



## 2022 Supplemental Legislative Agenda

WACF represents nearly 50 member agencies all across the state that provide services at every point along the child welfare system. Starting with the work of prevention services to help keep children and families out of the foster care system and to keep families together. WACF is actively engaged in work to strengthen the foster care continuum, an important part of all of our work is supporting, strengthening and stabilizing our provider community by ensuring they are adequately resourced in order to have good outcomes for children, youth and families.

### Prevention and Reunification

WACF strongly encourages the legislature to fully fund the cost of in-home prevention services. Failing to do so will continue to limit the number of families most at risk of entering foster care from receiving prevention services which help keep children and youth out of the foster care system. Funding will help eliminate current waitlists, maintain the current availability of services and build the capacity of services. **We are requesting \$8.5 million (\$17 million for the biennium) to fully fund in-home prevention services according to the results of the 2021 in-home prevention services rate study completed along with DCYF.**

### Workforce-related Rate Increase

Providers along the child welfare continuum struggle to be able to compete to recruit and retain qualified staff which creates a lack of continuity and instability for services providers and the youth they serve. WACF supports a \$12.5 million rate increase for BRS facility-based services and \$4.3 million increase for treatment foster care homes.



### For Additional Information Contact

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