



Mike Braun, Governor
Adam J. Krupp, Director

"Every child in Indiana thrives in a safe, loving, forever home."

If you suspect a child is being abused or neglected, call the Child Abuse & Neglect Hotline at 800-800-5556.

2026 DCS Regional Service Council Meeting

Quarter 1, March 05, 2026, at 8:30 a.m.

DCS Region 5

*DCS Regional Service Councils exist to address local child welfare services delivery and needs as well as prevention efforts to keep Indiana families and children safe. For more information, please go to: <https://www.in.gov/dcs/overview/regional-service-councils/>

Council Members Present

Barbara Bowling, R5 Regional Director/Council Chair
Michelle Adams, R5 Asst. Regional Director/Co-chair
Traci Eggleston, R5 Asst. Regional Director/Co-chair
Judge Bob Witham, Henry County
Tara Coates-Hunt, Washington Prosecutor's Office
Lauren Gray, Decatur Foster Parent
Wendy Hall, Jackson Foster Parent
Allison Lewis, Harrison Co. CASA Director
Angela Jordan, Wayne Local Office Director
Teresa Patrick, Dearborn/Ohio/Switzerland LOD
Elizabeth Beesley, Jennings Local Office Director
Mercedes Smith, Clark FCM Supervisor
Alyssa Spears, Bartholomew Family Case Manager
Allyson Gaffney, Scott Family Case Manager

Council Members Absent

Judge Justin Brown, Floyd County
Danielle Klingman, Franklin/Union FCM Supervisor
Shawna Streeval, Parent/Non-Voting Member

Others in Attendance

Jill Atteberry-Kelly, Firefly Community Partners
Michelle Ballard, PAKT LLC
Arynn Booth, IHBS Community Partners
Meredith Clipp-Rodriguez, CCYS
Mariss Curry, IHBS Community Partners
Joanna Crum, The Omni Family
Debbie Dailey, DCS Finance
Ann Davis, IARCA
Brian Davis, Childplace
Deanna Dodson, DCS Program Director
Shannon Emmett, DCS Recording Secretary
Kendra Fiorucci, Georgia Junior Republic
Laura Fleming-Balmer, CCYS
Kristi Glotzbach, Family Ark

Andrea Goodwin, Omnivisions
Maria Grinston, DCS Program Director
Chrystal Hardin, IHBS Community Partners
Kelli Hoelflinger, Flatrock School System
Dawn Huff, Indiana Youth Institute
Ginger Hunt-Goins, PAKT LLC
George Hurd, Community Health Network
Brianna Huttshell, Centerstone
Natalie Kassenbrock, IHBS Community Partners
Danelle Knoef, NYAP
Jenny McCarrell, Firefly Community Partners
Jon Macmurdo, DCS Services Coordinator
Faith Murphy, NYAP
Jason Nelson, DCS Services Coordinator



Indiana Department of Child Services | 302 W Washington Street, Indianapolis, IN 46204 | 317-234-KIDS
www.in.gov/DCS | Child Support Bureau Kidline: (800) 840-8757 | Child Abuse & Neglect Hotline: (800) 800-5556

Mission: We champion Indiana's future by protecting children and strengthening families with compassion and determination.

Vision: Every child in Indiana thrives in a safe, loving, forever home.

Purpose: Ignite hope. Cultivate joy.

Others in Attendance, Cont.

Matthew Oliver, Community Health Network
Stephanie Passantino, NYAP
Brittney Phillips, IHBS Community Partners
Aimee Rankin, InSource
Linda Reismiller, Firefly Community Partners
Karen Richie, SAFY
Holly Robinson, Infants in Bloom
Paris Scott, IHBS Community Partners
Maria Shingleton, Howard Health, LLC
Shannon Smith, George Junior Republic

Karen Sommer, IHBS Community Partners
Liz Stauth, Anthem
Jodee Stonebraker, Centerstone
Surbey, Peggy, World Wide Youth Development Project
Tracy Waible, Cummins Behavioral Health
James Wade, DCS R5 Chief Counsel
Tricia Wall, Youth Link
Brittany Webster, Floyd Local Office Director
Susan Weddle, Lifeline Youth

Meeting Minutes

- I. **Welcome and Introductions** Barbara Bowling, R5 Regional Director and Council Chair, called meeting to order and welcomed everyone. She outlined the purpose of Regional Service Councils, explaining the recent restructuring from last year's DCS AWAKEN, and introduced new council members.
- II. **DCS Financials Overview** Debbie Dailey, DCS Finance, gave a summary of the top spend report for R5 through February 2026. Report was broken down by service and included Probation spend.

The following areas were discussed as top spend services:

- a. Family Preservation Services - due to In-Home and Informal Adjustments
 - b. Placement Services – group home, residential, LCPAs/foster homes
 - c. Visit Supervision Services
 - d. Home-based Case Work - greatly increased across the state in last year
 - i. DCS looking closer at how service is being utilized
 - e. Intensive Foster Care Services – increasing since 2025
 - i. R5 has spent 2.8 million
 - f. Home-based Family Centered Therapy
 - g. Comprehensive Home-based Services
- III. **DCS Community Based Services** Jon Macmurdo, R5 DCS Services Coordinator, shared the new [DCS Services Coordinator Areas Map.pdf](#) with updated contact information.

The region recently held a DCS staff *Lunch and Learn* over Homebased Casework versus Homemakers services. Jon and Jason Nelson both felt training went well. Training reviewed services standards/best practice for making service referrals. They encouraged Family Case Managers to use the new Service Escalation Tool. This tool helps address services issues timely and also helps the FCM locate service providers.



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Jon reminded service providers to utilize the DCS Services Hub. Family Case Manager staff are also being encouraged to check availability within the Service Hub and contact agencies to discuss if the referral is appropriate to meet the need before making it.

DCS Services Coordinators are continuing to review monthly Family Preservation provider reports. Providers should have access to their dashboards to get this data and information as well. DCS Services Coordinators are continuing to review home-based casework referrals and identify if utilizing the service in the right way, or if there are other, more appropriate options.

IV. Service Gaps Jon Macmurdo highlighted the following service gaps:

- a. Home-based therapy, especially with Family Preservation. When making family preservation referrals, having to send family to community mental health provider or make a separate referral
- b. Therapeutic Visitation
- c. Child hearsay evaluations – very limited providers. Jon Macmurdo is aware of a non-contracted provider he can forward contact information for upon request

V. Community Partners Reports – Firefly Jenny McCarroll, Linda Reismiller

Shared the Firefly Community Partners presentation for Q4 through December 2025. Presentation included: breakdown of the number of referrals, referral source, and service type, highlight of community & county initiatives, March 2026 event calendar, and a family success story.

- a. Total Referrals in Q4 – 346
 - i. Less than 50% coming from DCS – highlights successful community outreach
- b. Concrete Supports \$21,157.70
- c. Service Area L – 240 referrals / \$14,954.61
- d. Wayne County Family Resource Center
 - i. 3,232 total daily visitors
 - ii. 653 Family Fun Event attendees
- e. Service Area N – 106 referrals / \$6,203.09
- f. Subcontractors with Firefly
 - i. Served just over 10,581 people

VI. Prevention Dollars – Firefly Jill Atteberry Kelly

Last year, Firefly allocated funds to agencies to be spent between July 2025 and June 2026. As of March 2026, there are four agencies that have not and will not be spending this money. Firefly needs to reallocate this money so they can continue to use for concrete supports, provider fairs, and safety items.

- a. \$5,325 – Family Services in Bartholomew County
- b. \$5,780 – Anchor House in Jackson County
- c. \$14,000 – Centerstone in Jennings County
- d. \$2,880 – Su CASA

Elizabeth Beesley made a motion, seconded by Teresa Patrick, to return funds back to Firefly to use as concrete funds. A council vote was held, 10 in favor, 0 against, motion carried.



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VII. Community Partners Reports - Ireland Home Based Services Aryn Booth, Paris Scott, and Chrystal Hardin

Shared IHBS Community Partners presentation July 2025 through December 2025. Presentation included: breakdown of the number of referrals, referral source, and service type, highlight of past and upcoming community & county initiatives, and family success stories.

- a. 550 Total referrals July – December 2025
- b. 285 referrals in Q4
- c. 54 active cases
- d. Service Area O – 105 referrals in Q4, 187 current fiscal year
 - i. Target spend 50%, with actual spend 55%
- e. Service Area R – 180 referrals in Q4, 364 current fiscal year
 - i. Target spend 50%, with actual spend 56.5%
- f. Clark County Family Resource Center
 - i. 121 special event attendees in Q4
 - ii. Partnered with Anthem, CHOICES, Lifespring, and Wellstone
 - iii. Spanish translator once a month
- g. Subcontractors
 - i. \$167,090.04 allocated in Service Area R
 - ii. None in Service Area O

VIII. Prevention Dollars Aryn Booth

All subcontractors with Ireland Home Based Services are expected to expend their allocated prevention dollars through June 2026. No council vote necessary at this time.

IX. Council Member Comments

None

X. Public Announcements and Questions

The next R5 Regional Services Council Meeting will be held on Thursday, June 4th at 8:30 a.m.

XI. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by Teresa Patrick, seconded by Judge Bob Witham. All in favor, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:18 a.m.



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COMMUNITY PARTNERS FOR CHILD SAFETY RSC REPORT

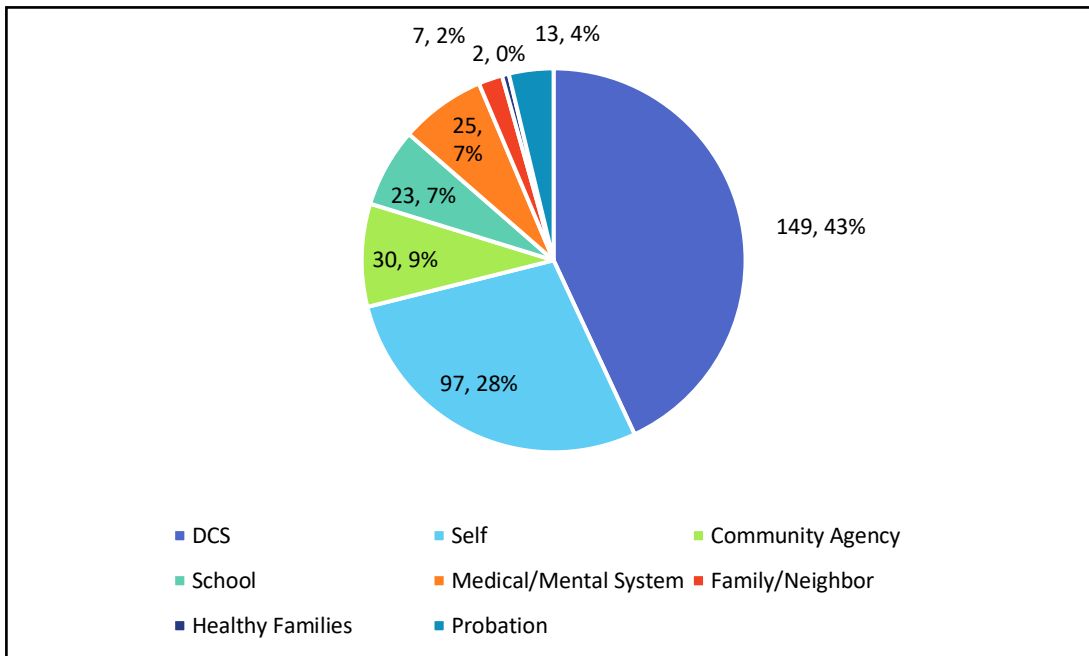
Region 5



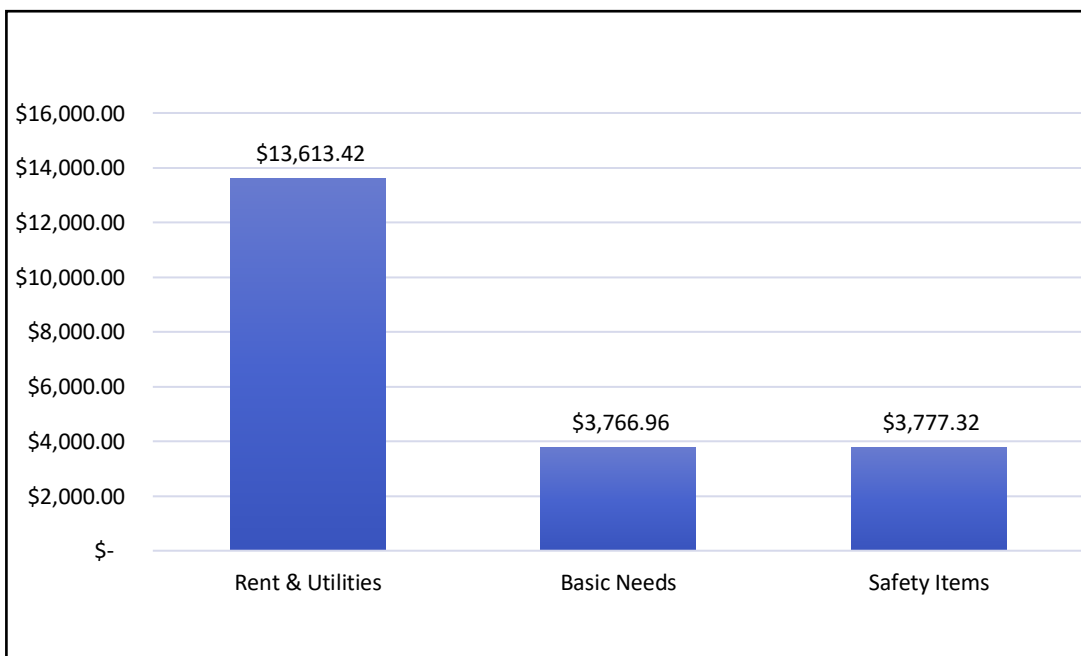
**Serving Fayette, Franklin, Union, Wayne,
Rush, Henry, Bartholomew, Jackson, and
Jennings Counties**

REGIONAL SUMMARY

Total Referrals: 346

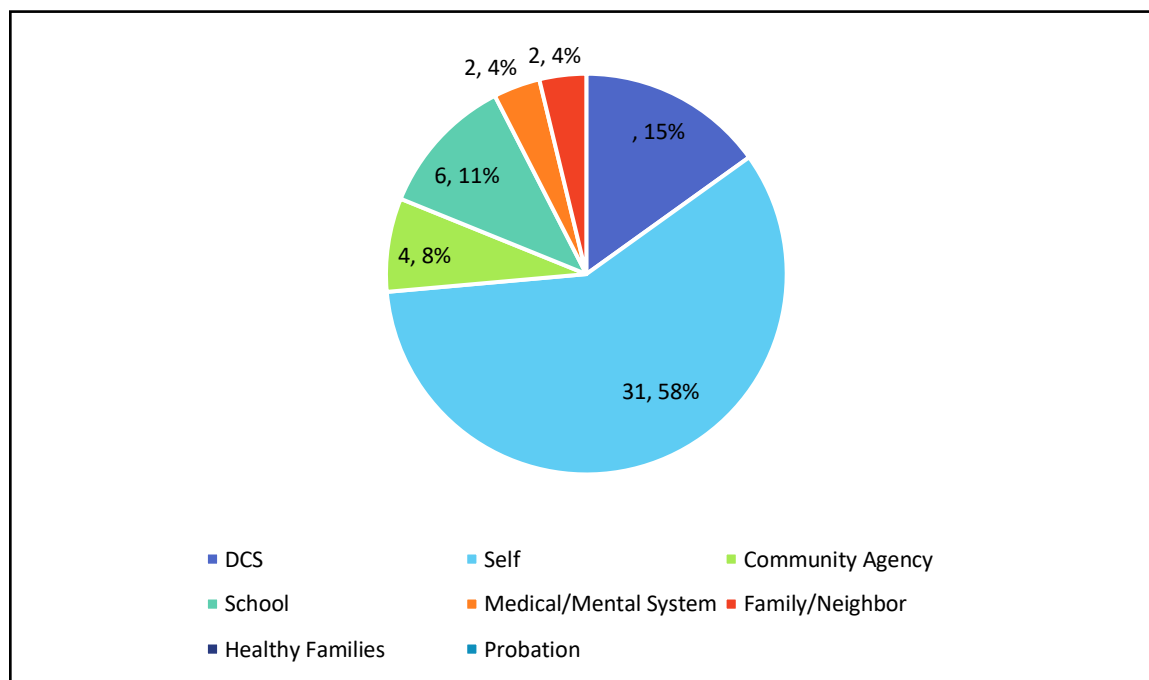


Concrete Supports: \$21,157.70



FAYETTE COUNTY

Families Served: 53



Liaison

Rhonda Pflum

Concrete Supports

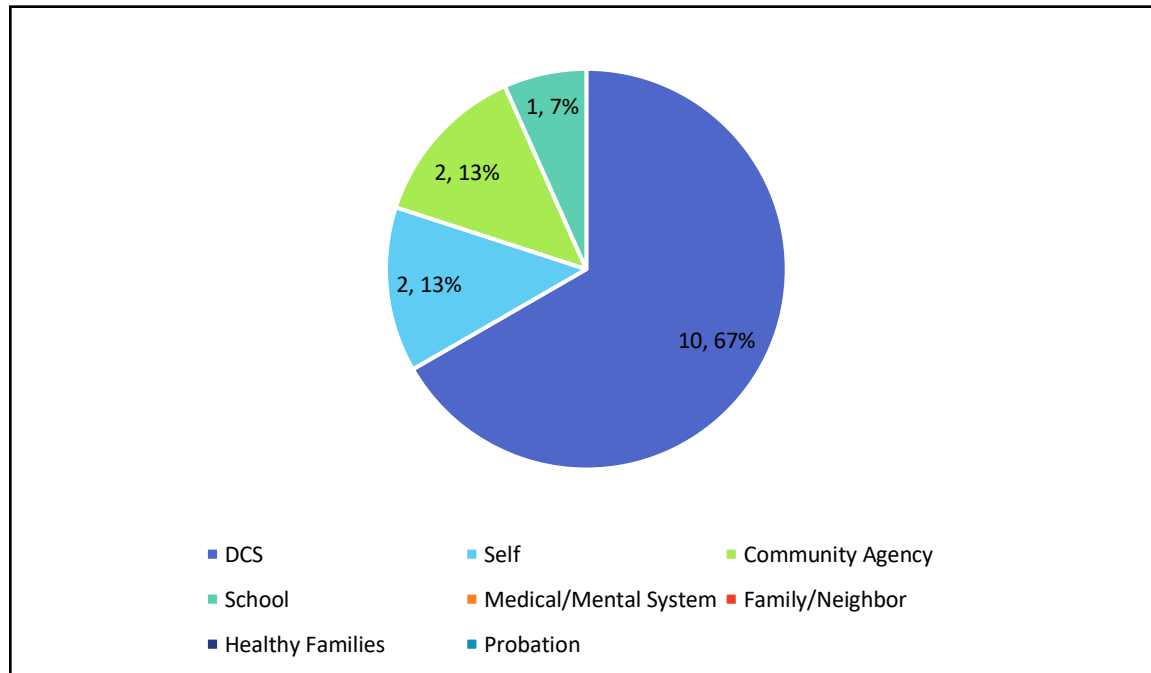
Total = \$2,155.94

Community Meetings, Outreach, and Events

Safe Sleep classes offered monthly at Little Spartans Preschool.

FRANKLIN COUNTY

Families Served: 15



Liaison

Maggie Flint

Concrete Supports

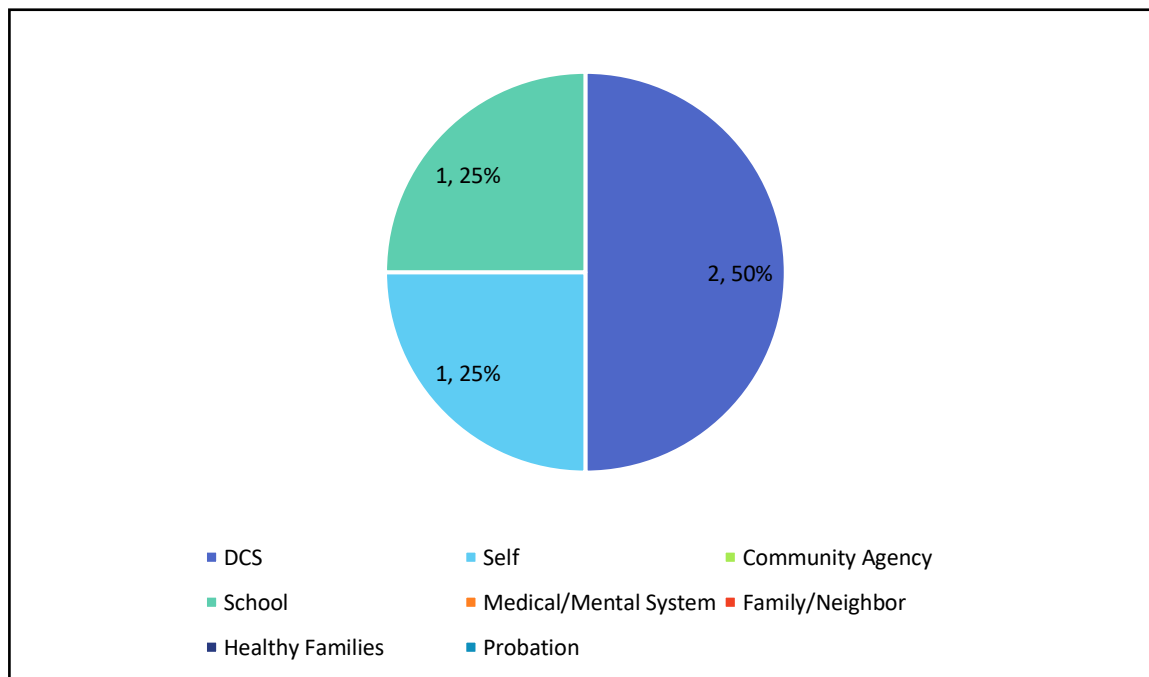
\$671

Community Meetings, Outreach, and Events

Safe Sleep/Car Seat education offered at Laurel and Brookville libraries.

U N I O N C O U N T Y

Families Served: 4



Liaison

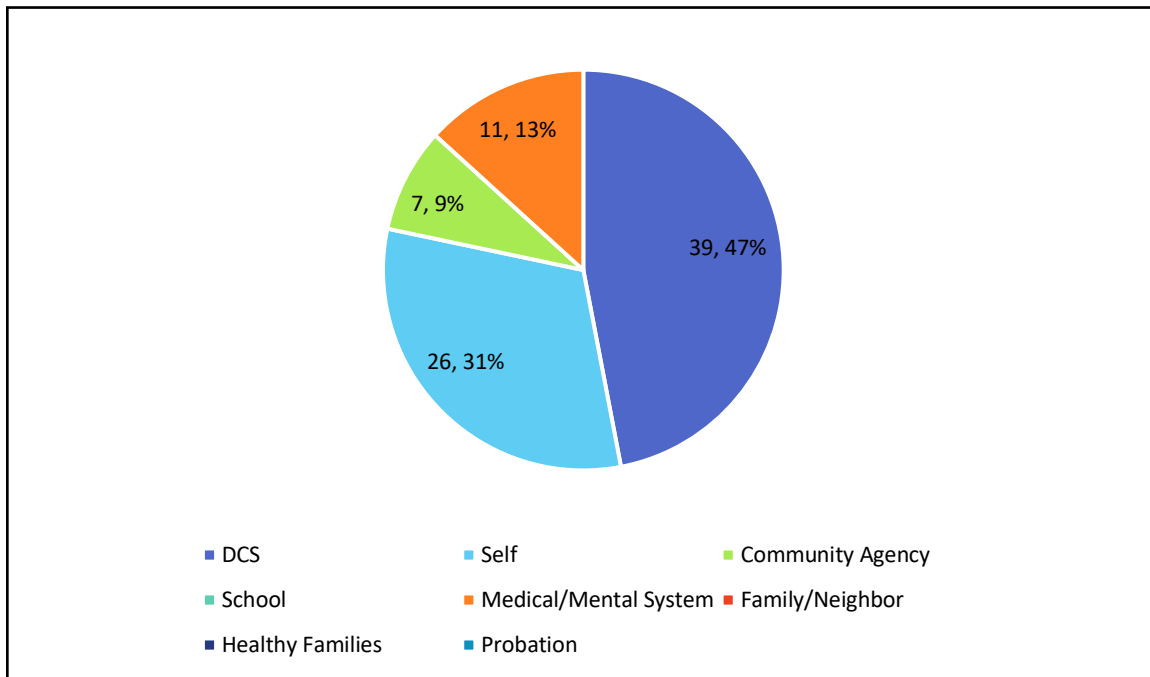
Rhonda Pflum

Community Meetings, Outreach, and Events

Co-hosted Community Baby Shower with Union County Health Department with 25 attendees.

WAYNE COUNTY

Families Served: 83



Liaison

Jade Tompkins

Concrete Supports

\$4,022.06

Family Resource Center

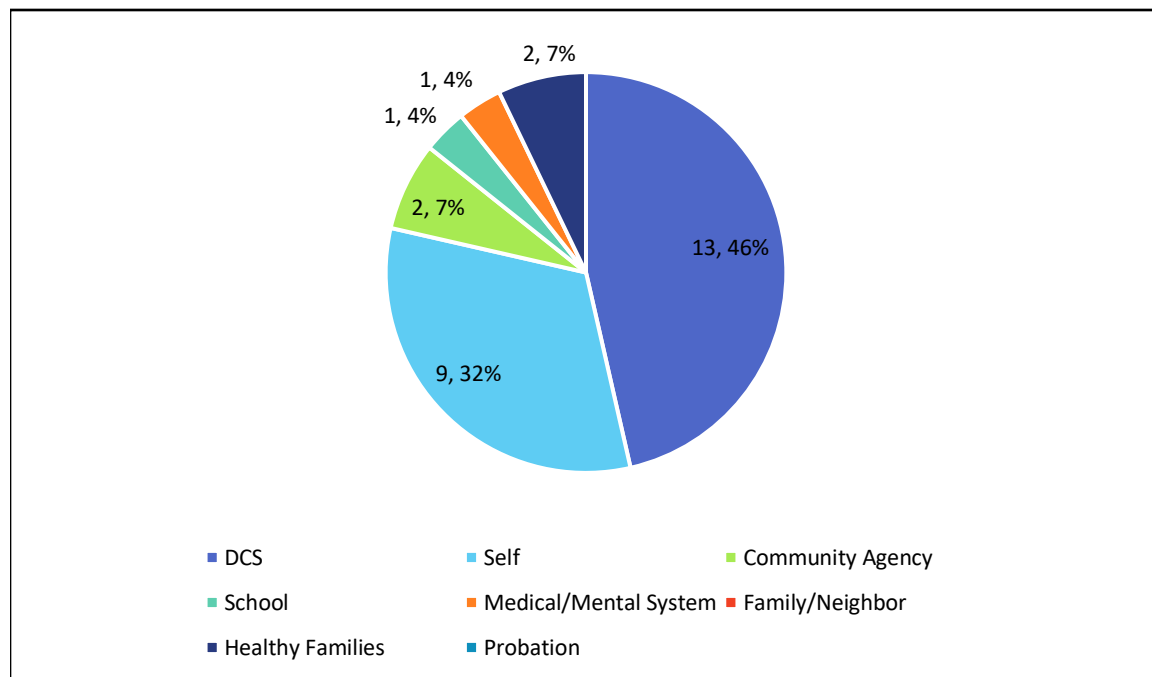
333 Daily Visitors

653 Participants at Family Fun Events

3,190 Families touched through Outreach events

R U S H C O U N T Y

Families Served: 28



Liaison

Maggie Flint

Concrete Supports

\$2,489.20

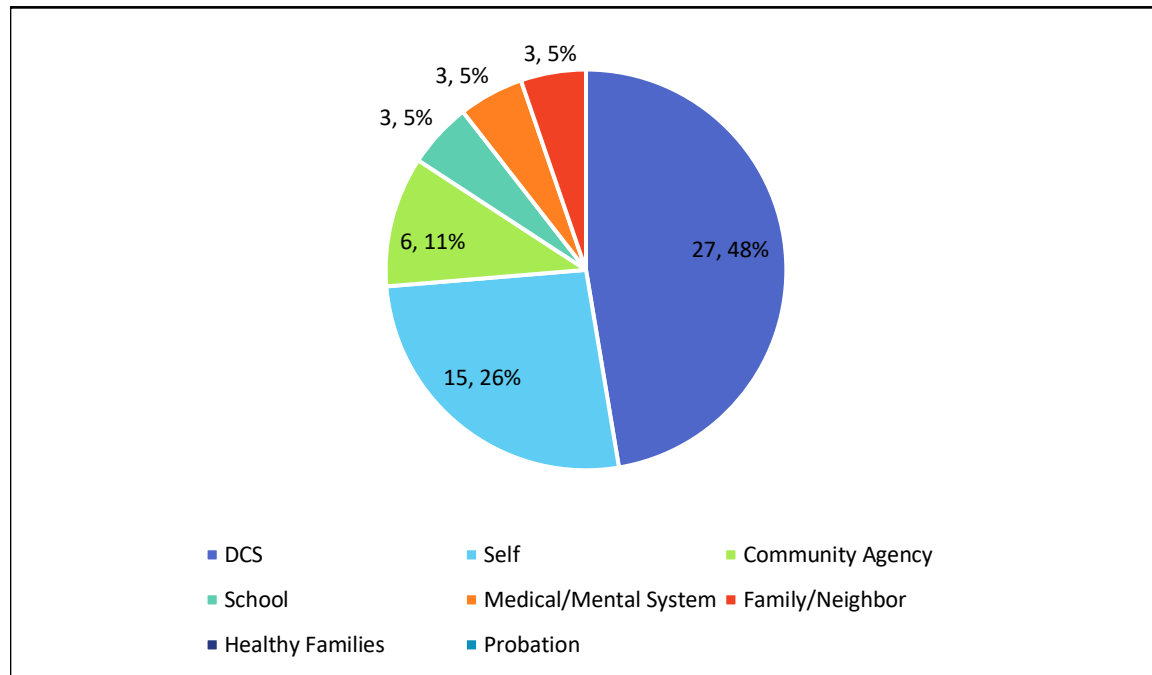
Community Meetings, Outreach, and Events

Offering monthly safe sleep classes at the Love Community Center.

Community Baby Shower in collaboration with LCC, Health Dept., First 5 & MD Wise with 60 attendees.

HENRY COUNTY

Families Served: 57



Liaison

Carlie Dale

Concrete Supports

\$671

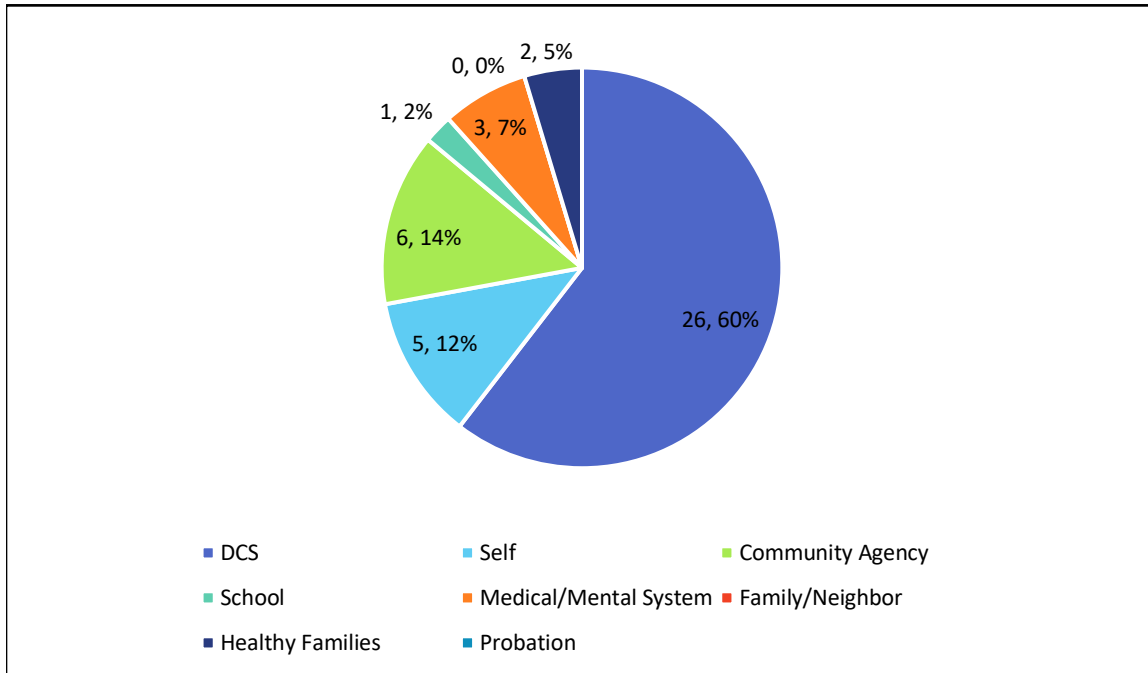
Community Meetings, Outreach, and Events

Safe Sleep/Car Seat classes offered bi-weekly in partnership with local WIC office.

Member of monthly Alliance 4 Youth meetings.

BARTHOLOMEW COUNTY

Families Served: 37



Liaison

Bertha Olmeda

Concrete Supports

\$1,463.55

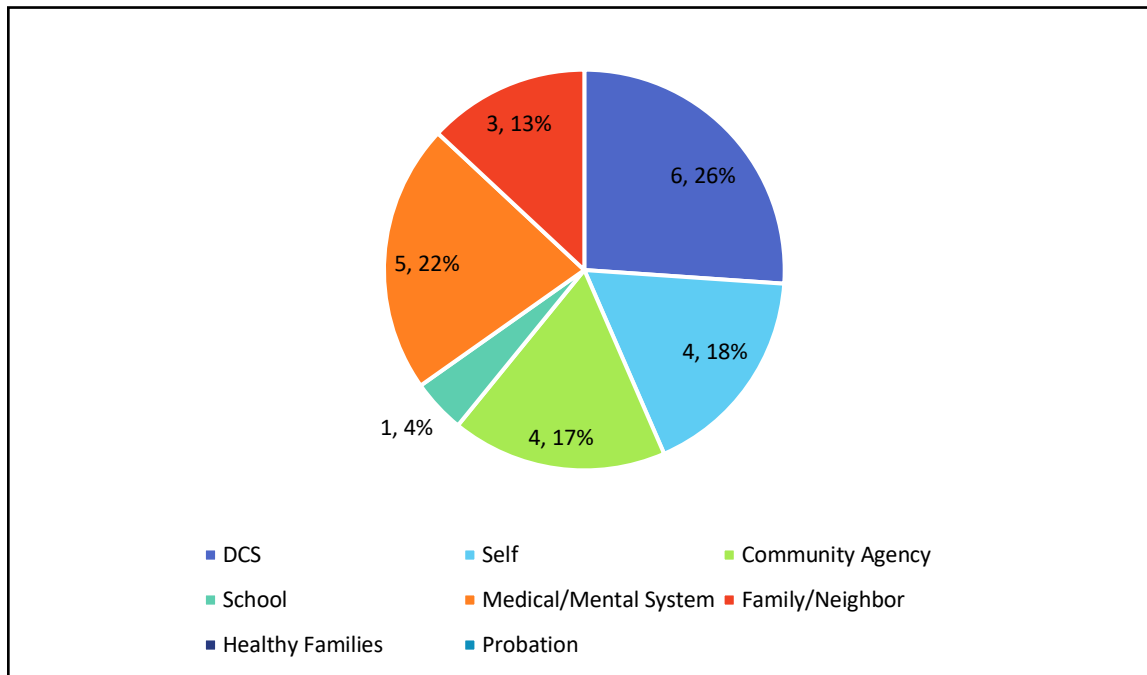
Community Meetings, Outreach, and Events

Partnered with Foundation for Youth and the Boys & Girls Club to host Breakfast with Santa. There were over 300 attendees.

Subcontractors: Turning Point, Su Casa, Flat Rock-Hawcreek Schools

JACKSON COUNTY

Families Served: 20



Liaison

Kayla Kimball

Concrete Supports

\$2,090.93

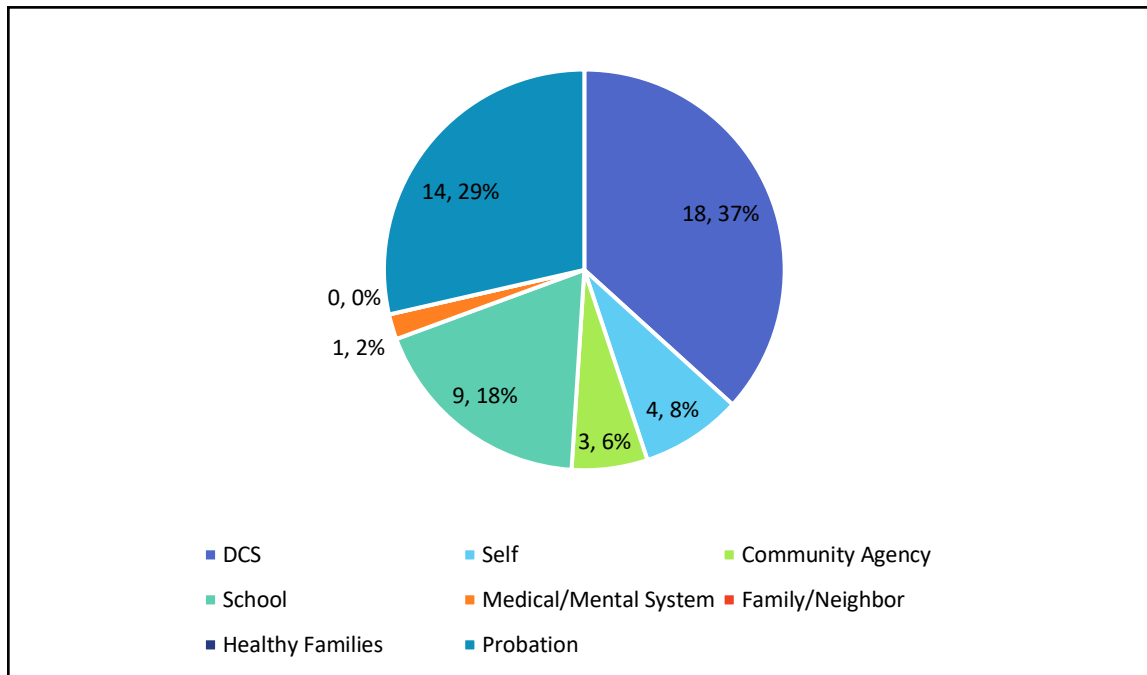
Community Meetings, Outreach, and Events

Firefly chartered the Jackson County Prevent Child Abuse Council and has reengaged community members to have a presence in the community.

Subcontractors: Turning Point, Boys & Girls Club

JENNINGS COUNTY

Families Served: 49



Liaison

Kayla Kimball

Concrete Supports

\$1,127.16

Community Meetings, Outreach, and Events

Continuing to serve families through the Attend & Engage Program in partnership with JCSC, Probation, and DCS.

Subcontractors: Turning Point, Boys & Girls Club



**Ireland Home Based Services
Community Partner for Child Safety
Service Area O – Former Region 15
March 2026**

As of January 1, 2026, a total of 105 referrals had been received since October 1, 2025. A home-based caseworker (HBCW) was assigned to all 105 cases.

There are 25 levels currently being serviced through Community Partners for Child Safety to assist 25 families.

Service Area O received a total of 33 referrals during the month of October. Of these referrals, 8 cases came from Dearborn County, 7 from Decatur County, 11 from Jefferson County, 0 from Ohio County, 6 from Ripley County, and 1 from Switzerland County.

Service Area O received a total of 30 referrals during the month of November. Of these referrals, 8 cases came from Dearborn County, 8 from Decatur County, 6 from Jefferson County, 3 from Ohio County, 7 from Ripley County, and 0 from Switzerland County.

Service Area O received a total of 42 referrals during the month of December. Of these referrals, 13 cases came from Dearborn County, 8 from Decatur County, 16 from Jefferson County, 1 from Ohio County, 3 from Ripley County, and 1 from Switzerland County.

October 2025

County	Referrals	Referral Source
Dearborn	8	DCS (2) Other (4) Self (2)
Decatur	7	DCS (5) Self (2)
Jefferson	11	DCS (5) Other (4) School (1) Self (1)
Ohio	0	
Ripley	6	DCS (3) Other (1) School (2)
Switzerland	1	DCS (1)
Total	33	

November 2025

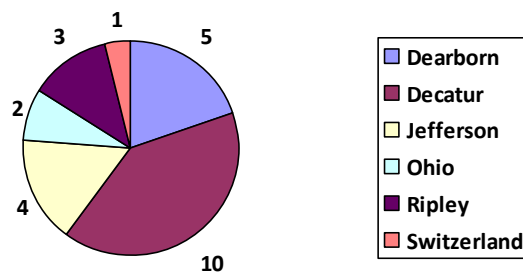
County	Referrals	Referral Source
Dearborn	8	DCS (5) Other (1) Self (2)
Decatur	6	DCS (4) Other (1) School (1)
Jefferson	6	DCS (3) Other (3)
Ohio	3	DCS (2) Self (1)
Ripley	7	DCS (2) Other (3) Self (2)
Switzerland	0	
Total	30	

December 2025

County	Referrals	Referral Source
Dearborn	13	DCS (4) Other (6) Self (3)
Decatur	8	DCS (6) Other (1) Self (1)
Jefferson	16	DCS (7) Other (8) Self (1)
Ohio	1	DCS (1)
Ripley	3	DCS (1) Other (1) Self (1)
Switzerland	1	DCS (1)
Total	42	

Current Open Referrals

County	Referrals	Percentages (%)	Service Level
Dearborn	5	20%	HBCW (5)
Decatur	10	40%	HBCW (10)
Jefferson	4	16%	HBCW (4)
Ohio	2	8%	HBCW (2)
Ripley	3	12%	HBCW (3)
Switzerland	1	4%	HBCW (1)
Total	25	100%	

**Recent Success Story:**

The family was referred by Department of Child Services. The family consisted of a mother, stepfather and three children. The referral mentioned a need for helping deal with one of the children's defiant behaviors. After meeting with the family, it was determined that the family was hoping to find a therapist and get education on better communication within the family. The IHBS worker utilized the Strengthening Family lessons to educate the family on better communication skills, appropriate discipline practices and de-escalation techniques. They were also provided a resource guide with mental health options, and the IHBS worker assisted the family in calling their insurance company to obtain a list of local therapists that accept their insurance. At the time of successful closure, the family felt they were in a much better place to communicate and resolve conflict more peacefully.

Ireland Home Based Services, LLC
Community Partners for Child Safety – Service Area O (Former Region 15)
Total Budget: \$486,932.56

Month	Service Delivery	Flex Funds	Total	Budget Remaining	% of budget used	Target %
Jul-25	\$37,545.27	\$1,491.13	\$39,036.40		8.5%	8.0%
Aug-25	\$39,224.77	\$95.21	\$39,319.98		17.1%	17.0%
Sep-25	\$33,164.18	\$2,244.63	\$35,408.81		24.9%	25.0%
Oct-25	\$50,379.76	\$869.52	\$51,249.28		36.1%	33.0%
Nov-25	\$39,528.16	\$0.00	\$39,528.16		44.8%	42.0%
Dec-25	\$45,928.88	\$1,039.10	\$46,967.98		55%	50.0%
Jan-26				\$34,236.99		58.0%
Feb-26						66.0%
Mar-26						74.0%
Apr-26						83.0%
May-26						91.0%
Jun-26						100.0%
Total	\$245,771.02	\$5,739.59	\$251,510.61	\$ 205,421.95		

Budget is updated as of 2/1/2026.



Service Area O – Former Region 15

Referrals Received 2025-2026

	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June	Total
Dearborn	7	3	12	8	8	13	12						63
Decatur	4	10	5	7	6	8	6						46
Jefferson	7	3	8	11	6	16	9						60
Ohio	2	0	0	0	3	1	0						6
Ripley	4	9	4	6	7	3	3						36
Switzerland	2	0	2	1	0	1	0						6
Total	26	25	31	33	30	42	30						217



**Ireland Home Based Services
Community Partner for Child Safety
Service Area R – Former Region 18
March 2026**

As of January 1, 2026, a total of 180 referrals had been received since October 1, 2025. A home-based caseworker (HBCW) was assigned to all 180 cases.

There are 29 levels currently being serviced through Community Partners for Child Safety to assist 29 families.

Service Area R received a total of 58 referrals during the month of October. Of these referrals, 19 cases came from Clark County, 27 from Floyd County, 3 from Harrison County, 5 from Scott County, and 4 from Washington County.

Service Area R received a total of 63 referrals during the month of November. Of these referrals, 19 cases came from Clark County, 28 from Floyd County, 6 from Harrison County, 6 from Scott County, and 4 from Washington County.

Service Area R received a total of 59 referrals during the month of December. Of these referrals, 31 cases came from Clark County, 17 from Floyd County, 2 from Harrison County, 8 from Scott County, and 1 from Washington County.

October 2025

County	Referrals	Referral Source
Clark	19	DCS (13) Other (2) School (1) Self (3)
Floyd	27	DCS (14) Other (1) School (9) Self (3)
Harrison	3	DCS (2) Self (1)
Scott	5	DCS (2) Self (3)
Washington	4	DCS (2) School (2)
Total	58	

November 2025

County	Referrals	Referral Source
Clark	19	DCS (15) Other (1) Self (3)
Floyd	28	DCS (15) Other (2) School (5) Self (6)
Harrison	6	DCS (2) Other (1) School (2) Self (1)
Scott	6	DCS (4) Self (2)
Washington	4	Other (1) School (2) Self (1)
Total	63	

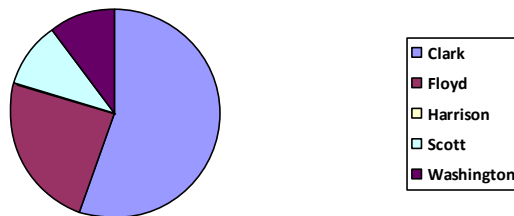
December 2025

County	Referrals	Referral Source
Clark	31	DCS (23) Other (1) Self (7)
Floyd	17	DCS (12) School (3) Self (2)
Harrison	2	Other (1) School (1)
Scott	8	DCS (5) Self (3)
Washington	1	DCS (1)
Total	59	

Current Open Referrals

County	Referrals	Percentages (%)	Service Level
Clark	16	56%	HBCW (16)
Floyd	7	24%	HBCW (7)
Harrison	0	0%	HBCW (0)
Scott	3	10%	HBCW (3)
Washington	3	10%	HBCW (3)
Total	29	100%	

Current Open Referrals



Success Story

The family self-referred for Community Partners services after doing an online search and finding IHBS services listed. They listed on their referral that they needed assistance managing the teen's behaviors and setting up therapy services; it mentioned the child was leaving the home without permission and turning off the phone so the parents couldn't reach him. The family consisted of two parents and a teenaged child. Upon meeting with the family, it was determined the child was not adhering to family rules, arguing with the parents and being sent home from school often due to behaviors. The IHBS worker was able to help the family collaborate with the school counselor to ensure the child was receiving any needed support at school. The IHBS worker worked closely with the child and with the family as a whole to help work on behavior modification, communication and planning for the future with the child; the worker also assisted the family in mediating some of their issues and facilitating appropriate direct communication between the family members. By the end of services, the family was getting along and respecting one another and the child was coming home by 8PM every night. After the IHBS worker explored the benefits of therapy with the family, they decided to also set up an appointment for therapy before the case closed successfully.

Ireland Home Based Services, LLC**Community Partners for Child Safety – Service Area R (Former Region 18)****Total Budget: \$607,021.33**

Month	Service Delivery	Flex Funds	Total	Budget Remaining	% of budget used	Target %
Jul-25	\$58,676.52	\$152.00	\$58,828.52		9.7%	8.0%
Aug-25	\$66,052.03	\$695.58	\$66,747.61		20.7%	17.0%
Sep-25	\$49,125.19	\$1,480.51	\$50,605.70		29%	25.0%
Oct-25	\$69,963.42	\$865.90	\$64,829.32		39.7%	33.0%
Nov-25	\$48,598.45	\$600.00	\$49,198.45		48.8%	42.0%
Dec-25	\$46,007.64	\$575.45	\$46,583.09		56.5%	50.0%
Jan-26				\$44,038.10		58.0%
Feb-26						66.0%
Mar-26						74.0%
Apr-26						83.0%
May-26						91.0%
Jun-26						100.0%
Total	\$338,423.25	\$4,369.44	\$342,792.69	\$ 264,228.64		

Updated 2/1/2026.



Service Area R – Former Region 18

Referrals Received 2025-2026

	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June	Total
Clark	23	20	27	19	19	31	32						171
Floyd	22	28	27	27	28	17	19						168
Harrison	4	1	3	3	6	2	1						20
Scott	5	4	10	5	6	8	6						44
Washington	5	1	4	4	4	1	3						22
Total:	59	54	71	58	63	59	61						425