The Power of University/Agency Partnerships: Examples in Juvenile Services and Child Welfare

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MARYLAND LONGITUDINAL DATA SYSTEM RESEARCH SERIES

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UNIVERSITY of MARYLAND
SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

University/Agency Partnerships

Partnerships can come about through a number of different mechanisms – class action lawsuits, legislative requirements, desire to address data capacity and analytic needs, to evaluate programs, to address service delivery programs, to test innovative programs or develop the evidence to support existing programs, or through the vision of leaders.

o Universities bring additional resources and expertise to projects.

o Agencies often need to evaluate programs and can utilize the resources of Universities.

o Universities are well-suited to partner with agencies around educational needs of the workforce.

o Long-standing University/Agency partnerships can provide stability in times of structural, systemic or political transition.

Examples of our ongoing State-University Partnerships

Pregnancy Prevention among youth in Out of Home Care (partnership with DHS/SSA and DHS/FIA)

Evaluation of Family Centered Practice and Family Involvement Meetings (partnership with DHS/SSA)

Child Welfare Training Academy (partnership with DHS/SSA)

Life after Welfare Series (partnership with DHS/FIA)

Maryland Rise (partnership with DHS/FIA/CSA)

Home Visiting in Maryland (partnership with DHS/SSA)

Maryland Medicaid Redesign (partnership with DMH)

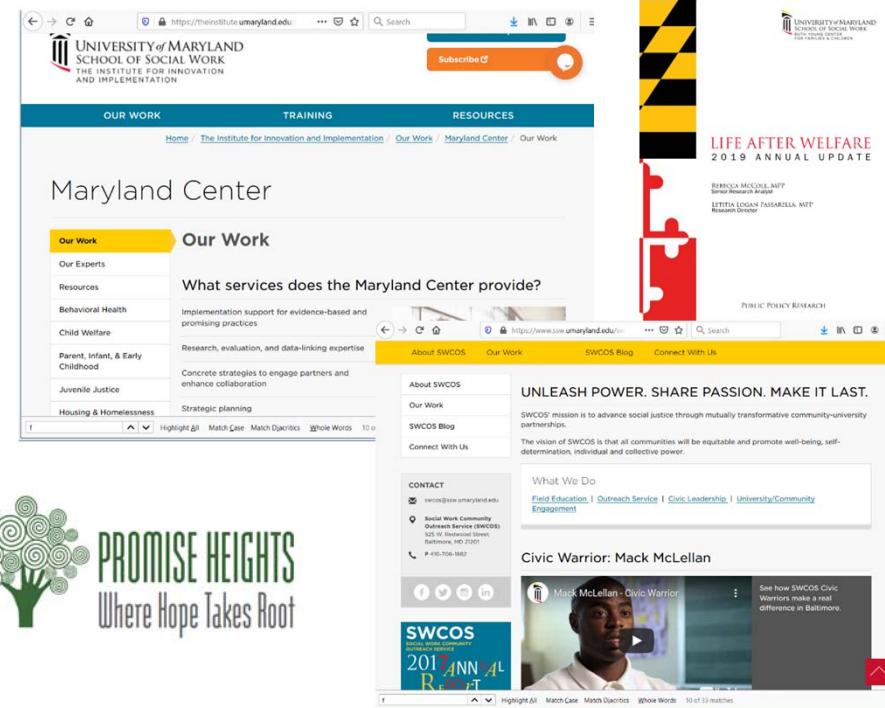Psychotropic Medication Management (partnership with DHS and DMH)

Birth Match process (partnership with DHS and Vital Records)

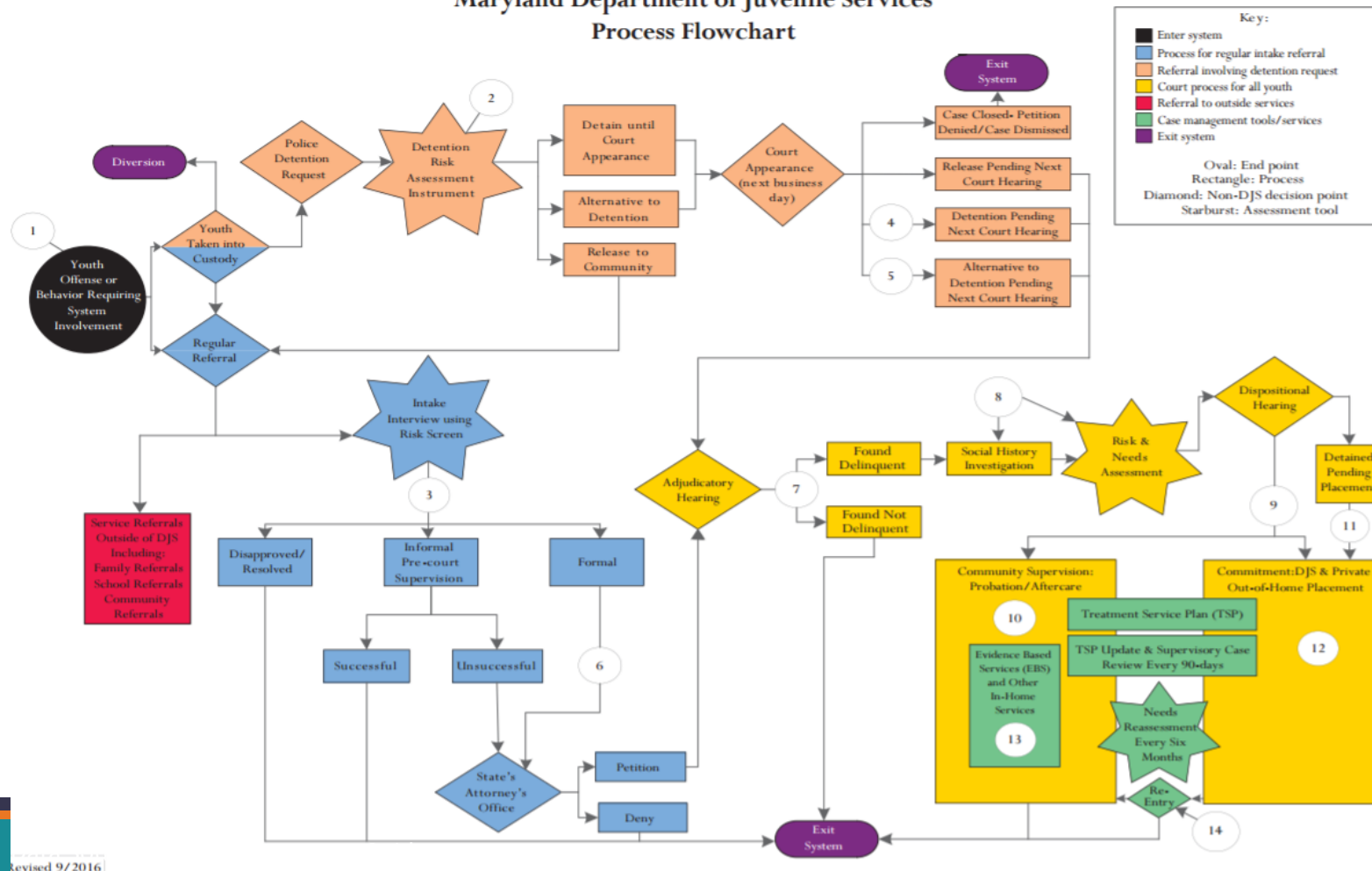LINKs (partnership with DJS and DHS)

MLDS Research branch (partnership with the MLDSC)

Child Welfare Accountability (partnership with DHS)

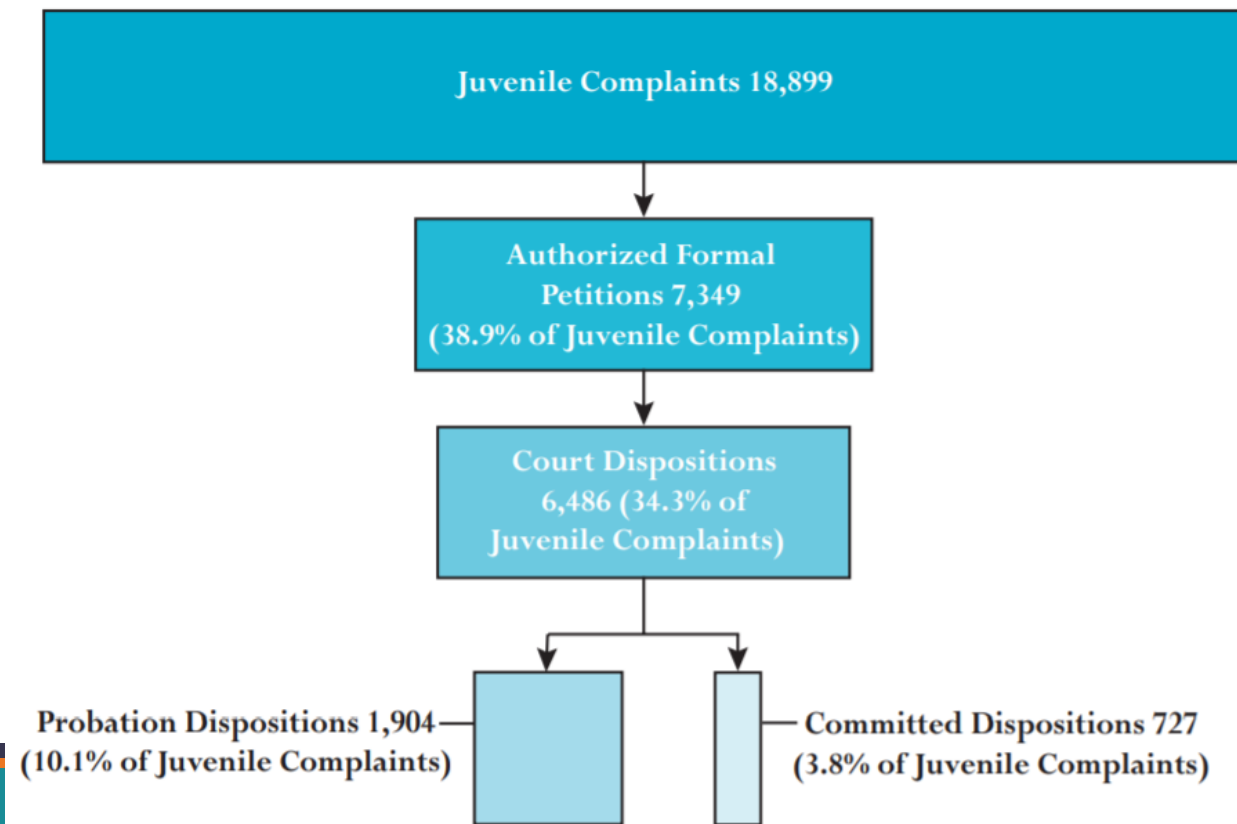Juvenile Services Evaluation (partnership with JJ)

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Maryland Department of
Juvenile Services
Regional Map

- Baltimore City
- Central
- Western
- Eastern Shore
- Metro
- Southern

Flow of FY 2019 Case Referrals

Juvenile Complaints 18,899

Authorized Formal
Petitions 7,349
(38.9% of Juvenile Complaints)

Court Dispositions
6,486 (34.3% of
Juvenile Complaints)

Probation Dispositions 1,904
(10.1% of Juvenile Complaints)

Committed Dispositions 727
(3.8% of Juvenile Complaints)
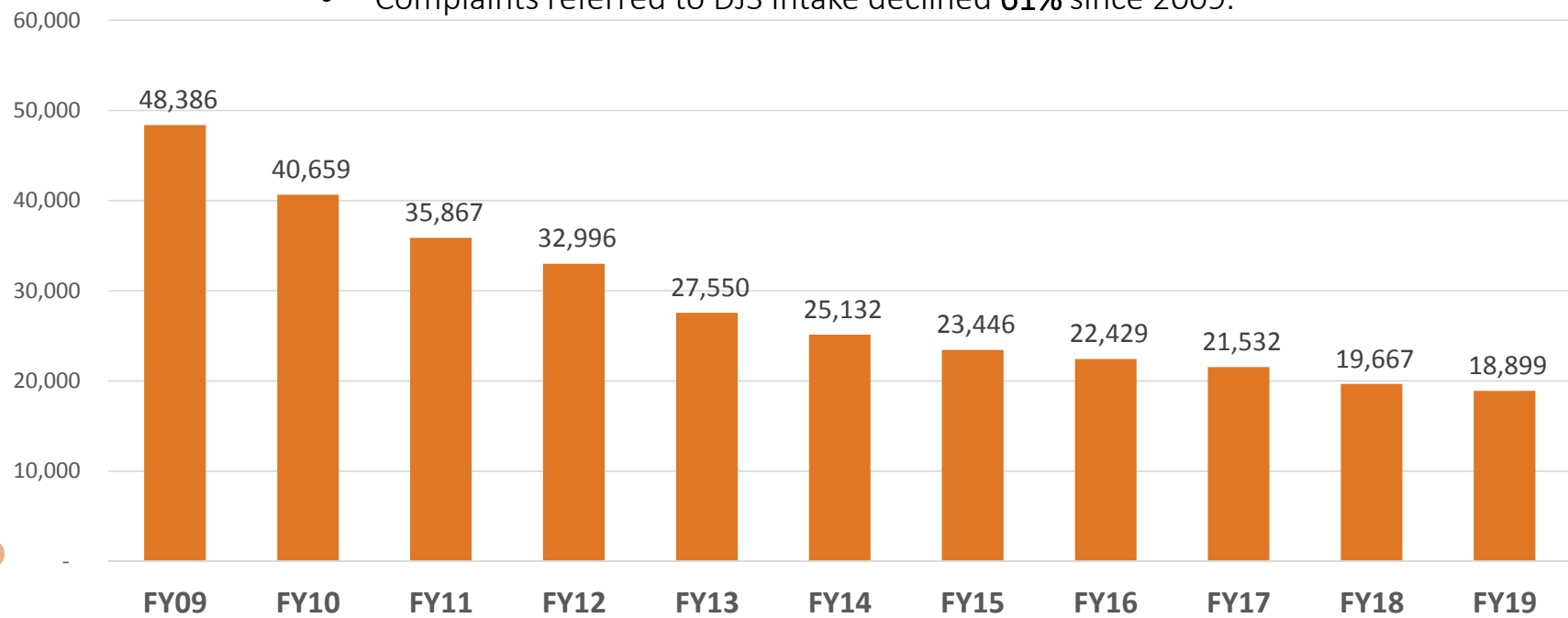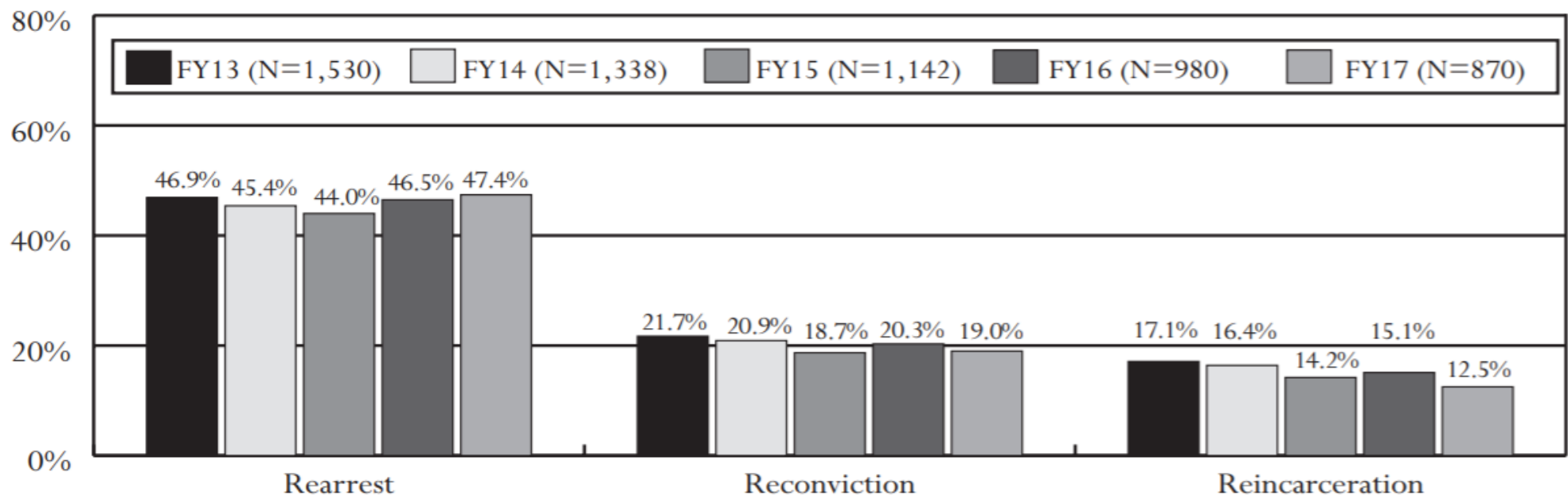
Maryland Juvenile Complaints

- Complaints referred to DJS Intake declined **61%** since 2009.

Data Source: DJS Data Resource Guides

12-month Juvenile and/or Criminal Justice Recidivism Rates, FY 2013-2017 Releases

Our Work with DJS

How We Work with DJS

Research/evaluation

Information technology system planning/development

Implementation TA/coordination

Training

Grant writing

Strategic planning/Events

Areas of Work

Case Management Practices
◦ Intake
◦ Detention
◦ Probation & Aftercare Supervision

Service Array
◦ Evidence-Based Programs
◦ Gap Analyses
◦ Program Questionnaire
◦ Quality Services Reform Initiative

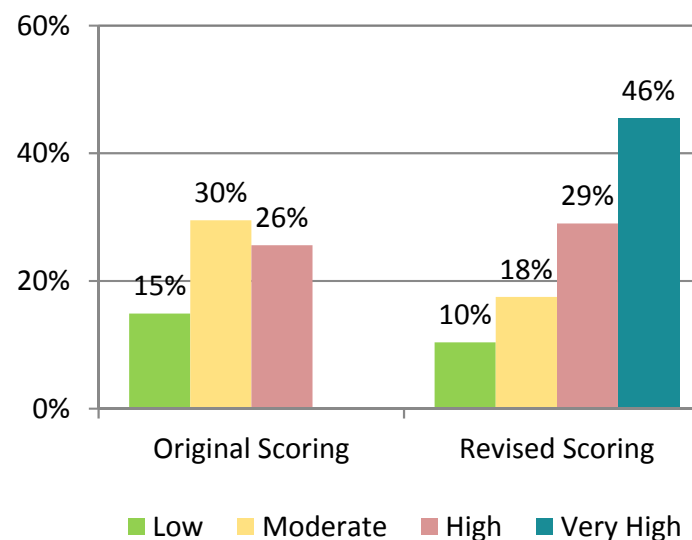# Maryland Comprehensive Assessment & Service Planning Initiative (MCASP)

Validation of Risk & Needs Assessments/ Structured Decision Making

Treatment Service Planning analyses/revisions

Next steps:
◦ Matching youth to services based on risk/need profiles
◦ Enhance use of protective factors in case planning
◦ Enhance use of <u>reassessment</u> (practice and program evaluation)

MCASP Assessment Risk Level for Probation Youth—New Adjudication/Conviction within 12 Months

Bar chart data:

|	Low	Moderate	High	Very High
Original Scoring	15%	30%	26%	
Revised Scoring	10%	18%	29%	46%

The Impact of a Graduated Response Approach for Youth in the Juvenile Justice System

Implementation – 1,983 youths starting/ending supervision with DJS from Nov. 2015 to Oct. 2017

Outcomes – Quasi-experimental design using propensity score matching; Treatment group = youth supervised with AIM in place, Comparison group = youth under supervision prior to AIM

55% of youth received an AIM response

Application of Incentives to Sanctions

Sanctions > Incentives, 63%

Incentives > Sanctions, 31%

Incentives = Sanctions, 6%
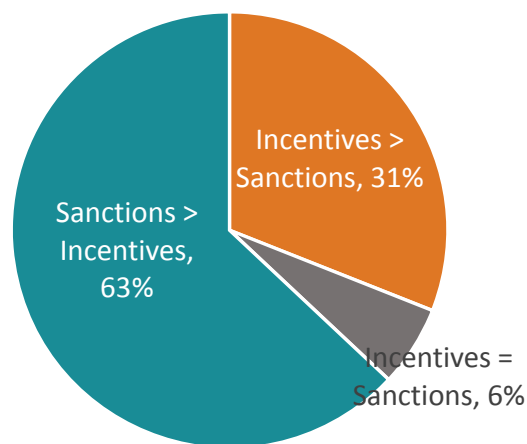
Outcomes (selected)

|	Means		Regression	
	Pre-AIM	AIM	Hazard Ratio	Sig.
N	1,590	1,590	--	
VOP Filed	**20%**	**16%**	**0.75**	**.001**
Detention	29%	27%	0.91	.187
Committed Res. Placement	**6%**	**4%**	**0.63**	**.009**
Referral to DJS/ Arrest	32%	33%	1.01	.845
Adjudication/ Conviction	**14%**	**12%**	**0.82**	**.046**
Commitment/ Incarceration	9%	9%	1.01	.941

EBP Implementation

Support statewide implementation of Multisystemic Therapy (MST) and Functional Family Therapy (FFT)
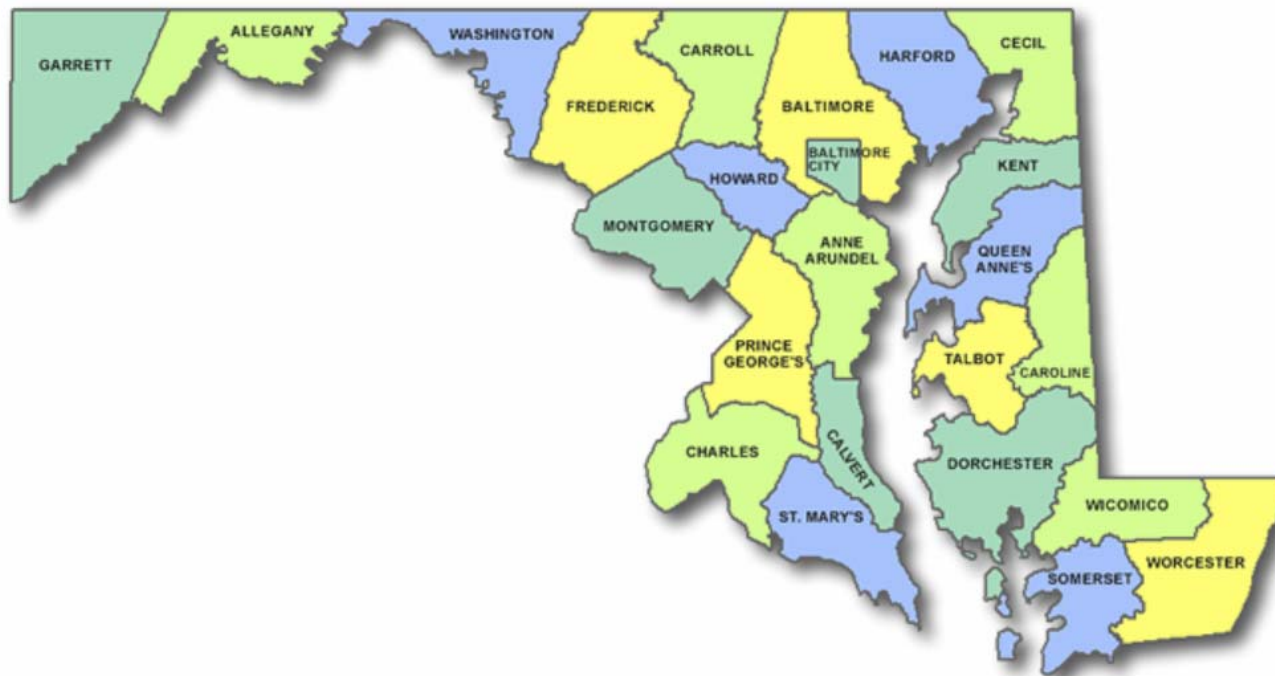
Use of data

- ◦ Continuous quality improvement (CQI) framework
- ◦ Link administrative data to assess longitudinal outcomes (DJS, DPSCS, DSS)
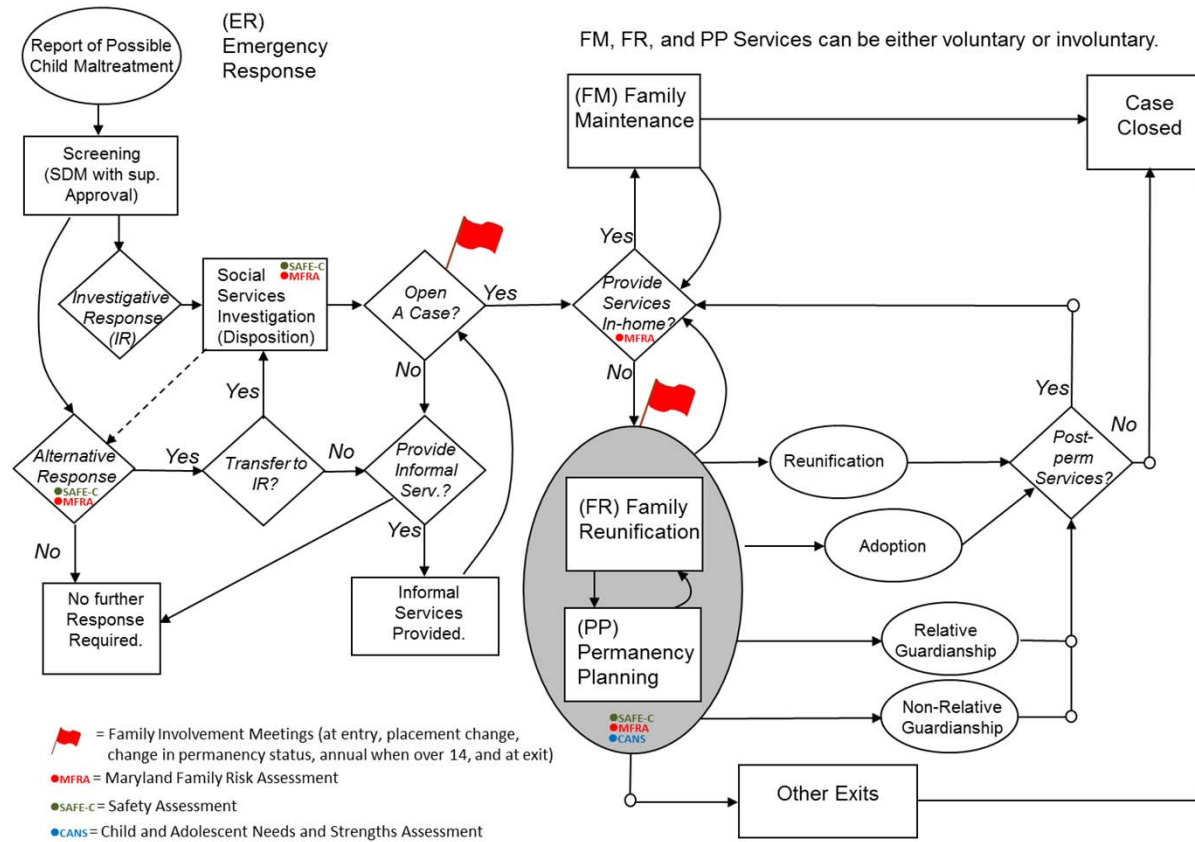
Next steps:

- ◦ Use data to inform referral protocols, "what works for whom"
- ◦ Family First Prevention Services Act
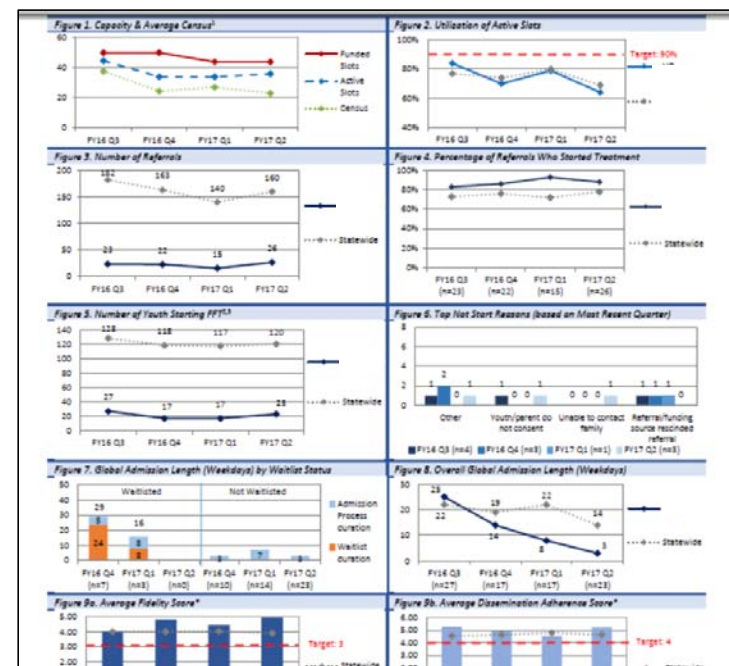
Maryland Child Welfare System is Jurisdictional

Decision Path through the Child Welfare System

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Screenings – CPS/Non-CPS/Informational

CPS Responses
Approx. 33,000
Children

Alternative Response
36%

Investigative Response
64%

Indicated
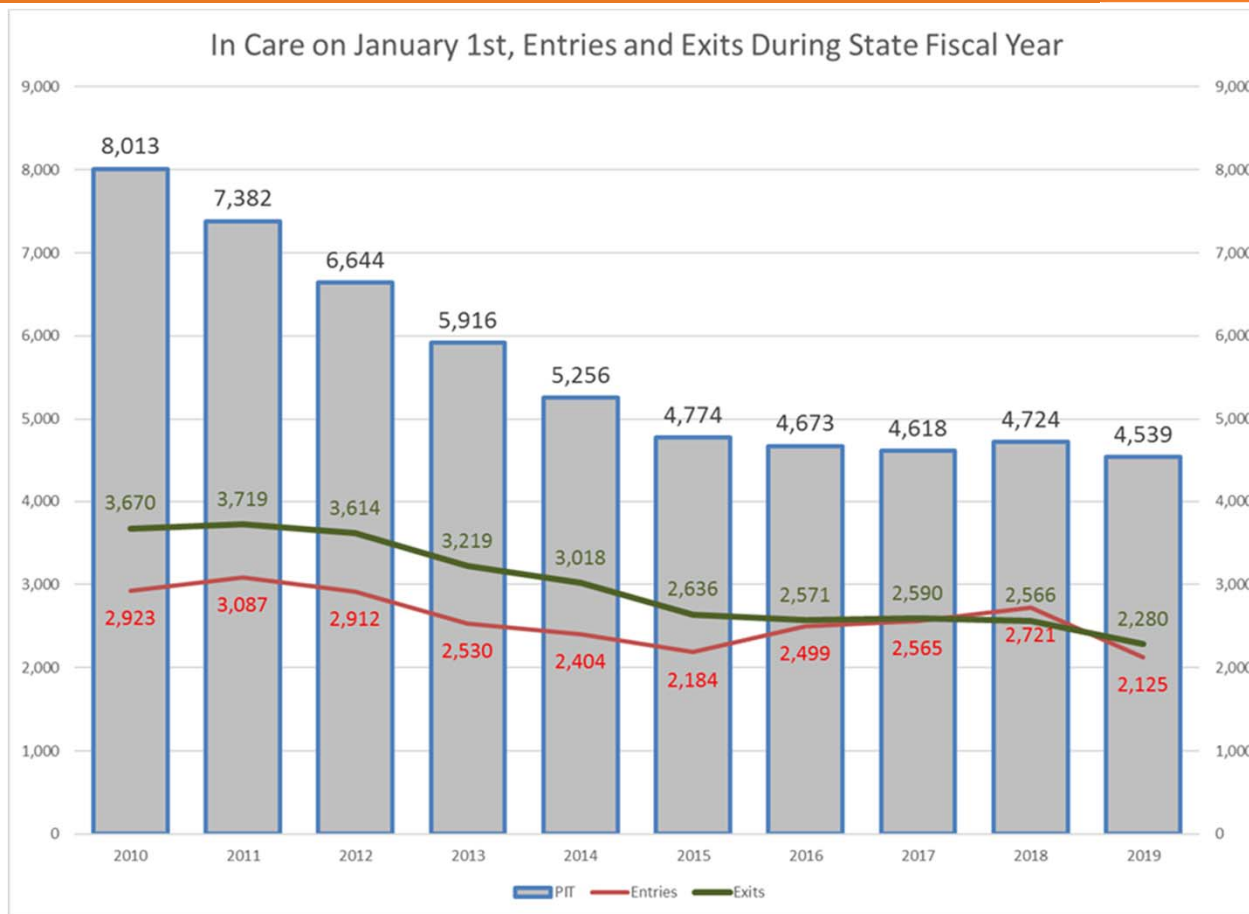Finding
32%

Unsubstan
Finding
22%

Ruled Out
46%

In-Home Services
Approx. 16,000 new cases

Out of Home
Services
Approx. 2,200
entries

* Data published in the legislatively mandated 2019 Child Welfare Performance Indicators Report

In Care on January 1st, Entries and Exits During State Fiscal Year

* Data published in the legislatively mandated 2019 Child Welfare Performance Indicators Report

Our Work with DHS

How We Work with DHS

Research/evaluation

Implementation TA/coordination

Training – both in-service and pre-service

Grant writing

Strategic planning/Events

Research

Management reporting
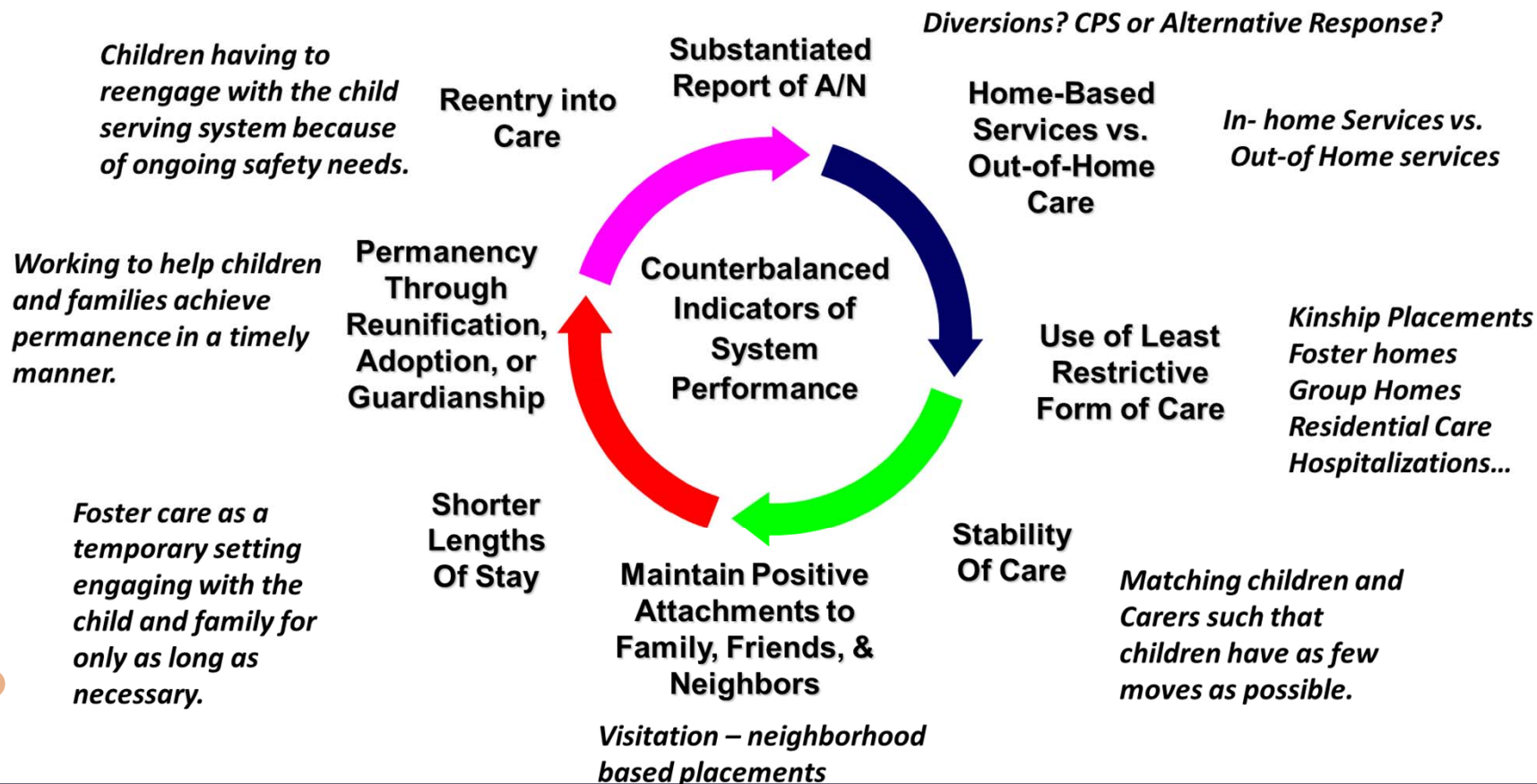
Example Areas of Work

Case Management Practices
◦ Family Involvement Meeting Evaluation
◦ Family Centered Practice Evaluation
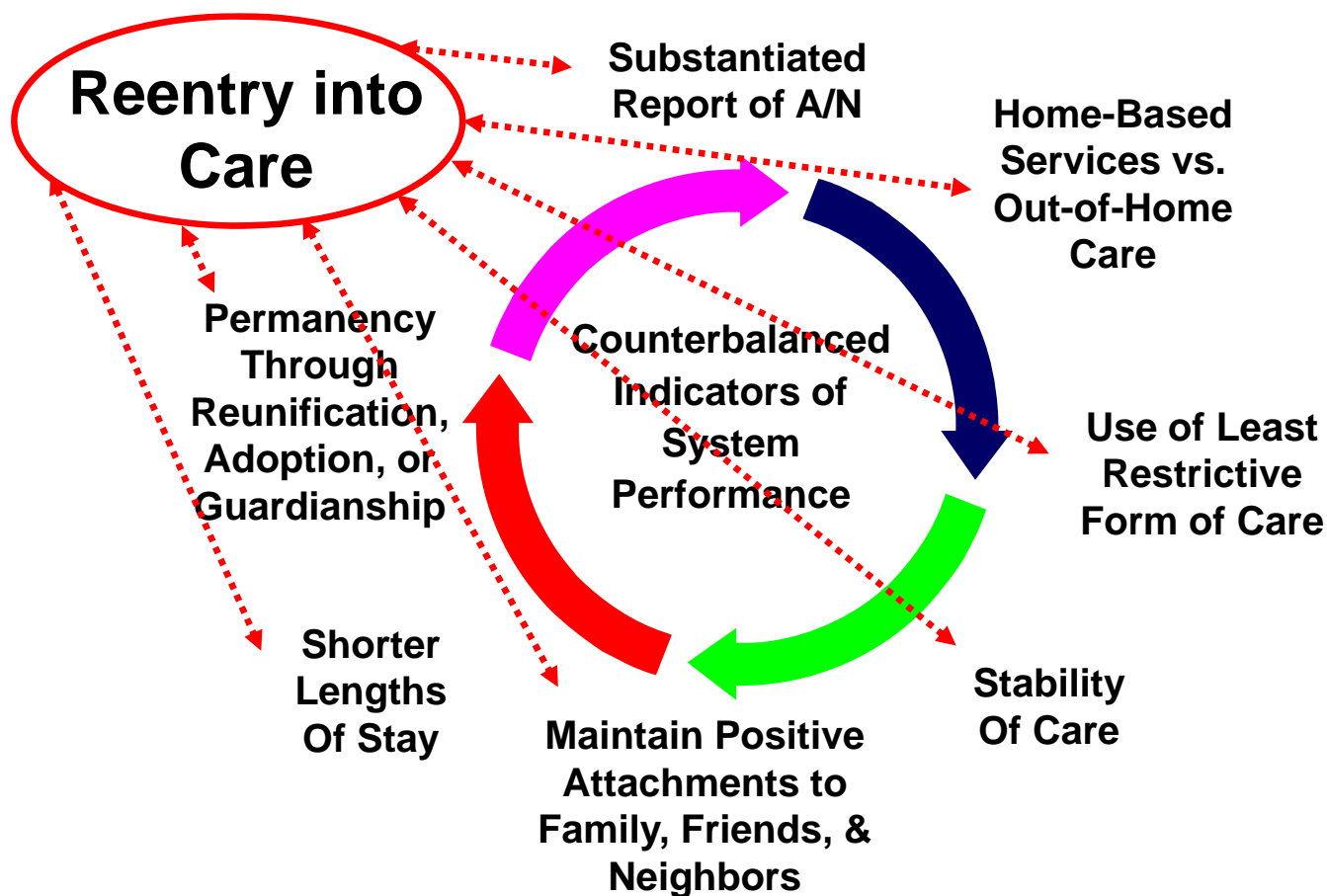◦ Efficiency and Effectiveness of CW Services

Administrative Data
◦ Work with legacy and MD CHESSIE systems
◦ Data linking and cross-over projects
◦ Development and management of outcome reports

Research Reports

The Cycle of Experiences in the Child Welfare System

Children having to reengage with the child serving system because of ongoing safety needs.

Working to help children and families achieve permanence in a timely manner.

Foster care as a temporary setting engaging with the child and family for only as long as necessary.

Reentry into Care

Permanency Through Reunification, Adoption, or Guardianship

Shorter Lengths Of Stay

Substantiated Report of A/N

Counterbalanced Indicators of System Performance

Maintain Positive Attachments to Family, Friends, & Neighbors

Visitation – neighborhood based placements

Diversions? CPS or Alternative Response?

Home-Based Services vs. Out-of-Home Care

In- home Services vs. Out-of Home services

Use of Least Restrictive Form of Care

Kinship Placements
Foster homes
Group Homes
Residential Care
Hospitalizations…

Stability Of Care

Matching children and Carers such that children have as few moves as possible.

The Cycle of Experiences in the Child Welfare System

Reentry into Care

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Home-Based Services vs. Out-of-Home Care

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Maintain Positive Attachments to Family, Friends, & Neighbors

I want to share 4 issues surrounding reentry that we have been working on with our state partners...

What reentry looks like across different types of permanent exits
◦ Reunification
◦ Relative Guardianship
◦ Non-relative Guardianship

How risk factors impact reentry
◦ First child welfare experience vs having past child welfare experience
◦ Cumulative risk and its impact on reentry
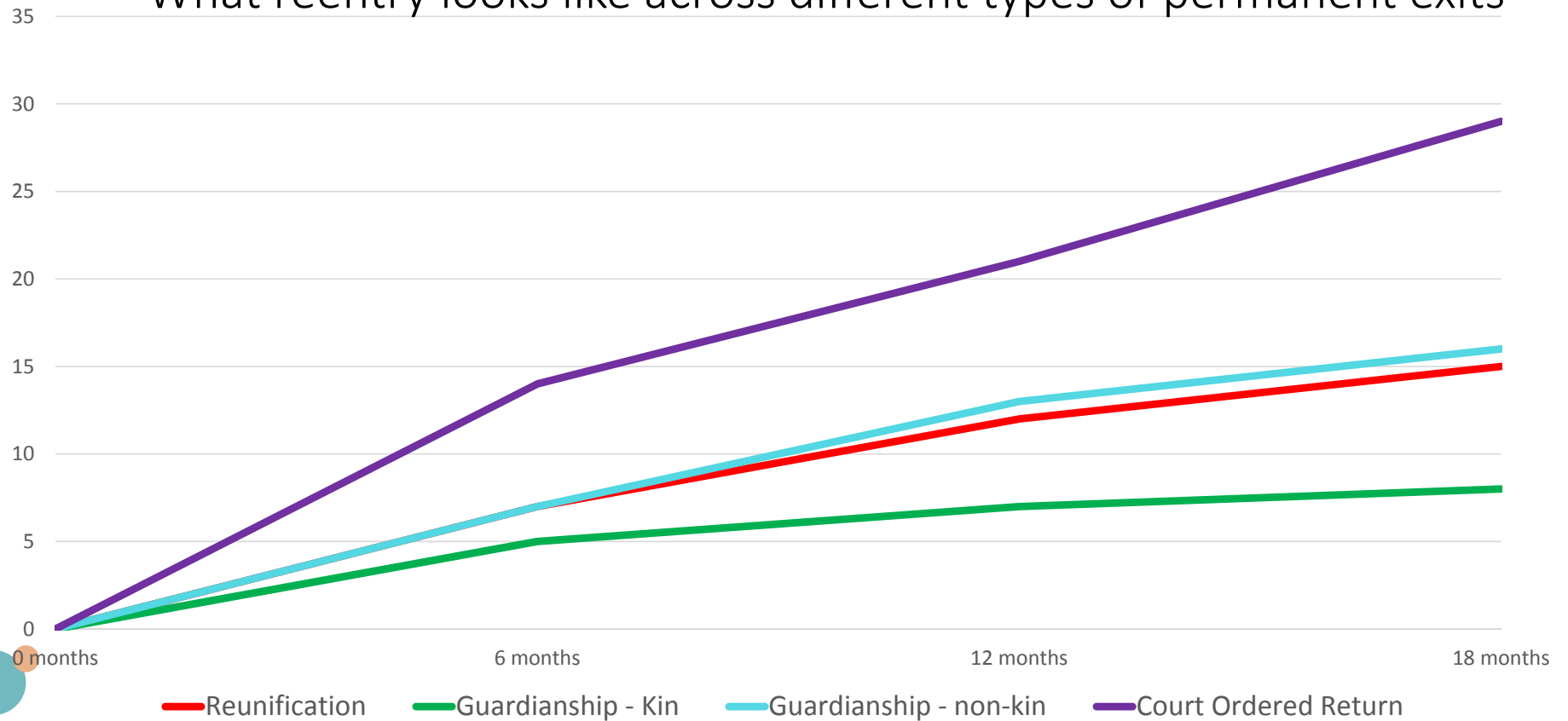
Impact of Trial Home Visits on Reentry

How reentry is not a single system issue

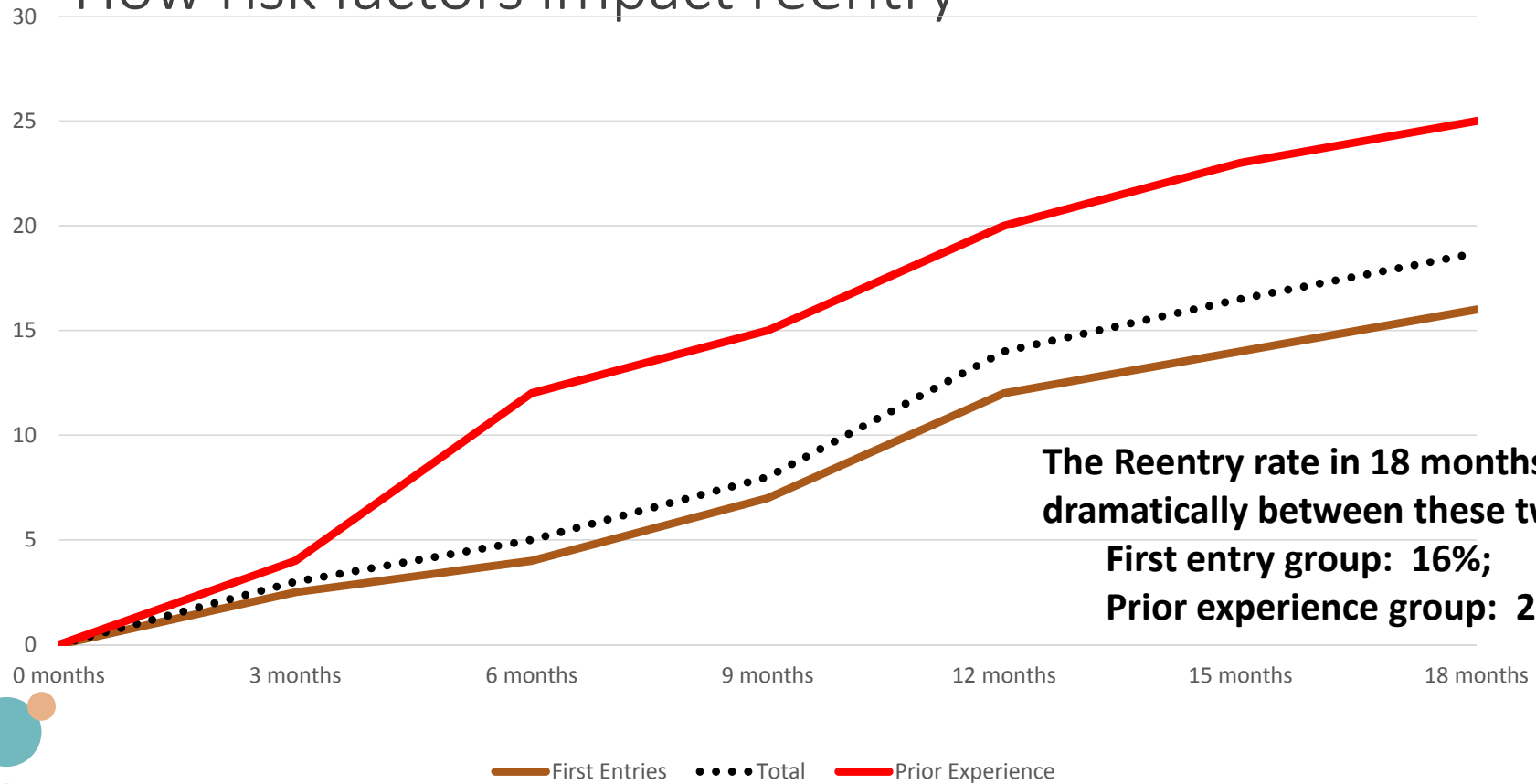# Risk factors found to increase reentry

- Age (younger & school aged)

- Race (not in Maryland)

- Gender (not significant in most literature)

- Child Behavior an Issue*

- Special Health Needs

- Prior Child Welfare Experience *

- Prior Child Serving System experience

- Parental Substance Abuse

- Removed from a single parent household *

- Poverty (the proxy is usually Title IVe eligibility)

- Being part of a sibling group in care *

- Short lengths of stay in out of home care *

- Entering care due to Neglect

- Being placed in residential treatment *

- Court ordered return against agency recommendation

* Consistently found to be a significantly associated with reentry.

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What reentry looks like across different types of permanent exits

— Reunification   — Guardianship - Kin   — Guardianship - non-kin   — Court Ordered Return

How risk factors impact reentry

The Reentry rate in 18 months differs
dramatically between these two groups:
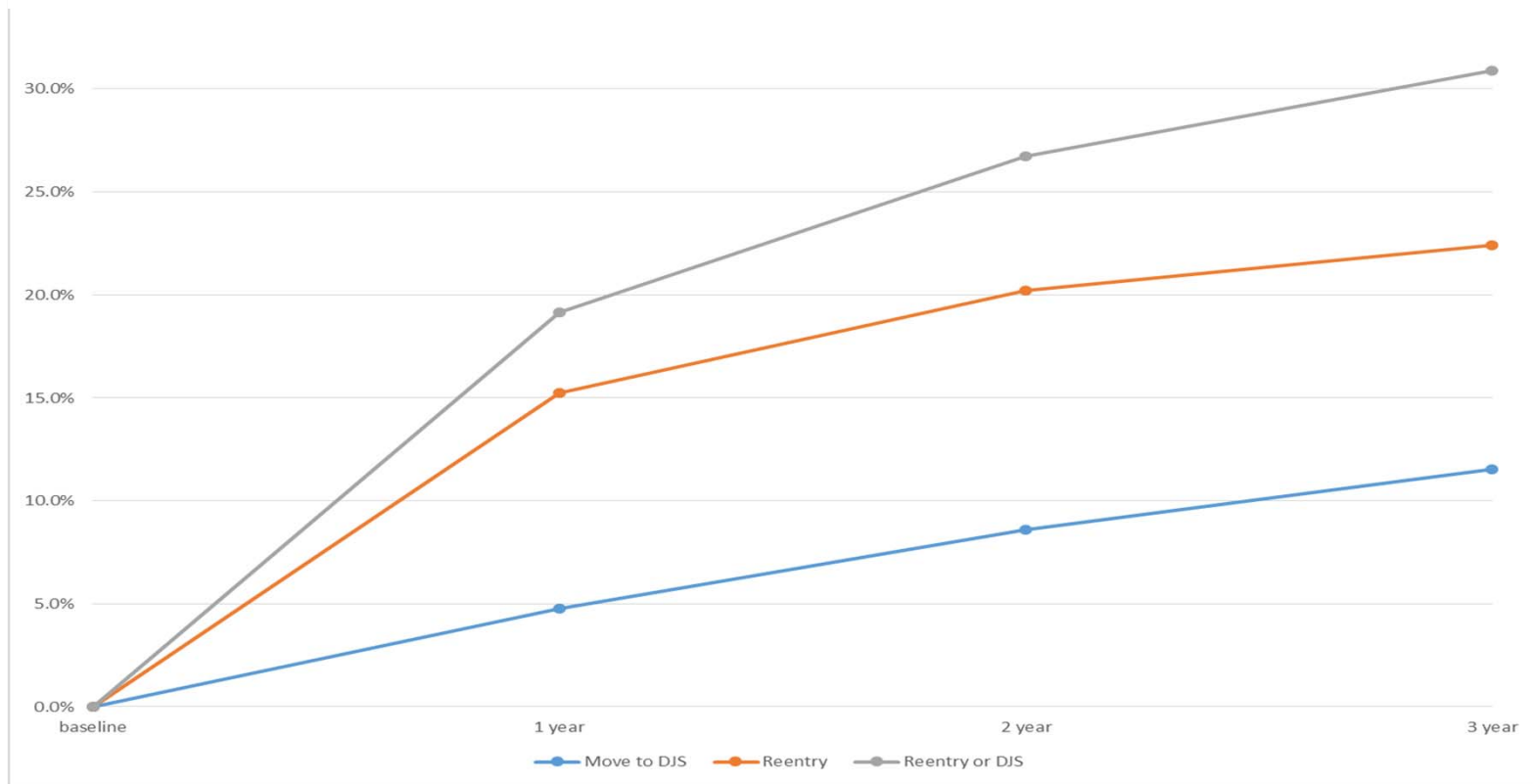First entry group: 16%;
Prior experience group: 25%

First Entries ·····Total Prior Experience

Risks Include:
- Being removed from a single parent household
- Short Lengths of Stay
- Child Behavior an Issue
- Being part of a sibling group
- Having a Residential placement
- Prior child welfare experience
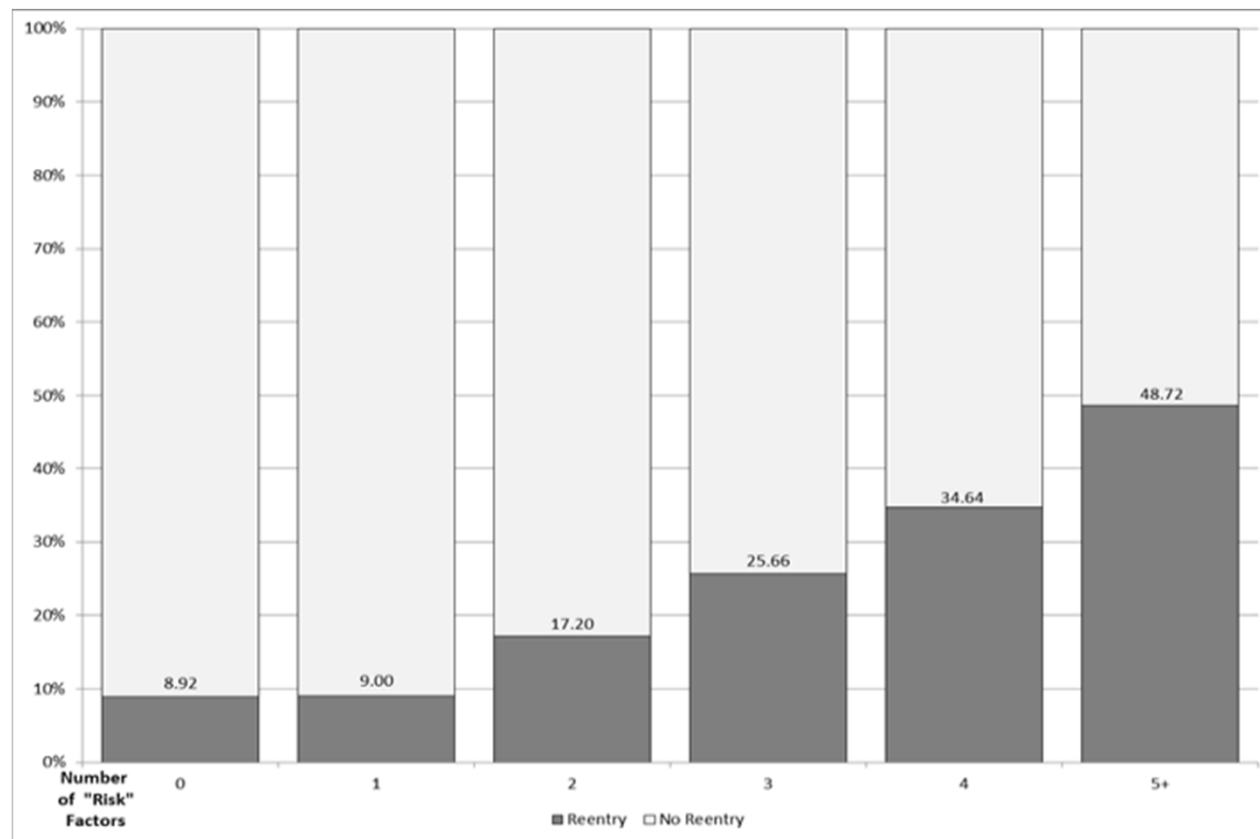
How reentry is not a single system issue

Logistic Regression results for re-removal to CW or juvenile services:

Increased Odds of Reentry:

- Age at exit – 12 to 13 years compared to 7 to 11 years (OR=1.59)
- Siblings in care at the same (OR=2.47[3])
- Child Behavior a factor at removal (OR=1.75[1])
- Prior Child Welfare Removals (OR=1.79[3])
- Having a Residential Treatment Placement (OR=1.79[3])
- Having a prior juvenile justice complaint (OR=4.14[3])
- Having a court ordered return home against agency recommendations (OR=1.92[2])

Decreased Odds of Reentry

- Having a removal reason of neglect (OR=0.76[2])
- Being in care for 18 or more months (OR=0.63[1])
- Having a caseworker visit after reunification (OR=0.98[3])

Significance: [1]0.05 level; [2]0.01 level; or [3]0.001 level

Thank You!

Questions....