

Department Name	Department for Children, Youth and Families
Account(s)	2960, 4046, 4059, 6071, 6110, 6119, 6120, 7310

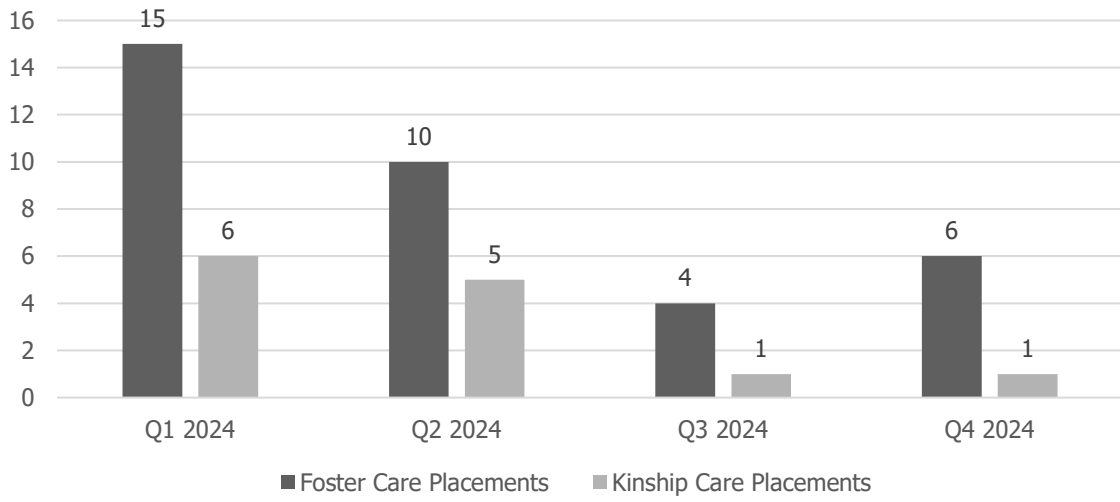
Department Function
DCYF is unique within New York State, in that services for children from other County departments, such as Health, Mental Health and Social Services, are consolidated into an independent agency that focuses on integrated services, and strengthening and supporting families. The following Divisions comprise DCYF: Children Services (Child Welfare), Children’s Mental Health Clinic and Case Management, Division of Special Needs, Youth Bureau, Administrative Services and Staff Development.

Current Year Highlights
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On June 24, 2024 DCYF implemented Family Assessment Response (FAR) into our CPS case practice. Approximately 50% of all CPS reports are tracked to Family Assessment Response. • The Homefinding Unit is actively engaged in foster home recruitment and retention efforts • DCYF engaged in an initiative to improve case practice when working with families affected by domestic violence. All DCYF staff along with community stakeholders including Equinox, Prevention Agencies, and Colonie Police Department participated in a 4 day Safe and Together training that focuses on partnering with the non-offending parent to create safety for the child while also working directly with the offending parent on the behaviors that impact the safety of the child. • In the fall of 2024 DCYF partnered with Albany County Probation to create a pre-diversion pilot program. The pilot program focuses on youth ages 11-13 years in the Albany City School district experiencing truancy issues. The pre-diversion program is intended to engage the family and work with the family dynamics that are impacting the youth’s school attendance. This program started seeing success in the Spring 2025 including one youth being awarded most improved student in the youth recognition awards. • Single Point of Entry (SPOE) served 500 women and infants since January 2025. • In 2024, EI received 495 referrals, the Evaluation team conducted 386 evaluations. • Implemented EI-Hub, software program, in the Early Intervention Program. • 440 Families (1126 children) were served through the Adopt-A-Family holiday program this year, which was our largest year of families served to date. • Healthy Families program conducted 2,745 home visits for contract year 7/24-6/25. • In 2024, Health Home Care Management served 114 children through Children’s Mental Health services. • Development of a youth advisory board through a partnership with 4th Family, a grass roots community organization. • Implements worker wellness programming through Yoga classes and FISH training.

Next Year Projects
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expand membership and role of our Juvenile Justice youth advisory board with 4th Family. • Increase foster home capacity to approximately 90 certified foster homes. Increasing capacity allows for more intentional matching between the foster parent and youth. • Hire a Juvenile Justice Coordinator to build connections youth involved in the juvenile justice system and the community. Monitor detention placement and the unique needs of this population. • Continue to participate in tabling events to educate the community on programs and services available through the Department for residents of Albany County. • Continued recruitment and retention of staff via our staff development and divisional directors. • Expand upon the current worker wellness programming to continue to enhance resilience and promote mind and body practices. • Improve case practice in child welfare to reduce caseload sizes and meet timely safety assessments.

Link to Website	www.albanyKids.com
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Albany County Department of Children, Youth, and Families
 Youth Placement Statistics for 2024



Albany County Department of Children, Youth, and Families
 Family Engagement Statistics for 2024

