



DCF PRESENTATION

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KANSAS DEPARTMENT FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES
JOINT COMMITTEE ON CHILD WELFARE OVERSIGHT - OCTOBER 5, 2021



OVERVIEW



CHILDREN MISSING FROM
PLACEMENT

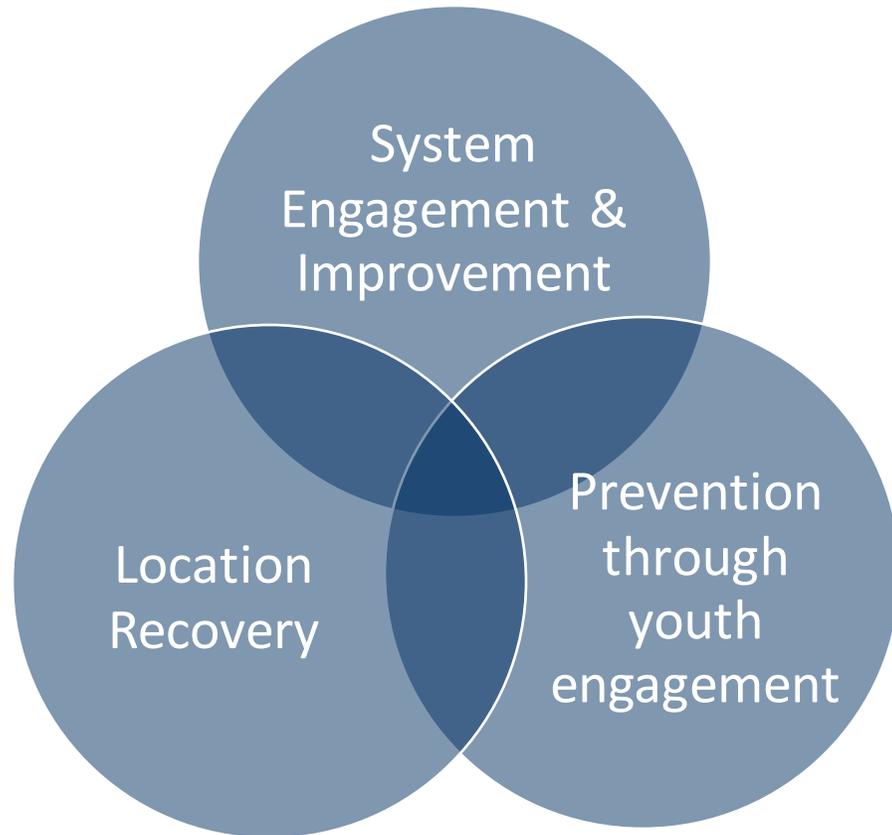


FAILURE TO PLACE A CHILD



CHILDREN MISSING FROM PLACEMENT

Special Response Team



- Statewide network of DCF and foster care provider staff
- Expanded in 2019 to 10 members and in 2020 to 12 Response Team Specialists
- Non-caseload carrying positions for immediate specialized support



CHILDREN MISSING FROM PLACEMENT

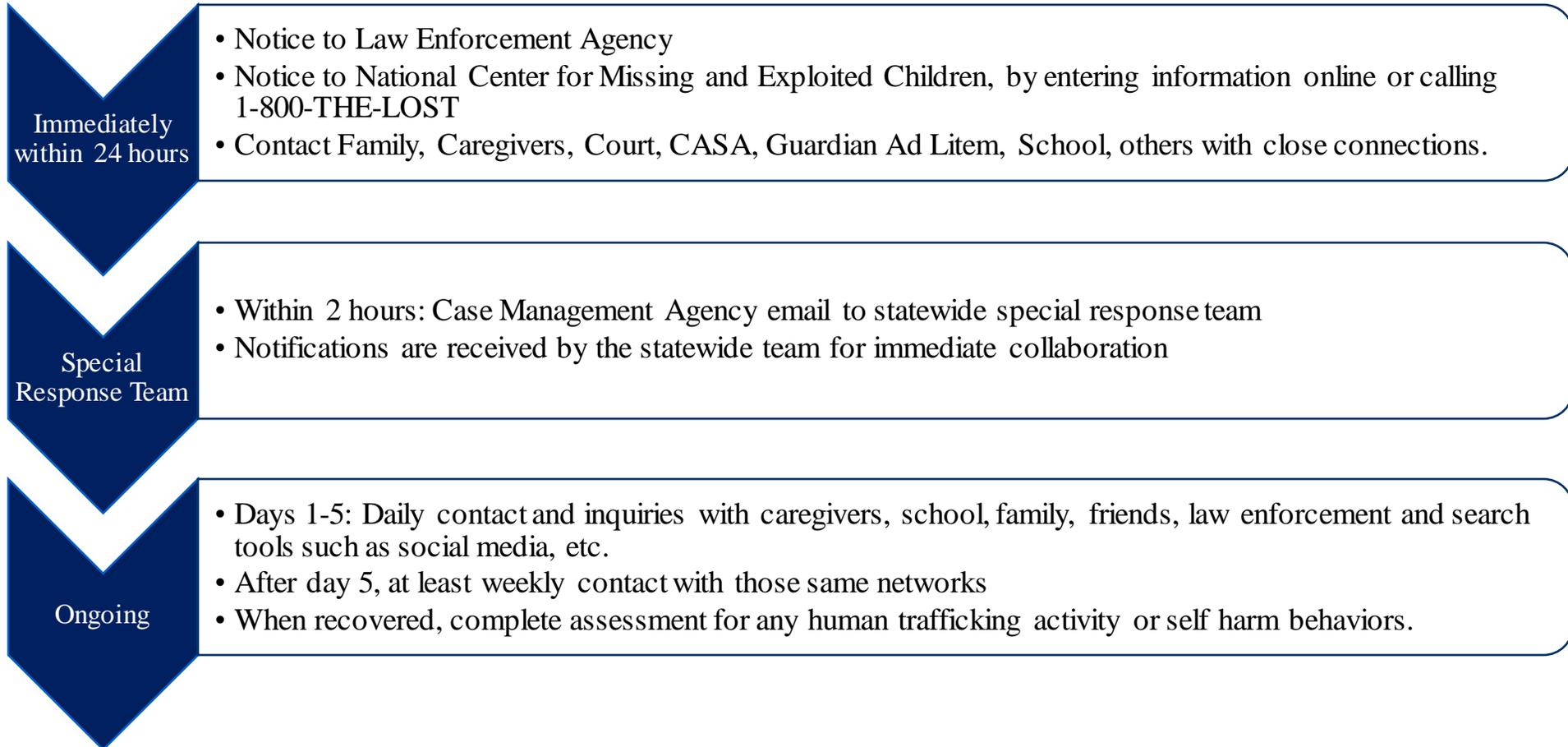
Collaboration





CHILDREN MISSING FROM PLACEMENT

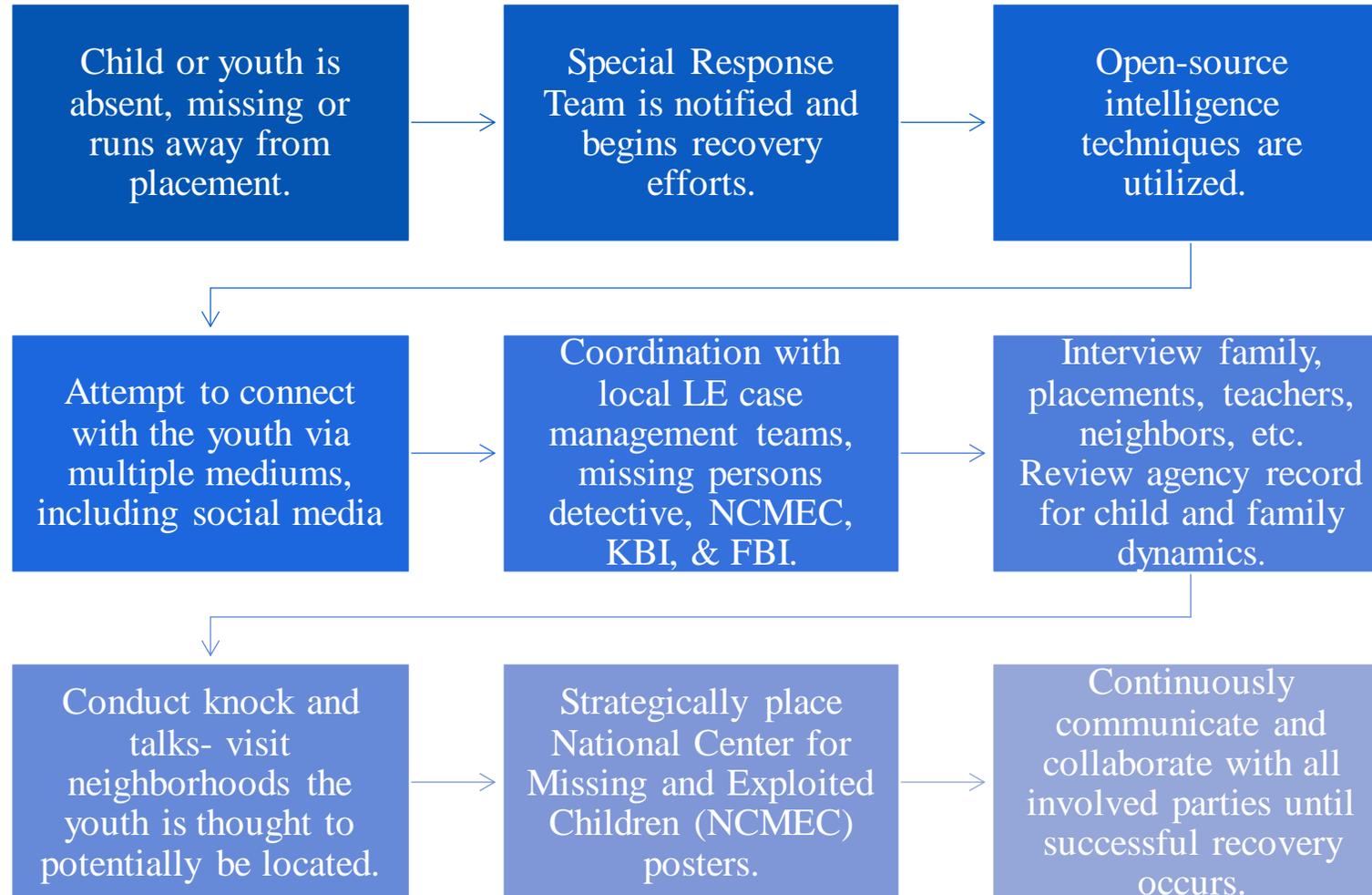
Communication Timelines





CHILDREN MISSING FROM PLACEMENT

Active Efforts for Safe Recovery





CHILDREN MISSING FROM PLACEMENT

Ongoing Efforts – Special Response Team

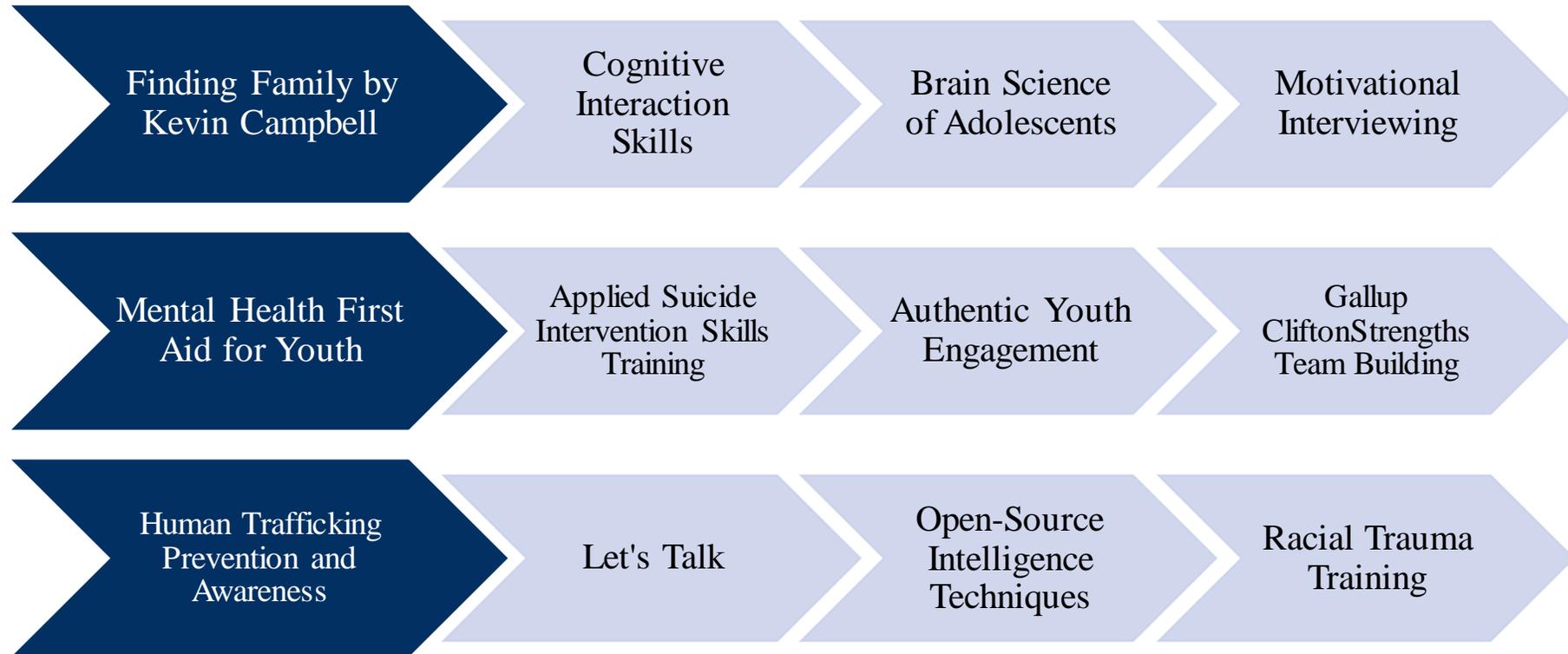


- Relational support and advocacy for children and youth after location recovery.
- Work to overcome placement barriers
- Training in Family Finding/ Seeing and explore expanding youth's lifetime network of connections.



CHILDREN MISSING FROM PLACEMENT

Training





CHILDREN MISSING FROM PLACEMENT

SRT Operations Collaboration

- Periodically Department of Homeland Security leads an operation with several purposes:
 1. Recover child victims of sex trafficking
 2. Sex offender compliance checks
 3. Recover youth that are missing from the custody of the Secretary of the Department for Children and Families
- Summer 2021, DCF received compliments for recovery of 14 youth in collaboration with:
 - Department of Homeland Security (DHS) • US Marshal Service
 - Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) • Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI)
 - Kansas Bureau of Investigations (KBI) • Kansas Highway Patrol (KHP)
 - Wichita Police Department • National Center for Missing and Exploited Youth
 - St Francis Ministries • TFI • KVC Health Systems • Cornerstones of Care
 - Wichita Children's Home ICT/SOS, Child Advocacy Center of Sedgwick County (CAC)



CHILDREN MISSING FROM PLACEMENT

SRT Daily Recovery Report



September 24, 2021:

- 35 recoveries of missing children and youth from care occurred in September.
- 434 recoveries of missing children and youth from care have occurring from January 1, 2021, through September 24, 2021

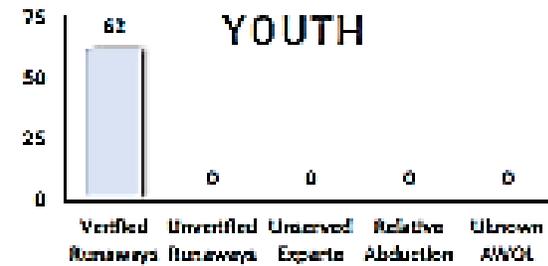


CHILDREN MISSING FROM PLACEMENT

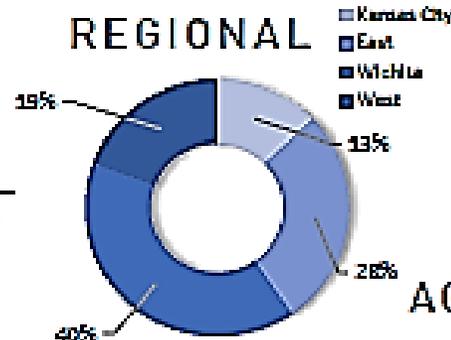
SRT Daily Recovery Report

*A youth may be recovered more than once per month.

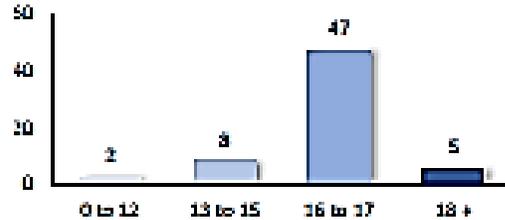
CURRENT AWOL YOUTH



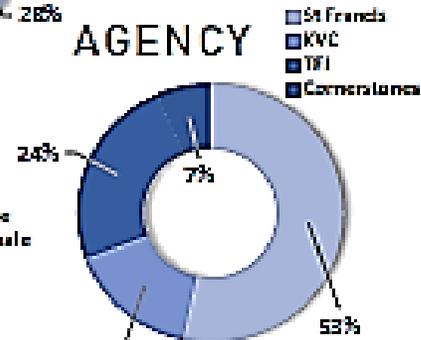
REGIONAL



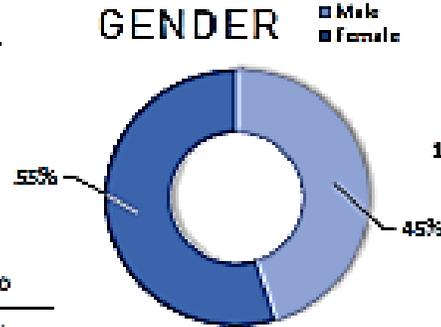
AGE



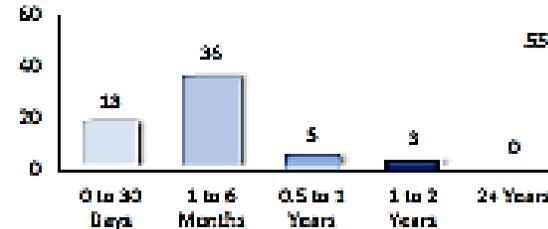
AGENCY



GENDER



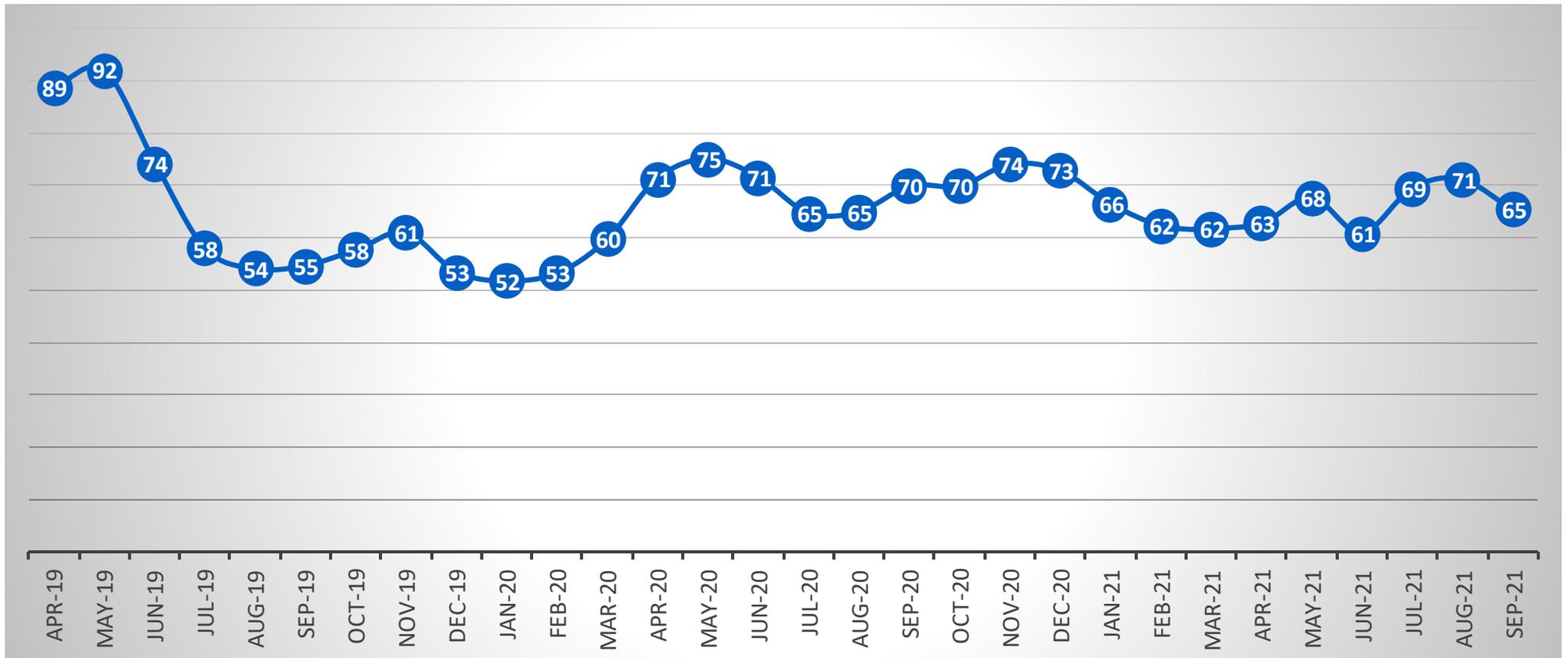
TIME





CHILDREN MISSING FROM PLACEMENT

Trends: Monthly Average of Missing Youth from Care

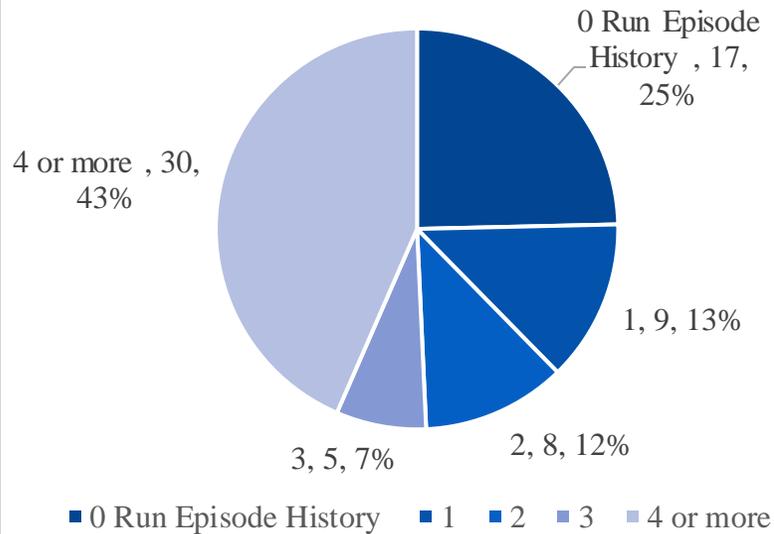




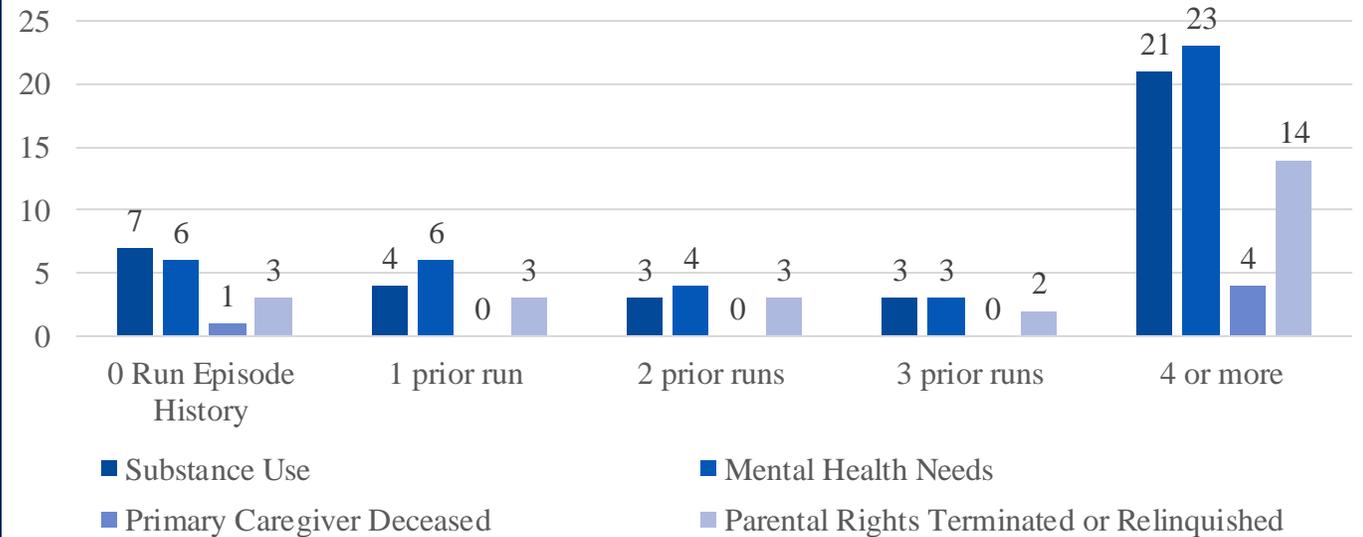
CHILDREN MISSING FROM PLACEMENT

SRT Snapshot and System Learnings

History of Run Episodes for the 69 Missing Youth on 8/19/21



Experiences of the 69 missing youth on 8/19/21





CHILDREN MISSING FROM PLACEMENT

What's Ahead

- Strengthen practice surrounding relational permanency: create lifelong stability for young people.
 - SOUL family permanency with Annie E. Casey Foundation and Think of Us (Support · Opportunity · Unity · Legal Relationship)
 - Family Finding/Seeing
- Enhance current approach by implementing a consistent Recovery Plan for each youth.
 - Continue work with National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) Child Sex Trafficking Recovery Services Team (RST) Leadership. The Recovery Plan will begin addressing needs and placement at the onset of running behaviors and pull together collective resources on behalf of the child or youth.
- Incorporate Authentic Youth Engagement and voice in all levels of services.



FAILURE TO PLACE A CHILD

Children experiencing a failure to
place staying overnight in case
management offices



FAILURE TO PLACE A CHILD

Children in Offices

A child or youth is considered to have experienced a failure to place (temporarily housed or maintained overnight at a case management provider office) when that child has arrived at a case management agency office before 12:00 a.m. midnight of one day and there is failure to place the child in an appropriate placement before 6 a.m. of the following calendar day absent extraordinary circumstances

- No placement is located; or
- Placement located, but youth declines the placement



FAILURE TO PLACE A CHILD

Settlement Agreement Requirements

McIntyre V. Howard, et al. includes a practice improvement requirement that DCF achieve substantial compliance by no later than 10/31/21 to end the practice of utilizing any of the following to temporarily house or otherwise maintain children in foster care overnight:

- (a) any public or private provider agency offices or annexes absent Extraordinary Circumstances; or
- (b) any non-child welfare housing or temporary accommodations, including but not limited to: (i) hotels or motels, (ii) other commercial non-foster care establishments, (iii) cars, (iv) retail establishments, and (v) unlicensed homes of DCF's or its Contractors', Grantees', or Subcontractors' employees



FAILURE TO PLACE A CHILD

Historical Data for State Fiscal Year 2018-2021

- DCF began instances tracking in April 2018
- Data represents # of instances, not the number of children
- The month with greatest number of instances was 39 in May 2019

Month	SFY18	SFY19	SFY20	SFY21
JUL		4	33	7
AUG		9	9	5
SEP		11	17	8
OCT		0	12	7
NOV		0	9	9
DEC		0	18	8
JAN		4	19	2
FEB		4	6	2
MAR		12	6	4
APR	85	35	1	4
MAY	69	39	4	2
JUN	6	21	17	5



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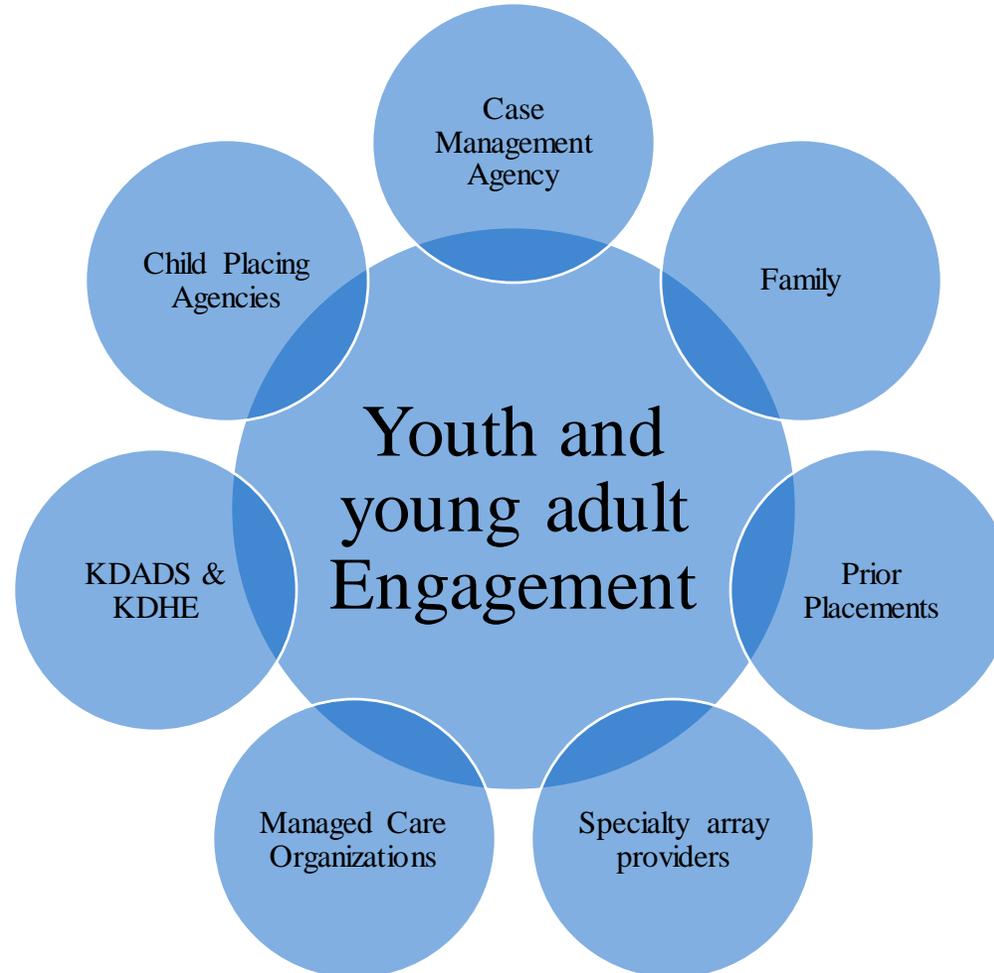
Processes when there is a Failure to Place

- Case Management Provider submits a Critical Incident to DCF
- Within 48 hours DCF (both Administrative and Regional staff) discuss the incident with the CMP
- Topics include:
 - Family Finding efforts
 - Lessons learned
 - Opportunities/ Barriers with which DCF or KDADS can help
- There is continued encouragement to engage youth in where they would want to stay or feel the most safe



FAILURE TO PLACE A CHILD

Collaboration: eliminate failure to place





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Collaboration: eliminate failure to place

Working Well

- Interstate Compact for the Placement of Children (ICPC) Border Agreement with MO
- Partnerships with group or foster providers/ family to assure openings for placement and supervision

Opportunities

- Stronger youth engagement to support planning, their networks voice and choice for placements in an emergency.
- Increase service array for youth with high needs.
- More partnerships to help with emergency overnight traumatic disruptions.

QUESTIONS?

