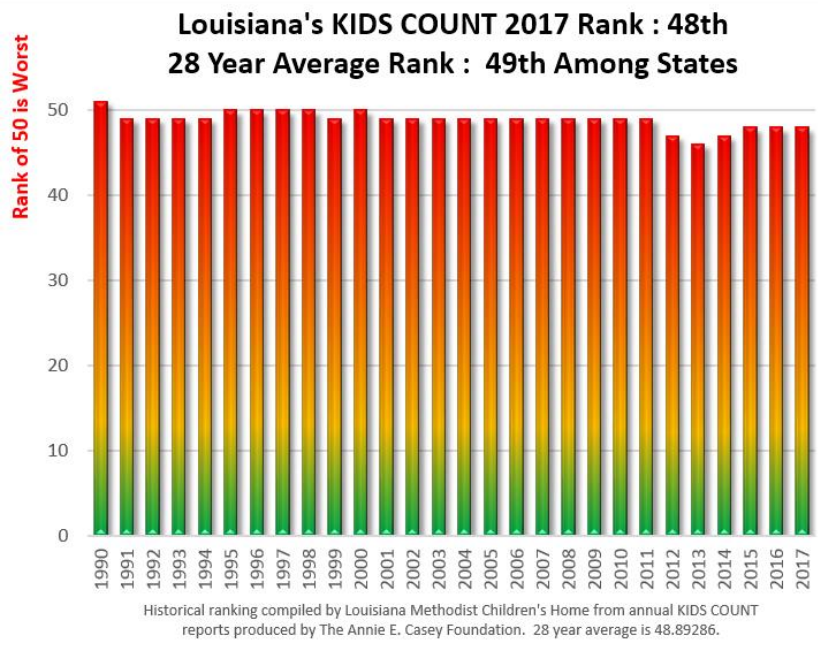




## LOUISIANA UNITED METHODIST CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES STATISTICAL REPORT OF SERVICES PROVIDED DURING 2017

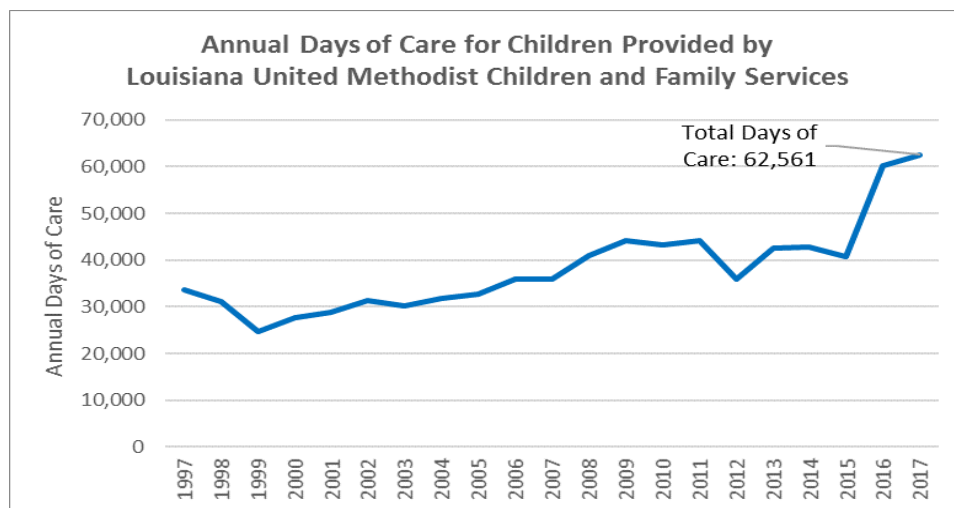
### Louisiana's Children Need More.

For 28 years, Louisiana has held the average rank of 49<sup>th</sup> among the states for child well-being. There is much work to be done on behalf of children and families.



### We Strive to Do More.

Given the state of child well-being and the incredible needs of Louisiana's children, we seek to do more each year to positively impact the lives of Louisiana's most desperate children. During 2017, Louisiana United Methodist Children and Family Services provided more care to more children and families than in any previous year. We are committed to meeting the needs of Louisiana's children. We seek to strengthen Louisiana's families.





## LOUISIANA UNITED METHODIST CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES STATISTICAL REPORT OF SERVICES PROVIDED DURING 2017

### **We are Compelled by God's Love**

The love of God compels us to pursue our mission: We guide children and families home to experience God's love by following the teachings of Christ. During 2017, more than 750 staff members intentionally and vigorously pursued our mission.

From Methodist Foster Care's therapeutic foster care services offered throughout Louisiana, to the Family Lodge at the OWL Center where we host entire families so they spend weekends with their children who are residents of Louisiana Methodist Children's Home; from special education teachers in Howard School who inspire a child's curiosity to our dietary staff members who serve delicious, nutritious meals; from our Mental Health Specialists in three children's homes whose care allows children to sleep safely without fear; to our nurses, nurse practitioners and physicians who provide medical care to all our residents – wherever we are, wherever the "Home" is – we actively and enthusiastically pursue our mission. **We guide children and families home to experience God's love by following the teachings of Christ.**

### **Louisiana's Methodist Children's Homes**

Our three United Methodist children's homes are strategically located in the bootstrap, heel and toe of Louisiana's boot-shaped state. In addition to the residential care we provide at Louisiana Methodist Children's Home, Methodist Children's Home of Greater New Orleans, and Methodist Children's Home of Southwest Louisiana, from these three children's homes, we also reach into communities across Louisiana with services for families and children.

### **Intensive and Comprehensive Residential Care for Children and Adolescents**

Our three children's homes are licensed by Louisiana's Department of Health as Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facilities. We provide the most intensive, comprehensive and holistic residential care available to Louisiana's children. We receive requests for care from throughout Louisiana from parents; from managed care organizations; from custodial state agencies including the Department of Children and Family Services, the Office of Juvenile Justice, and the Louisiana Department of Health; from clergy and from healthcare professionals.

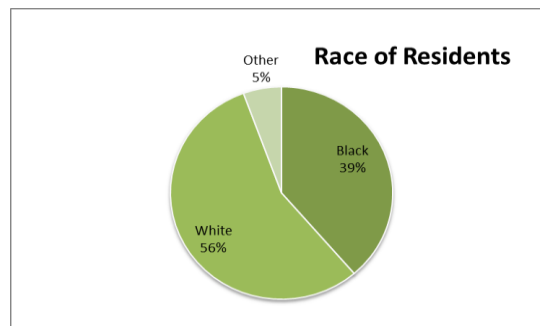
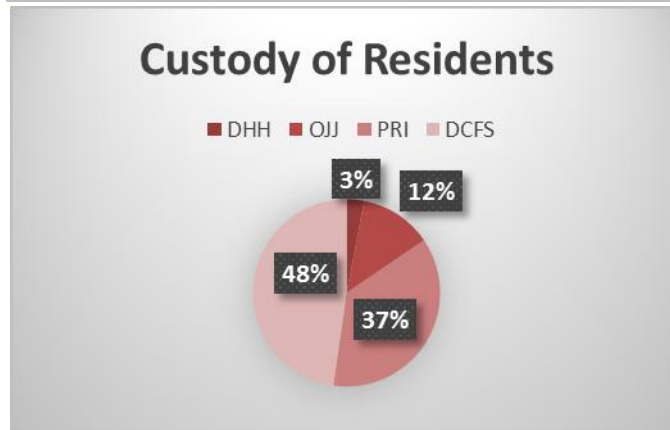
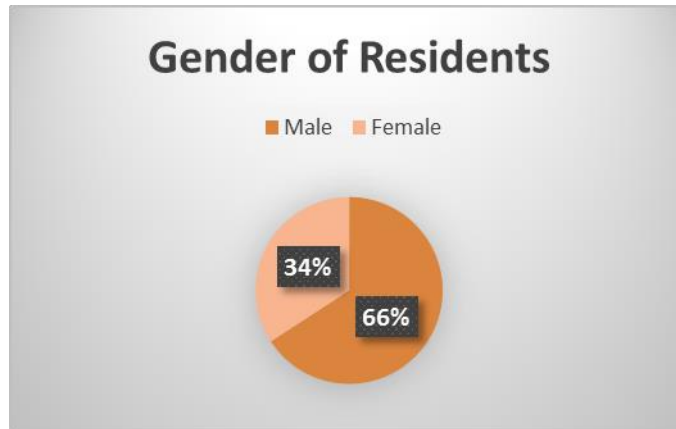
During 2017, 295 children received care in our three children's homes. Among our three children's homes, we provided 40,123 actual days of care during 2017, operating at 87.2% of potential capacity. The reduction in utilization is a consequence of placement decisions consequent to managed care operations.



# LOUISIANA UNITED METHODIST CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES STATISTICAL REPORT OF SERVICES PROVIDED DURING 2017

## Residential Occupancy

Residential Treatment Facility	Potential Days of Care	Actual Days of Care	Percentage of Capacity
Louisiana Methodist Children's Home	30,660	28,603	93.3%
Methodist Children's Home of Greater New Orleans	6,570	4,876	74.2%
Methodist Children's Home of Southwest Louisiana	8,760	6,644	75.8%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>45,990</b>	<b>40,123</b>	<b>87.2%</b>





## LOUISIANA UNITED METHODIST CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES STATISTICAL REPORT OF SERVICES PROVIDED DURING 2017

### HOWARD SCHOOL

The Lorraine Howard Educational Center or “Howard School” is located on the Ruston campus of the Louisiana Methodist Children’s Home. Licensed by Louisiana’s Department of Education as an alternative school, Howard School provided educational services to 180 youth during the 2017 calendar year. Of these students, 175 were residents of the Louisiana Methodist Children’s Home and 5 were off-campus youth from the local school district. The average daily student count for educational services on any given day at Howard School and the John Allen Vocational Center was 81.

A significant shift in how educational services were provided occurred in the fall of 2017. With the support of the Clinical Department, youth attended classes at the school for a full day of instruction rather than allowing for larger numbers of youth to be taught in the more restricted buildings of Lewis and Scott; youth attending school in the units or more restrictive settings declined by 95% in the fall of 2017. Staff from all areas of the facility made it possible for youth to receive more “seat time” in this traditional school setting which they would likely be returning to upon discharge. This instructional model continued throughout the fall of 2017 and will no doubt correlate to better student outcomes when the academic school year ends in May 2018.

The school, inclusive of the vocational center, consists of fifteen well-trained and certified professionals along with numerous support staff working diligently to provide quality educational services to youth served. In addition, a full-time guidance counselor began working to meet the needs of youth enrolled beginning in the fall of 2017. Her role to evaluate student transcripts, develop student schedules, monitor student progress, and handle the State of Louisiana assessments has been an added benefit to the school and its ability to ensure student academic success.

End-of-course testing at the high school in 2017 resulted in a passing rate of 58%; this was an 8% increase over the previous year. Carnegie credits were awarded to high school youth that remained in our care long enough to complete respective grading periods. In the middle grades, middle school performance was down across all grade levels. The overall passing rate on state assessments declined to an overall 39%. While this was a disappointment, the data points to a higher number of discharges and late arrivals. Regardless, this data will be the school’s focus in planning staff development for the 2018 calendar year.

Approximately 53% of the students who began the school year at Howard School, a combination school as defined by the Louisiana, were not attending at the time of testing. This high turnover rate negatively impacts the state calculated school performance score for this alternative school; however, Howard School achieved its highest letter grade ever, D, based on students’ performance with the 2017 spring assessments along with other factors. The success of the high school end of course (EOC) tests had much to do with this letter grade improvement.

In the high school computer lab, the web-based credit recovery program allowed for students to take courses for Carnegie Credit hours toward a high school diploma. Youth earned course credit in classes that they may have previously failed and/or earned credit in classes that would not have otherwise been available through on-campus instructors. In 2017 seven credits were earned by youth enrolled in computer-based credit courses. Five students earned their HiSET (GED) diploma by taking the required coursework and successfully passing the HiSET exam to achieve this goal. This was a passage rate of



## LOUISIANA UNITED METHODIST CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES STATISTICAL REPORT OF SERVICES PROVIDED DURING 2017

100% for those who were recommended for and took the HiSET exam prior to leaving the care of LUMCFS.

The Lorraine Howard Educational Center as well as the John Allen Vocational Center offered quality educational experiences for all youth at the Louisiana Methodist Children's Home in 2017. The Education Department of LUMCFS accomplished its stated mission by which all educators and support staff continue to embrace – helping every child to achieve his or her fullest academic potential while providing the essential supports of safety, care, and guidance.

### **The OWL Center**

The OWL Center served over 15,000 individuals in 2017 through a variety of therapeutic, recreational, and educational programs. We continued to offer therapeutic recreation to the youth at all three Methodist Children's Home campuses, while increasing outreach programs within the community.

The Henning Conference Center hosted over 7,200 visitors last year. It was used for numerous LMCH functions, including MCH summer program activities, staff meetings, and trainings. Community events included weddings, family reunions, workshops, summer camps, and church/ business retreats. The Conference Center was also the center of activities for the ReBoot Military Therapeutic Retreat hosted by LMCH.

The Henning Family Lodge continues to be utilized by LMCH youth's family members, volunteers, and staff from satellite offices. LMCH youth enjoy being able to stay with their families and take part in family therapy, including equine assisted learning sessions. Along with fishing and hiking, a new Gaga ball pit and updated Frisbee golf course provide recreation opportunities for guests. Several families have mentioned that they appreciate the opportunity to spend time together without outside distractions.

With over 2,900 participants in 2017, the ropes course continues to be popular with groups of all ages and backgrounds. Visiting community groups included churches, athletic teams, schools, and business corporations. Many of these groups come back every year and incorporate the ropes course into their events as an important teambuilding tool. Ropes activities focus on problem solving, leadership skills, effective communication, and trust. The staff and youth from LMCH have the opportunity to take part in high and low ropes challenges throughout the year. These elements provide youth with a chance to get out of their comfort zones, and to develop problem solving and communication skills. It also builds the bond between youth and staff, an important facet of the CARE model.

The OWL Center continues to have an active volunteer program, hosting groups from as far away as New York and Michigan. They came with a wide range of talents, as well as the most important asset for any OWL volunteer: the willingness to work! OWL volunteers cleared trails, constructed fence, worked in the orchard, painted and cleaned buildings, and worked on various construction projects. Under the supervision of our Screaming OWL Production Manager, volunteers made the majority of the salsa and jelly produced in 2017. A core group of volunteers assisted with various lessons and groups at the equine center throughout the year. Each volunteer group is taken on a tour of the facility, providing a chance to spread the word about the ministry of the Children's Home.



## LOUISIANA UNITED METHODIST CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES STATISTICAL REPORT OF SERVICES PROVIDED DURING 2017

The therapeutic horsemanship program served over 3,600 individuals in 2017. The horsemanship class continues to be the most popular OWL program for MCH youth. Youth are taught to safely handle, care for, and ride horses, with each week's lesson centered on a life skills theme, such as responsibility, setting goals, following directions, and respect. These classes are a wonderful opportunity for our youth to practice communication, compassion and patience. OWL staff also brought the horses down to the Sulphur campus, and provided equine therapy and low ropes activities to the youth there.

An increased number of community groups participated in Equine Assisted Learning sessions, focusing on group goals like teambuilding, communication, and problem solving. OWL staff brought horses to Med Camps of Louisiana weekly during their 8-week summer camp, and also went to their Fall Festival.

Equine Assisted Psychotherapy is a vital part of our equine program and proves that therapy can be beneficial and fun for youth, therapists and staff alike! In EAP, participants learn about themselves and others by participating in activities with the horses, and then processing feelings, behaviors, and patterns. Non-verbal communication, assertiveness, problem-solving, responsibility, and confidence are several examples of the tools developed by EAP. Many MCH youth are not responsive to traditional talk therapy, and EAP is a powerful tool to help them 'unlock' certain habits and destructive behaviors.

The OWL Center was able to offer therapeutic horsemanship classes thanks to our 2 PATH Certified instructors. The number of therapeutic riding lessons for individuals with handicaps increased, as well as therapeutic horsemanship classes for youth from the community. A grant funded by the Living Well Foundation allowed the staff and horses from our equine center to travel to area schools and provide on site horsemanship classes, leadership activities and therapeutic riding classes to students from Union and Jackson Parishes. In 2017, the OWL Equine Center hosted our 3<sup>rd</sup> "Keep Calm and Ride On" program for local at risk youth. During a 12-week session, 13 youth ages 7-16 took part in equine assisted learning activities and horsemanship classes. The response from their guardians was overwhelmingly positive, with several commenting that they had seen positive changes in their child's behavior and self-esteem.

Summer program for our Ruston MCH youth included participating in the high and low ropes course, maze activities, canoeing, swimming, mountain biking, horseback riding, and much more! Each new skill we teach during summer programs helps LMCH youth gain confidence and shows they can learn and succeed, even in challenging situations. We were also able to host a short summer camp for the Mandeville and Sulphur campuses. We also housed the Sulphur campus again in late August when they had to make an emergency evacuation due to Hurricane Harvey.

This summer the OWL hosted the North Louisiana Rotary Club annual RYLA Leadership camp for the 8<sup>th</sup> year. Seventy-five teenagers and twenty RYLA camp counselors filled up the bunkhouse and cabins for a week of fun, teambuilding, and personal growth. They participated in swimming, canoeing, the ropes course, maze and equine assisted learning activities.

The OWL Center continued to partner with LMCH's Family Counseling Center in offering equine assisted therapy for families and individuals.

2017 was a successful year of growth for the OWL Center and we look forward to touching even more lives in 2018!



**LOUISIANA UNITED METHODIST CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES  
STATISTICAL REPORT OF SERVICES PROVIDED DURING 2017**

**FAMILY COUNSELING CENTER**

<b>Programs</b>	<b>Families</b>	<b>Individuals</b>	<b>Sessions</b>
<b>Counseling at FCC and Grace UMC</b>	104	207	3,850
<b>Group Sessions</b>	118	118	32
<b>Health Hut</b>	160	160	523
<b>Life Choices</b>	8	8	58
<b>Cypress Springs Elementary School</b>	515	530	304
<b>Headstart (Ruston, Bernice and Farmerville)</b>	12	12	62
<b>FCC Community Events at the OWL</b>	13	57	
<b>Community Education/Trainings</b>		1,241	
<b>Distribution of marketing and educational materials</b>		3,275	
<b>Prevention Services through Publications/Facebook/Radio</b>		4,700	
<b>Referrals to Community Services</b>	48	48	
<b>Total Served</b>	<b>978</b>	<b>10,356</b>	<b>4,829</b>

The table above details the services provided to the community by the Family Counseling Center, the organization’s outpatient counseling program located on the grounds of Louisiana Methodist Children’s Home in Ruston, Louisiana. The Family Counseling Center served individuals and families in 7 parishes providing mental health counseling and educational services to over 10,350 individuals.

A positive consequence of outgrowing our own facility on the Ruston campus has been the spread of our services into local and surrounding communities. Counseling sessions were provided at FCC, Grace UMCH, Headstart (Ruston, Bernice and Farmerville), health Hut, Life Choices and Cypress Springs Elementary School. Group counseling sessions were provided at Council on Aging, Believing In You/Elisha Ministries, Cypress Springs Elementary School and Headstart locations.

The Family Counseling Center meets the needs of families by strengthening our specialty areas in children’s services, trauma recovery and marriage and family issues. In addition to improving our counseling skills, we strive to be a vital part of the community. A large part of that requires working from a systemic view of community needs and resources. It is our belief that partnering with a purpose across a diverse spectrum of programs and organizations is most effective in addressing the complexity of the mental health issues affecting our community. During 2017 FCC continued to build relationships within the community to help strengthen this collaborative bond.

**Funding:** The Family Counseling Center is supported by fee for service revenue, grants and the charitable support received from donors whose contributions allow FCC to continue operations.

**Total number of sessions:** FCC provided 3,850 counseling sessions during 2017. An additional 523 sessions were provided at The Health Hut, 62 individual and group sessions at 3 Headstart sites, 58 at Life Choices and 304 at Cypress Springs Elementary School. Thirty-two group sessions were provided in the community.





## LOUISIANA UNITED METHODIST CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES STATISTICAL REPORT OF SERVICES PROVIDED DURING 2017

**Partnerships:** In 2017 FCC continued healthy partnerships with The Health Hut, Head Start, and Life Choices providing individual, group and family counseling. The partnership with Lincoln Parish Schools continued with FCC providing many of the mandatory trainings for school personnel. In August 2017 FCC began providing a therapist on-site at Life Choices one day every other week to provide counseling for individuals and to support and provide consultation for the volunteers.

FCC continues to partner with the master's level counseling programs at Louisiana Tech University and University of Louisiana at Monroe by providing internship sites at FCC and Life Choices. Through the Lincoln Health Foundation grant, FCC offered seven personnel trainings on Bullying and Suicide Prevention for Lincoln Parish School employees, partially funded two Lincoln Parish residents for USA ReBoot Resort Camp, began quarterly trainings for Ruston Fire Department and continued to make available a therapist on-site at Cypress Springs Elementary School three days a week to provide counseling for students and to support and provide consultation for teachers. FCC, in collaboration with the OWL Center and Johnny Urrutia, conducted 2 week-long pilot programs of the USA ReBoot Resort Camp and one 3-day follow up ReCharge Camp. The data collected showed the program to have a positive lasting effect upon the participating individuals.

**Educational Community Presentations and Events:** Community trainings have included Suicide Awareness and Prevention, Stress Management, Bullying, A Framework for Understanding Poverty, Understanding Grief, Compassion Fatigue, Caregiver Stress, Parenting, ADHD, Technology Safety and Classroom Behavior Management. These trainings have been offered in collaboration with local community agencies, churches and schools.

### **FAMILY COUNSELING CENTER - SHREVEPORT**

In 2017 Family Counseling Center expanded and absorbed Family Plus Shreveport, changing to Family Counseling Center – Shreveport. FCC-S provided services to a total of 68 families and individuals, an increase of 38 from 2016. Services offered included such things as: group counseling, out-patient counseling, assessments, and referrals.

### **LIFE SKILLS TRAINING CENTER**

#### **INDEPENDENT LIVING SKILLS TRAINING AND CASE MANAGEMENT SERVICES**

During 2017, in addition to the Monroe and Covington Regions we began serving youth in both the Lafayette and Lake Charles Regions. We now have a total of four Life Skills Training Centers across Louisiana. Children ages 14-17 in the care of our agency, other child care agencies, and in foster homes, are eligible for the Independent Living Skills Program. The ILSP classes include subjects such as goal setting, job and employment skills, cooking, positive peer relationships, sex education, money management, sex trafficking prevention, self-care, and many other subjects related to living independently. Young Adults ages 18-26 were provided Case Management Services. Case Management Services include assistance in finding housing; guidance in enrolling in educational programs; finding employment; attending court; help with connecting to community resources; mentoring and emotional support.





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The Monroe Region held 229 structured classes and 8 in-home support classes. The total number of youth ages 14-17 served was 533. The number of youth included 112 DCFS youth, 293 OJJ youth and 128 Private youth. Case management services were provided for 13 young adults. The number of youth completing the program was 10 with an average pre-assessment score of 47% and post-assessment of 81%. The average point improvement at post-assessment was 37 points.

The Covington Region held 146 structured classes and 14 in-home support classes. The total number of youth ages 14-17 served was 211. The number of youth included 206 DCFS youth and 5 OJJ youth. Case management services were provided for 10 young adults ages 18-26. The number of youth completing the program was 7 with an average pre-assessment score of 83% and a post-assessment of 95%. The average point improvement at post-assessment was 11 points.

The Lake Charles Region held 52 structured classes and 35 in-home support classes. The total number of youth ages 14-17 served was 28. The number of youth included 23 DCFS and 5 OJJ youth. Case Management Services were provided for 2 young adults ages 18-26. The Lake Charles Region is a new program, no youth have yet completed. The average pre-assessment score for youth beginning the program was 77%.

The Lafayette Region held 2 structured classes and 22 in-home support classes. The total number of youth ages 14-17 served was 14 DCFS. Case Management Services were provided to 5 young adults ages 18-26. The Lafayette Region is a new program, no youth have yet completed. The average pre-assessment score for youth beginning the program was 73%.

### **METHODIST FOSTER CARE**

During 2017, Methodist Foster Care continued growth into all regions of Louisiana with intentional emphases on southeast and southwest Louisiana. Continued to increase census through intentional recruitment efforts like the series of 50 public meetings we titled, "50 in the Fall". During 2017, Methodist Foster Care averaged 8 intakes per month. In 2017, Methodist Foster Care, in response to DCFS' request, began developing pools of specialized Therapeutic Foster Homes to address populations of children for whom DCFS find difficult to find appropriate TFC services.

Methodist Foster Care continued implementing two evidence-based milieu models: TBRI and QPI. In addition, Methodist Foster Care is progressing steadily toward achieving the primary goal of certifying and maintaining 100 TFC families throughout Louisiana. Once the initial goal of 100 homes is achieved in 2018, Methodist Foster Care will continue expansion by establishing regional offices for northwest, southwest and southeast Louisiana.