

Familyhood

Statewide Training

Serving Justice-Involved Families: Research-Based Approaches for Stability

Familyhood

Statewide Training

Oklahoma Department of Corrections

Clint Castleberry



Population

As of June 30, 2024,
ODOC had **22,783**
incarcerated individuals

20,492 males
2,291 females

Programming by Type

- Substance Abuse Programming
- Education-Literacy/PHSE/ ABE and HSE
- College
- Cognitive Behavioral Programming
- Vocational Training
- Reentry Service Programming
- Religious and Volunteer Services
- Relationships/Parenting

Children of Incarcerated Parents Grant



Location:

Mabel Bassett Correctional Center and Dick Connor Correctional Center



Partners:

Girl Scouts of Eastern Oklahoma, New Hope of Oklahoma, and Oklahoma Messages Project



Initial service data:

GSEOK: 156 incarcerated parents and 11 caregivers along with 14 new children served; 136 children and 59 incarcerated parents on pre-enrollment list.

New Hope: 200 unique referrals for services

Parenting in Jail, Family & Children's Services

Oklahoma Jails

- More than 9,000 people are incarcerated in Oklahoma's local jails on any given day, and 75% have not yet been convicted of a crime.
- As a result, Oklahoma has the 14th-highest jail incarceration rate and 11th-highest pretrial jail incarceration rate.
- Lengthy pretrial stays can result in major disruptions to families' lives and barriers to completing DHS requirements, even if parents will be returning to their communities.

Costs of Keeping in Touch in OK Jails



\$7.50

**Highest cost
of a 15-minute
in-state call
from an
Oklahoma jail**



\$3.09

**Average cost
of a 15-minute
in-state call
from an
Oklahoma jail**



\$2.10

**Cost of a
15-minute call
from an
Oklahoma
state prison**

PIJ Addresses Incarceration's Impact on the Whole Family Through Three Components



**Evidence-based
parenting classes**



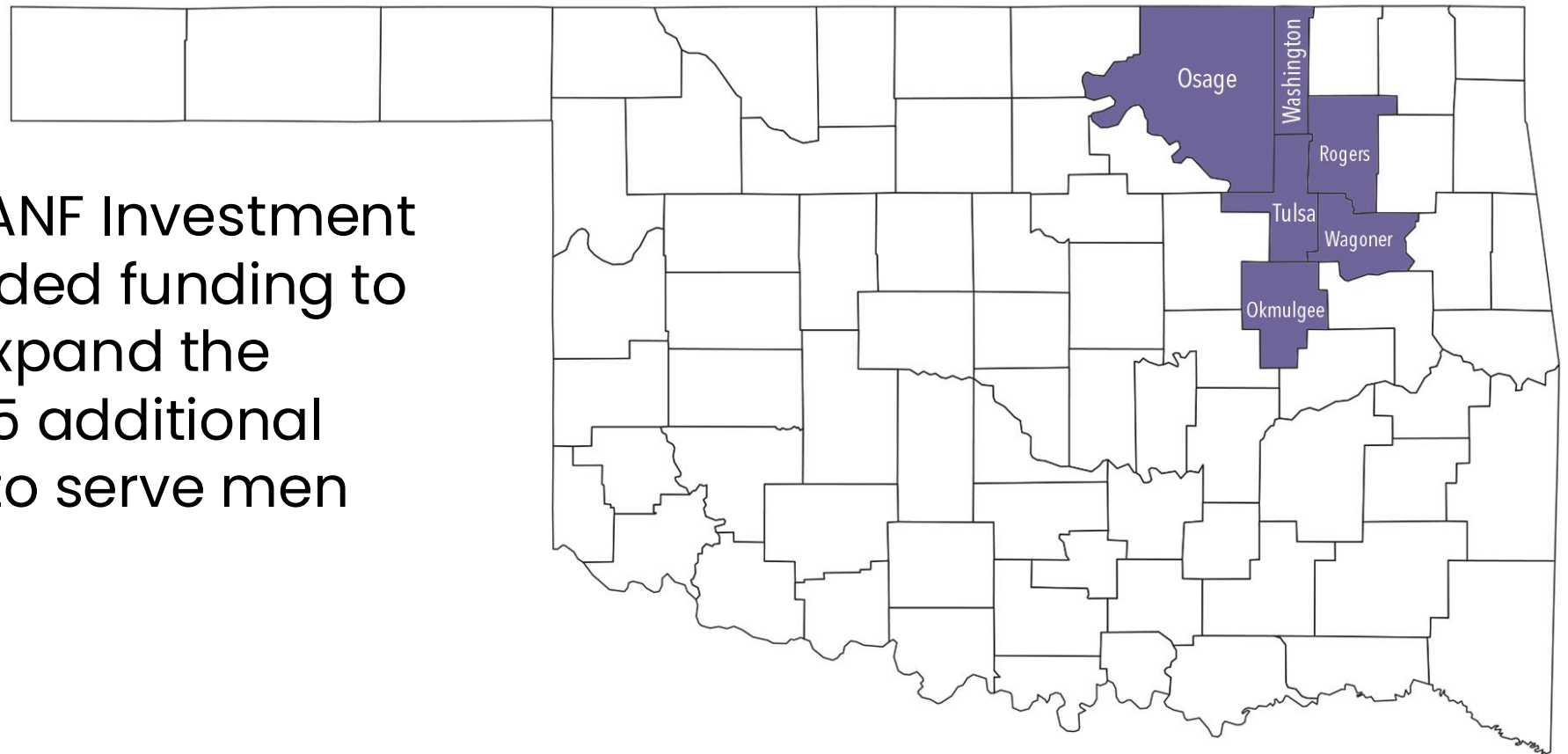
**Child-centered
contact visits**



**Caregiver support
and resources**

TANF-Funded Expansion Efforts

Oklahoma's TANF Investment Strategy provided funding to significantly expand the program into 5 additional counties and to serve men



Parenting Inside Out® Classes



Effective Communication Skills in Action

Ask if it is a good time to talk.
Ask how [redacted] is? what her favorite word?
If I can have picture?
Ask [redacted] if she needs anything?

Empathize. Recognize + make understanding Comments
"I realize that you are working very hard to take care of my child."

"I feel sad when I think about how much I am missing while being apart from [redacted]"

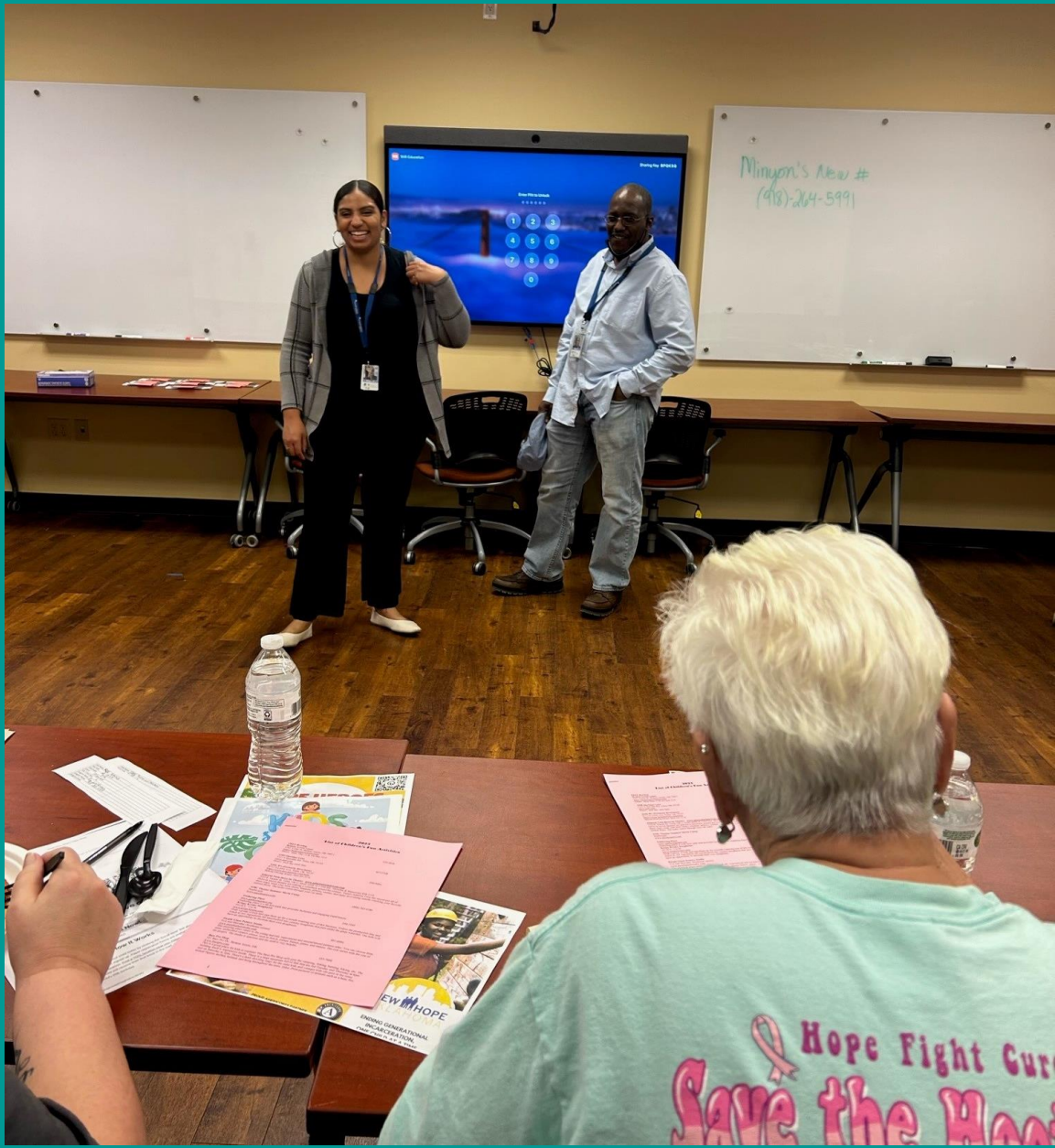
"I would like to be more involved in my child's life + would appreciate talking to you about ideas for how I can do that."

Validate listener's concerns regarding my request

Weekly Child-Centered Contact Visits

- No cost to families and gas card provided
- Enhanced contact visits – no glass dividers
- Hugging, playing, and reading together
- Opportunity to practice skills learned
- Family photos for participants and children
- Video visits via iPads when in-person is not possible
- Birthday bags





Caregiver Support

Caregiver Support Group approach:

- Meal served
- Facilitated discussion and peer support
- Children's STEM activities
- Topics include how to talk to a child about a loved one's incarceration, self-care, and positive discipline
- Children's books and tool kits distributed
- Holiday, school supply, and summer camp assistance provided
- Info on community resources shared

Caregiver Curriculum Development

- Partnering with Arizona State University to create first evidence-based curriculum for caregivers of children with incarcerated parents
- Caregivers compensated for module feedback and expertise
- Seven modules created, taught, and revised



In three years since expansion began:

6

Local county jails have added or expanded PIO classes

838

Unique individuals have taken PIO classes

431

Unique children have visited with a parent in jail through the program

85%

of graduates report more frequent communication with their children since starting the program

91%

of graduates report improvement in one or more areas: parenting, relationships, emotion regulation, and problem solving

94%

of graduates state the relationship with their children has improved since starting the program

Questions?

Lucie Doll

Ldoll@fcsok.org

The image features decorative geometric patterns in the corners. In the top right and bottom left, there are light pink, stylized, overlapping rectangular shapes that resemble architectural elements or abstract patterns. The main focus is the word 'TEEM' in a dark blue, bold, sans-serif font. The letter 'M' is uniquely designed, with its right vertical stroke replaced by a yellow door frame that is slightly ajar, revealing a small yellow dot inside, symbolizing an opening or a new beginning.

TEEM

A NEW BEGINNING. A NEW FUTURE.



A NEW BEGINNING. A NEW FUTURE.

Our Mission:

- The Education and Employment Ministry (TEEM) is a nonprofit dedicated to breaking cycles of incarceration and poverty through education, personal development, and work readiness training.

TEEM Programs Include:

- Reentry Services
- Pretrial Release Services
- Oklahoma County Community Sentencing
- Veterans Initiative
- Batterers Intervention Program (BIP)
- Oklahoma County Community Service (S.H.I.N.E)
- Supervision Engagement Officer (SEO) Initiative
- Work Ready Shawnee
- Court Ordered Outpatient Program (CO-OP) Initiative

Oklahoma's Prison Population:

- **Women, people of color, and low-income residents** are disproportionately impacted.
- Adverse childhood experiences (**ACEs**) are common among people who are incarcerated, causing intergenerational trauma.
- **Gender bias and systemic racism** are evident in the criminal legal system.
- **Barriers** to community involvement, economic opportunity, and social integration cause financial vulnerability, relational insecurity, and family instability.

Hidden Workforce

- Individuals with lived experience are resilient, resourceful, determined, dedicated, talented, and loyal.
- Fair chance employers report greater longevity and productivity within their organization.

Keys to Healthy Communities



- Provide pro-social opportunities for all Oklahomans to contribute.
- Create pathways for success.
- Focus on healing and restoration.
- Vitalize all available resources.

The image features a white background with decorative elements in the corners. In the top right and bottom left, there are clusters of overlapping, light pink rectangular outlines, some of which are tilted at an angle. The main text is centered in a bold, teal font.

No Spare Oklahomans
“I’m proud of you, Mom.”



A NEW BEGINNING. A NEW FUTURE.

Email: ksteele@teem.org

Phone: (405)-235-5671; (405)-620-2503

Website: www.teem.org



ReMerge

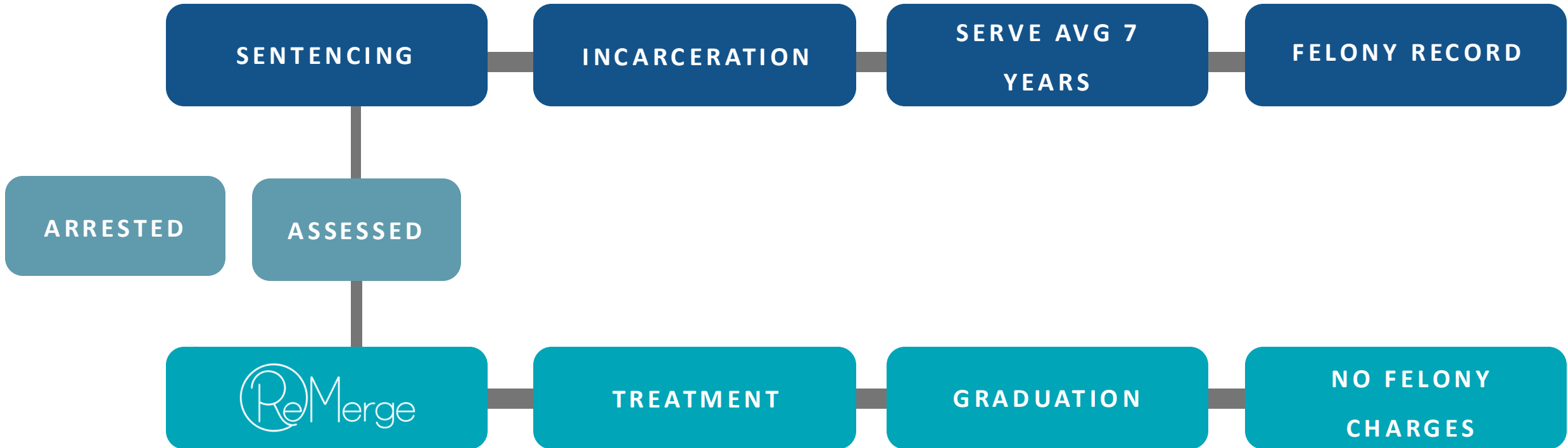
Erin Engelke

Chief Executive Officer



**THE MISSION OF REMERGE IS TO RESTORE MOTHERS AND
FAMILIES THROUGH A COMPREHENSIVE DIVERSION
PROGRAM OF TREATMENT, RECOVERY, AND HOPE.**

How Diversion Works



A ReMerge Mother

32

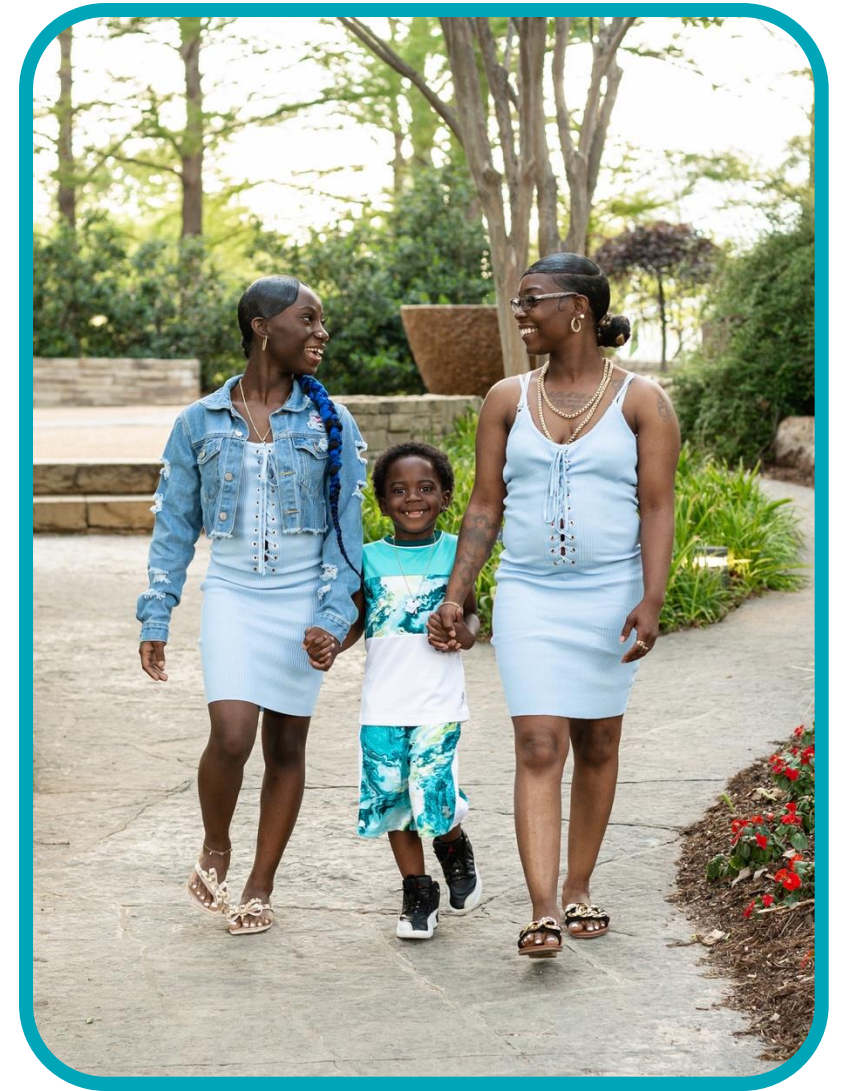
Average Age

15

Average Age Left
Childhood Home

4.8

Average ACE Score



ReMerge Works



206 Graduates

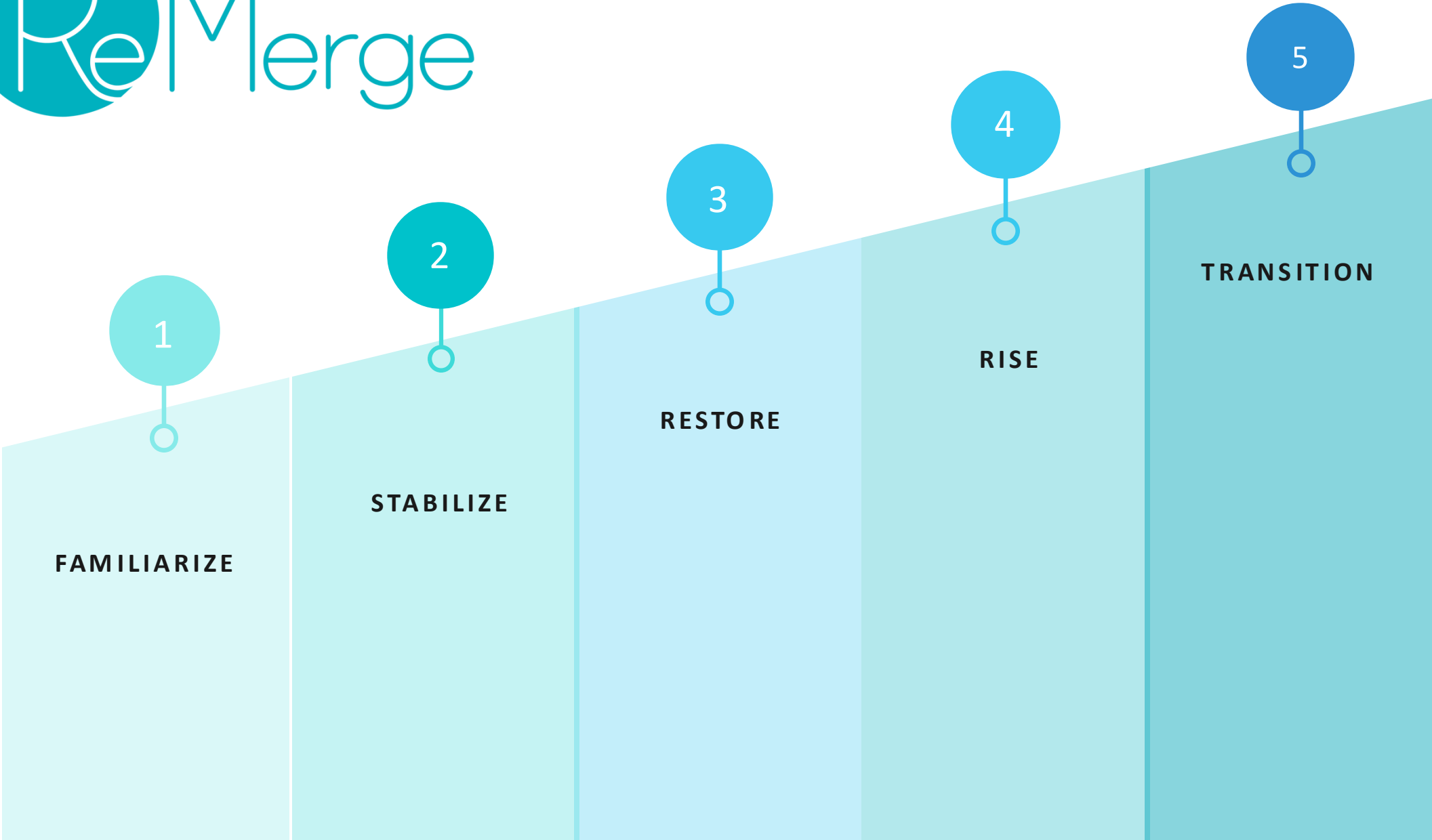
504 Children impacted

8% Recidivism rate in 36 months after graduation

\$51 M Savings to the State of Oklahoma

1,047 Years in prison avoided

ReMerge





ReMerge

Meet Joy

Current Phase 5 ReMerge Mom



Familyhood

Statewide Training