



House Human Services Committee

Judge John Specia, DFPS Commissioner

February 23, 2015

The mission of the Department of Family and Protective Services is to protect children, the elderly, and people with disabilities from abuse, neglect, and exploitation by involving clients, families, and communities.

2004

2014

Child Population (17.4% increase)

6,189,777  7,266,760

Children in Regulated Child Care (21.3% increase)

903,094  1,095,721

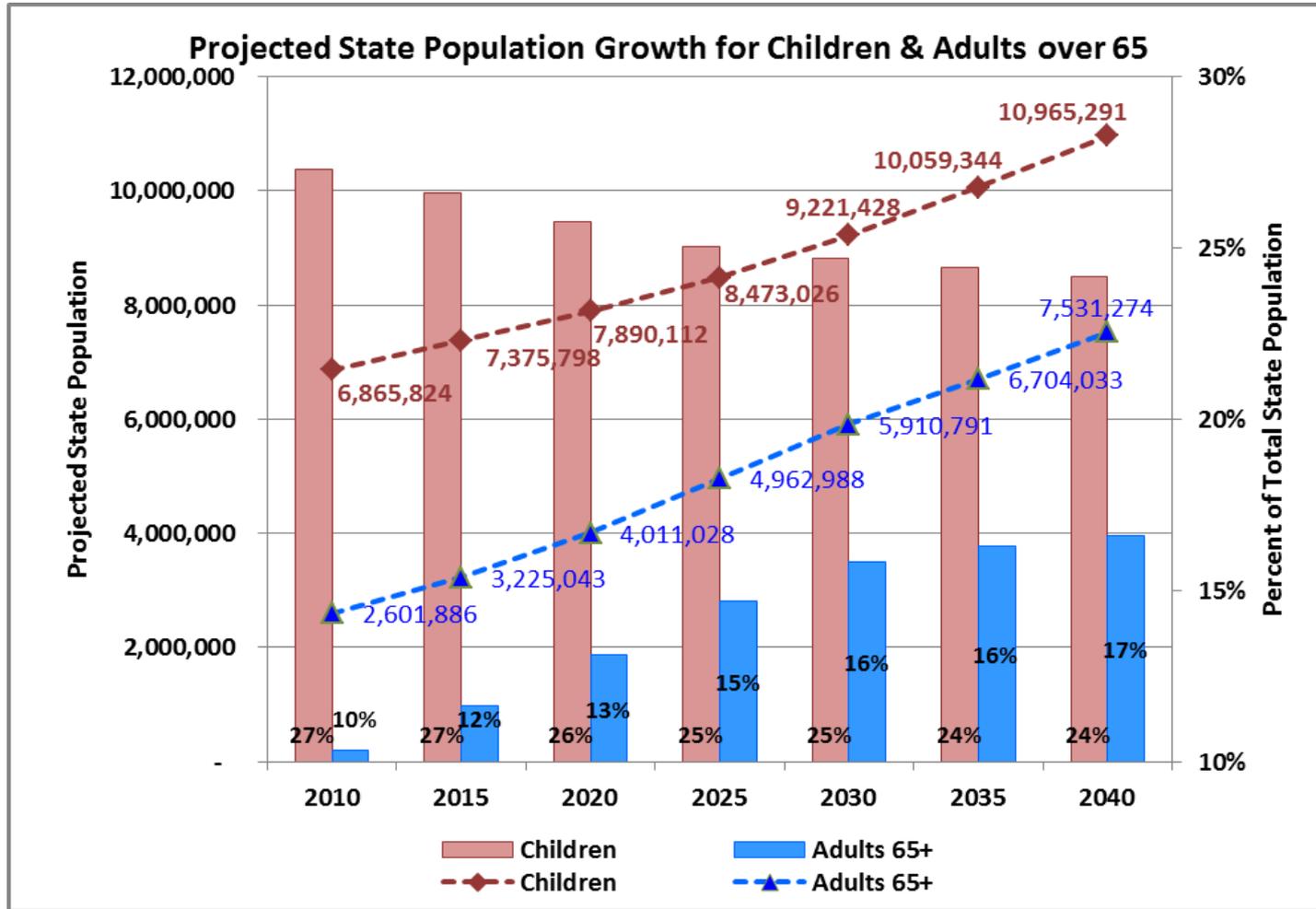
Adults over 65 (39.2% increase)

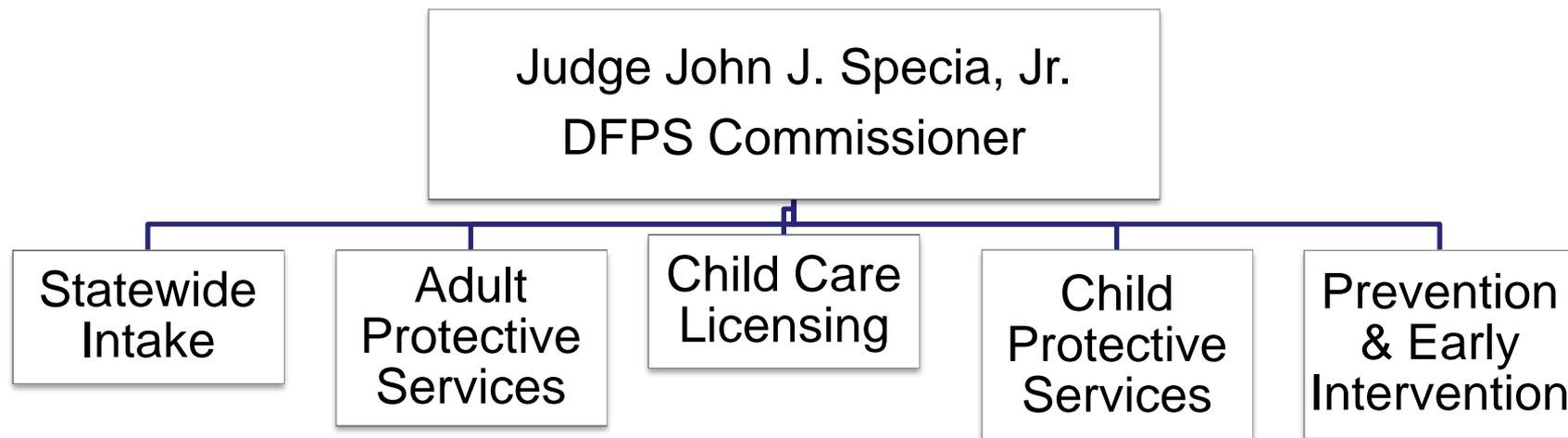
2,217,067  3,086,103

Adults 18-64 with a Disability (16.4% increase)*

1,482,000  1,724,408

Population Growth 2010-2040





Statewide Intake (SWI) receives reports of abuse, neglect and exploitation 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year.

- SWI assessed a total of 769,905 contacts in FY 2014
 - 608,991 (79.1%) were received by phone.
 - 130,568 (16.9%) were received by the internet
 - 25,243 (3.3%) were received by mail/fax

Texas Abuse Hotline

1-800-252-5400 or www.txabusehotline.org

Texas Youth and Runaway Hotline received 7,295 calls in addition to 800 texts and chats.

Adult Protective Services (APS) investigates allegations of abuse, neglect, and exploitation of adults who are age 65 and older or who have a disability. The two APS program areas are:

- **In-Home Investigations and Services** – serves individuals who reside in their own homes or in unlicensed room and board homes. If appropriate, APS provides or arranges for services, including short-term shelter, food, medication, health services, financial assistance for rent and utilities, transportation, and minor home repair.
 - *FY 2014, 81,681 investigations were conducted and 41,496 services were arranged.*
- **Facility Investigations** – investigates allegations of abuse, neglect and exploitation in state-operated and/or contracted programs that serve adults and children with mental illness and intellectual disabilities.
 - *FY 2014, 11,387 investigations were conducted.*

To protect the health, safety, and well-being of children who are cared for outside of their homes, Child Care Licensing (CCL) regulates all child day-care and residential care operations, including, child-placing agencies. This includes:

- Licensing and monitoring operations for compliance with licensing standards, rules, and law;
- Investigating abuse, neglect and/or violations of minimum standards;
- Informing parents and the public about child care operations, including all types of day care homes and facilities; and
- Providing technical assistance to providers for licensing standards, rules and law.

**In FY 2014:*

- *CCL regulated 31,919 child day care and residential child care operations facilities;*
 - *Conducted 32,438 investigations at child day care and residential child care operations licensed facilities; and*
 - *Investigated 3,271 illegal operations.*
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- Child Protective Services (CPS) investigates reports of abuse and neglect of a child, while also assessing risk and child safety.
- CPS provides services to preserve families while keeping a child safe in his or her own home and when a child is reunified after a removal.
- If a child cannot safely remain in their own home, CPS may request the court for removal and temporary custody. If granted, CPS places children in kinship or foster care.
- When a child cannot safely be reunited with a parent, CPS works to find a safe, loving, and permanent home.
- CPS provides services to foster youth transitioning into adulthood.

**In FY 2014:*

- *CPS conducted 168,164 investigations, 66,572 were confirmed cases of A/N.*
- *30,634 families and 85,694 children received Family Based Safety Services.*

Helps communities build strong families by:

- Designing programming and targeting high-risk communities based on an understanding of both risk factors and protective factors for child abuse, neglect, and juvenile delinquent behavior;
- Contracting with community organizations to provide a variety of evidence-based child and family support services; and
- Funding public awareness campaigns to promote community wide protective efforts.

In FY 15 there are 76 PEI programs operating in Texas, including:

- Home visiting programs to educate at-risk parents of newborns and preschoolers;
 - Parenting classes and support groups; and
 - Crisis intervention counseling for families and teens.
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Office of Child Safety



Foster Care Redesign

- APS contracted with the National Council on Crime and Delinquency to develop a new In-Home casework practice model that uses structured decision making to improve client outcomes. On September 1, 2014, APS implemented SHIELD (Strategies that Help Intervention and Evaluation Leading to Decisions), which includes three assessment tools:
 - Safety Assessment
 - Risk of Recidivism Assessment
 - Strengths and Needs Assessment

The goal of CPS Transformation is to make CPS the highest quality child protective services system in the nation. Utilizing input from the Legislature, the Sunset Advisory Commission, the Stephen Group operational review, stakeholders, and our own workers, Transformation focuses on the following priorities:

- A. Develop a professional and stable workforce.
 - Strategic recruiting and hiring practices.
 - Mentoring program.
 - Shift training from a classroom-based model to a field-based model.
- B. Guarantee greater child safety, permanency, and well-being.
 - Structured Decision Making.
 - Elevated Prevention and Early Intervention.
 - Family Based Safety Services Case Reading Tool.
- C. Establish a more effective organization and operation.
 - Streamlined policy.
 - Improving tools that utilize data to drive management decisions.

Established on September 1, 2014, the new Office of Child Safety will:

- Produce consistent, transparent, and timely review of child fatalities and serious injuries by independent experts outside of any specific program;
- Find root causes of child fatalities to provide guidance on the most effective prevention methods as well as improvements in child welfare practices;
- Work closely with the Department of State Health Services and others to share data and information; and
- Develop strategic recommendations to bring together local agencies, private sector, non-profits, and government programs to reduce child abuse and fatalities.

- Foster Care Redesign was created to achieve these goals:
 - Keep children and youth closer to home and connected to their communities and siblings.
 - Improve the quality of care and outcomes.
 - Reduce the number of times children move in foster care.
 - Foster Care Redesign relies on a single contractor. This contracting agency is responsible for finding foster homes or other living arrangements for children in state care and providing them a full continuum of services.
 - Foster Care Redesign changes the state's approach from delivering foster care based on a single statewide model to one that allows the community the flexibility to be innovative and design a foster care model.
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- In December 2013 DFPS awarded the first metropolitan Foster Care Redesign Single Source Continuum Contract (SSCC) to ACH Child and Family Services.
- Our Community Our Kids (OCOK) a division of ACH, serves Region 3b
- Region 3b includes: Tarrant, Parker, Palo Pinto, Erath, Hood, Johnson, Somervell Counties

1. Ensure a Solid Foundation for Delivery of Current Service

- Maintain services for vulnerable children, adults and their families
- Maintain essential caseworker tools

2. Implement CPS Transformation

- Increase time with families by improving worker systems and supports
- Develop a professional/stable workforce
- Effective organization and operations

3. Support Safety Initiatives for Vulnerable Children and Adults

- Get up-to-date criminal background checks
- Increase support and services for high-risk CPS families and military families
- Children in foster care
- Children in licensed child care
- Elder adults and individuals with disabilities
- Create more tenure and experience in direct delivery staff
- Improve outcomes for foster care children
- Use data more effectively to improve child safety

4. Continue Foster Care Redesign

- Expand FCR to four additional catchment areas (2 additional per year)

5. Comply with New Federal Laws and Requirements

- Maintain compliance with federal child care licensing requirements
- Ensure health and welfare of Medicaid HCBS clients
- Maintain compliance with Sex Trafficking and Strengthening Families Act

6. Improve Records Management and Access
7. Build Stronger External Partnerships
 - Improve stakeholder and external coordination
 - Strengthen joint investigations

Exceptional Items at a Glance

Agency Exceptional Items	FY 2016		FY 2017		BIENNIAL TOTAL		FY 2016	FY 2017
	GR/GRD	All Funds	GR/GRD	All Funds	GR/GRD	All Funds	FTEs	FTEs
1 Ensure Solid Foundation	\$18,925,434	\$20,542,937	\$18,747,171	\$21,611,904	\$37,672,605	\$42,154,841	0.0	0.0
a. Maintain Services for Vulnerable Children, Adults and Their Families - Entitlement	\$1,443,362	\$2,783,574	\$2,926,199	\$5,724,311	\$4,369,561	\$8,507,885	0.0	0.0
b. Maintain Services for Vulnerable Children, Adults and Their Families - Non-Entitlement	\$12,841,998	\$12,841,998	\$14,137,861	\$14,137,861	\$26,979,859	\$26,979,859	0.0	0.0
c. Maintain Essential Caseworker Tools	\$4,640,074	\$4,917,365	\$1,683,111	\$1,749,732	\$6,323,185	\$6,667,097	0.0	0.0
2 Implement CPS Transformation	\$40,197,261	\$41,532,788	\$14,804,673	\$16,015,317	\$55,001,934	\$57,548,105	123.6	123.6
a. Increase Time with Families by Improving Worker Supports and Systems	\$34,776,618	\$35,474,175	\$9,536,002	\$10,155,689	\$44,312,620	\$45,629,864	96.2	96.2
b. Develop a Professional /Stable Workforce	\$3,855,612	\$4,310,052	\$3,829,202	\$4,259,242	\$7,684,814	\$8,569,294	7.1	7.1
c. Effective Organization and Operations	\$1,565,031	\$1,748,561	\$1,439,469	\$1,600,386	\$3,004,500	\$3,348,947	20.3	20.3
3 Support Safety Initiatives for Vulnerable Children and Adults	\$43,084,625	\$45,886,722	\$36,181,697	\$37,639,418	\$79,266,322	\$83,526,140	180.8	180.8
a. Get Up-To-Date Criminal Background Checks	\$1,604,167	\$1,751,323	\$874,323	\$956,080	\$2,478,490	\$2,707,403	0.0	0.0
b. Increase Support and Services for High Risk CPS Families and Military Families	\$17,986,532	\$18,128,047	\$20,656,429	\$20,658,507	\$38,642,961	\$38,786,554	6.1	6.1
c. Children in Foster Care	\$3,745,412	\$3,941,067	\$3,380,408	\$3,548,588	\$7,125,820	\$7,489,655	51.9	51.9
d. Children in Licensed Child Care	\$4,926,173	\$5,600,886	\$3,332,392	\$3,905,836	\$8,258,565	\$9,506,722	60.9	60.9
e. Elder Adults and Individuals with Disabilities	\$1,507,252	\$1,648,451	\$1,295,504	\$1,411,939	\$2,802,756	\$3,060,390	9.7	9.7
f. Create More Tenure and Experience in Direct Delivery Staff	\$7,116,840	\$7,939,935	\$2,419,075	\$2,644,351	\$9,535,915	\$10,584,286	4.1	4.1
g. Improve Outcomes for Foster Care Children	\$1,006,041	\$1,008,482	\$1,006,137	\$1,008,482	\$2,012,178	\$2,016,964	0.0	0.0
h. Use Data More Effectively to Improve Child Safety	\$5,192,208	\$5,868,531	\$3,217,429	\$3,505,635	\$8,409,637	\$9,374,166	48.1	48.1
4 Continue Foster Care Redesign	\$4,820,258	\$4,851,421	\$6,309,358	\$6,356,141	\$11,129,616	\$11,207,562	3.0	5.1
5 Comply with new Federal Laws	\$19,605,712	\$22,216,621	\$12,664,778	\$13,773,531	\$32,270,490	\$35,990,152	87.5	186.3
a. Maintain Compliance with Federal Child Care Licensing Requirements	\$8,768,518	\$9,313,866	\$8,363,301	\$8,736,168	\$17,131,819	\$18,050,034	30.1	128.9
b. Ensure Health and Welfare of Medicaid HCBS Clients	\$1,305,416	\$1,573,159	\$1,393,439	\$1,691,909	\$2,698,855	\$3,265,068	27.9	27.9
c. Maintain Compliance with Sex Trafficking and Strengthening Families Act	\$9,531,778	\$11,329,596	\$2,908,038	\$3,345,454	\$12,439,816	\$14,675,050	29.5	29.5
6 Improve Records Management and Access	\$3,224,229	\$3,558,642	\$2,811,073	\$3,089,944	\$6,035,302	\$6,648,586	67.2	67.2
7 Build Stronger External Partnerships	\$4,310,374	\$4,411,099	\$4,230,220	\$4,318,539	\$8,540,594	\$8,729,638	12.6	12.6
a. Improve Stakeholder and External Coordination	\$960,374	\$1,061,099	\$880,220	\$968,539	\$1,840,594	\$2,029,638	12.6	12.6
b. Strengthen Joint Investigations	\$3,350,000	\$3,350,000	\$3,350,000	\$3,350,000	\$6,700,000	\$6,700,000	0.0	0.0
Total -	\$134,167,893	\$143,000,230	\$95,748,970	\$102,804,794	\$229,916,863	\$245,805,024	474.7	575.6