



House Health and Social Services Finance Subcommittee

Alaska Psychiatric Institute Overview

- Marian Sweet
Assistant Commissioner
- Scott York
Chief Executive Officer

February 25, 2025

Alaska Psychiatric Institute

Established in 1962, Alaska Psychiatric Institute operates five inpatient units with a total of 80 licensed beds.

Services include acute adult and adolescent, forensic restoration, and long-term care for adults with complex discharge challenges.

Mission Statement

Providing compassionate health care to support Alaskans in living their best possible lives.

Vision Statement

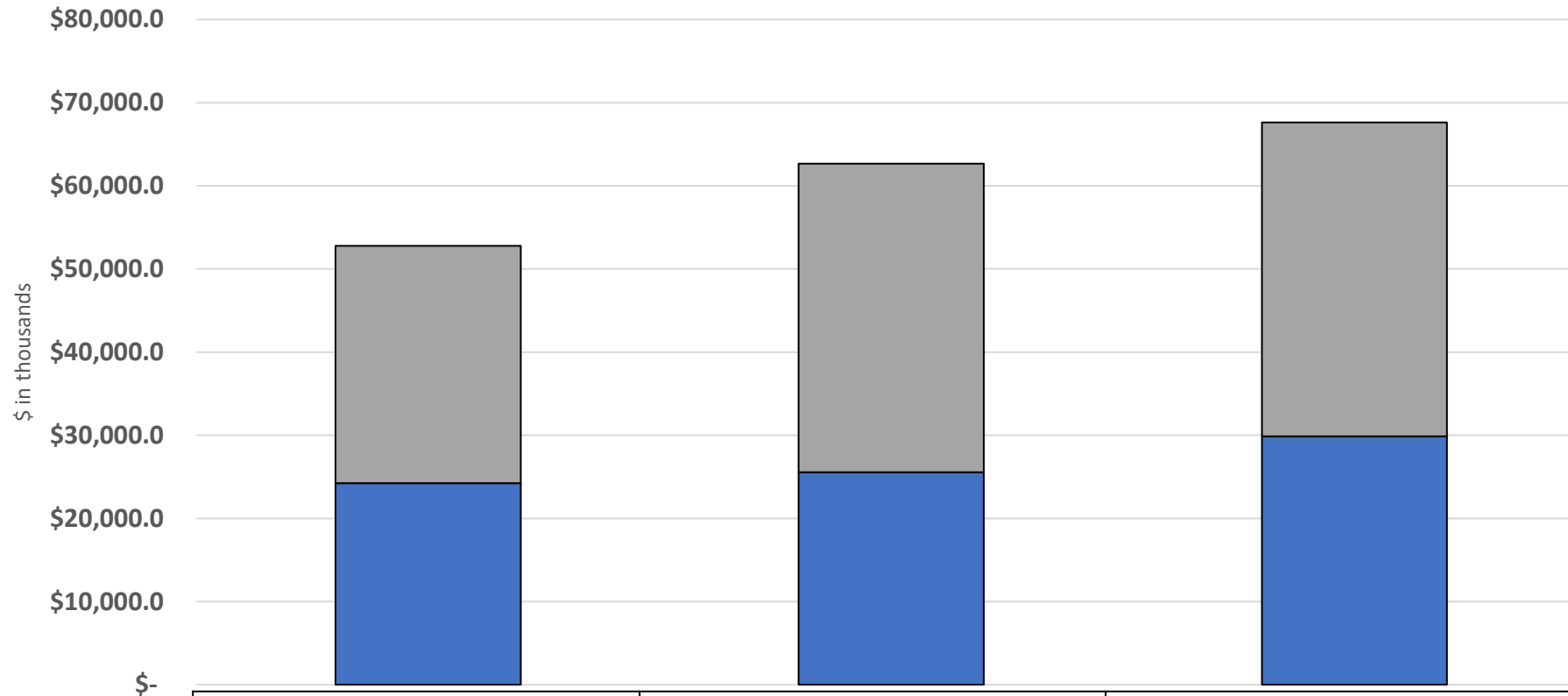
An Alaska where everyone receives the care they need, when they need it, without judgement.

Values

Integrity - **D**ignity - **E**xcellence - **A**ccountability - **S**afety



Alaska Psychiatric Institute



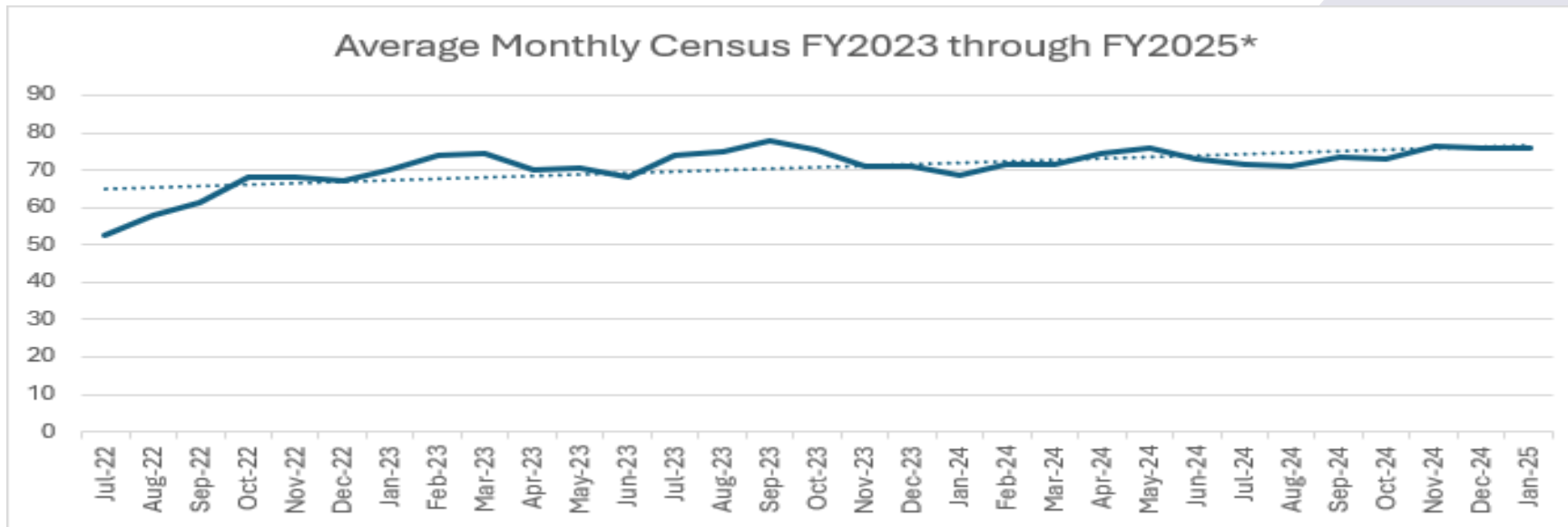
API Budget Items:

FY2026 UGF
increment
\$4,368.7 to
support API
operations

FY2026 GMFH
increment
\$200.0 to
support the
SHARP
Program

Census Overview

	FY2023	FY2024	FY2025*
Admissions	627	526	320
Discharges	619	519	318
Average Daily Census	66.80	73.20	74.13
Average Length of Stay (Days)	36.80	44.22	36.96



* FY2025 through 1/20/2025

Waitlist Overview

	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY2025*
Adult Civil			
Average Adults on Waitlist	15.9	14.7	14.4
Average days on Waitlist	4.2	4.5	3.7
Adolescent Civil			
Average Adolescents on Waitlist	1.3	1.6	1.9
Average Days on Waitlist	5.3	7.3	8
Forensic Waitlist			
Average Forensic Waitlist	33	40	47
Average Days on Waitlist	145	165	130

* FY2025 through 1/20/2025

Strategic Focus



Evidenced Based Gold
Standard Patient Care

Employee Safety

Recruitment

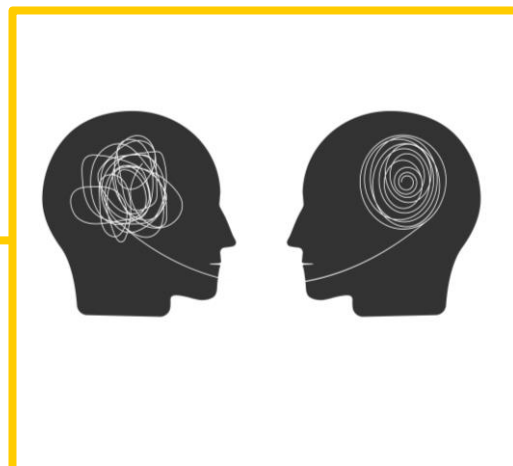
* FY2023 through 01/01/2023

Evidenced Based Treatment



Treatment Mall

Combined treatment activities between adult units with self-selection



CBTp

Staff are utilizing Cognitive Behavioral Therapy for Psychosis in short- and long-term treatment



Long Term Modeling

Workgroups and treatment planning underway for gold-standard care for longer tenure patients

Discharge Placement

Challenges with Discharge Placements:

Limited long-term care options for complex cases.
Difficulty identifying appropriate discharge options for complex patients.
Identifying funding for complex placements.

Barriers Faced:

Shortage of community resources and specialized care facilities.
Complex legal and medical needs of patients, complicating discharge planning.
Long wait times for suitable placements.
Financial and insurance limitations for complex care needs.

Employee Safety Incidents

Patient on Staff Assaults (CY 2024)

Total events: 320 incidents

High utilizers: 164 incidents (51%) conducted by two high-utilizer patients

Increase: 37% increase in assaults compared to CY 2023

Mitigation Plan

- Established Workplace Safety Committee
- Weekly meetings with unit managers to discuss events
- Development of behavior plans for high utilizers
- MANDT training emphasizing relationship building and de-escalation techniques
- Continuous education and training

Recruitment



Psychiatrists



Nursing

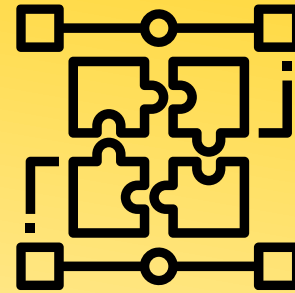
Key Achievements



Beacon Award
Denali Unit



Employee
Recognition



Developed
Strategic Plan



Jail-based and
Outpatient
Restoration

Patient Story

Q, a 41-year-old male, has been hospitalized at API 53 times since 2009 for reasons including danger to others, grave disability, and self-harm. He has a long-standing diagnosis of schizoaffective disorder, bipolar type. Unfortunately, due to the progressive nature of his psychotic disorder and a lack of community and familial support, as well as insufficient insight into the need for outpatient resources and psychotropic medications, his condition has continued to worsen.

To address his complex needs, various state departments, including the Department of Health, Office of Public Advocacy, Department of Corrections, Anchorage Police Department, and the Department of Law, worked together to find an out-of-state placement that could better support him. In June 2024, Q was successfully discharged to Encanto Palms in Phoenix, AZ.

Lessons learned: This case underscores that no patient is beyond help. Those with severe psychiatric symptoms and challenging behaviors need our dedicated care and support. For API staff to continue delivering effective care, it is essential to focus on prioritizing psychiatric services and implementing a coordinated, multi-system approach to address complex needs.



**"Please also express my appreciation for the talent and commitment of the many DFCS personnel who helped create his successful path to long-term care."
Steve Young, Public Guardian**

Future Outlook

- **Enhanced patient care** through ongoing program updates to meet evolving needs
- **Electronic Health Record** implementation in 2025
- **API/DOC Collaboration:** Development of an inpatient-style forensic program within Department of Corrections location
- **Increased collaboration** with community providers and across departments/divisions

Q & A

Any questions?

Thank you!

For more information, please contact:

Raymie Matiashowski, Legislative Liaison

Raymond.Matiashowski@alaska.gov

(907) 419-2139

This concludes information
regarding Alaska Psychiatric Institute

February 25, 2025



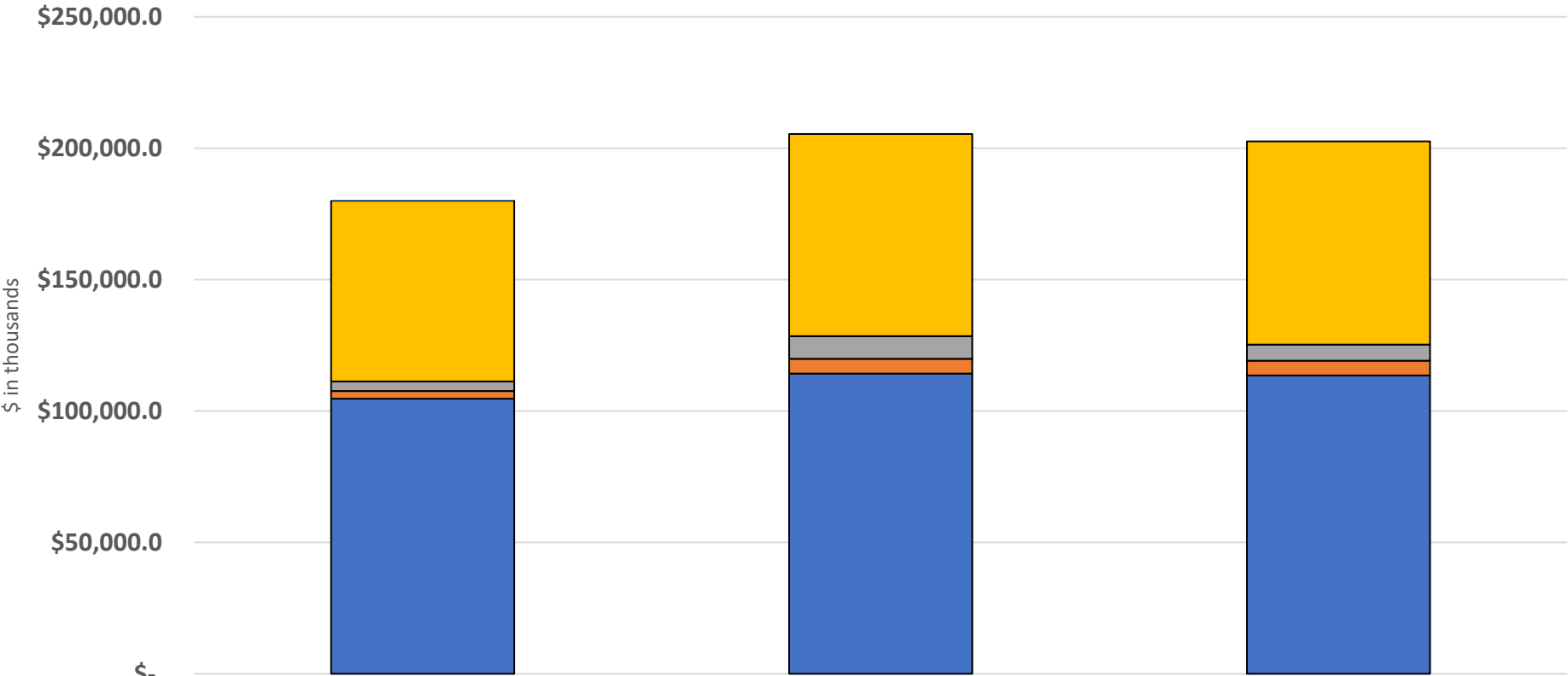
House Health and Social Services Finance Subcommittee

Office of Children's Services Overview

- Marian Sweet
Assistant Commissioner
- Kim Guay
Director of Office of Children's Services

February 25, 2025

Office of Children's Services

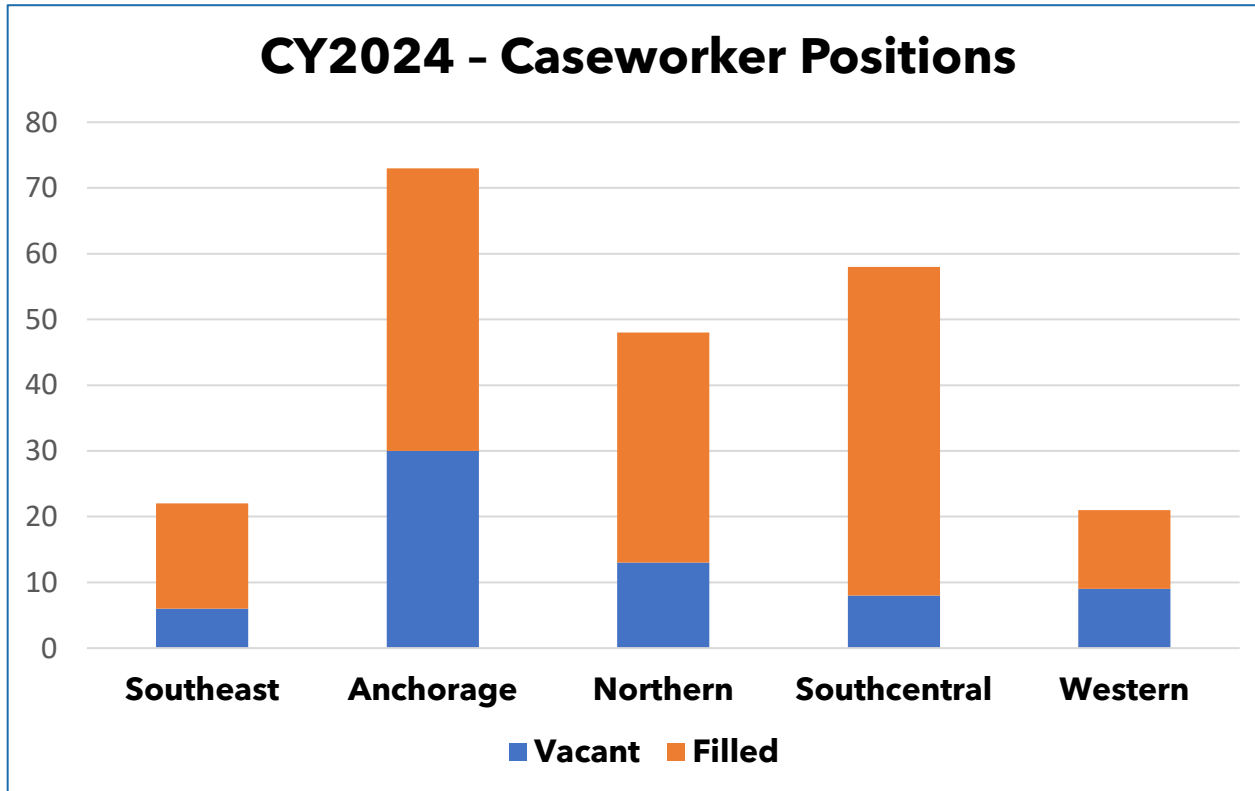


No changes in
FY2026

	FY2024 Actuals	FY2025 Management Plan	FY2026 Governor Amended
UGF	\$104,657.2	\$114,277.0	\$113,573.2
DGF	\$2,912.0	\$5,600.0	\$5,600.0
Other	\$3,644.5	\$8,579.9	\$6,129.0
Federal	\$68,785.2	\$76,968.2	\$77,341.0
Total	\$179,998.9	\$205,425.1	\$202,643.2

Case Carrying Workforce

Turnover & Departure type



Case carrying staff departed for reasons including promotion, transfer, dismissal, resignation, termination, and retirement from position.

Employee Wellness & Retention



PROTECTION from HARM



OPPORTUNITY for GROWTH



CONNECTION and COMMUNITY

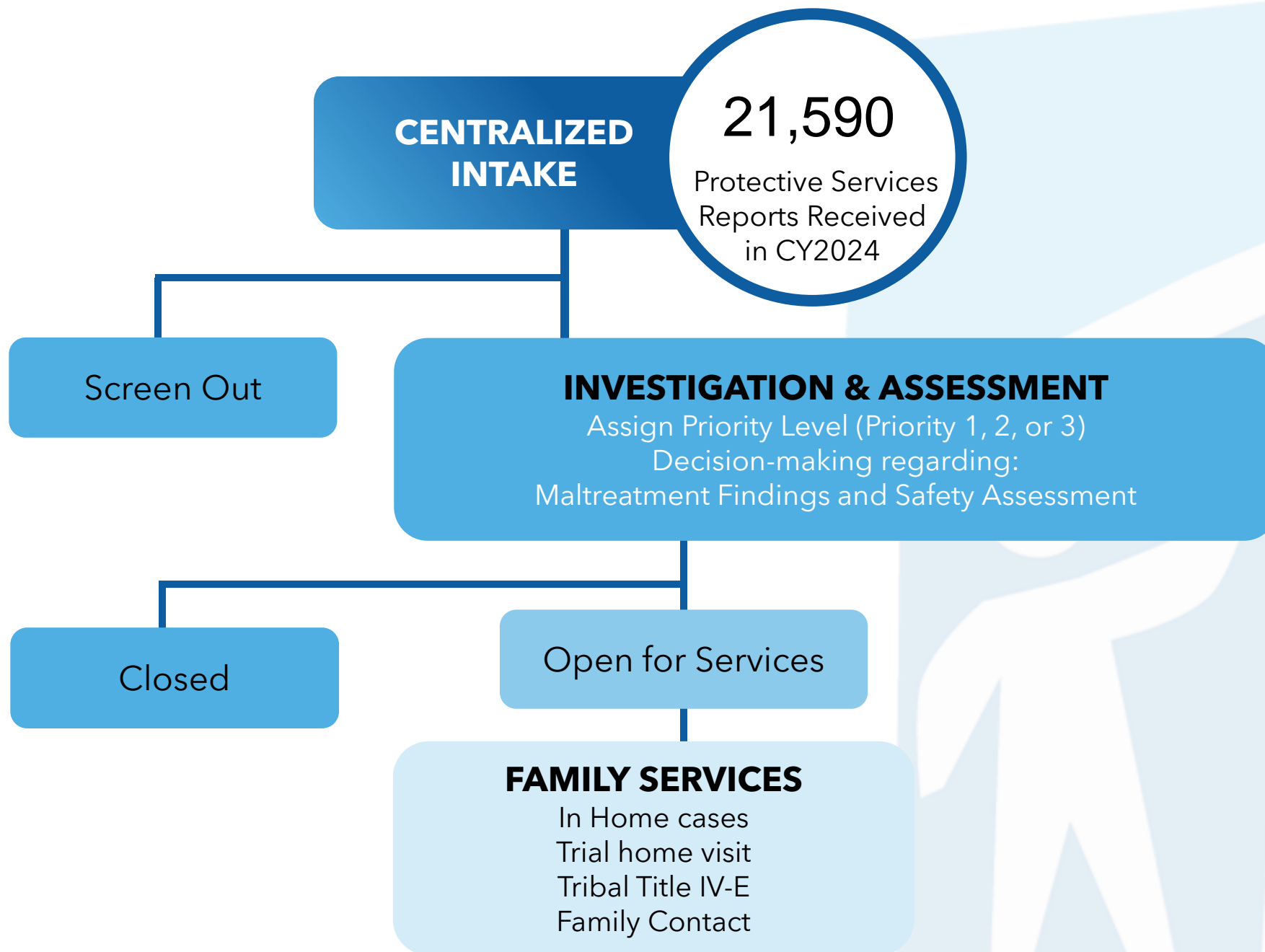


WORK-LIFE HARMONY



MATTERING at WORK

Protective Services Reports, Investigations, and Assessments



Child Welfare Data CY2024

2,398

Children in out-of-home care
(on 12/31/2024)

	CY20	CY21	CY22	CY23	CY24
Anchorage	1,152	1,075	971	925	901
Northern	565	526	528	474	457
Southcentral	803	827	744	664	604
Southeast	239	205	172	156	144
Western	215	290	301	292	292
Statewide	2,974	2,923	2,716	2,511	2,398

20%

253 children aged
12+ removed
from home

944

removals

32%

361 children
aged 0-2 removed
from home

24 MONTHS

avg. child was in
out-of-home care
(on 12/31/24)

1,098

children
discharged from
custody

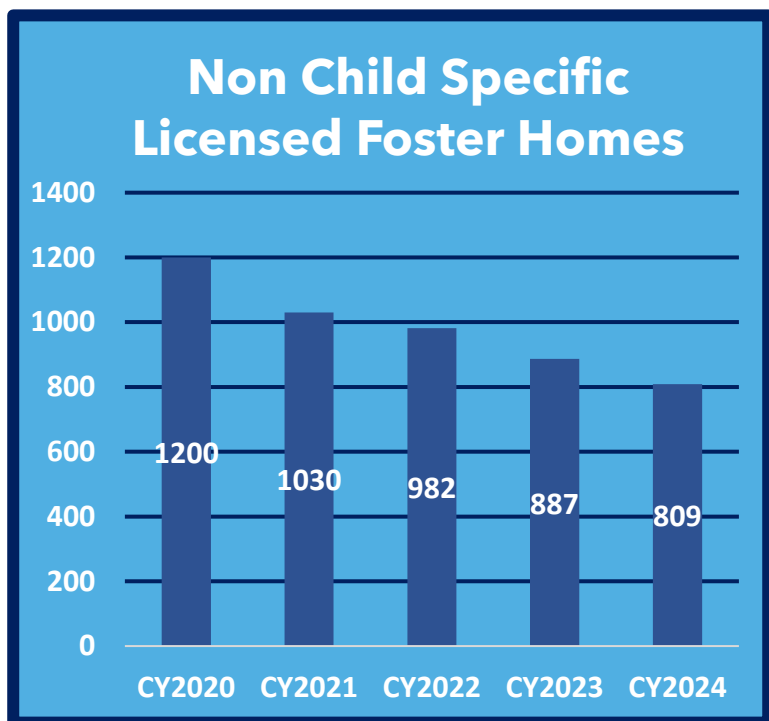
54%

589 reunification
as discharge
outcome

31%

343 adoption and
guardianship as
discharge
outcome

Foster Home Licensing



Placement Support Focuses

- Increase in Foster Care Base Rate
- Follow up support calls after placement (Placement Search and Support Unit)
- Creation of OCS Respite Program (Piloted in Anchorage and Matsu)
- Increased focus in licensing relative homes

Innovating & Building Efficiencies

Rethinking & Adapting Traditional Casework

Special Needs Hotline
1-855-603-8637

Casework traditionally performed by
individual caseworkers

Casework Realignment

Resource Family Support and Placement Search Unit

Adoption Unit

Centralized Child Medical Records

Caregiver Travel

Special Needs Hotline

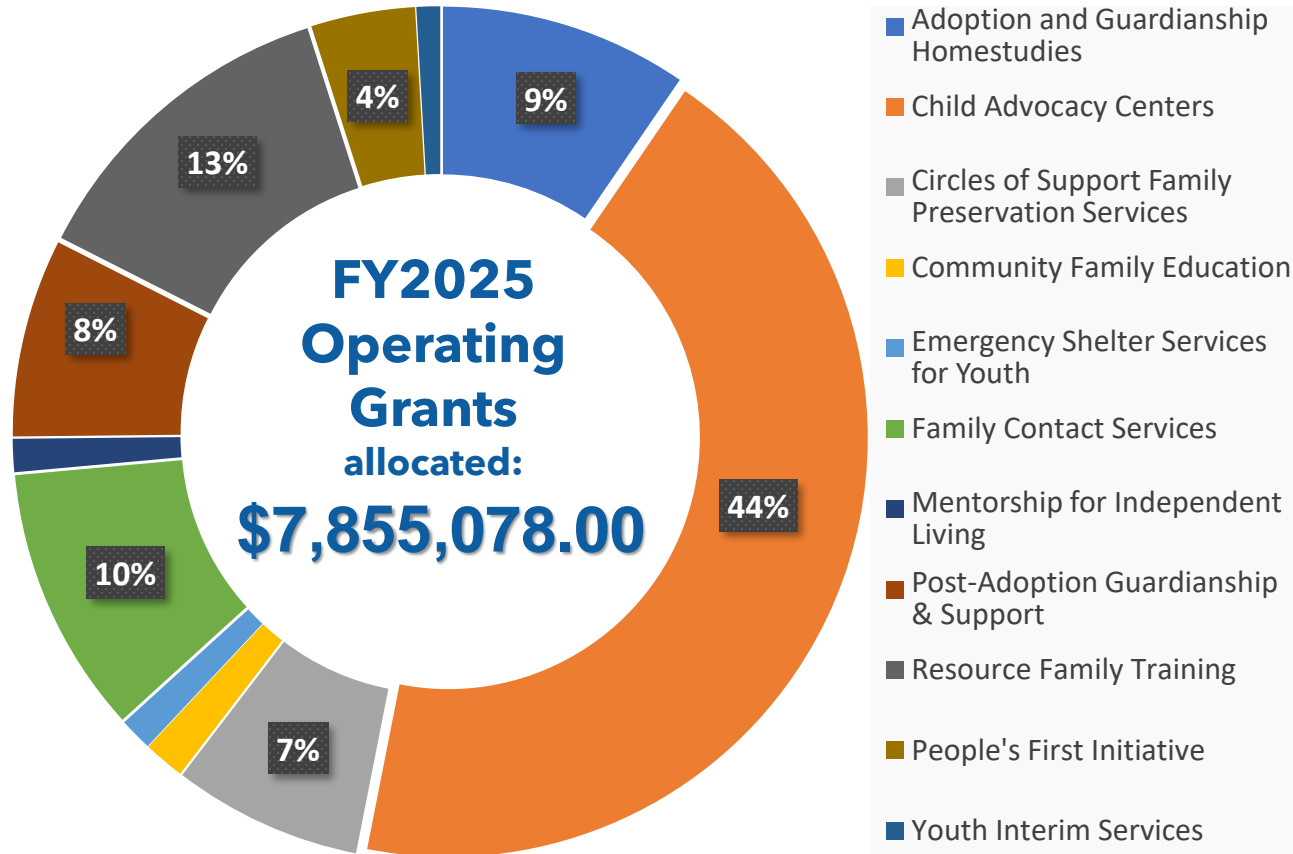
Child Care Unit

Centralized Child Medical Records

Centralized PFD Applications

Centralized Initial Augmented Rate Assessments

Community Partnership



<https://dfcs.alaska.gov/fms/Documents/Grants-Procurement/Grant-Book/FY25-Grant-Book.pdf>

32

grantees across the state providing services to at-risk & in-need families

14

Child Advocacy Centers Grantees*

*Of the 14 Centers, 12 are funded with grants

Alaska Tribal Child Welfare Compact

December 15, 2017

Alaska Tribal Child Welfare Compact signed between Alaska Native Tribes and Tribal Organizations and the State of Alaska.

FY2023 - FY2025

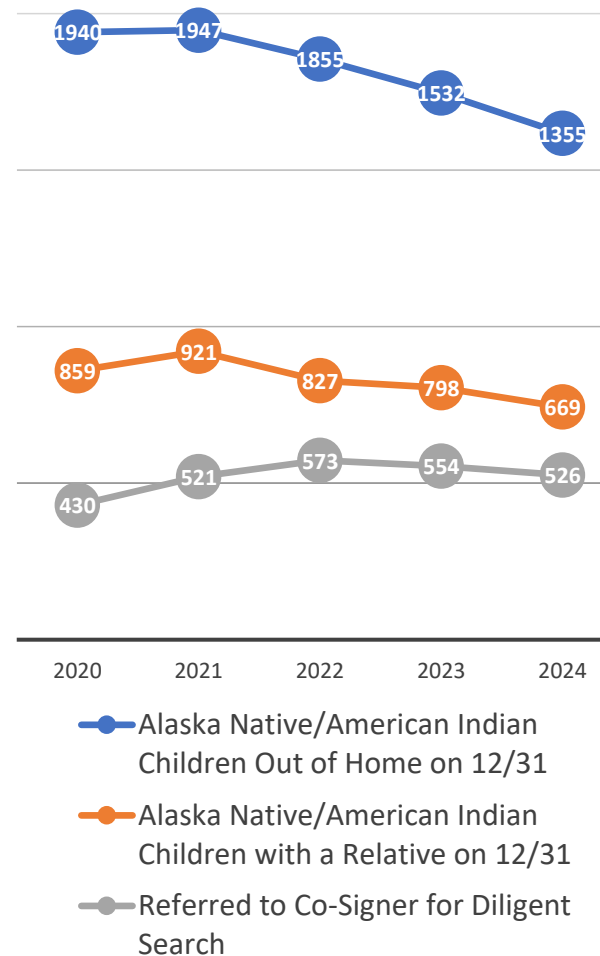
Funded \$5,000,000 (100% UGF)

Creation of Centralized Compact Referral Unit within OCS. (FY23)

Scopes of Work:

- Initial diligent relative & ongoing placement searches
- Licensing Assist services
- Family contact services
- Safety evaluation of relative homes
- Primary prevention
- Secondary prevention

***funding through UGF allows the Tribal Co-Signers to leverage Title IV-E funds**



Q & A

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This concludes information regarding
the Office of Children's Services

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