

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Department: Social Services

HB Section(s): 11.325

Program Name: Foster Care Outdoor Program

Program is found in the following core budget(s): Foster Care Outdoor Program

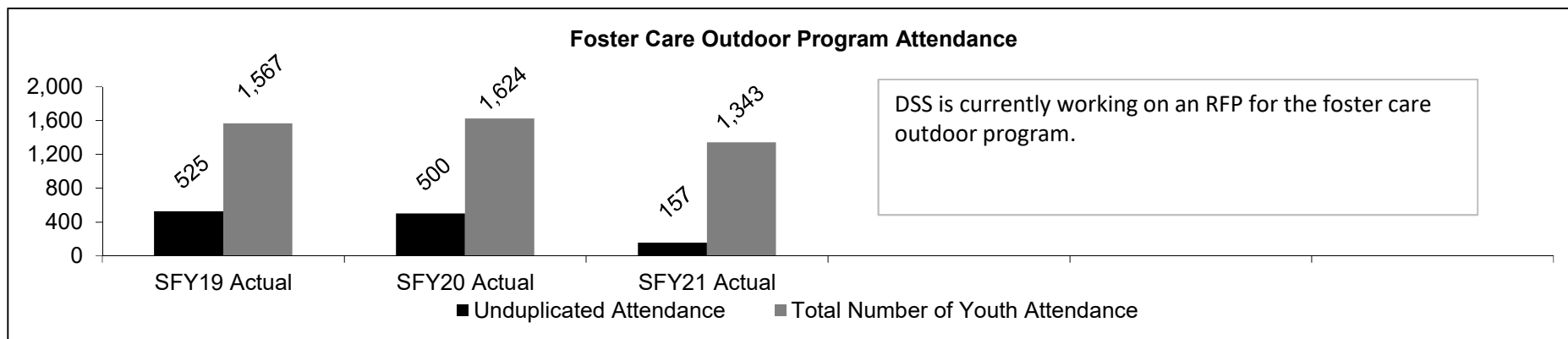
1a. What strategic priority does this program address?

Safety and wellbeing for foster youth

1b. What does this program do?

The Children's Division (CD) contracts to fund placement costs for a residential licensed or accredited "Outdoor Learning" program for the treatment of foster children. The outdoor program is designed to offer therapeutic learning opportunities and rehabilitative outcomes for youth in foster care through backpacking trips; adventure activities such as climbing and caving; wilderness trips; low and high ropes challenge courses; primitive skills; and camping. Adventure activities are designed to be a catalyst for inspiring change in character and integrity in the children served. In a relatively short period, children in these programs experience perspective changes and gain increased efficacy, vision, and hope. Youth are placed in situations where communication, trust, and focus among campers must be attained to meet the therapeutic needs of each person, as well as the group. Participants who are involved increase their skills in areas of confidence, communication, coping, and conflict management. They are also able to improve peer relationships.

2a. Provide an activity measure(s) for the program.



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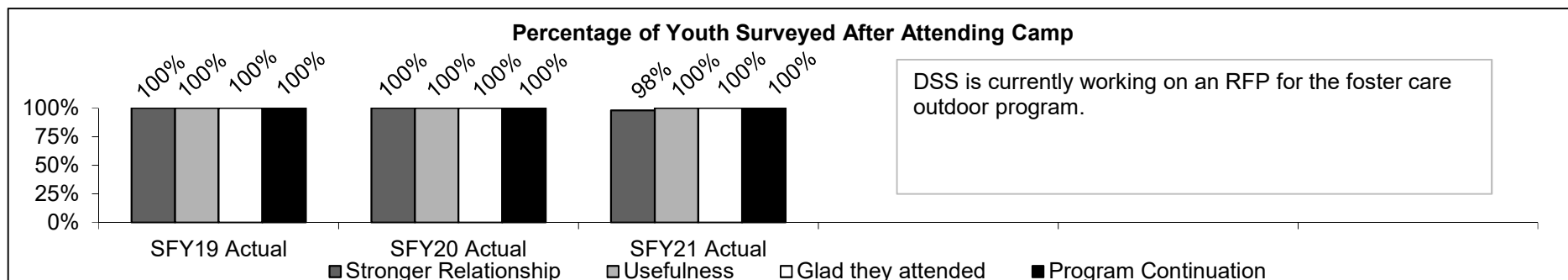
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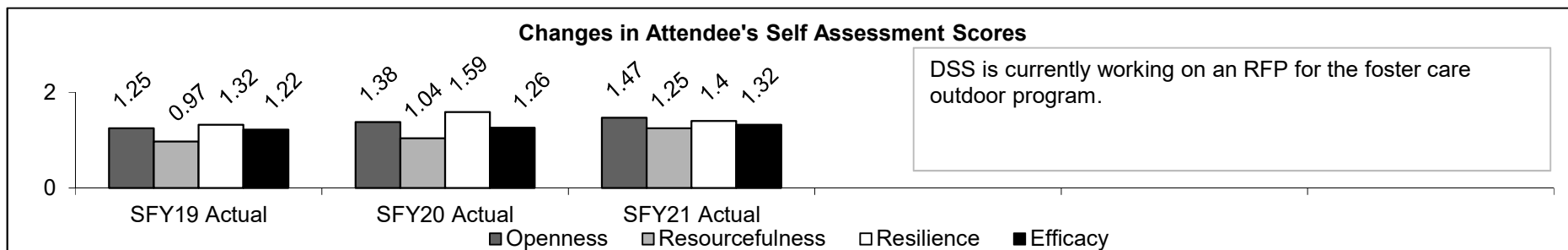
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2b. Provide a measure(s) of the program's quality.



2c. Provide a measure(s) of the program's impact.



Measure is based on overall change of each youth's pre-assessment and post-assessment. The instrument used consists of nine (9) Likert Scale questions. The Likert scale's range is from 0 - 10.

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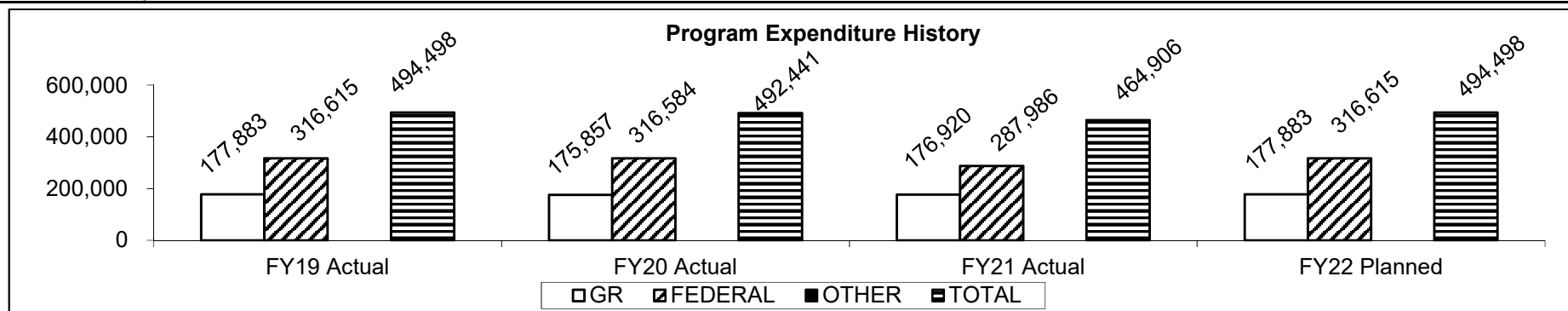
2d. Provide a measure(s) of the program's efficiency.

2017 - All Camp applications were made available and completed online to minimize effort needed by workers/parents.

2018 - Streamlined the approval process for campers to be accepted into camp, decreasing the number of hours CD workers spent on this task. Application was also refined for better delivery of information related to youth.

2019/2020 - Completed the process of feasibility studies for additional housing to increase the number of campers attending the program.

3. Provide actual expenditures for the prior three fiscal years and planned expenditures for the current fiscal year. (Note: Amounts do not include fringe benefit costs.)



Planned FY 2022 expenditures are net of reverted and reserves.

Planned FY2022 expenditures are pending a new foster care outdoor program contract being awarded this fiscal year.

4. What are the sources of the "Other" funds?

N/A

5. What is the authorization for this program, i.e., federal or state statute, etc.? (Include the federal program number, if applicable.)

HB 2011 - Appropriations for DSS

6. Are there federal matching requirements? If yes, please explain.

Expenditures on behalf of eligible IV-E children and youth are reimbursable at the IV-E program rate.

7. Is this a federally mandated program? If yes, please explain.

No.