

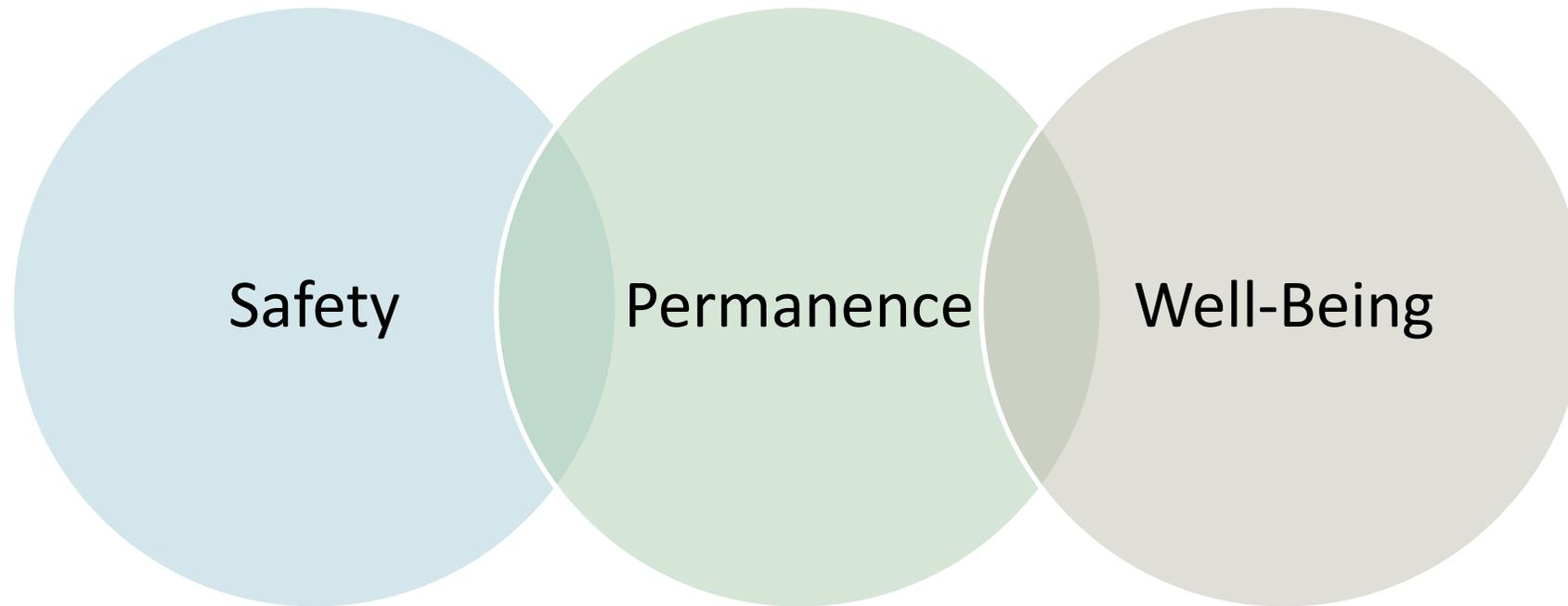


Foster Care Research & Analysis Findings

Child Welfare 20/21 Advisory Board – Meeting #3

July 11, 2018

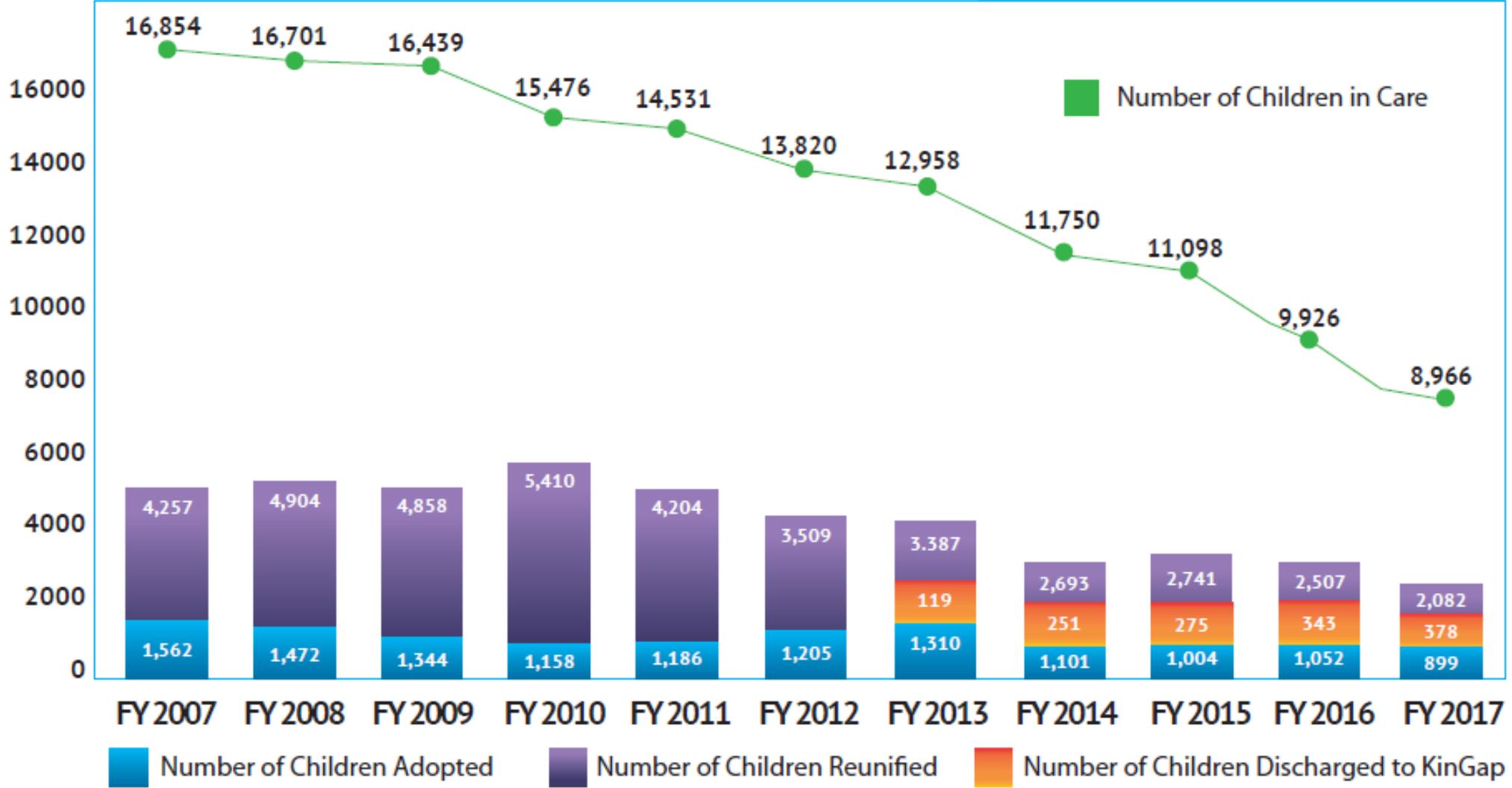
Foster Care Mandates



NYC PERFORMANCE

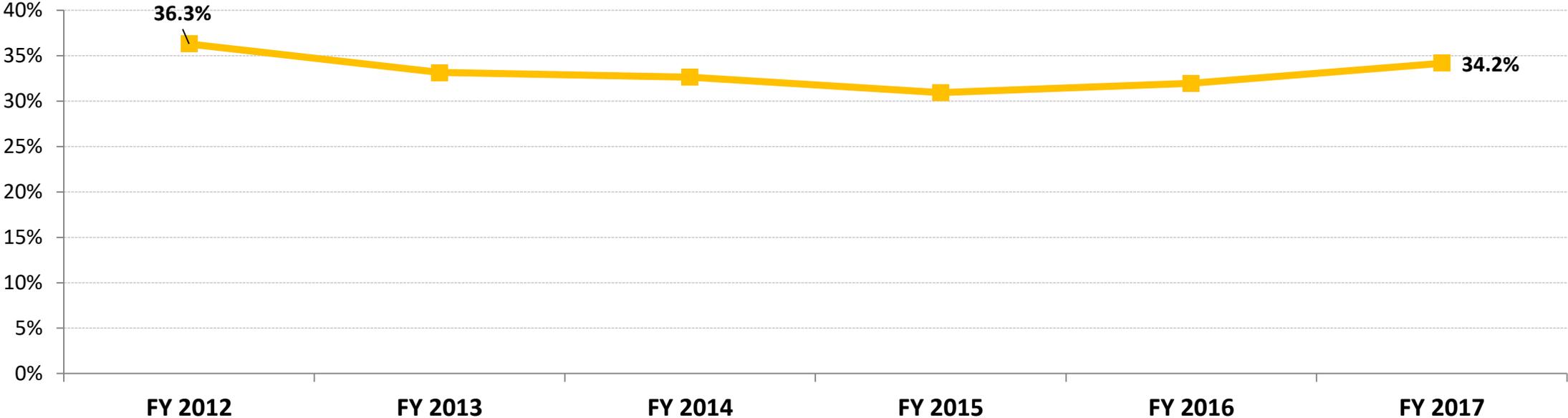
The Current Context: Declining Census

Fewer Children in Foster Care



Reunification

Children Discharged to Permanency within 12 Months of Placement (%)



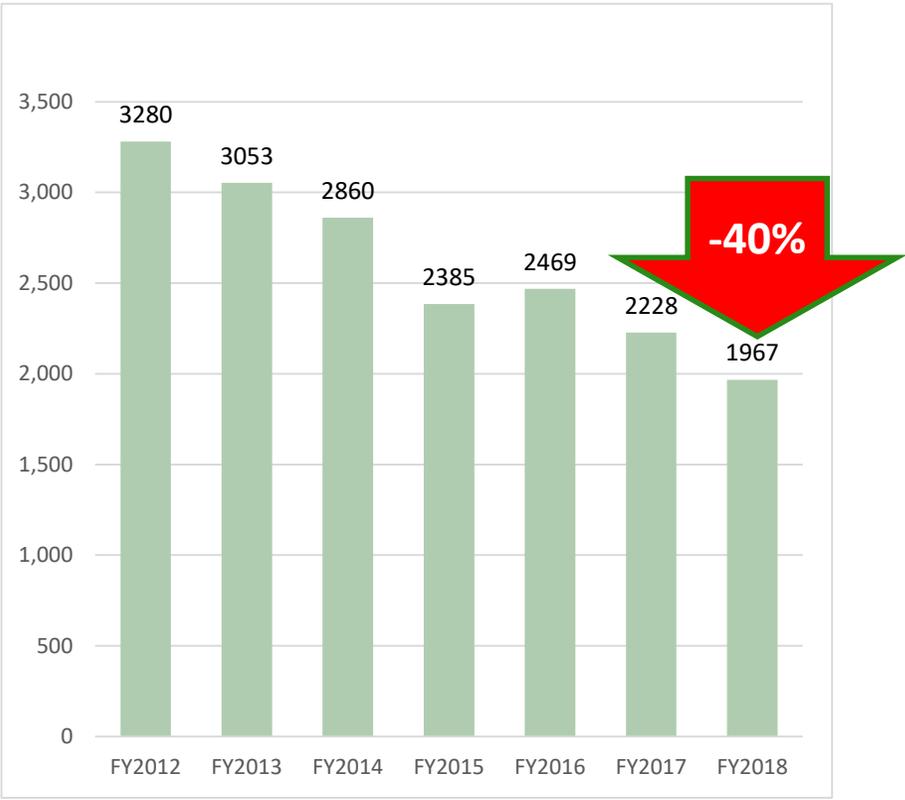
	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017
Number of children placed during the prior year	5,545	4,985	3,986	3,931	3,871	3,047
Number of children discharged to permanency within 12 months	2,013	1,653	1,301	1,216	1,237	1,041
%	36.3%	33.2%	32.6%	30.9%	32.0%	34.2%

*Excludes children in JD/CTH placements at the beginning of the year and children in care for less than one week.

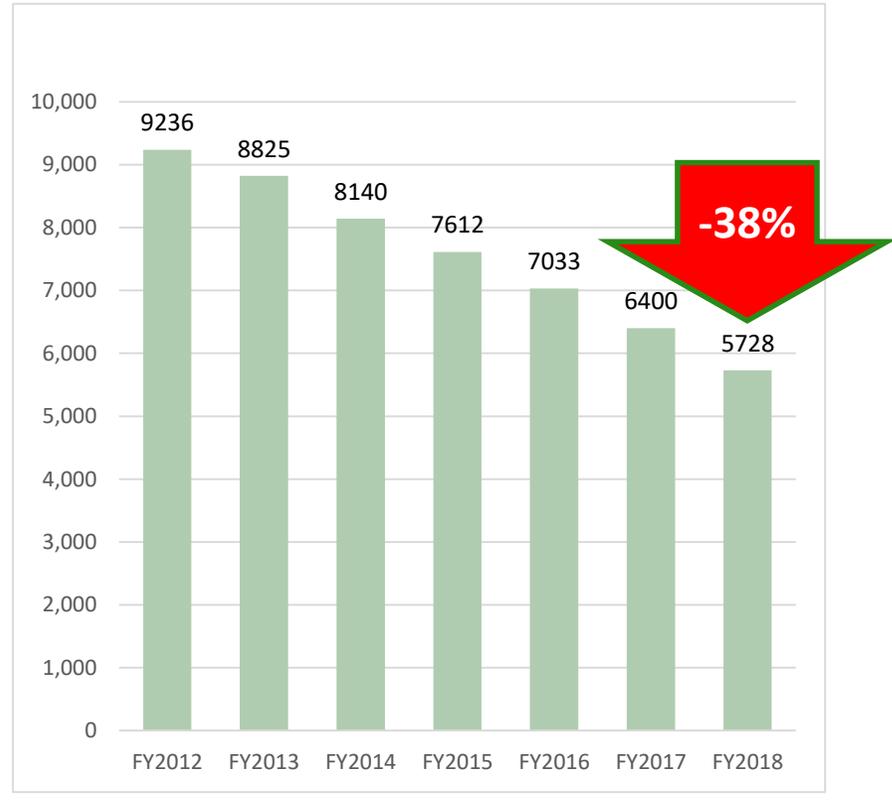
Children in Foster Care, 12 to 23 months and more than 24 months

FY 2012 - FY 2018

Number of children in foster care 12 to 23 months at the start of the fiscal year



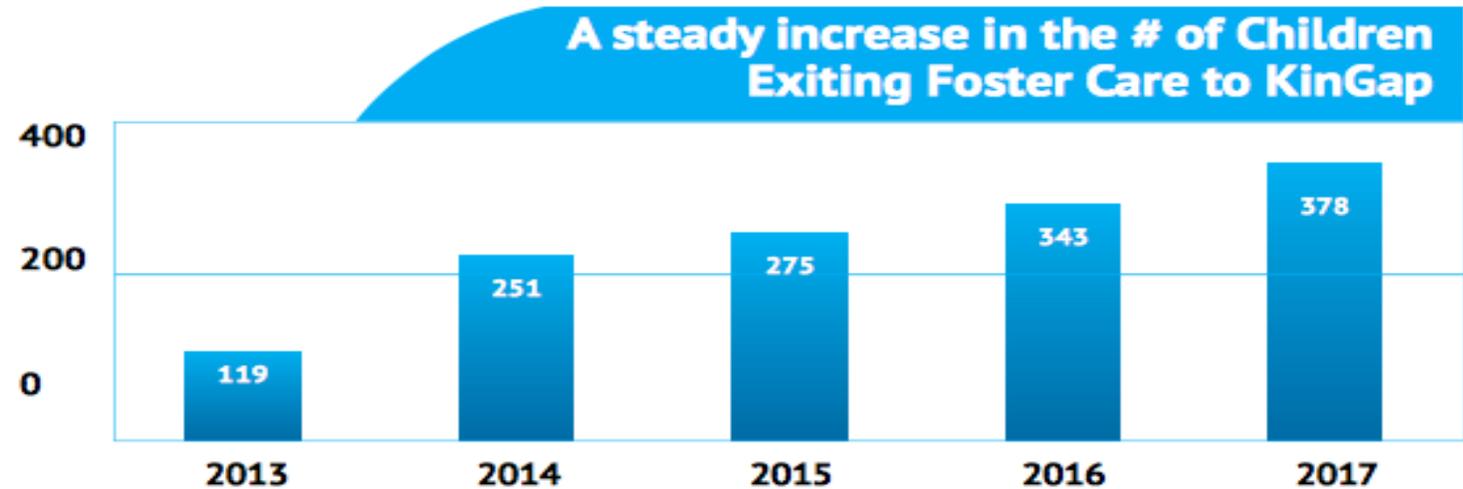
Number of children in foster care 24 or more months at the start of the fiscal year



KINSHIP GUARDIANSHIP

The movement of children to permanency through kinship guardianship (KinGAP) continued an upward trend. The number of children exiting care to KinGAP

increased by 10.2 percent from 343 children in FY 2016 to 378 in FY 2017.



Adoption

Children who are eligible for adoption are being adopted.

	FY 13	FY14	FY 15	FY 16	FY 17
Children eligible for adoption (average)	1446	1248	1092	1053	904
Children adopted	1301	1101	1004	1052	899
Ratio of adopted to eligible for adoption	90%	88%	92%	100%	99%

The majority of children with an adoption goal have stable placements with foster parents willing to adopt.

- Among children in care 2+ years with a goal of adoption, 73% have been in the same foster care placement for at least the past 12 months.
- In 94% of the adoption goal cases in the Rapid Permanency Reviews, the current foster parent was the adoptive resource.
- This represents a major strength in NYC’s adoption practice: most children awaiting adoption live in stable homes with the caregivers who have committed to adopting them.

FINDINGS OF THE RAPID PERMANENCY REVIEWS & EXAMINATION OF OLDER YOUTH PERMANENCY

Findings of the Rapid Permanency Reviews

Reunification

- The most common barriers to reunification included lack of participation in services, mental health challenges, and substance misuse affecting children's safety.
- In nearly half of the cases where the goal was reunification and the child(ren) was not on trial discharge, staff reported that the reunification permanency goal was "in question" or likely to change given the family circumstances and lack of progress on safety and risk issues. These are among the most complex and clinically challenging cases, in which foster care agencies, legal advocates and the Family Court wrestle with critical decisions when reunification still has not been achieved after children have spent months or years in foster care.

Adoption

- Delays in the TPR process impede timely adoptions.
- Adjournments, court concerns or judicial requests occurred in one out of three RPR adoption cases with TPR petitions filed.
- When parents are not fully engaged throughout the life of a case, adoptions are delayed.
- For legally freed children, administrative processes are the main challenge delaying adoptions.

KinGAP

- Administrative processes delay KinGAP cases and should begin sooner in the timeline of a case.
- Children and their kinship caregivers need services.
- Relationships between parents and kin caregivers are crucial, and complicated.

Examination of Older Youth Permanency

Older Youth

- Youth who do not return home within the first year of foster care are less likely to return home.
- Youth with a history of foster care entries who do not reunify within the first year are more likely to age out of foster care.
- There are youth in foster care for more than two years who have a goal of reunification that appears unlikely to be achieved.
- There are youth ages 13-17 years who have been in care for two years and longer with a goal of adoption but are not legally free.

FOSTER CARE PHASE I RESEARCH: FINDINGS & OPPORTUNITIES

Through the Phase I Research we identified the following findings & opportunities :

- Wrap Around Services & Practice Models to Support Children & Families
- Permanency Through Kinship Care
- Foster Home Capacity & Supports for Foster Parents
- Increase and Improve Family Time to Support Reunification
- Permanency for Older Youth

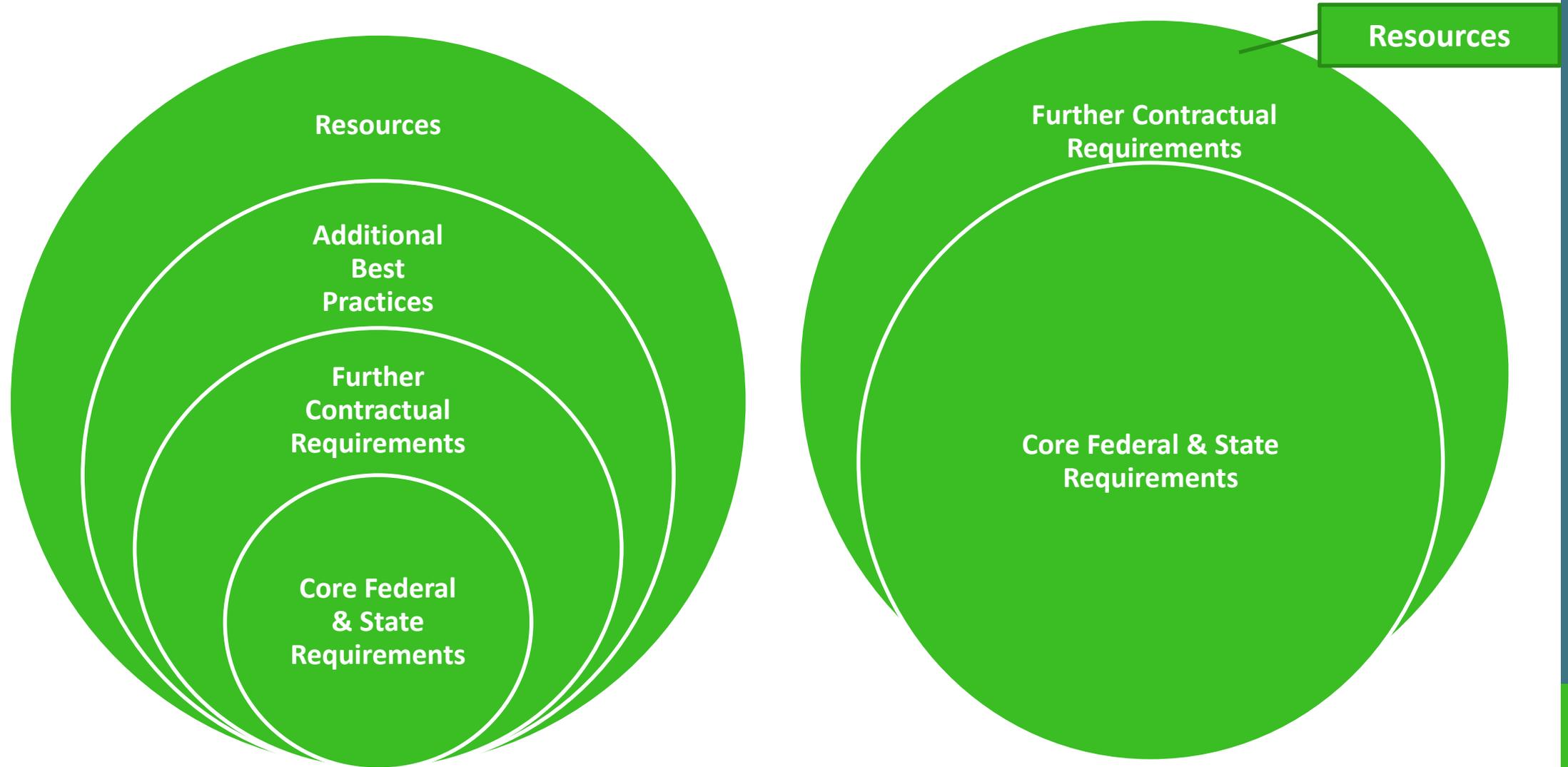
Given what we know about our mandates, progress, current performance and the findings of Phase I:

Which areas of practice improvement would you prioritize to reduce length of stay in care?

- What strategies are yielding strong outcomes for your agency?
- What should we do more of?
- What should we do less of?
- What strategies have we not considered?

Fiscal Parameters Part 1

Understanding the relationship between requirements, expanded scope & resources



Initial Fiscal Parameters

- Compliance with Federal and State Requirements
- Rate based system
- Care day driven

Planning for Stakeholder Engagement

Who are our stakeholders?

- City Entities
- Advocates
- Provider Agencies
- Youth and Families

Wrap up and Assignment

Considering the list of stakeholder groups that were presented, what groups do you believe your agency is best suited to engage with in August.

We would also like to know who your agency's point person of contact will be during the engagement process.

Send this information to Jaime by COB on 7/27/18.