



Office of Youth Services



WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

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AGENDA

I. The Office of Youth Services

II. Data and Outcomes

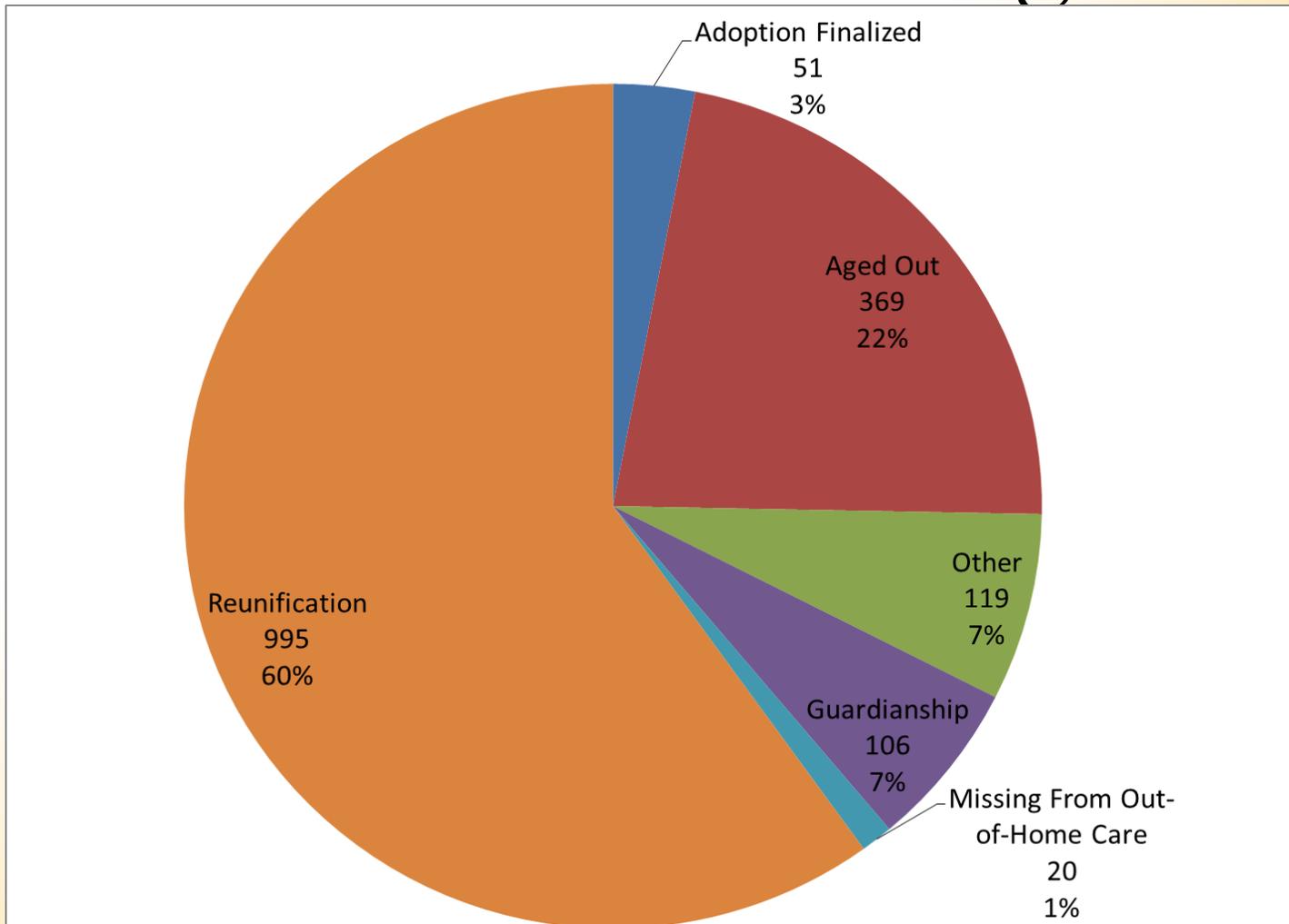
III. PATHS to Success Grant

IV. Collaboration with YA

The Office of Youth Services

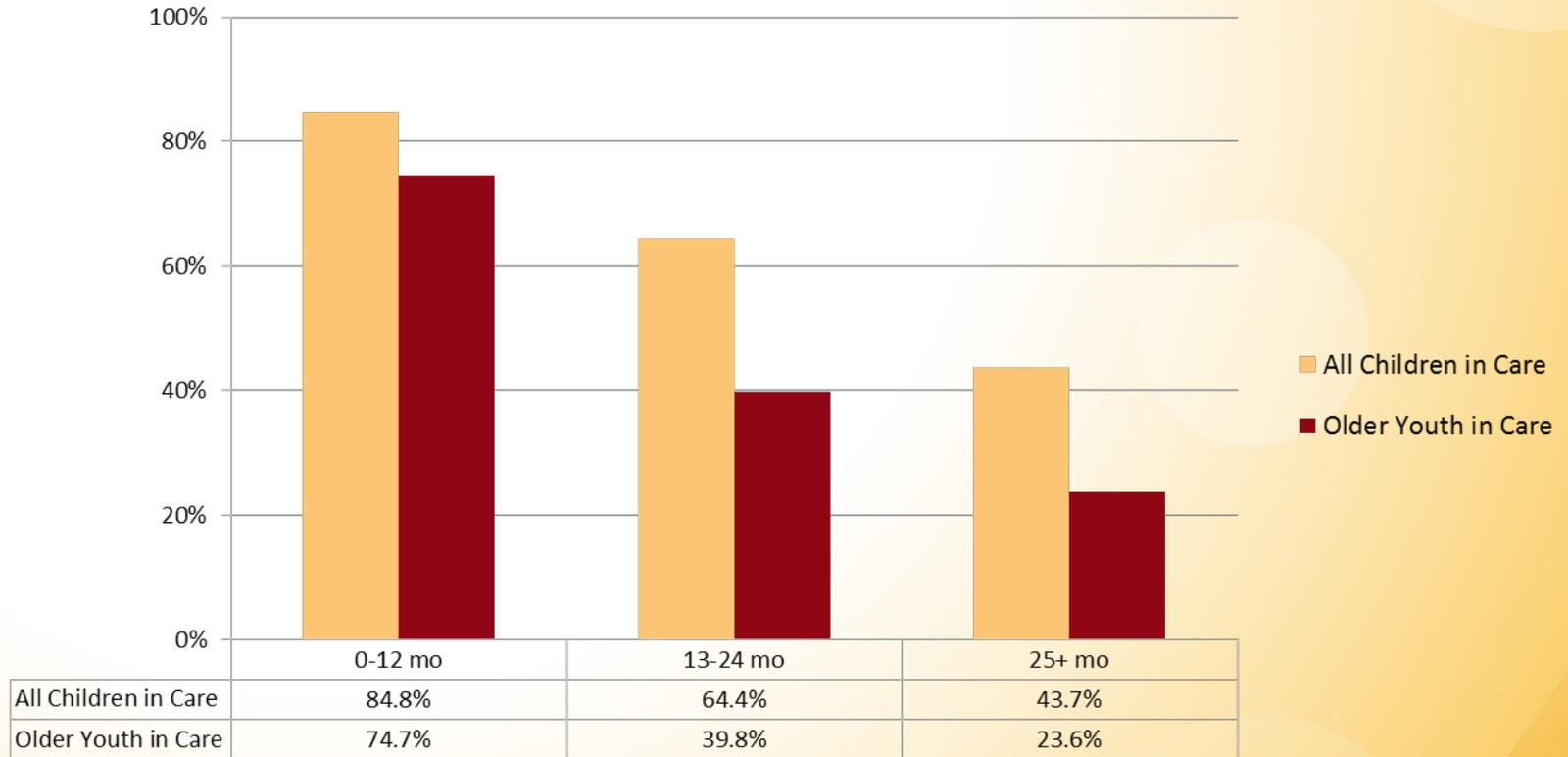
In January 2013, Wisconsin created a new Office of Youth Services within DCF to bring a stronger and more coordinated and comprehensive focus on the needs of vulnerable youth.

Outcomes for Youth ages 14+



369 youth aged out in 2013

Placement Stability 14+



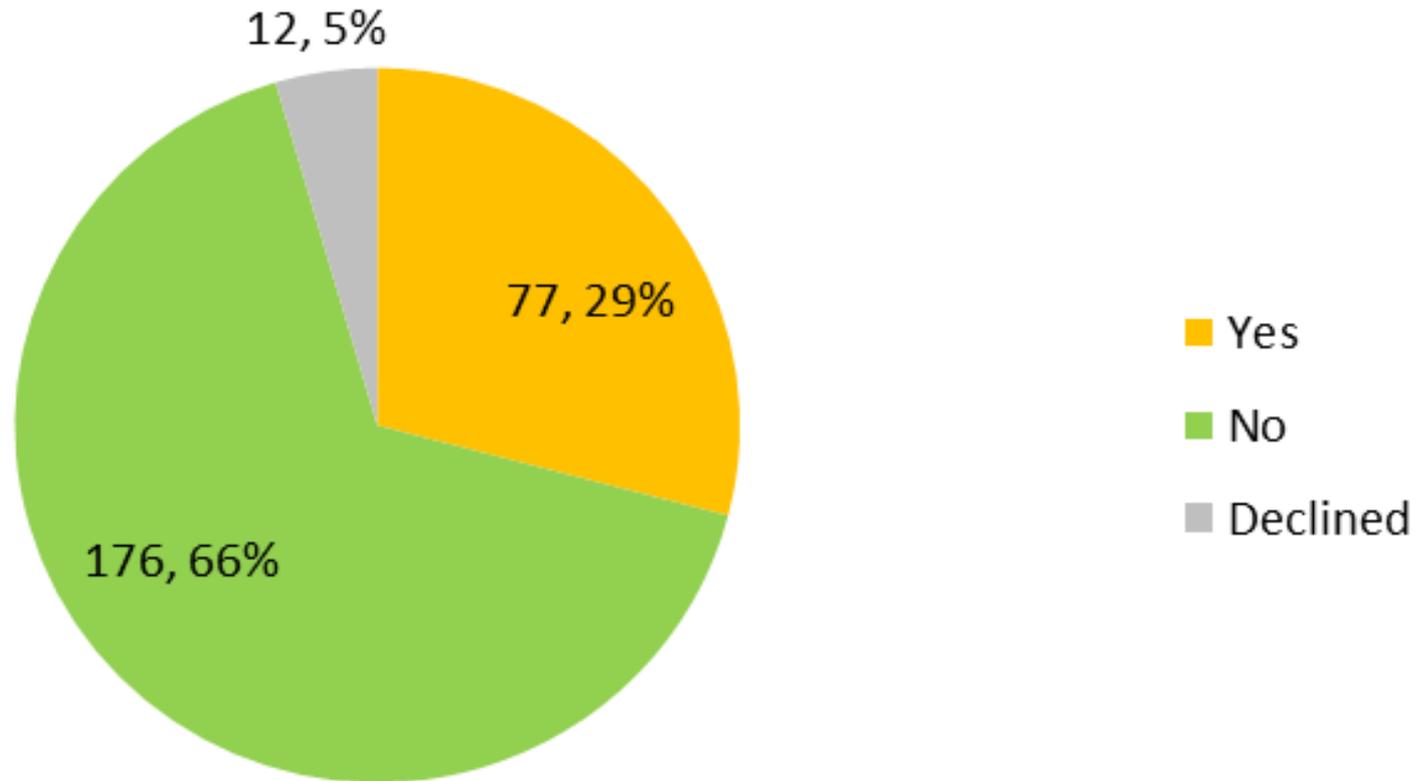
- Older youth have greater placement instability than other age children.
- By the 25+ time range, only 23.6% of older youth have experienced placement stability.

NYTD Outcomes at Age 19

NYTD measures the outcomes for youth who were in care on their 17th birthday, 19 and 21

- 52% were not employed at all
- 62% high school graduation rate (compared to 90% statewide)
- 55% not enrolled in any education program
- 30% are neither in school nor working.

Homeless in the past 2 years



- 29% of youth who took the survey at age 17 and again at 19 were homeless at some point in those two years.

Administration on Children, Youth and Families

*Planning Grants to Develop a Model Intervention
for Youth/Young Adults With Child Welfare
Involvement At-Risk of Homelessness*



Two Project Phases

- WI's \$700,000 grant funds a 2 year planning project (Phase I).
- 5-6 awards of Phase II funding are expected to be about \$1,000,000 per year for 5 years.

Three Target Populations

- 14-17 year olds in OHC at risk of homelessness
- Young adults aging out of care
- 18-21 year olds who cycle in and out of homelessness with prior history in OHC

Multi-disciplinary Partnerships

- Department of Public Instruction
- Wisconsin Technical College System
- Department of Workforce Development
- Department of Health Services
- Department of Corrections, Juvenile Corrections
- Wisconsin Housing and Economic Development Authority
- Wisconsin Dept. of Administration, Housing
- Children's Trust Fund
- Wisconsin County Human Services Association
- Wisconsin Manufacturers and Commerce
- Private non-profit shelter and service providers
- Current and former foster youth

Outcome Areas

- 1. Permanent Connections**
- 2. Academics**
- 3. Training and Employment**
- 4. Housing**
- 5. Social and Emotional Well-being**

KEY STRATEGIES

- 1) Engage in data analysis to deepen understanding of the populations, including:
 - Develop a predictive risk model to identify foster youth most at-risk of homelessness.
 - Analyze screening and assessment tools.
- 2) Independent Living Re-design
- 3) Implement pilot programs to learn what works in transitioning foster youth to adulthood and achieving outcomes in five core areas.

Data Exchange with DOA

Young Adult Clients with DCF Contact (2012)



TRAINING & EMPLOYMENT WORK GROUP DELIVERABLES

- Explore and develop public/private employment opportunities.
- Implement Transition to Independent Living Employment Program
- Pilot slots for foster youth within existing employment programs
- Data Sharing Agreement with DWD
- Increase access to DWD employment services for targeted populations.

Preventing and ending youth homelessness requires more than a collection of good programs. It requires a systemic approach that ensures that every young person gets the most effective assistance, and that all of the stakeholders in a community are working toward shared outcomes.

Feedback

- What barriers have you identified in serving youth in foster care?
- How could we help support collaboration between the Office of Youth Services and YA programs?
- What ideas do you have on contributing to the success of the PATHS Grant?