

## DEAR MEMBERS, PARTNERS, AND FRIENDS

This has been a highly consequential year for child welfare organizations in Texas and the children we serve. But in spite of the hurdles, this has been a time of innovation, investment, and improvement. Our system continues to face a number of challenges, but this year also gave us a foundation of achievement upon which to build.

Our network of caregivers has continued to persist through the obstacles of a global health pandemic, severe weather events, and a widespread labor shortage. We delivered needed services to children, youth and families throughout the state while continuing to develop new approaches and encourage new ways of thinking. We worked together to share best practices and amplified voices of positive change. We worked with our partners in public office to secure needed funding and reforms, all of which will help us address the immediate challenges of this momentum and pave the way for longer-term systemic change.

I am hopeful for the health and future of the children and youth we serve. I am encouraged by the innovation, resiliency, and commitment our organizations have demonstrated. We have a lot of work to do and I am grateful to be your partner as we continue to serve the children, youth, and families of Texas.

Katie Olse, CEO

## OUR AREAS OF ACTION

collaboration



research and learning

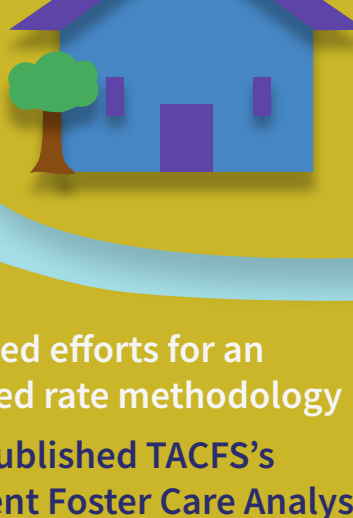


advocacy

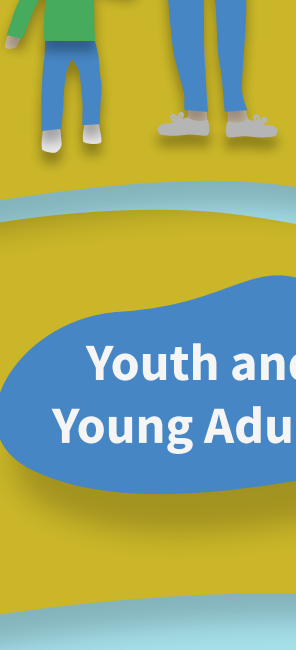


TACFS worked in 2021 to proactively support our members and state partners to develop expertise to strengthen services and system of care that is innovative and able to uniquely support each child and family.

### Prevention and Family Services



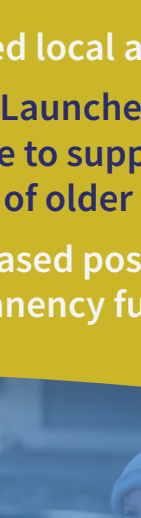
Supported the Prevention Task Force  
 Launched the Family Support Network  
 Advocated for Family Preservation improvements



Led efforts for an updated rate methodology  
 Published TACFS's Treatment Foster Care Analysis  
 Launched the Kinship Care fund  
 Led the Capacity Symposium to address ongoing crisis

### Foster and Kinship Care

### Youth and Young Adults



Collaborated to support best practices through the Foster Youth Health Initiative  
 Distributed millions in federal funding to former foster youth through PanAid



Supported local adoption efforts  
 Launched new initiative to support adoptions of older youth  
 Released post-adoption and permanency funding research

### Adoption and Permanency

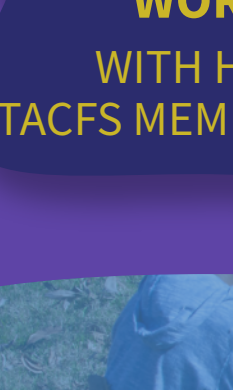
## 2021 BY THE NUMBERS

**1300** PARTICIPANTS VIRTUAL + IN PERSON FOR OUR FIRST EVER HYBRID CONFERENCE



**53** TRAININGS WITH **2,150** OF PARTICIPANTS VIRTUAL OR IN PERSON  
 \*EXCLUDING TAOLC

**\$10** MILLION+ DOWN GRANTED THIS YEAR



**7** MEMBER DRIVEN WORKGROUPS WITH HUNDREDS OF TACFS MEMBER PARTICIPANTS

LED EFFORTS TO SUPPORT **\$120** MILLION IN CAPACITY BUILDING FUNDS FROM THE LEGISLATURE

## WHY THE WORK OF TACFS MEMBERS MATTERS

healthy kids



**1 IN EVERY 10 KIDS** IN THE US ARE IN TEXAS

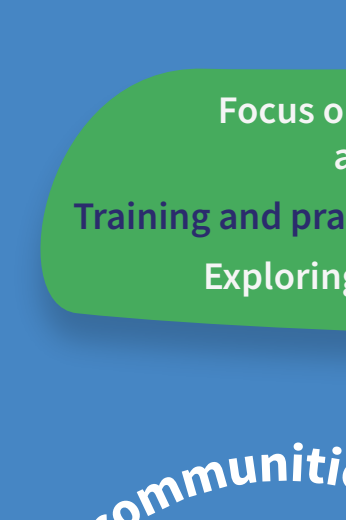
There are 7 million kids in Texas, with the second largest 0-5 population in the country. Better support for our kids is critical for their future and ours

Trauma-informed care training and support  
 Led mental health cohort and advocated for strengthened services  
 Published research on foster care behavioral health services

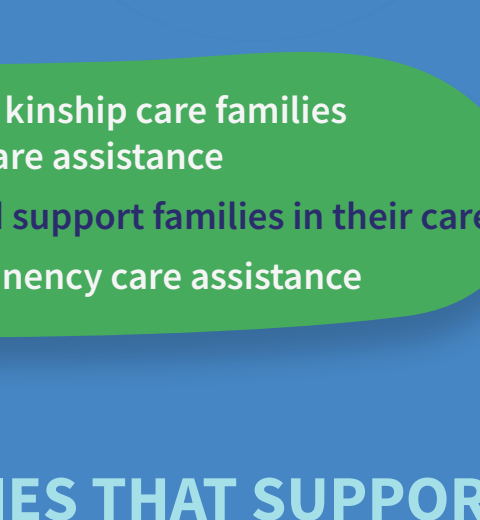
## KEEPING FAMILIES TOGETHER IS A PRIORITY

Many of the services offered by TACFS members are at home, through prevention and family preservation services. And once in care, the vast majority of kids in foster care in Texas exit to family settings. It's critical we strengthen these services.

healthy families



Focus on strengthening support to kinship care families and growing permanency care assistance  
 Training and practice models to involve and support families in their care  
 Exploring efforts to reinforce permanency care assistance



healthy communities



## COMMUNITIES THAT SUPPORT KIDS AND FAMILIES

Texas continues to reinforce systems of care that are based in communities that can meet the unique needs of those they serve, while also providing normalcy and a network of support. TACFS is working to support community providers in every region of Texas.

Ongoing Community Based Care implementation and readiness efforts  
 Gathering, analyzing and sharing regional data and information  
 Connecting and supporting local stakeholders  
 Supporting expansion of telehealth to support rural providers and continuing to support increased local service capacity

## LOOKING AHEAD

**2022**

Prevention, family support, and family resource centers

Better support for kinship families and growing Permanency Care Assistance

Continuing to explore and expand mental health and substance use services

Community Based Care readiness and implementation for new areas of the state

Expanding Building Bridges Initiative and other supports for residential

Adoption, post-adoption, and post-permanency services

Helping TACFS members stay ahead of the curve