

Frederick County Department of Social Services

FY2020 Annual Report

July 1, 2019 - June, 30 2020

State of Maryland

Larry Hogan, Governor

Boyd Rutherford, Lt. Governor

Maryland Department of Human Services

Lourdes Padilla, Secretary

Frederick County Department of Social Services

Debbie Marini, LCSW-C, Director



A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

At Frederick County Department of Social Services (FCDSS), our mission statement describes the environment that we deliver our services to the community with these powerful, values-driven words...Innovative, Collaborative and Customer-Service Oriented. I am honored to have joined Frederick County Department of Social Services (FCDSS) in February, 2020 as the new Director. I have seen firsthand how seriously the staff at FCDSS strives to put these words into action. Given the impact that the Coronavirus pandemic has had on those we serve and on the way we deliver services, these words took on even more meaning this past year. I am pleased to present the Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2020 (FY 2020). Within this document we have provided an overview of the programs offered by and through FCDSS as well as the data and stories that demonstrate their impact on the children, families and adults we serve. Despite the many challenges faced in FY 2020 and continue to face today, FCDSS is committed to enhancing our customers' experience and improving outcomes through innovation, collaboration and excellent customer service.

A MESSAGE FROM THE ADVISORY BOARD CHAIR

The Advisory Board of the Department of Social Services acts as ambassadors for the Department to help the public better understand the mission and contributions of the Department to the county. We aim to help create a community where people are appreciated as unique and supported in reaching their full potential. The level of dedication that the Frederick County DSS staff members demonstrate to the programs they work in, and to the people of this county, is praiseworthy. Examples of them going above and beyond are countless and inspirational and highlighted in this year's report. Though the operations of many programs were rearranged and may not look the same, the Department is true to the mission and will continue to find innovative ways to collaborate and keep in focus what is best for our community. COVID-19 has highlighted the inequities that exist; making it more difficult for some community members and providing FCDSS an opportunity to accelerate the transition to an equitable future. FCDSS recognizes it must be a part of the transformation to achieve meaningful progress on racial justice and equality. It is our responsibility to use this moment of social change to build a better future for all of Frederick County. As always, I look forward to being of service.

Danielle Haskin

OVERVIEW

Mission Statement

The Mission of Frederick County Department of Social Services (FCDSS) is to help individuals and families achieve safety, independence, and self-sufficiency through the provision of professional, fiscally responsible, quality human services in an innovative, collaborative, and customer service-oriented environment.



Vision Statement

Everything we do is to enhance our internal and external customers' experience and improve the outcomes for individuals, children, and families in becoming self-sufficient.

Guiding Principles

We at FCDSS will:

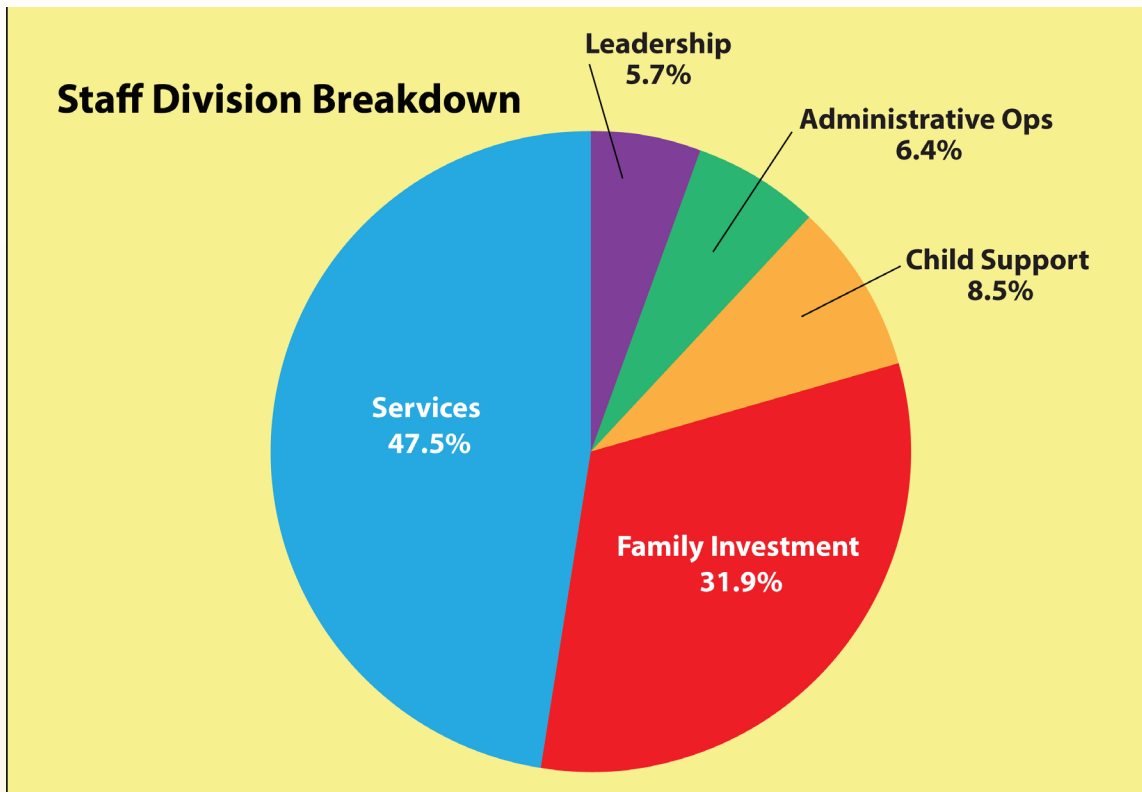
- Manage our work through the use of data.
- Approach our work with respect, compassion, understanding, tolerance, and a non-judgmental attitude.
- Deliver high quality services assuring customers receive all appropriate services and benefits.
- Concentrate on our strengths.
- Aid staff in continuous learning.
- Encourage all to “lead from any seat”.
- Share teamwork and community partnerships.

Agency Description:

FCDSS is a State agency operating as one of twenty-four local Departments of Social Services within the Maryland Department of Human Services (DHS). The operations are managed and funded by the State of Maryland, and supported by both the federal and local governments to locally implement certain human services programs. FCDSS has four (4) Divisions: Child Support Administration (CSA), Family Investment Administration (FIA), Administrative Operations, Child, Family and Adult Services (SSA). FCDSS is part of a large network of local partners whose mission is to meet the needs of Frederick County Citizens. FCDSS brings over \$50,000,000 to Frederick County through these programs as well as grants and contracts with a number of community human service agencies. The ultimate goal is to provide support and enable families to stay together while maintaining their safety and self-sufficiency.

AGENCY STAFF AND ADVISORY BOARD

FCDSS has a truly dedicated staff and board who work tirelessly toward fulfilling our mission and vision for the individuals, children and families we serve. There are a total of 158 Staff (141 State Staff, 3 DHS Staff & 14 County Staff).



Leadership Team:

- Debbie Marini, Director
- Bradley Burns, Human Resources
- Leslie Slaby, Assistant Director, Family Investment Administration
- Tiffany Gregoire, Assistant Director, Child Support Administration
- Kim Smith, Assistant Director - Child, Family & Adult Services
- David Drees, Assistant Director - Administrative Operations

Extended Management Team:

Roni Shaffer, CSA, Supervisor
 Rajinder Sagar, CSA, Supervisor
 Margaret Flick, CSA, Supervisor
 Lori Heslin, FIA, Supervisor
 Benjamin Brusini, FIA Supervisor
 Jennifer Hemler, FIA, Supervisor
 Renee Walchuck, FIA, Supervisor
 Jacqueline Byerly, FIA, Deputy Assistant Director of FIA

Rachelle Swope, FIA, Supervisor
 Linnea Jones, FIA, Supervisor
 Kim Doyle, Admin., Finance Officer
 Melissa Curtis-Cherry, SSA, Family Preservation, Program Manager
 Scott Birdsall, SSA, Adult Services Program Manager
 Shelley Sexton, SSA, Child Protective Services, Program Manager



Advisory Board:

Danielle Haskin - Chair (Frederick)
Kerri Burson (New Market)
Timothy Tran -Treasurer (Walkersville)
Ileana Lund (Frederick)
Patrick Hammett (Frederick)
Whitney Cummins - Secretary (Monrovia)
Jessica Fitzwater (Council Member Liaison)

SERVICES TO CHILDREN, FAMILIES AND ADULTS

FCDSS divisions that provide services to children, families and adults include: Child Support, Family Investment, and Child, Family and Adult Services. While each division provides its own unique programs, customers often access services across divisions. A brief description of each service is provided on the following pages along with the data and stories that demonstrate their impact.

SERVICES TO CHILDREN:

Child Protective Services (CPS) is a mandated program designed to protect children from abuse and/or neglect. CPS receives and investigates reports of child abuse and neglect then work with the family to develop a plan as to what needs to change in order to maintain children's safety in their home. In Maryland, CPS has also implemented Alternative Response (AR). AR encourages community agencies to participate in supporting families who are considered low risk, allowing CPS to focus on the more serious cases in which abuse and neglect have been confirmed. Finally, CPS will screen for Risk of Harm (ROH) cases for specific categories of reports such as Substance Exposed Newborns and reports of Domestic Violence, etc. In these ROH cases, FCDSS will work collaboratively with the family and appropriate community resources to assess the families' strengths, needs, and provide services without the threat of a formal finding.

Human Trafficking Task Force - The main focus of the task force is to educate the public, identify and serve the victims of human trafficking, and increase prosecution of human traffickers. From this task force, the Frederick County Human Trafficking Response Team was created to provide a victim-centered, collaborative response to human trafficking in Frederick County to assist in the identification of victims, prosecution of cases, and the availability and use of comprehensive services for survivors.

Older Youth Services- Ready By 21 Services are available to youth ages 14 to 21 in out-of-home placement and are designed to prepare youth to transition from foster care into self-sufficiency. Independent Living Coordinators work with the youth on the goals of housing, health care, education, employment, financial literacy, and well-being. This work is fulfilled using several strategies, such as Youth Transition Planning, Independent Living Skills classes and Youth Leadership activities, such as the Youth Advisory Board and Foster Youth Legislative Day.

Crossover Youth-The Crossover Youth Practice Model, developed by the Center for Juvenile Justice Reform at Georgetown University, creates a collaborative effort between FCDSS and the Department

of Juvenile Services (DJS) that improves outcomes for child welfare youth who crossover into the juvenile system and vice versa. The goals of this collaboration are to reduce the number of youth placed in out of home care, reduce the length of stay in out of home care, reduce the use of congregate care, reduce the disproportionate representation of children of color, and reduce the number of youth crossing over and becoming dually involved.

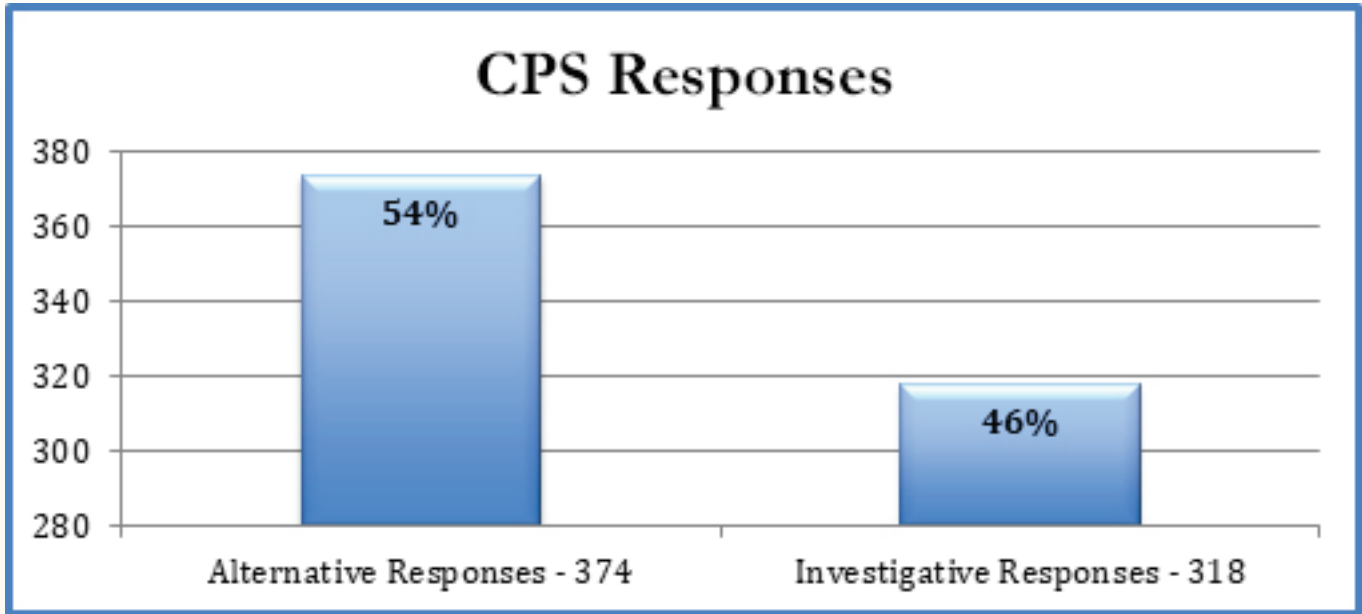
Specialized Placement Services- Most children who come into foster care are placed with Kinship Families or Resource Families that are recruited, prepared and supported by the Resource Homes unit of FCDSS. If a child has special needs that cannot be met in a FCDSS Resource Home, they are referred to a partner agency that provides therapeutic foster care in a family home setting. There are times when a group home or residential treatment center may be required to meet the child's needs until they are ready to return to a family setting.

Multi-systemic Therapy (MST) - is an intensive family and community-evidence based treatment for juveniles with serious clinical issues and their families. The primary goals of MST are to decrease youth delinquent behavior and out-of-home placements.



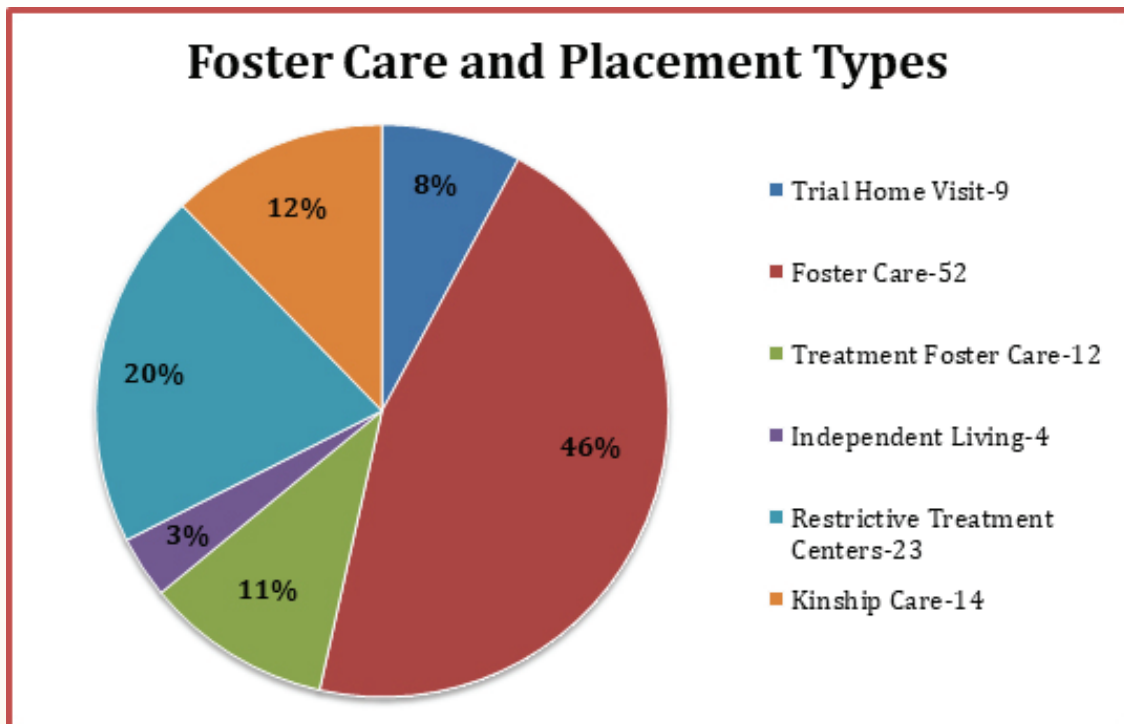
PROGRAM OUTCOMES FOR SERVICES TO CHILDREN:

- 692 Child Protective Services Responses



- 187 Risk of Harm Cases
- 28 Family Involvement Meetings held for older youth transitioning from foster care.
- 13 Older Youth Discussion Groups held with an average of 7 youth participating in each
- 6 Life Skills Classes held with 5 older youth attending each
- Older Youth Special Events: Conference, Male Empowerment Day, Legislative Shadow Day, Hippodrome
- 13 youth identified as Crossover Youth by FCDSS & DJS
- 114 Children served in Foster Care in the following Placement Types:
- 15 families completed the full course of MST
- 93% of families completing MST met program outcomes

Notable: The Human Trafficking Response Team (HTRT) was chosen by United Way to receive this year’s Outstanding Advocate Award “for the organization that supports the solutions for the community’s most entrenched challenges,”



SERVICES TO FAMILIES:

Family Teaming - Family team meetings occur with a family when a child in the home has been identified as at risk for out-of-home placement and with the child and the family throughout their engagement with the agency. The purpose includes: reinforcement of the partnership between families/youth and the agency; serving as a vehicle for family-driven decision making; and identifying who the family would choose to participate in the teaming. A neutral facilitator mediates and leads these meetings at FCDSS.

In-Home Family Services - The following services are offered as a part of FCDSS’ efforts to partner with families and the community in order to promote the stability of children with their families and prevent the need for the child to be placed in out-of-home services. In 2018, the Family First Prevention Services Act was enacted which was the biggest child welfare reform bill in many years. FCDSS has been innovatively addressing the needs of in-home services families and will continue to expand our work in this area with this legislation being implemented. A few innovative in-home family services programs include:



Sobriety Treatment and Recovery Teams (START)-The broad goals of START are to keep children safely with their parents whenever possible and to promote parental recovery and capacity to care for their children. A START Family Mentor (individual in long-term recovery) is located in the LDSS where they share family and children cases with LDSS caseworkers

Family Partnership - through formal and informal parent education workshops, support and counseling, FCDSS partners with the county to prevent families from indicated findings in Child Protective Services investigations and out-of-home placements.

Kinship Navigation- These services support informal kinship families (defined as families who provide 24 hour care for children through a private living arrangement made by the parent or legal guardian, due to serious hardship or absence, in which a relative or fictive kin provides care to a child, who is not in the care and custody or guardianship of the LDSS).

Out-of-Home Family Services - When a child cannot be safely cared for in their home, FCDSS initiates out-of-home family services with the goal of safety for the child(ren) and effective permanency planning for the child and family. Below are a few of the out-of-home family services offered by FCDSS:

Foster Care/Resource Homes- Children are placed into foster care either involuntarily by the courts or voluntarily by the parent(s) when the needs of the child clearly cannot be met. Foster parents are called “Resource Parents” because they serve as not only a resource to the child but to the child’s family with the goal of providing temporary care while also working toward permanency. Reunification is the primary goal of foster care and requires the involvement of a team to be successful.





Permanency Services - While reunification is the primary goal, some foster children will find permanency in other ways. For example, adoption, guardianship and independent living are all permanency outcomes for foster children. In each of these outcomes, it is important to engage the families involved in ensuring the well-being and safety of the child. Some specific permanency services include:

Family Assessments - FCDSS Family Assessor works diligently to collect and summarize information in order to complete psycho-social/family assessments with families in court-ordered out-of-home foster care. These assessments are utilized to develop timely and appropriate case plans in order to reduce the length of stay for children in out-of-home care.

Family Visitation - Parent, Child and Sibling visitation is facilitated to maintain attachments, preserve a sense of family and work toward reunification. FCDSS has family visitation rooms and many visits also take place in the community, supervised and unsupervised, as well as through our partnerships with community organizations.

Safe Babies Court Team- The first three years of life encompass the most critical phase of brain development. Recognizing this, the Safe Babies Court Team Project aims to: increase awareness among those who work with maltreated infants and toddlers about the negative impact of abuse and neglect on very young children; and, change local systems to improve outcomes and prevent future court involvement in the lives of very young children.

Voluntary Placement Agreements (VPA) – Parents, or legal guardians, of children with a documented developmental disability or mental illness, to be able to enter into an agreement with the Department to have their child voluntarily placed when treatment needs cannot be met in the community and the parent needs funding assistance. In these situations, the Department would not have custody of the child.

Financial Benefits and Supports - Mainly through our Family Investment and Child Support Administration, numerous families are provided with the financial benefits and support needed to be stable and healthy. Some of the financial benefits and supports offered through FCDSS include:

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) - Supplements a household's food budget by providing benefits to Frederick County residents with income too low to provide their families with basic nutrition. Monthly allotments are used to purchase food items only.

Temporary Cash Assistance (TCA) - Temporarily provides for children in need and their caretaker relatives. Those who are employable are included on the grant and must find employment. Most adult participants can only receive benefits for five years.

Child Support - The Child Support Program provides a number of services to assist in getting support dollars to families, including: Locating non-custodial parents; Establishing paternity; Establishing and modifying child support orders; Enforcing payment of child support.

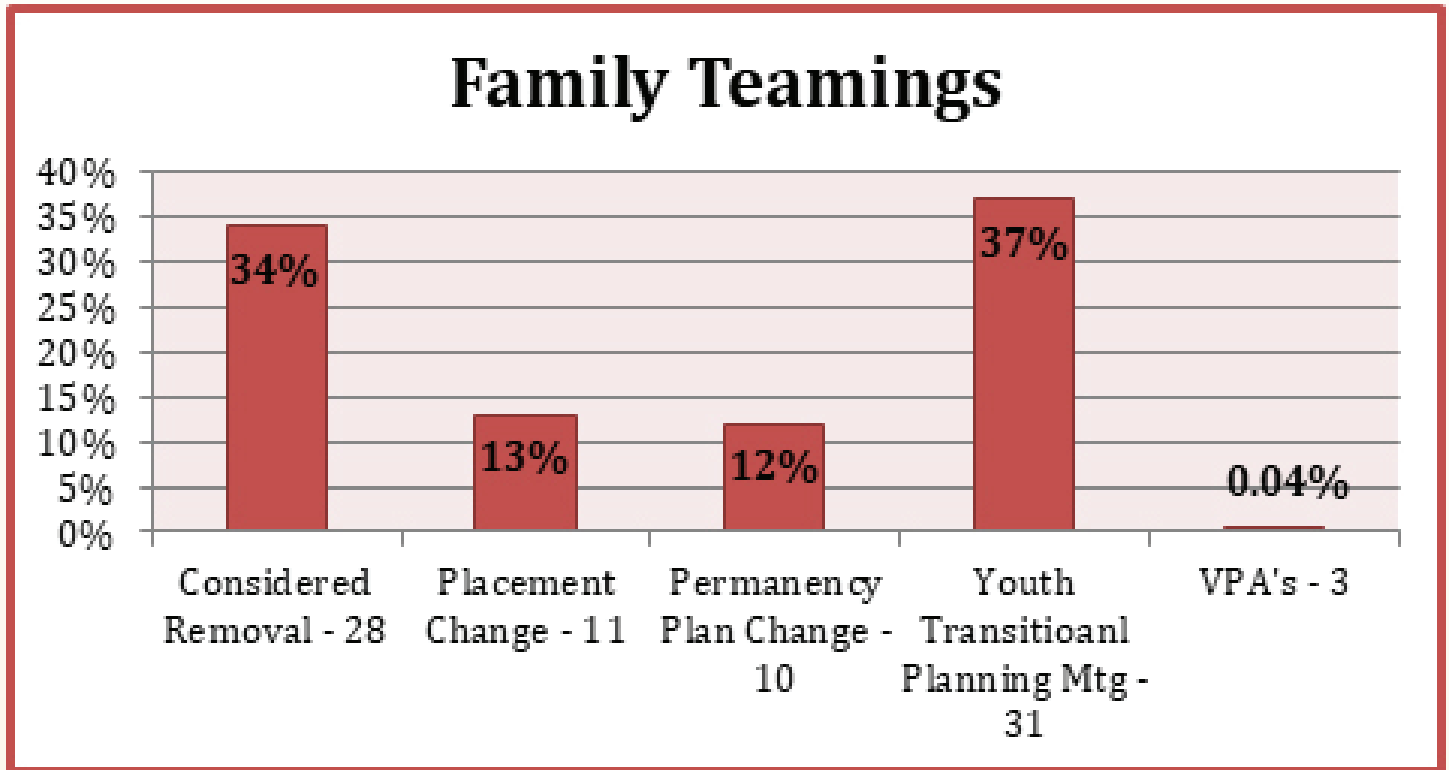
Holiday Assistance - Every year, FCDSS partners with the community to support seniors and children with their parents over the holidays with gifts and items needed to make the holiday special.

Generous Jurors - The Circuit Court for Frederick County and FCDSS cooperate in this program where jurors may donate their jury pay to the FCDSS Foster Care unit. The donations are used to provide for foster children in the county items which state budgets do not support, such as school band uniforms, funds for field trips, birthday and holiday gifts, etc.



PROGRAM OUTCOMES FOR SERVICES TO FAMILIES:

- 83 Family Teamings were held for the following reasons:



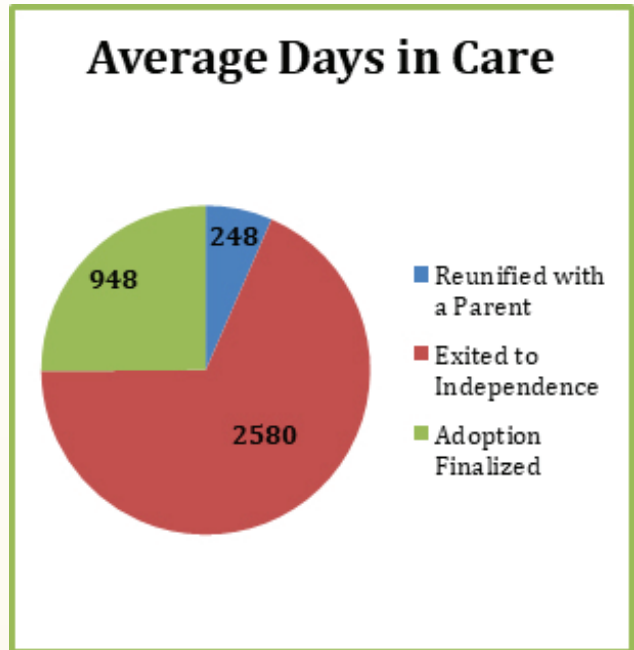
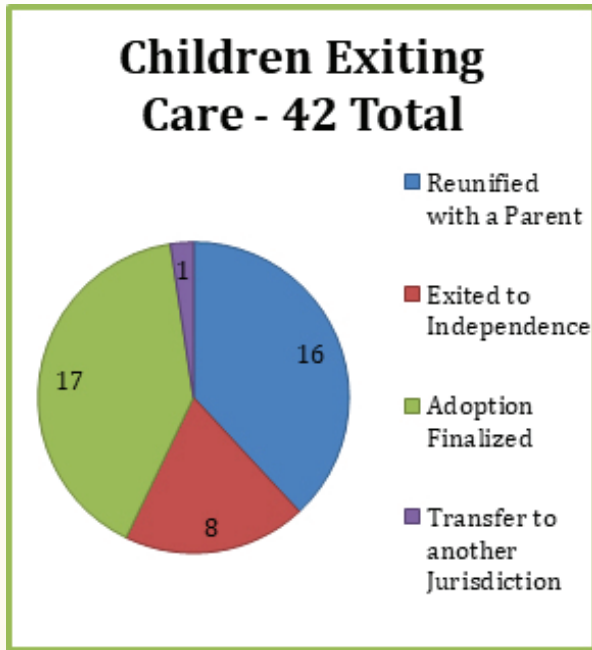
- As a result of Family Teamings, 33 children were diverted from out-of-home placement.

In-Home Family Services:

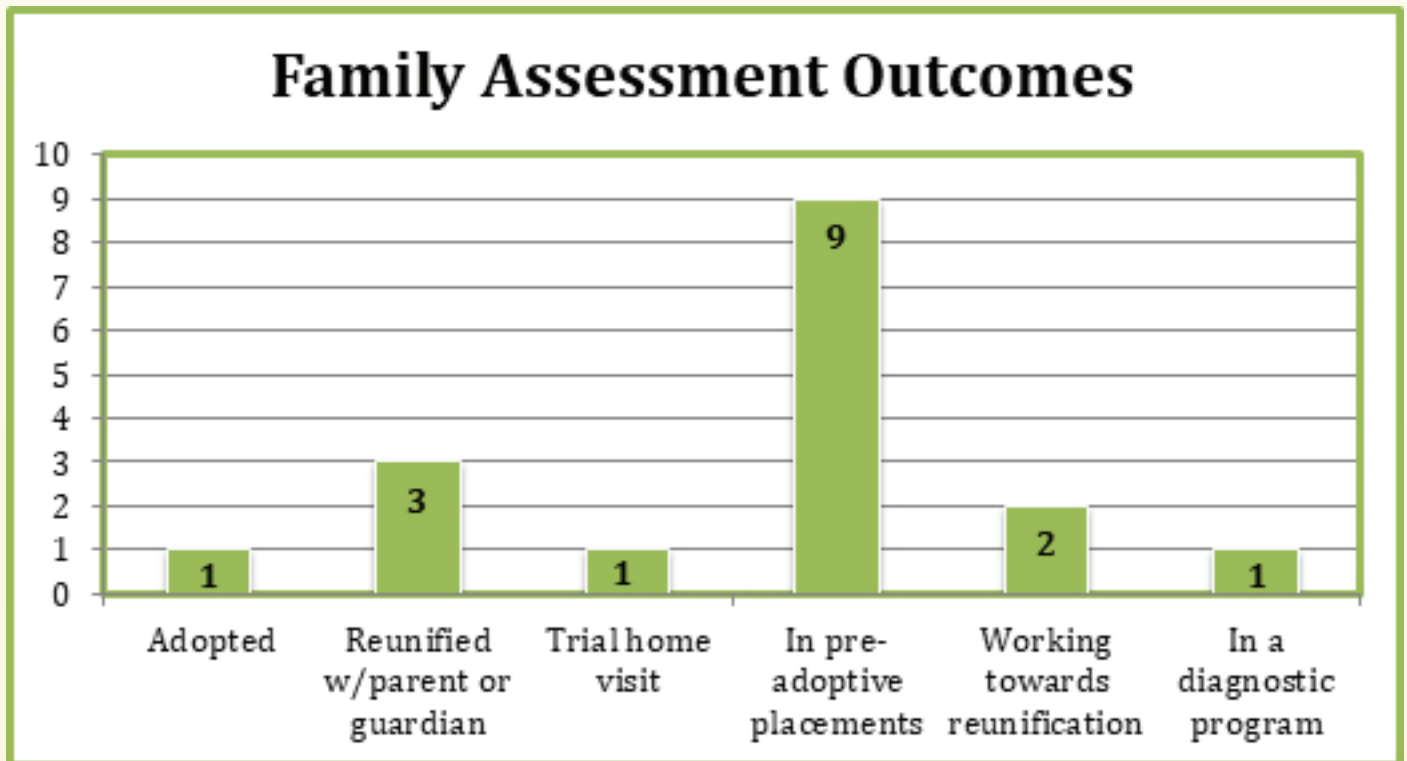
- 167 children (86 families) were served by the FCDSS In Home Services team throughout the fiscal year and as of June 20, 2020, 42 families were receiving In-Home Services
- 17 of these families were Kinship families 4 Kinship Family support groups were offered prior to Covid 19. Virtual support groups are being planned.
- 23 Kinship families were served with information and referrals
- START was fully implemented in June 2020. The first official START cases were accepted in July 2020.
- 85 Families were served through a contract with Way Station Interagency Family Preservation Services
- 50 Families (73 children) were served through our collaboration with Family Partnership

Out-of-Home Services:

- 72 Children in Foster Care as of June 30, 2020
- 7 Children in placements with a VPA
- 39 families are licensed as foster/adoptive families as of June 30, 2020.



- 11 Family Assessments were completed (17 children) and those children had the following plans/outcomes:



- 12 children were served through Safe Babies Court Team (SBCT)
- 2 children involved with SBCT reached permanency through adoption. A strong bond developed through the safe baby’s court team process with one adoptive family and biological family (see below Testimony)



SAFE BABIES

'Court Testimony'

(Please note: Due to confidentiality, the names of those involved have been changed)

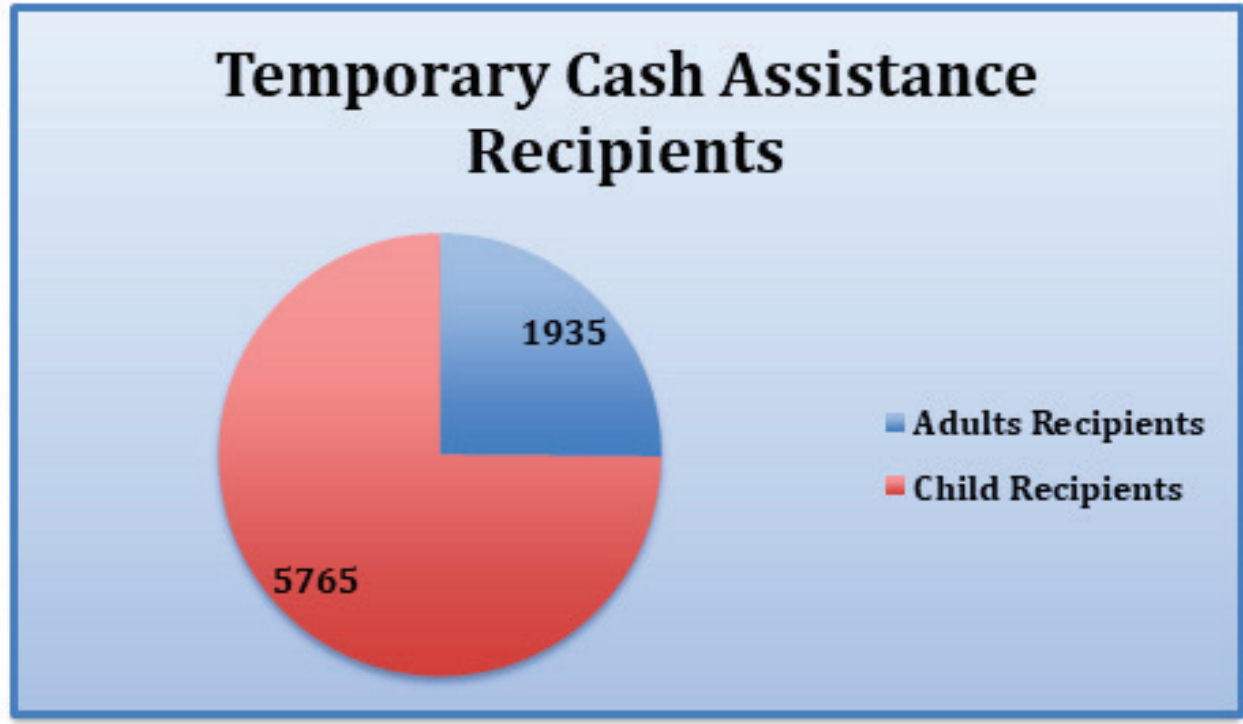
The Safe Babies Court Team was beneficial to us in supporting and reinforcing reunification efforts and in our effort to build a relationship with Jane's birth mother. The team personally helped us to navigate the journey of fostering a child who came from a challenging space while raising our birth children to understand the complexities of family. Just as FCDSS trains resource parents to understand that birth parents do love their children, Safe Babies Court Team worked to help our birth parent to have a safe haven to express her love for her child while acknowledging the traumas that prevent her demonstrating that love through safe and healthy attachments. The entire Safe Babies Court team put extreme care and considerations for our birth parent's needs while still being firm about the steps required achieving reunification.

While our birth parent disengaged from attending the court team meetings as (Termination of Parental Rights) TPR occurred, our birth parent was still open to hearing about the process through her weekly Skype sessions with us. In many ways, our birth parent wanted to see the process through as she gave us her blessings to adopt her daughter even though it was yet another loss in her life.

Our journey through Safe Babies Court Team was a new beginning for both of our families as we navigate our relationship post adoption. We use the same grace and directness to continue to encourage healthy attachments with our birth parent and our daughter. We have more than doubled the amount of times we have visited each other since post adoption. This is special because we do not have a post adoption agreement, or a formerly signed (Memorandum of Understanding) MOU. We simply have the trusting relationship and healthy boundary expectations we formed throughout this journey. Our birth mother is currently in a program and looks much healthier than ever. In many ways, we feel like Safe Babies Court Team saved our birth mother's life. Each player (Zero to Three staff, all the lawyers and judges, and FCDSS workers) took the time to know our fun loving birth mother as we have grown to know her and this presented new ambition and courage to fight her addiction and a willingness to trust in others. Safe Babies Court Team in Frederick County provides a more personable connection with birth parents while honoring everyone that has a seat at the table as a valuable component of making Frederick County a better place.

Financial Services and Benefits to Families:

- Approved 6,938 new applications for Food Supplement Program
- \$1,048,775,573 issued in SNAP benefits (53,245 households with a total of 192,955 recipients)
- Approved 422 new applications for Temporary Cash Assistance.
- 3,924 Temporary Cash Assistance active cases totaling \$2,204,872.00 of funds disbursed



- 9,891 total Temporary Cash Assistance households
- On Average a TCA family of three (3) receives \$727.00 per month
- 578 total Child Support applications received
- \$12,800,039 in Child Support collections
- 4662 active Child Support cases
- Our 2019 Gift Drive was a huge success with 107 sponsors, 456 clients served - 23% were seniors and 77% were children/parents.
- Gift Drive Highlight: welding helmets for a father who needed them for work; hover boards for a sibling group
- Prior to the court closing due to COVID 19, \$1,520 was donated through the Generous Jurors program. Donations were used for driving school for a youth, summer camps for multiple children, extracurricular activities such as marital arts and gymnastic clubs.
- 17 children used Generous Juror funds this year.



SERVICES TO ADULTS:

Adult Services - Providing programs and services to assist vulnerable adults including, Protective Services, In Home Aide Service (IHAS), Respite Care, Social Services to Adult (SSTA), Adult Foster Care and Guardianship.

Workforce Development - FCDSS partners with Frederick County Workforce which is a one-stop-shop for resume writing services, mock interviewing, job readiness workshops and a multitude of employment opportunities including internships and educational grants to qualified applicants. After COVID 19 they began offering virtual services. Services are available to all Frederick County US citizens.

Medical Assistance (Medicaid)—Medicaid programs assist eligible residents of all ages year-round. FCDSS staff provides eligibility determinations and redeterminations for this assistance. Frederick County residents who are aged, blind, or disabled are offered government subsidized health insurance through Maryland Health Connection. Qualified Health Plan Coverage (QHP) is available for households whose income exceeds Medicaid standards during an open enrollment period. The Maryland Children’s Health Program (MCHP) provides medical coverage to individuals under the age of 19 and pregnant women with family income below 200 percent of the federal poverty level.

Emergency Assistance- Provides cash assistance payments to help families with children resolve a specific emergency such as an eviction, foreclosure, utility cut-off. Burial assistance payments are limited to recipients of public assistance, SSI, foster care children, or certain medical assistance recipients in nursing homes. Local policy defines eligible types of emergencies and determines the amount available for assistance. Funding is limited.

Temporary Cash Assistance to Disabled Adults - (TDAP) a state-funded entitlement program for needy, disabled adults without children who are ineligible for other forms of public assistance. A temporary benefit is paid to eligible individuals until their conditions improve or they become eligible for long-term federal disability benefits.

Public Assistance to Entrepreneurship (PA2E) - This program offers classes on starting a business. The primary goal is to provide entrepreneurship training for customers with ideas and talent, who are in pursuit of their entrepreneurial dreams of starting a small business while supporting their families. DHS/ FCDSS conveniently partners with the Small Business Development Centers (SBDC) in the region.

Walk-in and Call Center and Online Support Services - Applying for benefits can be complex. The FCDSS provides “gold standard” customer service by assisting customers with online support and, as needed, in-person support.

PROGRAM OUTCOMES FOR SERVICES TO ADULTS:

Adult Services

- 231 Adult Protective Services Responses
- 144 Adults served in Social Services To Adults/Senior Care
- 104 Adults served by In-Home Aide Service IHAS
- 13,367 hours of IHAS service
- 5 Temporary adult guardianship assessments
- 9 Adults under Public Guardianship with the agency as of June 30, 2020
- 12 Project Home individuals placed with 8 Project Home providers (Adult Foster Care) as of June 30, 2020
- Funded 2,580.76 State Respite hours

Workforce Development

- 1041 TCA customers placed in employment with 275 employers
- 402 adults served by workforce center
- 312 total employment placements with 129 full time/\$10+ an hour jobs.

Medical Assistance

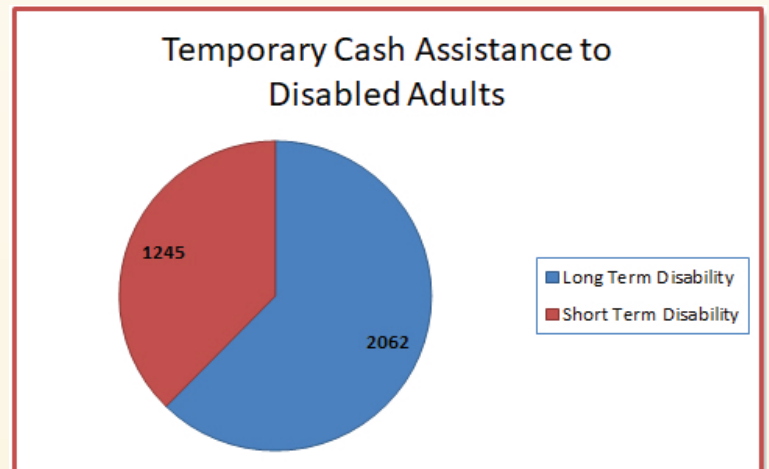
- 1553 new applications approved for Medical Assistance
- 247 new applications for Long Term Care
- 524 SSI medical cases were approved
- 5,502 monthly Medical Assistance recipients

Emergency Assistance

- \$46,463 spent on Emergency Assistance to families (22 families served) for utility, eviction, security deposit, and burial assistance.

Temporary Cash Assistance to Disabled Adults

- 490 approved new applications for TDAP
- 3,307 total TDAP recipients

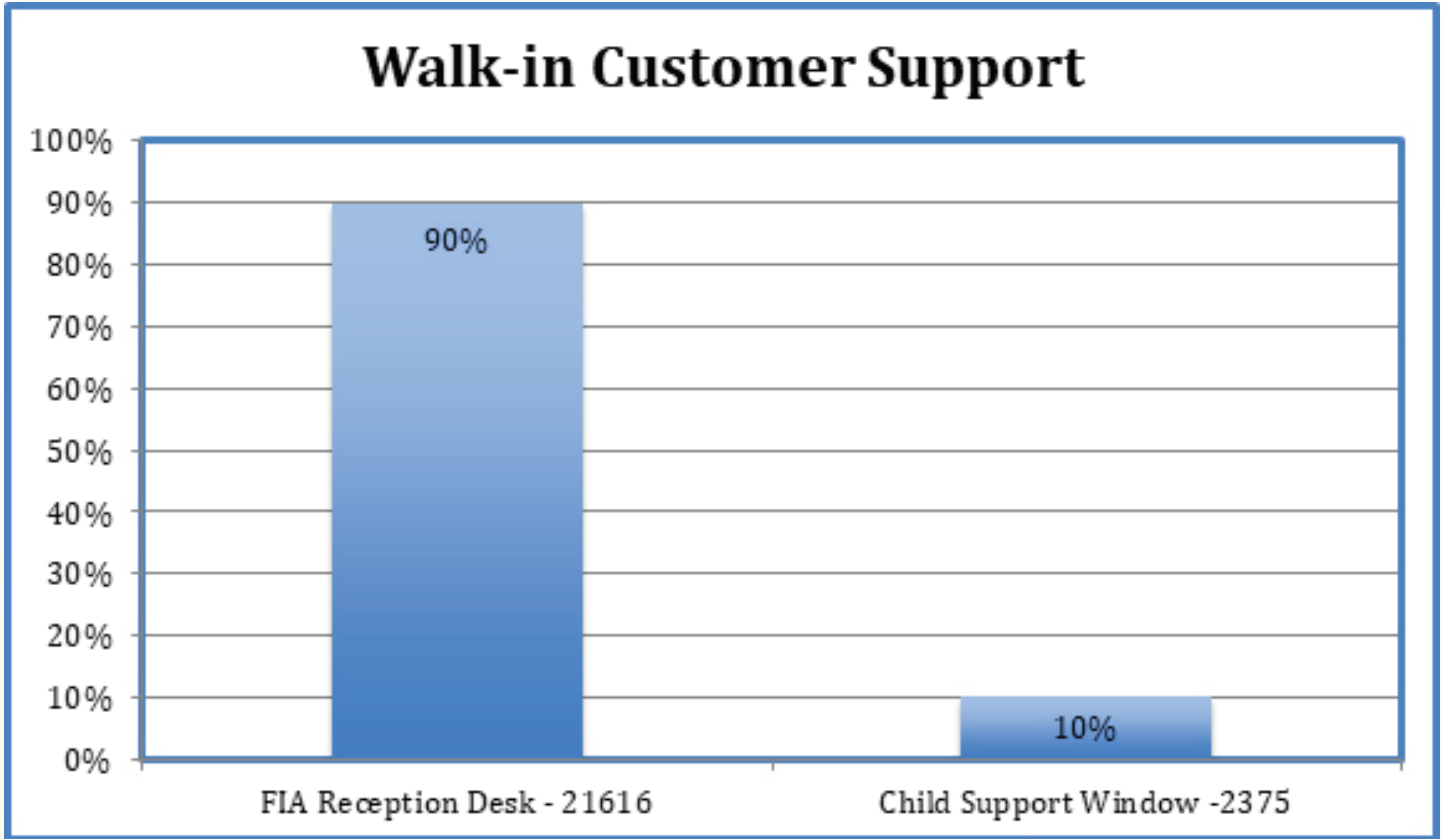


PA2E

- 10 participants for PA2E for the Fall 2019 classes
- 40% of the fall participants submitted a business plan
- 4 participated in a spring virtual class. We had one participant complete their business plan and start their business.

Walk-in and Online Support

- 4516 online program applications
- FIA responded to 734 work orders generated by the Call Center
- 23,991 walk in customers were assisted

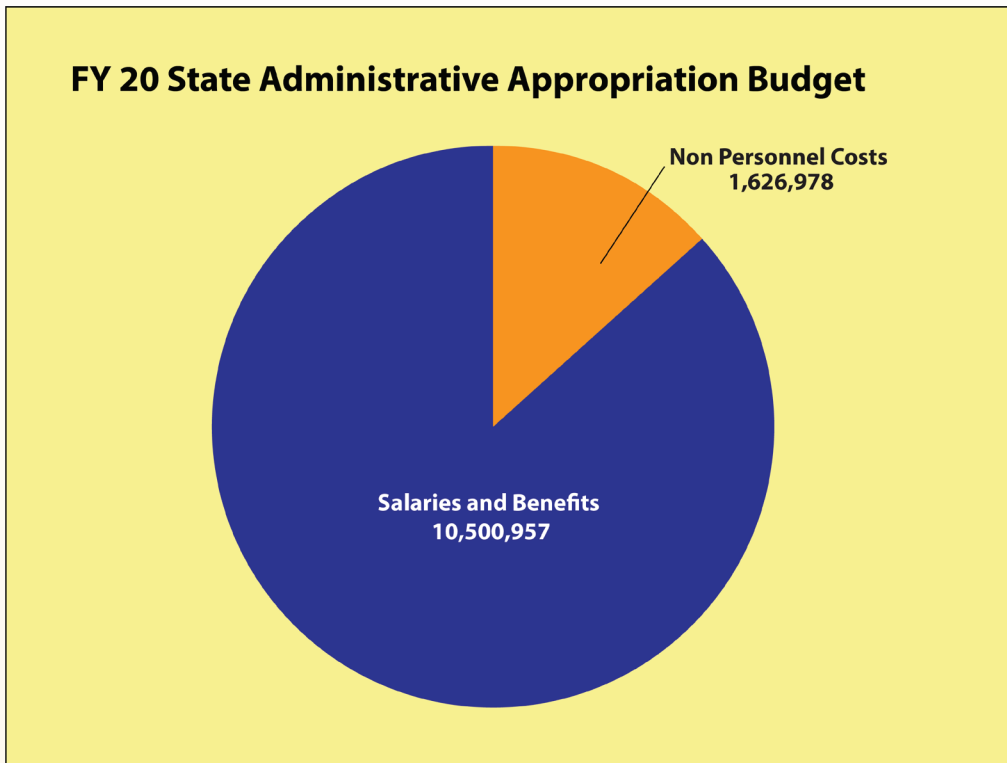


ADMINISTRATION

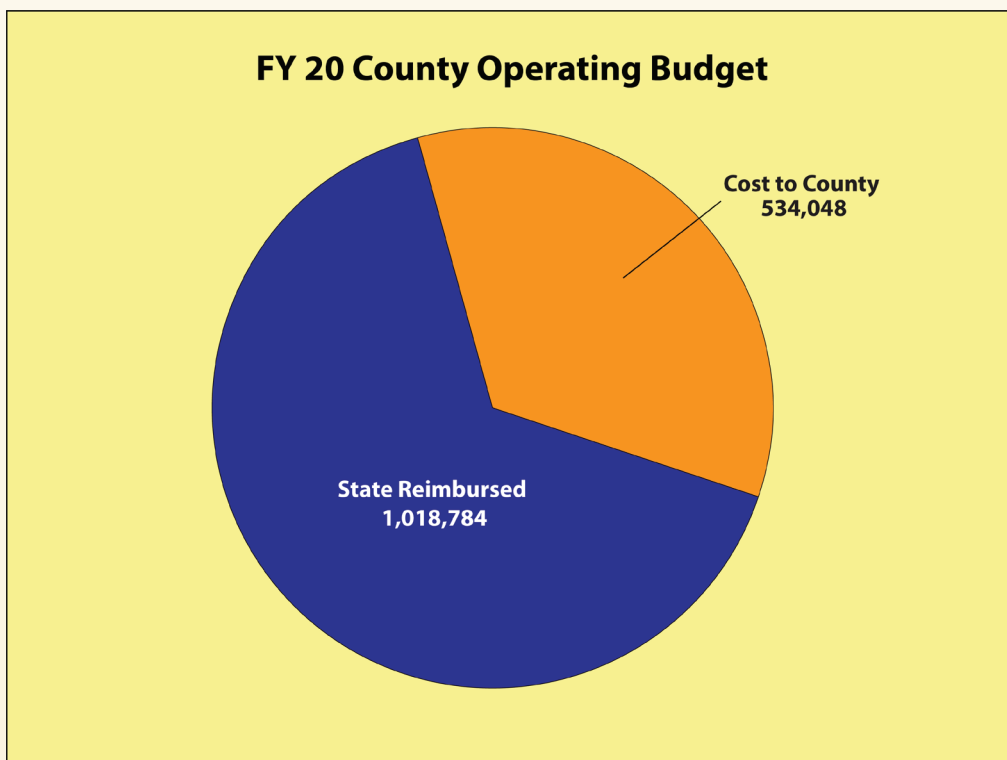
Fiscal year 2020 raised several logistical challenges that our division was able to successfully mitigate with the support of our DHS Central Office and County Government Partners. We deployed laptops and teleworking software, Personal Protective Equipment and a facilities game plan for a return of some of our workforce and customers to the building. We have partnered with the Frederick County Health Department and Citizens Services teams in our role within the Emergency Management system and have served several Frederick County residents with support while in isolation or quarantine.



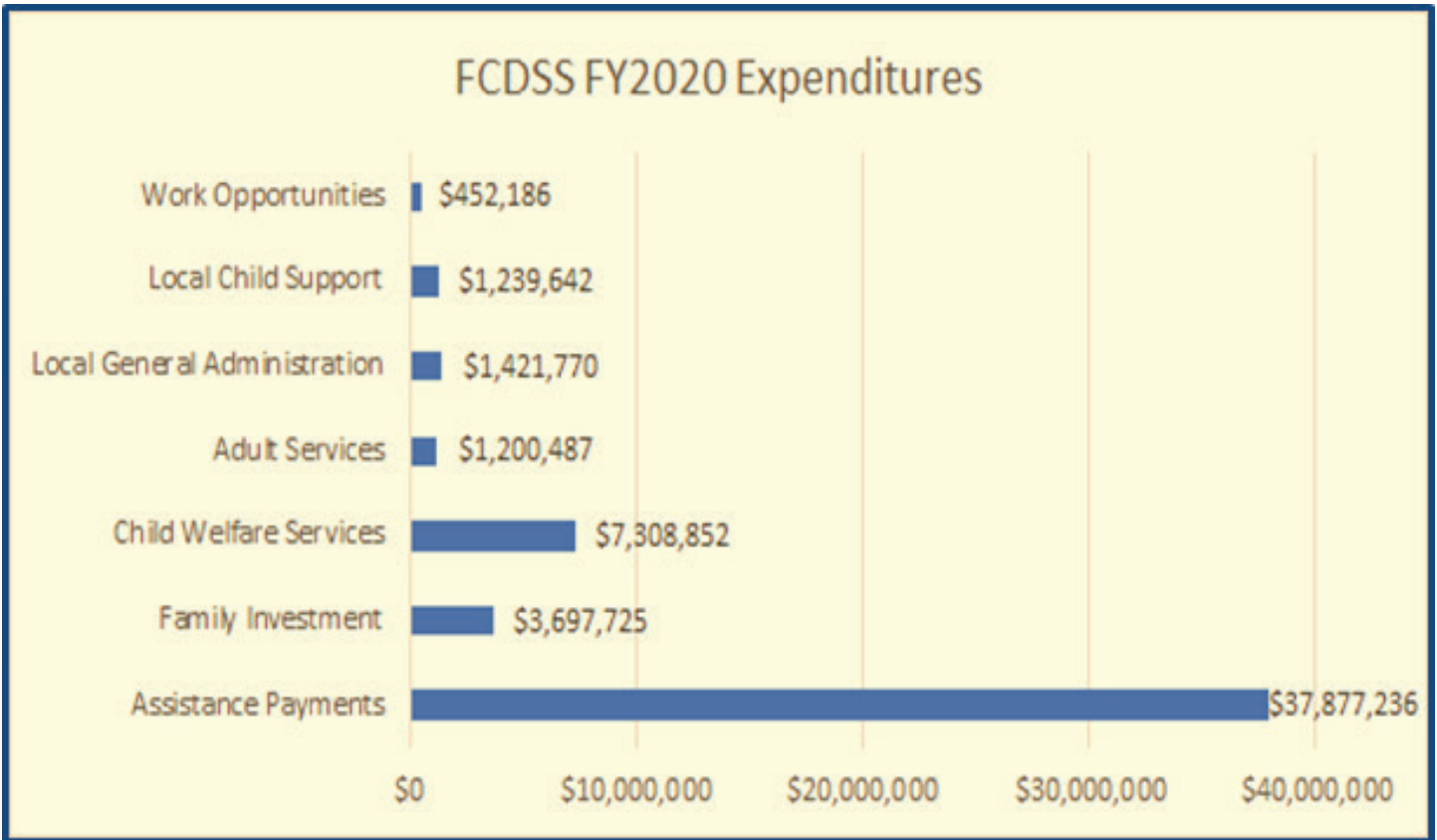
FCDSS' State Administrative Appropriation Budget is \$12,127,932.



FCDSS' County Operating Budget is \$1,552,832. This net cost total includes salaries and benefits for eighteen (18) budgeted employees and the county legal services contract.



FCDSS Total FY20 Expenditures (\$53,197,898) consist of the total Assistance Payments to our customers. Also included are the expenditures for each Division. Those amounts represent total salaries plus other program related expenditures.



COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Each year our staff pledge donations to the Maryland Charity Campaign. This fiscal year our staff donated \$10,397.00 to charities within Frederick County and the State of Maryland.

Our agency participated in the following outreach activities in Frederick County from April 2019 to October 2019.

- Brunswick Safety Days
- Community Partners Forum
- Bar Association Community Event
- YMCA Healthy Kids Day
- New Hope Church Health Fair
- June Bloom Housing Fair
- Frederick Pride Festival
- Asbury UMC Community Block Party
- Frederick Farmers Market
- National Night Out
- Back to School - FSKMall
- In the Street
- Out of the Darkness
- Mall O Ween
- AAFC Community Health Fair



PARTNERSHIPS

Asian American Center
Centro Hispano of Frederick
Child Advocacy Center
City of Frederick Government
Coalition for the Homeless
Community Action Agency
Department of Disability Services (DORS)
Department of Juvenile Services
Faith Community Partnership
Families Connected
Family Partnership
Frederick Circuit Court
Frederick City Police
Frederick Community College
Frederick County Citizens Services
Frederick County Continuum of Care
Frederick County Government
Frederick County Health Department
Frederick Interpreting Agency
Frederick County Police Department
Frederick City Public Housing Authority
Frederick County Public Schools
Frederick County Senior Services
Frederick County Workforce Development
Heartly House
Legal Aid
Local Food Banks
Maryland School for the Deaf
Mental Health Association
Religious Coalition
SHIP
States Attorney's Office
United Way of Frederick County
Way Station

* This list represents some of the many community partners who work with our agency

GET INVOLVED

If You Have Considered....

Helping Children in Foster Care in Frederick County? You can:

- Spread the word about the need for foster and adoptive parents in Frederick County by following our foster care Facebook page ([fcdss.fosteradopt](https://www.facebook.com/fcdss.fosteradopt))
- Become a child care volunteer so foster parents can attend training and support groups
- Attend an information session to learn more about becoming a resource parent
- Become a mentor to a teen in foster care
- Join a small group of community members to provide support to one youth at a time through a program called The Open Table
- Become a CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate)
- Host an information session through your business, place of worship, or other club or organization
- Display our foster parenting brochures or flyers in your office or place of worship
- Donate to the Frederick County Foster and Adoptive Parent Association through Amazon Smiles
- Donate to the Frederick County foster care program during jury duty through Generous Jurors
- Ask your pastor or faith leader to consider participating in the Faith Community Partnership with Frederick County DSS.

Are you interested in Helping Vulnerable Individuals and Families in Your Community in Frederick County?

- Donate to the Crib Crawl/Maryland Association of Social Services Boards fundraiser that allows FCDSS to raise awareness about safe sleeping for infants, as well as other important safety tips and reminders for families and children. The funds are used to purchase pack-n-plays that will be given to families in the community as a safer sleep option.
- We provided 48 pack-n-plays and 33 medication lock boxes in FY 20.
- Share information about our services to families through your school systems, churches and community groups.
- Become a Project Home provider and host a vulnerable adult in your family setting.
- Learn about how Trauma impacts those in our community and commit to supporting those who have been impacted by trauma. Instead of asking, “What’s wrong with that family?” ask “What has happened?” and “How can I help?”



Social Media Information:



Facebook – Like us at: Frederick County Department of Social Services

Contact Us:

General Phone - 301-600-4555

Adult & Elderly Services - 301-600-2635

Child Protective Services - 301-600-2464

Child Support - 1-800-332-6347

Family Investment - 301-600-4575

Foster Care and Adoption - 301-600-2466

Email Information:

General – FCDSS.info@maryland.gov

Child Support – fcdss.childsupport@maryland.gov

Family Investment – fcdss.fia@maryland.gov



Frederick County Department of Social Services
Debbie Marini, LCSW-C, Director

