



Commission to Study Utilizing Title IV-E to Support Social Work Education at Rhode Island College

RI Department of Children, Youth & Families

November 13, 2024

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Title IV-E of the Social Security Act

Overview and Specifics for Rhode Island

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Title IV-E: Federal Payments for Foster Care, Prevention, and Permanency

All payments are reimbursements for a portion of eligible costs actually incurred.



Foster Care

Federal reimbursement for the cost of providing foster care to eligible children who are removed from their home and placed in foster care.



Adoption Assistance

Payments to adoptive families to help them care for eligible children whose particular needs would otherwise make it difficult to place them with adoptive families.



Guardianship Assistance

Payments to families who have become legal guardians of eligible children.



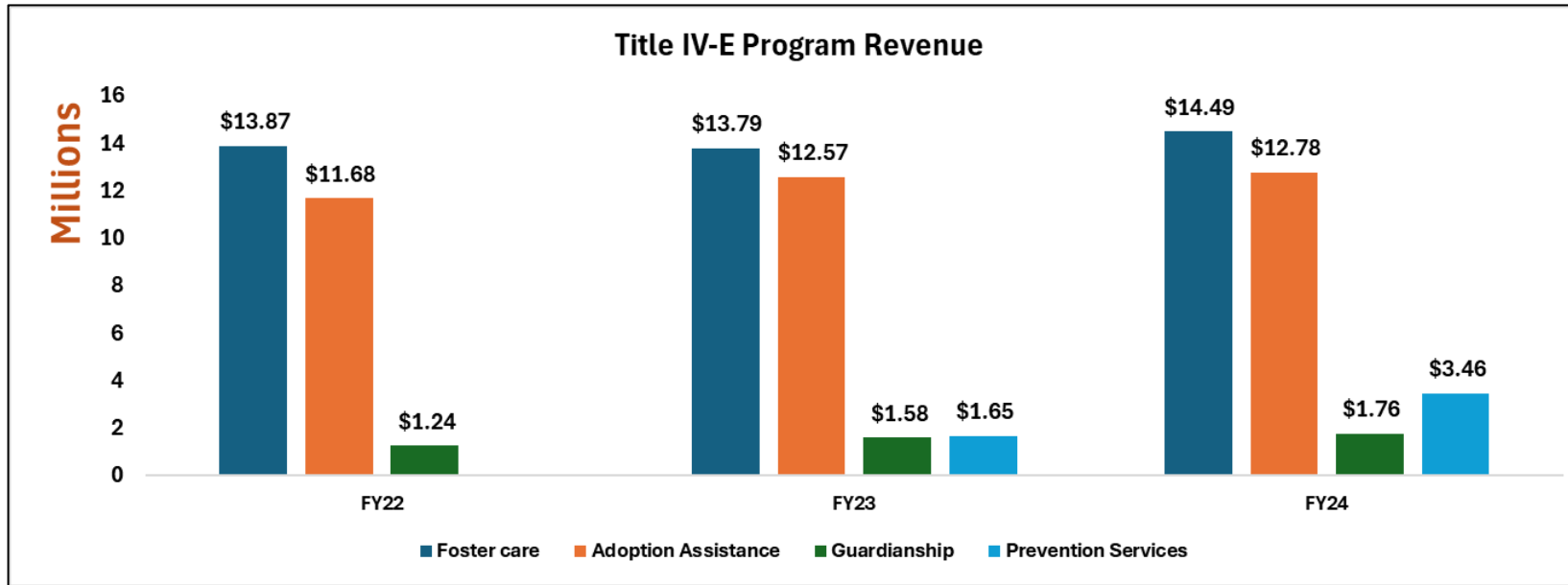
Prevention Services

Support for certain evidence-based services for eligible children that prevent them from entering foster care by allowing them to remain in their own home.

Title IV-E Funding in RI

IV-E Program Revenue	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024
Foster Care	13,866,569	13,792,147	14,489,258
Adoption Assistance	11,680,205	12,570,587	12,780,206
Guardianship Assistance	1,242,400	1,582,947	1,755,375
Prevention Services*	-	1,649,931	3,457,400
Total	26,789,174	29,595,612	32,482,239

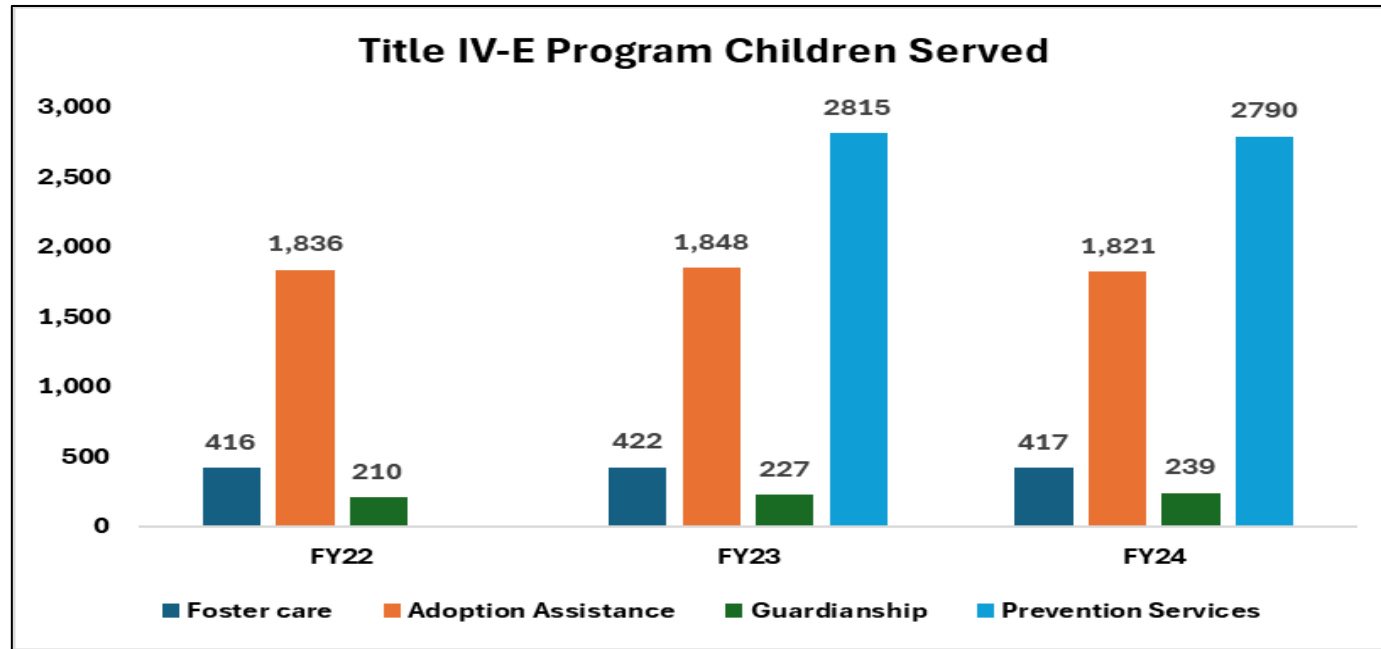
* Claiming started 10/1/2022. Therefore, the data for FY 2023 reflects 75% of the fiscal year.



Title IV-E Funding in RI: Number of Children Served

IV-E Program Children Served	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024
Foster Care	416	422	417
Adoption Assistance	1,836	1,848	1,821
Guardianship Assistance	210	227	239
Prevention Services**	-	2815	2790
Total	2,463	2,497	2,477

** Claiming started 10/1/2022. Therefore, the data for FY 2023 reflects 75% of the fiscal year.



Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA)

Enacted in 2018, this allowed Title IV-E funding for in-home prevention services for the first time.

Two buckets of funding:

1. Transition Grant – for start-up costs incurred between 10/1/19 and 9/30/25, which include:
 - Engaging a third-party (Public Consulting Group) to assist in plan and program development.
 - Modifying the internal practice and data software system (RICHIST) to implement the program.
 - Purchasing training materials for staff and families.
2. Prevention Services Programs – through FY2026; to address the needs of a child, parent, or caregiver.
 - Services must be directly related to the safety, permanence, or well-being of the child, **or** to preventing the child from needing to enter foster care.
 - Funding is permitted for up to 12 months once the child is deemed eligible. (Additional funding is case-by-case.)
 - Specific programs approved: Functional Family Therapy; Homebuilders; Multisystemic Therapy; Parent Child Interaction Therapy; Motivational Interviewing; and Familias Unidas.

Workforce Pipeline

Attract, Train, Support, Retain.

1. Recruitment and early engagement
 - Target outreach; early exposure; clear pathways
2. Offer comprehensive training programs
 - Specialized training programs; mentorship and coaching; ongoing professional development
3. Employee well-being
 - Support systems; flexible work options; workload management
4. Advancement and recognition
 - Career ladder; public recognition and awards

These foundational elements are already in place. Any expansion or revision could take up to six months, after approval and financial appropriation (if necessary).

Additional Title IV-E Funding Needed

Challenging to quantify, as it depends on several key factors:

- Title IV-E funds are reimbursements for costs incurred.
 - Any new programs would be paid for first by new general revenue from the State.
 - Federal reimbursement ranges from 50% to 100% of eligible costs incurred, depending on the program.
- Programs such as education stipends require detailed review of course materials and curriculum, as well as analysis of employee retention metrics and child/family outcomes.
 - All costs of an education program may not be eligible for reimbursement.
 - Title IV-E provides 75% federal reimbursement for allowable training costs.
 - Costs to a state would include tuition, course materials, administrative/faculty.
 - Best estimates indicate a 5- to 7-year timeline for measuring success of such a program.
 - Initial development/recruitment (6-12 months); time to complete a cohort (1-3 years, depending on the degree obtained); preliminary employee retention metrics (available beginning with year 3, depending on degree); measuring outcomes for families (additional 1-3 years depending on degree).

Discussion/Questions
