

# Children's Services Act

## Joint Subcommittee for Health and Human Resources Oversight

July 15, 2025

**Scott Reiner, Executive Director**  
**Office of Children's Services**

---

# CSA Organization

# State Supervision of the CSA

- State Executive Council for Children's Services (SEC) (§2.2-2648)
  - Policy (regulatory) and broad oversight
- Office of Children's Services (§2.2-2649)
  - Fiscal administration
  - Training and Technical Assistance
  - Audit
  - IT Support

# Local Administration of the CSA

- Community Policy and Management Team  
(\$2.2-5206)
- Statutory powers and duties include:
  - planning and policy development
  - fiscal and programmatic management
  - data collection and reporting

# Local Administration of the CSA

- Family Assessment and Planning Team (§2.2-5207)
- Statutory powers and duties include:
  - family engagement
  - collaborative assessment to identify needs
  - creation of an individual family service plan (IFSP)
  - monitor, review, and adjust services

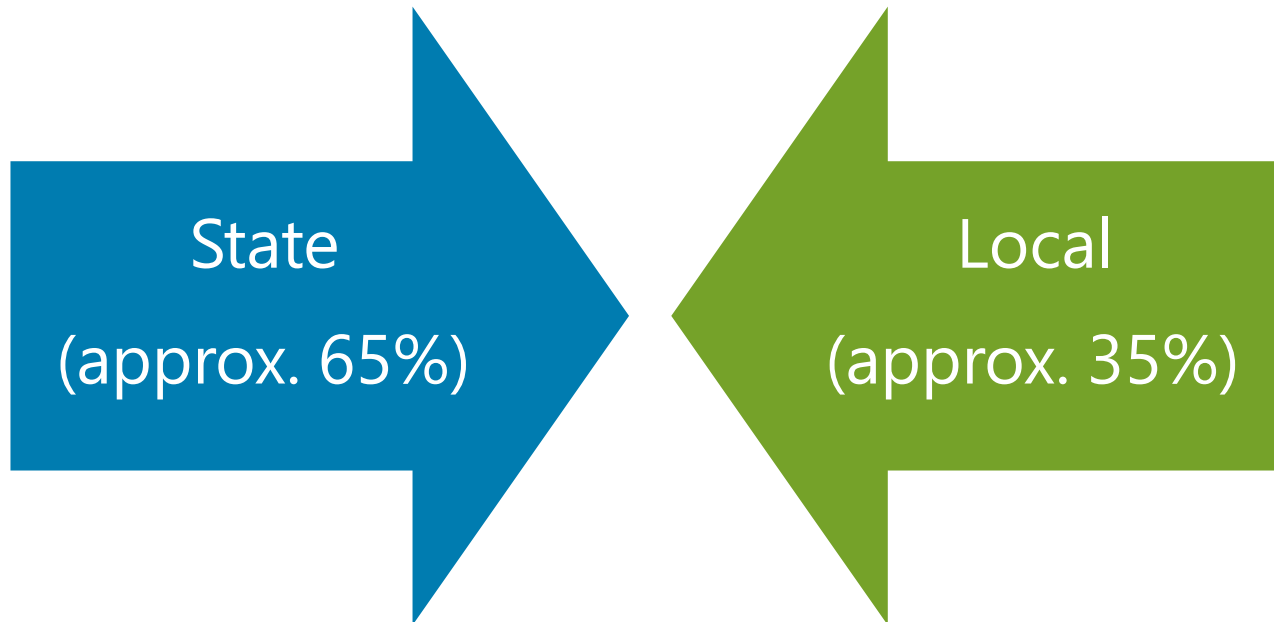
---

# CSA Funding

# Sum Sufficient Funding

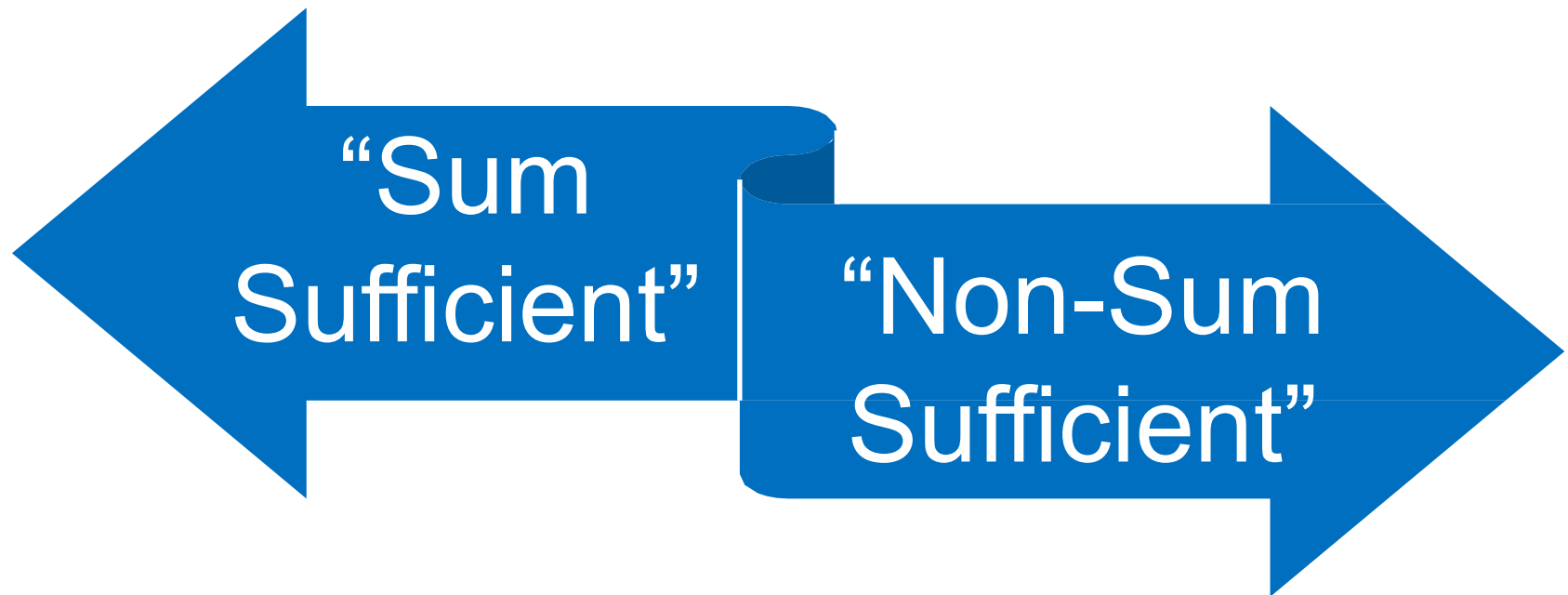
- The General Assembly and the governing body of each county and city shall annually appropriate such sums of money as shall be sufficient to (i) provide special education services and foster care services for children and youth identified in subdivisions B 1 through 4 and 6 and 7 and (ii) meet relevant federal mandates for the provision of these services. (§2.2-5211.C).
- The CSA has limited control over expenditures due to the non-discretionary nature of the majority of services provided and the decisions of other entities (e.g., local schools/IEPs; local DSS/use of TFC).

# CSA Funding: A Shared Responsibility





# CSA Funding



---

# CSA Eligibility and Service Lines

# Who Is Eligible for CSA Funding? (§2.2-5211 and §2.2-5212)

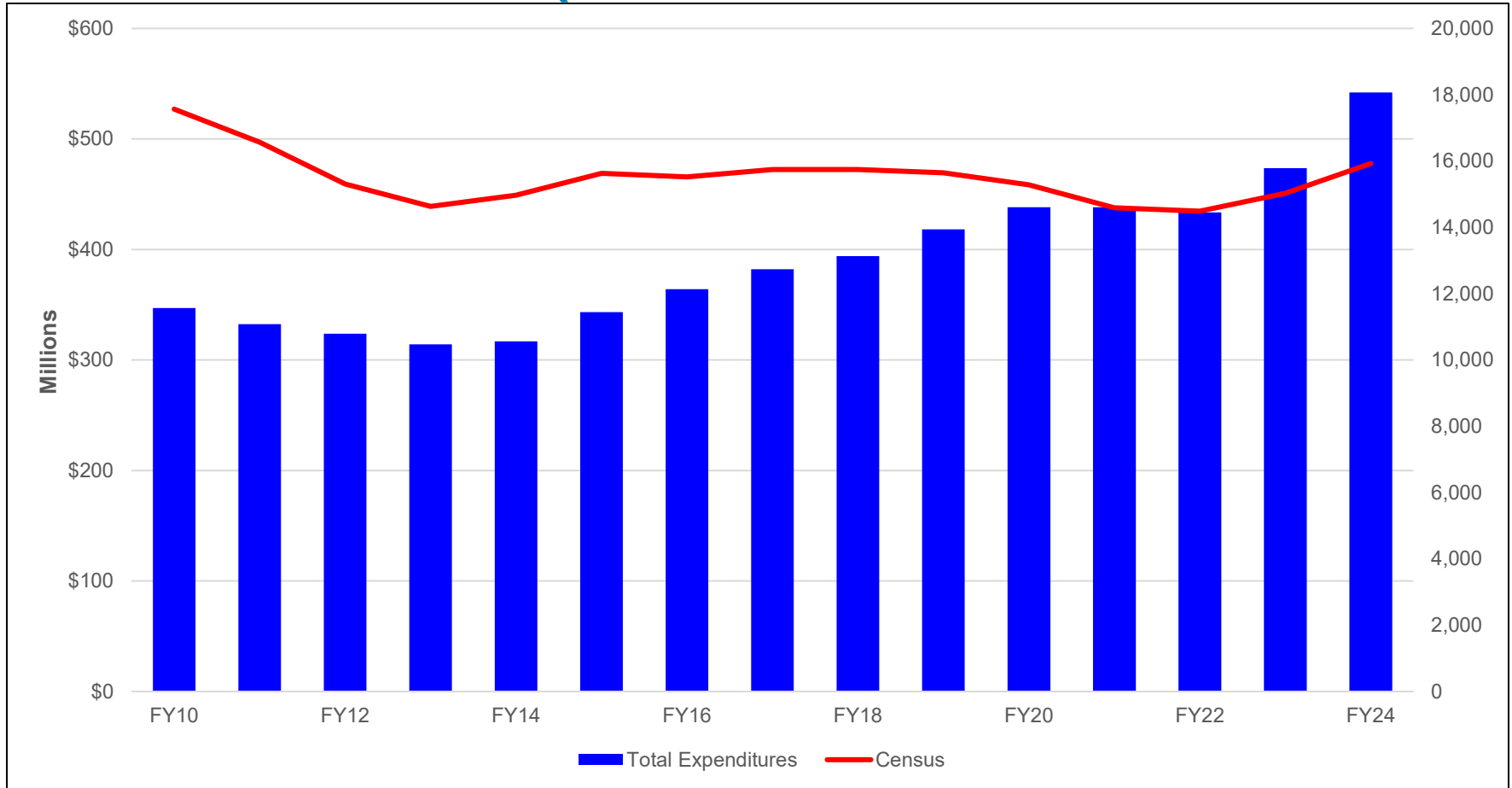
- Children receiving foster care services\*
  - Foster Care Prevention and Non-Custodial Agreements
  - Those in custody of the LDSS
- Students with educational disabilities in private special education programs per their IEP\*
- Children in Need of Services (CHINS)\*
- Children with significant behavioral/emotional needs involved in more than one agency

\* Sum sufficient funding

---

# CSA Service and Expenditure Trends

# CSA Total Expenditures and Utilization (FY 2010 – 2024)



Source: CSA Pool Fund Reimbursement (pre-2017) and LEDRS Systems

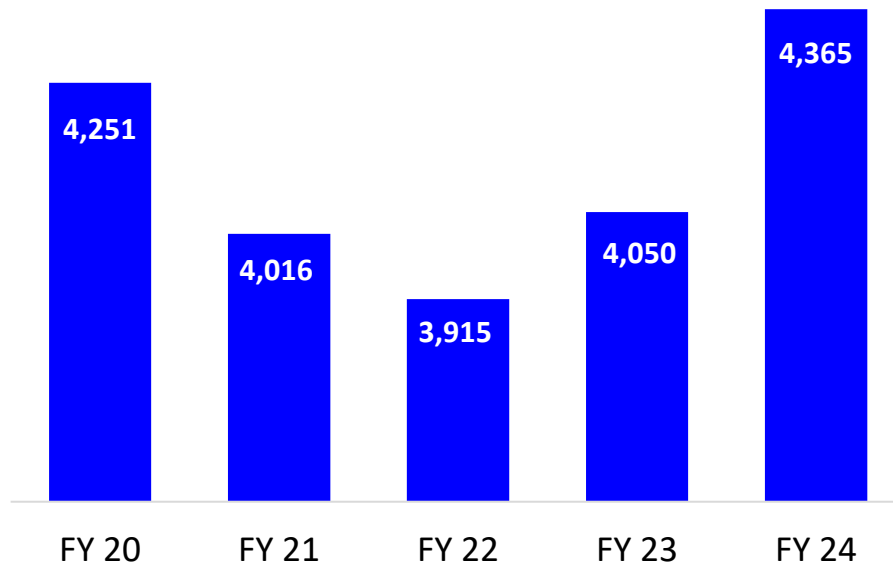
# CSA Expenditures by Service Line (FY2024)

Service Category	Service Examples	% of Expenditure	% of Youth*
Residential Treatment	Psychiatric Residential Treatment/ Group Homes	15%	14%
Foster Care	Treatment Foster Care/ Family Foster Care	26%	41%
Community-Based Services	Intensive In-Home/ Mentoring/Behavioral Therapies/Parent Coaching/ Assessments	12%	66%
Special Education	Private Day Special Education/ Special Education Wraparound	45%	30%

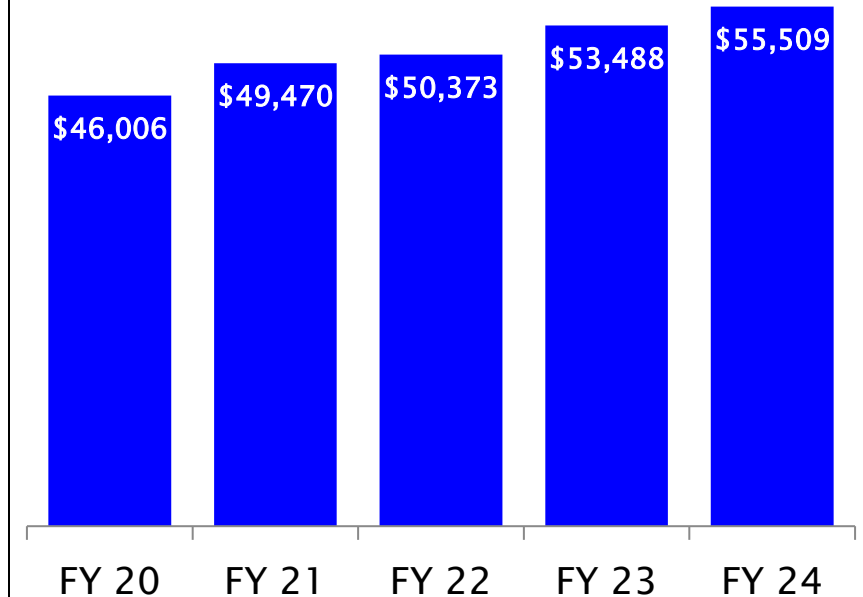
\* Youth may appear in more than one Service Category. Unduplicated count = 15,923

# Private Day Special Education (FY2020-2024)

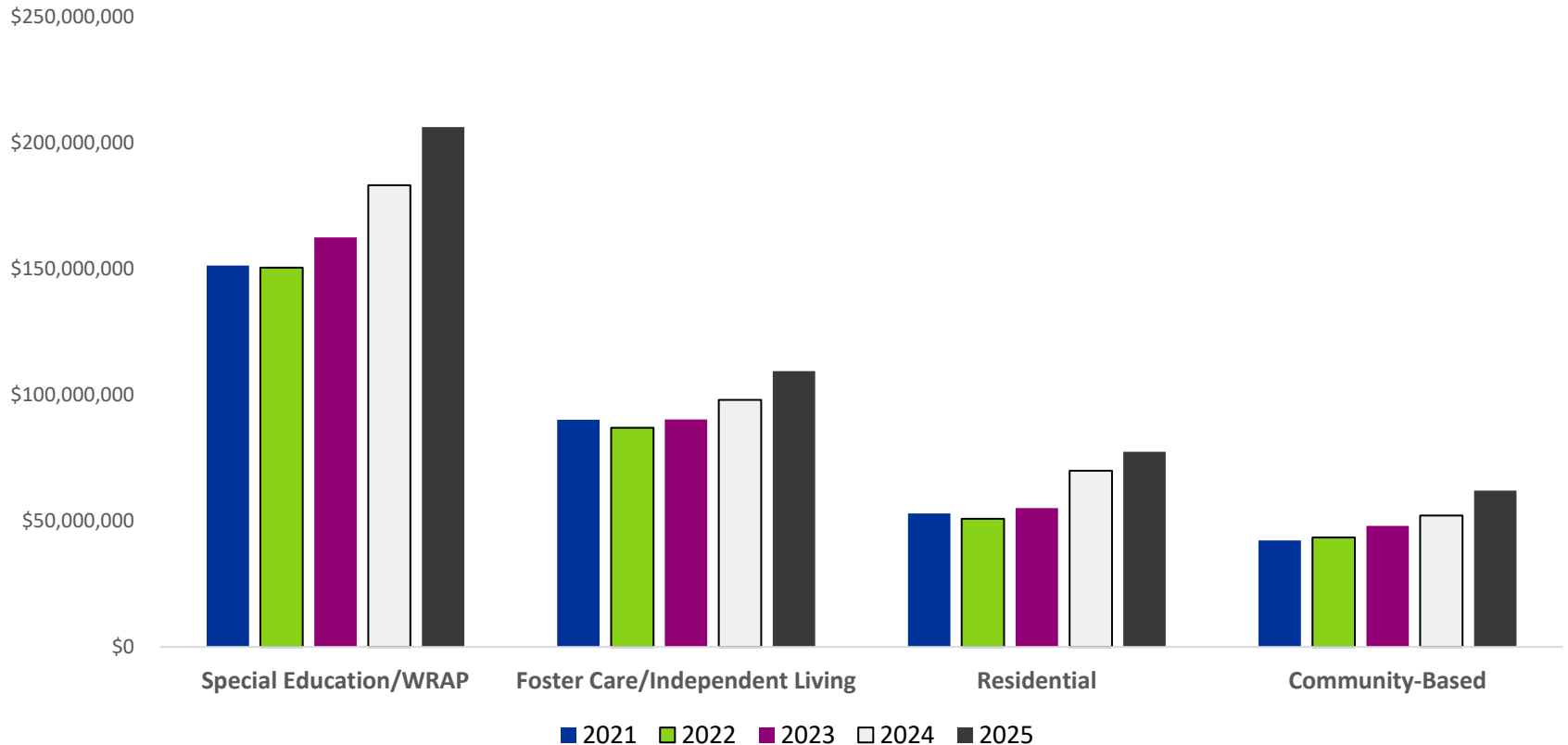
## Students Served



## Annual Cost Per Student



# Expenditures by Service Line, FY2012-2024 (as of June 30)





## Takeaways from the past few years are . . .

- Overall CSA census is rebounding following a COVID-era decline/flattening.
- For FY 2024 and FY 2025 CSA expenditure growth is growing at about 13% each year.
- The largest areas of growth are:
  - Private day special education
  - Community-based services
  - Group homes for youth in foster care
  - Treatment foster care
- Expenditure growth is a factor of increased census and provider rate increases across service lines.

---

# Potential Areas for Cost Containment

- Monitor the impact of the 5% cap on rate growth for private day special education and take appropriate action accordingly.
- Consider restrictions on certain services (e.g., units of service, annual, lifetime) where allowable by law.
- Eliminate funding for services considered to be outside the core intent of the CSA.
- Direct OCS and the SEC to develop cost containment strategies for consideration.
- Maximize potential federal funding sources (Title IV-E), especially for the Qualified Residential Treatment Program (QRTP).

# Thank you

**For more information:**  
**scott.reiner@csa.virginia.gov**  
**[www.csa.virginia.gov](http://www.csa.virginia.gov)**