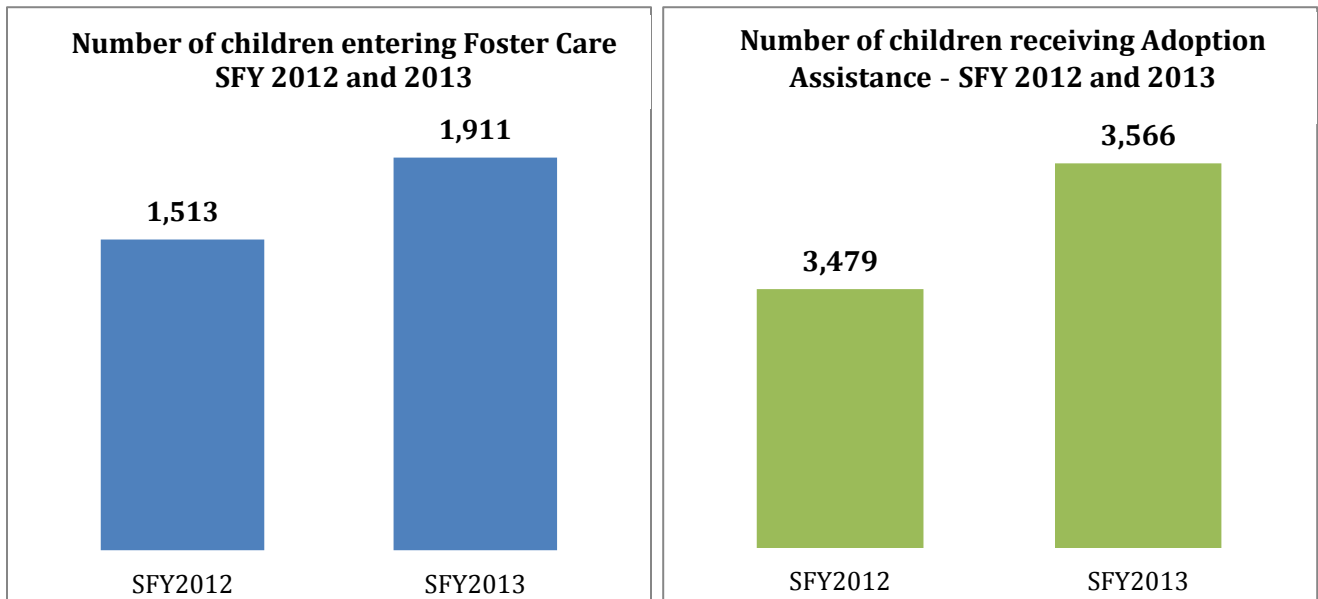


# DHHS Budget Initiative – Support for Child Welfare

## Foster Care / Adoption Assistance

The number of children in Maine in need of Foster Care or Adoption Assistance is projected to grow from SFY 2012 to SFY 2013. Nearly 400 more children are projected to be entering foster care in 2013, while an additional 77 will require adoption assistance (see charts below).

Some of the needs of the new entries into the foster care program include room and board, child care, clothing expense, diaper or other similar needs.



## Initiative

This initiative provides funding in the State Funded Foster Care/Adoption Assistance program for the projected increase in the number of children entering foster care in 2013. An additional \$4.2 million per year covers the increase of \$3.2 million annually for room and board expenses an additional \$1 million to childcare, clothing expense and diaper or similar expense through SFY 14/15 for new entries into foster care.

Year	Funds
SFY 13	\$4,200,000
SFY 14	\$4,200,000
SFY 15	\$4,200,000

**Note:** Adoption subsidy costs increase slightly each year as more children are added to the program; however the primary cost driver of this request is the additional number of children entering the foster care program.

## Impact

- For children that meet eligibility, this funding will provide placement stability.
- Payments to providers