a single nonprofit organization – the “Single Source Continuum Contractor (SSCC)” – is selected to manage the cases of the children living in the region’s foster care system.

CBC is now rolling out to Region 6, which includes Harris County and 12 counties surrounding it. DePelchin, as “Texans Together” has been selected to be the Lead Agency for both Region 6A and Region 6B



# CBC Timeline for Region 6

April through August  
2025



**Pre-Readiness**

**Readiness**

Fall  
2025



Early  
2026



**Stage I**

**Stage II Readiness**

Fall  
2026



**DePelchin**  
CHILDREN'S CENTER

# Pre-Readiness Activities

- Town Hall Conversations to encourage dialogue from greater community
- Stakeholder engagement (legal partners, bridge organizations, Child Welfare Boards)
- 1-on-1 conversations with providers
- Initial key hires for the SSCC & Internal process creation
- Joint Operations Manual drafting

# Our Vision for CBC

Our goal is to shift the child welfare system toward a family well-being model—one that focuses just as much on prevention as it does on intervention.

We aim to reduce repeated system involvement, lower the time children spend in care, and support long-term stability. To make this happen, we are committed to being:

**Trauma aware & hope oriented**

**Evidence informed & data driven**

**Family focused**

**Holistic in our approach to services**



# Our Path Forward

**Texans Together is working to balance contract requirements with community feedback, network growth, and new approaches to create a unique CBC model that reflects the needs of Region 6 by:**

Establish transparency and collaboration as standard practices from community engagement to contracts to case management, etc.

Emphasizing importance of information sharing and data-driven decision making publicly available data dashboards

Collaborating with providers, stakeholders and the community to curate a system that works for children and families

Supporting providers as they transition from the Legacy model to T3C

Implement innovative systems and practices to reduce administrative burdens on staff and contractors



# Required Processes

Texans Together is also reviewing essential contract requirements to define the SSCC functions:

- Reports and processes related to the federal lawsuit
- SSCC Contract Performance Measures
- CBC Quality Assurance Measures

Mapping out key processes is critical to the successful launch of CBC. Community and state feedback will be integral to our approach.

Through the implementation of these processes, we will:

- Create internal teams responsible for deliverables tied to performance expectation of the SSCC
- Develop straightforward production processes to keep organized and avoid unnecessary red-tape
- Ensure Texans Together has the appropriate internal tools and resources required to succeed as the SSCC



# Community Insights

## Common themes from the Fort Bend Community

Fort Bend is one of the most diverse counties in the state and the diversity offers a variety of services for children and families– including a strong and proficient LMHA

There is a need for further supports for older youth transitioning out of care and youth with high acuity needs

Clear and transparent communication is key for a successful implementation of CBC and children success in the system

There's potential to grow and strengthen the quality services offered in the region while bringing on new initiatives to modernize the supports for children and families



**Who is in care  
*from* Fort Bend  
County?**

there are **80** children whose  
legal case originates in Fort  
Bend County

**53%**

**african  
american**

**33%**

**hispanic**

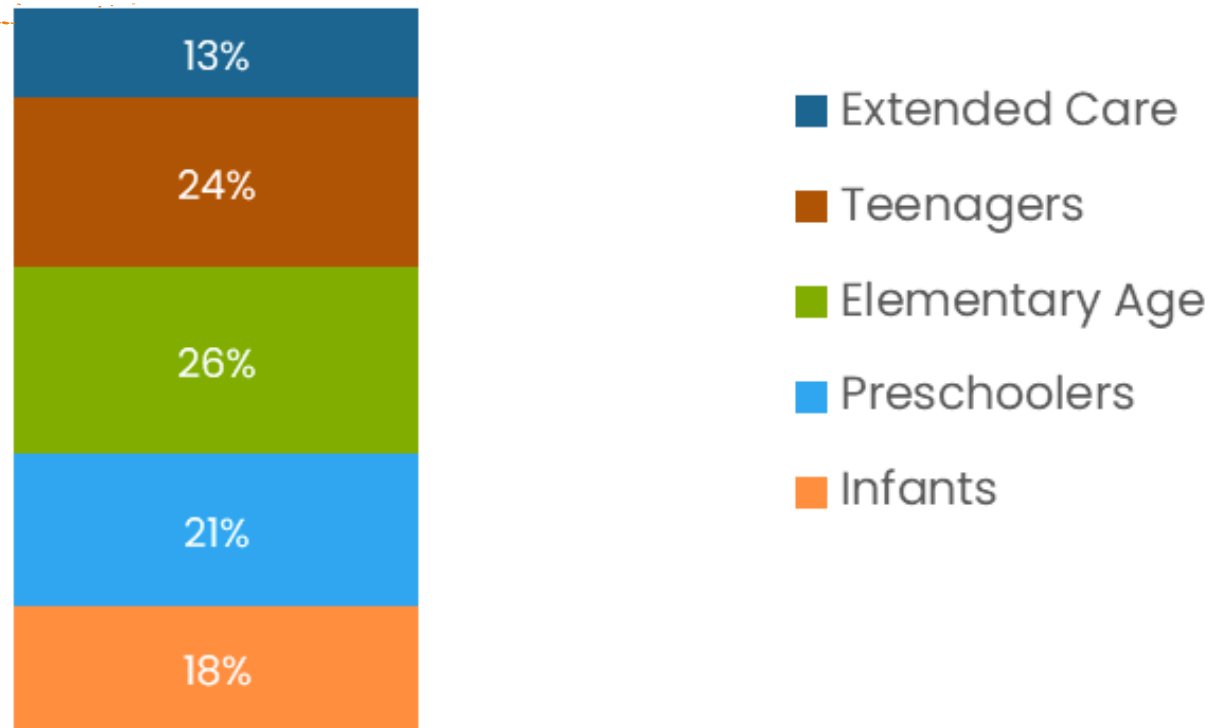
**10%**

**anglo**

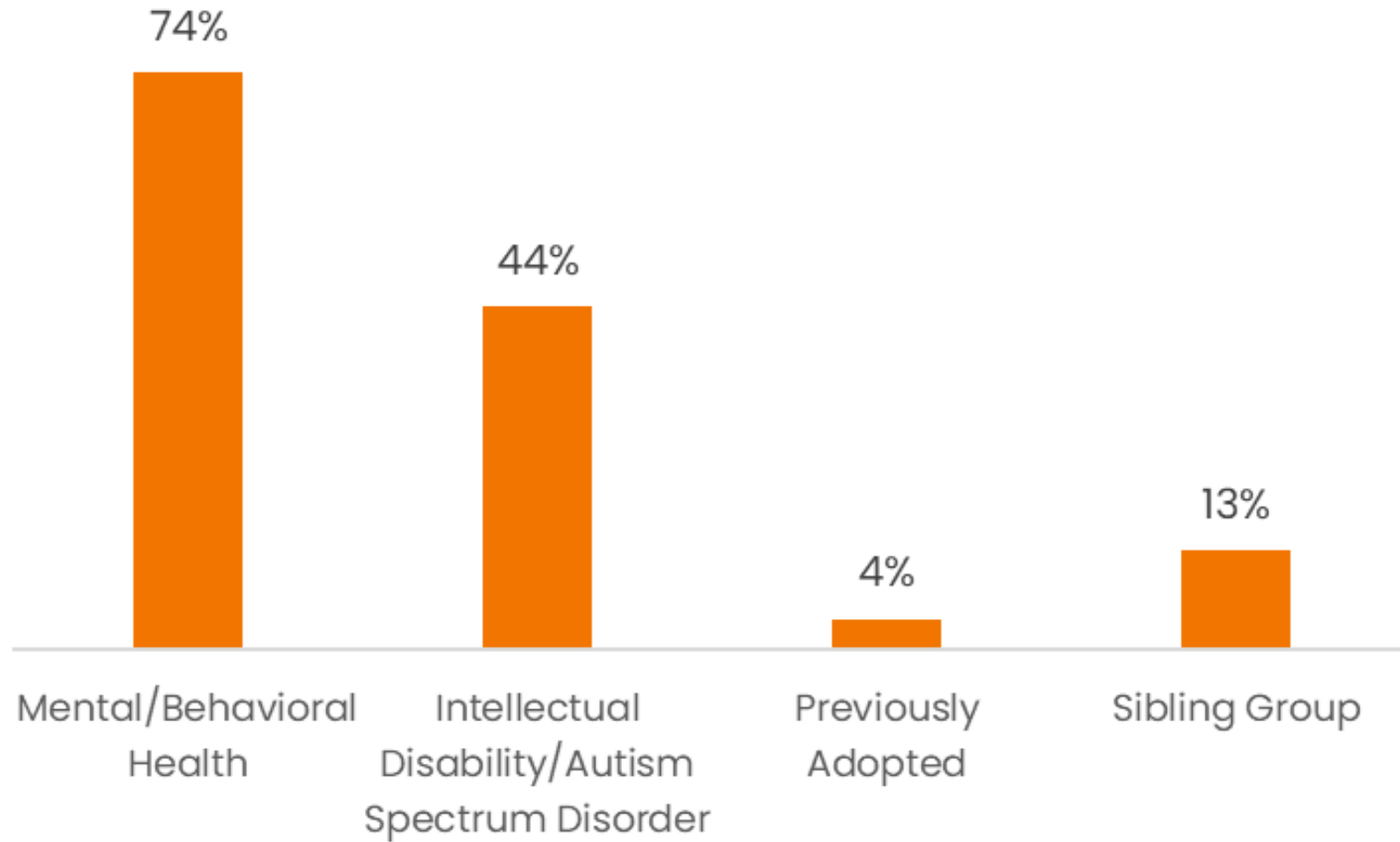
**23%**

**placed in  
kinship  
homes**

## Age of children in care *from* Fort Bend County



# Characteristics of children in care *from* Fort Bend county



## Where are Fort Bend county kids placed?

Out of the **80** children whose legal case originates in Fort Bend County, **13** are placed within Fort Bend County

**16%**

placed in  
Fort Bend  
County

**50%**

placed  
in Harris  
County

**21%**

placed  
elsewhere  
in Region 6

**13%**

placed  
outside of  
Region 6

## Who is in care *in* Fort Bend County?

There are **610** children whose legal case originated outside of Fort Bend County but are placed within Fort Bend County

**38%**

come  
from  
inside 6

**62%**

outside  
of 6

**5%**

kinship

**56%**

in foster  
homes

# What's on the horizon?

T3C Readiness and implementation activities

Network contracting information

CBC implementation updates

Continued community conversations

Specialized working groups



## Discussion:

- Assuming we could fully resolve the commonly cited challenges—engagement, communication, capacity sharing, and T3C—would that result in the CBC model we envision? If not, what else would need to be in place?
- What systems or processes could get in the way, even with the best CBC design?
- What information or updates would you like to see from us in the future?





# DePelchin

CHILDREN'S CENTER

*A brighter tomorrow for children and families in Texas.*

**Thank you!**

**For more information on CBC:**

**[depelchin.org/texanstgether](https://depelchin.org/texanstgether)**

**Or Contact:**

Katie Hannan, [khannan@depelchin.org](mailto:khannan@depelchin.org)

Santiago Cirnigliaro, [scirnigliaro@depelchin.org](mailto:scirnigliaro@depelchin.org)





July 2025

# Texas Child Centered Care System *T3C*

Presentation



# T3C

**Texas Child-Centered Care (T3C) formerly known as Rate Modernization represents a *complete* transformation of the foster care system.**

# T3C



- T3C is not about rebuilding the legacy system but designing a **new** foster care continuum and rate methodology that supports the success of CBC as it rolls out across the state. It goes hand in hand.
- Data Analysis, Research & Extensive Stakeholder input contributed to the design of the T3C.
- Children's placements are defined by the services they need and the settings they will live in. DFPS/SSCC purchases the service package in the setting. Payment doesn't change. As long as child needs that service package in that setting, payment remains the same.

# Key Components

1

Universal Screening and Placement Process

2

Clearly Defined Service Packages

3

Rates that align with the cost of care for services

4

Continuous Quality Assurance and Improvement

5

Provider Grants to prepare

6

Implementation Timeline

# Foster Family Service Packages

## ***Home-based/Community Services***

Base Package (Child assigned one based package after assessment completed):

1. Basic Foster Family Care
2. Short-term Assessment/Stabilization Services
3. Services for Children & Youth with Complex Medical Needs of Who Have Been Deemed Medically Fragile
4. Treatment Foster Family Care Services
5. Intellectual Developmental Disability (IDD)/Autism Support Services
6. Sexual Aggression/Sex Offender Support Services
7. Mental & Behavioral Health Support Services
8. Human Trafficking Services
9. Substance Abuse Services

One or more of the following service add-ons:

- A. Transition Support Services for Youth & Young Adults 14 years and Older
- B. Support Services for Youth and Young Adults who are Pregnant or Parenting
- C. Kinship Add On for CPA Support Services

***There will be one daily rate associated with the child's base package, and then if applicable up to three of the add-ons attached to the daily rate.***

# General Residential Operations Service Packages

## ***Tier I: Facility-based Treatment Services (with exception of Basic Child Care Operations & Emergency Stabilization/Assessment Care)***

1. Basic Child Care Operation
2. Emergency Stabilization/Assessment Care
3. Services to support Children, Youth, and Young Adults with Complex Medical Needs to Support Community Transition
4. Services for Children, Youth, and Young Adults with Intellectual Developmental Disabilities (IDD)/Autism to Support Community Transition
5. Sexual Aggression and Sex Offender Treatment Services to Support Community Transition
6. Mental and Behavioral Health treatment Services to Support Community Transition
7. Human Trafficking Services to Support Community Transition
8. Services to Support Community Transition for Youth and Young Adults who are Pregnant or Parenting
9. Substance Use Services to Support Community Transition



# General Residential Operations

## ***Tier II: Facility-based Stabilization Services***

These services include all of the federally established requirements affiliated with a Qualified Residential Treatment Program (QRTP) model inherent in the Family First Prevention Services Act.

Stabilization Service Programs in Tier II, will treat children, youth, and young adults with one or more of the following sub-acute needs:

- Aggression or defiance;
- Substance use disorders;
- Human trafficking victimization;
- Sexual aggression or who have been adjudicated a sexual offender;
- Complex medical needs; and
- Complex mental health needs to include suicidal and other self-harming behaviors.

A photograph of a woman with dark hair tied back, smiling warmly at a young child with braided hair. They are sitting on a dark grey sofa in a bright room with large windows in the background. The woman is wearing a light-colored cardigan over a dark top and blue jeans. The child is wearing a colorful striped sweater. A semi-transparent light green rectangular box is centered over the image, containing the text 'What's happening now?' in a bold, black, italicized sans-serif font.

***What's happening now?***



# Applications & Credentialing

- The provider “applies” to become Credentialed to provide one or more specific T3C Service Packages or Add-On Services.
- To be “Credentialed” means that the GRO or CPA has met the qualifications/requirements to provide a particular T3C Service Package or Add-On Service, as determined by DFPS.
- DFPS reviews the provider’s application/s and issues the Credential/s to the GRO or CPA, making the provider eligible to deliver a particular Service Package or Add-On Service.
- Once Credentialed, the GRO or CPA can subcontract with SSCC(s) and/or DFPS to provide the Service Package or Add-On Service.

# T3C goes live

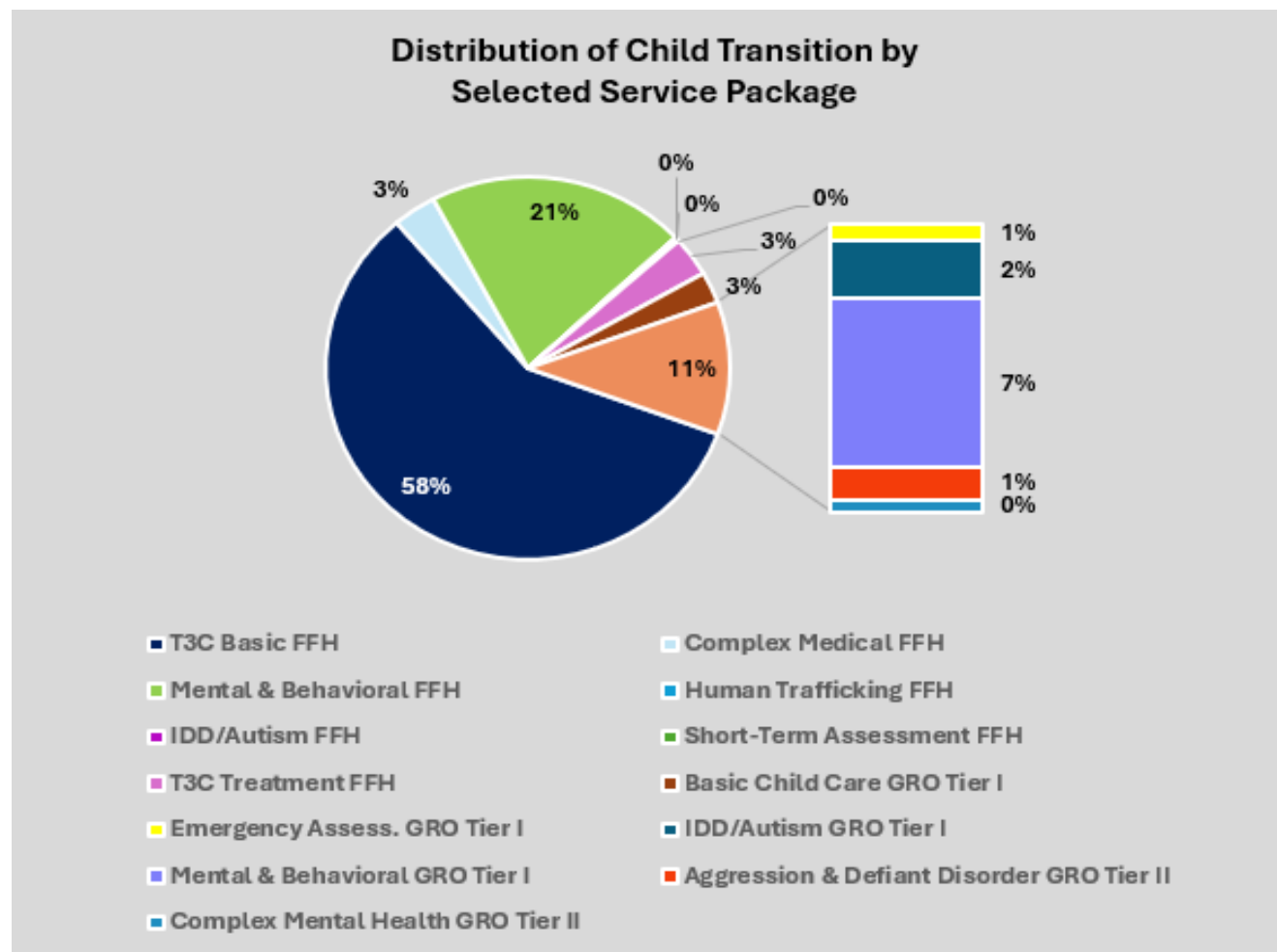
- Applications & process tested with small group of providers at the end of 2024.
- Applications went live in December
- First provider went live in February 2025
- There is a transition period between receiving credential and going live. Time period for that varies depending on what needs to happen and number of applications in queue.

# Latest T3C data

- As of June 27<sup>th</sup> a total of 153 applications have been submitted to DFPS:
- As of July 1<sup>st</sup>, there are 40 providers that have been awarded an Active **Interim** Credential
- 3 organizations awarded Active **Full** Credentials
- 45 orgs in inactive status preparing to go active

**As of July 1st a total of 1433 children (16% of the paid foster care population) are now receiving a T3C Service Package.**

# Services children are receiving



# Resources

- Visit T3C Ready at [www.T3CReady.org](http://www.T3CReady.org) an initiative of the SSCCs and the Texas Alliance of Child & Family Services. T3C Ready contains valuable information to help providers actively prepare for the transition, including a T3C Readiness Assessment tool, training opportunities and other resources.
- T3C Office hours occur most Fridays
- Learning opportunities—T3C Training Suite, most things are recorded and accessible at the TACFS Online Learning Center
- Please send questions to:  
[DFPSTexasChildCenteredCare@dfps.texas.gov](mailto:DFPSTexasChildCenteredCare@dfps.texas.gov)
- Register for real-time updates by subscribing to T3C News on:  
[https://www.dfps.texas.gov/Texas\\_Child\\_Centered\\_Care/default.asp](https://www.dfps.texas.gov/Texas_Child_Centered_Care/default.asp)

# Texas Center for Child and Family Studies



The Texas Alliance of Child and Family Services is a member organization with nearly 200 community-based, mission driven organizations that provide direct services to children, youth and families in Texas and support our mission.

**Our Mission** is to work collectively to support and strengthen children, youth, and families in communities across Texas.

**Our vision** is to build a vibrant, strong, and unified network of child, youth- and family-serving community providers providing high-quality services across Texas.



The Texas Center for Child and Family Studies is the 501(c)(3) nonprofit supporting organization.

The Center is committed to embedding organizational excellence into our continuum of care through:

- Technical Assistance
- Research and Evaluation
- Learning and Development
- Systems Advancement

Our Values: Collaborative, Honest Brokers, Forward-Thinking, Inclusive, Reliable, Solutions-Focused, Thoughtful

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