

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Department: Social Services

HB Section(s): 11.370

Program Name: Transitional Living

Program is found in the following core budget(s): Transitional Living

1a. What strategic priority does this program address?

Safety and wellbeing for foster youth while transitioning to economic stability.

1b. What does this program do?

The purpose of the Children's Division Transitional Living Program (TLP) is to facilitate youth moving from structured family or residential settings to adult independence in group homes, apartments, or with advocates. This program is available for youth ages 16 and over, who are moving from a structured family or residential setting and whose permanency plan is independence, or for youth who have re-entered care. The placement is focused on the youth receiving life skills teaching designed to prepare the youth for independence. Placement types in TLP include group homes and single/scattered-site apartments, and the Transitional Living Advocate program. Entry into TLP must be planned by the youth's Family Support Team and authorized by the Children's Division.

Desired outcomes include increasing the number of youth who:

- Have resources to meet their living expenses
- Have a safe and stable place to live
- Are successfully working toward completion of academic/vocational goals
- Have positive personal relationships with adults in the community
- Are avoiding high-risk behaviors
- Are able to access needed physical and mental health services
- Have or can obtain essential documents

Transitional Living Group Home and Single/Scattered Site Apartments

The Transitional Living Program is appropriate for older youth who require guidance, coaching, and mentoring in a safe and supervised environment to learn independent living skills in a community setting. Desired outcomes include education, employment, self-sufficiency, and community involvement.

Transitional Living Advocacy Program (TLA)

The Transitional Living Advocate (TLA) program provides a safe and familiar setting for youth to live and continue life skills training. Youth in this setting receive encouragement and guidance with regard to employment, education, and/or training to prepare for a successful transition from Children's Division custody. The advocate for the youth must be at least age 21, maybe married or single, and is willing to provide the time, a home, supervision, and support needed by the youth transitioning out of care. TLAs must have flexible attitudes and expectations for the youth during this time of transition. They must have an understanding of adolescent behavior, and be able to allow the youth to make mistakes and deal with consequences. Communication is essential when working with youth as well as allowing the youth to form value systems. The advocate is aware of community resources that will support the youth's endeavors and must be willing to assist the youth in accessing services, including educational support, job readiness training, physical/mental health, and money management. This type of placement is crucial to the youth's successful transition to adulthood.

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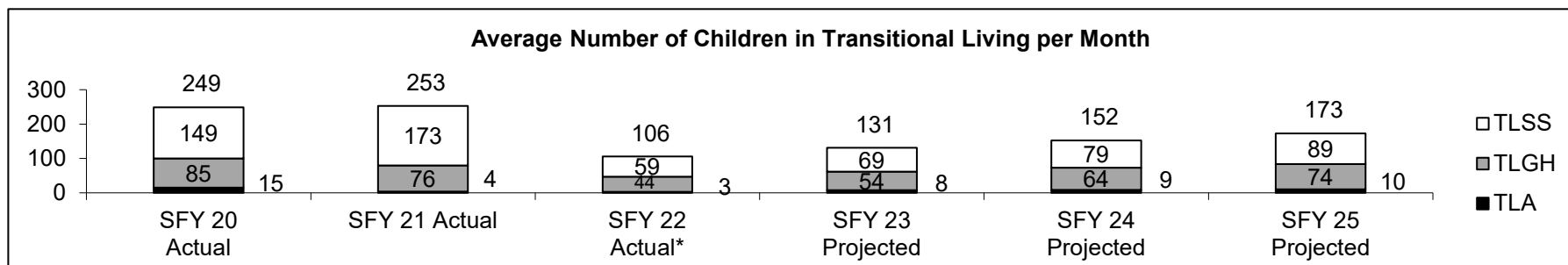
Transitional Living Group Home (TLGH)

The Transitional Living Group Home is a licensed and contracted Residential Care Agency operating a site dedicated solely for residents, ages 16 through age 18, who have a goal of "another planned permanent living arrangement." The program allows the residents to learn and practice life skills in a group setting with on-site supervision in accordance with residential treatment facility licensing rules. It offers youth the opportunity to transition smoothly from a more restrictive environment to a less restrictive setting, based on the readiness of the youth.

Transitional Living Single/Scattered Site Apartments (TLSS)

Scattered site apartments are an approved and contracted living arrangement dedicated solely to resident(s), age 18 through 20, who have demonstrated the ability to make responsible decisions, maintain employment, and have a clear understanding of the financial and emotional demands of living independently and who have a plan of independent living. The program intent allows the resident(s) to learn and practice life skills and prepare for the future in an apartment setting. Youth receive support and guidance, however supervision is minimal.

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



*FY22 decrease was due to COVID-19 pandemic safety measure reduced the number of new youth accepted in facilities.

TLA is Transitional Living Advocates (home-based settings)

TLGH is Transitional Living Group Homes (supervised group setting)

TLSS is Transitional Living Scattered Sites (community placement, including apartments; limited to those 18 and over)

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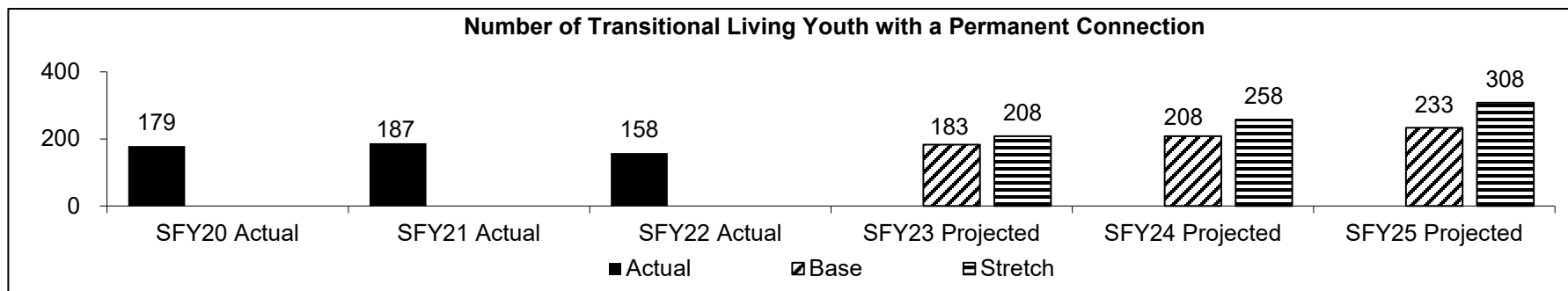
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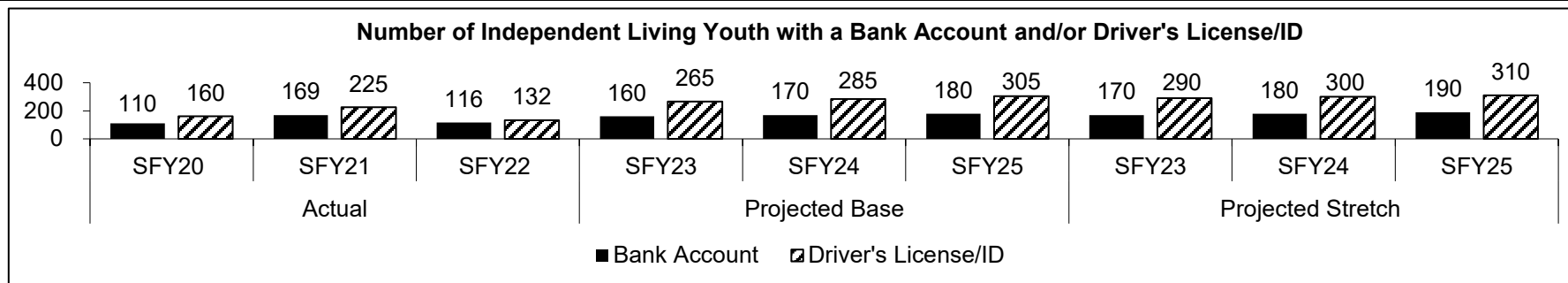
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2b. Provide a measure(s) of the program's quality.



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



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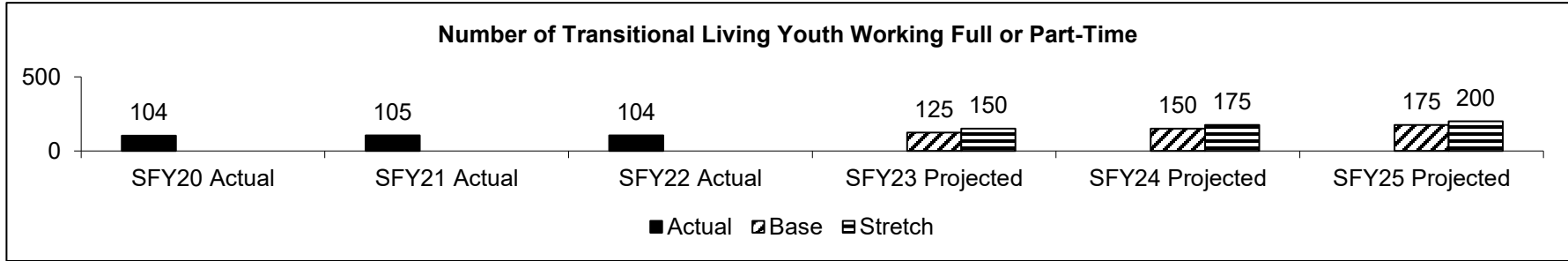
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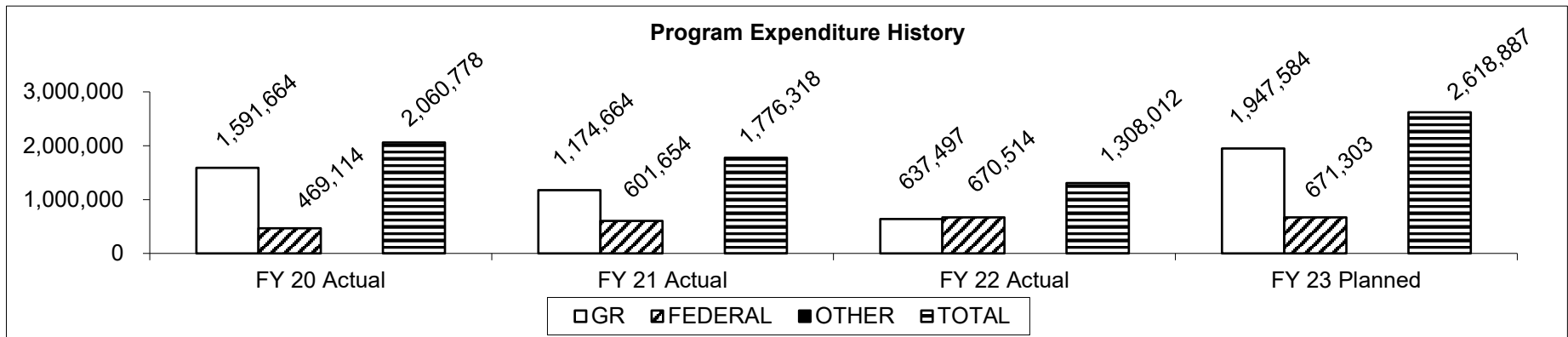
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2d. Provide a measure(s) of the program's efficiency.



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 2023 expenditures are net of reverted and reserves.

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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.)

State statute: Sections 207.010 and 207.020, RSMo.;

Federal: 42 USC Sections 670 and 5101.

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

For expenditure purposes, children and youth receiving services from the Children's Division are grouped into two categories - Homeless Dependent and Neglected (HDN) and IV-E. Expenditures for HDN children and youth are 100% state-funded, while expenditures on behalf of IV-E children and youth are eligible for federal funding. The IV-E program rate of federal reimbursement is the FMAP (Federal Medical Assistance Percentage). The FMAP fluctuates annually based on state and national economic and population data, but generally, the state matching requirement is around 35% and the federal match 65%. There is a 50% state match (50% federal earned) for IV-E administrative costs.

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

The federal Child Welfare Act and the federal Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act obligate Missouri to prepare children who were abused and neglected and were in CD care. Administrative activities related to these obligations would be considered mandatory.