

CCAO WINTER CONFERENCE

December 2025

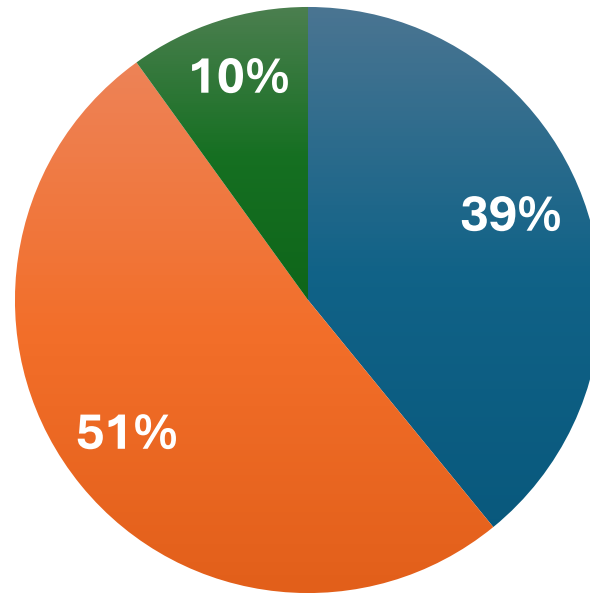


MIKE DEWINE
GOVERNOR OF OHIO



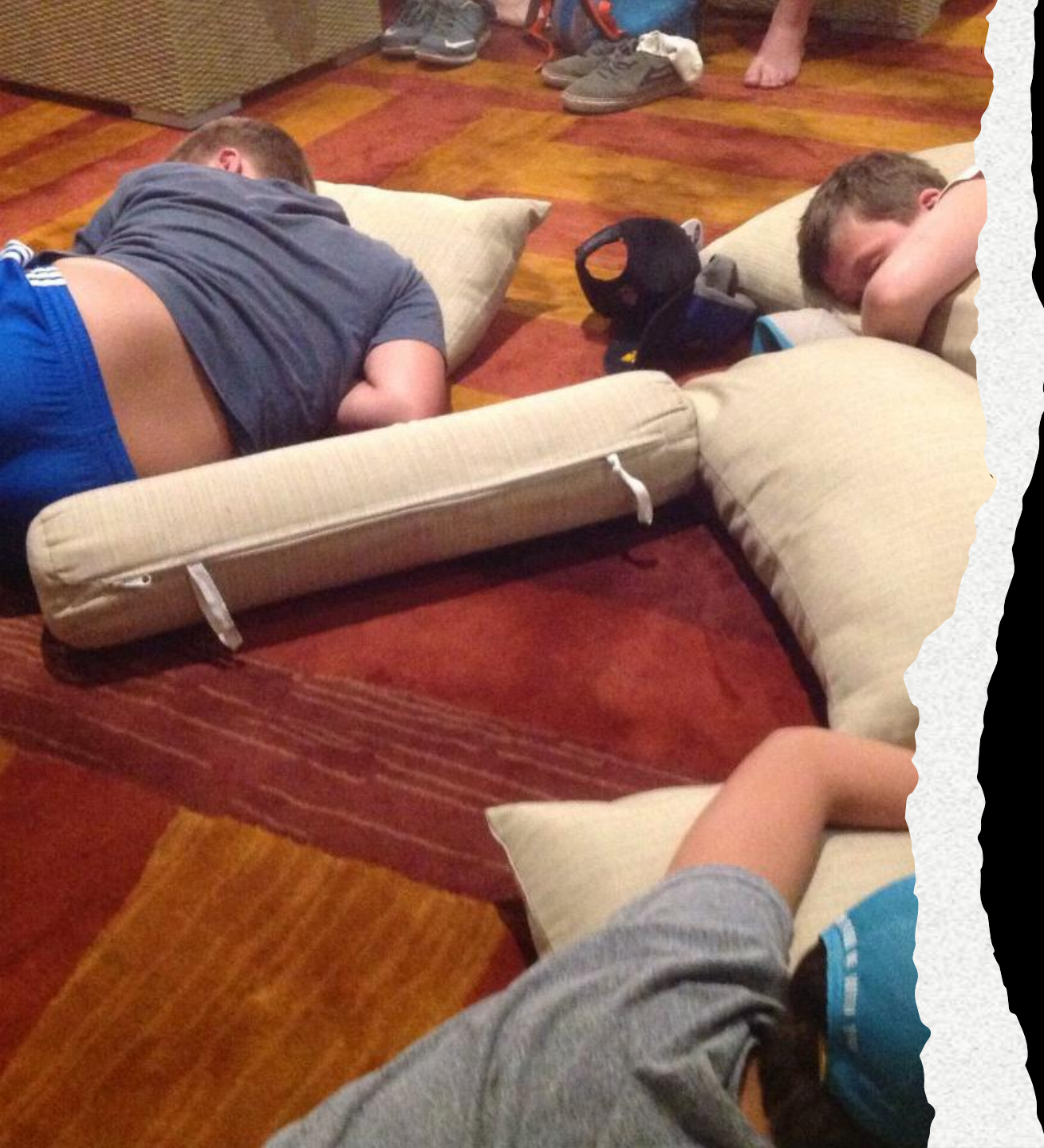
24% of youth entered PCSA custody primarily due to BH, DD, or JJ needs in 2021

1,005 Youth Entered Care Primarily Due to BH, DD, or JJ Needs



■ JJ ■ BH ■ DD

Total = 4,242 youth entered care

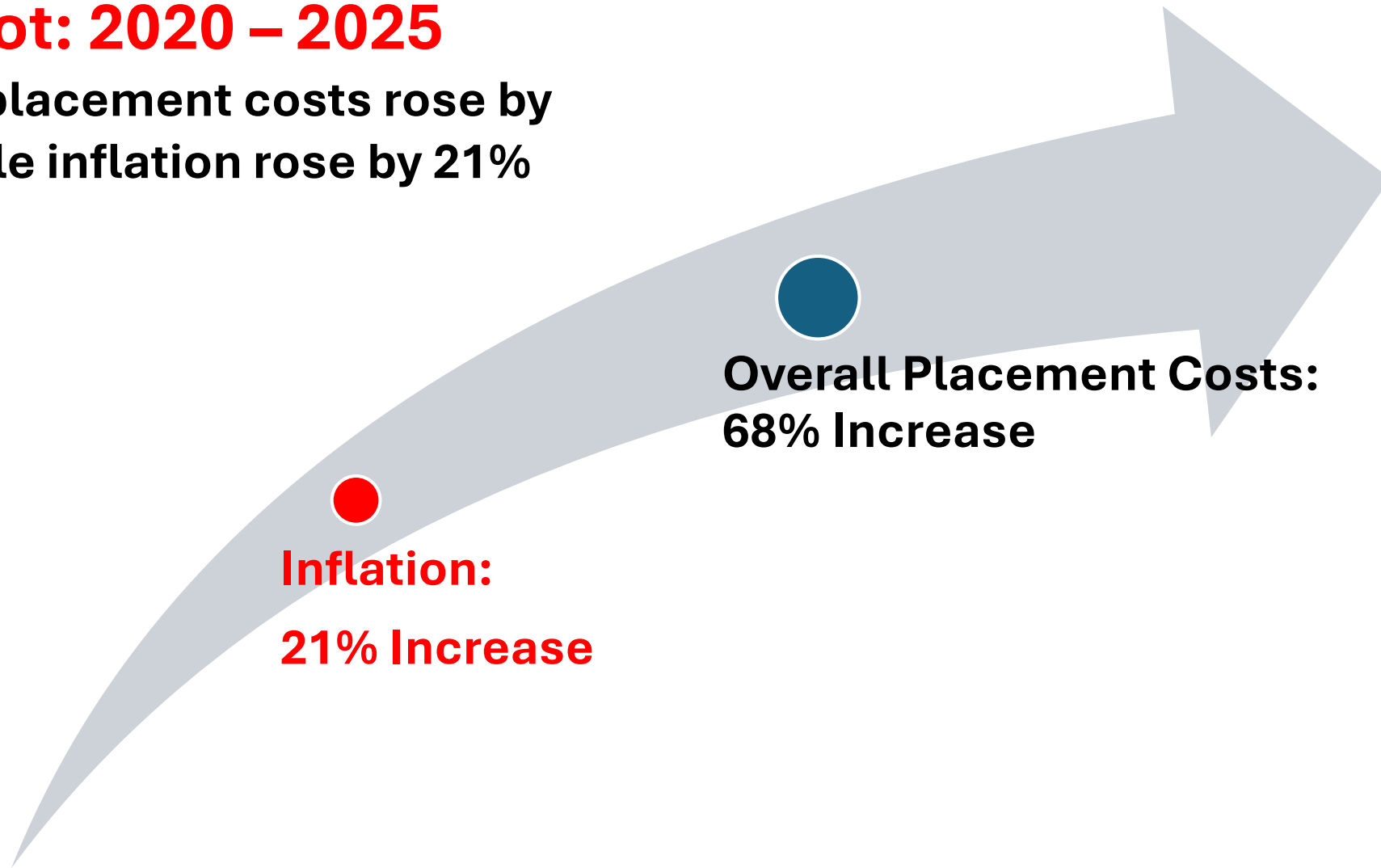


Left With No Option

6% (or approx. 500) of
youth that came into
custody in 2021 had to
spend **at least 1 night at**
an agency.

Hotspot: 2020 – 2025

Overall placement costs rose by 68% while inflation rose by 21%



What Are Placement Costs?

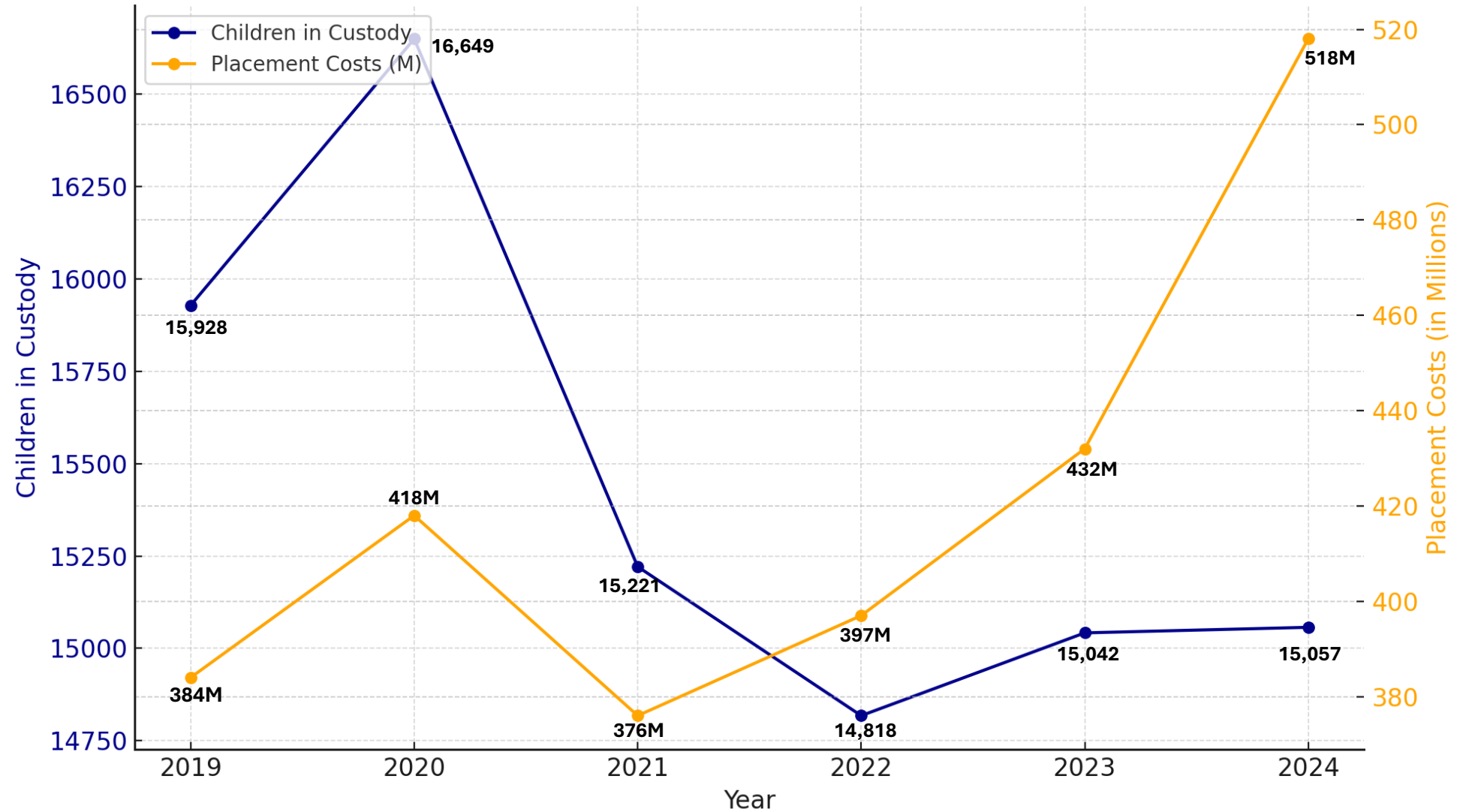
Placement costs ARE
(per diems, foster care
maintenance (FCM), boarding
costs, etc.)

- Expenses associated with the 'care and maintenance' of a child in foster care (room and board)
- Other items such as clothing, special diets, personal incidentals
- A portion of the placement setting's administrative costs

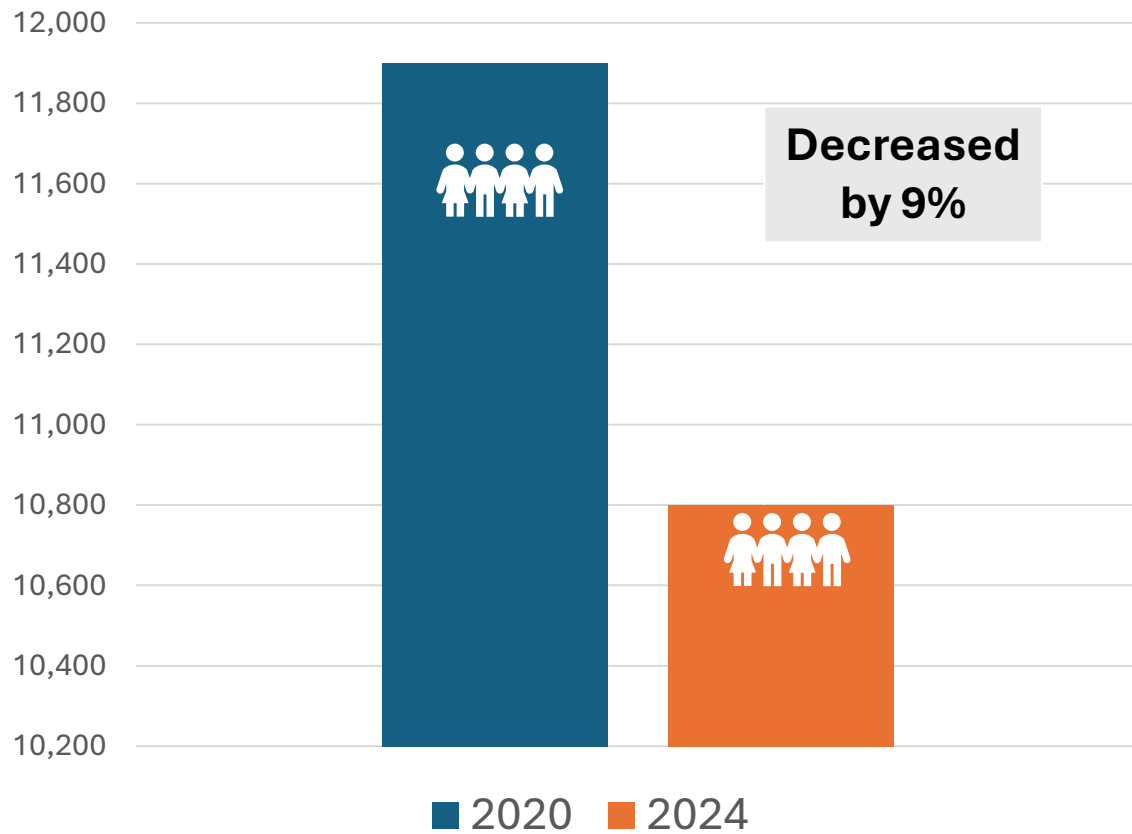
Placement costs are NOT

- Treatment

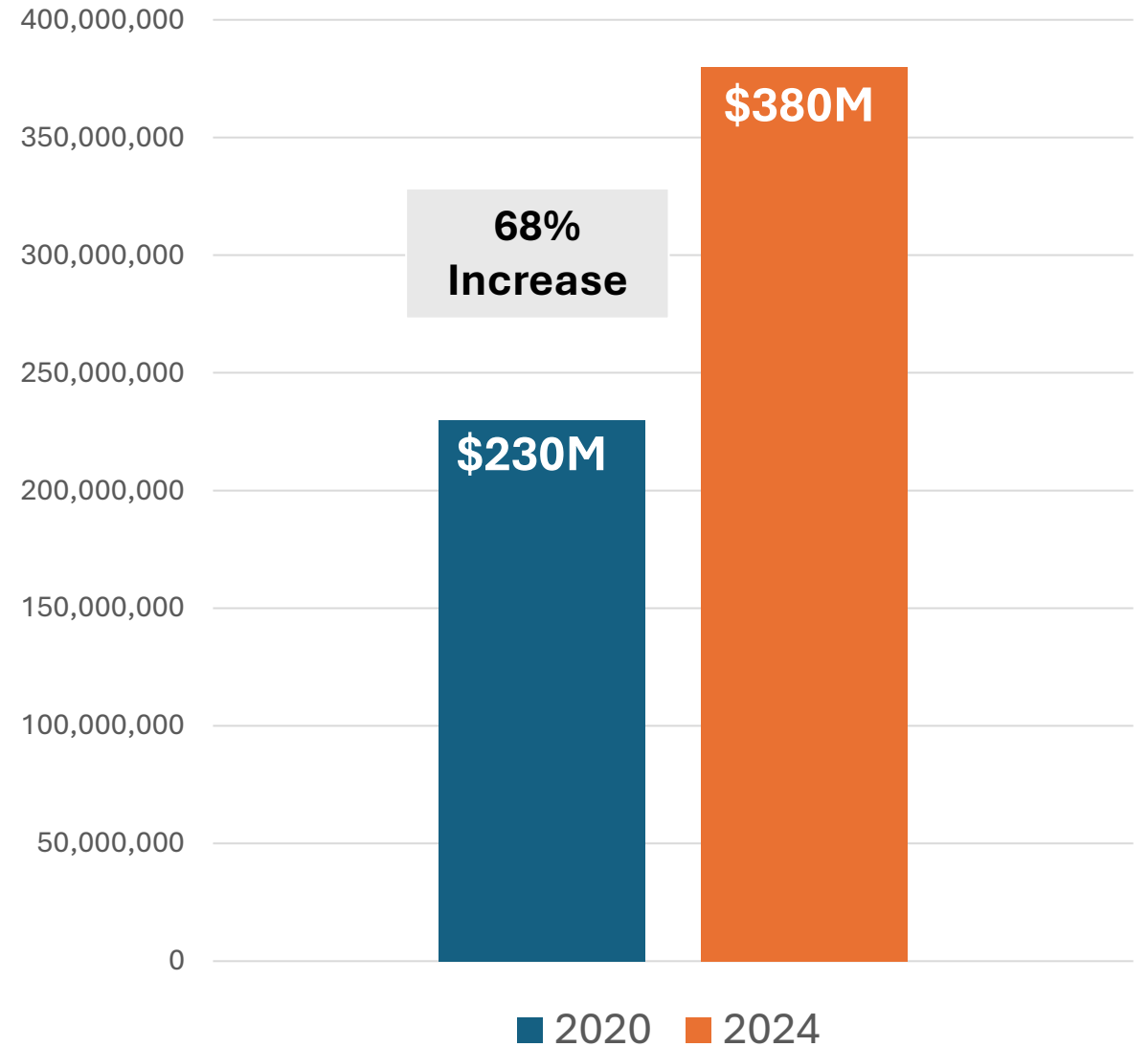
Placement Costs Are Increasing Even as the Number of Children in Custody Has Declined



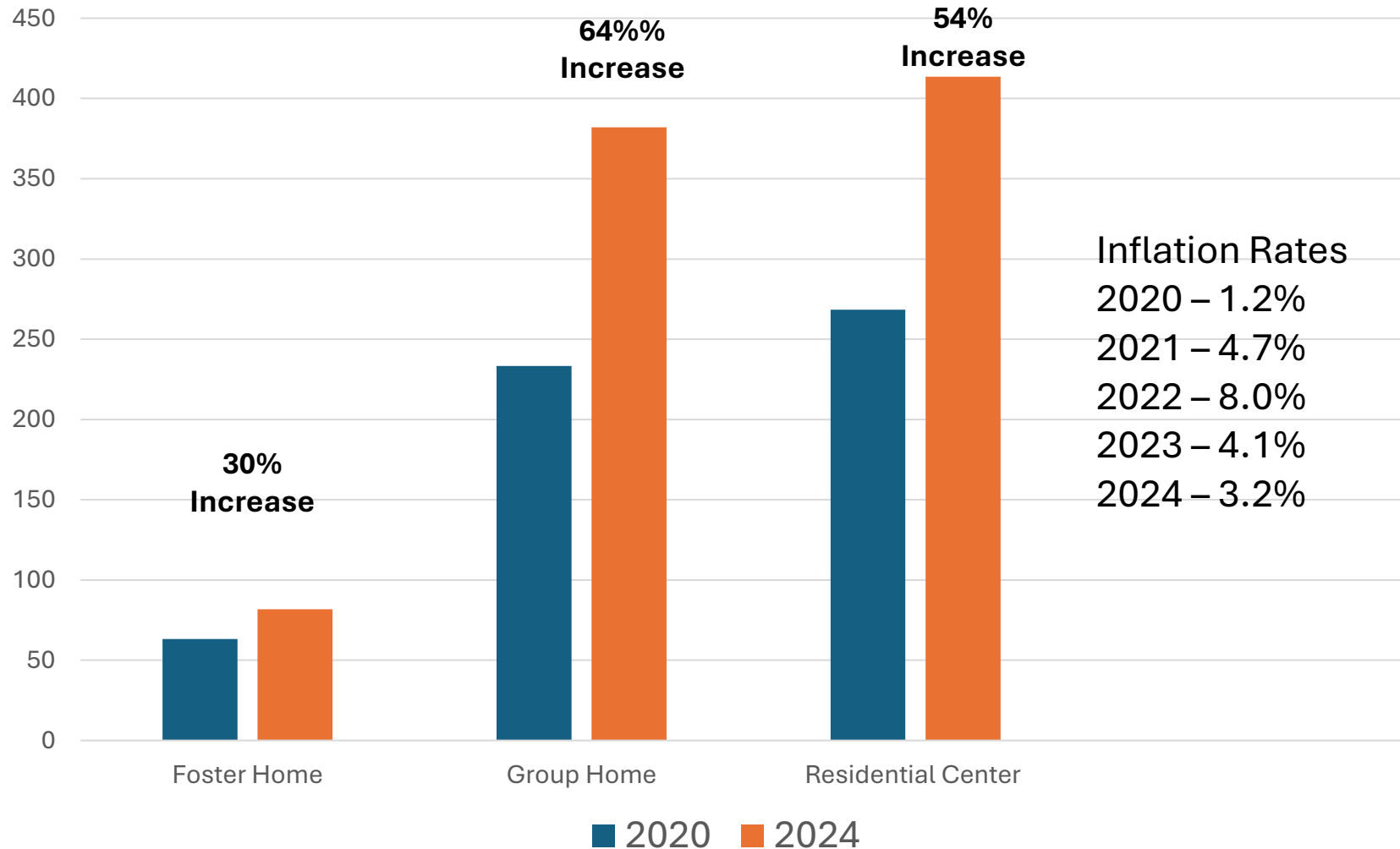
Kids in Custody in Paid Placement



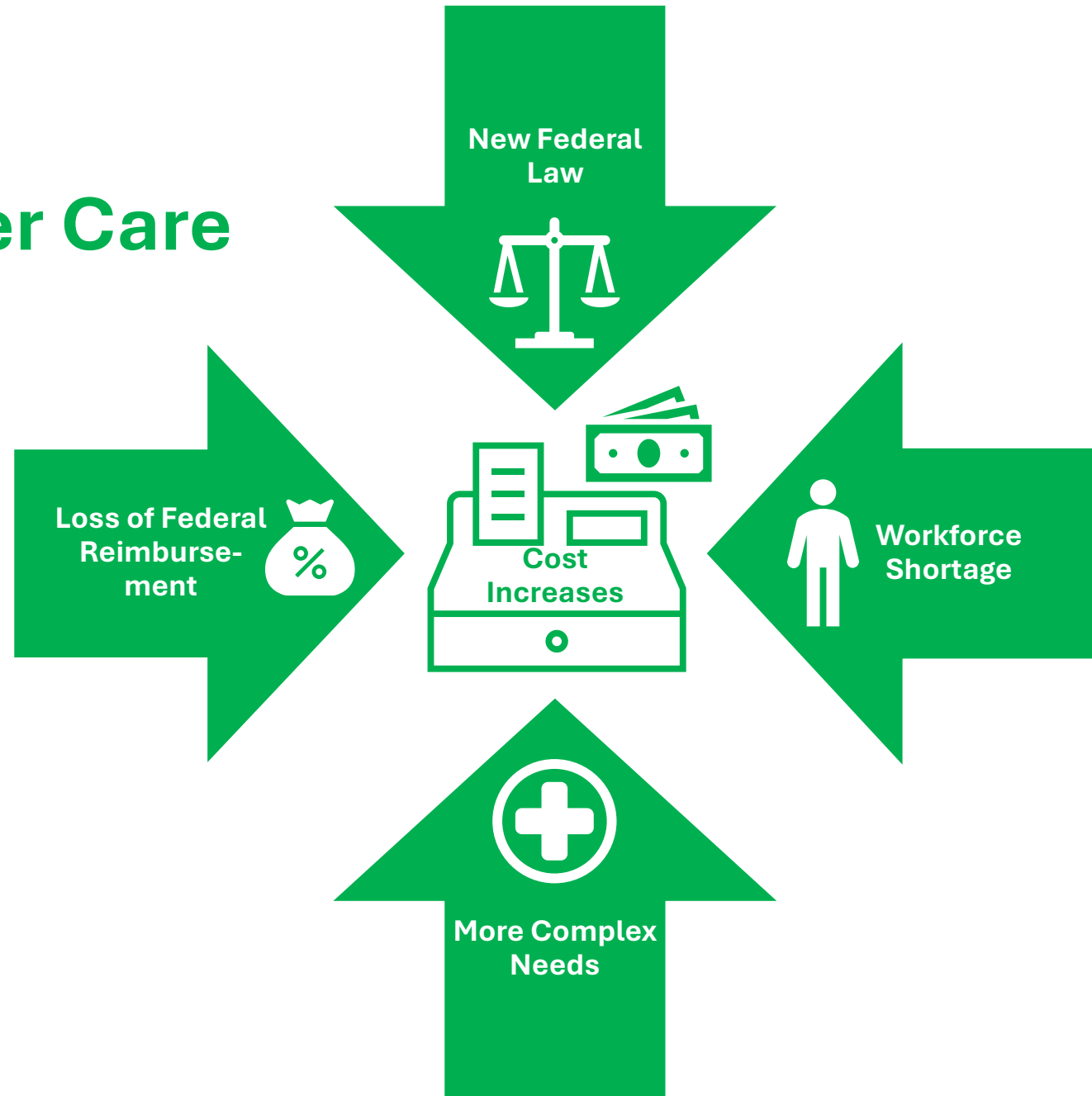
Placement Costs After Reimbursement



Average Daily Costs



Key Drivers of Cost Increases in Congregate Foster Care



CHILD WELLNESS CAMPUSES

GOALS OF CHILD WELLNESS CAMPUSES



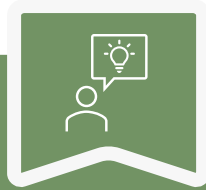
Community-Connected

Keep youth near home/family/school



Immediate Capacity

Short-term placements for high-need youth



Youth Voice and Choice

Include youth in all decisions



Rapid Coordination

Wraparound meetings within 48 hours



Fast-Track Referrals

Assessments completed in 3 business days

CHILD WELLNESS CAMPUS GRANTEE REQUIREMENTS

Program Implementation:

- ✓ Youth voice and choice model/tools
- ✓ Individualized assessment process
- ✓ Onsite individual and family therapy
- ✓ No reject/no eject

Coordination & Governance:

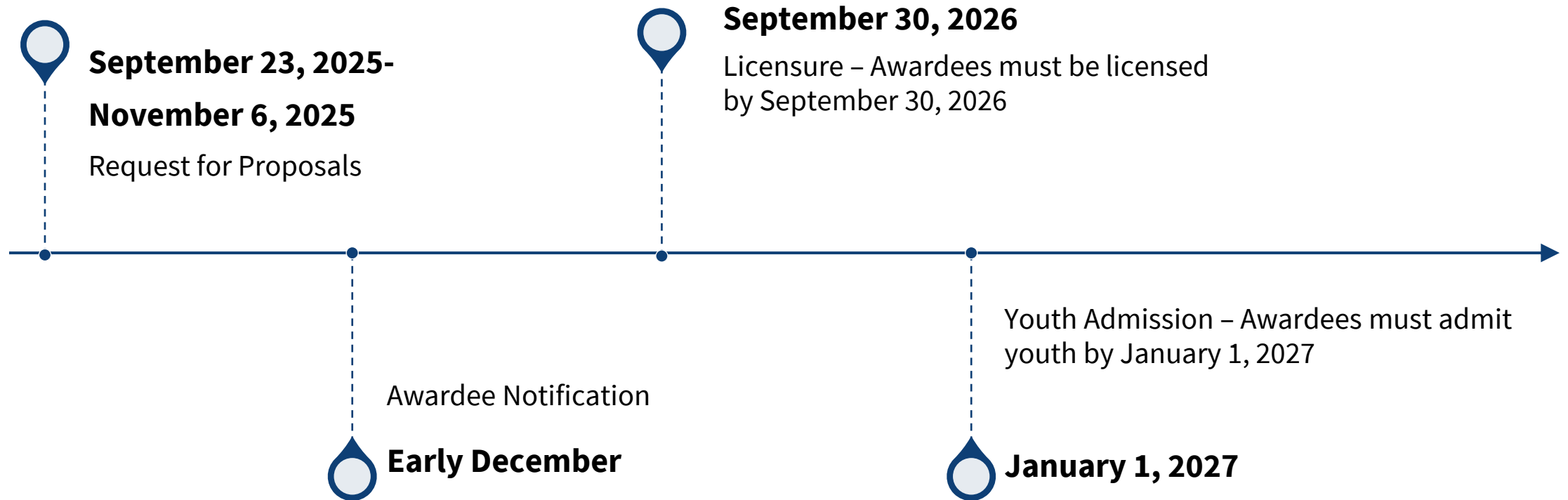
- ✓ 48-hour wraparound coordination meetings
- ✓ Child Wellness Advisory Committee

Sustainability:

- ✓ Post-award sustainability plan



CHILD WELLNESS CAMPUSES TIMELINE



RATE CARDS

RATE CARD CONCEPT

Our Commitment: Children are placed in settings that meet their basic and therapeutic needs

The Problem: Congregate care rates have increased over 50%

Rate Card Benefits:

- **Inclusion** – Rates from all congregate care providers accepting Title IV-E youth
- **Predictability** – Standardized costs across placements
- **Transparency** – Clear, upfront pricing for placement decisions

GOALS OF RATE CARDS

- **Standardization:** Rate cards will ensure that all agencies pay the same rate for the same bed.
- **Transparency:** Rate cards will ensure that providers include all rates, such as add-on costs, at the beginning and are not added later.
 - Rate cards will include information regarding a provider's level of care, a break-down of the rate for that level of care including additional supervision.
- **Clarity:** Rate cards will ensure that a child's needs align with the level of treatment and care being billed for. If a youth's needs increase or decrease, the rate charged will change accordingly.
- **Budgeting:** Having transparency, standardization, and a clear level of treatment will allow agencies to budget for out of home placement costs better.
- **Implementation:** SFY 27 for congregate care providers.
 - House Bill 96 requires rate cards for congregate care providers.

ICF, INCORPORATED CONTRACT

- **Partnership:** DCY + ICF, Incorporated
- **Study Components:**
 - **Market Rate Study**– Review placement costs by setting type, acuity level, and region
 - **Narrow Cost Analysis** – Random sampling of group homes and residential facilities across varying sizes, locations, and service scopes
 - **Stakeholder Review** – Public and private advisory group provides feedback on data collection
- **Outcome:**
 - ICF will collect provider set rates establishing their statewide rate card
 - Market Rate Study and Narrow Cost Analysis will leverage Ohio's future placement cost needs

MENU OF SUPPORTS SFY 2026 UPDATES

- **Phase 2 for Kinship & Treatment Foster Homes** will continue in SFY 2026.
 - \$1.5M budget will support up to 260 kinship homes and 200 foster homes that have not been previously funded.
- **Kinship Caregiver Supports Application**
 - Opened October 20 and closed early on October 22 due to high demand.
 - 247 applications approved and pending funding distribution.
- **Pathway 2: Treatment Foster – Launching January 2026**
 - Information session: January 20
 - Application window:
 - Opens January 26 at 10:00 a.m.
 - Planned to remain open until January 28 at 5:00 p.m. but may close early depending on submission volume.
 - DCY will review all applications to ensure eligibility based on SACWIS data.



MIKE DEWINE

GOVERNOR OF OHIO



CONNECT WITH DCY



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