

Quick Stats

Agency	Program/Policy Start Date	Number Served Annually	Annual Budget
Administration for Children's Services	December 22, 2011	3,020 families (approximately)	\$22 million*

*Funding is not reflected in total YMI budget.

Problem Statement	<p>In calendar year 2010, 28.5% (19,313) of the abuse and maltreatment investigations conducted by the Division of Child Protection involved teens. These investigations resulted in approximately 1,400 teens being placed in foster care notwithstanding the efforts to hold child safety conferences to identify alternatives to placement. ACS is committed to preventing placement of these teens as long as home-based, therapeutic services will enable the teens to remain safely at home. ACS anticipates that by providing intensive home-based services tailored to the needs of teens and their families at the conferences, ACS will be able to further reduce foster care placements, improve family functioning, reduce truancy and other teen-specific behaviors, and keep families together in their communities.</p>
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Research and Evidence	<p>A needs analysis of the target population was recently conducted to determine the service need. This analysis directly informed the development of the Teen Preventive Service Model. Key findings from our analysis include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4,059 child safety conferences for youth 12 and older were held in 2010 citywide; of these, 1,159 youth were placed following the conference (28.5%) • Brooklyn held the greatest number of CSCs for youth 12 and older (1,254) • Of the five boroughs, the placement rate was highest in Manhattan - 43% of youth 12 and older (166) were placed following a conference • The placement rate was lowest in Queens — 27% of youth 12 and older (163) were placed following a CSC • Bronx recorded the greatest number of placements in 2010, with 406 placements of youth 12 and older following a conference; the Bronx also had the highest rate of voluntary placements (23.6% or 96 placements)
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Program Description	<p>As part of its ongoing commitment to keeping families together, the Administration for Children's Services (ACS) is investing in a continuum of programs to serve teenagers who are at risk of out-of-home placement. ACS is procuring a new, robust continuum of evidence-based services to support youth age 12 and older, and their families, who are the subject of a child safety conference with the Division of Child Protection. ACS is committed to preventing placement of these teens as long as home-based, therapeutic services will enable the teens to remain safely at home. ACS anticipates that by providing intensive home-based services tailored to the needs of teens and their families, ACS will be able to reduce foster care placements, improve family functioning, reduce truancy and other teen-specific behaviors, and keep families together in their communities.</p> <p>ACS is implementing this project in two Phases. Phase 1 began on December 22, 2011 in Manhattan and in one zone in the Bronx.</p>
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Adolescent Preventive Services

Implementation	<p>In Phase I, ACS is working with two current providers to provide Evidence-Based Services: Functional Family Therapy – Child Welfare Program (FFT-CW) offered by the New York Foundling, and Multi-Systemic Therapy Program (MST) offered by Children's Village. At every child safety conference involving a teen in Manhattan and in one zone in the Bronx, an ACS staff-person with expertise in these programs will attend and determine whether the family is eligible for one of these two services. If they are eligible and consensus is reached at the child safety conference, ACS will make the referral to the appropriate provider at the end of the conference. During this phase of the project, ACS will be tracking the cases to identify lessons learned to inform city-wide implementation.</p> <p>As part of Phase II, using the new preventive funding base-lined in the budget by the Mayor and City Council that has not yet been allocated, ACS will be issuing a Request for Proposals asking providers to submit proposals for additional Evidence-Based Services and other promising practices that have been implemented successfully with the teen population in child welfare systems.</p>
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Implementation Timeline	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • December 2011 – Launched Phase I of the pilot program • January 2012 – Released Concept Paper for Preventive Services for Teens • May 2012 – RFP issued • September 2012 - ACS will review and score proposals • April 2013 – Awards will be made and contracts begin • June 2012 – Services begin City-wide
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Target Population	The target population is teens 12-17 year of age at risk of placement in foster care.
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Expected Outcomes	A reduction in the number of teens that enter foster care and residential care. In addition, we anticipate a reduction in the number of Article 10 petitions filed involving teens and teen behavioral issues.
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