



# Understanding CSA

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MAKING SENSE OF THE CHILDREN'S SERVICES ACT

# What is the Children's Services Act

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The Children's Services Act (CSA), previously called the Comprehensive Services Act, is now the name for a law enacted in 1993 that establishes a single state pool of funds to purchase services for at-risk youth and their families

A partnership between state and local government to provide an effective and efficient System of Care (SOC)

State-supervised, locally-administered system in which the State Executive Council (SEC) and its administrative agency, the Office of Children's Services (OCS), are responsible for oversight of the CSA

At the local level, the Community Planning and Management Team (CPMT) set the local policies and the Family Assessment and Planning Team (FAPT) hear the requests for services

# Why do we need CSA?

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**A 1991 study looked at 4 agencies and found of 14,000 cases there were only 4,993 unique cases. The state pooled 8 funding streams from 4 agencies (DSS, Schools, CSB, CSU) to create a single pool fund to strengthen community collaboration.**

- DYFS 286 Special Placement Funds
- DYFS 239 Special Placement Funds
- DOE Private Tuition Assistance
- DOE Interagency Assistance Fund for Non-educational Placements of Handicapped Children
- DSS State/Local Foster Care
- DSS Foster Care Block Grant (Purchase Services & Supplemental)
- DMHMHAS Bed Purchase Funds for Adolescents
- State Interagency Consortium's Funds Pool

# CPMT Vision & Values

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## **Vision:**

*Children live safely and productively with their families and in their schools and communities.*

## **Values:**

**Connected-** Young people thrive with caring adults and families

**Engaged-** Families and young people are engaged in decisions about their care

**Productive-** Services are meaningful and responsive to children's needs

**Local-** Children are best served in their home communities

# What makes up CSA funding?

(FY16 Data)

**LOCAL FUNDS – 38.40% (EFFECTIVE MATCH RATE)**

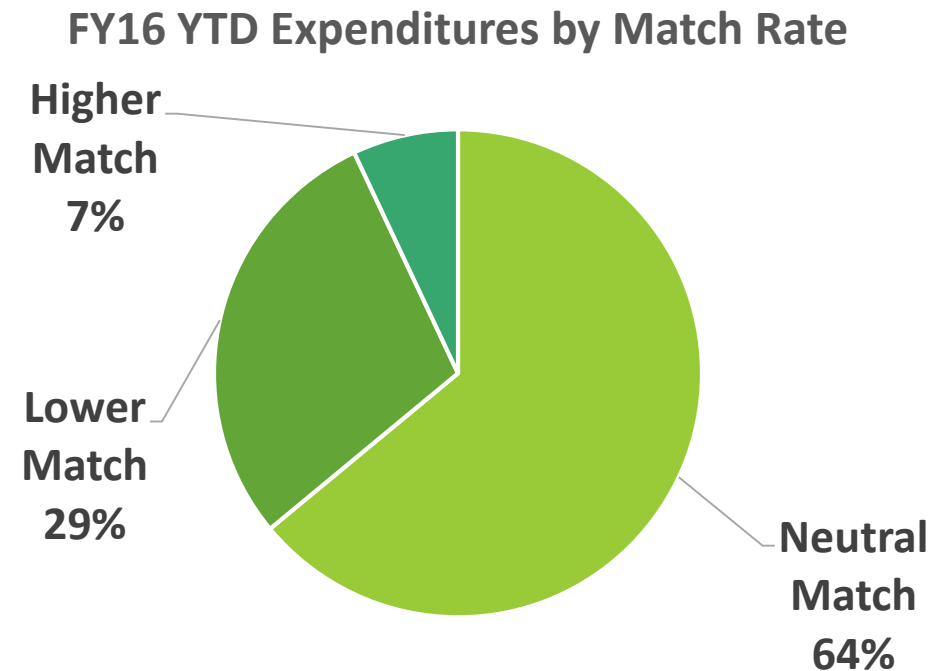
**STATE FUNDS – 61.60%**

**Higher Match Rate - 55.92%**  
(Congregate Care)

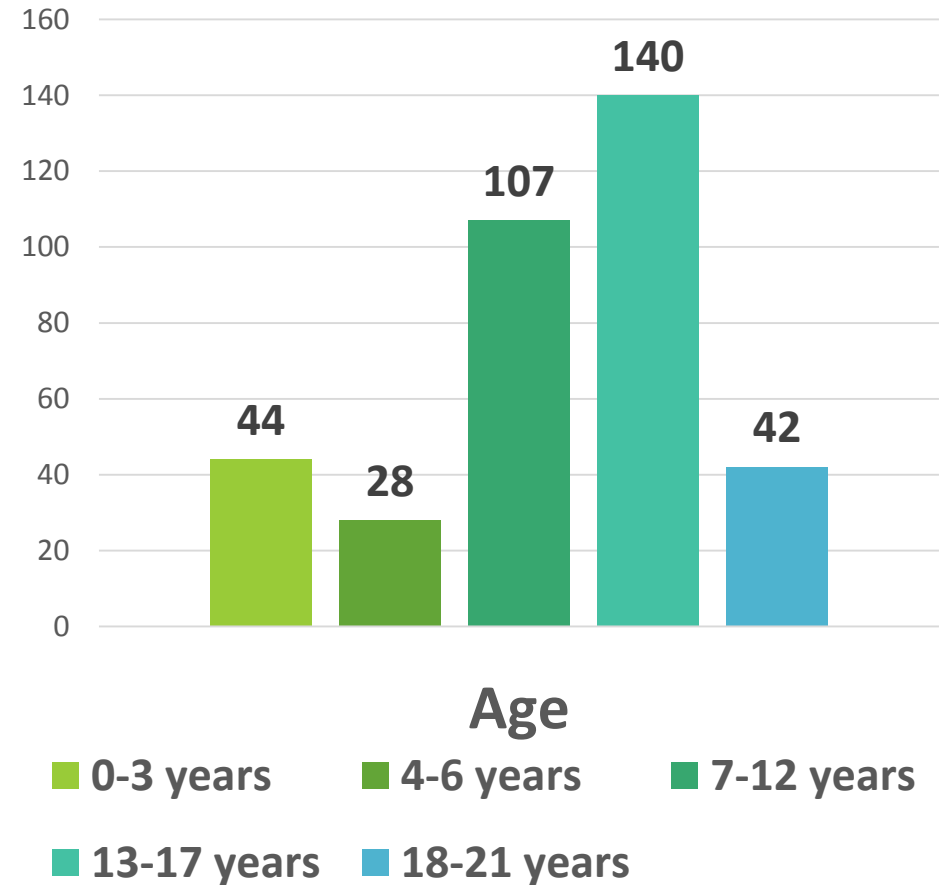
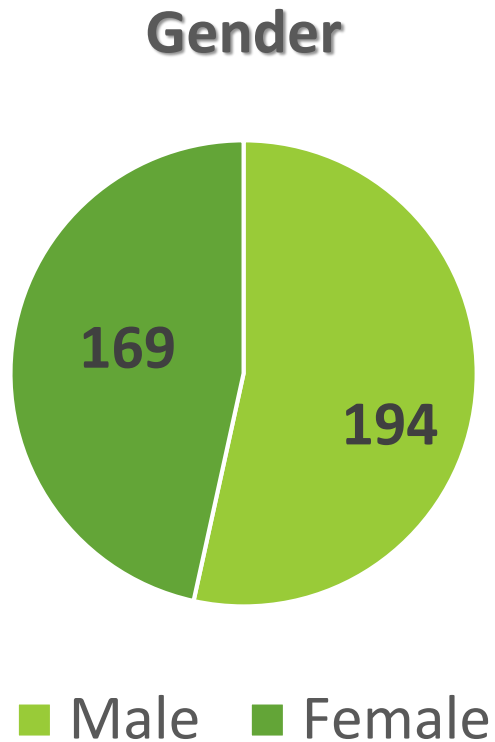
**Neutral Match Rate - 44.74%**  
(TFC, Foster Homes, IL, Educational services for Congregate Care)

**Lower Match Rate - 22.37%**  
(Community-Based Services)

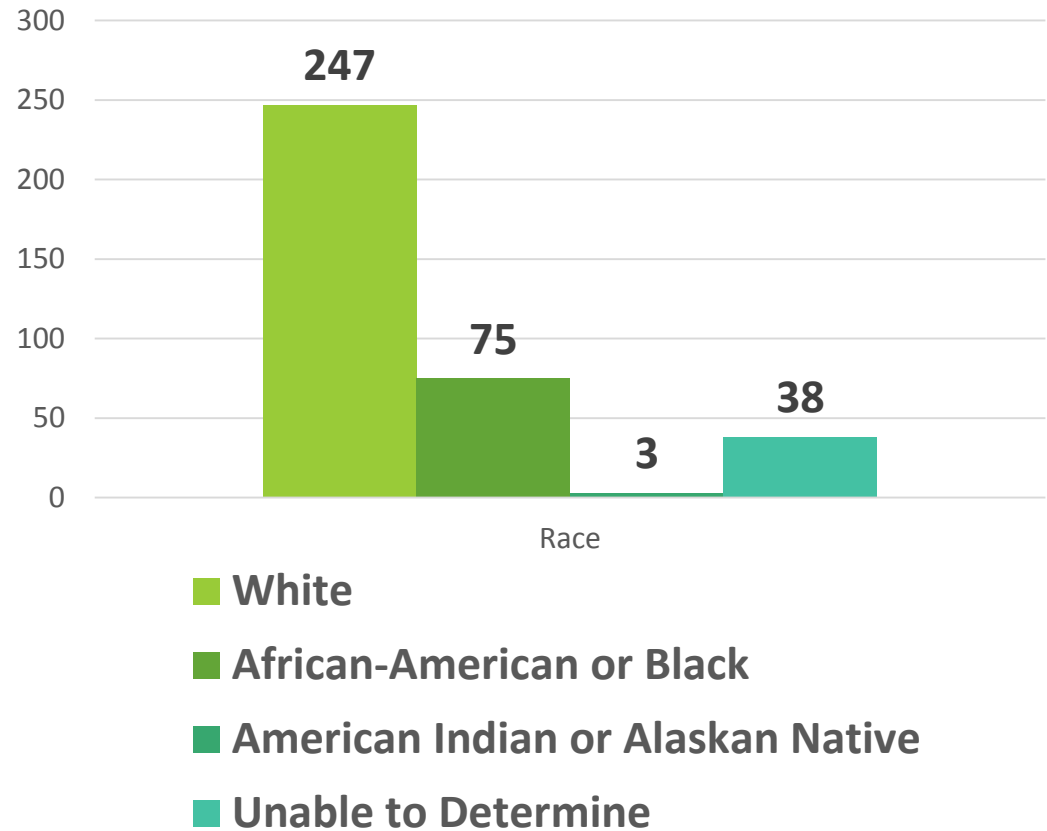
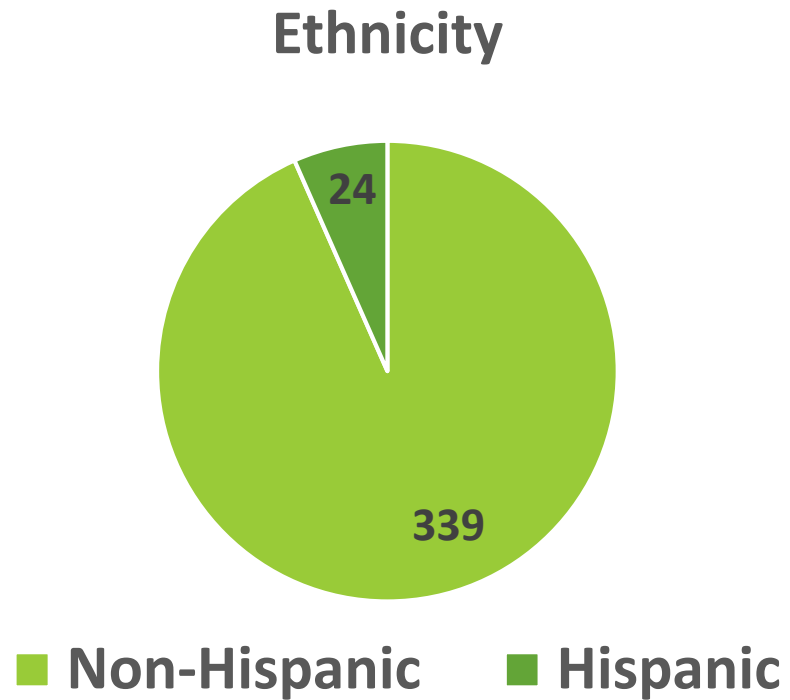
\*\*the local match rate is higher for residential services to incentivize the use of community based services which is lower\*\*



# Demographics of CSA Youth (FY16 Data)



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# Who Served CSA Youth?

(FY16 Data)

Agency	Number Served	Average Expenditure per Child	Average Length of Stay
DSS	254	\$21,507.16	288.96
Schools	57	\$62,270.65	327.51
CSB	38	\$17,799.03	262.26
CSU	14	\$5,150.64	269.43



Who Does  
CSA Serve?

Youth who are  
in foster care or  
eligible for  
foster care  
services

## **Foster Care**

### **151 youth served (FY16 Data)**

#### **A's story**

7 years old. Came into Foster Care due to Abuse/Neglect. Has history of repeated separation and abandonment.

Has been in foster care for 10 years and been in multiple settings including foster home, group home, kinship home, residential facilities and hospitalizations. Has received multiple assessments and services.

Has struggled to be maintained in a placement due to verbal and physical aggression, suicidal ideation, property destruction, and substance abuse.

DSS continues to try to serve the needs in the least restrictive environment.

Who Does  
CSA Serve?

Youth who are  
in foster care or  
eligible for  
foster care  
services

## Foster Care Prevention

**125 youth served** (FY16 data)

### B's story

12 years old. Came to DSS attention because of mother's substance abuse, domestic violence, mental health, including suicidal and homicidal threats towards her children.

Support services were provided to the family for 3 years to prevent children from entering foster care as the mom received treatment, including acute hospitalizations. Relatives were used as respite for the parent.

Case has successfully closed with children at home with their mother.

Who Does  
CSA Serve?

Youth who  
require private  
placement for  
special  
education

## Special Ed.: Private Day School

**125 youth served** (FY16 data)

### C's story

C has a diagnosis of autism, and has significant delays in attention, communication and overall social engagement. C's behavior and lack of functional communication skills are currently the most prevalent impediments to him being able to access the curriculum.

Over the past month, C has engaged in an average of 6 acts of property destruction per hour (range 1-17), 5 aggressions per hour (range 0-12), 2 instance of elopement per hour (range 0-4), and 2 acts of mouthing per hour (range 0-4). C's delays and behaviors resulted in staff injury at the public school and ultimately required an individualized schedule with adult assistance at all times to access instruction as well as to reduce problem behavior.

Who Does  
CSA Serve?

Youth who  
require private  
residential  
placement for  
special  
education

## Special Ed.: Private Residential

### 9 youth served (FY16 data)

#### D's story

D presents is a child with Autism and significant cognitive impairments at the high school level. He presents with behavioral challenges at home, in the community and at school.

D has demonstrated his frustration on a daily basis by making loud screaming noises, throwing items, pounding the wall or furniture, hitting the window, jumping up and down, biting himself, squeezing staffs arm, pulling staffs' hair and crying. When D has an outburst his classmates need to be removed from the room for safety concerns. D often gets upset if he is asked to wait or if he is not able to communicate his needs/wants. D is able to be redirected at times but there have been instances that the parent had to be called because he could not calm down even after medication was administered.

Who Does  
CSA Serve?

Youth with  
disabilities who  
need services  
outside the IEP /  
school day to  
maintain  
placement in the  
community

## Special Ed: Wrap Around Services

**10 youth served** (FY16 data)

### E's story

E is a child with an emotional disability who is at a private day placement in the community. In an effort to maintain that day placement, Wrap Around services have been secured that include In-Home Supports, Family Psychotherapy, and Intensive Care Coordination.

Service providers, school staff, and a facilitator meet regularly to monitor services, progress and treatment plan to meet objectives.

This student is expected to transition back to his neighborhood school within the next 6 months.

Who Does  
CSA Serve?  
**Youth who are  
eligible for  
services  
through a Child  
in Need of  
Services finding**

## **CHINS**

**38 youth served** (FY16 data)

### **F's story**

12 years old. Came to Region Ten's attention due to recent discharge from acute hospitalization with a history of depression, anxiety, eating disorder, and suicidal ideation and attempt.

Services offered included Outpatient therapy, Intensive Care Coordination, and Therapeutic Day Treatment.

Youth is doing well and is currently back in public school. ICC is transitioning out after 9 months.

Who Does  
CSA Serve?

**Non-Mandated  
(Primarily  
Court Involved  
Youth on  
Supervised  
Probation)**

## **Non-Mandated**

**14 Youth served** (FY16 data)

### **G's Story**

16 years old. Came to Court Service Unit's attention due to criminal activities, drug use, and possible gang affiliation. Youth was missing school and failing classes. Parent is Spanish speaking and was unable to communicate with providers.

CSA funds have been used to provide culturally competent services to the parent with a Spanish speaking provider. Youth has been diverted from corrections.

# Local Initiatives to Reduce CSA costs

- ❖ Enhanced Prevention services/Decreased number of Foster care cases (due to Family Finding efforts, Family Partnership Meetings, Addition of 2 Prevention positions, Community Attention Foster Family Respite)
- ❖ Increased use of SPED-Wraparound funding, High Fidelity Wraparound (including Intensive Care Coordination and Parent Partners), Department of Juvenile Justice Transformation Initiative
- ❖ Region Ten's Crisis Stabilization Day Center
- ❖ Public Schools increasing capacity to serve children on the autism spectrum in their home school
  - ❖ Invest in Capacity Building (Staff Development)
  - ❖ Create Structures of Support (Autism Specialists, B.A.S.E. Programs)



# Local Initiatives to Reduce CSA costs

**Decrease in local match due to increased use of community based services**

