



House Ways and Means Subcommittee

FY 2020-21 Budget Request



South Carolina Department of
**CHILDREN'S
ADVOCACY**
Advocacy. Accountability. Service.

Agency Information

- Began July 1, 2019
- Approximately 222 employees
- Consists of four areas:
 - Continuum of Care
 - Foster Care Review Board
 - Guardian ad litem Program
 - Investigations Unit





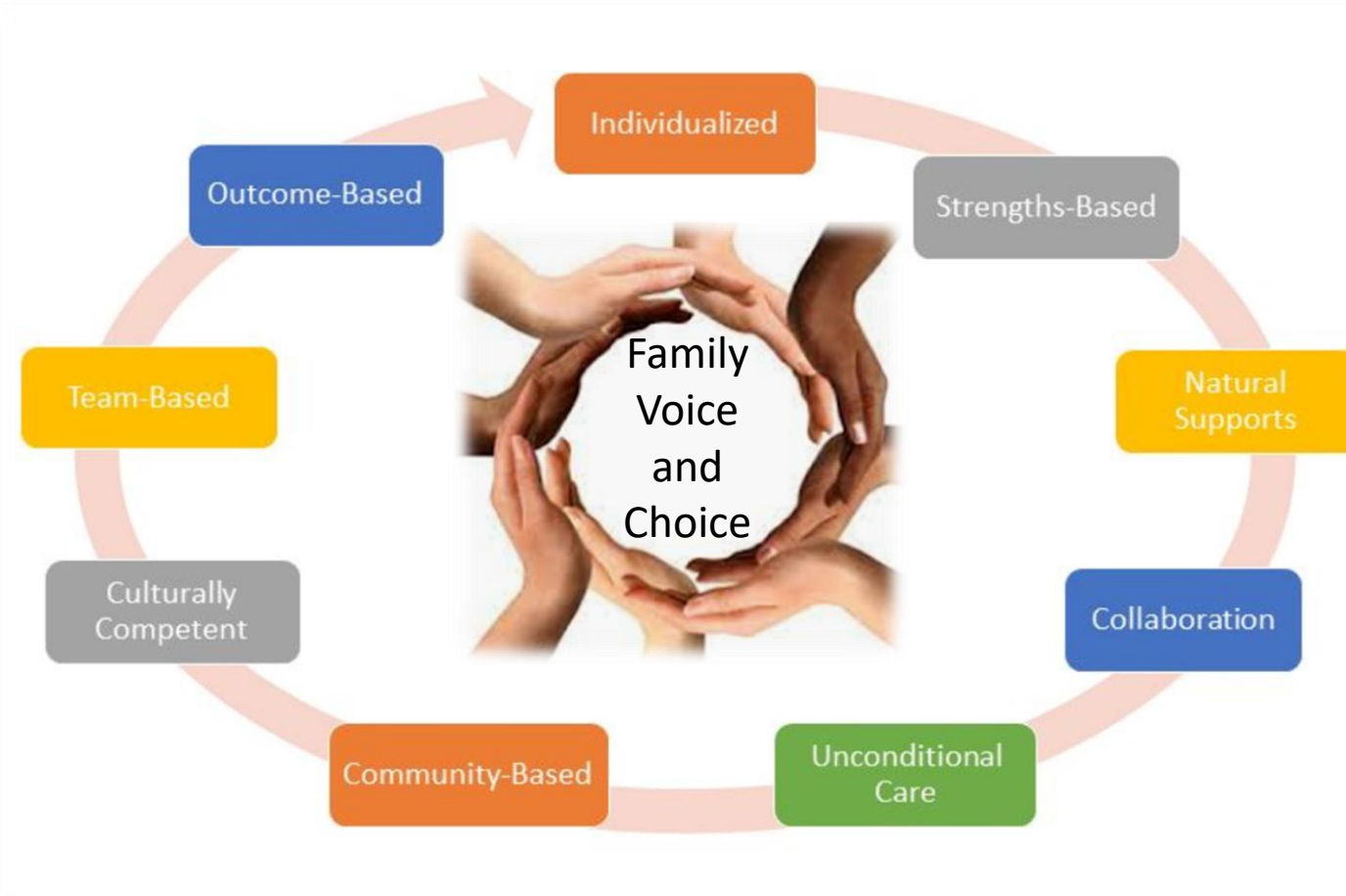
SOUTH CAROLINA
continuum@care

Continuum of Care

The Continuum of Care is a South Carolina state program that serves children with serious emotional or behavioral health diagnoses whose families need help keeping them in their home, school or community. The Continuum helps children and families using Wraparound, a team-based approach to caring for families with complicated needs.



What is Wraparound?



Measurable Outcomes

Served Youth Medians			
Region	Baseline Scores	Most Recent CAFAS	Difference
A	140	80	60
B	140	90	50
C	140	70	70
D	160	110	50

Data from Fidelity EHR 1/14/2020

Recurring Budget Request

- Medicaid reimbursement rate decreased by 36% from FY 2014 to FY 2019
- 1915 (C) Medicaid Waiver
- FY 2021 budget proposes an increase of \$2,600,000 in recurring operating funding for Continuum of Care

FOSTER CARE REVIEW BOARD

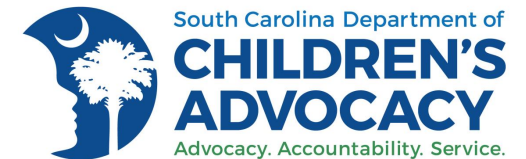
Advocating Permanent Families for Children

Foster Care Review Board



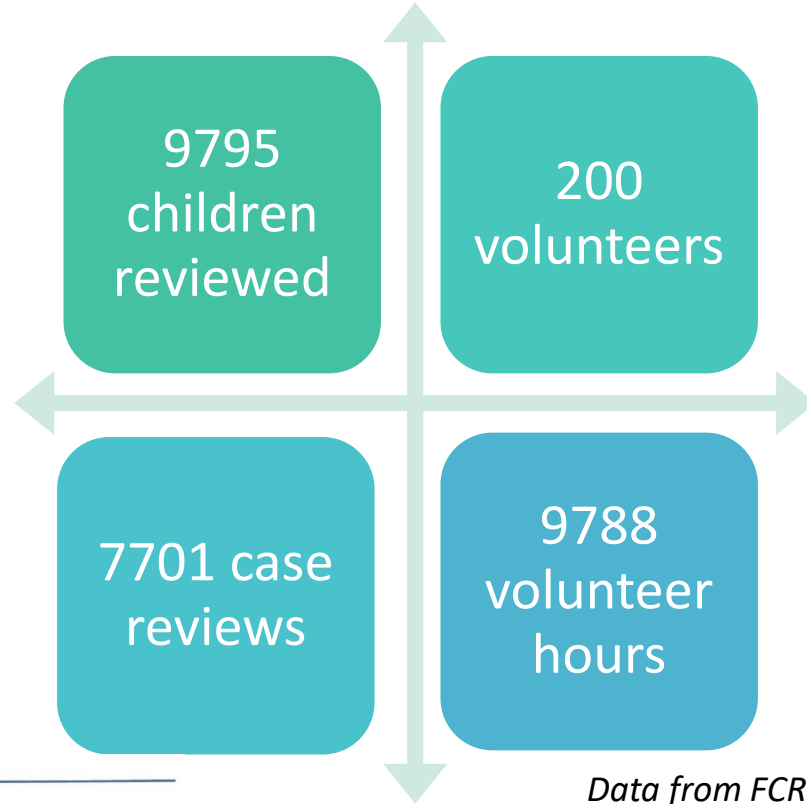
FOSTER CARE REVIEW BOARD

Advocating Permanent Families for Children

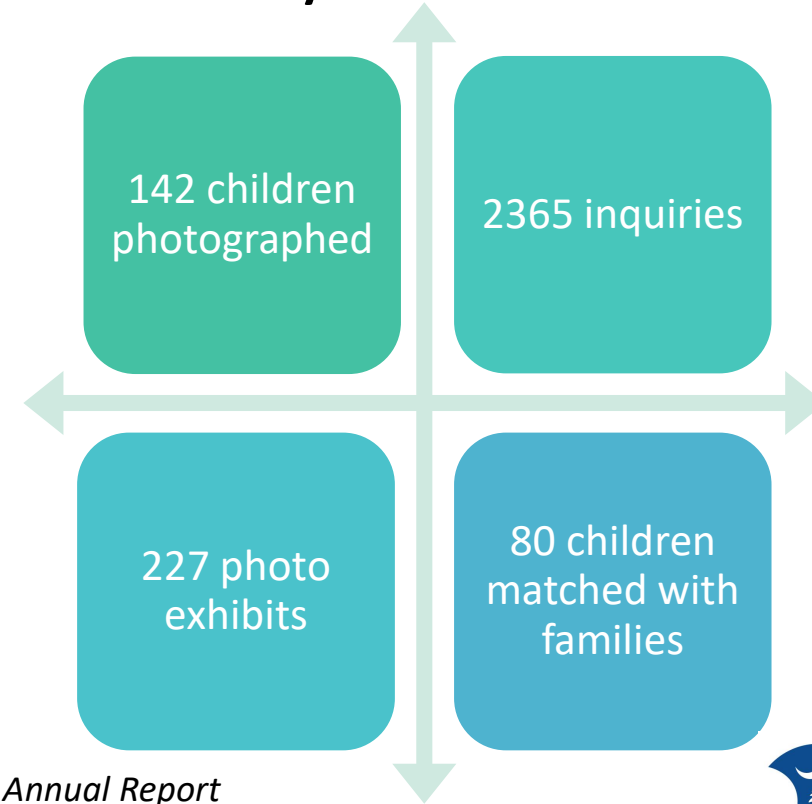


Foster Care Review Board

Foster Care Review Board Staff and Volunteers



Heart Gallery Staff and Volunteers



Data from FCRB 2018-2019 Annual Report

FOSTER CARE REVIEW BOARD

Advocating Permanent Families for Children



GAL

Guardian ad Litem

FOR CHILDREN

**CASS ELIAS McCARTER
GUARDIAN AD LITEM PROGRAM
SOUTH CAROLINA**

Guardian ad Litem Program



Effective July 1, 2010, all children who are involved in a DSS abuse and neglect action in Family Court must have a Guardian ad Litem appointed for them through the Guardian ad Litem Program (except Richland County which has a separate program).

In **FY 2018–19**, more than **2,000** Guardian ad Litem volunteers served **15,603** South Carolina children.



Guardian ad Litem Program

As of July 1, 2019:

- **6,060** children had an appointed volunteer Guardian ad Litem
- **3,083** children had an appointed staff Guardian ad Litem



Guardian ad Litem Program

Guardian ad Litem Program Staff Capacity

Current Positions	Current Total	Filled July 1, 2019	Filled January 2, 2020
Total FTE	120	78	91
Total Temporary Grant	10	6	7
Total Time Limited	2	1	1
Total Temporary Hourly	9	0	9
Total	141	85	108

Guardian ad Litem Program



The FY 2020-21 budget proposes a modification of Proviso 41.2 to authorize a broader use of Guardian ad Litem Program's carryforward funds.

INVESTIGATIONS UNIT

Investigations Unit: New Statutory Duties

- **Ensure that children under the care of a state agency** receive timely, safe and effective services.
- **Examine, on a system-wide basis, the care and services** that state agencies provide children.
- **Develop and promote a broad vision for reform.**
- **Receive and investigate complaints** related to the provision of services to children by a state agency.
- **Receive and investigate complaints from children in the care of the state.**
- **Receive and possibly investigate critical incidents.**
- **Serve as a State Child Fatality Committee member.**

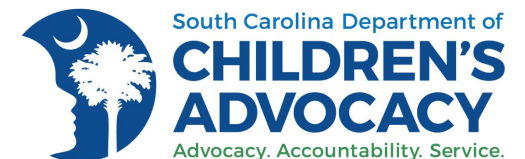


1-800-206-1957
childadvocate.sc.gov



Investigations Unit: Six Month Snapshot

- **Complaints Submitted By:**
 - Website: childadvocate.sc.gov
 - Toll Free Number: 1-800-206-1957
- **Approximately 800 complaints received within first six months**





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