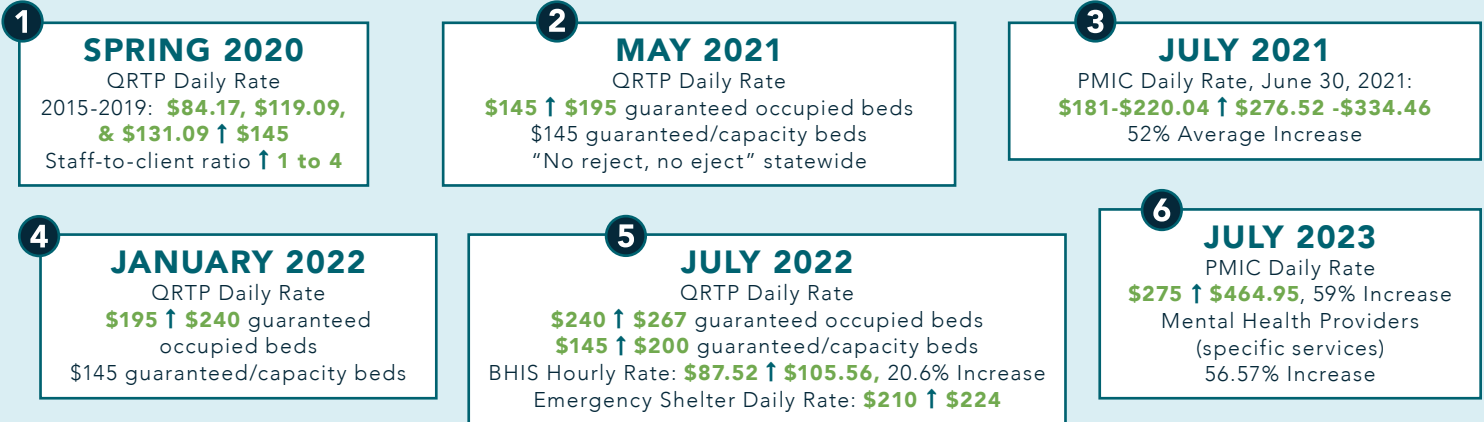


OUR JOINT PROGRESS

Thanks to the ongoing collaboration between the Governor, state legislators, HHS leadership, and the Coalition for Family and Children's Services and its member agencies, we have made much progress over the past few years. **TOGETHER, our return on investment has resulted in an improved Child Welfare system and critical services for Iowa children and families.**

SHARED PROGRESS

PROGRESS FOR HHS, THE GOVERNOR, THE LEGISLATURE AND THE COALITION



RETURN ON INVESTMENTS

TOTAL STATE DOLLAR INVESTMENT:

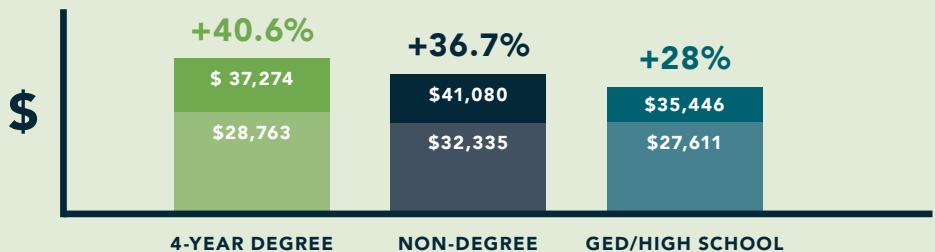
\$20.8 MILLION

The Governor and the Iowa legislature have taken a strategic approach to stabilize child welfare and by prioritizing mental health and family wellbeing as a crucial part of the foundation that builds healthy Iowans.

CHILD WELFARE/ JUVENILE JUSTICE:

\$9.6 MILLION

DIRECT CARE WORKERS, MEAN SALARY GROWTH 2022-2023



MEDICAID (MENTAL HEALTH):

\$11.2 MILLION

The overall turnover rate of Direct Care Workers decreased slightly in 2023. **In addition, the percentage of staff indicating compensation as the primary reason for leaving employment DECREASED BY OVER 50% between 2021 and 2023.**

STATEWIDE COVERAGE: THE COALITION CONSISTS OF 22 AGENCIES SERVING ALL 99 IOWA COUNTIES.

UPDATE THE CHILD WELFARE EMERGENCY SHELTER TO A STATE FOCUSED SYSTEM

Shelter Services are designed to be a minimally restrictive, temporary intervention for youth who enter through Child Welfare, Juvenile Court or local law enforcement.

Shelter provides a safe environment for a child while maintaining as much normalcy for the child as possible.

Iowa's 99 counties currently spend \$1,710,612 EACH YEAR to reimburse Shelter Services. With this structure, Shelter staff spend time billing and managing cash flow issues from each county, instead of serving Iowa's families. County staff in all counties also spend time processing Shelter reimbursements.



Moving Child Welfare Emergency Shelters to a State-Focused system will improve efficiencies for state government by:

Streamlining funding and creating a better line of sight for dollars spent on the child welfare and juvenile justice systems



Alleviating administrative burden on the county



Reducing the administrative burden for Shelter staff, allowing them to repurpose staff for other work



\$ SFY 2025 INVESTMENT NEEDED: \$1,710,612

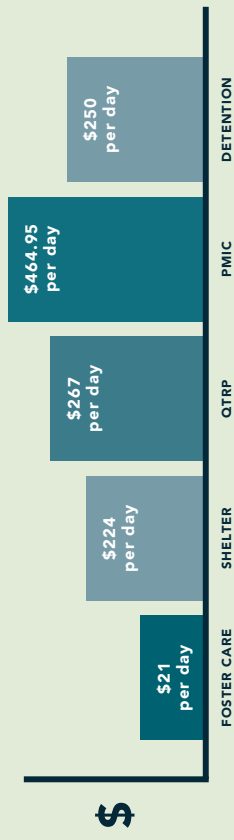
INCREASE REIMBURSEMENT FOR FOSTER FAMILIES TO 65% OF USDA RECOMMENDATION

Foster parents represent an essential component of the child welfare system as these families provide for care and safety of children during times when their own families are not able to do so.

There are nearly 35% MORE KIDS AND YOUTH needing foster parents than we have available in Iowa. The reimbursement rate for foster parents has not been increased since 2013.

IOWA'S CURRENT FOSTER FAMILY RATE VS OTHER SETTINGS

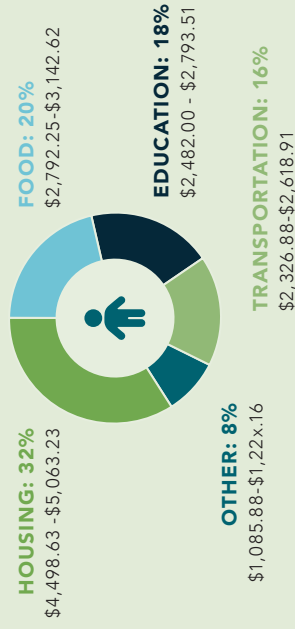
**dollar amounts are per child*



Foster parents deserve financial reimbursement sufficient to help pay for expenses for a youth's care. To help families continue to care for Iowa youth, the Iowa legislature should increase the reimbursement for foster families to **65% OF WHAT THE USDA SAYS IT COSTS TO RAISE A CHILD.**

USDA COST TO RAISE A CHILD IN 2023

**excluding healthcare (paid by Medicaid)*



TOTAL ANNUAL COST: \$14,116.39 - \$15,888.09

\$ SFY 2025 INVESTMENT NEEDED: \$2 MILLION