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Fixing the Foster Care System

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Fixing the Foster Care System

By: Julia Boyd, Katelyn Ferguson, Emma Hudepohl, Chonte'via Lewis, Olivia Wingo, and McKenzie Zimmer



Foster Care

Leading cause- maltreatment

427,910 - in foster care, 111,820 - waiting to be adopted.

The average time a child spends in foster care is about a year.

Children aging out of the system are at risk of homelessness and unemployment.

Neglect at 75% and physical abuse at 17% are the most common forms of mistreatment.

NCANDS (National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System)

Federal Definition: “Any recent act or failure to act on the part of a parent or caretaker which results in death, serious physical or emotional harm, sexual abuse or exploitation; or an act or failure to act, which presents an imminent risk of serious harm.”

All 50 states have laws requiring them to report child abuse and neglect.

different definitions of “child abuse and neglect”

Process Into Foster Care

→ Unstable home : Steps before Foster Care

- ◆ Relatives
- ◆ Non-relative Next of Kin

→ Foster Care

- ◆ PCSA (Public Children Services Agency) → Licensed foster family



Social Workers

- A master's degree is required
- Must understand human biology, psychology, sociology, economics, human communication and child development
- Complete an internship in the community



The Proposal

