



Health & Human Services Committee Meeting

Foster Care Updates

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Youth and Family Services

Our Values and Beliefs

- Every child has the right to live in a safe home
- Children are best served when we provide supports for their families
- The first consideration for placement will be kinship connections
- We promote family, sibling, and community connections



Youth and Family Services

Foster Care

- Current number of children in custody 497
- Number of children served in kinship care 130
- Current number of children in Congregate Care, Emergency Placements, Group Homes, PRTFs, Etc. 52
- Average number of children in foster care in FY21 523



Youth and Family Services

Successes

- 23 High school graduates
- 64 Young adults received expanded Foster Care (18-21)
- 95 Youth received education supports (YTD)
 - Virtual and in-person tutoring



Youth and Family Services

Successes

- 150 Young adults received federal supplemental payments (unrestricted)
 - \$2,500, 18-20 years old
 - \$5,000, 21-26 years old
- \$495,000 distributed
 - Federal allocation fully spent



Youth and Family Services

Successes



- Virtual foster parent training
- Strong partnerships
 - Congregations for Kids
 - Foster Village
 - Healthy Blue
 - Casey Family Programs & WeCreative



Youth and Family Services

Successes

- Kinship Supports
- Partnership with Village Heartbeat
 - Faith CME – Dr. Sandra Gripper
 - Clinton Chapel AMEZ – Dr. Ralph Williamson
 - Greater Bethel AMEZ – Dr. Abul Knox



Youth and Family Services

Opportunities

- State policy changes that provide more support and resources for kinship families
- Increased community awareness and supports for fostering (foster parent recruitment and outreach to increase licensed foster families)
- Independent Living program expansion
- More kinship families





**“There can be no keener
revelation of a society’s
soul than the way in which
it treats its children”**

Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela

Question & Answers

