

ABUSED AND NEGLECTED CHILDREN ARE VULNERABLE ON MULTIPLE FUNDING FRONTS...

All children have needs, but trauma increases a child's needs. Children experience trauma when they are abused or neglected, when they see others suffer abuse, and even when they are removed from their unsafe homes. Until these children have safe and permanent homes, our state must find a way to get these children what they need to grow into healthy, productive adults.

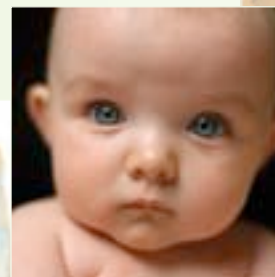


Of the 2,028 children in foster care...

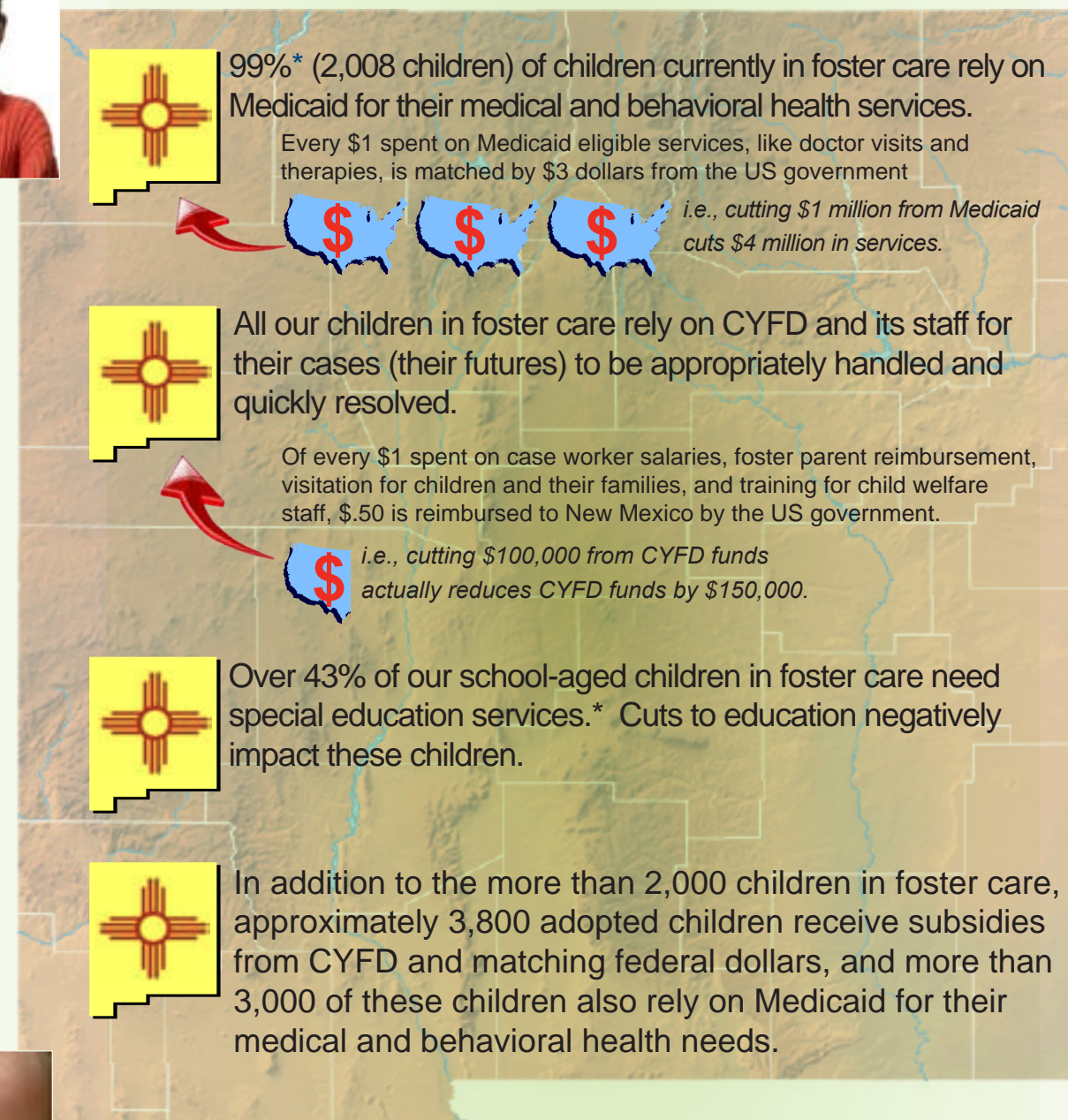


- All 2,028 require basic physical health services. Additionally, more than 400 have physical problems that require more specific medical attention.
- 1,278 need behavioral health services.
- 1,034 children have experienced the additional trauma of moving three or more times in foster care.
- 1,014 have educational and developmental problems and need educational support.

- Almost 1,000 have been in foster care two years or more.
- More than 300 were sexually abused.
- Nearly another 300 were born with drugs or alcohol in their systems.



... AND SOME CUTS GO DEEPER THAN OTHERS.



Data from New Mexico Citizen Review Board 2010 Annual Report and Recommendations

* Data from New Mexico Children Youth and Families Department (CYFD) Protective Services 360 degrees County Profiles 6/30/2008 - 6/30/2009.

* Data from Research/Evaluation and FACTS Bureau of CYFD Protective Services and Title IV-E and Medicaid Unit. January 10, 2010.

* Data from the National Foster Care Review Coalition (NM Data).

For further information please visit www.nmcrb.org or www.cyfd.org



Last Fiscal Year



- 2,028 children were in foster care, each day because they were abused and/or neglected.*
- 859 are newborn to 5 years old*
- 561 are between 6 and 10*
- 405 are between 11 and 15*
- 202 are between 16 and 18*
- Over 528 children are waiting to be adopted*

New Mexico urgently needs hundreds more foster families, especially in rural areas of the state, but efforts at recruiting, supporting and retaining these foster families are heavily impacted by state funding.



Youth have unique needs:



- More than 400 of the children in care are youth between the ages of 14 and 18. These foster youth *need* special programs that help them prepare to turn 18 and be on their own.
- Over 100 of these youth need substance abuse treatment.
- Foster youth need mentors for connection and support as they transition into adulthood without family support.

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- Foster youth statewide need access to the personal safety and grief support programs currently being piloted and shaped in Santa Fe.



