

# Recidivism Reduction

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GOAL COUNCIL 4:

SAFE COMMUNITIES



# Recidivism Project Dashboard

**Executive Sponsor:** Gil Orrantia (DOHS)  
**Project Lead:** Karen Hellman (ADC)  
**Project Coach:** Robert Woods (DOA/GTO)  
**Project Manager:** Ben Henderson  
**Policy Advisor:** Tim Roemer (DOHS)

| Goal   | 2-year  | 2-year (stretch) | 5-year  | 5-year (stretch) |
|--|---------|------------------|---------|------------------|
| ↓ the # of 1-year technical violator recidivists | 15%     | 20%              | 20%     | 25%              |
| (Current: 3,318)                                 | (2,820) | (2,655)          | (2,655) | (2,489)          |

**Project Agencies:** Corrections (Lead), DOHS, ADJC, ACJC, AHCCCS, DHS, DES, ROC, Housing, Veterans Services

## Problem Statement:

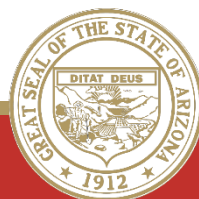
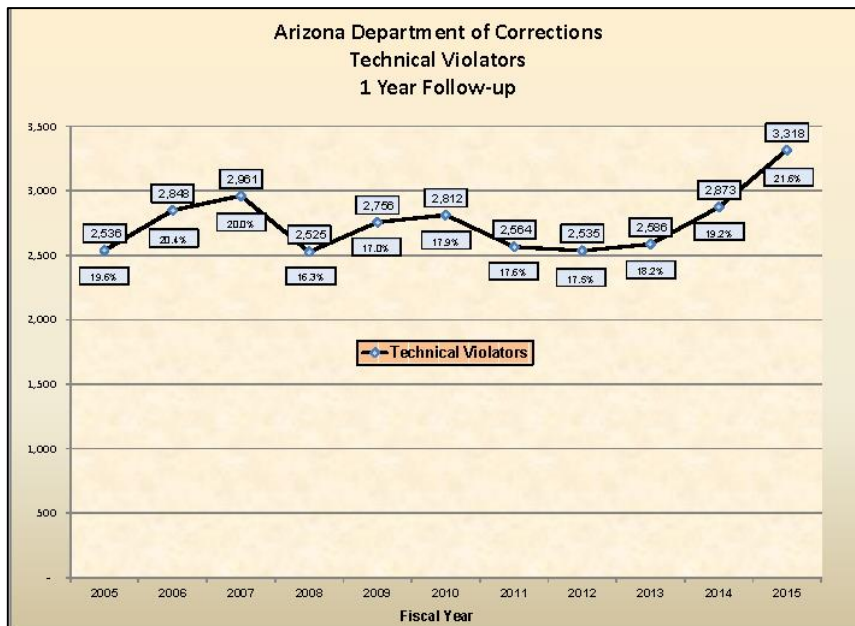
Since 2011, about 5,500 Arizonans have returned to the adult corrections system annually (about 39%) within 3-years of their prior release. These recidivists take up bed space, require the continued expansion of the system, result in additional public spending, and fail to return to society as a productive citizen. The system cannot continue to grow sustainably and is already stretched to maximum capacity.

## Scope:

- 1) Direct influence on technical violators who recidivate their term of Community Supervision
- 2) Indirect influence on all members of the adult corrections system, based in 3-year cohorts, who may recidivate within AZ

## Activity Updates:

- Sub work-groups identified and team leads for each sub-group established
- Plan to identify failure points by engaging offenders and staff
- Started gathering inventory of services offered during pre & post release



# The Previous 90 Days

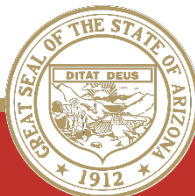
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## - Identified & Launched Five Key Focus Areas for Project Team:

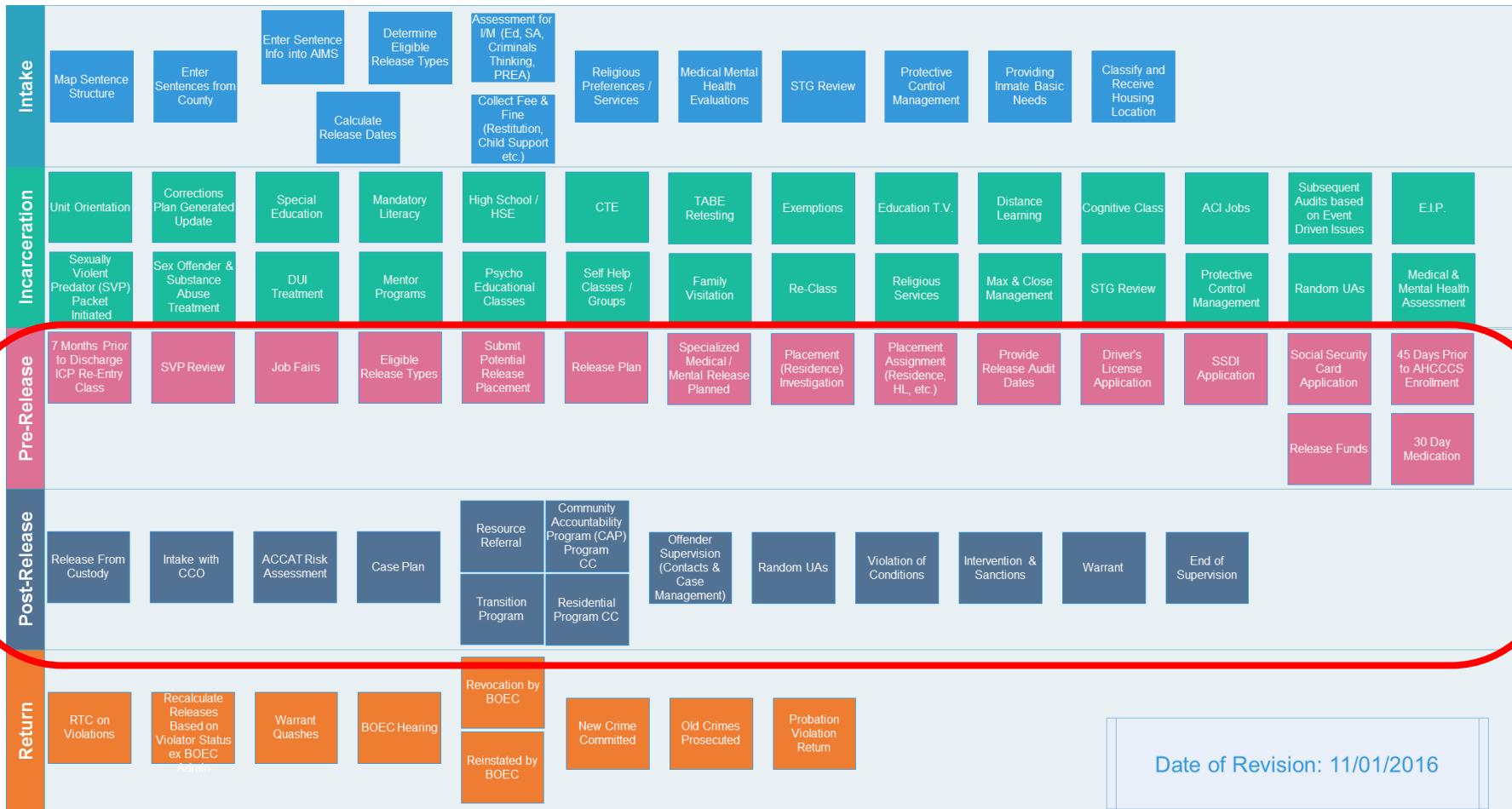
- Substance Abuse – collaboration with ASAP
- Housing
- Employment & Licensing Requirements
- Support Services for AHCCCS, DHS, and DES
- Data Collection - direct engagements with Community Supervision staff, returned offenders, and those on current release status (parole)

## Ongoing high potential recommendations:

- Prerelease Unit: create a coordinated exit process that ensures every inmate leaves with clear continuity to services in the community
- Navigator resources: Dedicated resources to “sponsor” released inmates to assist with navigating the barriers to success upon release
- Review of collateral consequences including licensing, bond and other requirements that create a barrier to employment as a result of criminal conviction
- Reduce homelessness in community supervision population through Rapid rehousing assistance program
- Absconder amnesty program
- Birch Hall – Housing facility for homeless former inmates



# The Previous 90 Days



Date of Revision: 11/01/2016





# Support Services – Michal Rudnick, AHCCCS

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- Create and prioritize an inventory of resources available to persons transitioning into the community
- Based on results from Data Collection Sub-Group, establish appropriate methods for administering resources
- For purposes of informing policy makers, identify barriers related to capacity and availability of services that have demonstrated evidence to reduce re-incarceration



# Data – Tim Roemer, Policy Assistant and DOHS

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Partner with Arizona State University's Criminal Justice Program on data collection efforts, to include:

- Interviews with repeat offenders to better understand what is and isn't working
- Interviews with inmates in community supervision to better understand what is and isn't working
- Interviews with Parole Officers for inside information on what is and isn't working

Produce relevant data to drive targeted improvement actions for all three additional subgroups.



# Housing – Mike Traylor, DOH

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Collect data on Crime Free housing policies that can restrict availability of housing for our population.

Collect data from ADOC

- Inmates leaving prison without a housing plan
- Inmates who return to prison within 3 years who left prison without a housing plan
- Inmates who return to prison due to substance abuse who left without a housing plan

Develop a housing process flow utilizing the Rapid Re Housing process for people experiencing homelessness

Interview homeless providers/community corrections officers regarding the effects of releasing inmates with no housing plan





# Employment – Mike Wisehart, DES

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- Analysis of the current state including work by the Department of Corrections, workforce partners, and community providers.
- Identification of primary barriers to employment, which are likely to include:
  - Education
  - Training
  - Substance Abuse
  - Stable housing
  - Transportation
- Evaluate a triage system to ensure that services are staged in an appropriate way so that employment services are targeted toward individuals as they are prepared to receive them.
- Engagement with employers to find opportunities for employers that would like to hire trained individuals exiting the correctional system as well as building on the system of transitional employment opportunities that currently exist.
- Leverage the work of Goal Council 2 – Employment – to ensure strategies and best practices are shared and implemented consistently.



# Substance Abuse – Debbie Moak, GOYFF & Mike Mitchell, ASAP

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- Between 70-80% of released inmates suffer some kind of substance abuse concerns
- Continual alignment and collaboration with Opioid Death project
- Working on developing a pilot program for Vivitrol within ADOC population
- Working with AHCCCS to enroll inmates into Medicaid prior to release so they can receive treatment on the outside
- ADOC received “Second Chance” grant
  - From the Bureau of Justice assistance, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice
  - Annual amounts of \$162,287 in FY16, \$160,873 in FY17, and \$149,795 in FY18
  - Overseen by workgroup in Arizona Substance Abuse Partnership (ASAP)



# Challenges

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Copious restrictions to former inmates, including:

- Food assistance
- Professional Licensing
- Crime-free housing

Data sharing among agencies and programs

Community concerns utilizing the State Hospital as an opportunity for housing and reentry center



# Foster Care Safe Reduction

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GOAL COUNCIL 4:

SAFE COMMUNITIES



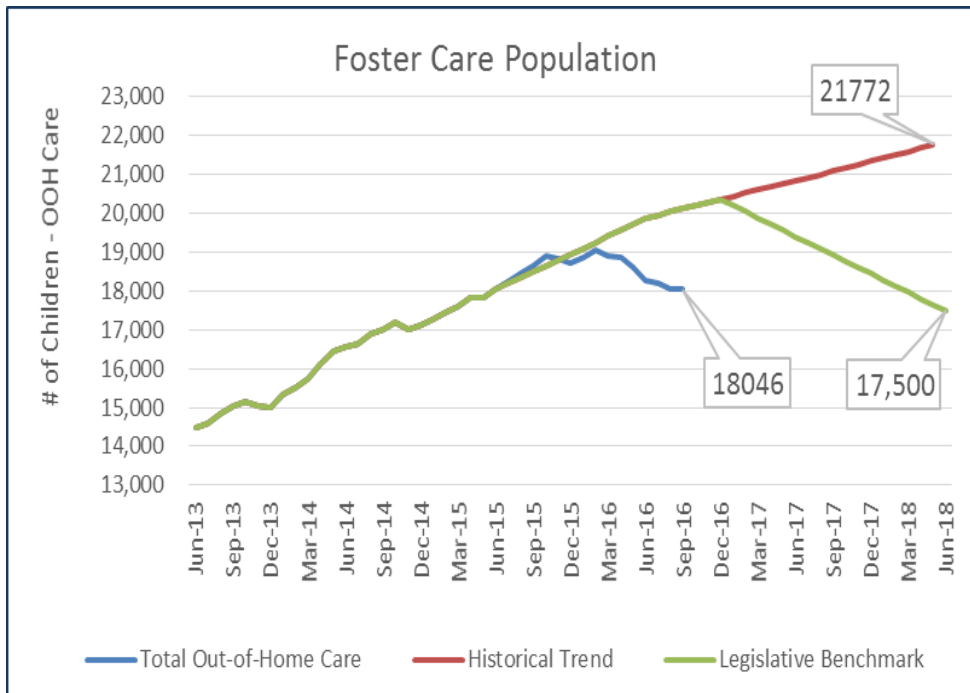
# Foster Care Safe Reduction

## Project Dashboard

**Executive Sponsor:** Greg McKay (DCS)  
**Project Lead:** Shalom Jacobs (DCS)  
**Project Coach:** Mike Faust (DCS)  
**Project Manager:** Ben Henderson (Gov)  
**Policy Advisor:** Christina Corieri (Gov)

| Goal  | 2-year          | 2-year (stretch) | 5-year          | 5-year (stretch) |
|---|-----------------|------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| ↓ the # of children in out-of-home care (Current: 18,157) | 11%<br>(16,200) | 16%<br>(15,200)  | 27%<br>(13,200) | 42%<br>(10,500)  |

**Project Agencies:** Child Safety (Lead)



### Problem Statement:

Arizona's foster care population has grown 92% in the 10.5 year period ranging from 9/30/2005 through 3/31/2016, which is the largest growth nationally.

### Scope:

All processes supported by all state agencies and/or policy affecting the foster care population are within the scope of the project.

Out of Home Population has dropped to 18,046 and projecting to be below ~17,850 in December

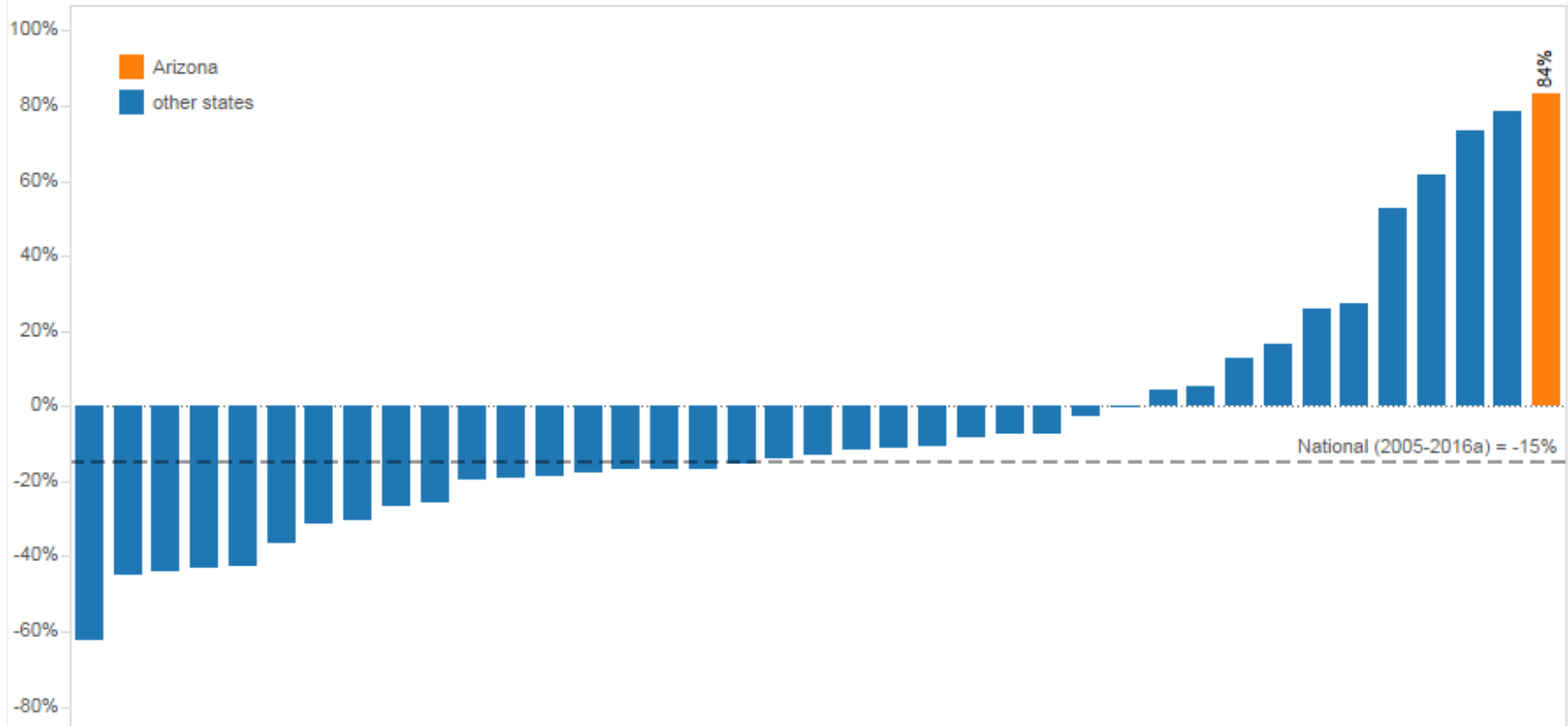
### Challenges

- Still focusing resources on backlog elimination between now and the end of the year. As a result, the activities on this project will progress slower until the Backlog resources are freed up.



# Where we started

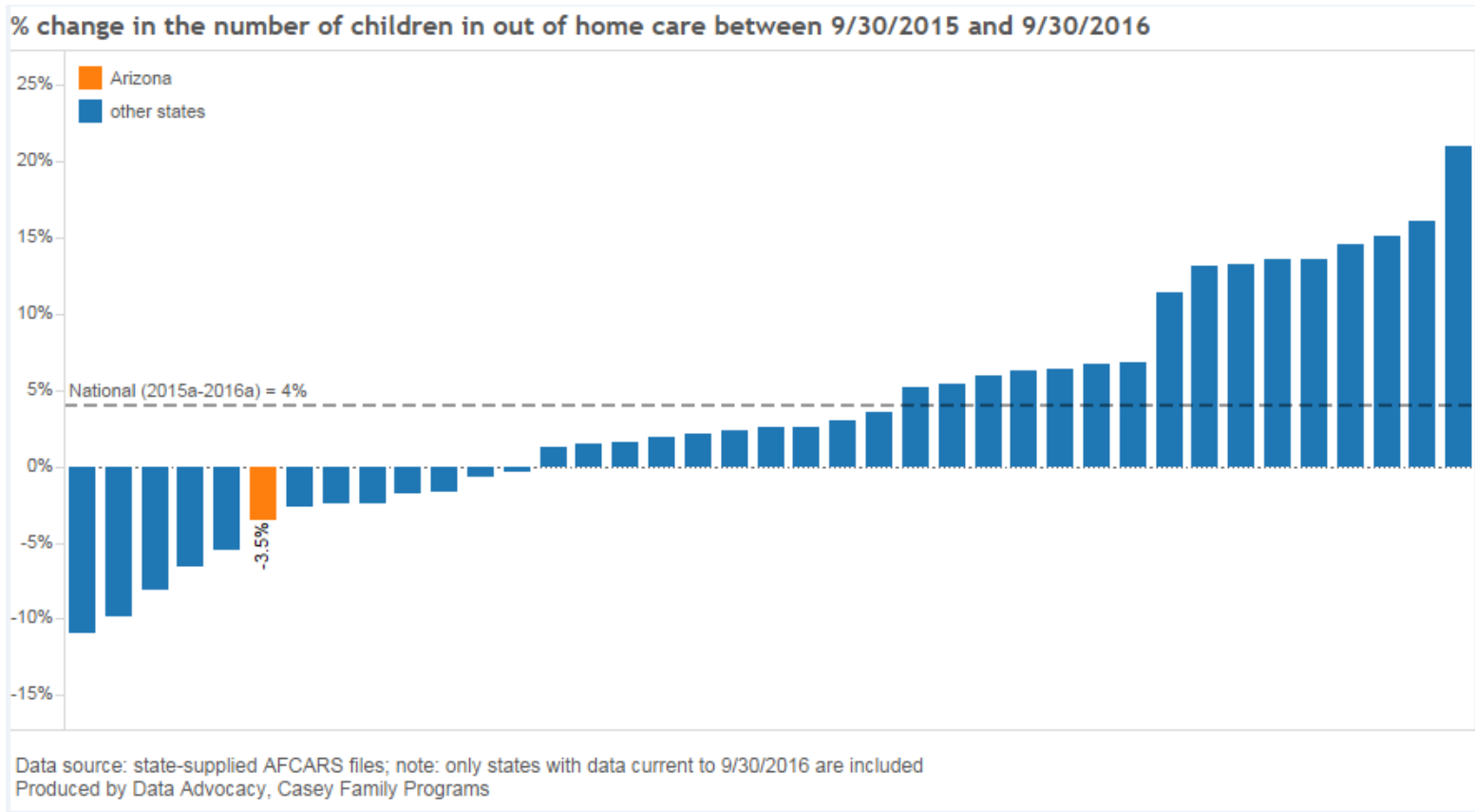
% change in the number of children in out of home care between 9/30/2005 and 9/30/2016



Data source: state-supplied AFCARS files; note: only states with data current to 9/30/2016 are included  
Produced by Data Advocacy, Casey Family Programs



# The Previous 90 Days



# The Previous 90 Days

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- Realized a 20% reduction in the number children entering care through introduction of Safety Discussion Guide, Case Load Reductions, Safety Science
  - The number of children exiting foster care has outpaced the children entering foster care for 10 of the last 12 months
  
- Arizona finalized the largest number of adoptions in a single month during November national adoption month (CY16-640; CY15-544; CY14-597)
  
- Utilizing public grant to engage private contractor support of Ongoing case reviews to accelerate children achieving permanency
  
- Finalized process to expand Fostering Sustainable Connections, which is an intervention aimed at reducing the number of kids in Congregate care through identification of kinship relationships

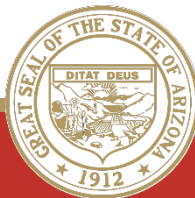




# The Next 90 Days

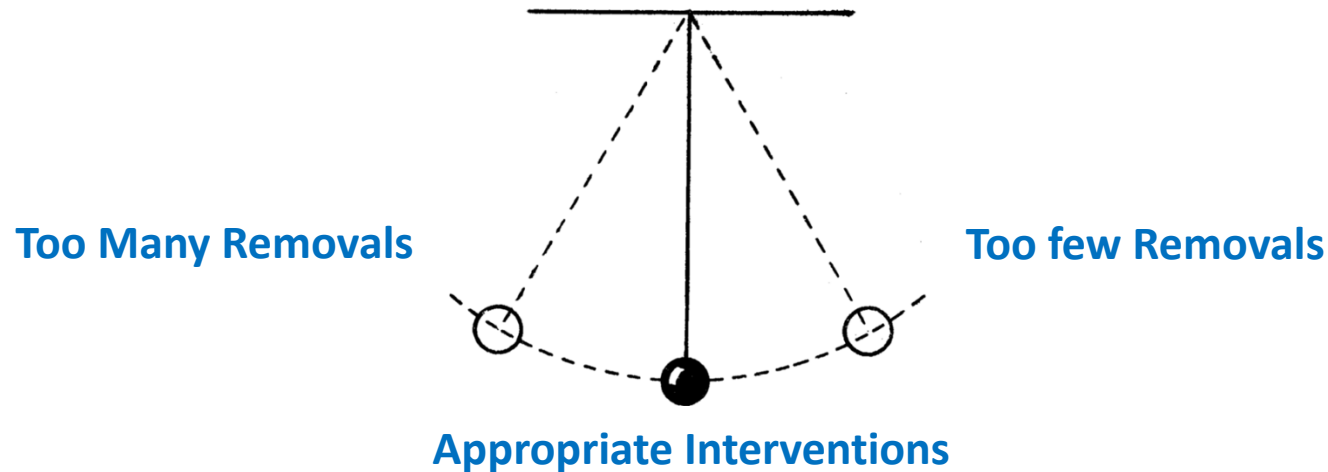
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- Leverage Private-Public partnerships to implement interventions focused on Foster/Kinship supports and improving contracting performance and relationships
  - o Measure of success – Decrease placement disruptions and reduce number of families waiting on service delivery
  
- Leverage Private-Public relationship to expand fostering sustainable connections to further reduce congregate care population
  - Measure of success – reduce congregate care population
  
- Finalize and implement actions from Case Manager (Core) training program
  - Measure of success – reduce employee turnover
  
- Continued refinement of the SAFE Arizona Model to improve decision making and improve case planning (Longer term project)
  - o Measure of success – reduce the ratio of children entering foster care



# Challenges

## The Pendulum Swing of Child Welfare



- Culture of due diligence and good faith. Right size foster care
- High profile negative event triggering relapse to overly risk-adverse removals
- Despite recent gains, employee turnover remains a concern and focus of the Department
- Balancing service provider Supply and Demand to support timely family support services



# Testing Sexual Assault Kits

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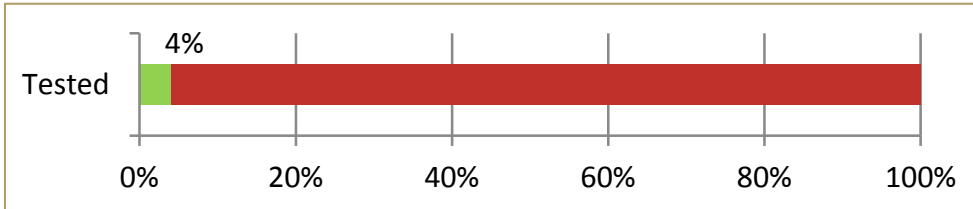
# Sexual Assault Kit Testing

## Project Dashboard

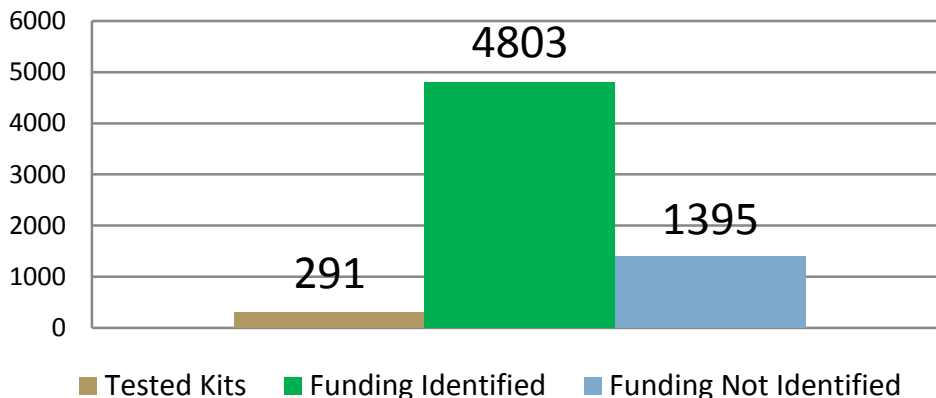
**Executive Sponsor:** Anni Foster (DPS)  
**Project Lead:** Courtney Coolidge(DPS)  
**Project Coach:** Name (Agency)  
**Project Manager:** Ben Henderson  
**Policy Advisor:** Tim Roemer (DOHS)

| Goal                   | 2-year                  | 2-year (stretch)    |
|------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| Reduce backlog of kits | Reduce backlog to 1,395 | Reduce backlog to 0 |

**Project Agencies:** DPS (Lead)



### AZ Statewide Sex Assault Kits



### Problem Statement:

Currently 6,489 untested sexual assault kits statewide.

### Scope:

#### Financial Resources Identified

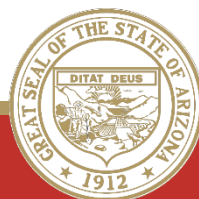
- Maricopa County Attorney’s Office ( \$1.2 M grant)
- FBI partnership to pay for 30 per agency
- Governor’s Office provides \$500,000 in funding
- City of Phoenix (\$1.5 M grant)
- Maricopa County Attorney’s Office (\$1.9 M grant)
- City of Tempe (\$363,000 grant)

### Activity Updates:

- Identified state vendor to track kit testing – software demo underway
- JLBC report submitted, to be reviewed 12/14

### Challenges

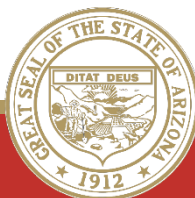
- Funding
- Testing capacity
- Connection with locals



# The Previous 90 Days

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- ✓ Sexual Assault Evidence Collection Kit Task Force submitted final report to the Governor on October 1, 2016.
  - Identified the number of unsubmitted sexual assault kits by jurisdiction.
  - Provided best practice recommendations for future testing including a statewide tracking system.
  - Provided legislative and funding recommendations.
  
- ✓ Outreach
  - Reached out to 36 law enforcement agencies with 30 kits or less to notify agency of eligibility for FBI testing process.
  - Sent letters to chiefs of agencies with crime laboratories asking for their partnership and reporting as we move forward with testing the previously unsubmitted kits.
  
- ✓ Sexual Assault Kit Tracking
  - Identified a vendor currently on state contract that offers a statewide sexual assault kit tracking software. Will need funding and legislation to implement.



# The Previous 90 Days

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## ✓ Sexual Assault Kit Testing

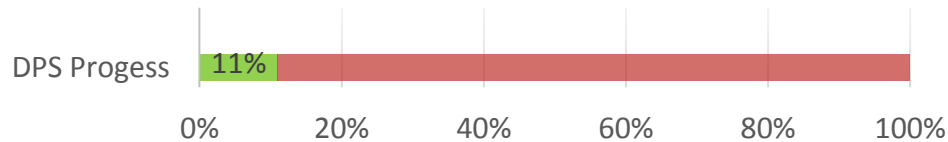
- The DPS Crime Laboratory began the backend processing of sexual assault kits being tested through grants secured from MCAO and Tempe Police Department. To date DPS has completed 291 sexual assault kits.
- DPS is working with local agencies in applying for FBI testing of sexual assault kits.
  - Pinal County Sheriffs Office, 6 kits, ship date July 2017
  - Nogales Police Department, 16 kits, ship date August 2018
- A bid solicitation is currently posted for DPS to contract for DNA analysis on sexual assault kit evidence. This will allow DPS to contract with private laboratories to outsource sexual assault kit testing for these previously unsubmitted kits. After the kits are outsourced the DPS Crime Laboratory will have to conduct the backend and technical review of the data and upload any resulting profiles into CODIS.
- A plan was submitted to JLBC for review on the expenditure of the \$500,000 special line item for sexual assault kit testing.



# The Next 90 Days

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- DPS will continue to review and complete sexual assault kits for law enforcement agencies we service.



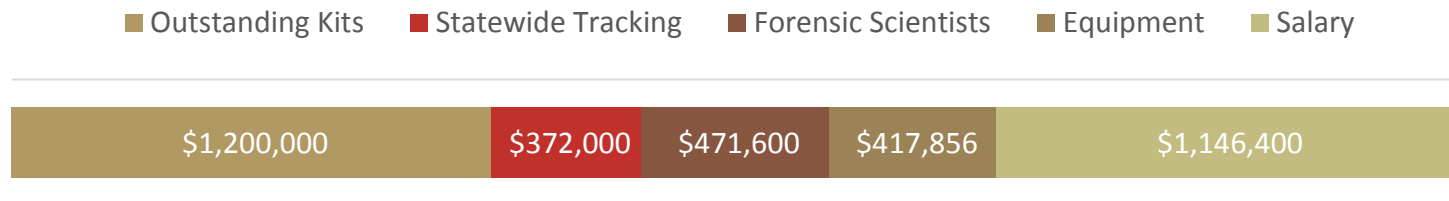
- DPS currently has a pending procurement to identify private laboratories to outsource kit testing to. JLBC gave a favorable review on December 14<sup>th</sup> for the plan to spend the \$500,000 special line item in the FY2017 General Appropriations Act. DPS will begin spending these funds to test 625 kits through private laboratories, while DPS will conduct the backend and technical review.
- Continue to work with other law enforcement agencies who have their own crime laboratory to report their progress on kit testing.
- DPS will draft legislation for this session:
  - Require law enforcement agencies to submit all sexual assault kits to a crime laboratory for testing except in unfounded cases or in cases where the victim chooses not to report.
  - Require use of a statewide tracking system that will follow a kit from collection to final disposition to ensure accountability of kits and that all are submitted for testing.



# Challenges

## 1. Funding

- Resources are needed to test the 1,395 outstanding unsubmitted kits that no funding has been identified for. Funding will need to be non-lapsing as testing for these kits will take longer than one fiscal year to complete.
  - After the kits are tested, additional testing will be required when a CODIS hit is received. For example, once notification of a hit is sent to the local law enforcement agency, the local agency will collect a known standard and submit DNA back to the laboratory for testing.
- Funding necessary for personnel and equipment to effectively implement a “test all” policy.
- Alternate funding opportunities:
  - FBI Testing: DPS has been working with agencies to take advantage of the FBI testing partnership. However, the most recent ship date we received for testing was August 2018.





# Challenges

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## 2. Other Law Enforcement Agency Resources

- Law enforcement agencies hesitant to submit kits for testing because they do not have the resources to conduct investigation after testing is complete.

## 3. State Control Over Testing

- DPS labs do not test all sexual assault kits statewide as some municipalities have their own laboratories for testing.
- Grants received by municipalities are multi year grants. For example, Phoenix PD's \$1.5 million grant can be spent over 3 years until 2019.

