



# Parent\*/Youth Facilitation

\*Or caregiver

Keeping families together



**Parent/Youth Facilitation (PYF) is a two-pronged approach to preventing entry into care of older youth by : (1) Using a facilitation process to help families arrive at appropriate decisions that best fit their unique needs, and (2) Connecting families to community services and supports.**

## PYF Process

Department for Children and Families, community-based providers, law enforcement, schools, juvenile intake send referral to prosecutor



Prosecutor refers eligible families to PYF process



The family chooses whether they participate in PYF



If the family chooses to participate in PYF, the facilitator arranges for a meeting with the family members



All parties work together to 1) devise a written agreement between the parent and youth to prevent the youth from entering foster care and 2) identify service needs to support the family



The facilitator ensures that the family has referrals for the service needs identified within the agreement



The family receives their agreement and the Summary Report is given to the prosecutor and referring agency

## Who will be served?

- ▶ Youth is 14-17 years old
- ▶ Youth is at risk for removal
- ▶ Families reside in pilot counties: Saline, Wyandotte, and Shawnee

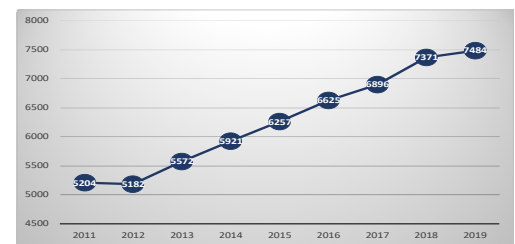
## Goals of PYF

- ▶ Decrease # of older youth entering foster care
- ▶ Keep youth with their families whenever possible and appropriate
- ▶ Decrease # of youth aging out of foster care

## Why PYF?

8th

Kansas is the 8th highest nationally in youth aging out of foster care without a permanent family. Most of these youth entered care at age 15-17.



Kansas' removal rate is the 13th highest in the nation, and the number of children in foster care increased 44% since 2011.

Parent/Youth Facilitation is one strategy of *Kansas Strong for Children and Families*, a federally-funded initiative that aims to support Kansas child welfare as a collaborative, data-driven system that achieves positive outcomes for children's well-being, safety, and permanency. Collaborators include the Kansas Department for Children and Families, Supreme Court Task Force on Permanency Planning and Office of Judicial Administration, Cornerstones of Care, DCCCA, KVC Kansas, Saint Francis Ministries, TFI Family Services, and the University of Kansas School of Social Welfare. For more info please contact Kansas Strong for Children and Families Project Director: Becci Akin, PhD, (785) 864 2647 [beccia@ku.edu](mailto:beccia@ku.edu)