



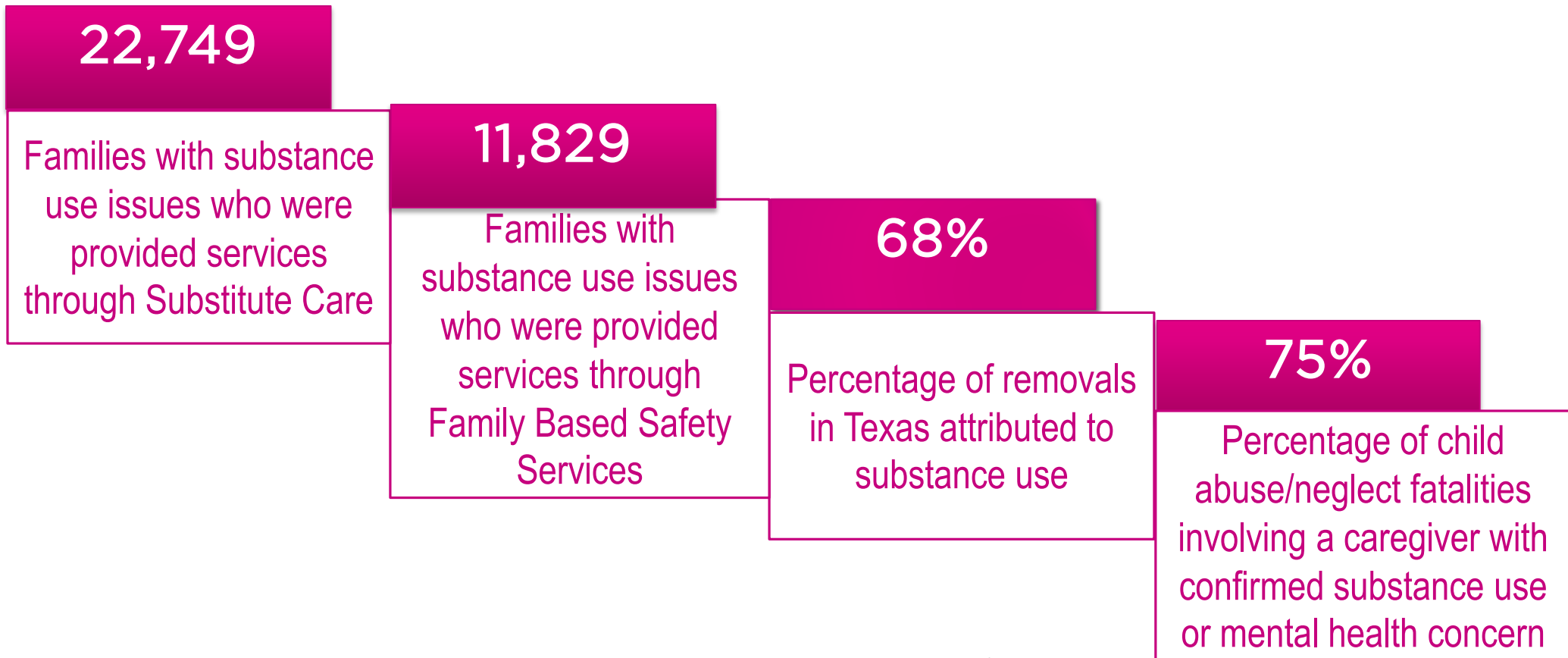
House Human Services Testimony
Senate Bill 355 by West & Kolthorst/ SP: Klick
May 7, 2019

Pamela McPeters
Vice President of Public Affairs
TexProtects

“If we have any serious hope of stemming the ever-increasing demand for foster care; of committing ourselves to strengthening families’ capacity to care for their own children rather than committing to recruiting more and more foster homes; to reducing the numbers of children traumatized by abuse, neglect and family separation; and of breaking inter-generational cycles of trauma and maltreatment, we have to put our money and our efforts further up the river before families go over the first waterfall.’

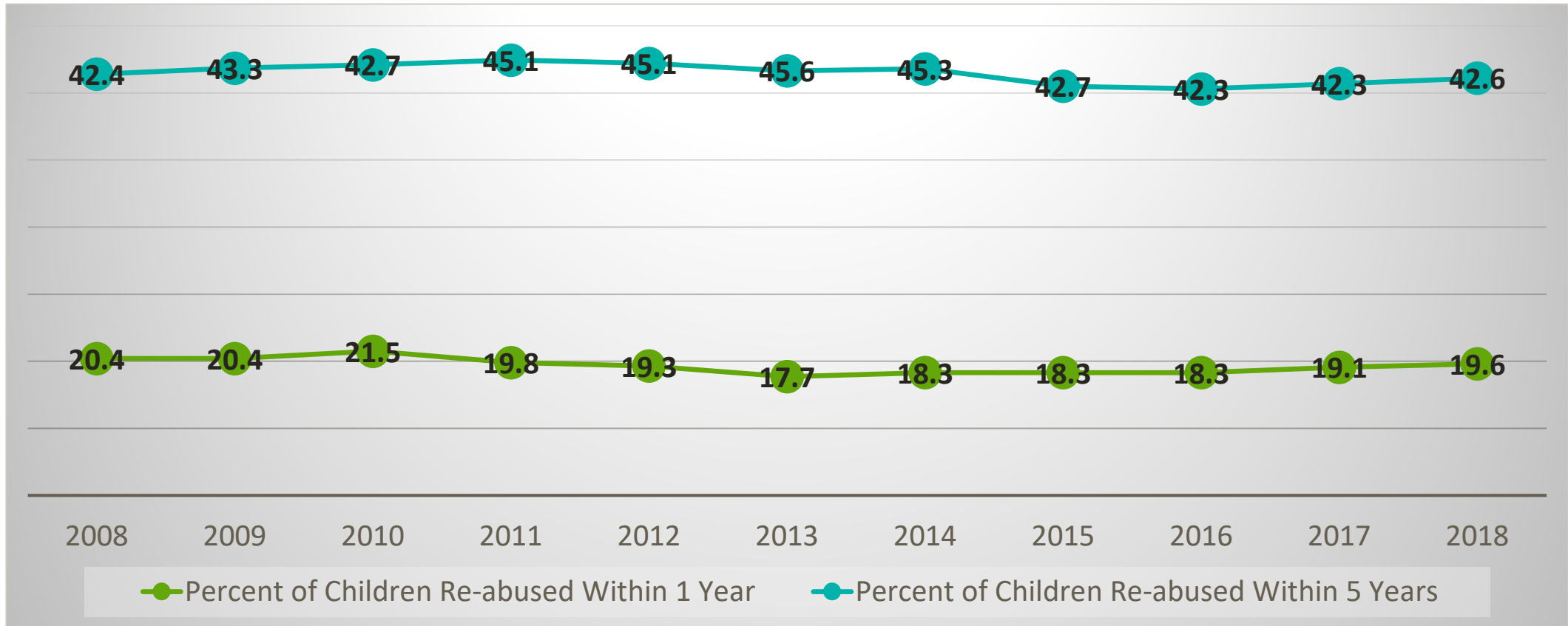
Jerry Milner - Associate Commissioner of the Children’s Bureau,
and the Acting Commissioner for the Administration on Children,
Youth and Families

Impacts of Mental Health and Substance Use Challenges (2017)



Source: House Select Committee on Opioids and Substance Use Report 85th Interim

Family Preservation Outcomes: Children Confirmed as Victims after Services



Source: Department of Family and Protective Services

Costs of Child Maltreatment

	NUMBER IN 2017	COST OF EACH	TOTAL COST 2017
Confirmed Victims	66,370	\$830,928	\$55.2 billion
Fatalities	211	\$16,615,186	\$3.5 billion
Entries into Foster Care	20,681	\$32,904	\$680.5 million
Families in FBSS	18,804	\$3,868	\$72.7 million
Investigations	171,228	\$1,403	\$240.2 million

Lifetime cost per confirmed victim and child maltreatment fatality based on Peterson, C., Florence, C., & Klevens, J. (2018). The economic burden of child maltreatment in the United States, 2015. Child Abuse and Neglect, 86, 178-183.; Cost for foster care, FBSS and Investigations based on Department of Family and Protective Services (2018). Prevention Taskforce Report

PREVENTING 3% OF REMOVALS (593) WOULD SAVE UPWARDS OF \$20.3 MILLION.

DFPS 2018 PREVENTION TASK FORCE REPORT

Family First Prevention Services Act



Who is eligible?

- Families with children who are “at imminent risk for entering foster care,” as defined by the state
- Children in foster care who are pregnant or parenting

Services are available for a maximum of 12 months per child and family, unless the child is again identified as “at risk” of entering foster care.

Family First Programs in Clearinghouse

Mental health:

- *Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy*
- *Parent Child Interaction Therapy*
- *Functional Family Therapy*

Substance use:

- *Motivational Interviewing, Multisystemic Therapy,*
- *Families Facing the Future,*
- *Methadone Maintenance Therapy*

Parenting skills:

- *Nurse-Family Partnership*
- *Parents as Teachers,*
- *Healthy Families America*

Administration on Children, Youth and Families to release additional programs in Clearinghouse on rolling basis; Instructions to be released in June 2019 for states to submit community based programs for approval for Family First funding.

Support SB 355:

Improve coordination and effectiveness of services for children at risk of entering foster care:

- Develop and implement a strategic plan to leverage federal and private funds when available
- Integrate evidence-based and trauma informed mental health services, substance use prevention and treatment, and in-home parent programs

Contact Us

Pamela McPeters

Vice President of Public Affairs

512 E. 11th St. Suite 201

Austin, TX 78701

(512) 913-4408

pamela@texprotects.org

Jennifer Lucy

Director of Public Policy

512 E. 11th St. Suite 201

Austin, TX 78701

(512) 971-9347

jennifer@texprotects.org

