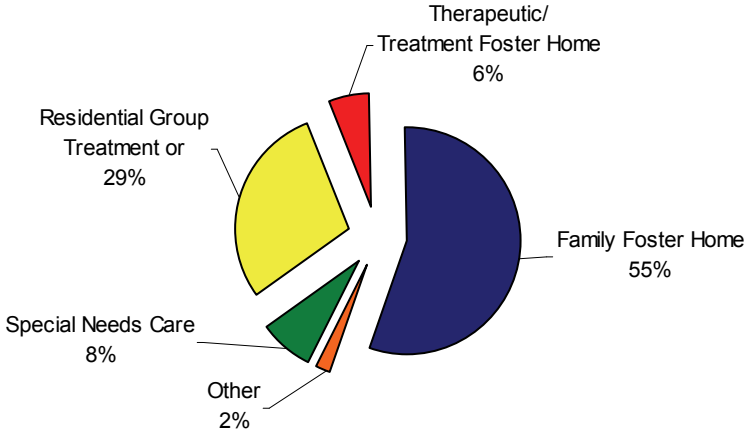
Out-Of-Home Services

Out-of-Home Services are designed to ensure the child's safety and provide for the child's health and well-being in an appropriate, temporary setting. The child remains in an out-of-home placement until reunification, permanent guardianship, adoption or independent living can be attained.

Types Of Out-Of-Home Care

There are several different types of out-of-home care available for children. ***Kinship Care***, full-time care, nurturing and protection of a child by relatives, is the first option when a child must be separated from his/her parents. ***Foster Care*** is provided to children who have no relatives with whom they can be placed and cannot immediately return home due to safety issues. Three levels of foster care exist—basic, specialized and structured. Children are placed in the different levels based upon the level of care required. ***Proctor Care*** is similar to foster care, with additional therapeutic supports for the child and the proctor family if needed. If children have treatment needs or behavior issues that are too extensive for foster homes, they are placed in ***Residential/Group Care***, as they provide intensive treatment and a more restrictive environment. ***Transition to Adult Living (TAL)*** prepares youth, ages 14 and over, for the transition from foster care to living independently.



All foster care families receive training, by Utah Foster Care Foundation, prior to placement of a child in their home. In addition, foster parents and any household members, ages 18 and older, are required to meet licensing standards and pass a background check.

Most children leaving foster care are reunited with their parents or caregiver. If a child is not able to reunify, custody is given to relatives in almost one-third of the cases. Adoption services are considered when it becomes apparent it is the most appropriate method of providing a permanent home for children in custody. Post adoption services, such as training and support groups, are available.

QUICK FACTS

- 34% of children served in foster care were in a kinship placement for some of the time
- 29% of children entering foster care exited within 12 months, 47% of these children are reunified.
- Custody is awarded to relatives in 15% of cases of children leaving foster care.
- Adoption occurs approximately 7 months after termination of parental rights.