

The WSIPP benefit-cost analysis examines, on an apples-to-apples basis, the monetary value of programs or policies to determine whether the benefits from the program exceed its costs. WSIPP's research approach to identifying evidence-based programs and policies has three main steps. First, we determine "what works" (and what does not work) to improve outcomes using a statistical technique called meta-analysis. Second, we calculate whether the benefits of a program exceed its costs. Third, we estimate the risk of investing in a program by testing the sensitivity of our results. For more detail on our methods, see our [Technical Documentation](#).

Current estimates replace old estimates. Numbers will change over time as a result of model inputs and monetization methods.

## Parent-Child Interaction Therapy (PCIT) for families in the child welfare system

### Child Welfare

Benefit-cost estimates updated December 2018. Literature review updated August 2017.

Program Description: Parent-Child Interaction Therapy (PCIT) in child welfare populations has been successfully tested with the addition of a group motivational component to increase engagement and success of the parent. As in standard PCIT, over the course of 12 to 14 sessions, a therapist directly observes a parent and child through a one-way mirror, and provides direct coaching to the parent through a radio earphone. The focus is building the skills of the parent to more positively interact with the child and manage his or her behavior.

#### Benefit-Cost Summary Statistics Per Participant

##### Benefits to:

|                            |                  |                                 |          |
|----------------------------|------------------|---------------------------------|----------|
| Taxpayers                  | \$10,128         | Benefit to cost ratio           | \$16.06  |
| Participants               | \$13,834         | Benefits minus costs            | \$25,137 |
| Others                     | \$1,598          | Chance the program will produce |          |
| Indirect                   | \$1,248          | benefits greater than the costs | 96 %     |
| <b>Total benefits</b>      | <b>\$26,807</b>  |                                 |          |
| <b>Net program cost</b>    | <b>(\$1,669)</b> |                                 |          |
| <b>Benefits minus cost</b> | <b>\$25,137</b>  |                                 |          |

The estimates shown are present value, life cycle benefits and costs. All dollars are expressed in the base year chosen for this analysis (2017). The chance the benefits exceed the costs are derived from a Monte Carlo risk analysis. The details on this, as well as the economic discount rates and other relevant parameters are described in our [Technical Documentation](#).

## Detailed Monetary Benefit Estimates Per Participant

| Benefits from changes to: <sup>1</sup>                      | Benefits to:    |                 |                     |                       |                 |
|---|-----------------|-----------------|---------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|
|   | Participants    | Taxpayers       | Others <sup>2</sup> | Indirect <sup>3</sup> | Total           |
| Crime   | \$0             | \$521           | \$1,120             | \$259                 | \$1,900         |
| Child abuse and neglect                                     | \$280           | \$2,192         | \$0                 | \$1,091               | \$3,563         |
| K-12 grade repetition                                       | \$0             | \$58            | \$0                 | \$29                  | \$86            |
| K-12 special education                                      | \$0             | \$801           | \$0                 | \$399                 | \$1,199         |
| Property loss associated with alcohol abuse or dependence   | \$1             | \$0             | \$2                 | \$0                   | \$3             |
| Health care associated with PTSD                            | \$130           | \$461           | \$475               | \$229                 | \$1,295         |
| Labor market earnings associated with child abuse & neglect | \$13,414        | \$6,091         | \$0                 | \$0                   | \$19,505        |
| Mortality associated with child abuse and neglect           | \$9             | \$4             | \$0                 | \$72                  | \$85            |
| Adjustment for deadweight cost of program                   | \$0             | \$0             | \$0                 | (\$831)               | (\$831)         |
| <b>Totals</b>   | <b>\$13,834</b> | <b>\$10,128</b> | <b>\$1,598</b>      | <b>\$1,248</b>        | <b>\$26,807</b> |

<sup>1</sup>In addition to the outcomes measured in the meta-analysis table, WSIPP measures benefits and costs estimated from other outcomes associated with those reported in the evaluation literature. For example, empirical research demonstrates that high school graduation leads to reduced crime. These associated measures provide a more complete picture of the detailed costs and benefits of the program.

<sup>2</sup>"Others" includes benefits to people other than taxpayers and participants. Depending on the program, it could include reductions in crime victimization, the economic benefits from a more educated workforce, and the benefits from employer-paid health insurance.

<sup>3</sup>"Indirect benefits" includes estimates of the net changes in the value of a statistical life and net changes in the deadweight costs of taxation.

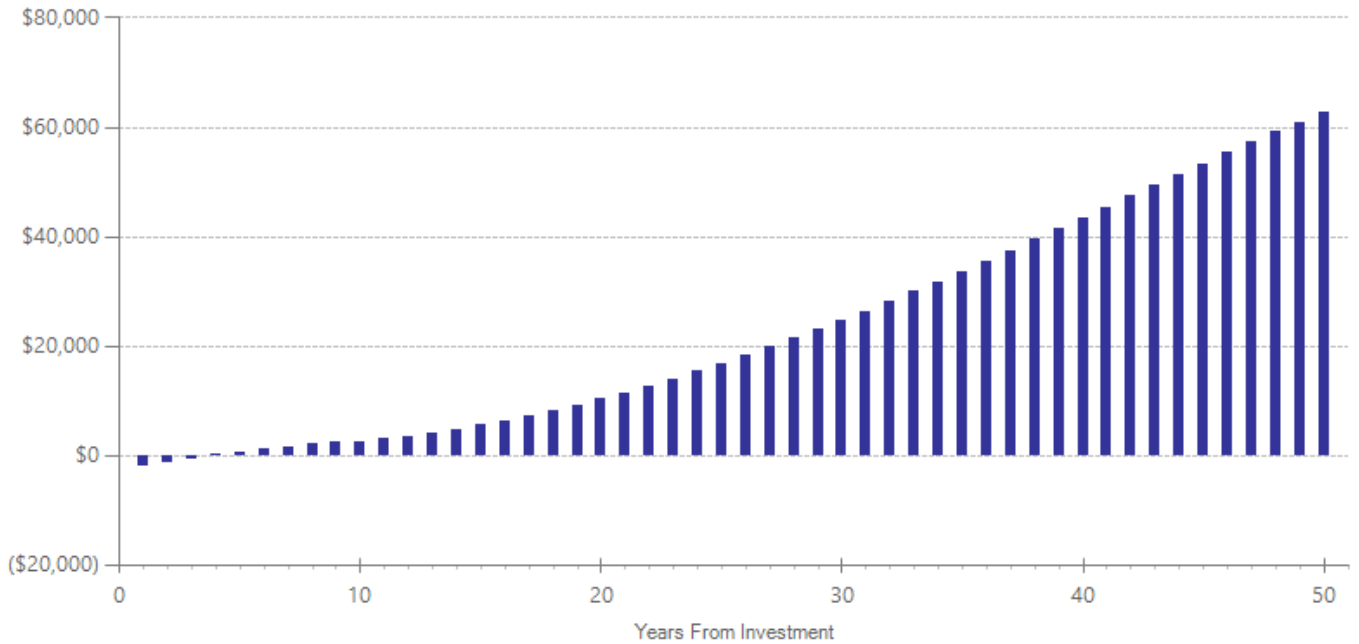
## Detailed Annual Cost Estimates Per Participant

|                  | Annual cost | Year dollars | Summary  |           |
|------------------|-------------|--------------|--|-----------|
| Program costs    | \$2,440     | 2007         | Present value of net program costs (in 2017 dollars) | (\$1,669) |
| Comparison costs | \$1,000     | 2007         | Cost range (+ or -)                                  | 10 %      |

This program is typically delivered over a three- to four-month period. Standard PCIT expenditures provided by Washington DSHS Children's Administration (average reimbursement rate per family receiving PCIT in 2007). WSIPP also estimated costs of the additional group motivational component; families receive an average of 5.2 motivational session. (Chaffin, M., Funderburk, B., Bard, D., Valle, L. A., & Gurwitch, R. (2011). A combined motivation and parent-child interaction therapy package reduces child welfare recidivism in a randomized dismantling field trial. *Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology*, 79(1), 84-95.) Cost per family for the motivational component is estimated by multiplying 5.2 sessions by \$36.64, the average rate paid for group treatment in Washington in 2011.

The figures shown are estimates of the costs to implement programs in Washington. The comparison group costs reflect either no treatment or treatment as usual, depending on how effect sizes were calculated in the meta-analysis. The cost range reported above reflects potential variation or uncertainty in the cost estimate; more detail can be found in our [Technical Documentation](#).

## Detailed Annual Cost Estimates Per Participant



The graph above illustrates the estimated cumulative net benefits per-participant for the first fifty years beyond the initial investment in the program. We present these cash flows in non-discounted dollars to simplify the “break-even” point from a budgeting perspective. If the dollars are negative (bars below \$0 line), the cumulative benefits do not outweigh the cost of the program up to that point in time. The program breaks even when the dollars reach \$0. At this point, the total benefits to participants, taxpayers, and others, are equal to the cost of the program. If the dollars are above \$0, the benefits of the program exceed the initial investment.

## Meta-Analysis of Program Effects

| Outcomes measured       | Treatment age | No. of effect sizes | Treatment N | Adjusted effect sizes and standard errors used in the benefit-cost analysis |       |     |                             |       |     | Unadjusted effect size (random effects model) |         |
|-------------------------|---------------|---------------------|-------------|---|-------|-----|-----------------------------|-------|-----|---|---------|
|                         |               |                     |             | First time ES is estimated  |       |     | Second time ES is estimated |       |     | ES  | p-value |
|                         |               |                     |             | ES  | SE    | Age | ES                          | SE    | Age |   |         |
| Child abuse and neglect | 8             | 2                   | 78          | -0.718  | 0.237 | 10  | -0.718                      | 0.237 | 17  | -0.718  | 0.001   |

Meta-analysis is a statistical method to combine the results from separate studies on a program, policy, or topic in order to estimate its effect on an outcome. WSIPP systematically evaluates all credible evaluations we can locate on each topic. The outcomes measured are the types of program impacts that were measured in the research literature (for example, crime or educational attainment). Treatment N represents the total number of individuals or units in the treatment group across the included studies.

An effect size (ES) is a standard metric that summarizes the degree to which a program or policy affects a measured outcome. If the effect size is positive, the outcome increases. If the effect size is negative, the outcome decreases.

Adjusted effect sizes are used to calculate the benefits from our benefit cost model. WSIPP may adjust effect sizes based on methodological characteristics of the study. For example, we may adjust effect sizes when a study has a weak research design or when the program developer is involved in the research. The magnitude of these adjustments varies depending on the topic area.

WSIPP may also adjust the second ES measurement. Research shows the magnitude of some effect sizes decrease over time. For those effect sizes, we estimate outcome-based adjustments which we apply between the first time ES is estimated and the second time ES is estimated. We also report the unadjusted effect size to show the effect sizes before any adjustments have been made. More details about these adjustments can be found in our [Technical Documentation](#).

## Citations Used in the Meta-Analysis

Chaffin, M., Silovsky, J.F., Funderburk, B., Valle, L.A., Brestan, E.V., Balachova, T., . . . Bonner, B.L. (2004). Parent-child interaction therapy with physically abusive parents: Efficacy for reducing future abuse reports. *Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology, 72*(3), 500-510.

Chaffin, M., Funderburk, B., Bard, D., Valle, L.A., & Gurwitch, R. (2011). A combined motivation and parent-child interaction therapy package reduces child welfare recidivism in a randomized dismantling field trial. *Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology, 79* (1),84-95.

# Intensive Family Preservation Services (HOMEBUILDERS®)

## Child Welfare

Benefit-cost estimates updated December 2018. Literature review updated August 2017.

Program Description: Intensive Family Preservation Services are short-term, home-based crisis intervention services that emphasize out-of-home placement prevention. The original program, HOMEBUILDERS®, was developed in 1974 in Federal Way, Washington. The program emphasizes contact with the family within 24 hours of the crisis, staff accessibility round the clock, small caseload sizes, service duration of four to six weeks, and provision of intensive, concrete services and counseling. These programs are intended to prevent removal of a child from his or her biological home (or to promote his or her return to that home) by improving family functioning. For this analysis, we present the effects of all such programs together.

### Benefit-Cost Summary Statistics Per Participant

| Benefits to:               |                  |                                 |          |
|----------------------------|------------------|---------------------------------|----------|
| Taxpayers                  | \$9,876          | Benefit to cost ratio           | \$4.88   |
| Participants               | \$4,779          | Benefits minus costs            | \$13,785 |
| Others                     | \$559            | Chance the program will produce |          |
| Indirect                   | \$2,124          | benefits greater than the costs | 97 %     |
| <b>Total benefits</b>      | <b>\$17,338</b>  |                                 |          |
| <b>Net program cost</b>    | <b>(\$3,553)</b> |                                 |          |
| <b>Benefits minus cost</b> | <b>\$13,785</b>  |                                 |          |

The estimates shown are present value, life cycle benefits and costs. All dollars are expressed in the base year chosen for this analysis (2017). The chance the benefits exceed the costs are derived from a Monte Carlo risk analysis. The details on this, as well as the economic discount rates and other relevant parameters are described in our [Technical Documentation](#).

### Detailed Monetary Benefit Estimates Per Participant

| Benefits from changes to: <sup>1</sup>                      | Benefits to:   |                |                     |                       |                 |
|---|----------------|----------------|---------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|
|   | Participants   | Taxpayers      | Others <sup>2</sup> | Indirect <sup>3</sup> | Total           |
| Crime   | \$0            | \$177          | \$394               | \$89                  | \$660           |
| Child abuse and neglect                                     | \$99           | \$243          | \$0                 | \$121                 | \$463           |
| Out-of-home placement                                       | \$0            | \$6,951        | \$0                 | \$3,481               | \$10,432        |
| K-12 grade repetition                                       | \$0            | \$20           | \$0                 | \$10                  | \$30            |
| K-12 special education                                      | \$0            | \$221          | \$0                 | \$111                 | \$332           |
| Property loss associated with alcohol abuse or dependence   | \$0            | \$0            | \$1                 | \$0                   | \$1             |
| Health care associated with PTSD                            | \$45           | \$159          | \$164               | \$80                  | \$449           |
| Labor market earnings associated with child abuse & neglect | \$4,633        | \$2,104        | \$0                 | \$0                   | \$6,738         |
| Mortality associated with child abuse and neglect           | \$1            | \$1            | \$0                 | \$11                  | \$13            |
| Adjustment for deadweight cost of program                   | \$0            | \$0            | \$0                 | (\$1,779)             | (\$1,779)       |
| <b>Totals</b>   | <b>\$4,779</b> | <b>\$9,876</b> | <b>\$559</b>        | <b>\$2,124</b>        | <b>\$17,338</b> |

<sup>1</sup>In addition to the outcomes measured in the meta-analysis table, WSIPP measures benefits and costs estimated from other outcomes associated with those reported in the evaluation literature. For example, empirical research demonstrates that high school graduation leads to reduced crime. These associated measures provide a more complete picture of the detailed costs and benefits of the program.

<sup>2</sup>"Others" includes benefits to people other than taxpayers and participants. Depending on the program, it could include reductions in crime victimization, the economic benefits from a more educated workforce, and the benefits from employer-paid health insurance.

<sup>3</sup>"Indirect benefits" includes estimates of the net changes in the value of a statistical life and net changes in the deadweight costs of taxation.

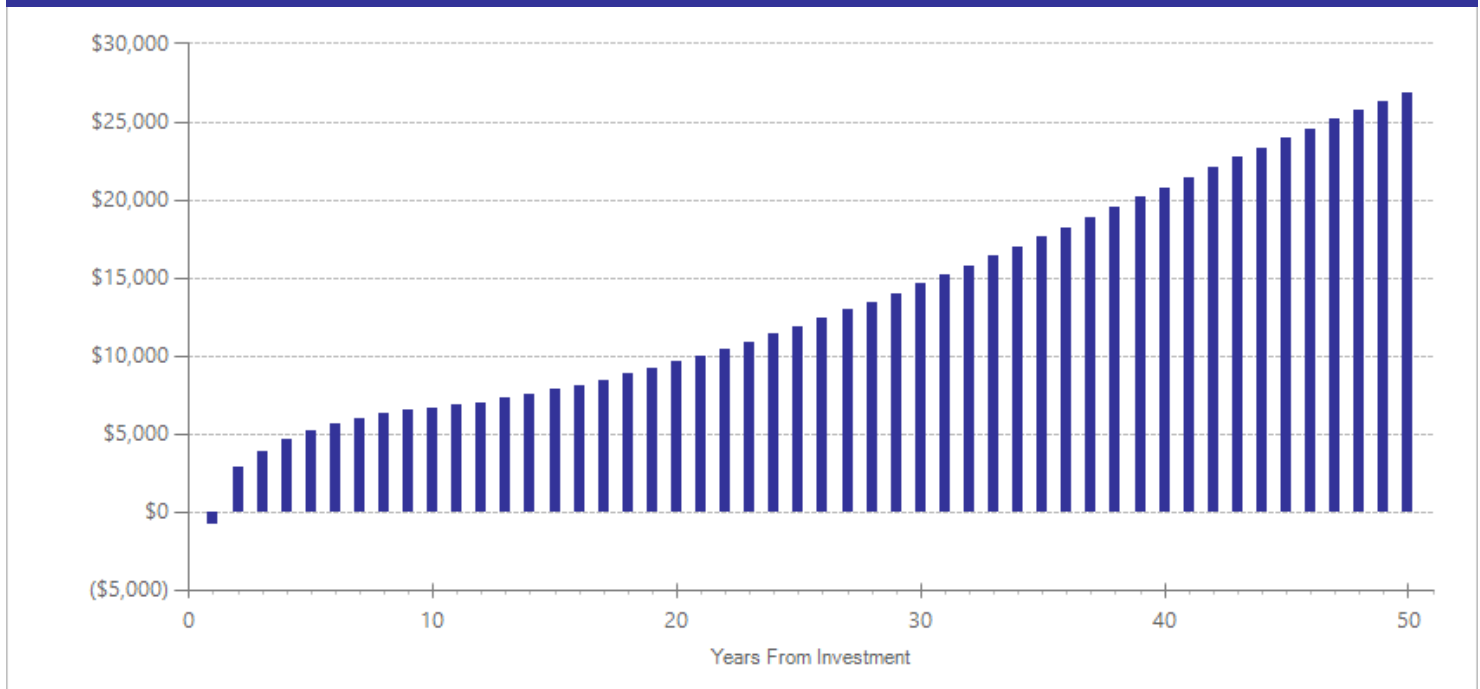
## Detailed Annual Cost Estimates Per Participant

|                  | Annual cost | Year dollars | Summary  |           |
|------------------|-------------|--------------|--|-----------|
| Program costs    | \$3,547     | 2008         | Present value of net program costs (in 2017 dollars) | (\$3,553) |
| Comparison costs | \$392       | 2008         | Cost range (+ or -)                                  | 10 %      |

This program is typically delivered over a four- to six-week period. Program costs per family provided by DSHS Children's Administration, 2008. WSIPP adjusted for multiple children per family. Comparison group costs were calculated based on social worker time.

The figures shown are estimates of the costs to implement programs in Washington. The comparison group costs reflect either no treatment or treatment as usual, depending on how effect sizes were calculated in the meta-analysis. The cost range reported above reflects potential variation or uncertainty in the cost estimate; more detail can be found in our [Technical Documentation](#).

## Detailed Annual Cost Estimates Per Participant



The graph above illustrates the estimated cumulative net benefits per-participant for the first fifty years beyond the initial investment in the program. We present these cash flows in non-discounted dollars to simplify the “break-even” point from a budgeting perspective. If the dollars are negative (bars below \$0 line), the cumulative benefits do not outweigh the cost of the program up to that point in time. The program breaks even when the dollars reach \$0. At this point, the total benefits to participants, taxpayers, and others, are equal to the cost of the program. If the dollars are above \$0, the benefits of the program exceed the initial investment.

## Meta-Analysis of Program Effects

| Outcomes measured       | Treatment age | No. of effect sizes | Treatment N | Adjusted effect sizes and standard errors used in the benefit-cost analysis |       |     |                             |       |     | Unadjusted effect size (random effects model) |         |
|-------------------------|---------------|---------------------|-------------|---|-------|-----|-----------------------------|-------|-----|---|---------|
|                         |               |                     |             | First time ES is estimated  |       |     | Second time ES is estimated |       |     | ES  | p-value |
|                         |               |                     |             | ES  | SE    | Age | ES                          | SE    | Age |   |         |
| Child abuse and neglect | 10            | 2                   | 180         | -0.231  | 0.114 | 11  | -0.231                      | 0.114 | 17  | -0.231  | 0.044   |
| Out-of-home placement   | 10            | 4                   | 337         | -0.553  | 0.148 | 11  | -0.553                      | 0.148 | 17  | -0.553  | 0.001   |

Meta-analysis is a statistical method to combine the results from separate studies on a program, policy, or topic in order to estimate its effect on an outcome. WSIPP systematically evaluates all credible evaluations we can locate on each topic. The outcomes measured are the types of program impacts that were measured in the research literature (for example, crime or educational attainment). Treatment N represents the total number of individuals or units in the treatment group across the included studies.

An effect size (ES) is a standard metric that summarizes the degree to which a program or policy affects a measured outcome. If the effect size is positive, the outcome increases. If the effect size is negative, the outcome decreases.

Adjusted effect sizes are used to calculate the benefits from our benefit cost model. WSIPP may adjust effect sizes based on methodological characteristics of the study. For example, we may adjust effect sizes when a study has a weak research design or when the program developer is involved in the research. The magnitude of these adjustments varies depending on the topic area.

WSIPP may also adjust the second ES measurement. Research shows the magnitude of some effect sizes decrease over time. For those effect sizes, we estimate outcome-based adjustments which we apply between the first time ES is estimated and the second time ES is estimated. We also report the unadjusted effect size to show the effect sizes before any adjustments have been made. More details about these adjustments can be found in our [Technical Documentation](#).

## Citations Used in the Meta-Analysis

- Blythe, B., & Jayaratne, S. (2002). *Michigan families first effectiveness study*. Retrieved December 5, 2003, from <http://www.michigan.gov/printerFriendly/0,1687,7-124--21887--,00.html>
- Feldman, L.H. (1991). *Assessing the effectiveness of family preservation services in New Jersey within an ecological context*. Trenton, NJ: New Jersey Division of Youth and Family Services: Bureau of Research, Evaluation, and Quality Assurance.
- Fraser, M.W., Walton, E., Lewis, R.E., Pecora, P.J., & Walton, W.K. (1996). An experiment in family reunification: Correlates of outcomes at one-year follow-up. *Children and Youth Services Review, 18*(4-5), 335-361.
- Mitchell, C., Tovar, P., & Knitzer, J. (1989). *The Bronx Homebuilders program: An evaluation of the first 45 families*. New York: Bank Street College of Education.
- Walton, E. (1998). In-home family-focused reunification: A six-year follow-up of a successful experiment. *Social Work Research, 22*(4), 205-214.

## Subsidized guardianship (Title IV-E waivers) Child Welfare

Benefit-cost estimates updated December 2018. Literature review updated August 2017.

Program Description: Subsidized guardianship is a permanent placement alternative that does not require termination of parental rights. A licensed foster parent may become the child's legal guardian and continue to receive foster care payments. In addition to the outcomes reported here, three evaluations demonstrated a significant positive impact on placement permanency.

### Benefit-Cost Summary Statistics Per Participant

| Benefits to:            |                |                                 |         |
|-------------------------|----------------|---------------------------------|---------|
| Taxpayers               | \$1,235        | Benefit to cost ratio           | n/a     |
| Participants            | \$2,146        | Benefits minus costs            | \$9,352 |
| Others                  | \$216          | Chance the program will produce |         |
| Indirect                | \$2,072        | benefits greater than the costs | 99 %    |
| <u>Total benefits</u>   | <u>\$5,668</u> |                                 |         |
| <u>Net program cost</u> | <u>\$3,684</u> |                                 |         |
| Benefits minus cost     | \$9,352        |                                 |         |

The estimates shown are present value, life cycle benefits and costs. All dollars are expressed in the base year chosen for this analysis (2017). The chance the benefits exceed the costs are derived from a Monte Carlo risk analysis. The details on this, as well as the economic discount rates and other relevant parameters are described in our [Technical Documentation](#).

### Detailed Monetary Benefit Estimates Per Participant

| Benefits from changes to: <sup>1</sup>                      | Benefits to:   |                |                     |                       |                |
|---|----------------|----------------|---------------------|-----------------------|----------------|
|   | Participants   | Taxpayers      | Others <sup>2</sup> | Indirect <sup>3</sup> | Total          |
| Crime   | \$0            | \$67           | \$159               | \$34                  | \$260          |
| Child abuse and neglect                                     | \$426          | \$44           | \$0                 | \$22                  | \$492          |
| Out-of-home placement                                       | \$0            | \$257          | \$0                 | \$128                 | \$385          |
| K-12 grade repetition                                       | \$0            | \$9            | \$0                 | \$4                   | \$13           |
| K-12 special education                                      | \$0            | \$30           | \$0                 | \$15                  | \$45           |
| Property loss associated with alcohol abuse or dependence   | \$0            | \$0            | \$0                 | \$0                   | \$0            |
| Health care associated with PTSD                            | \$15           | \$55           | \$56                | \$27                  | \$154          |
| Labor market earnings associated with child abuse & neglect | \$1,704        | \$774          | \$0                 | \$0                   | \$2,478        |
| Mortality associated with child abuse and neglect           | \$0            | \$0            | \$0                 | \$0                   | \$0            |
| Adjustment for deadweight cost of program                   | \$0            | \$0            | \$0                 | \$1,840               | \$1,840        |
| <b>Totals</b>   | <b>\$2,146</b> | <b>\$1,235</b> | <b>\$216</b>        | <b>\$2,072</b>        | <b>\$5,668</b> |

<sup>1</sup>In addition to the outcomes measured in the meta-analysis table, WSIPP measures benefits and costs estimated from other outcomes associated with those reported in the evaluation literature. For example, empirical research demonstrates that high school graduation leads to reduced crime. These associated measures provide a more complete picture of the detailed costs and benefits of the program.

<sup>2</sup>"Others" includes benefits to people other than taxpayers and participants. Depending on the program, it could include reductions in crime victimization, the economic benefits from a more educated workforce, and the benefits from employer-paid health insurance.

<sup>3</sup>"Indirect benefits" includes estimates of the net changes in the value of a statistical life and net changes in the deadweight costs of taxation.



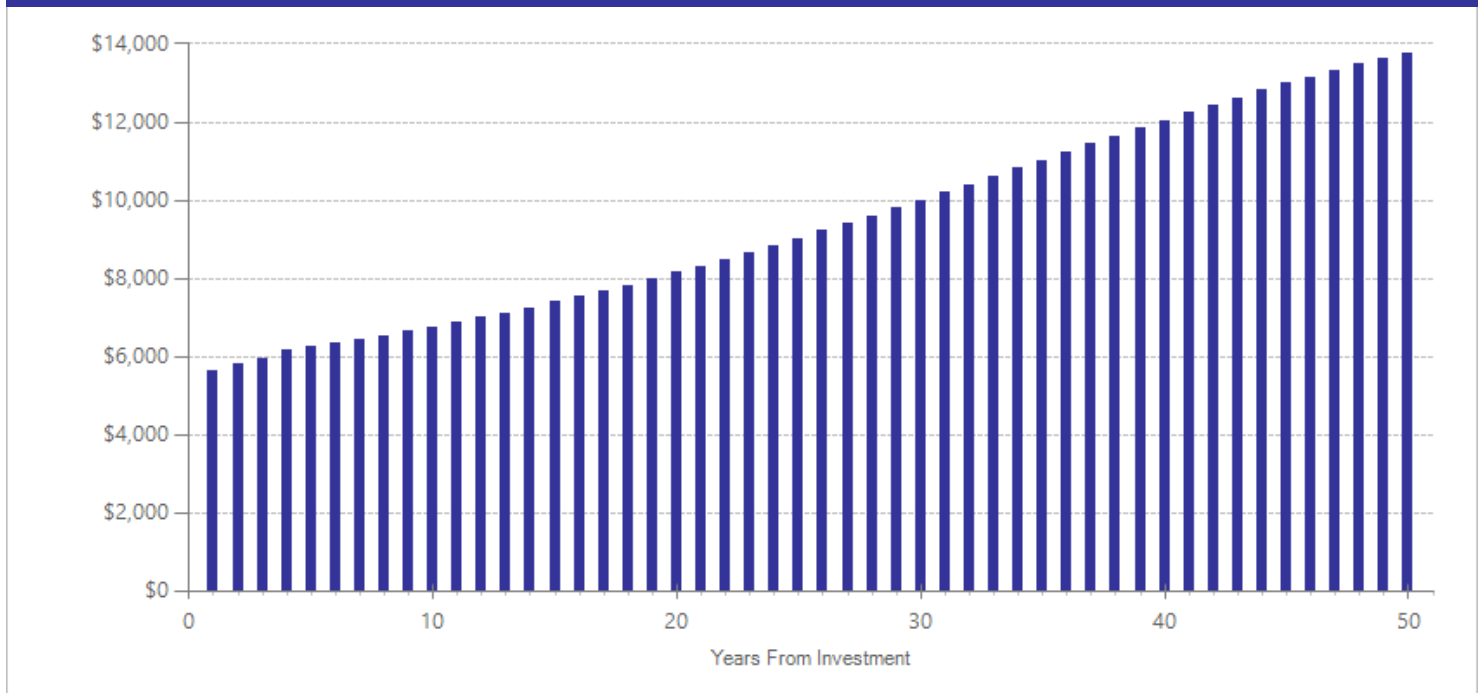
## Detailed Annual Cost Estimates Per Participant

|                  | Annual cost | Year dollars | Summary  |         |
|------------------|-------------|--------------|--|---------|
| Program costs    | \$21,870    | 2009         | Present value of net program costs (in 2017 dollars) | \$3,684 |
| Comparison costs | \$25,140    | 2009         | Cost range (+ or -)                                  | 10 %    |

This program is an alternative to long-term foster care. We computed the weighted average of comparison group and waiver group total costs from the two state evaluation reports included in our analysis (University of Iowa, 2010 and Testa et al., 2010). In this case, "annual cost" refers to the total average cost per case, regardless of the length of the case.

The figures shown are estimates of the costs to implement programs in Washington. The comparison group costs reflect either no treatment or treatment as usual, depending on how effect sizes were calculated in the meta-analysis. The cost range reported above reflects potential variation or uncertainty in the cost estimate; more detail can be found in our [Technical Documentation](#).

## Detailed Annual Cost Estimates Per Participant



The graph above illustrates the estimated cumulative net benefits per-participant for the first fifty years beyond the initial investment in the program. We present these cash flows in non-discounted dollars to simplify the "break-even" point from a budgeting perspective. If the dollars are negative (bars below \$0 line), the cumulative benefits do not outweigh the cost of the program up to that point in time. The program breaks even when the dollars reach \$0. At this point, the total benefits to participants, taxpayers, and others, are equal to the cost of the program. If the dollars are above \$0, the benefits of the program exceed the initial investment.

## Meta-Analysis of Program Effects

| Outcomes measured       | Treatment age | No. of effect sizes | Treatment N | Adjusted effect sizes and standard errors used in the benefit-cost analysis |       |     |                             |       |     | Unadjusted effect size (random effects model) |         |
|-------------------------|---------------|---------------------|-------------|---|-------|-----|-----------------------------|-------|-----|---|---------|
|                         |               |                     |             | First time ES is estimated  |       |     | Second time ES is estimated |       |     | ES  | p-value |
|                         |               |                     |             | ES  | SE    | Age | ES                          | SE    | Age |   |         |
| Child abuse and neglect | 14            | 2                   | 1626        | -0.096  | 0.100 | 14  | -0.096                      | 0.100 | 17  | -0.096  | 0.335   |
| Out-of-home placement   | 14            | 1                   | 245         | -0.434  | 0.119 | 14  | -0.434                      | 0.119 | 17  | -0.434  | 0.001   |

Meta-analysis is a statistical method to combine the results from separate studies on a program, policy, or topic in order to estimate its effect on an outcome. WSIPP systematically evaluates all credible evaluations we can locate on each topic. The outcomes measured are the types of program impacts that were measured in the research literature (for example, crime or educational attainment). Treatment N represents the total number of individuals or units in the treatment group across the included studies.

An effect size (ES) is a standard metric that summarizes the degree to which a program or policy affects a measured outcome. If the effect size is positive, the outcome increases. If the effect size is negative, the outcome decreases.

Adjusted effect sizes are used to calculate the benefits from our benefit cost model. WSIPP may adjust effect sizes based on methodological characteristics of the study. For example, we may adjust effect sizes when a study has a weak research design or when the program developer is involved in the research. The magnitude of these adjustments varies depending on the topic area.

WSIPP may also adjust the second ES measurement. Research shows the magnitude of some effect sizes decrease over time. For those effect sizes, we estimate outcome-based adjustments which we apply between the first time ES is estimated and the second time ES is estimated. We also report the unadjusted effect size to show the effect sizes before any adjustments have been made. More details about these adjustments can be found in our [Technical Documentation](#).

## Citations Used in the Meta-Analysis

Testa, M.F., Slack, K.S., Gabel, G., Evans, M. & Cohen, L. (2010). *Wisconsin subsidized guardianship assessment and evaluation: Final evaluation report*. Rockville, MD: Westat.

University of Iowa School of Social Work. (2010). *Evaluation of Iowa's subsidized guardianship program*. Iowa City, IA: Author.

## SafeCare Child Welfare

Benefit-cost estimates updated December 2018. Literature review updated August 2017.

**Program Description:** Formerly known as Project 12-Ways, SafeCare (<http://safecare.publichealth.gsu.edu/>) is a manualized parent-training curriculum for parents who are at-risk or have been reported for child maltreatment. Trained professionals work with at-risk families in their home environments to improve parents' skills in several domains, such as planning and implementing activities with their children, responding appropriately to child behaviors, improving home safety, and addressing health and safety issues. SafeCare is generally provided in weekly home visits lasting from one to two hours. The program typically lasts 18-20 weeks for each family.

### Benefit-Cost Summary Statistics Per Participant

| Benefits to:               |                |                                 |         |
|----------------------------|----------------|---------------------------------|---------|
| Taxpayers                  | \$1,648        | Benefit to cost ratio           | \$22.41 |
| Participants               | \$2,061        | Benefits minus costs            | \$4,035 |
| Others                     | \$226          | Chance the program will produce |         |
| Indirect                   | \$289          | benefits greater than the costs | 93 %    |
| <b>Total benefits</b>      | <b>\$4,224</b> |                                 |         |
| <b>Net program cost</b>    | <b>(\$188)</b> |                                 |         |
| <b>Benefits minus cost</b> | <b>\$4,035</b> |                                 |         |

The estimates shown are present value, life cycle benefits and costs. All dollars are expressed in the base year chosen for this analysis (2017). The chance the benefits exceed the costs are derived from a Monte Carlo risk analysis. The details on this, as well as the economic discount rates and other relevant parameters are described in our [Technical Documentation](#).

### Detailed Monetary Benefit Estimates Per Participant

| Benefits from changes to: <sup>1</sup>                      | Benefits to:   |                |                     |                       |                |
|---|----------------|----------------|---------------------|-----------------------|----------------|
|   | Participants   | Taxpayers      | Others <sup>2</sup> | Indirect <sup>3</sup> | Total          |
| Crime   | \$0            | \$78           | \$157               | \$39                  | \$273          |
| Child abuse and neglect                                     | \$48           | \$401          | \$0                 | \$201                 | \$649          |
| K-12 grade repetition                                       | \$0            | \$8            | \$0                 | \$4                   | \$12           |
| K-12 special education                                      | \$0            | \$189          | \$0                 | \$94                  | \$283          |
| Property loss associated with alcohol abuse or dependence   | \$0            | \$0            | \$0                 | \$0                   | \$0            |
| Health care associated with PTSD                            | \$19           | \$67           | \$69                | \$34                  | \$189          |
| Labor market earnings associated with child abuse & neglect | \$1,992        | \$905          | \$0                 | \$0                   | \$2,897        |
| Mortality associated with child abuse and neglect           | \$2            | \$1            | \$0                 | \$12                  | \$14           |
| Adjustment for deadweight cost of program                   | \$0            | \$0            | \$0                 | (\$94)                | (\$94)         |
| <b>Totals</b>   | <b>\$2,061</b> | <b>\$1,648</b> | <b>\$226</b>        | <b>\$289</b>          | <b>\$4,224</b> |

<sup>1</sup>In addition to the outcomes measured in the meta-analysis table, WSIPP measures benefits and costs estimated from other outcomes associated with those reported in the evaluation literature. For example, empirical research demonstrates that high school graduation leads to reduced crime. These associated measures provide a more complete picture of the detailed costs and benefits of the program.

<sup>2</sup>"Others" includes benefits to people other than taxpayers and participants. Depending on the program, it could include reductions in crime victimization, the economic benefits from a more educated workforce, and the benefits from employer-paid health insurance.

<sup>3</sup>"Indirect benefits" includes estimates of the net changes in the value of a statistical life and net changes in the deadweight costs of taxation.

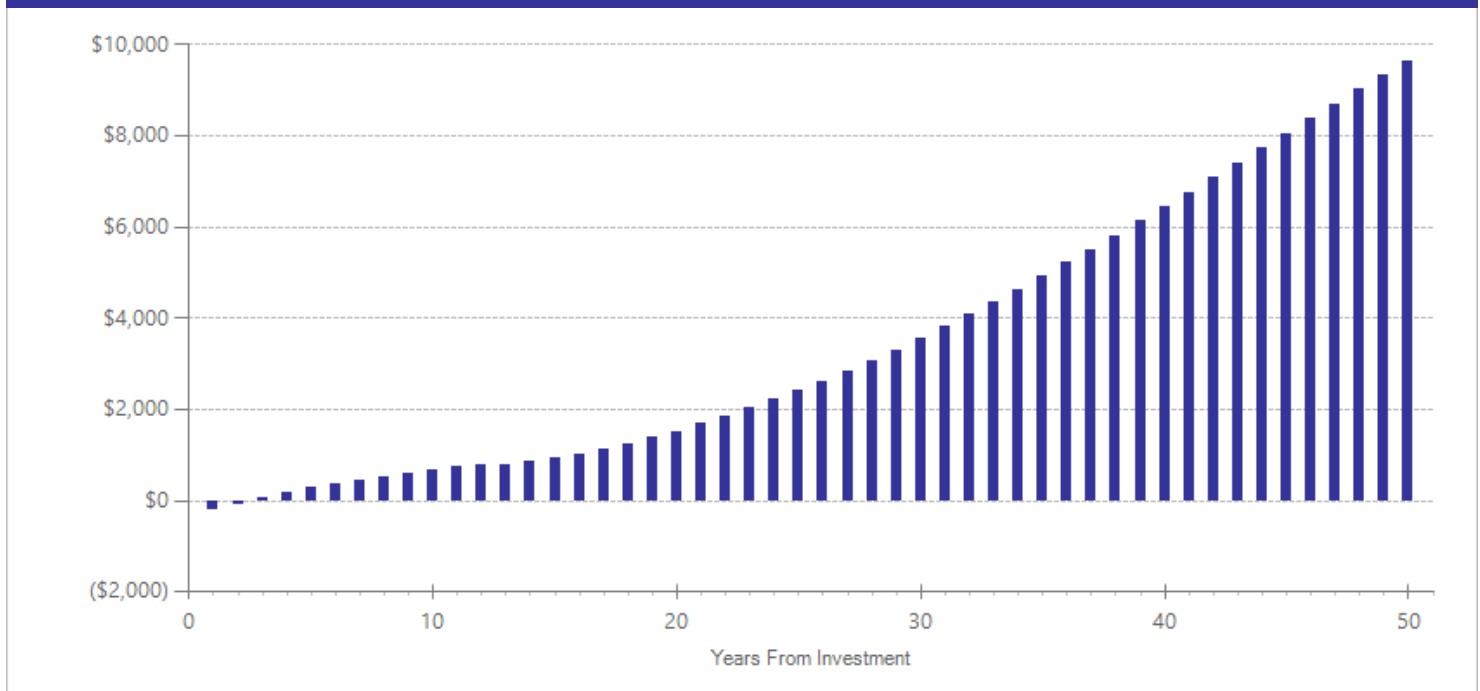
## Detailed Annual Cost Estimates Per Participant

|                  | Annual cost | Year dollars | Summary  |         |
|------------------|-------------|--------------|--|---------|
| Program costs    | \$1,950     | 2010         | Present value of net program costs (in 2017 dollars) | (\$188) |
| Comparison costs | \$1,780     | 2010         | Cost range (+ or -)                                  | 25 %    |

This program is typically delivered over an 18 to 20 week period. Costs for SafeCare provided by Washington DSHS, March 2012. Based on costs for 18 home visits per family, including supervision, coaching, and travel time, plus a \$60 per-family cost for services. In the evaluation of SafeCare described here, the results achieved by the intervention were achieved against a comparison group who received an equal number of home visits. However, the comparison group did not receive the manualized SafeCare curriculum, SafeCare health kits and handouts, or fidelity monitoring for the home visitors. Costs for the comparison group were computed by estimating a cost of \$100 for each family for these three components and subtracting that from the SafeCare cost.

The figures shown are estimates of the costs to implement programs in Washington. The comparison group costs reflect either no treatment or treatment as usual, depending on how effect sizes were calculated in the meta-analysis. The cost range reported above reflects potential variation or uncertainty in the cost estimate; more detail can be found in our [Technical Documentation](#).

## Detailed Annual Cost Estimates Per Participant



The graph above illustrates the estimated cumulative net benefits per-participant for the first fifty years beyond the initial investment in the program. We present these cash flows in non-discounted dollars to simplify the “break-even” point from a budgeting perspective. If the dollars are negative (bars below \$0 line), the cumulative benefits do not outweigh the cost of the program up to that point in time. The program breaks even when the dollars reach \$0. At this point, the total benefits to participants, taxpayers, and others, are equal to the cost of the program. If the dollars are above \$0, the benefits of the program exceed the initial investment.

## Meta-Analysis of Program Effects

| Outcomes measured       | Treatment age | No. of effect sizes | Treatment N | Adjusted effect sizes and standard errors used in the benefit-cost analysis |       |     |                             |       |     | Unadjusted effect size (random effects model) |         |
|-------------------------|---------------|---------------------|-------------|---|-------|-----|-----------------------------|-------|-----|---|---------|
|                         |               |                     |             | First time ES is estimated  |       |     | Second time ES is estimated |       |     | ES  | p-value |
|                         |               |                     |             | ES  | SE    | Age | ES                          | SE    | Age |   |         |
| Child abuse and neglect | 5             | 1                   | 1079        | -0.113  | 0.058 | 7   | -0.113                      | 0.058 | 17  | -0.113  | 0.051   |

Meta-analysis is a statistical method to combine the results from separate studies on a program, policy, or topic in order to estimate its effect on an outcome. WSIPP systematically evaluates all credible evaluations we can locate on each topic. The outcomes measured are the types of program impacts that were measured in the research literature (for example, crime or educational attainment). Treatment N represents the total number of individuals or units in the treatment group across the included studies.

An effect size (ES) is a standard metric that summarizes the degree to which a program or policy affects a measured outcome. If the effect size is positive, the outcome increases. If the effect size is negative, the outcome decreases.

Adjusted effect sizes are used to calculate the benefits from our benefit cost model. WSIPP may adjust effect sizes based on methodological characteristics of the study. For example, we may adjust effect sizes when a study has a weak research design or when the program developer is involved in the research. The magnitude of these adjustments varies depending on the topic area.

WSIPP may also adjust the second ES measurement. Research shows the magnitude of some effect sizes decrease over time. For those effect sizes, we estimate outcome-based adjustments which we apply between the first time ES is estimated and the second time ES is estimated. We also report the unadjusted effect size to show the effect sizes before any adjustments have been made. More details about these adjustments can be found in our [Technical Documentation](#).

## Citations Used in the Meta-Analysis

Chaffin, M., Hecht, D., Bard, D., Silovsky, J. F., & Beasley, W. H. (2012). A statewide trial of the safe care home-based services model with parents in child protective services. *Pediatrics*, *129*(3) 509-515.

## Alternative Response Child Welfare

Benefit-cost estimates updated December 2018. Literature review updated November 2018.

Program Description: Alternative Response (also called Family Assessment Response or Differential Response) is a system of responding to referrals to Child Protective Services that is an alternative to a traditional investigation. If there are no imminent concerns about a child's safety, the Alternative Response method includes a family assessment, with the goal of engaging a family to determine strengths and needs and plan for the future, without requiring a determination that maltreatment has occurred or that the child is at risk of maltreatment. This is perceived by some as less intrusive and less confrontational than a traditional investigation.

### Benefit-Cost Summary Statistics Per Participant

| Benefits to:            |                |                                 |         |
|-------------------------|----------------|---------------------------------|---------|
| Taxpayers               | \$619          | Benefit to cost ratio           | \$7.17  |
| Participants            | \$1,049        | Benefits minus costs            | \$1,528 |
| Others                  | \$110          | Chance the program will produce |         |
| Indirect                | (\$2)          | benefits greater than the costs | 82 %    |
| <u>Total benefits</u>   | <u>\$1,775</u> |                                 |         |
| <u>Net program cost</u> | <u>(\$248)</u> |                                 |         |
| Benefits minus cost     | \$1,528        |                                 |         |

The estimates shown are present value, life cycle benefits and costs. All dollars are expressed in the base year chosen for this analysis (2017). The chance the benefits exceed the costs are derived from a Monte Carlo risk analysis. The details on this, as well as the economic discount rates and other relevant parameters are described in our [Technical Documentation](#).

### Detailed Monetary Benefit Estimates Per Participant

| Benefits from changes to: <sup>1</sup>                      | Benefits to:   |              |                     |                       |                |
|---|----------------|--------------|---------------------|-----------------------|----------------|
|   | Participants   | Taxpayers    | Others <sup>2</sup> | Indirect <sup>3</sup> | Total          |
| Crime   | \$0            | \$32         | \$69                | \$16                  | \$118          |
| Child abuse and neglect                                     | \$205          | \$20         | \$0                 | \$10                  | \$236          |
| Out-of-home placement                                       | \$0            | \$91         | \$0                 | \$46                  | \$136          |
| K-12 grade repetition                                       | \$0            | \$4          | \$0                 | \$2                   | \$6            |
| K-12 special education                                      | \$0            | \$55         | \$0                 | \$28                  | \$83           |
| Property loss associated with alcohol abuse or dependence   | \$0            | \$0          | \$0                 | \$0                   | \$0            |
| Health care associated with PTSD                            | \$11           | \$39         | \$40                | \$20                  | \$110          |
| Labor market earnings associated with child abuse & neglect | \$832          | \$378        | \$0                 | \$0                   | \$1,211        |
| Mortality associated with child abuse and neglect           | \$0            | \$0          | \$0                 | \$0                   | \$1            |
| Adjustment for deadweight cost of program                   | \$0            | \$0          | \$0                 | (\$125)               | (\$125)        |
| <b>Totals</b>   | <b>\$1,049</b> | <b>\$619</b> | <b>\$110</b>        | <b>(\$2)</b>          | <b>\$1,775</b> |

<sup>1</sup>In addition to the outcomes measured in the meta-analysis table, WSIPP measures benefits and costs estimated from other outcomes associated with those reported in the evaluation literature. For example, empirical research demonstrates that high school graduation leads to reduced crime. These associated measures provide a more complete picture of the detailed costs and benefits of the program.

<sup>2</sup>"Others" includes benefits to people other than taxpayers and participants. Depending on the program, it could include reductions in crime victimization, the economic benefits from a more educated workforce, and the benefits from employer-paid health insurance.

<sup>3</sup>"Indirect benefits" includes estimates of the net changes in the value of a statistical life and net changes in the deadweight costs of taxation.

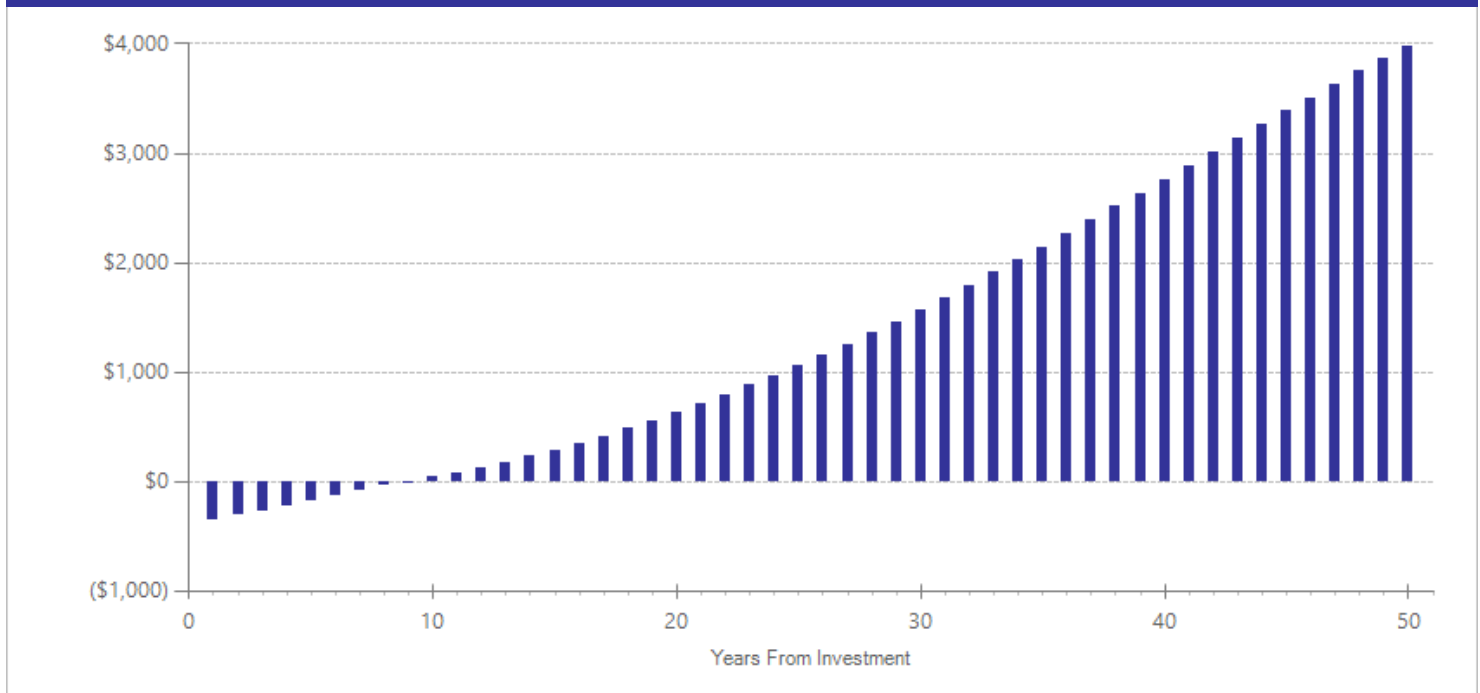
## Detailed Annual Cost Estimates Per Participant

|                  | Annual cost | Year dollars | Summary  |         |
|------------------|-------------|--------------|--|---------|
| Program costs    | \$229       | 2011         | Present value of net program costs (in 2017 dollars) | (\$248) |
| Comparison costs | \$0         | 2011         | Cost range (+ or -)                                  | 10 %    |

This program is delivered as an alternative to traditional child welfare investigations. We used costs for initial investigation or assessment reported in evaluations of Alternative Response in four states: Colorado, Illinois, Ohio, and Minnesota. The program cost reported here is the caseload-weighted average additional cost for alternative response relative to investigation response.

The figures shown are estimates of the costs to implement programs in Washington. The comparison group costs reflect either no treatment or treatment as usual, depending on how effect sizes were calculated in the meta-analysis. The cost range reported above reflects potential variation or uncertainty in the cost estimate; more detail can be found in our [Technical Documentation](#).

## Detailed Annual Cost Estimates Per Participant



The graph above illustrates the estimated cumulative net benefits per-participant for the first fifty years beyond the initial investment in the program. We present these cash flows in non-discounted dollars to simplify the “break-even” point from a budgeting perspective. If the dollars are negative (bars below \$0 line), the cumulative benefits do not outweigh the cost of the program up to that point in time. The program breaks even when the dollars reach \$0. At this point, the total benefits to participants, taxpayers, and others, are equal to the cost of the program. If the dollars are above \$0, the benefits of the program exceed the initial investment.

## Meta-Analysis of Program Effects

| Outcomes measured       | Treatment age | No. of effect sizes | Treatment N | Adjusted effect sizes and standard errors used in the benefit-cost analysis |       |     |                             |       |     | Unadjusted effect size (random effects model) |         |
|-------------------------|---------------|---------------------|-------------|---|-------|-----|-----------------------------|-------|-----|---|---------|
|                         |               |                     |             | First time ES is estimated  |       |     | Second time ES is estimated |       |     | ES  | p-value |
|                         |               |                     |             | ES  | SE    | Age | ES                          | SE    | Age |   |         |
| Child abuse and neglect | 8             | 9                   | 22233       | -0.030  | 0.027 | 8   | -0.030                      | 0.027 | 17  | -0.030  | 0.145   |
| Out-of-home placement   | 8             | 7                   | 20943       | -0.146  | 0.048 | 8   | -0.146                      | 0.048 | 17  | -0.146  | 0.788   |

Meta-analysis is a statistical method to combine the results from separate studies on a program, policy, or topic in order to estimate its effect on an outcome. WSIPP systematically evaluates all credible evaluations we can locate on each topic. The outcomes measured are the types of program impacts that were measured in the research literature (for example, crime or educational attainment). Treatment N represents the total number of individuals or units in the treatment group across the included studies.

An effect size (ES) is a standard metric that summarizes the degree to which a program or policy affects a measured outcome. If the effect size is positive, the outcome increases. If the effect size is negative, the outcome decreases.

Adjusted effect sizes are used to calculate the benefits from our benefit cost model. WSIPP may adjust effect sizes based on methodological characteristics of the study. For example, we may adjust effect sizes when a study has a weak research design or when the program developer is involved in the research. The magnitude of these adjustments varies depending on the topic area.

WSIPP may also adjust the second ES measurement. Research shows the magnitude of some effect sizes decrease over time. For those effect sizes, we estimate outcome-based adjustments which we apply between the first time ES is estimated and the second time ES is estimated. We also report the unadjusted effect size to show the effect sizes before any adjustments have been made. More details about these adjustments can be found in our [Technical Documentation](#).

## Citations Used in the Meta-Analysis

- Fuller, T., Nieto, M., Zhang, S. (2013) *Differential Response in Illinois: Final Evaluation Report*. Urbana-Champaign: Children and Family Research Center, University of Illinois.
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## Flexible funding (Title IV-E waivers) Child Welfare

Benefit-cost estimates updated December 2018. Literature review updated April 2012.

Program Description: The flexible funding allowed by states obtaining Title IV-E waivers is designed to allow states to reallocate federal dollars normally used for foster care to other types of child welfare services, such as prevention or treatment.

Federal funds for foster care are "categorical." That is, as foster care caseloads rise or fall, the federal funds change in proportion. Thus, if states reduce the number of children in foster care, the federal support is reduced. With Title IV-E waivers, if states reduce foster care caseloads they may reallocate saved foster care dollars to other types of child welfare services, such as prevention or treatment services.

### Benefit-Cost Summary Statistics Per Participant

| Benefits to:            |                |                                 |         |
|-------------------------|----------------|---------------------------------|---------|
| Taxpayers               | \$462          | Benefit to cost ratio           | n/a     |
| Participants            | \$806          | Benefits minus costs            | \$1,436 |
| Others                  | \$83           | Chance the program will produce |         |
| Indirect                | \$85           | benefits greater than the costs | 90 %    |
| <u>Total benefits</u>   | <u>\$1,436</u> |                                 |         |
| <u>Net program cost</u> | <u>\$0</u>     |                                 |         |
| Benefits minus cost     | \$1,436        |                                 |         |

The estimates shown are present value, life cycle benefits and costs. All dollars are expressed in the base year chosen for this analysis (2017). The chance the benefits exceed the costs are derived from a Monte Carlo risk analysis. The details on this, as well as the economic discount rates and other relevant parameters are described in our [Technical Documentation](#).

### Detailed Monetary Benefit Estimates Per Participant

| Benefits from changes to: <sup>1</sup>                      | Benefits to: |              |                     |                       |                |
|---|--------------|--------------|---------------------|-----------------------|----------------|
|   | Participants | Taxpayers    | Others <sup>2</sup> | Indirect <sup>3</sup> | Total          |
| Crime   | \$0          | \$25         | \$53                | \$12                  | \$90           |
| Child abuse and neglect                                     | \$154        | \$15         | \$0                 | \$8                   | \$177          |
| Out-of-home placement                                       | \$0          | \$58         | \$0                 | \$29                  | \$87           |
| K-12 grade repetition                                       | \$0          | \$3          | \$0                 | \$2                   | \$5            |
| K-12 special education                                      | \$0          | \$40         | \$0                 | \$20                  | \$60           |
| Property loss associated with alcohol abuse or dependence   | \$0          | \$0          | \$0                 | \$0                   | \$0            |
| Health care associated with PTSD                            | \$8          | \$29         | \$30                | \$14                  | \$82           |
| Labor market earnings associated with child abuse & neglect | \$643        | \$292        | \$0                 | \$0                   | \$935          |
| Mortality associated with child abuse and neglect           | \$0          | \$0          | \$0                 | \$0                   | \$0            |
| <b>Totals</b>   | <b>\$806</b> | <b>\$462</b> | <b>\$83</b>         | <b>\$85</b>           | <b>\$1,436</b> |

<sup>1</sup>In addition to the outcomes measured in the meta-analysis table, WSIPP measures benefits and costs estimated from other outcomes associated with those reported in the evaluation literature. For example, empirical research demonstrates that high school graduation leads to reduced crime. These associated measures provide a more complete picture of the detailed costs and benefits of the program.

<sup>2</sup>"Others" includes benefits to people other than taxpayers and participants. Depending on the program, it could include reductions in crime victimization, the economic benefits from a more educated workforce, and the benefits from employer-paid health insurance.

<sup>3</sup>"Indirect benefits" includes estimates of the net changes in the value of a statistical life and net changes in the deadweight costs of taxation.

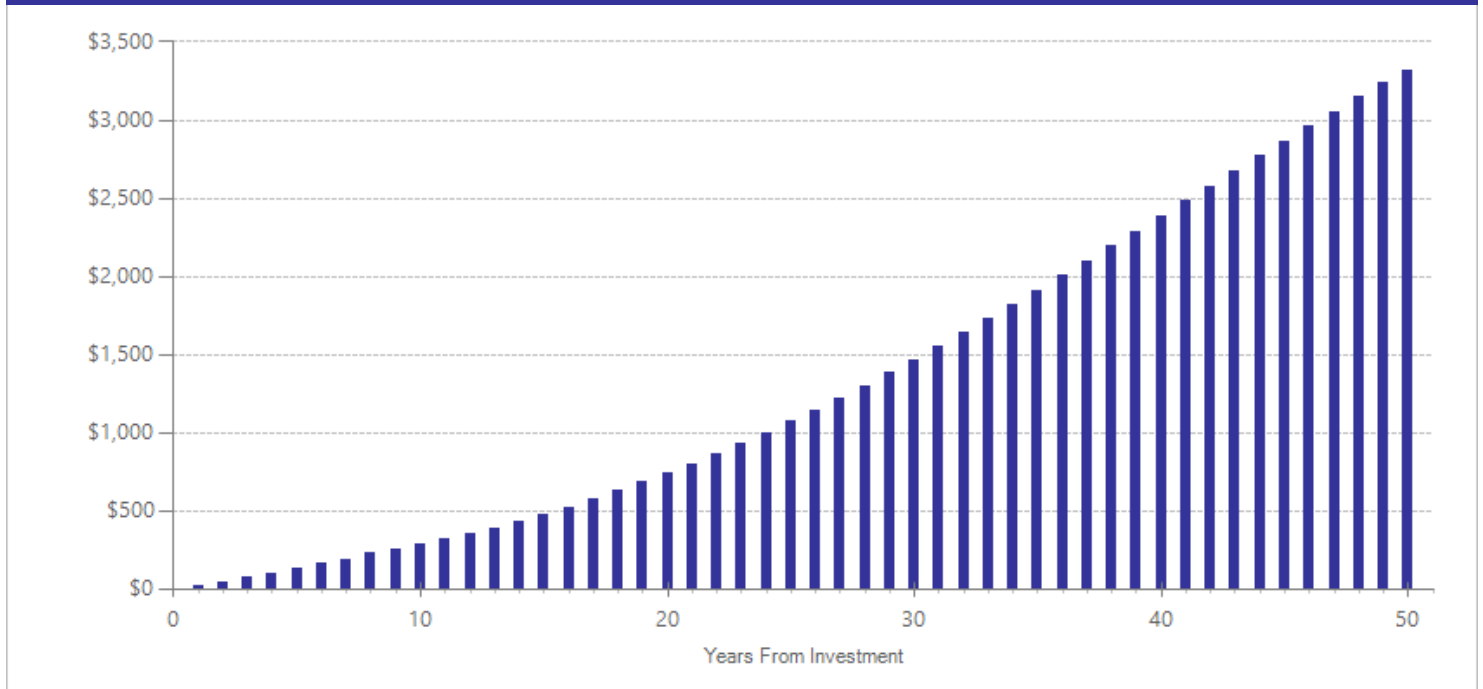
## Detailed Annual Cost Estimates Per Participant

|                  | Annual cost | Year dollars | Summary  |      |
|------------------|-------------|--------------|--|------|
| Program costs    | \$0         | 2011         | Present value of net program costs (in 2017 dollars) | \$0  |
| Comparison costs | \$0         | 2011         | Cost range (+ or -)                                  | 10 % |

This waiver strategy allows states to reallocate funds from foster care to other kinds of services. One state evaluation reported that children on the waiver cost more than comparison children, one evaluation reported waiver children cost less than comparison children. In nearly all evaluations, the waiver was reported as "cost-neutral", which was the aim of the waiver: to be able to re-allocate dollars normally spent on foster care to other services. Therefore, we have taken a cautious approach and estimated that the cost of this program is zero relative to business-as-usual.

The figures shown are estimates of the costs to implement programs in Washington. The comparison group costs reflect either no treatment or treatment as usual, depending on how effect sizes were calculated in the meta-analysis. The cost range reported above reflects potential variation or uncertainty in the cost estimate; more detail can be found in our [Technical Documentation](#).

## Detailed Annual Cost Estimates Per Participant



The graph above illustrates the estimated cumulative net benefits per-participant for the first fifty years beyond the initial investment in the program. We present these cash flows in non-discounted dollars to simplify the "break-even" point from a budgeting perspective. If the dollars are negative (bars below \$0 line), the cumulative benefits do not outweigh the cost of the program up to that point in time. The program breaks even when the dollars reach \$0. At this point, the total benefits to participants, taxpayers, and others, are equal to the cost of the program. If the dollars are above \$0, the benefits of the program exceed the initial investment.

## Meta-Analysis of Program Effects

| Outcomes measured       | Treatment age | No. of effect sizes | Treatment N | Adjusted effect sizes and standard errors used in the benefit-cost analysis |       |     |                             |       |     | Unadjusted effect size (random effects model) |         |
|-------------------------|---------------|---------------------|-------------|---|-------|-----|-----------------------------|-------|-----|---|---------|
|                         |               |                     |             | First time ES is estimated  |       |     | Second time ES is estimated |       |     |   |         |
|                         |               |                     |             | ES  | SE    | Age | ES                          | SE    | Age | ES  | p-value |
| Child abuse and neglect | 8             | 3                   | 29252       | -0.040  | 0.032 | 8   | -0.040                      | 0.032 | 17  | -0.040  | 0.221   |
| Out-of-home placement   | 8             | 5                   | 99344       | -0.090  | 0.045 | 8   | -0.090                      | 0.045 | 17  | -0.090  | 0.045   |

Meta-analysis is a statistical method to combine the results from separate studies on a program, policy, or topic in order to estimate its effect on an outcome. WSIPP systematically evaluates all credible evaluations we can locate on each topic. The outcomes measured are the types of program impacts that were measured in the research literature (for example, crime or educational attainment). Treatment N represents the total number of individuals or units in the treatment group across the included studies.

An effect size (ES) is a standard metric that summarizes the degree to which a program or policy affects a measured outcome. If the effect size is positive, the outcome increases. If the effect size is negative, the outcome decreases.

Adjusted effect sizes are used to calculate the benefits from our benefit cost model. WSIPP may adjust effect sizes based on methodological characteristics of the study. For example, we may adjust effect sizes when a study has a weak research design or when the program developer is involved in the research. The magnitude of these adjustments varies depending on the topic area.

WSIPP may also adjust the second ES measurement. Research shows the magnitude of some effect sizes decrease over time. For those effect sizes, we estimate outcome-based adjustments which we apply between the first time ES is estimated and the second time ES is estimated. We also report the unadjusted effect size to show the effect sizes before any adjustments have been made. More details about these adjustments can be found in our [Technical Documentation](#).

## Citations Used in the Meta-Analysis

- Lehman, C.M., Liang, S., & O Dell, K. (2005). Impact of flexible funds on placement and permanency outcomes for children in child welfare. *Research on Social Work Practice* 1(5), 381-388.
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- Usher, C.L., Wildfire, J.B., Duncan, D.F., Meier, A., Brown, E.L., Salmon, M.A. (2002). *Evaluation of North Carolina's Title IV-E waiver demonstration*. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina, School of Social Work, Jordan Institute for Families.

## Promoting First Relationships Child Welfare

Benefit-cost estimates updated December 2018. Literature review updated November 2018.

Program Description: Promoting First Relationships is a 10-week home visiting program for toddlers and their caregivers who are experiencing adversity. In the studies included here, children were either dependents of the state or alleged victims of child maltreatment. The program aims to strengthen the relationship between parent and child, thereby increasing the child's sense of safety and security. Home visitor therapists focus on increasing sensitive parenting behaviors using consultation and video feedback to observe and support child-caregiver interactions. In the studies used in this analysis, participating families received an average of 9.5 visits.

### Benefit-Cost Summary Statistics Per Participant

| Benefits to:            |                  |                                 |         |
|-------------------------|------------------|---------------------------------|---------|
| Taxpayers               | \$689            | Benefit to cost ratio           | \$0.49  |
| Participants            | \$275            | Benefits minus costs            | (\$676) |
| Others                  | \$31             | Chance the program will produce |         |
| Indirect                | (\$341)          | benefits greater than the costs | 47 %    |
| <u>Total benefits</u>   | <u>\$654</u>     |                                 |         |
| <u>Net program cost</u> | <u>(\$1,330)</u> |                                 |         |
| Benefits minus cost     | (\$676)          |                                 |         |

The estimates shown are present value, life cycle benefits and costs. All dollars are expressed in the base year chosen for this analysis (2017). The chance the benefits exceed the costs are derived from a Monte Carlo risk analysis. The details on this, as well as the economic discount rates and other relevant parameters are described in our [Technical Documentation](#).

### Detailed Monetary Benefit Estimates Per Participant

| Benefits from changes to: <sup>1</sup>                      | Benefits to: |              |                     |                       |              |
|---|--------------|--------------|---------------------|-----------------------|--------------|
|   | Participants | Taxpayers    | Others <sup>2</sup> | Indirect <sup>3</sup> | Total        |
| Crime   | \$0          | \$12         | \$23                | \$6                   | \$41         |
| Child abuse and neglect                                     | \$9          | \$21         | \$0                 | \$11                  | \$41         |
| Out-of-home placement                                       | \$0          | \$495        | \$0                 | \$248                 | \$743        |
| K-12 grade repetition                                       | \$0          | \$1          | \$0                 | \$1                   | \$2          |
| K-12 special education                                      | \$0          | \$31         | \$0                 | \$16                  | \$46         |
| Property loss associated with alcohol abuse or dependence   | \$0          | \$0          | \$0                 | \$0                   | \$0          |
| Health care associated with PTSD                            | \$2          | \$8          | \$9                 | \$4                   | \$24         |
| Labor market earnings associated with child abuse & neglect | \$260        | \$118        | \$0                 | \$0                   | \$378        |
| Mortality associated with child abuse and neglect           | \$4          | \$2          | \$0                 | \$36                  | \$42         |
| Adjustment for deadweight cost of program                   | \$0          | \$0          | \$0                 | (\$662)               | (\$662)      |
| <b>Totals</b>   | <b>\$275</b> | <b>\$689</b> | <b>\$31</b>         | <b>(\$341)</b>        | <b>\$654</b> |

<sup>1</sup>In addition to the outcomes measured in the meta-analysis table, WSIPP measures benefits and costs estimated from other outcomes associated with those reported in the evaluation literature. For example, empirical research demonstrates that high school graduation leads to reduced crime. These associated measures provide a more complete picture of the detailed costs and benefits of the program.

<sup>2</sup>"Others" includes benefits to people other than taxpayers and participants. Depending on the program, it could include reductions in crime victimization, the economic benefits from a more educated workforce, and the benefits from employer-paid health insurance.

<sup>3</sup>"Indirect benefits" includes estimates of the net changes in the value of a statistical life and net changes in the deadweight costs of taxation.

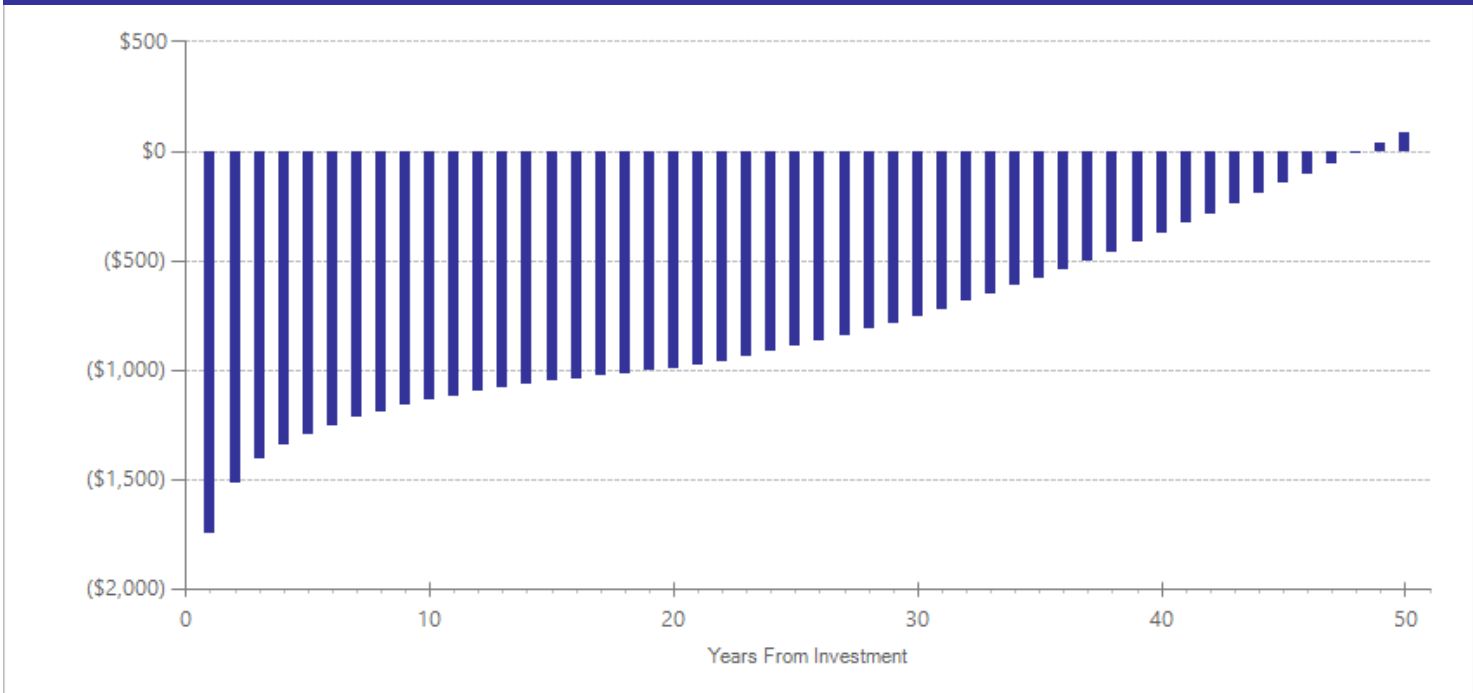
## Detailed Annual Cost Estimates Per Participant

|                  | Annual cost | Year dollars | Summary  |           |
|------------------|-------------|--------------|--|-----------|
| Program costs    | \$1,331     | 2017         | Present value of net program costs (in 2017 dollars) | (\$1,330) |
| Comparison costs | \$0         | 2017         | Cost range (+ or -)                                  | 15 %      |

The per participant cost of the program is based on the average number of sessions per family in the included studies (9.5). We apply the reimbursement rate paid by the Department of Children, Youth, and Families (\$138 per session, per fee schedule for Promoting First Relationships, <https://www.dcyf.wa.gov/sites/default/files/pdf/PFR-fee.pdf>) and add \$20 per case for fidelity monitoring.

The figures shown are estimates of the costs to implement programs in Washington. The comparison group costs reflect either no treatment or treatment as usual, depending on how effect sizes were calculated in the meta-analysis. The cost range reported above reflects potential variation or uncertainty in the cost estimate; more detail can be found in our [Technical Documentation](#).

## Detailed Annual Cost Estimates Per Participant



The graph above illustrates the estimated cumulative net benefits per-participant for the first fifty years beyond the initial investment in the program. We present these cash flows in non-discounted dollars to simplify the “break-even” point from a budgeting perspective. If the dollars are negative (bars below \$0 line), the cumulative benefits do not outweigh the cost of the program up to that point in time. The program breaks even when the dollars reach \$0. At this point, the total benefits to participants, taxpayers, and others, are equal to the cost of the program. If the dollars are above \$0, the benefits of the program exceed the initial investment.

## Meta-Analysis of Program Effects

| Outcomes measured                | Treatment age | Primary or secondary participant | No. of effect sizes | Treatment N | Adjusted effect sizes and standard errors used in the benefit-cost analysis |       |     |                             |       |     | Unadjusted effect size (random effects model) |         |
|----------------------------------|---------------|----------------------------------|---------------------|-------------|---|-------|-----|-----------------------------|-------|-----|---|---------|
|                                  |               |                                  |                     |             | First time ES is estimated  |       |     | Second time ES is estimated |       |     | ES  | p-value |
|                                  |               |                                  |                     |             | ES  | SE    | Age | ES                          | SE    | Age |   |         |
| Child abuse and neglect          | 1             | Primary                          | 1                   | 124         | -0.021  | 0.337 | 1   | -0.021                      | 0.337 | 17  | -0.058  | 0.865   |
| Out-of-home placement            | 1             | Primary                          | 1                   | 124         | -0.124  | 0.341 | 1   | -0.124                      | 0.341 | 17  | -0.345  | 0.316   |
| Permanent placement <sup>^</sup> | 1             | Primary                          | 1                   | 105         | 0.057   | 0.260 | 2   | n/a                         | n/a   | n/a | 0.158   | 0.583   |
| Placement stability <sup>^</sup> | 1             | Primary                          | 1                   | 105         | -0.046  | 0.260 | 2   | n/a                         | n/a   | n/a | -0.127  | 0.606   |
| Parental stress <sup>^</sup>     | 27            | Secondary                        | 1                   | 124         | 0.008   | 0.256 | 27  | n/a                         | n/a   | n/a | 0.023   | 0.929   |

<sup>^</sup>WSIPP's benefit-cost model does not monetize this outcome.

Meta-analysis is a statistical method to combine the results from separate studies on a program, policy, or topic in order to estimate its effect on an outcome. WSIPP systematically evaluates all credible evaluations we can locate on each topic. The outcomes measured are the types of program impacts that were measured in the research literature (for example, crime or educational attainment). Treatment N represents the total number of individuals or units in the treatment group across the included studies.

An effect size (ES) is a standard metric that summarizes the degree to which a program or policy affects a measured outcome. If the effect size is positive, the outcome increases. If the effect size is negative, the outcome decreases.

Adjusted effect sizes are used to calculate the benefits from our benefit cost model. WSIPP may adjust effect sizes based on methodological characteristics of the study. For example, we may adjust effect sizes when a study has a weak research design or when the program developer is involved in the research. The magnitude of these adjustments varies depending on the topic area.

WSIPP may also adjust the second ES measurement. Research shows the magnitude of some effect sizes decrease over time. For those effect sizes, we estimate outcome-based adjustments which we apply between the first time ES is estimated and the second time ES is estimated. We also report the unadjusted effect size to show the effect sizes before any adjustments have been made. More details about these adjustments can be found in our [Technical Documentation](#).

## Other Family Preservation Services (non-HOMEBUILDERS®)

### Child Welfare

Benefit-cost estimates updated December 2018. Literature review updated August 2017.

Program Description: "Other" Family Preservation Services (FPS) Programs have the same goals as "intensive" FPS—to prevent removal of a child from his or her biological home (or to promote his or her return to that home) by improving family functioning. However, "other" FPS programs lack the rigorous criteria for implementation as defined by the HOMEBUILDERS® model and may be delivered over a longer time period.

#### Benefit-Cost Summary Statistics Per Participant

| Benefits to:            |                  |                                 |           |
|-------------------------|------------------|---------------------------------|-----------|
| Taxpayers               | (\$1,058)        | Benefit to cost ratio           | (\$1.46)  |
| Participants            | (\$1,710)        | Benefits minus costs            | (\$8,032) |
| Others                  | (\$203)          | Chance the program will produce |           |
| Indirect                | (\$1,799)        | benefits greater than the costs | 0 %       |
| <u>Total benefits</u>   | <u>(\$4,770)</u> |                                 |           |
| <u>Net program cost</u> | <u>(\$3,262)</u> |                                 |           |
| Benefits minus cost     | (\$8,032)        |                                 |           |

The estimates shown are present value, life cycle benefits and costs. All dollars are expressed in the base year chosen for this analysis (2017). The chance the benefits exceed the costs are derived from a Monte Carlo risk analysis. The details on this, as well as the economic discount rates and other relevant parameters are described in our [Technical Documentation](#).

#### Detailed Monetary Benefit Estimates Per Participant

| Benefits from changes to: <sup>1</sup>                      | Benefits to:     |                  |                     |                       |                  |
|---|------------------|------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|------------------|
|   | Participants     | Taxpayers        | Others <sup>2</sup> | Indirect <sup>3</sup> | Total            |
| Crime   | \$0              | (\$64)           | (\$143)             | (\$32)                | (\$239)          |
| Child abuse and neglect                                     | (\$37)           | (\$94)           | \$0                 | (\$47)                | (\$178)          |
| Out-of-home placement                                       | \$0              | \$5              | \$0                 | \$2                   | \$7              |
| K-12 grade repetition                                       | \$0              | (\$7)            | \$0                 | (\$4)                 | (\$11)           |
| K-12 special education                                      | \$0              | (\$87)           | \$0                 | (\$44)                | (\$131)          |
| Property loss associated with alcohol abuse or dependence   | \$0              | \$0              | \$0                 | \$0                   | \$0              |
| Health care associated with PTSD                            | (\$16)           | (\$58)           | (\$60)              | (\$29)                | (\$164)          |
| Labor market earnings associated with child abuse & neglect | (\$1,656)        | (\$752)          | \$0                 | \$0                   | (\$2,407)        |
| Mortality associated with child abuse and neglect           | (\$1)            | \$0              | \$0                 | (\$4)                 | (\$5)            |
| Adjustment for deadweight cost of program                   | \$0              | \$0              | \$0                 | (\$1,640)             | (\$1,640)        |
| <b>Totals</b>   | <b>(\$1,710)</b> | <b>(\$1,058)</b> | <b>(\$203)</b>      | <b>(\$1,799)</b>      | <b>(\$4,770)</b> |

<sup>1</sup>In addition to the outcomes measured in the meta-analysis table, WSIPP measures benefits and costs estimated from other outcomes associated with those reported in the evaluation literature. For example, empirical research demonstrates that high school graduation leads to reduced crime. These associated measures provide a more complete picture of the detailed costs and benefits of the program.

<sup>2</sup>"Others" includes benefits to people other than taxpayers and participants. Depending on the program, it could include reductions in crime victimization, the economic benefits from a more educated workforce, and the benefits from employer-paid health insurance.

<sup>3</sup>"Indirect benefits" includes estimates of the net changes in the value of a statistical life and net changes in the deadweight costs of taxation.

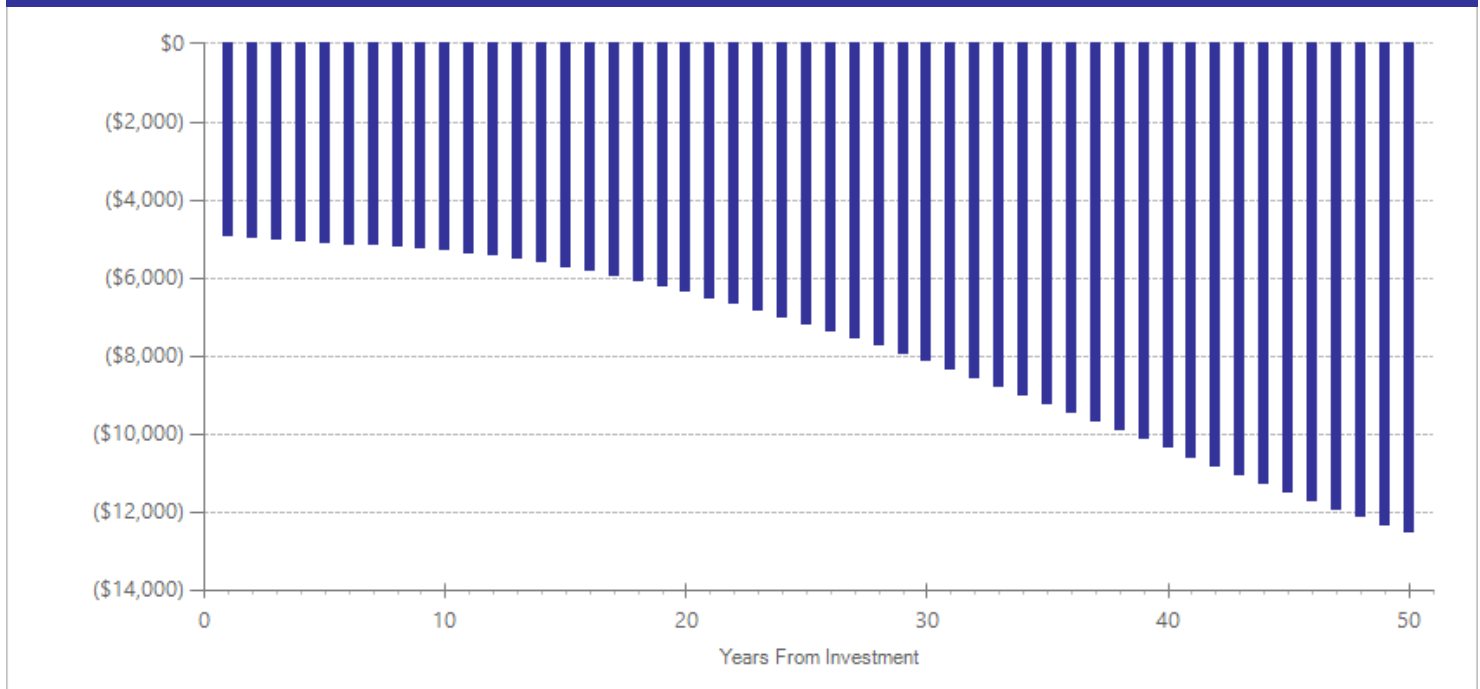
## Detailed Annual Cost Estimates Per Participant

|                  | Annual cost | Year dollars | Summary  |           |
|------------------|-------------|--------------|--|-----------|
| Program costs    | \$2,846     | 2003         | Present value of net program costs (in 2017 dollars) | (\$3,262) |
| Comparison costs | \$314       | 2003         | Cost range (+ or -)                                  | 10 %      |

The duration of this program is variable but may be delivered for up to six months. Program costs per family provided by Washington DSHS Children's Administration, 2008. WSIPP adjusted for multiple children per family. Comparison group costs calculated based on social worker time.

The figures shown are estimates of the costs to implement programs in Washington. The comparison group costs reflect either no treatment or treatment as usual, depending on how effect sizes were calculated in the meta-analysis. The cost range reported above reflects potential variation or uncertainty in the cost estimate; more detail can be found in our [Technical Documentation](#).

## Detailed Annual Cost Estimates Per Participant



The graph above illustrates the estimated cumulative net benefits per-participant for the first fifty years beyond the initial investment in the program. We present these cash flows in non-discounted dollars to simplify the “break-even” point from a budgeting perspective. If the dollars are negative (bars below \$0 line), the cumulative benefits do not outweigh the cost of the program up to that point in time. The program breaks even when the dollars reach \$0. At this point, the total benefits to participants, taxpayers, and others, are equal to the cost of the program. If the dollars are above \$0, the benefits of the program exceed the initial investment.

## Meta-Analysis of Program Effects

| Outcomes measured       | Treatment age | No. of effect sizes | Treatment N | Adjusted effect sizes and standard errors used in the benefit-cost analysis |       |     |                             |       |     | Unadjusted effect size (random effects model) |         |
|-------------------------|---------------|---------------------|-------------|---|-------|-----|-----------------------------|-------|-----|---|---------|
|                         |               |                     |             | First time ES is estimated  |       |     | Second time ES is estimated |       |     | ES  | p-value |
|                         |               |                     |             | ES  | SE    | Age | ES                          | SE    | Age |   |         |
| Child abuse and neglect | 10            | 7                   | 2031        | 0.085   | 0.053 | 11  | 0.085                       | 0.053 | 17  | 0.085   | 0.107   |
| Out-of-home placement   | 10            | 11                  | 2760        | -0.002  | 0.081 | 11  | -0.002                      | 0.081 | 17  | -0.002  | 0.978   |

Meta-analysis is a statistical method to combine the results from separate studies on a program, policy, or topic in order to estimate its effect on an outcome. WSIPP systematically evaluates all credible evaluations we can locate on each topic. The outcomes measured are the types of program impacts that were measured in the research literature (for example, crime or educational attainment). Treatment N represents the total number of individuals or units in the treatment group across the included studies.



An effect size (ES) is a standard metric that summarizes the degree to which a program or policy affects a measured outcome. If the effect size is positive, the outcome increases. If the effect size is negative, the outcome decreases.

Adjusted effect sizes are used to calculate the benefits from our benefit cost model. WSIPP may adjust effect sizes based on methodological characteristics of the study. For example, we may adjust effect sizes when a study has a weak research design or when the program developer is involved in the research. The magnitude of these adjustments varies depending on the topic area.

WSIPP may also adjust the second ES measurement. Research shows the magnitude of some effect sizes decrease over time. For those effect sizes, we estimate outcome-based adjustments which we apply between the first time ES is estimated and the second time ES is estimated. We also report the unadjusted effect size to show the effect sizes before any adjustments have been made. More details about these adjustments can be found in our [Technical Documentation](#).

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# Family dependency treatment court

## Child Welfare

Benefit-cost estimates updated December 2018. Literature review updated August 2017.

Program Description: Family Dependency Treatment Courts (FDTc) are adaptations of drug courts for adult offenders. They provide an alternative to regular Dependency Court for parents whose children were placed in foster care due to parent substance abuse. FDTcs take a collaborative approach to dependency cases, employing teams that include judges, treatment providers, child welfare caseworkers, attorneys, prosecutors and service providers. Parents are quickly referred treatment and compliance with treatment progress is monitored by frequent court appearances. Early in the cases, parents may be required to appear weekly. As parents make progress with the mandated treatment, frequency of hearings is reduced.

### Benefit-Cost Summary Statistics Per Participant

#### Benefits to:

|                         |                  |                                 |            |
|-------------------------|------------------|---------------------------------|------------|
| Taxpayers               | (\$1,557)        | Benefit to cost ratio           | (\$1.19)   |
| Participants            | (\$2,046)        | Benefits minus costs            | (\$12,287) |
| Others                  | \$137            | Chance the program will produce |            |
| Indirect                | (\$3,211)        | benefits greater than the costs | 8 %        |
| <u>Total benefits</u>   | <u>(\$6,677)</u> |                                 |            |
| <u>Net program cost</u> | <u>(\$5,611)</u> |                                 |            |
| Benefits minus cost     | (\$12,287)       |                                 |            |

The estimates shown are present value, life cycle benefits and costs. All dollars are expressed in the base year chosen for this analysis (2017). The chance the benefits exceed the costs are derived from a Monte Carlo risk analysis. The details on this, as well as the economic discount rates and other relevant parameters are described in our [Technical Documentation](#).

## Detailed Monetary Benefit Estimates Per Participant

| Benefits from changes to: <sup>1</sup>                      | Benefits to:     |                  |                     |                       |                  |
|---|------------------|------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|------------------|
|   | Participants     | Taxpayers        | Others <sup>2</sup> | Indirect <sup>3</sup> | Total            |
| Crime   | \$0              | \$165            | \$359               | \$83                  | \$607            |
| <b>Subtotals</b>  | <b>\$0</b>       | <b>\$165</b>     | <b>\$359</b>        | <b>\$83</b>           | <b>\$607</b>     |
| From secondary participant                                  |                  |                  |                     |                       |                  |
| Crime   | \$0              | (\$78)           | (\$152)             | (\$40)                | (\$270)          |
| Child abuse and neglect                                     | (\$54)           | (\$461)          | \$0                 | (\$234)               | (\$749)          |
| K-12 grade repetition                                       | \$0              | (\$8)            | \$0                 | (\$4)                 | (\$12)           |
| K-12 special education                                      | \$0              | (\$210)          | \$0                 | (\$107)               | (\$318)          |
| Property loss associated with alcohol abuse or dependence   | \$0              | \$0              | \$0                 | \$0                   | \$0              |
| Health care associated with PTSD                            | (\$19)           | (\$68)           | (\$71)              | (\$35)                | (\$193)          |
| Labor market earnings associated with child abuse & neglect | (\$1,966)        | (\$893)          | \$0                 | \$0                   | (\$2,859)        |
| Mortality associated with child abuse and neglect           | (\$6)            | (\$3)            | \$0                 | (\$51)                | (\$60)           |
| <b>Subtotals</b>  | <b>(\$2,046)</b> | <b>(\$1,722)</b> | <b>(\$223)</b>      | <b>(\$471)</b>        | <b>(\$4,461)</b> |
| Adjustment for deadweight cost of program                   | \$0              | \$0              | \$0                 | (\$2,823)             | (\$2,823)        |
| <b>Totals</b>   | <b>(\$2,046)</b> | <b>(\$1,557)</b> | <b>\$137</b>        | <b>(\$3,211)</b>      | <b>(\$6,677)</b> |

<sup>1</sup>In addition to the outcomes measured in the meta-analysis table, WSIPP measures benefits and costs estimated from other outcomes associated with those reported in the evaluation literature. For example, empirical research demonstrates that high school graduation leads to reduced crime. These associated measures provide a more complete picture of the detailed costs and benefits of the program.

<sup>2</sup>"Others" includes benefits to people other than taxpayers and participants. Depending on the program, it could include reductions in crime victimization, the economic benefits from a more educated workforce, and the benefits from employer-paid health insurance.

<sup>3</sup>"Indirect benefits" includes estimates of the net changes in the value of a statistical life and net changes in the deadweight costs of taxation.

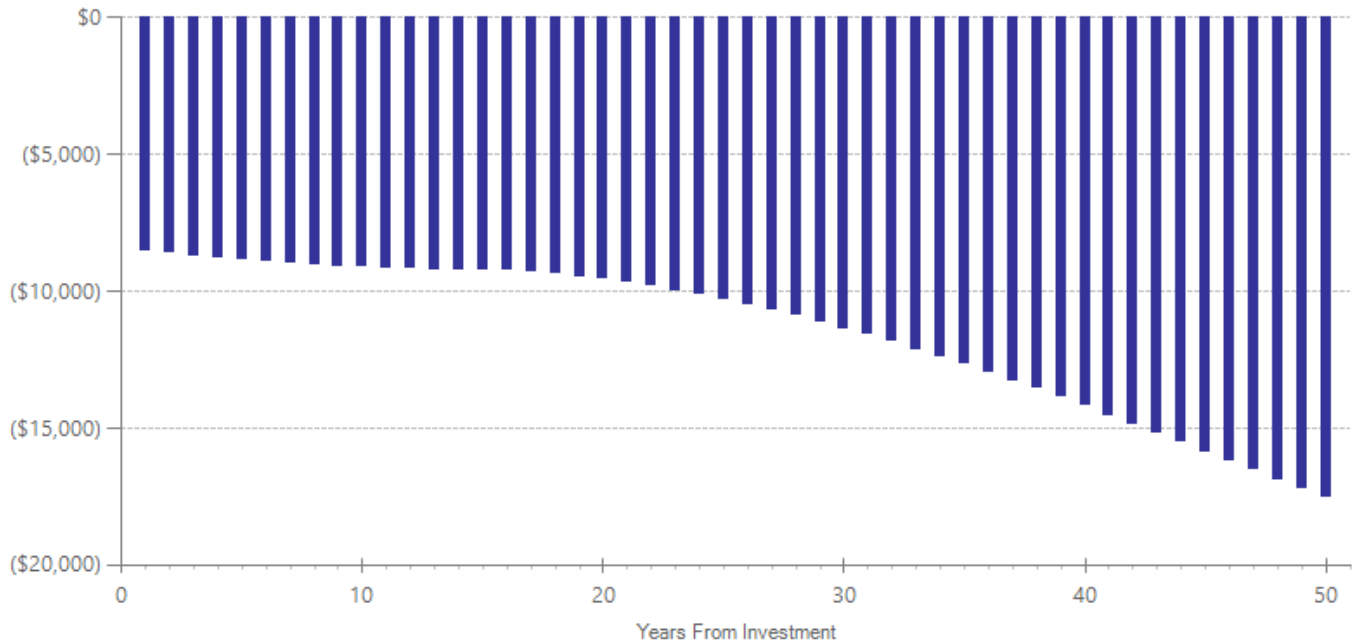
## Detailed Annual Cost Estimates Per Participant

|                  | Annual cost | Year dollars | Summary  |           |
|------------------|-------------|--------------|--|-----------|
| Program costs    | \$10,013    | 2016         | Present value of net program costs (in 2017 dollars) | (\$5,611) |
| Comparison costs | \$4,508     | 2016         | Cost range (+ or -)                                  | 20 %      |

WSIPP has estimated that the average traditional dependency case costs \$4,508. Based on the frequency of additional hearings for FDTC in Thurston County (Personal communication with Britnee Thornton, Coordinator, Thurston County Family Recovery Court. The program is organized in levels. During the first 2 levels, which last at least 5 months, parents make weekly court appearances. During Level 3, lasting at least 4 months, hearings are bi-weekly. Frequency is reduced to monthly in the final level; for this analysis, we assume parents remain in Level 4 for two months.) a case that closed in the minimum amount of time would require an additional 30 court appearances. Based on estimates of salary of persons presents at hearings, and assuming 15 minutes per appearance, we estimate cost per appearance is \$128. We estimate the per participant cost to operate the separate court to be \$1,652. (van Wormer, J., Hamilton, Z., & Murphy, S. (2014). Snohomish County adult drug treatment court: Process, outcome and cost-benefit evaluation. Washington State University, unpublished manuscript. Inflated to 2016 dollars.)

The figures shown are estimates of the costs to implement programs in Washington. The comparison group costs reflect either no treatment or treatment as usual, depending on how effect sizes were calculated in the meta-analysis. The cost range reported above reflects potential variation or uncertainty in the cost estimate; more detail can be found in our [Technical Documentation](#).

## Detailed Annual Cost Estimates Per Participant



The graph above illustrates the estimated cumulative net benefits per-participant for the first fifty years beyond the initial investment in the program. We present these cash flows in non-discounted dollars to simplify the “break-even” point from a budgeting perspective. If the dollars are negative (bars below \$0 line), the cumulative benefits do not outweigh the cost of the program up to that point in time. The program breaks even when the dollars reach \$0. At this point, the total benefits to participants, taxpayers, and others, are equal to the cost of the program. If the dollars are above \$0, the benefits of the program exceed the initial investment.

## Meta-Analysis of Program Effects

| Outcomes measured                | Treatment age | Primary or secondary participant | No. of effect sizes | Treatment N | Adjusted effect sizes and standard errors used in the benefit-cost analysis |       |     |                             |       |     | Unadjusted effect size (random effects model) |         |
|----------------------------------|---------------|----------------------------------|---------------------|-------------|---|-------|-----|-----------------------------|-------|-----|---|---------|
|                                  |               |                                  |                     |             | First time ES is estimated  |       |     | Second time ES is estimated |       |     | ES  | p-value |
|                                  |               |                                  |                     |             | ES  | SE    | Age | ES                          | SE    | Age |   |         |
| Crime                            | 28            | Primary                          | 2                   | 214         | -0.534  | 0.146 | 30  | -0.534                      | 0.146 | 40  | -0.534  | 0.001   |
| Child abuse and neglect          | 3             | Secondary                        | 2                   | 222         | 0.131   | 0.250 | 5   | 0.131                       | 0.250 | 17  | 0.131   | 0.601   |
| Permanent placement <sup>^</sup> | 3             | Secondary                        | 4                   | 492         | 0.283   | 0.182 | 5   | n/a                         | n/a   | n/a | 0.283   | 0.119   |
| Placement stability <sup>^</sup> | 3             | Secondary                        | 2                   | 197         | 0.038   | 0.108 | 5   | n/a                         | n/a   | n/a | 0.038   | 0.721   |

<sup>^</sup>WSIPP’s benefit-cost model does not monetize this outcome.

Meta-analysis is a statistical method to combine the results from separate studies on a program, policy, or topic in order to estimate its effect on an outcome. WSIPP systematically evaluates all credible evaluations we can locate on each topic. The outcomes measured are the types of program impacts that were measured in the research literature (for example, crime or educational attainment). Treatment N represents the total number of individuals or units in the treatment group across the included studies.

An effect size (ES) is a standard metric that summarizes the degree to which a program or policy affects a measured outcome. If the effect size is positive, the outcome increases. If the effect size is negative, the outcome decreases.

Adjusted effect sizes are used to calculate the benefits from our benefit cost model. WSIPP may adjust effect sizes based on methodological characteristics of the study. For example, we may adjust effect sizes when a study has a weak research design or when the program developer is involved in the research. The magnitude of these adjustments varies depending on the topic area.

WSIPP may also adjust the second ES measurement. Research shows the magnitude of some effect sizes decrease over time. For those effect sizes, we estimate outcome-based adjustments which we apply between the first time ES is estimated and the second time ES is estimated. We also report the unadjusted effect size to show the effect sizes before any adjustments have been made. More details about these adjustments can be found in our [Technical Documentation](#).

## Citations Used in the Meta-Analysis

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# Youth Villages LifeSet

## Child Welfare

Benefit-cost estimates updated December 2018. Literature review updated June 2016.

Program Description: Youth Villages LifeSet (YVLS) is a transitional living program for youth aging out of state custody. Each youth is assigned to a YVLS Specialist. YVLS Specialists have caseload of 8 to 10 youth. The YVLS Specialist meets with individuals weekly to help youth establish goals in the areas of education, employment, housing, and life skills. YVLS Specialists may also refer youth to program-provided, evidence-informed practices for mental health or substance abuse treatment. The program is designed to provide services for 9 months although duration can range from a few months to over a year. More information can be found on the Youth Villages website. <http://www.youthvillages.org/what-we-do/yvlifeset/about-yvlifeset.aspx#sthash.rmWjTfZN.dpbs>.

### Benefit-Cost Summary Statistics Per Participant

| Benefits to:               |                   |                                 |            |
|----------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------------|------------|
| Taxpayers                  | \$721             | Benefit to cost ratio           | (\$0.34)   |
| Participants               | \$3,295           | Benefits minus costs            | (\$13,399) |
| Others                     | (\$2,061)         | Chance the program will produce |            |
| Indirect                   | (\$5,384)         | benefits greater than the costs | 21 %       |
| <b>Total benefits</b>      | <b>(\$3,429)</b>  |                                 |            |
| <b>Net program cost</b>    | <b>(\$9,970)</b>  |                                 |            |
| <b>Benefits minus cost</b> | <b>(\$13,399)</b> |                                 |            |

The estimates shown are present value, life cycle benefits and costs. All dollars are expressed in the base year chosen for this analysis (2017). The chance the benefits exceed the costs are derived from a Monte Carlo risk analysis. The details on this, as well as the economic discount rates and other relevant parameters are described in our [Technical Documentation](#).

### Detailed Monetary Benefit Estimates Per Participant

| Benefits from changes to: <sup>1</sup>            | Benefits to:   |              |                     |                       |                  |
|---|----------------|--------------|---------------------|-----------------------|------------------|
|   | Participants   | Taxpayers    | Others <sup>2</sup> | Indirect <sup>3</sup> | Total            |
| Crime   | \$0            | (\$793)      | (\$2,084)           | (\$401)               | (\$3,277)        |
| Labor market earnings associated with employment  | \$3,291        | \$1,494      | \$0                 | \$0                   | \$4,785          |
| Property loss associated with problem alcohol use | \$1            | \$0          | \$2                 | \$0                   | \$2              |
| Health care associated with problem alcohol use   | \$3            | \$19         | \$21                | \$9                   | \$53             |
| Mortality associated with problem alcohol         | \$0            | \$0          | \$0                 | \$7                   | \$8              |
| Adjustment for deadweight cost of program         | \$0            | \$0          | \$0                 | (\$5,000)             | (\$5,000)        |
| <b>Totals</b>                                     | <b>\$3,295</b> | <b>\$721</b> | <b>(\$2,061)</b>    | <b>(\$5,384)</b>      | <b>(\$3,429)</b> |

<sup>1</sup>In addition to the outcomes measured in the meta-analysis table, WSIPP measures benefits and costs estimated from other outcomes associated with those reported in the evaluation literature. For example, empirical research demonstrates that high school graduation leads to reduced crime. These associated measures provide a more complete picture of the detailed costs and benefits of the program.

<sup>2</sup>"Others" includes benefits to people other than taxpayers and participants. Depending on the program, it could include reductions in crime victimization, the economic benefits from a more educated workforce, and the benefits from employer-paid health insurance.

<sup>3</sup>"Indirect benefits" includes estimates of the net changes in the value of a statistical life and net changes in the deadweight costs of taxation.

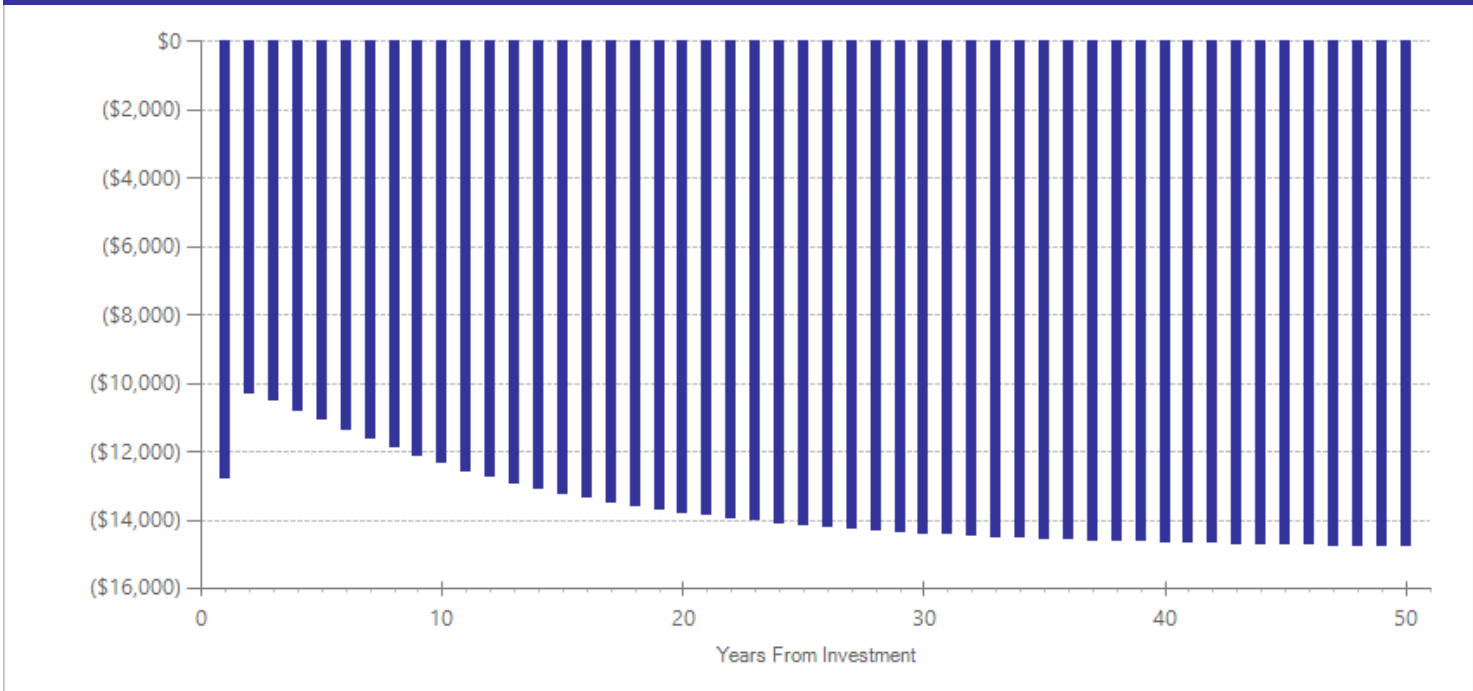
## Detailed Annual Cost Estimates Per Participant

|                  | Annual cost | Year dollars | Summary  |           |
|------------------|-------------|--------------|--|-----------|
| Program costs    | \$9,690     | 2015         | Present value of net program costs (in 2017 dollars) | (\$9,970) |
| Comparison costs | \$0         | 2015         | Cost range (+ or -)                                  | 11 %      |

Per participant cost based on information provided by Youth Villages (June 2016). Cost per day enrolled in the program ranges from \$40 to \$50 per day. In the evaluation, the average youth was enrolled for 215 days. We multiply the mid-range daily rate of \$45 by the average number of days enrolled.

The figures shown are estimates of the costs to implement programs in Washington. The comparison group costs reflect either no treatment or treatment as usual, depending on how effect sizes were calculated in the meta-analysis. The cost range reported above reflects potential variation or uncertainty in the cost estimate; more detail can be found in our [Technical Documentation](#).

## Detailed Annual Cost Estimates Per Participant



The graph above illustrates the estimated cumulative net benefits per-participant for the first fifty years beyond the initial investment in the program. We present these cash flows in non-discounted dollars to simplify the “break-even” point from a budgeting perspective. If the dollars are negative (bars below \$0 line), the cumulative benefits do not outweigh the cost of the program up to that point in time. The program breaks even when the dollars reach \$0. At this point, the total benefits to participants, taxpayers, and others, are equal to the cost of the program. If the dollars are above \$0, the benefits of the program exceed the initial investment.

## Meta-Analysis of Program Effects

| Outcomes measured         | Treatment age | No. of effect sizes | Treatment N | Adjusted effect sizes and standard errors used in the benefit-cost analysis |       |     |                             |       |     | Unadjusted effect size (random effects model) |         |
|---------------------------|---------------|---------------------|-------------|---|-------|-----|-----------------------------|-------|-----|---|---------|
|                           |               |                     |             | First time ES is estimated  |       |     | Second time ES is estimated |       |     | ES  | p-value |
|                           |               |                     |             | ES  | SE    | Age | ES                          | SE    | Age |   |         |
| Crime                     | 19            | 1                   | 659         | 0.104   | 0.102 | 20  | 0.104                       | 0.102 | 30  | 0.104   | 0.306   |
| Earnings                  | 19            | 1                   | 659         | 0.175   | 0.086 | 20  | 0.000                       | 0.014 | 21  | 0.175   | 0.043   |
| Employment                | 19            | 1                   | 659         | 0.133   | 0.079 | 20  | 0.000                       | 0.014 | 21  | 0.133   | 0.091   |
| High school graduation    | 19            | 1                   | 659         | 0.056   | 0.081 | 20  | 0.056                       | 0.081 | 20  | 0.056   | 0.493   |
| Homelessness <sup>^</sup> | 19            | 1                   | 659         | -0.199  | 0.086 | 20  | n/a                         | n/a   | n/a | -0.199  | 0.021   |
| Problem alcohol use       | 19            | 1                   | 659         | -0.079  | 0.061 | 20  | -0.011                      | 0.091 | 22  | -0.079  | 0.197   |

<sup>^</sup>WSIPP's benefit-cost model does not monetize this outcome.

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## Citations Used in the Meta-Analysis

Valentine, E.J., Skemer, M., Courtney, M.E., & MDRC. (2015). *Becoming adults: One-year impact findings from the Youth Villages Transitional Living Evaluation*. MDRC. New York, NY.



# Attachment and Biobehavioral Catch-Up

## Child Welfare

Literature review updated November 2017.

Program Description: Attachment and Biobehavioral Catch-Up (ABC) is a manualized home visiting program for maltreated children, typically between 6 and 24 months old, and their caregivers. ABC aims to teach caregivers to reinterpret avoidant or resistant child behavior and respond in nurturing ways. Parent coaches provide ten weekly home visits of approximately 60 minutes. In the included study, licensed therapists provided ABC to caregivers of foster children younger than six who were diagnosed with attachment-related problems.

### Meta-Analysis of Program Effects

| Outcomes measured      | No. of effect sizes | Treatment N | Adjusted effect size and standard error |       |     | Unadjusted effect size (random effects model) |         |
|------------------------|---------------------|-------------|---|-------|-----|---|---------|
|                        |                     |             | ES                                      | SE    | Age | ES  | p-value |
| Internalizing symptoms | 1                   | 29          | -0.475                                  | 0.266 | 4   | -1.284  | 0.001   |

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## Citations Used in the Meta-Analysis

Sprang, G. (2009). The efficacy of a relational treatment for maltreated children and their families. *Child and Adolescent Mental Health, 14*(2), 81-88.

# Family Team Decision-Making

## Child Welfare

Literature review updated August 2017.

Program Description: Family Team Decision-Making (FTDM), used in Washington State's child welfare system, involves meetings with parents and other family members, the child (when appropriate), friends, foster parents, caseworkers, and other professionals to make decisions involving child removal, change of placement, and reunification or other permanency plans. In the evaluation of Washington's program, outcomes for children in child welfare offices that had implemented FTDM were compared to outcomes for children served in offices that had not yet begun having meetings.

| Meta-Analysis of Program Effects |                     |             |   |       |     |   |         |
|----------------------------------|---------------------|-------------|---|-------|-----|---|---------|
| Outcomes measured                | No. of effect sizes | Treatment N | Adjusted effect size and standard error |       |     | Unadjusted effect size (random effects model) |         |
|                                  |                     |             | ES                                      | SE    | Age | ES  | p-value |
| Out-of-home placement            | 1                   | 32339       | -0.004                                  | 0.020 | 9   | -0.005  | 0.750   |

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## Citations Used in the Meta-Analysis

Miller, M. (2011). *Family Team Decision-making: Does it reduce racial disproportionality in Washington's child welfare system?* (Document No. 11-03-3901). Olympia: Washington State Institute for Public Policy.

# Fostering Healthy Futures

## Child Welfare

Literature review updated August 2017.

Program Description: Fostering Healthy Futures is an intensive mentoring program for children, ages 9 to 11, who were placed in foster care because of maltreatment within the previous year. Children are paired with mentors who meet with them two to four hours per week for 30 weeks. Children also attend weekly group meetings that focus on emotion recognition, perspective taking, problem solving, anger management, cultural identity, change and loss, healthy relationships, peer pressure, abuse prevention, and future orientation.

| Meta-Analysis of Program Effects |                     |             |   |       |     |   |         |
|----------------------------------|---------------------|-------------|---|-------|-----|---|---------|
| Outcomes measured                | No. of effect sizes | Treatment N | Adjusted effect size and standard error |       |     | Unadjusted effect size (random effects model) |         |
|                                  |                     |             | ES                                      | SE    | Age | ES  | p-value |
| Internalizing symptoms           | 1                   | 69          | -0.069                                  | 0.170 | 11  | -0.193  | 0.257   |
| Permanent placement              | 1                   | 56          | 0.129                                   | 0.232 | 11  | 0.358   | 0.130   |
| Placement stability              | 1                   | 56          | 0.094                                   | 0.191 | 11  | 0.262   | 0.172   |
| Post-traumatic stress            | 1                   | 74          | -0.113                                  | 0.168 | 11  | -0.314  | 0.063   |

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## Citations Used in the Meta-Analysis

- Taussig, H.N., Culhane, S.E., Garrido, E., & Knudtson, M.D. (2012). RCT of a mentoring and skills group program: placement and permanency outcomes for foster youth. *Pediatrics*, 130(1), 33-9.
- Taussig, H.N., & Culhane, S.E. (2010). Impact of a mentoring and skills group program on mental health outcomes for maltreated children in foster care. *Archives of Pediatrics & Adolescent Medicine*, 164(8),739-46.

# Functional Family Therapy-Child Welfare (FFT-CW)

## Child Welfare

Literature review updated September 2017.

Program Description: Functional Family Therapy-Child Welfare (FFT-CW) is a modification of FFT that has been used with youth involved in the criminal justice system. FFT-CW has two tracks, one for lower-risk families (FFT-LR) and another for higher-risk families (FFT-HR). The FFT-LR program is implemented in three distinct phases: Engagement/Motivation, Support/Monitor, and Generalization. The FFT-HR model, based on the original FFT, is more intensive and includes five phases. In the single study included here families received one or the other track, but it is unclear what percentage of the treatment group was assigned to either track. In the study, those in the comparison group received various other services.

| Meta-Analysis of Program Effects |                     |             |   |       |     |   |         |
|----------------------------------|---------------------|-------------|---|-------|-----|---|---------|
| Outcomes measured                | No. of effect sizes | Treatment N | Adjusted effect size and standard error |       |     | Unadjusted effect size (random effects model) |         |
|                                  |                     |             | ES                                      | SE    | Age | ES  | p-value |
| Child abuse and neglect          | 1                   | 1625        | 0.000                                   | 0.043 | 10  | 0.000   | 1.000   |
| Out-of-home placement            | 1                   | 1625        | 0.188                                   | 0.179 | 10  | 0.188   | 0.294   |

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## Citations Used in the Meta-Analysis

Turner, C.W., Robbins, M.S., Rowlands, S., & Weaver, L.R. (2017). Summary of comparison between FFT-CW® and usual care sample from Administration for Children's Services. *Child Abuse & Neglect*, 69, 85-95.

# Multisystemic Therapy (MST) for child abuse and neglect

## Child Welfare

Literature review updated August 2017.

Program Description: Multisystemic Therapy (MST) for child abuse and neglect is an intensive in-home program, which promotes the parent's ability to monitor and discipline their children and replace deviant peer relationships with pro-social friendships. In the child welfare setting, MST has been rigorously evaluated against enhanced outpatient treatment in one small study, for families referred to CPS for physical abuse.

| Meta-Analysis of Program Effects |                     |             |   |       |     |   |         |
|----------------------------------|---------------------|-------------|---|-------|-----|---|---------|
| Outcomes measured                | No. of effect sizes | Treatment N | Adjusted effect size and standard error |       |     | Unadjusted effect size (random effects model) |         |
|                                  |                     |             | ES                                      | SE    | Age | ES  | p-value |
| Child abuse and neglect          | 1                   | 44          | -0.228                                  | 0.437 | 15  | -0.633  | 0.230   |
| Out-of-home placement            | 1                   | 44          | -0.226                                  | 0.295 | 15  | -0.627  | 0.061   |

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## Citations Used in the Meta-Analysis

Swenson, C.C., Schaeffer, C., Henggeler, S.W., Faldowski, R., Saldana, L., & Mayhew, A.M. (2010). Multisystemic Therapy for child abuse and neglect: A randomized effectiveness trial. *Journal of Family Psychology* 24(4): 497-507.

# Project KEEP Child Welfare

Literature review updated August 2017.

Program Description: Project KEEP is a foster parent training and support program, delivered in 16 weekly group sessions. The primary focus is teaching foster parents ways to increase the use of positive reinforcements and consistent non-harsh discipline techniques, and teaching parents the importance of close monitoring child's whereabouts and peer associations.

| Meta-Analysis of Program Effects |                     |             |   |       |     |   |         |
|----------------------------------|---------------------|-------------|---|-------|-----|---|---------|
| Outcomes measured                | No. of effect sizes | Treatment N | Adjusted effect size and standard error |       |     | Unadjusted effect size (random effects model) |         |
|                                  |                     |             | ES                                      | SE    | Age | ES  | p-value |
| Permanent placement              | 1                   | 359         | 0.119                                   | 0.101 | 10  | 0.330   | 0.001   |

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## Citations Used in the Meta-Analysis

Price, J.M., Chamberlain, P., Landsverk, J., Reid, J.B., Leve, L.D., & Laurent, H. (2008). Effects of a foster parent training intervention on placement changes of children in foster care. *Child Maltreatment*, 13(1), 64-75.

# Structured Decision Making Risk Assessment Child Welfare

Literature review updated August 2017.

Program Description: The Structured Decision Making (SDM) model is a system of assessment tools used at various decision points in the child welfare system. Washington State's child welfare system has implemented the SDM risk assessment tool to classify families on their risk of further child maltreatment. This effect size is specific to Washington's implementation of the SDM risk assessment, comparing outcomes for children entering the system after SDM was implemented to children entering the system when the state was using a consensus-based risk assessment. The effect size should not be interpreted as a statement on the effectiveness of SDM as a whole or as implemented elsewhere.

| Meta-Analysis of Program Effects |                     |             |   |       |     |   |         |
|----------------------------------|---------------------|-------------|---|-------|-----|---|---------|
| Outcomes measured                | No. of effect sizes | Treatment N | Adjusted effect size and standard error |       |     | Unadjusted effect size (random effects model) |         |
|                                  |                     |             | ES                                      | SE    | Age | ES  | p-value |
| Out-of-home placement            | 1                   | 17986       | -0.006                                  | 0.015 | 9   | -0.006  | 0.692   |

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Miller, M. (2011). *Structured Decision-making risk assessment: Does it reduce racial disproportionality in Washington's child welfare system?* (Document No. 11-05-3901). Olympia: Washington State Institute for Public Policy.

# Locating family connections for children in foster care

## Child Welfare

Literature review updated August 2017.

Program Description: These programs are intensive efforts to find extended family or fictive kin for children in foster care. Typically, a designated worker attempts to identify and locate family members and to engage them in decision making for children in order to provide more options for legal and emotional permanency for children. Three of the four studies included in this analysis, utilized the Family Search and Engagement (also known as Family Finding) developed at Catholic Family Services in Tacoma. Program duration ranged from 2 to 5 months.

| Meta-Analysis of Program Effects |                     |             |   |       |     |   |         |
|----------------------------------|---------------------|-------------|---|-------|-----|---|---------|
| Outcomes measured                | No. of effect sizes | Treatment N | Adjusted effect size and standard error |       |     | Unadjusted effect size (random effects model) |         |
|                                  |                     |             | ES                                      | SE    | Age | ES  | p-value |
| Externalizing behavior symptoms  | 3                   | 467         | 0.038                                   | 0.093 | 14  | 0.091   | 0.330   |
| Internalizing symptoms           | 2                   | 331         | 0.032                                   | 0.107 | 13  | 0.032   | 0.768   |
| Permanent placement              | 3                   | 509         | -0.064                                  | 0.100 | 14  | -0.064  | 0.520   |
| Placement stability              | 2                   | 227         | 0.124                                   | 0.098 | 14  | 0.124   | 0.208   |

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## Citations Used in the Meta-Analysis

- Landsman, M.J., Boel-Studt, S., & Malone, K. (2014). Results from a family finding experiment. *Children and Youth Services Review, 36*, 62-69.
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## Washington State Institute for Public Policy

The Washington State Legislature created the Washington State Institute for Public Policy in 1983. A Board of Directors—representing the legislature, the governor, and public universities—governs WSIPP and guides the development of all activities. WSIPP's mission is to carry out practical research, at legislative direction, on issues of importance to Washington State.