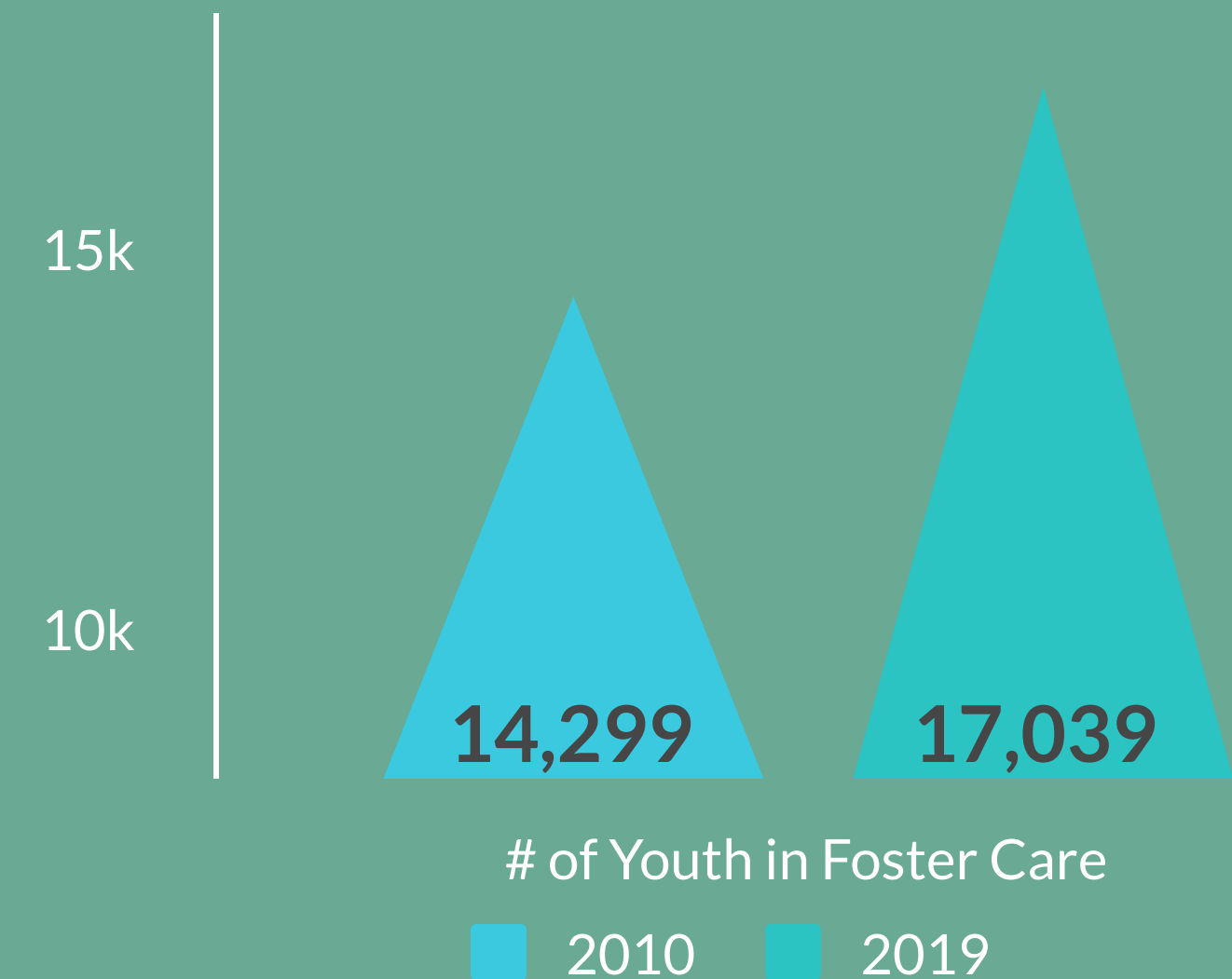


# Support Our Foster Children & Youth And Those that Care for Them

## Background:

In North Carolina, there has been a 27% increase in the number of children coming into foster care since 2010. Part of the increase is the result of the opioid epidemic as children are often removed from their homes due to the parents' substance use disorder. While the number of children coming into care is rapidly increasing, the number of available foster homes is decreasing. As a result, the child welfare system is under enormous pressure to find safe and stable placements for children.

27% MORE Children in Foster Care



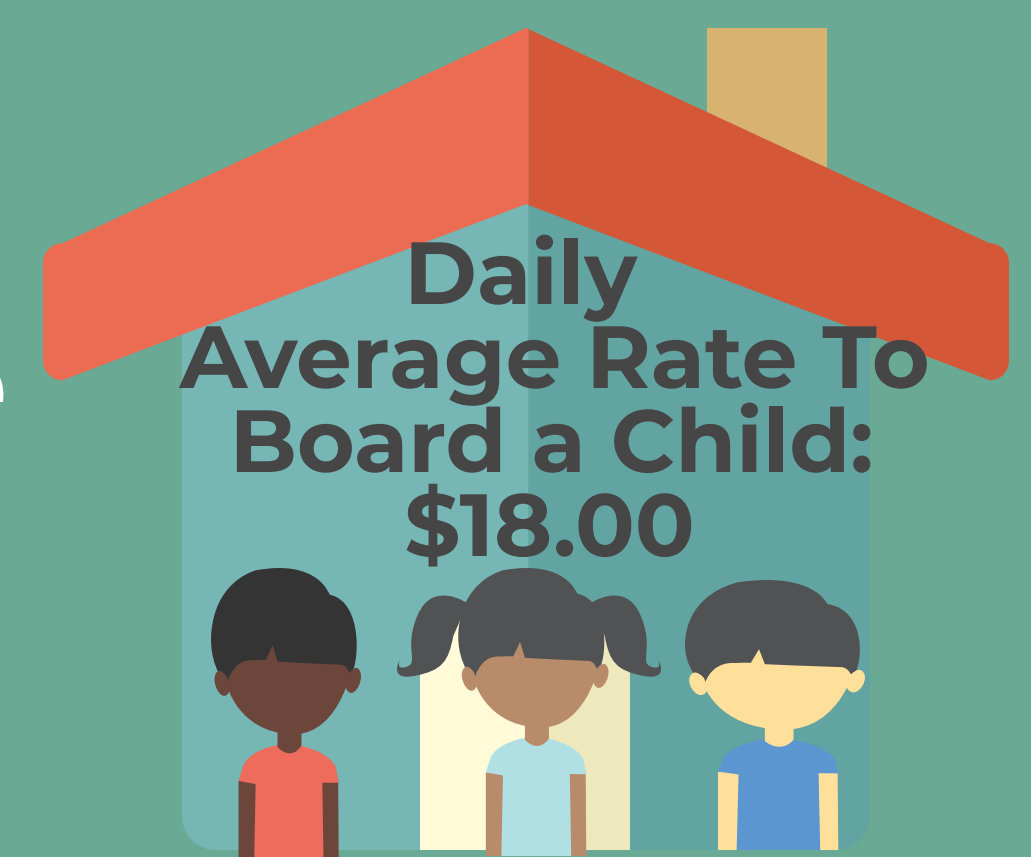
The pressure to add foster homes will increase significantly in October 2021 when a new federal law, the Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA), goes into effect limiting funding for our current placement system.

It has been more than 12 years since the last reimbursement rate increase for foster families. The families continuously pay out of their own pocket to cover the needs of the children in their home. We need your help to reduce this financial burden to better recruit and retain families.

## Request: Reimbursement Rate Increase Based on Cost of Living Estimates

### Current Rates vs. Proposed Rates Per Month

Age:	<u>0-5</u>	<u>6-11</u>	<u>12+</u>
<b>Current:</b>	<b>\$475</b>	<b>\$581</b>	<b>\$634</b>
<b>Proposed:</b>	<b>\$553</b>	<b>\$727</b>	<b>\$761</b>



## Transition Plan Timeline

- 2021/2022- 50% of the rate increase so counties have time to plan for the change in their budget;
- 2022/2023- 100% of the rate increase, allowing time for counties to absorb the increase of the county share.

Please support \$6.8 million in FY 2021-2022 to care for our youth in foster care.

# benchmarks

An Alliance of Agencies Helping Children,  
Families & Adults

## Full Members

- A Caring Alternative
- ACI Support Specialists, Inc.
- Alexander Youth Network
- American Children's Home
- Amos Cottage (Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center)
- Anuvia Prevention & Recovery Center
- Appalachian Community Services
- Bailey's Respite Care, Inc.
- Bair Foundation
- Baptist Children's Homes of N.C.
- Bethany Christian Services
- Better Connections
- Black Mountain Home for Children
- Boys and Girls Homes of NC
- Caring for Children
- Catawba County DSS Residential Services
- Children's Center of Northwest NC
- Children's Home Society of NC
- Children's Homes of Cleveland Co.
- Children's Homes of Iredell Co.
- Children's Hope Alliance
- Coastal Horizons Center
- Crossnore School & Children's Home
- Easter Seals UCP
- Ebenezer Christian Children's Home
- Eliada Homes
- Falcon Children's Home
- Family Preservation Community Services
- Family Preservation Services of NC, Inc.
- Family Services of the Piedmont
- Florence Crittenton Services
- Free Will Baptist Children's Home
- Haven House Services
- Integrated Family Services PLLC
- KidsPeace National Centers
- Life Based Conceptions
- Lutheran Services Carolinas
- Masonic Home for Children at Oxford
- Maxim Healthcare
- Meridian Behavioral Health Svcs, Inc.
- Methodist Home for Children
- Monarch
- Nazareth Child & Family Connection
- October Road, Inc.
- Omni Family of Services
- Phoenix Counseling Center
- Pride in North Carolina, Inc.
- Primary Health Choice, Inc.
- Progressive Care Services, Inc.
- Residential Services, Inc.
- Riverbend Services, Inc.
- Shine Light
- Sipe's Orchard Home
- SouthLight Healthcare
- Southmountain Children and Family Services
- Support Inc.
- Thompson Child and Family Focus
- Timber Ridge Treatment Center, Inc.
- Turning Point Homes
- Universal Mental Health Services, Inc.
- Waynesboro Family Clinic, PA
- Yelverton's Enrichment Services, Inc.
- Youth Focus
- Youth Haven Services, Inc.
- Youth Unlimited, Inc.
- Youth Villages

## Affiliate Members

- AmeriHealth Caritas
- Centene Corp
- Foster Care to Success
- Foster Family Alliance
- Healthy Blue
- Leslie Kellenberger Consulting
- Rapid Resources for Families
- Tara Larson, Individual
- UnitedHealthcare
- WellCare Health Plans, Inc.