

Keeping Families Together Cost Analysis



Keeping Families Together **reduced** actual and potential use of **foster care services** by a total of **5,415** days over two years, and **shelter use** by **13,703 days** over two years. Together, these reductions in foster care and shelter represent a **total cost offset of \$1,866,592**.

We know that those best served by supportive housing are the most vulnerable and high-need families in our communities who are often using multiple emergency services beyond foster care and homeless services. Avoided costs from **foster care and shelter services alone** offset 97% of the cost of supportive housing. **The net cost of keeping families together, and improving child safety and well-being is \$1,093 per year or \$3 per day!**

FOSTER CARE SERVICES COSTS

Costs and offsets take into account both the avoided costs resulting from parent-child reunifications as well costs resulting from the prevented entry of at-risk children into foster care placement.

In the 2 years following *Keeping Families Together* placement, 5,415 days of foster care were avoided. At \$97 per day, that is a total of \$525,255 or \$18,122 per family in total foster care costs avoided.

HOMELESS SERVICES COSTS

Prior to *Keeping Families Together*, families consumed a total of 14,323 days in family shelter and 618 days in single adult shelter. Two years following the pilot placement, shelter use declined to 620 days and at \$64 per day, that is a shelter utilization reduction of \$46,253 over 2 years.

TOTAL COSTS VS. SUPPORTIVE HOUSING

