



Budget Priorities and Strategic Plan - Department of Children and Family Services

presented by

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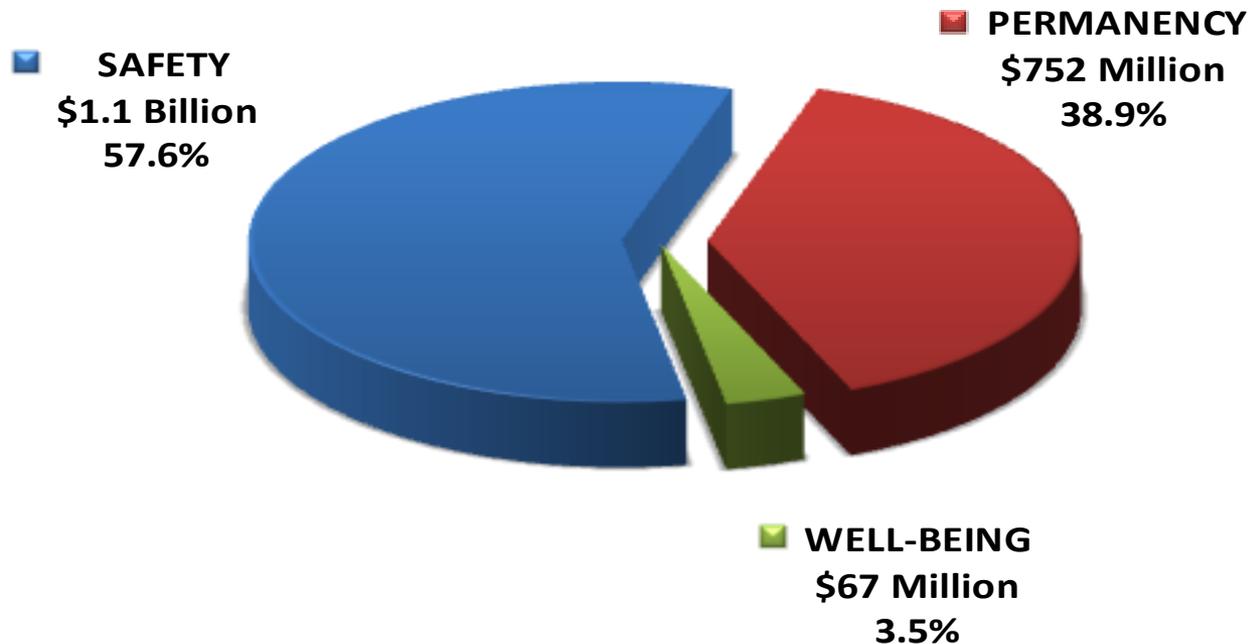
to

County of Los Angeles
Board of Supervisors

DCFS - Budget Priority



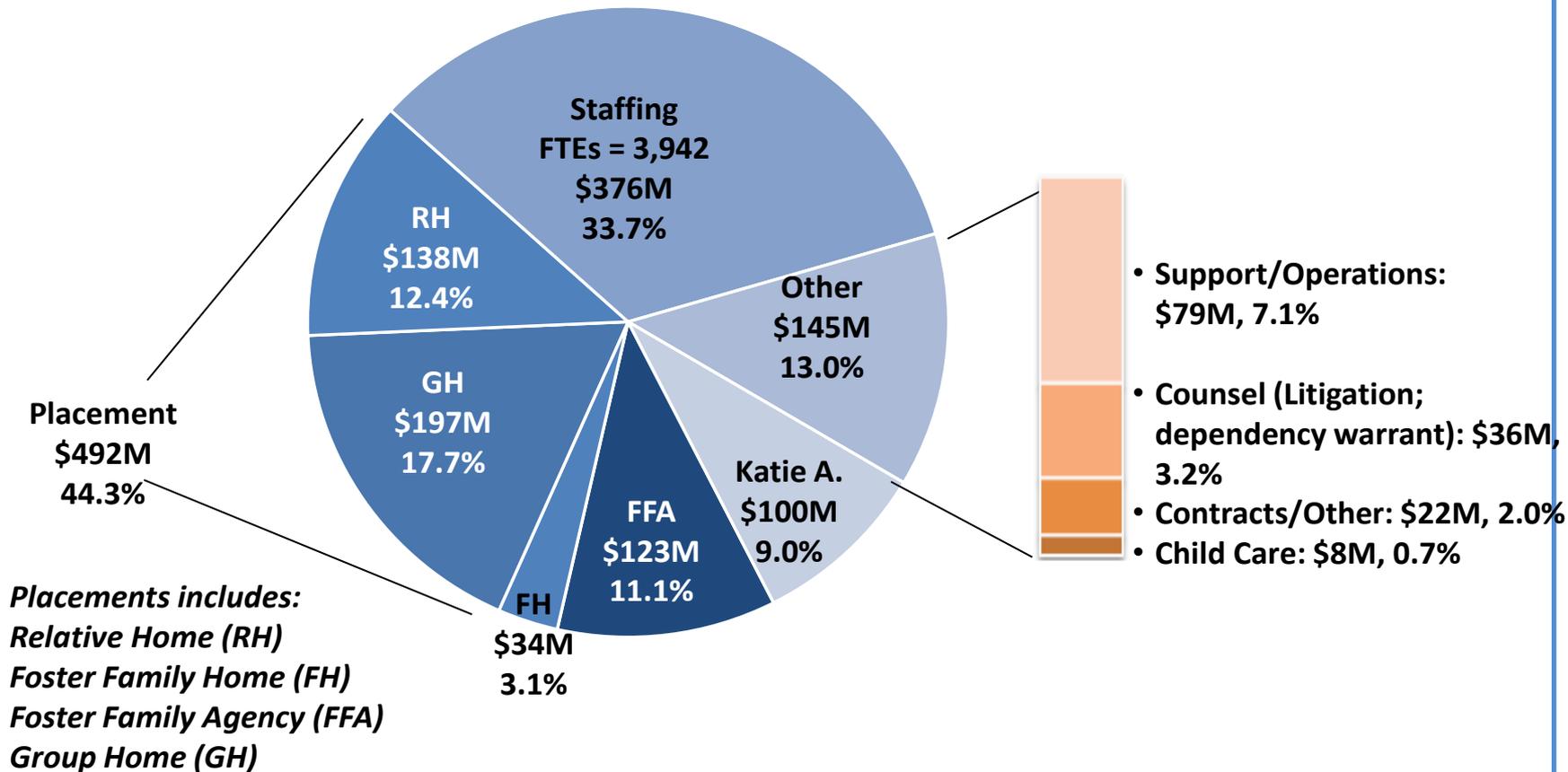
Distribution of DCFS Budget Priorities
Fiscal Year 2013 - 2014
\$1.93 Billion
Budgeted Positions = 7,509



DCFS Cost by Category



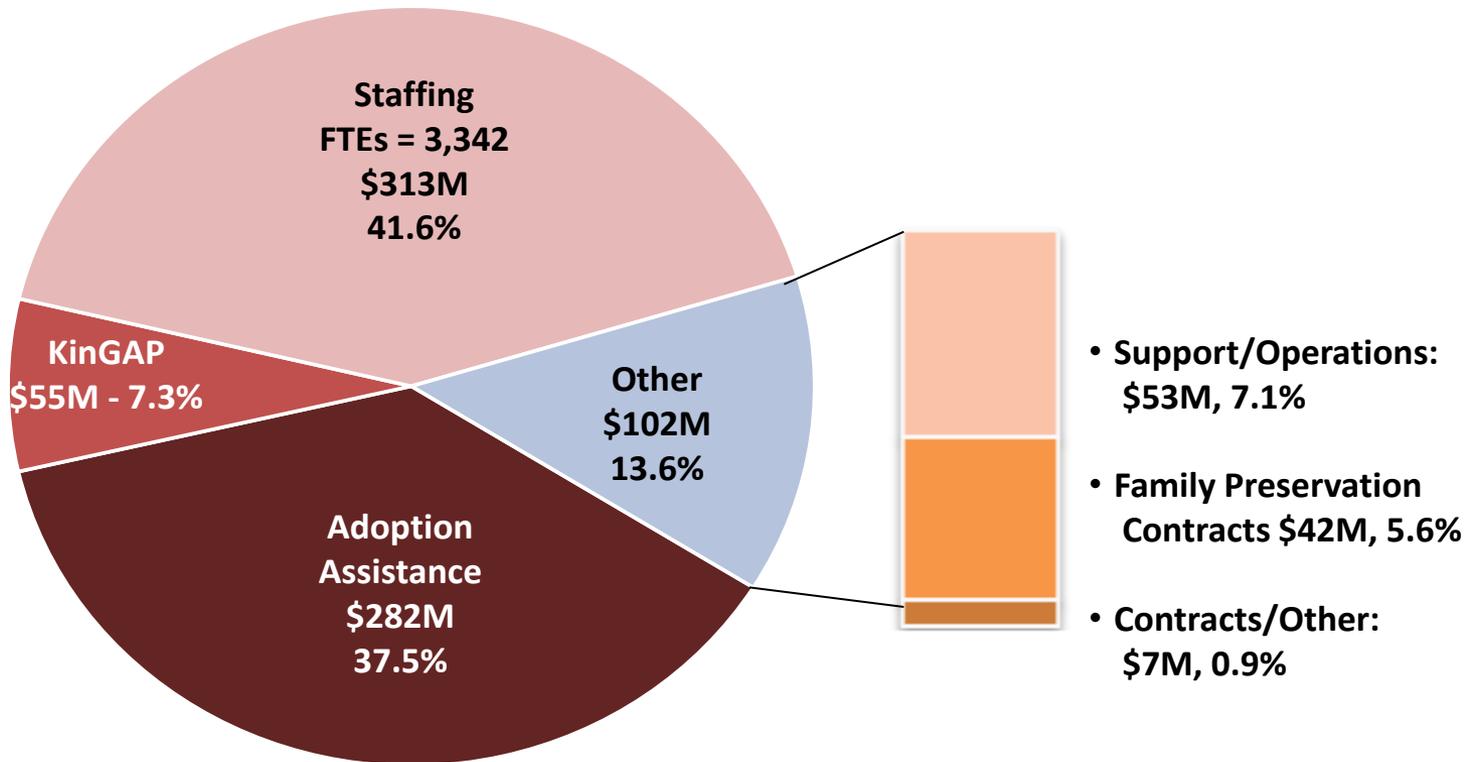
Safety: \$1.1 Billion



DCFS Cost by Category



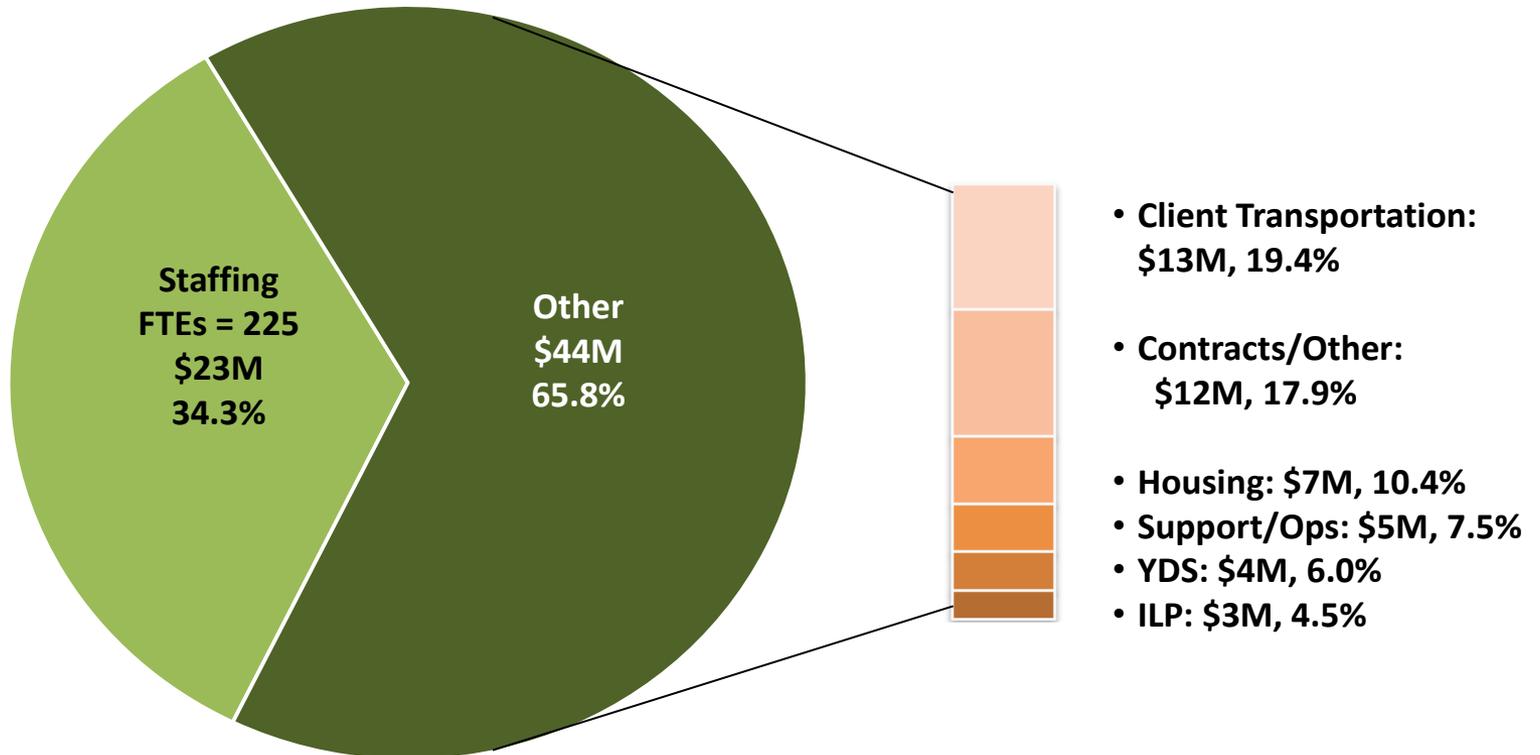
Permanency: \$752 Million



DCFS Cost by Category



Well-Being: \$67 Million



August 2013 Census Data



	Child Population
14,754	Children who received services in the home of their parents
17,140	Children in out-of-home care
	8,945 (52.2%) - Home of Relative
	1,319 (7.70%) - Foster Family Home
	5,139 (30.0%) - Foster Family Agency Certified Home
	1,063 (6.20%) - Group Home
	674 (3.90%) – Other
733	Children in adoptive placement
2,052	Children in the home of a guardian
1,481	Youth in Supportive Transition (AB 12)
36,160	Total children served by DCFS

2013 Call and Referral Data



	1st Qtr.	2nd Qtr.	Jul. – Aug. 2013
Hotline Calls Received	48,382	53,670	30,195
Referrals Generated	38,186	41,313	23,508

Mission Statement



✓ **DCFS will practice a uniform service delivery model that measurably improves:**

- Child safety
- Permanency
- Access to effective and caring services

Plan Overview



✓ Plan Overview:

- Plan released September 2012
- Plan:
 - 3 Goals
 - 12 strategies
 - 50 objectives consolidated to 32
 - Over 300 staff on Objective Implementation Teams
- Teams organized - January 2013
- Department-wide reorganization completed March 2013
- Twelve initiatives completed as of September 20, 2013

Training Redesign



✓ **New Children's Social Worker Academies**

- Began Academy A on August 19, 2013
 - 30 CSWs in Academy
- Began Academy B on September 9, 2013
 - 35 CSWs in Academy
- Began Academy C on September 30, 2013
 - 38 CSWs in Academy

✓ **Simulation Lab**

- Five simulation lab days per Academy

Training Redesign (continued)



- ✓ **Supervisors and Social Worker Mentors**
 - Trained on their role in new training design
- ✓ **Transitioning Continuing Services Social Workers**
 - Emergency Response Social Worker Training

Social Worker Recruitment



✓ **New Social Worker Recruitment**

- Open Competitive bulletin posted July 2013
- 301 of 778 applicants met minimum requirements
- Social Worker eligibility list by October 2013
- Selection interviews by November 2013
- Academy by January 2014

Policy Manual Redesign



- ✓ **325 policies will be revised and condensed into 270**
 - To date 50 policies revised and condensed into 22

- ✓ **User-friendly website operational by January 2014**

- ✓ **All polices revised and uploaded by June 2014**

Foster Home Recruitment



- ✓ **Approved 164 Resource Families for FY 12-13**
 - 108 families approved for adoption only
 - 50 families approved for foster care only
 - 6 families approved for fost-adopt

- ✓ **Since May 2013 approved 43 new foster care only homes with 77 beds**
 - 15 beds for children 0 -2
 - 32 beds for children under the age of 5

FFA Monitoring and Oversight



- ✓ **Establishing a DCFS Contract Monitoring Unit**
- ✓ **Identified staff for Contract Monitoring Unit**
- ✓ **Completed DCFS Contact Monitoring Handbook draft**
- ✓ **Developed Risk Assessment Tool with Auditor-Controller**
- ✓ **FFA and Group Home training provided**
- ✓ **Developing outcome based monitoring language for future provider contracts**

Family Assessment Form



✓ **Family Assessment Form:**

- Procured through Children's Bureau for use with Family Preservation agencies
- Developed to create a comprehensive assessment of family functioning

Youth Welcoming Center



- ✓ **FY 12-13, 2,500 youth over the age of 12 awaited placement at ERCP:**
 - Establishing Youth Welcoming Center for youth 12 and older
 - Partnership between DHS and DCFS
 - Construction underway
 - Proposed occupancy in November 2013
 - Furnishings generously donated by Violence Intervention Program (VIP)

Title IV-E Waiver



- ✓ **State sent formal waiver extension request to federal government on April 1, 2013**
- ✓ **Federal government granted Second Bridge year July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2014**
 - All previous terms and conditions remain in effect
- ✓ **State began informal negotiations with the federal government**
- ✓ **Projected approval date of waiver extension January 31, 2014**

Title IV-E Waiver (continued)



- ✓ **Projected waiver extension five-year project begins on July 1, 2014**
- ✓ **There are 18 waiver intent Counties, including Los Angeles and Alameda**
- ✓ **Federal approval must occur prior to February 28, 2014 to allow minimum of 4 months to prepare for implementation**

Katie A. Settlement



✓ Quality Service Review

- Baseline review of DCFS Offices occurred from June 2010 to August 2012
- Second round of reviews began December 2012 and ends October 2014
- Overall QSR practice score has improved from 47% to 60%

Katie A. Settlement (continued)



✓ Quality Service Review Exit Criteria

- Overall Practice: 85%
 - 70% minimum in Engagement, Assessment & Understanding and Teamwork.

Katie A. Settlement (continued)



- ✓ **Leading indicators tied to overall system improvement include Engagement and Teamwork with each demonstrating marked improvement from the baseline**
 - Engagement improved 5% (60% to 75%)
 - Teamwork improved 13% (18% to 31%)

Multidisciplinary Assessment Teams (MAT)



✓ **Successfully implemented MAT** **Assessments for newly-detained children:**

- Referred 95% of newly-detained children for assessment;
- Of children referred:
 - 80 % completed assessments for referred children
 - 10% in process
 - 10% cancelled for various reasons

Mental Health Screening



- ✓ **Provided Mental Health Screening for 16,000 children**
 - 92% of newly-detained children required and received a mental health screening. Of those:
 - 82% of children evidenced a need for mental health services
 - 99% were to mental health services
 - 94% began mental health services

Medical Hubs



- ✓ **Referred 86% of newly-detained children for a comprehensive medical exam through Medical Hubs with the Department of Public Health**

Blue Ribbon Commission Summary



✓ **Prior Recommendations for DCFS Since 2008:**

- Fourteen sources
- 821 recommendations/directives
 - 461 (56%) have been fully implemented
 - 331 (40%) implementation is in progress
 - 29 (4%) have not been implemented



✓ **Front-Line Practitioner Workgroup**

- 220 interviews of front-line practitioners from DCFS, DMH, and child welfare involved private agencies shared the following five themes:
 - Concern about the Blue Ribbon Commission;
 - Insufficiency of social services funding, housing, child care and transportation;
 - Need to re-evaluate the definition of child safety;
 - DCFS contracting process; and
 - Child safety net depends upon prioritization of services.



✓ Families and Children Workgroup

- Eleven interviews with Transitional Age Youth (TAY)
- Ten interviews with Parents in Partnership (PIP)

Director's Advisory Council



✓ Purpose:

- To convene a department-wide council with former youth, parents, relatives, caregivers and adoptive parents involved in the child welfare system in L. A. County

- Provide recommendations relative to child welfare practices, strategies, operations and policies:
 - Address equitable access and inclusivity of stakeholder groups
 - Founding Council was established August 2013

Strengthening DCFS' Workforce



✓ Technology

- Provided 1,200 Smart phones to staff – Talk-to-Text feature
- Rolled out 1,000 new copiers and printers to offices
- Developed Court Tracking Alert System
- Implemented Student Information Tracking System
- Implemented Statewide CWS/CMS access for all staff
- Implemented e-mHub system to refer clients to medical appointments
- Implemented Warrant tracking system
- Assigned 2 staff to CWS-NS-Sacramento
- Co-located with LRS staff
- Developed interface with DMH to identify mental health services provided to DCFS clients
- Advanced Analytics Tool pilot