



Dr. Carolyn A. Eberwein
December 1, 1942 - December 23, 2015



2016 Annual Report

MISSION STATEMENT

Children's Choice, Inc. is a Christian social service agency, which provides specialized community-based services. Children's Choice, Inc. serves as a bridge for individuals who are in need of the reintegrative process of family living.

Intensive individualized supportive services are provided to empower clients in achieving their highest potential.

As a response to changing needs in families and society, Children's Choice, Inc. seeks to be an agent of positive change with those we serve throughout the world.

CORE VALUES

To be committed to serve.
To uphold Christian values.
To provide and promulgate positive family environments.
To promote family re-unification.
To facilitate choices, respecting each individual's right to choose.
To work in a team oriented approach.
To provide for the physical, psychological and spiritual needs of others.
To stimulate personal growth and self-determination.
To be agents of faith.
To encourage and enhance social consciousness.

BOARD MEMBERS



Mr. Norman Robinson
Chairman Emeritus
*Retired, City of Philadelphia
Police Department
Sicklerville, New Jersey*



Rev. Dr. Bernard Keels
Board Chairman
*Dean
Morgan State University
Baltimore, Maryland*



Dr. Sheila D. Thompson
Secretary of the Board
*Educational Psychologist
Glenn Dale, Maryland*



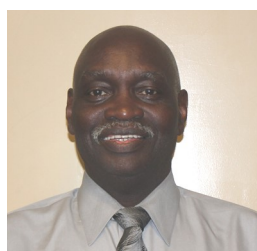
Mr. Richard A. Hause
Board Member
*Retired from Grant Thornton
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania*



Mrs. Christine Keels
Board Member
*Supervisory Program Analyst
Federal Court Services & Offender
Supervision Agency
District of Columbia*



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Board Member
*Partner, Stradley, Ronon,
Stevens & Young, LLP
Malvern, Pennsylvania*



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Board Member
*Senior Pastor
Foster Memorial
Baptist Church
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania*



Mrs. Jacquelyn Baldwin
Board Member
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Chemical Company
Newark, Delaware*



Mr. Richard J. Devine
Board Member
*Vice President
Commercial Lending
Penn Community Bank
Perkasie, Pennsylvania*



Mrs. Carolyn Dunn
Board Member
*President
Voice of Choice:
Resource
Parent Support Group*

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

Abigail Adams is credited with saying “internal strength is never gained in calm waters.” By that metric, Children’s Choice has gained a lot of strength in the last year. As an agency, we have faced issue after issue and challenge upon challenge. We have lost friends and gained family.

We have faced, what at the time seemed insurmountable odds, and have, by the blessings of a gracious God, overcome them. In those moments when everything seems lost, when we have no answers or have given in to despair, the right person or the right idea comes forward and presents itself and we have hope. Even sometimes just a glimmer of hope is enough to see you through to the solution.

It occurred to me, that this experience is what the children and families we work with face every day. The families are often faced with problems that seem insurmountable, ones for which they feel unequipped to face. The children in our care must often feel helpless and alone, without hope of something better and which push them to despair. They feel swamped by the system and they try to ease the pain any way possible.

In His wisdom, God has seen fit to fill this agency with an incredibly smart and devoted staff; staff who are willing to meet the needs of the children and families placed in our care. They regularly go beyond what is required, to meet the desires and needs of those with whom they work. They offer hope to those who have none. I don't know how many times someone will write me or catch me at a meeting to say how much this person helped, what a difference this person has meant to them or how great they are.

It's true that the past year has been witness to very rough waters. There have been several times when I wondered how long we could continue to take the hits, but then God granted that my little boat reach the crest of the wave and I get to see all the other boats out there, facing the waves but moving forward, steadfast in their willingness to persevere. I get to see and hear their resolve to push on, get to see the results of that effort in families restored and hope remembered. Though the waves keep coming, they don't seem as fierce as they did, just a year ago.

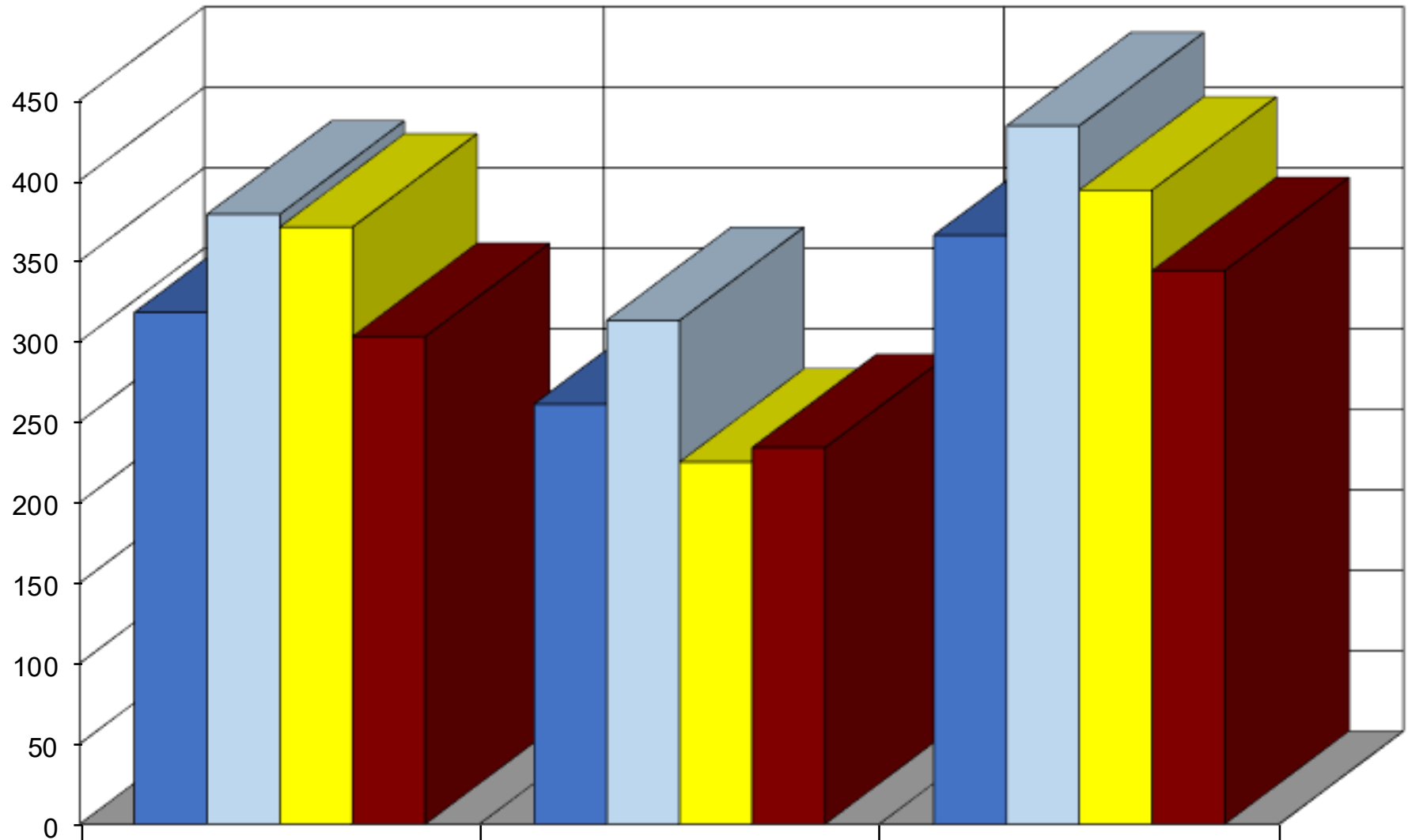
I am truly privileged to work with the members of Children’s Choice. They are what makes us incredible and I strive each day to remind them of that.

With all humility and respect, I would like to suggest that Abigale might have gotten her quote a little wrong. It is not internal strength that is gained in rough waters, it is faith. Faith that we are doing our best to help those in need; faith that there are many people just like us who are all trying to make a difference in this world; and faith that we serve a God who loves us. No matter what the waves do in your lives or how high they look, remember: God loves you and so do we.



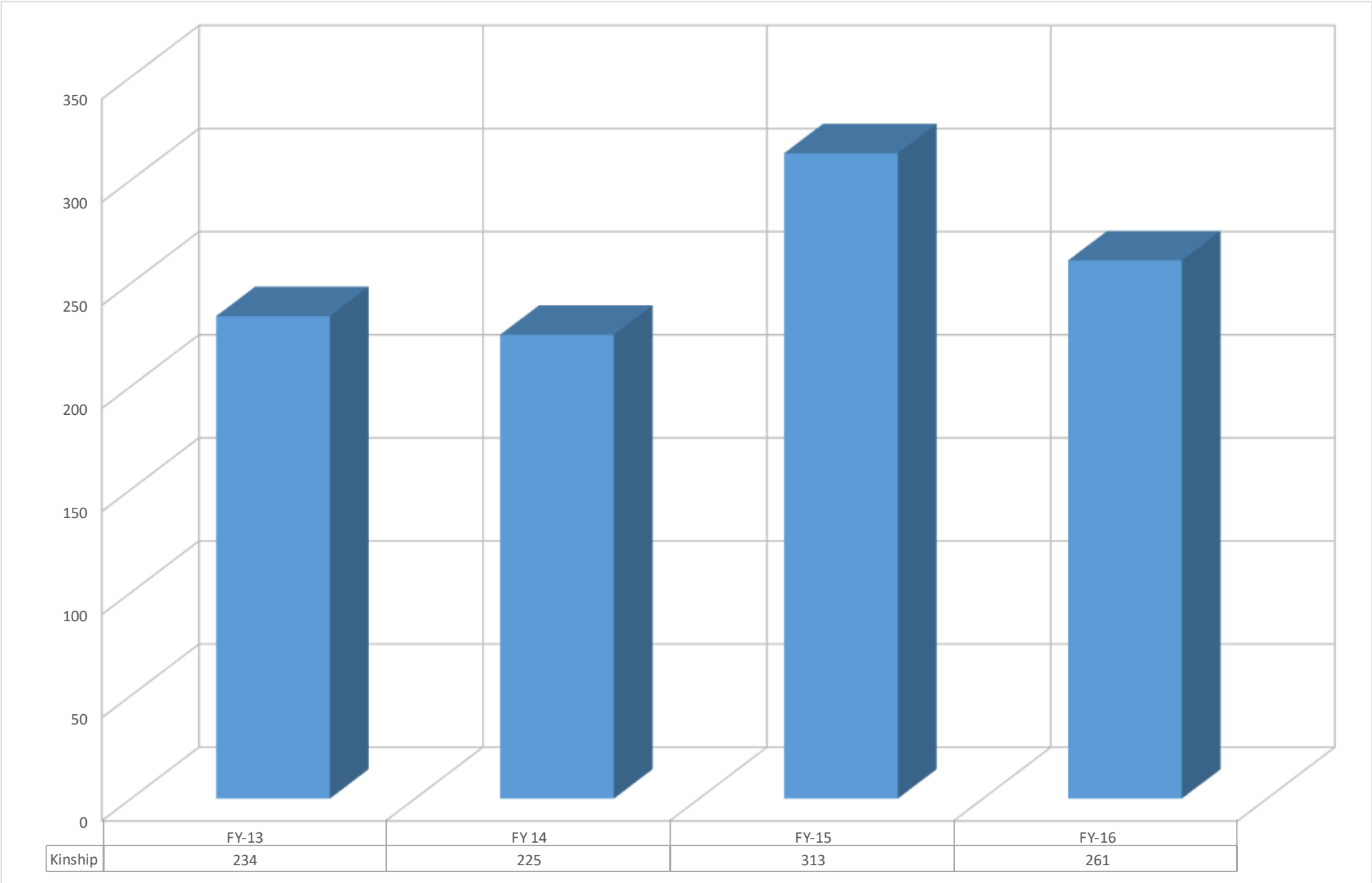
William J. Eberwein II
President & Chief Executive Officer

Goal 1: To increase the number of children served in specialized, kinship and treatment foster care. The number of children in specialized, kinship and treatment decreased in FY '16.

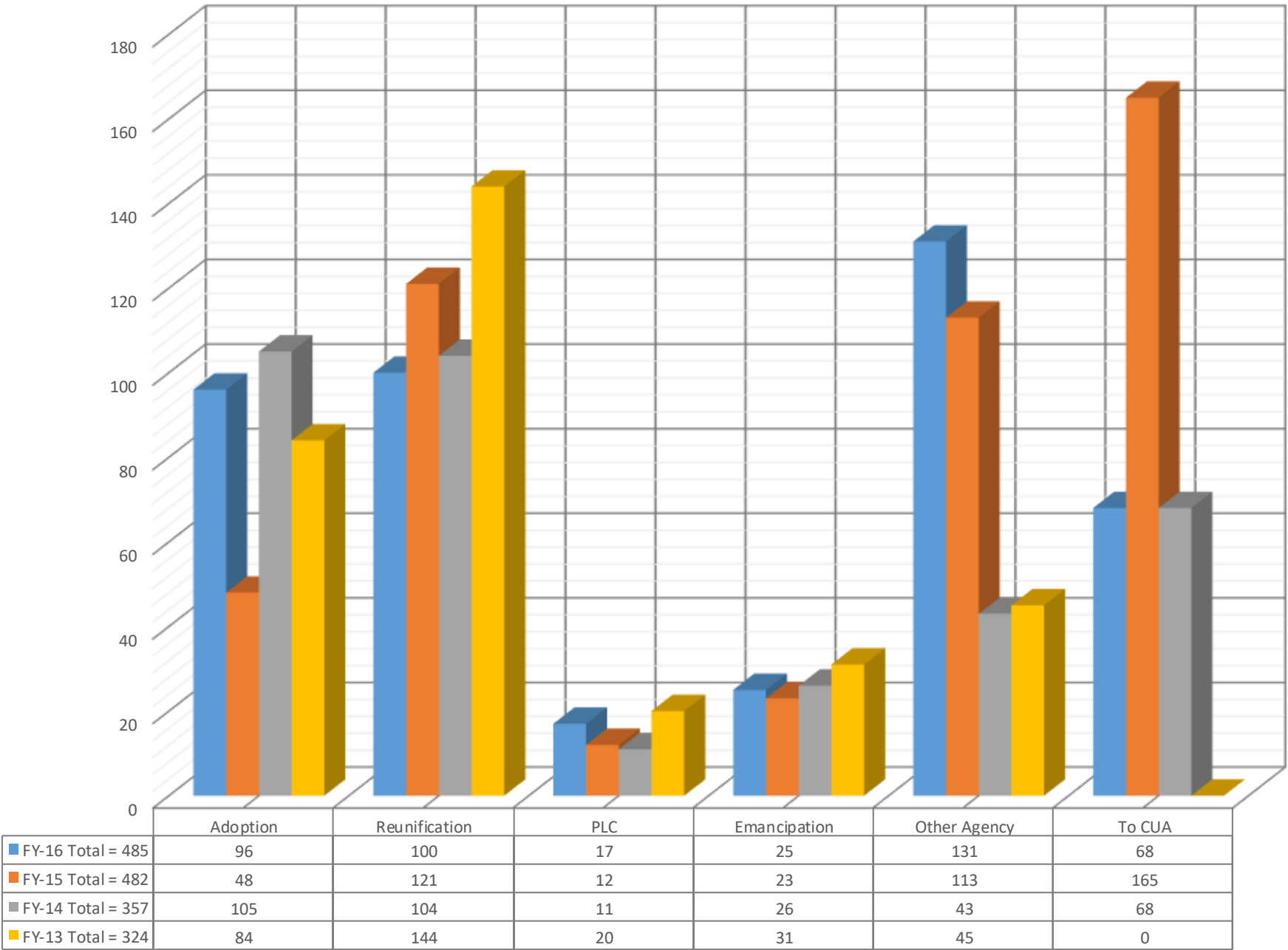


	Special	Kinship	Treatment
FY-16 = 945	318	261	366
FY-15 = 1126	379	313	434
FY-14 = 990	371	225	394
FY-13 = 881	303	234	344

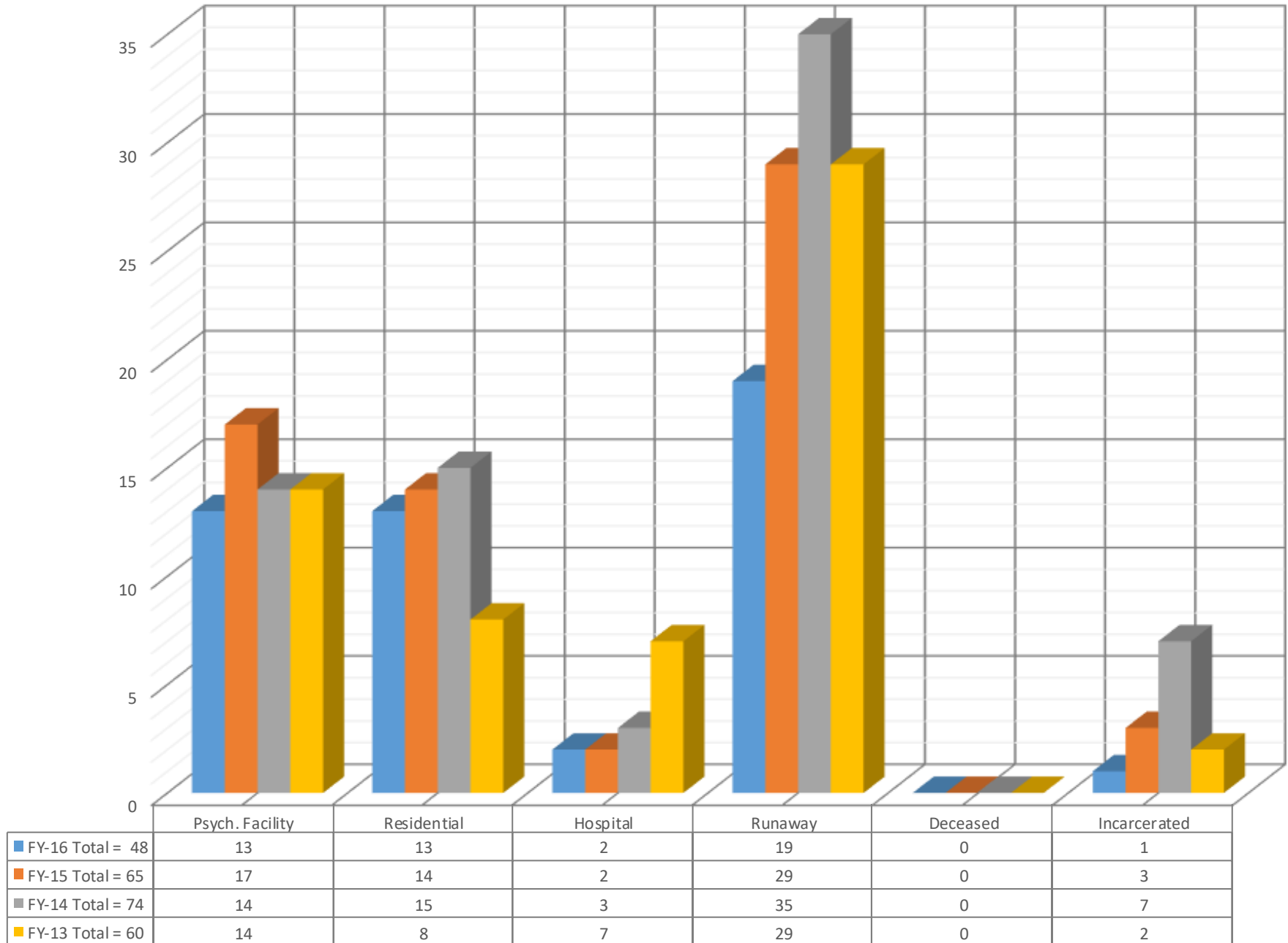
Goal 2: **To increase the number of children served in kinship care.** The number of children referred has decreased in FY '16.



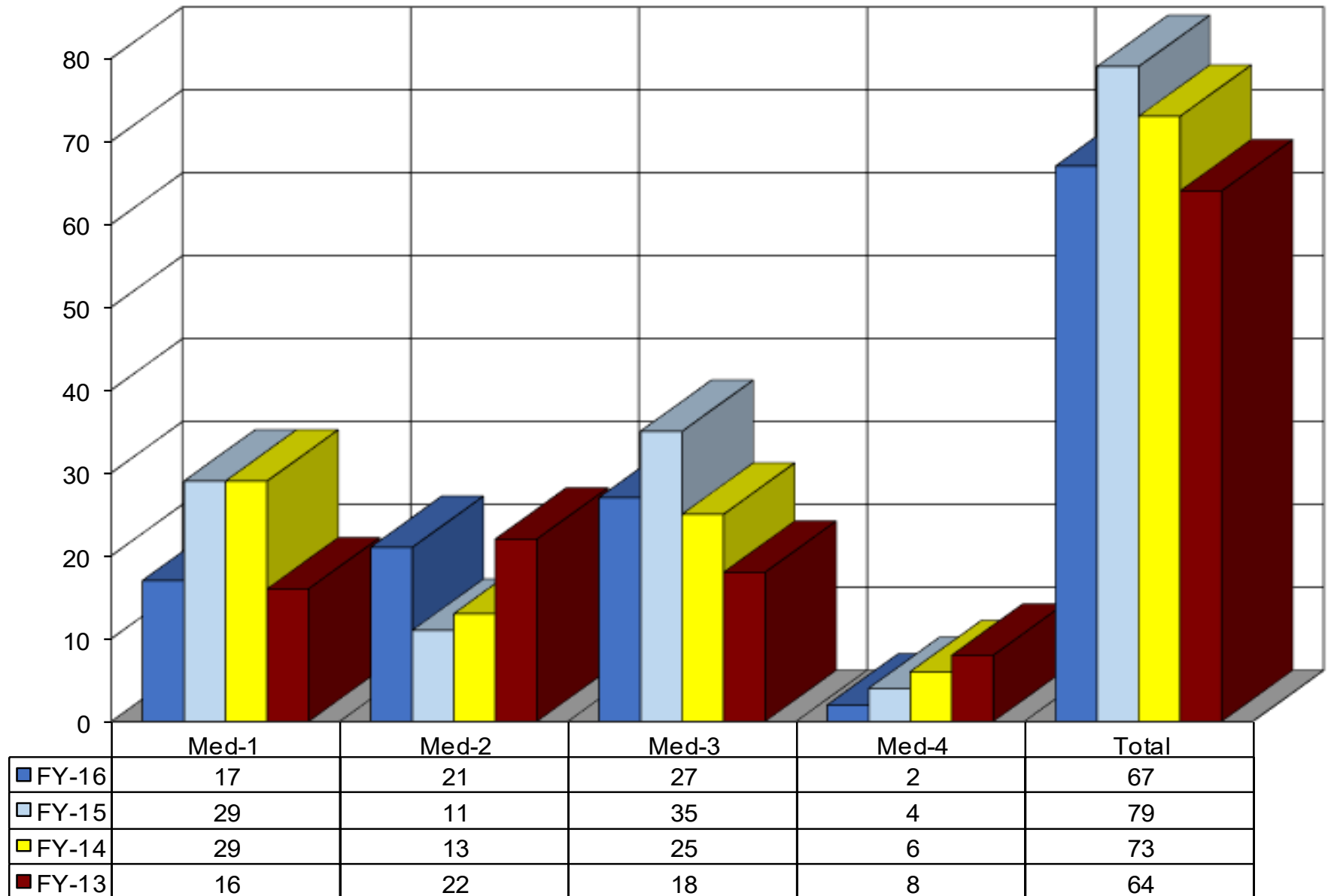
Goal 3: **To increase the number of positive discharges for children in out-of-home care.** The total number of discharges to other agencies has increased in FY '16.



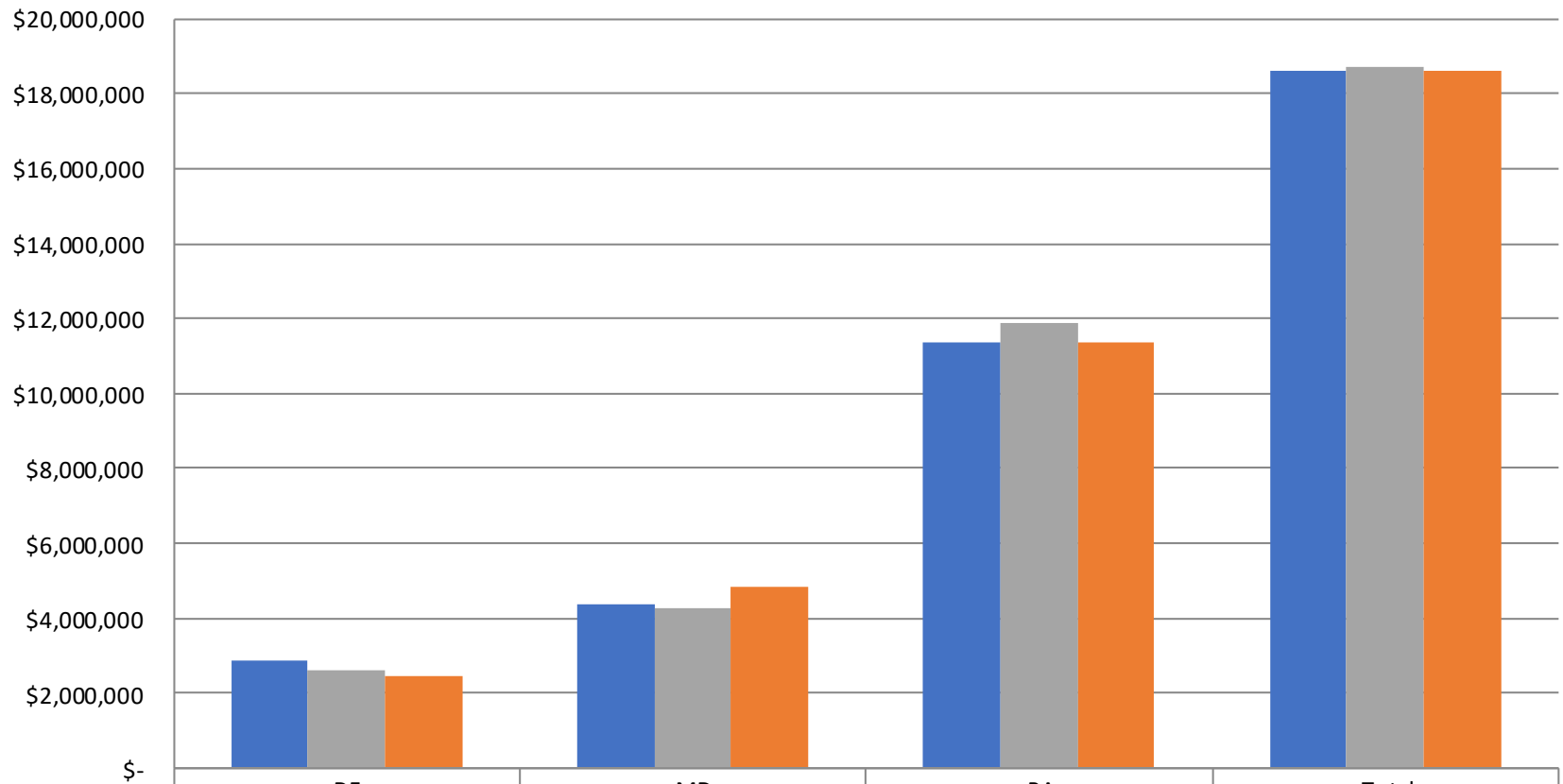
Goal 4: To reduce the number of negative discharges for children in out-of-home care. The number of negatively discharged children has decreased in FY '16.



Goal 5: **To expand services to medically-fragile children.** The number of medically fragile children referred has increased in the Med-2 category and decreased in the other categories.



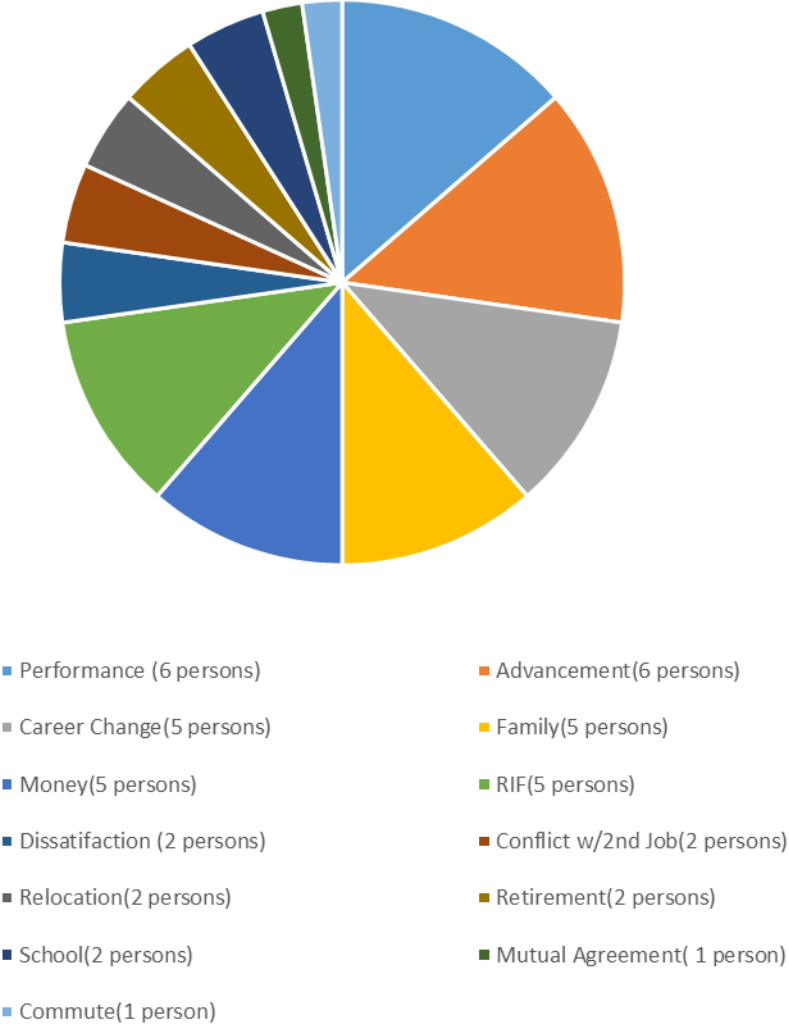
Goal 6: To increase agency revenues.



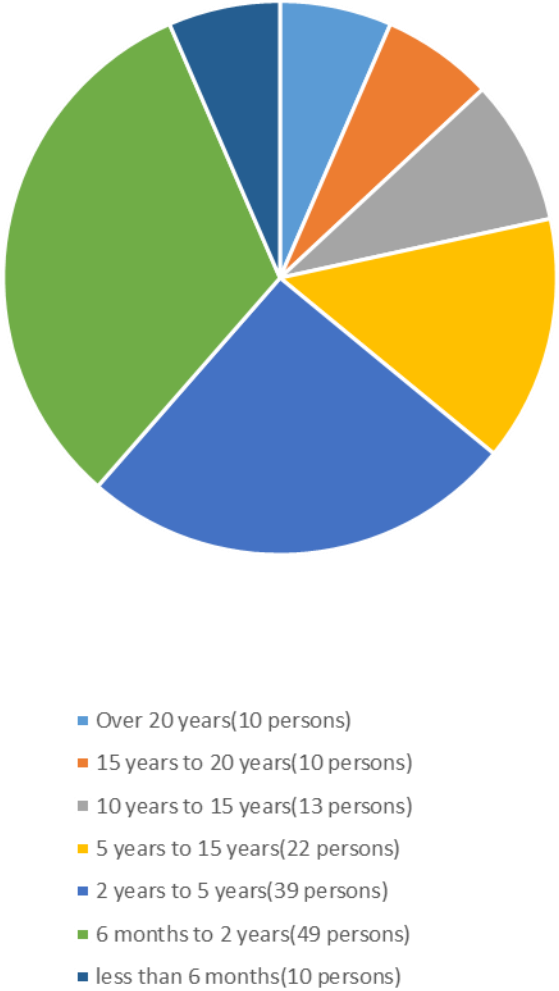
	DE	MD	PA	Total
FY-16 Total = \$18,623,904	\$2,871,577	\$4,364,506	\$11,377,736	\$18,613,819
FY-15 Total = \$18,731,709	\$2,605,569	\$4,256,970	\$11,869,170	\$18,731,709
FY-14 Total = \$18,602,922	\$2,421,981	\$4,818,324	\$11,362,617	\$18,602,922

Goal 7: To increase staff retention rate.

Separations of Staff
Fiscal Year 2016
29% Turnover Rate



Length of Employee Service in Years
Total number of employees: 153



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

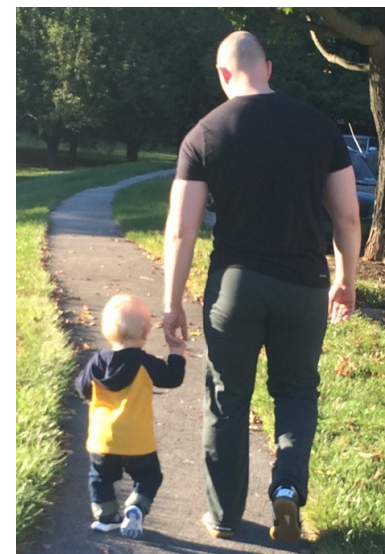
One hundred and fifty-eight permanencies were consummated.



Seven hundred and thirty-one Pennsylvania children were cared for this year by 366 resource families.



Sixty-one Pennsylvania children were reunified with their parents.



Fourteen permanent legal custodianships were awarded by Pennsylvania courts.



Seventy-five Pennsylvania adoptions were finalized.



Eleven mothers and their babies were kept together in foster families.



Sibling groups totaling 437 children were placed together.

Eight emancipations were awarded.

STATE OF DELAWARE



Twenty-six reunifications were achieved.



One hundred and fifty children were cared for by 69 Delaware resource parents.



We conduct Parent Empowerment classes and Parent Aide programs to help to prevent children going into placement.



Two emancipation were effected.



Thirty-one siblings were placed together this year, part of Children's Choice's emphasis on sustaining family ties.



Twenty adoptions were finalized this year in Delaware.

STATE OF MARYLAND



Twelve emancipations occurred.



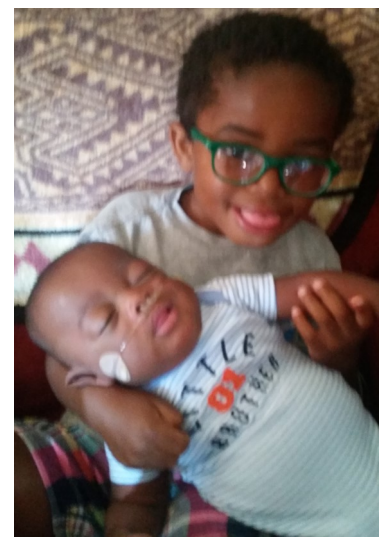
Thirteen reunifications were achieved.



Our Mid-Shore and Lower-Shore respite programs provided 1,636 nights of respite and prevented entry into care for 68 children from 59 families.



One hundred and forty-two children were cared for by 93 Maryland resource parents.



Eighteen siblings were placed together with us this year.

SPECIAL EVENTS

FUNDRAISING



The Maryland staff held a painting class, to raise monies for their office's special funds.

BRING YOUR BABY TO WORK



Children's Choice staff can bring their baby to work until the little one is 6 months old. This eases the transition back to the workplace for Moms and/or Dads.



AGENCY SERVICE AWARDS



Michele Ellis, Comptroller, presents the agency's 15-year service award to Alisha Isaacs-Masuku, Accountant in Bellmawr, New Jersey.



Terry Egan, Chief Financial Officer, presents the agency's 5-year service award to Eric Morrison, IT Technician at Bellmawr, New Jersey.

SPECIAL EVENTS CONTINUED

CHRISTMAS



Hundreds of gifts were generously donated by individuals and businesses using the “Angel Trees” placed by Children’s Choice staff.

The gifts were distributed at Christmas parties sponsored by local churches and corporations.



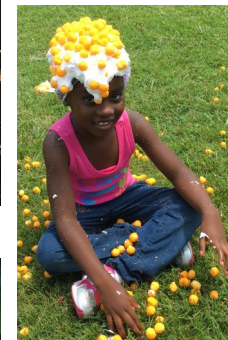
The Baltimore staff helped Santa hand out the presents.

AGENCY PICNIC



The agency–wide staff picnic was held at Lums Pond in Delaware.

The staff and their families enjoyed a day full of games, food and fellowship.



The kids loved the cheeseball and shaving cream game.



Terry Egan, CFO was responsible for cutting up the watermelon for the eating contest.

SPECIAL EVENTS CONTINUED

BRING YOUR CHILD TO WORK DAY



All of the children had a wonderful time creating Kaleidoscopes, stained glass paper windows and learning about the agency.



FOUNDER'S DAY CELEBRATION

"Crossing that Bridge, Together"

April 5, 2016



The following trainings were presented at this year's Founder's Day:

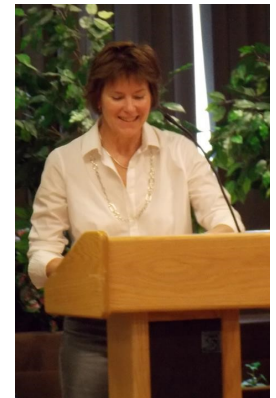
Reactive Attachment Disorder
Crossing the Divide, Foster Care to Permanency
Can You Make Change
Customer Interactions Takes Its Toll
What to Do When Court Takes a Wrong Turn
Community Engagement



Rev. Keels started the day with prayer.



Regina Fike presented a training on Reactive Attachment Disorder.



Lori Corner handed out accommodations.

DR. CAROLYN A. EBERWEIN'S RETIREMENT CELEBRATION



CHILDREN'S CHOICE ENTITIES

**Combined Statement of Activities and Changes in Net Assets
Year Ended June 30, 2016**

	Children's Choice, Inc.	Children's Choice of Delaware, Inc.	Children's Choice of Maryland, Inc.	Choice Services International, Inc.	Children's Choice Property Two, Inc.
Support and revenue					
Public support:					
Contributions	\$3,949	\$6,787	\$7,065	\$3,690	\$-
	3,949	6,787	7,065	3,690	-
Revenues:					
Adoption-private pay	2,750	38,099	0	2,098,234	236,724
Management service fees				67,476	
Rental income	28,984	0	626	6,395	
Other income	31,734	38,099	626	2,172,105	236,724
Revenues:					
Program services:					
State of Pennsylvania					
Philadelphia County	3,984,243				
Delaware County, PA	679,013				
Bucks County, PA	26,621				
Chester County, Pa	31,887				
Lehigh County, Pa	9,218				
Lycorning County, PA	844				
Montgomery County, PA	9,865				
Northumberland County, PA	24,149				
Juniata County, PA	930				
Luzerne County, PA	45,581				
Schuylkill County, PA	1,078				
Snyder County, PA	17,390				
Diakon Lutheran Social Ministries (SWAN)	982,350	7,000			
State Offices of Medical Assistance	633,340		284,268		
Delaware Department of Services for Children, Youth and Families					
Foster Care		1,608,838			
Interstate Compact		106,131			
Parent Aide Services		702,920			
Special Needs Adoption Services	17,046	401,802			
Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene			1,700		
Maryland Department of Human Resources			3,355,692		
Maryland Choices Respite Services			4,624		
Wisconsin County Special Respite			1,423		
Family & Community Partnership of Kent County MD			24,650		
Worcester County Department of Health- Core Services Agency			52,091		
Washington D.C.-Child and Family Services- Monitoring			632,367		
Asociacion Puertorriquenos en Marcha, Inc.					
Bethanna CUA 8	496,644				
Catholic Community Services	242,866				
Wordsworth CUA 5 & 10, LLC	240,431				
Tabor Northern Community Services	1,405,497				
Turning Points for Children	417,141				
NorthEast Treatment Services	1,279,689				
	796,430				
Total program services revenue	11,342,053	2,826,691	4,356,815	-	-
Expenses:					
Program services:					
Family foster care	4,428,414	1,964,714	3,454,310		
Phila. DHS- CUA Services	4,451,882		314,676		
Special respite programs	882,781	408,170	-		
Adoption and permanency services	9,763,077	2,372,884	3,768,986	-	-
Total program services	1,593,139	346,142	386,666	2,112,800	226,521
Supporting services, Management and general Property Management Expenses	11,356,216	2,719,026	4,155,672	51,394	226,521
	-	-	-	2,164,194	226,521
Change in net assets	21,520	152,551	208,834	11,601	10,203
Loss on sale of property		-	-		(107,779)
Increase (decrease) in net assets	21,520	152,551	208,834	11,601	(97,576)
Net assets (deficit), beginning of year	1,961,251	721,287	881,852	(2,128,466)	182,277
Net assets, (deficit) end of year	\$ 1,982,771	\$ 873,838	\$ 1,090,686	(2,116,865)	\$ 84,701

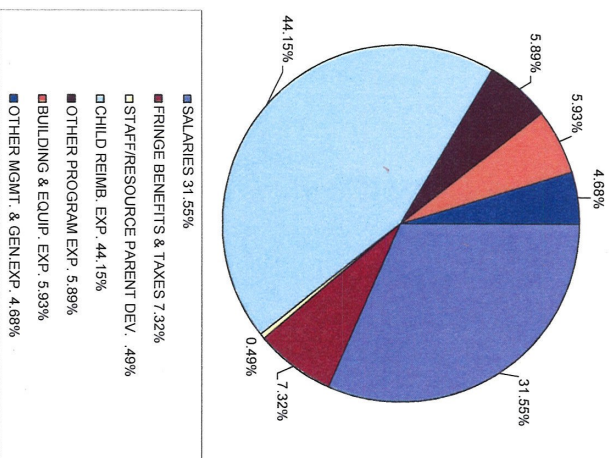
Unaudited Statement For Internal Use

		2016
Eliminations	Total	
\$	-	\$21,491
	-	21,491
(2,098,234)	-	40,849
(304,200)	-	-
	36,005	-
(2,402,434)	76,854	-

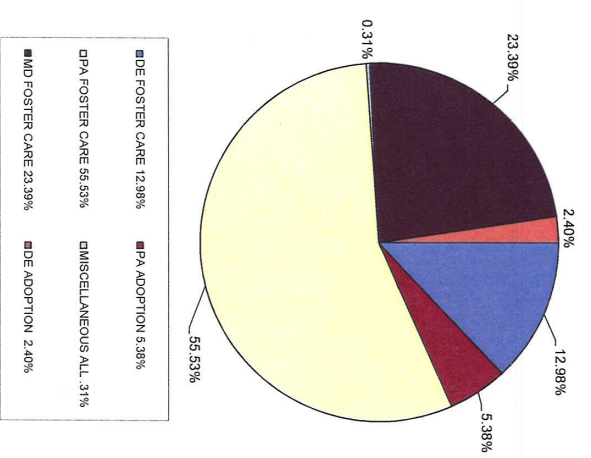
3,984,243
679,013
26,621
31,887
9,218
844
9,865
24,149
930
45,581
1,078
17,390
989,350
917,608
1,608,838
106,131
702,920
418,948
1,700
3,355,692
4,624
1,423
24,650
52,081
632,367
496,644
242,666
240,431
1,405,497
417,141
1,279,689
796,430
-
18,525,559
(2,402,434)
18,623,904

(159,932)
9,687,506
(76,641)
4,375,241
314,676
(67,627)
1,223,324
(304,200)
15,600,747
(2,098,234)
2,340,533
277,915
(2,402,434)
18,219,195
-
404,709
-
(107,779)
-
296,930
-
1,618,201
\$
-
\$ 1,915,131

June 2016 YTD Children's Choice Expenses



June 2016 YTD Revenue by Contract



BRANCH OFFICES

William J. Eberwein II, President & Chief Executive Officer

Administrative and Training Headquarters

610-521-6270/856-754-0914

1-800-LA-CHILD

PENNSYLVANIA OFFICES

Central Pennsylvania, Lewisburg	(570) 522-1030
Delaware County, Chester	(610) 872-6200
North Broad, Philadelphia	(215) 329-6191
West Chester, Pennsylvania	(484) 206-7550
Winding Drive, Philadelphia	(215) 222-3046

DELAWARE OFFICES

Dover, Kent County	(302) 678-0404
Newark, New Castle County	(302) 731-9512

MARYLAND OFFICES

Baltimore	(410) 319-9681
College Park	(301) 313-9091
Kent Island	(410) 643-9290
Salisbury	(410) 546-6106

www.ChildrensChoice.org

and on our Facebook page or on Twitter @Choice Fostering

Children's Choice is a proud member of the following organizations:

Child Welfare League of America (CWLA)

International Foster Care Organization (IFCO)

Maryland Association of Resources for Families and Youth (MARFY)

Pennsylvania State Resource Parent Association (PSRPA)

Pennsylvania Council of Children, Youth and Families (PCCYFS)

William Glasser Institute



Specialized Foster Care, Kinship, & Adoption Services

WE CAN USE YOUR HELP

As this report indicates, we are proud of what God has wrought through our efforts and we look forward to the coming year as a continuing opportunity to serve God by serving His children. If you would like to join us in this effort, we are always in need of resource parents, adoptive parents and baby furniture.

Gifts to Children's Choice are tax deductible and will help us to provide even greater services to those entrusted to our care.

Your gift of \$100 ☐ \$75 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$25 ☐ will be used to buy tickets to sporting events and museums, birthday and Christmas gifts, cribs and baby equipment. Thank you and may God bless you.

I truly hope you will accept this invitation to join our efforts to better our world by reaching out through Children's Choice, to a child in need.

Sincerely,

William J. Eberwein II

President & Chief Executive Officer

Funded in part by the City of Philadelphia Department of Human Services, the Delaware Department of Services for Children, Youth and Their Families, the Maryland Department of Social Services, and the Child and Families Services Agency of Washington, D.C.