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Department of Family
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Texas Child-Centered Care (T3C) Overview

Supreme Court of Texas
Permanent Judicial Commission for Children, Youth and Families

February 2, 2024

How Old is the Texas Service Level System?



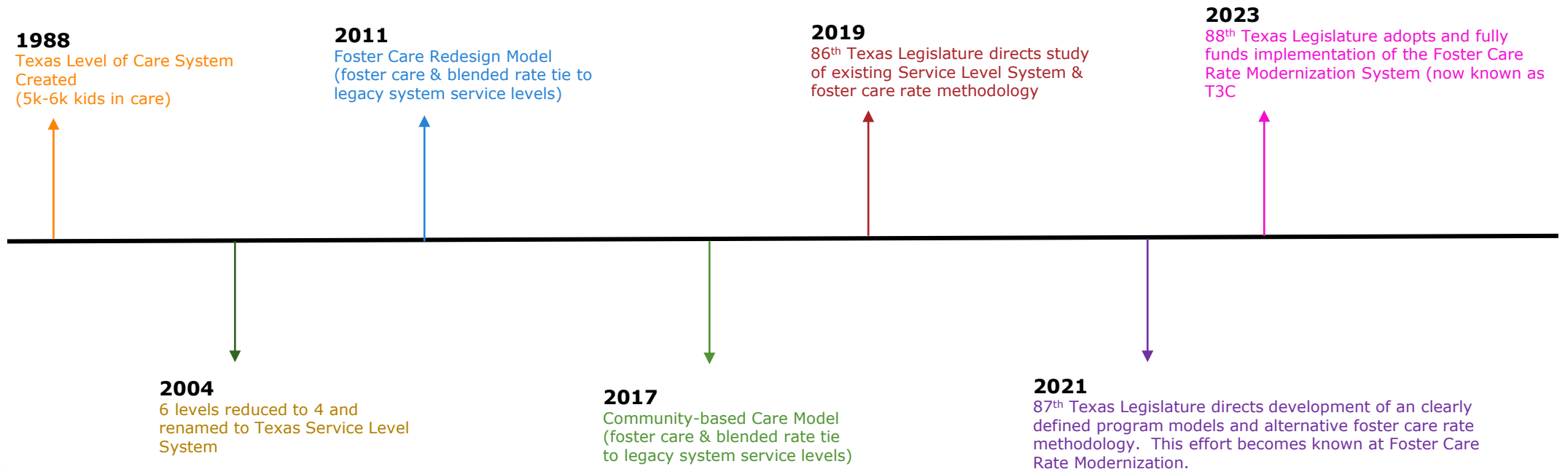
This is what I looked like when it was designed!!!!



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Texas Child-Centered Care System (T3C) (formerly known as Foster Care Rate Modernization)

36-Year History of Foster Care in Texas





Background

1. 86th Texas Legislature (2019, Regular Session), General Appropriation Act (GAA), Special Provision (SP) 32
 - Rate Methodology Evaluation; Third-Party Recommendations
2. 87th Texas Legislature (2021, Regular Session), GAA, SP26
 - Aligning Rates to Clearly Defined Program Models
 - Use CANS (and other tools) to inform placement and service decisions and track progress
3. 88th Texas Legislature (2023, Regular Session)
 - Implementation of T3C



Historic Investment in Foster Care & Kinship Care Services

The 88th Legislature made a significant investment in improving the foster care system by increasing the biennial appropriation in SFY 2024-25 **by an estimated \$149.5 million dollars**, which includes:

- **\$49.6 Million in additional funding to sustain providers** at current payment levels by adopting a formal rate increase that offers a bridge between the current Service Level payment structure and the new modernized foster care continuum and rate structure.
- **\$30.6 Million in additional funding to increase the Basic, Moderate, and CBC blended rates**, this funding builds off the bridge for other services and levels by adding an increase for children with less acute needs to sustain providers and caregivers as the state transitions to the new foster care continuum and rate structure.
- **\$40.5 Million in additional funding to support the administrative costs related to the transition and implementation** of a new foster care continuum and rate structure (T3C Implementation).
- **\$28.9 Million in additional funding to support new *fully funded* rates in SFY 2025** under T3C.
- **\$6.9 Million in additional funding to support concrete service needs and off-set costs incurred** by relative caregivers as they care for children and work towards becoming a licensed foster parent.
- **Increasing the daily payment to eligible kinship caregivers**, so that it coincides with implementation of Foster Care Rate Modernization by raising the amount to fifty percent of the Basic foster family pass-through amount under the new rate structure. This will raise the rate from \$12.57 to \$23.45 per day beginning in January 2025.



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T3C: A System Wide Effort

- HHSC
- DFPS
- University of Texas Institute for Child & Family WellBeing
- Public Consulting Group
- 30 focus groups, webinars and work sessions for stakeholders
- Comprehensive Survey submitted to 400 providers

Data analysis, research, and stakeholder input all contributed to the development of the Texas Child Centered Care System



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A New Day in Foster Care

Today

Child Leveling System. Children described by service level. Creates fiscal challenges & lacks incentives.



Future

Children's placements are defined by the services they need and the settings they will live in. DFPS purchases the service package in the setting. Payment doesn't change. As long as child needs that service package in that setting, payment remains the same.



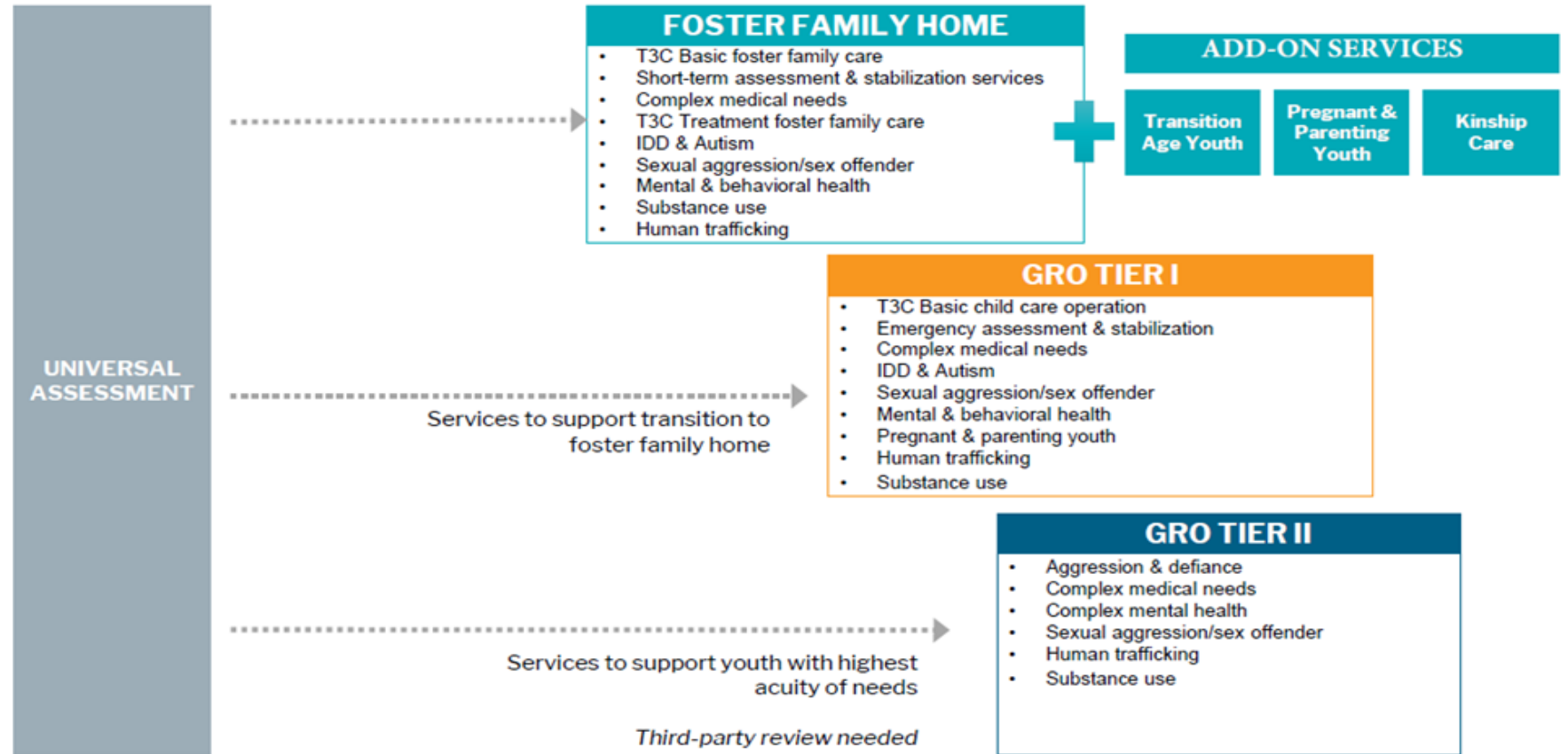
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T3C System: Key Components

- Universal Screening and Placement Process
- 24 Clearly Defined Service Packages
- Foster care rates that align with the cost of care
- Continuous quality assurance and improvement structure
- Structured transition/implementation plan



T3C System: Foster Care Continuum Service Array





T3C System: Implementation Timeline & Update

Timeline for Transition:

- 11 months (January 2025) until transition of children begins under T3C System
- Transition period is anticipated to occur between January 2025 through August 2027
- September 2027 all children and providers will be served under T3C System (no more Service Levels)



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Foster Family Home/Child Placing Agency Reimbursement Rates

Texas Child-Centered Care (T3C) Methodological Rates						
Foster Family Home (FFH) /Child Placing Agency (CPA)						
FFH CPA Rate Type	Methodological Daily Rate	Agency Retainage Portion	Agency (CPA Case Management)	Agency (CPA Client Services)	Agency (CPA Operations/Administrative Costs)	Foster Family Home Passthrough Portion
Basic Foster Family Home	\$83.29	\$36.39	\$12.82	\$0.30	\$23.28	\$46.90
Short-Term Assessment & Stabilization Services	\$150.40	\$77.22	\$23.38	\$28.22	\$25.62	\$73.18
Complex Medical Needs Services	\$187.80	\$94.53	\$45.25	\$3.01	\$46.27	\$93.27
Treatment Foster Family Care Services	\$328.41	\$188.83	\$57.45	\$52.39	\$79.00	\$139.58
Intellectual & Developmental Disability (IDD)/ Autism Support Services	\$219.98	\$129.20	\$45.69	\$35.52	\$47.98	\$90.78
Sexual Aggression/Sex Offender Support Services	\$186.47	\$95.68	\$25.67	\$32.50	\$37.51	\$90.78
Mental & Behavioral Health Support Services	\$169.49	\$109.92	\$26.30	\$52.22	\$31.39	\$59.57
Substance Use Support Services	\$148.14	\$88.57	\$30.72	\$26.33	\$31.52	\$59.57
Human Trafficking Support Services	\$217.26	\$117.05	\$23.43	\$57.39	\$36.23	\$100.21



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Foster Family Home/Child Placing Agency Daily Add-On Rates

Foster Family Home (FFH)/Child Placing Agency (CPA) Add-On Rates						
Add-On FFH CPA Service Type	Methodological Daily Rate	Agency Retainage Portion	Agency (CPA Case Management)	Agency (CPA Client Services)	Agency (CPA Operations/Administrative Costs)	Foster Family Home Passthrough Portion
Add-On to Daily Rate: Kinship Care Support Services	\$38.22	\$38.22	\$0.00	\$25.43	\$7.55	\$0.00
Add-On to Daily Rate: Support Services for Youth & Young Adults	\$37.40	\$11.27	\$0.00	\$8.72	\$2.55	\$26.12
Add-On to Daily Rate: Youth & Young Adults who are Pregnant or Parenting Support Services	\$51.22	\$24.94	\$4.36	\$0.00	\$2.43	\$26.28

There will be one daily rate associated with the child’s base package, and then if applicable up to three of the add-ons attached to the daily rate.



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General Residential Operation Tier I Daily Reimbursement Rates

General Residential Operation (GRO) Tier I					
GRO Tier I Rate Type	Methodological Daily Rate	GRO Client Services	GRO Case Management	GRO Administrative Services	GRO Facilities Cost
Basic Child Care Operation	\$270.80	\$137.49	\$11.69	\$75.11	\$46.51
Emergency Stabilization & Assessment Center	\$394.42	\$233.73	\$13.49	\$100.68	\$46.51
Services for Children, Youth, & Young Adults with Complex Medical Needs to Support Community Transition	\$426.20	\$254.47	\$19.00	\$106.22	\$46.51
Services for Children, Youth, & Young Adults with IDD/Autism to Support Community Transition	\$429.95	\$247.14	\$16.72	\$119.58	\$46.51
Human Trafficking Services to Support Community Transition	\$456.00	\$271.14	\$17.84	\$119.78	\$47.24
Youth & Young Adult who are Pregnant or Parenting Services to Support Community Transition	\$382.23	\$214.47	\$21.07	\$100.18	\$46.51
Substance Use Services to Support Community Transition	\$389.67	\$227.25	\$16.72	\$99.19	\$46.51
Sexual Aggression/Sex Offender Treatment Services to Support Community Transition	\$340.56	\$172.18	\$21.07	\$99.19	\$48.13
Mental & Behavioral Health Treatment Services to Support Community Transition	\$467.55	\$285.57	\$15.75	\$119.72	\$46.51



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General Residential Operation Tier II Daily Reimbursement Rates

General Residential Operation (GRO) Tier II					
GRO Tier II Rate Type	Methodological Daily Rate	GRO Client Services	GRO Case Management	GRO Administrative Services	GRO Facilities Cost
Human Trafficking Services to Support Stabilization	\$642.02	\$375.35	\$21.04	\$176.65	\$68.98
Substance Use Services to Support Stabilization	\$633.02	\$413.86	\$15.50	\$135.60	\$68.07
Services to Support Stabilization of Children, Youth, & Young Adults with Complex Medical Needs	\$623.53	\$384.06	\$15.50	\$155.90	\$68.07
Services to Support Stabilization of Children, Youth, & Young Adults with Complex Mental Health Needs	\$583.33	\$343.87	\$21.04	\$150.35	\$68.07
Services to Support Stabilization of Children, Youth, & Young Adults with Aggression & Defiance Disorder(s)	\$574.65	\$348.72	\$21.04	\$136.82	\$68.07
Services to Support Stabilization of Children, Youth, & Young Adults with Sexual Aggression	\$540.60	\$315.91	\$24.55	\$130.05	\$70.09



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Thank you

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