

Presentation to the
Joint Ways and Means Subcommittee on Human Services

Vocational Rehabilitation Overview

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Today's Presentation

- Program overview
- Services
- Accomplishments
- Challenges
- Investments
- Budget Overview and KPMs

Our Vision

Every Oregonian with a disability who desires to work is given the means and opportunity.

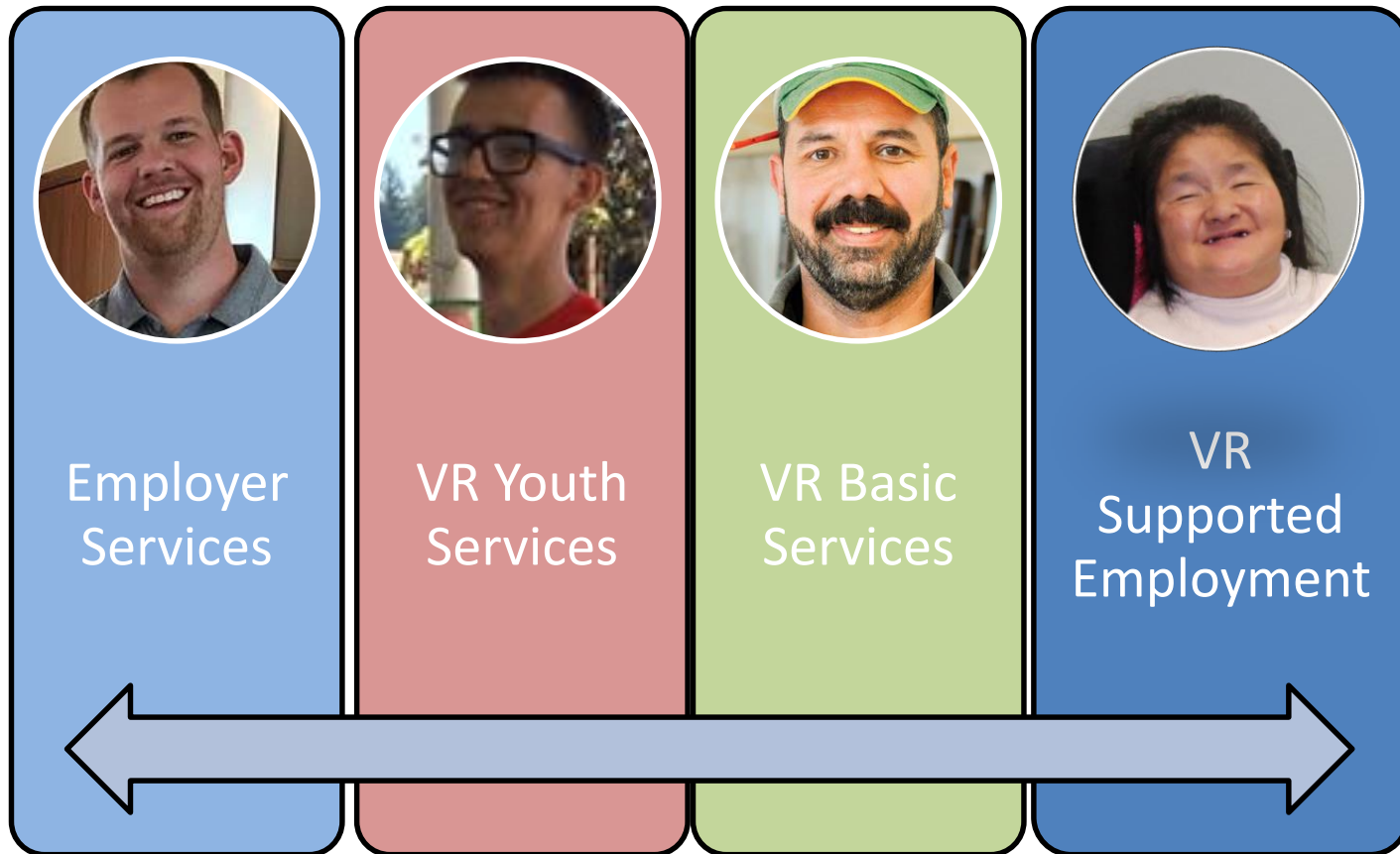


Our Mission

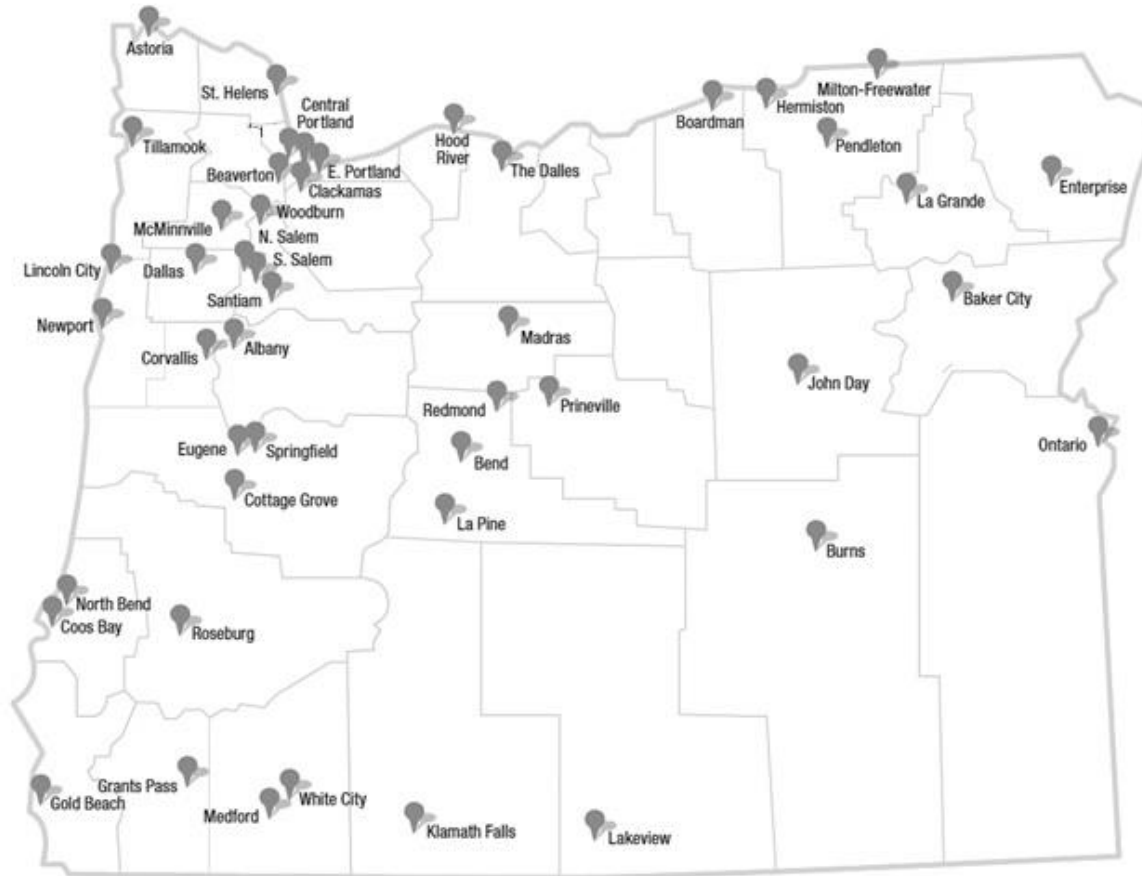
Assist Oregonians with disabilities to achieve, maintain and advance in employment and independence.



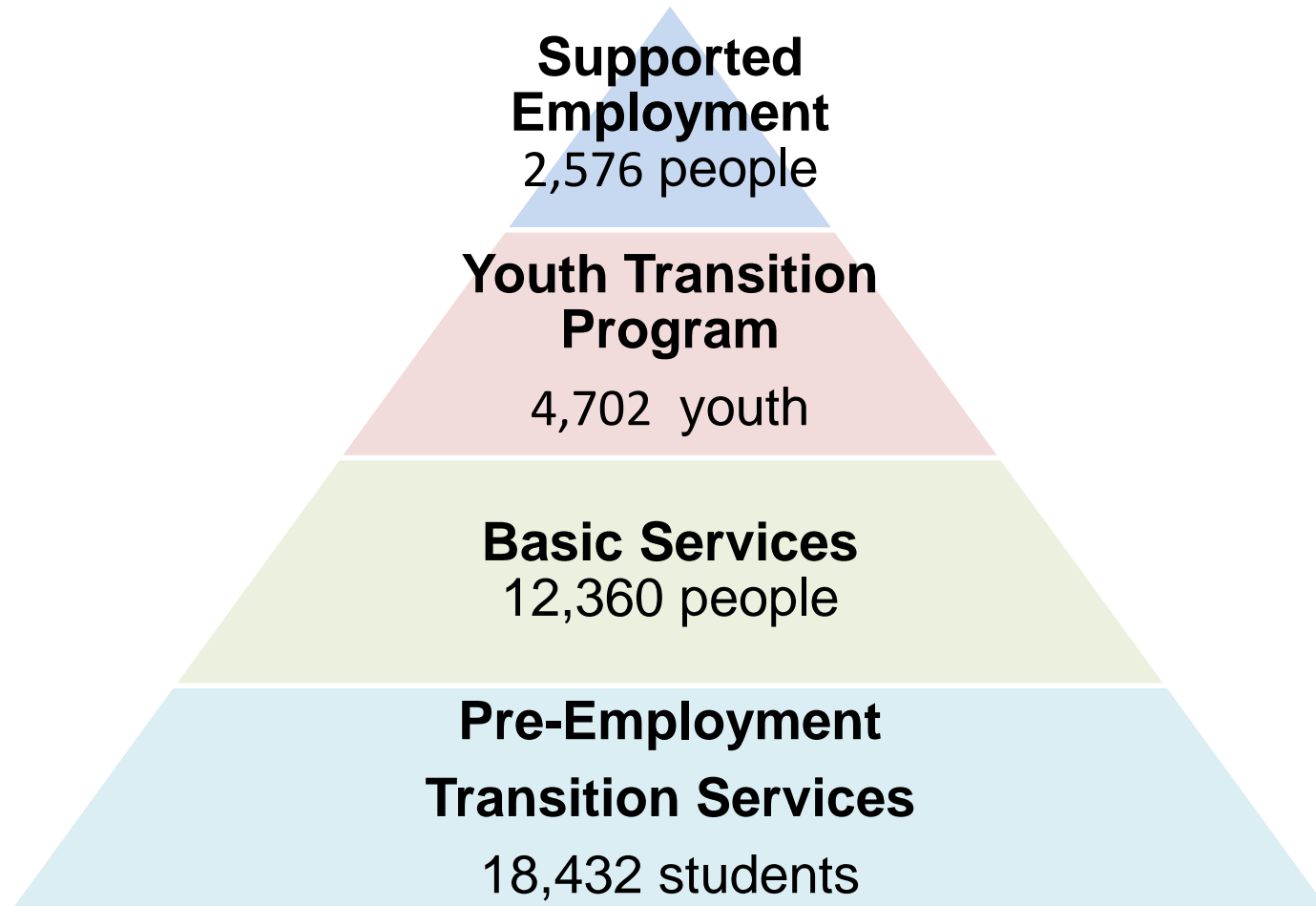
VR Program Services



VR Field Offices



Types of services (2017)



Pre-Employment Transition Services (Pre-ETS)

- Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act
 - Requires VR to spend 15 percent of federal grant on Pre-ETS
- Pre-ETS are:
 - Job exploration counseling
 - Work-based learning experiences
 - Counseling on postsecondary education and transition programs
 - Workplace readiness training
 - Instruction in self-advocacy

Pre-ETS: Success Story

- Meet Noah
- SWIFT Participant (Summer Work Internship for Transition)
- National representative for disabilities



Basic VR Services

- Identifying disability-related barriers to employment
- Develop an individualized plan
- Labor market research and counseling
- Accommodations and other assistive technology
- Training, post-secondary education and other advancement opportunities
- Job development

Basic Services: Success Story

Meet Safwan

- Syrian refugee
- Deaf and learning American Sign Language as a second language
- Currently working at Sparrow Furniture



“I’m so happy now. I’m so thankful,” Safwan says.

Youth Transition Program

- 120 school districts across Oregon
- Collaboration with Oregon Department of Education, the University of Oregon and local school districts
- Served 1,974 students with disabilities in Fiscal Year 2018
- Accomplishments:
 - 1,424 Individualized Plans for Employment
 - 79 percent of YTP students exiting school were employed or enrolled in post-secondary education
 - Working an average of 28 hours per week

Youth Transition Program: Success

- Meet Ross, 19 years old
- Bus driver with Mid-Columbia Bus Company in La Grande
- Job developed by YTP Specialist while Ross was in school
- Works 20-34 hours per week
- Says it's his dream job



Supported Employment

- The full array of Basic VR Services with additional supports including:
 - Customized employment
 - Job coaching
 - Identification of “long-term” or “natural” supports for ongoing employment
 - Benefits planning

Supported Employment

- Meet Linda
- VR counselor Pennie supported her goals
- First community job at age 62
- Now works 18 hours per week at Portland State University's Universal Design Lab
- Job coach Alex supports Linda at the workplace



Services for Employers

- Recruit and refer qualified applicants
- Help with accommodation needs
- On-The-Job-Training agreements
- Establish long-term business relations and supports
- Provide disability awareness, etiquette and tailored trainings
- Diversity and inclusion education resources
- No cost to employers

Services for Employers: Success

“Working with the Vocational Rehabilitation program was a great investment in our business. This program has continued to pay dividends by connecting our business with a great employee who has made a true impact.” – Cameron Curtis, Curtis homes, Hood River

Alonzo, left, works full-time for Curtis Homes. Alonzo worked with VR and his YTP specialist and had a job when he graduated high school.



Oregon's Independent Living Program

Provides peer-based services to people with disabilities

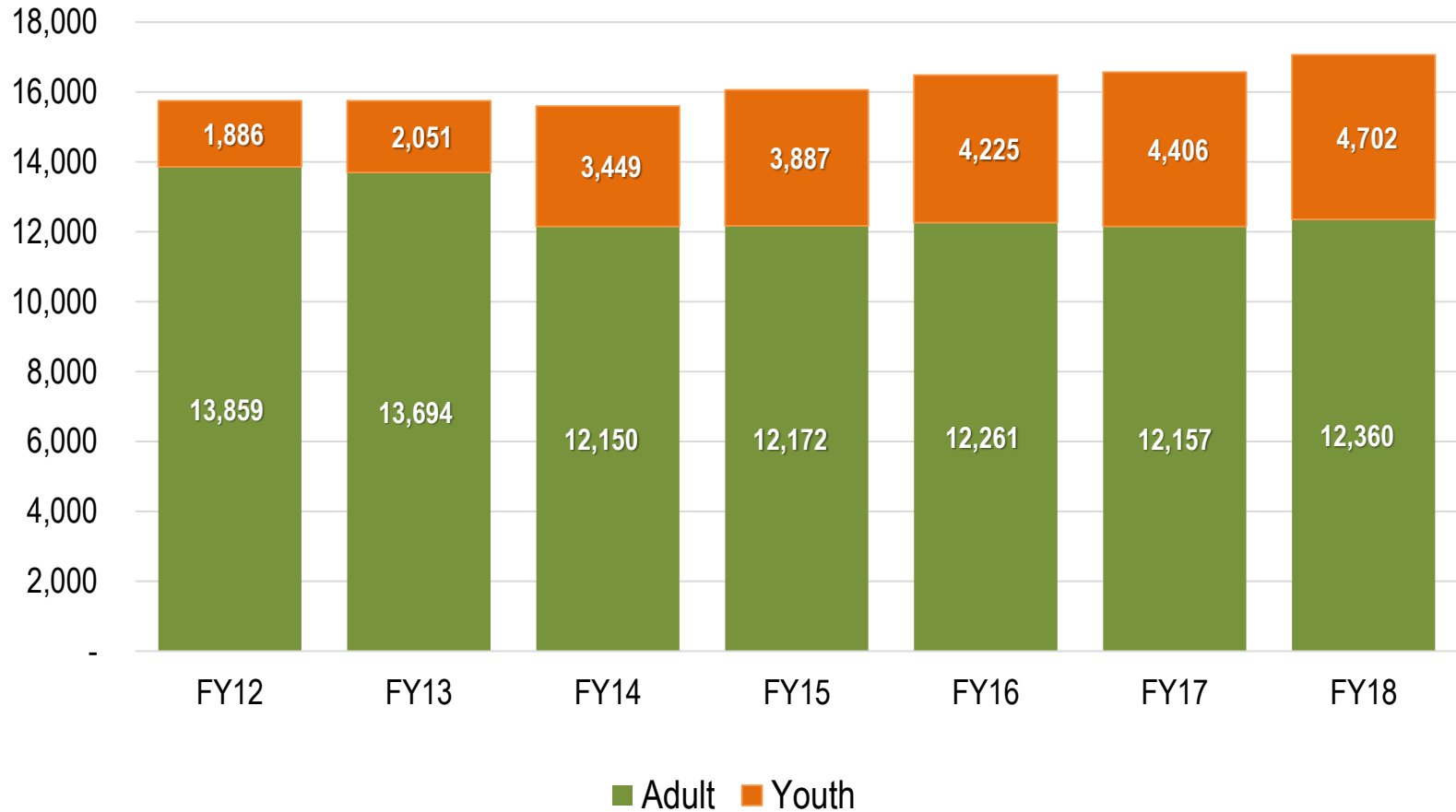
- VR: Designated state entity
- 7 Centers for Independent Living (CILS)
- The Governor's State Independent Living Council (SILC)



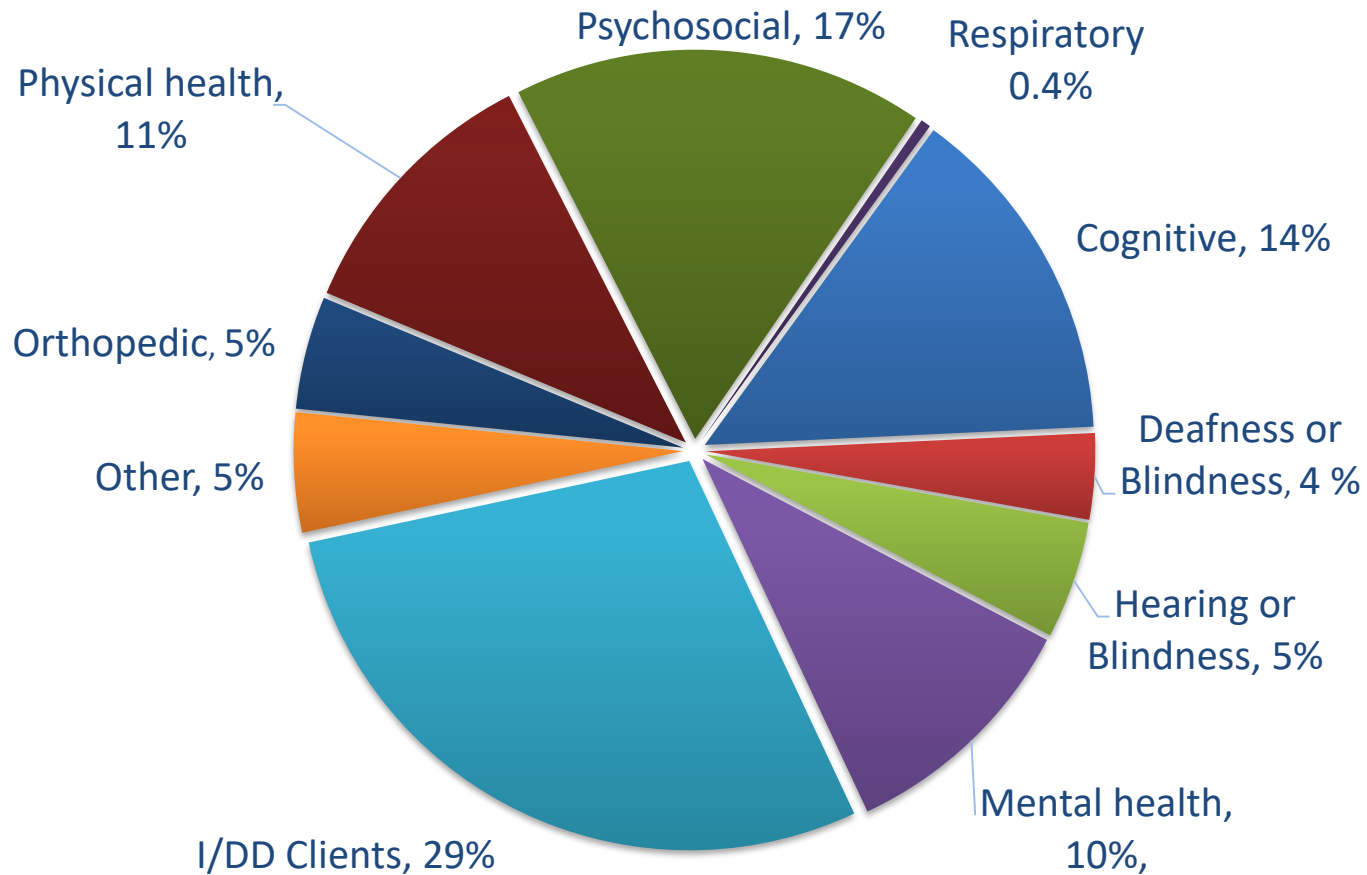
Core Independent Living Services

- Peer Counseling (more than 2,300 people served annually)
- Information and Referral (more than 15,000 services annually)
- Skills training
- Transitions
- Advocacy

Oregonians served



VR Demographics



VR Accomplishments

- Served 17,060 Oregonians with disabilities
- Provided over 18,000 Pre-ETS
- 2,700 employment outcomes
- Helping youth transition from high school to work: both a federal requirement and the right thing to do
- Work Opportunity Tax Credit – \$1.3 million in tax credits received by Oregon Employers based on VR participation
- 2nd and 4th quarter consumer employment retention rate has increased from SF16 to SF17

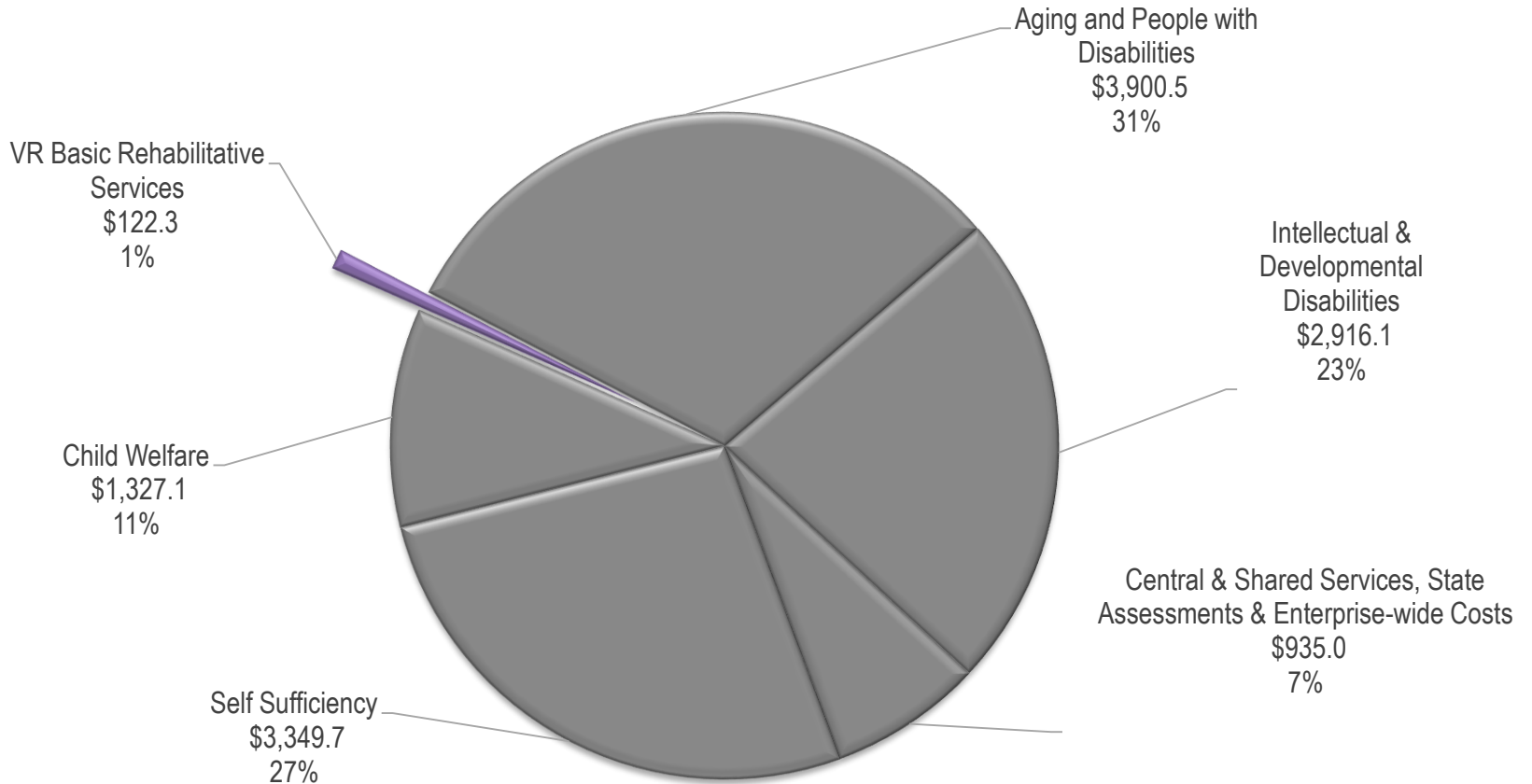
Challenges

- Considerable changes in federal law
 - Shifting resources (15 percent of federal budget to younger population)
 - Maintain VR's core services while simultaneously implementing required changes
 - Quarterly reporting versus annual
- Program cost increases
 - More people with higher support needs
 - Costs for assistive technology and other services

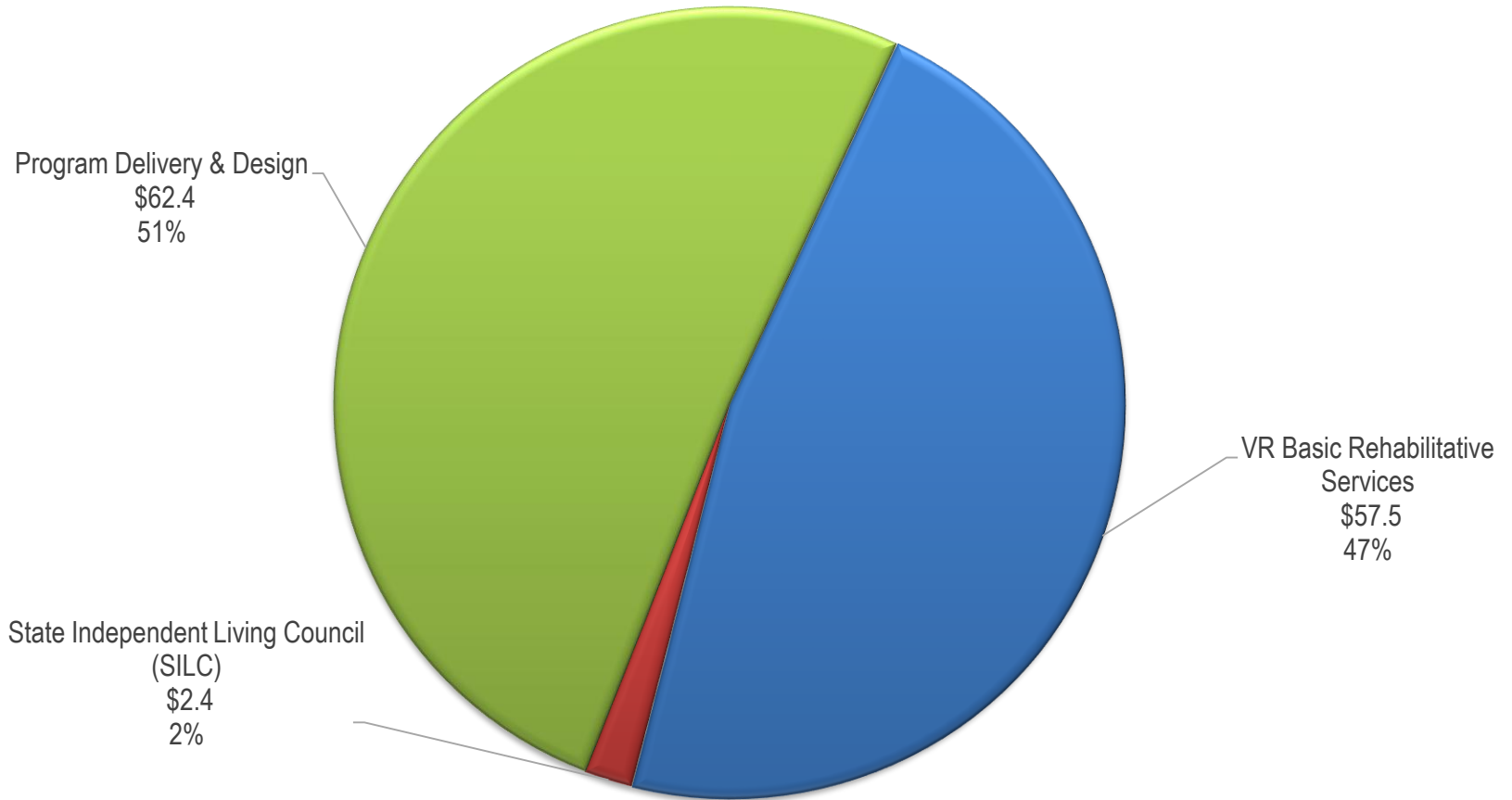
Proposed Investments

- Additional authority for Pre-Employment Transition Services, including three positions in eastern and southern Oregon.

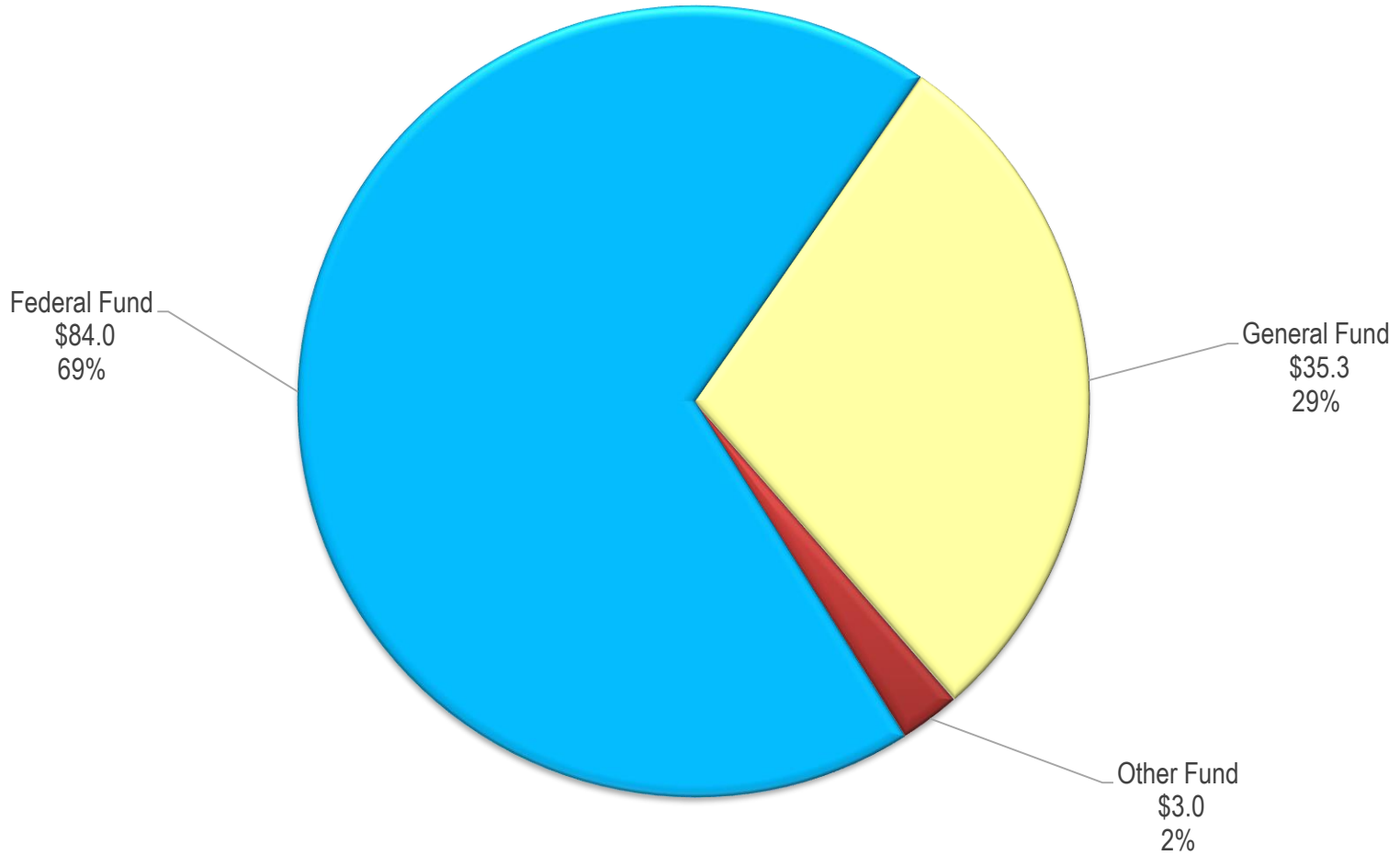
Department of Human Services
2019-21 Governor's Budget
Total Fund by Program Area
\$ 12,550.7 million



VR Basic Rehabilitative Services
Total Fund by Program Area
\$ 122.3 million

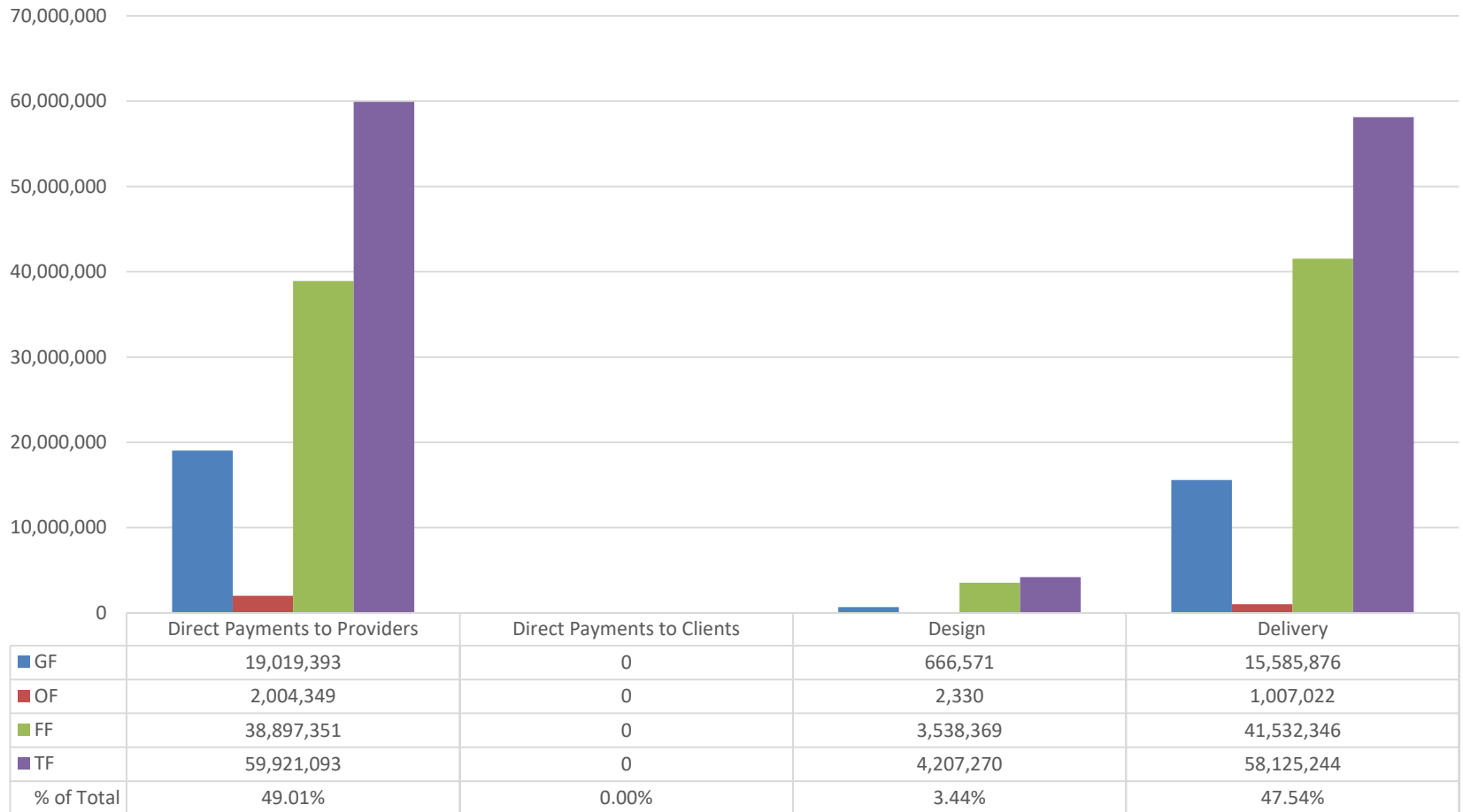


VR Basic Rehabilitative Services
Total by Fund Type
\$ 122.3 million



DHS VR Direct Payments and Services 2017-19 GB

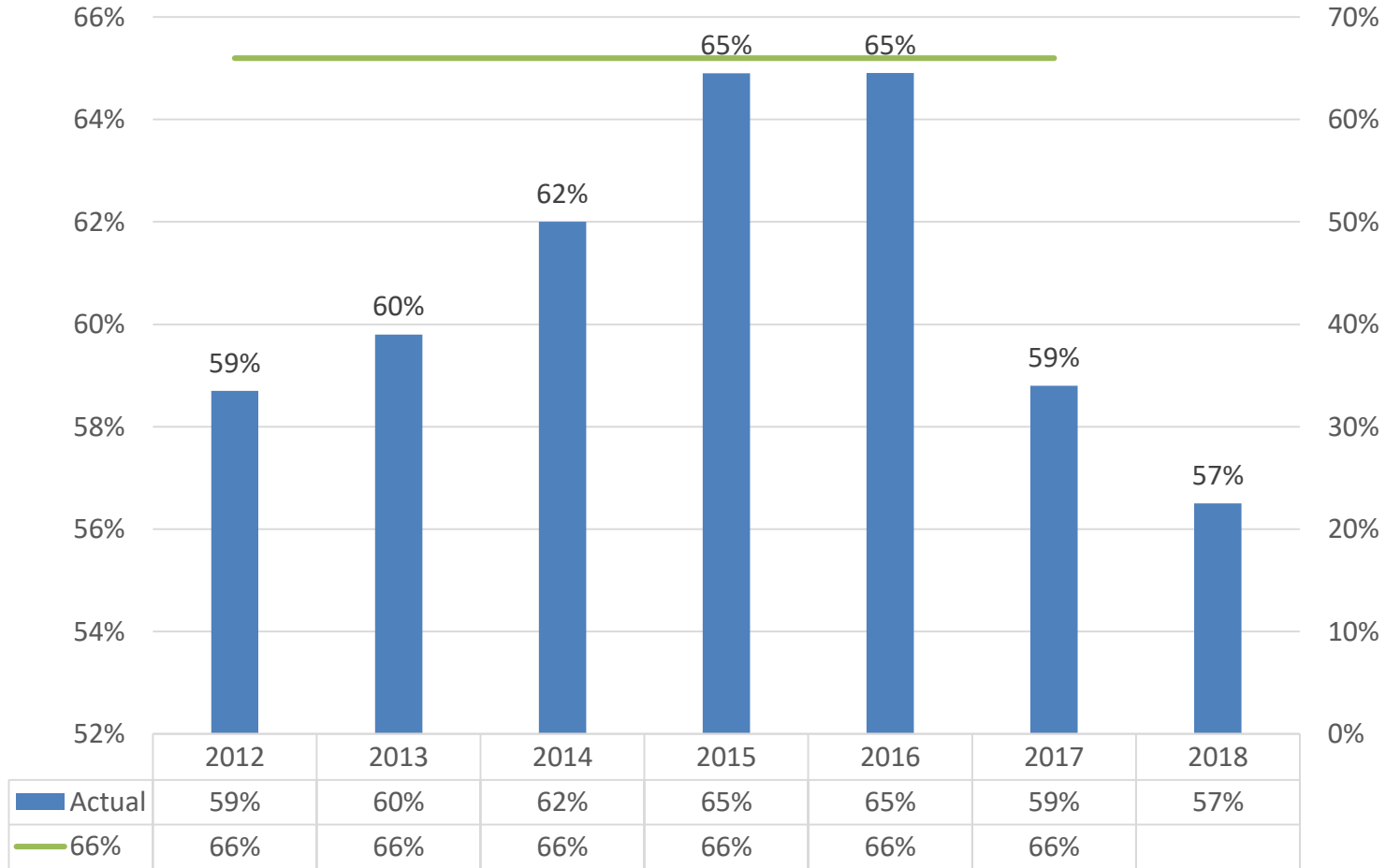
Department of Human Services - VR



Note: 96.56% of budget is direct services (Delivery) or direct payments to clients or providers

KPM #1 OVRS Closed Employed

The percentage of Vocational Rehabilitation Services (VR) consumers with the goal of employment who are employed. Time Period: Oct-Sept



Proposed New KPM - OVRS

Employment in 2nd Quarter

The percentage of clients closed from plan who are employed during 2nd quarter following closure.

Rationale

VR services focus on helping the client be successful. While a client may leave the program without being employed, if they achieve employment later, that's considered a success.

Proposed New KPM - OVRS

Employment in 4th Quarter

The percentage of clients closed from plan who are employed during 4th quarter following closure.

Rationale

VR services focus on helping the client be successful. While a client may leave the program without being employed, if they achieve employment later, that's considered a success.

Proposed New KPM - OVRS

Median Quarterly Wage

Median quarterly wage at 2nd quarter following closure from program.

Rationale

This measure focuses on ensuring clients are making more of a living wage and able to be more self-sufficient.

Coming up next:

- Public testimony for APD, I/DD, VR: Feb. 13, 2019
- Self-Sufficiency: Feb. 19, 2019
- Child Welfare: Feb. 20-21, 2019



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