



**TEXAS**  
Department of Family  
and Protective Services

# **Juvenile Justice & Family Issues**

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**Department of Family & Protective Services Overview**

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# DFPS Mission, Vision, and Values

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## **DFPS Mission**

*We promote safe and healthy families and protect children and vulnerable adults from abuse, neglect, and exploitation.*

## **DFPS Vision**

*Improving the lives of those we serve.*

## **DFPS Values**

***Accountable:** We act with a sense of urgency to deliver results in an accountable, ethical, and transparent manner.*

***Respectful:** We recognize the value of each person and act timely, value privacy, and treat all with respect.*

***Diverse:** We promote diversity, inclusion, and equality by honoring individual differences.*

***Collaborative:** Whether through our staff or contractors, we work in partnership with clients, families, and communities to ensure our mutual success.*

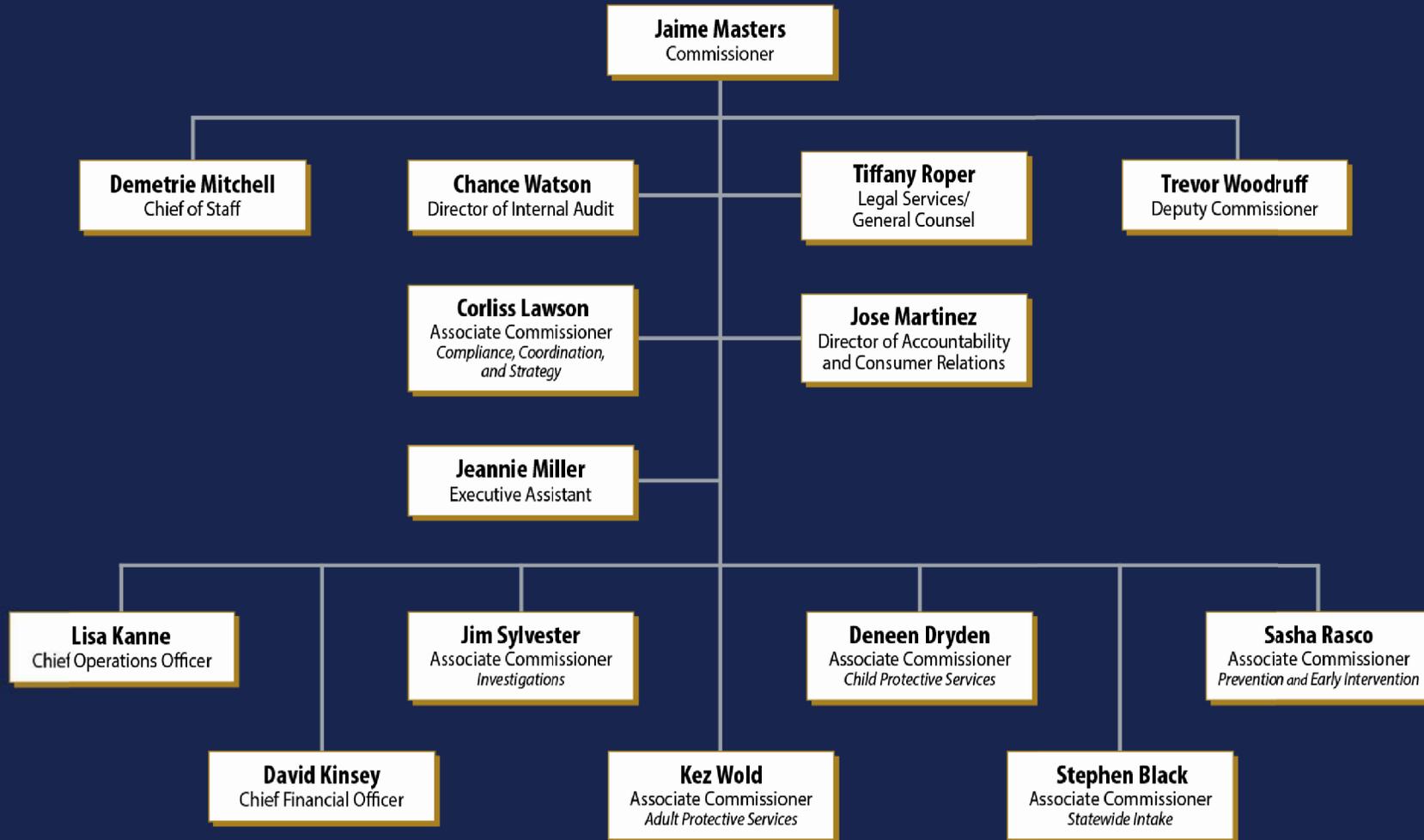
***Professional:** We value our staff and strive for excellence while being professional, passionate, and innovative.*



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# DFPS Executive Leadership





# DFPS Core Functions

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**Statewide Intake (SWI)** operates 24 hours a day, seven days a week, as the centralized point of intake for reporting suspected incidents of abuse, neglect, and exploitation and child care licensing standards violations.

**Child Protective Investigations (CPI)** investigates reports of abuse and neglect and ensures the immediate safety of children.

**Child Protective Services (CPS)** protects children by working with families to prevent or reduce the risk of abuse and neglect, by placing children in substitute care when they are not safe in their own homes, and by providing services to achieve permanency.

**Adult Protective Services (APS)** investigates allegations of abuse, neglect, and financial exploitation of adults aged 65 and older, and adults who have a disability and are living in the community. APS provides an array of protective, social, and supportive services to alleviate the neglect and prevent further harm to vulnerable clients.

**Prevention and Early Intervention (PEI)** contracts with and manages community-based programs aimed to prevent abuse and neglect of Texas children prior to CPI or CPS involvement.



# Statewide Intake

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## What is Statewide Intake?

- The Statewide Intake (SWI) division is the “front door to the front line” for all DFPS programs. It's Statewide Intake's job is to assess all reports of abuse, neglect, or exploitation and route them to the right local office.
- Initial contact for all reports of abuse, neglect and/or exploitation in Texas
- Recommend for Investigation or Information & Referral (I&R)
- 24 hours/365 days/Telework/Satellite Offices, Phone, fax, mail and internet

## Statewide Intake (SWI) division responsibilities includes receiving reports for:

- Child abuse and neglect;
- Abuse, neglect, self-neglect, and exploitation of the elderly or adults with disabilities living at home;
- Abuse of children in child-care facilities or treatment centers; and
- Abuse of adults and children who live in state facilities or are being helped by programs for people with mental illness or intellectual disabilities.



# Child Protective Investigations (CPI)

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Texas Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS) investigators investigate reports of child abuse or neglect to determine if any child in the family has been abused or neglected. Investigators decide if there are any threats to the safety of all children in the home. If so, they determine whether the parents are willing and able to adequately manage those threats to keep children safe. If DFPS decides that children aren't safe, the investigator starts protective services.

## **Investigations responsibilities include:**

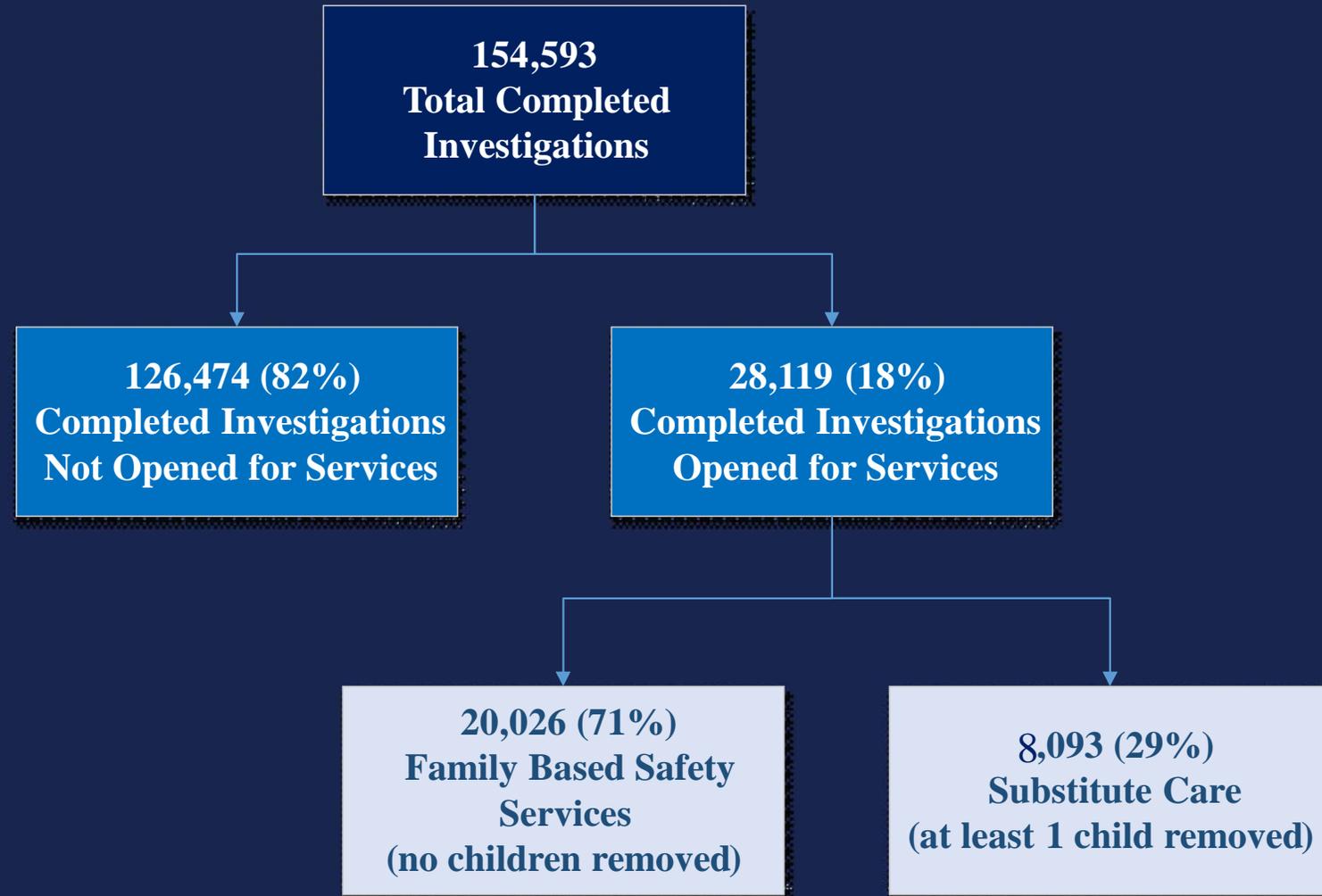
- Investigating allegations of child abuse and neglect;
- Working with law enforcement on joint investigations;
- Taking custody of children who are unsafe;
- Referring children to community resources that promote their safety and well-being; and
- Assisting in the fight against human trafficking.



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# CPI At-A-Glance FY 2020





# Child Protective Services (CPS)

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Child Protective Services (CPS) becomes involved with children and families when they are referred by the DFPS Investigations division, which investigates allegations of child abuse and neglect.

CPS works closely with families to make it safe for children to remain in their home or return permanently to their parents. When children can't live safely at home, a court of law can give the State of Texas temporary legal custody. CPS places these children in foster care. Foster care is meant to be temporary until a permanent living arrangement is found.

## **Child Protective Services responsibilities include:**

- Providing families a variety of services in their own homes in Family-Based Safety Services (FBSS), to strengthen families so that children can stay safe at home;
- Placing children in foster care and with kin caregivers when they cannot remain safe at home;
- Providing services to help youth in foster care successfully transition to adulthood; and
- Helping children get adopted.



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# Substitute Care

Of the 27,711 children in care (ages 0-17) at the end of January 2021 Statewide:

**15,965**  
were in foster care

**11,442**  
Child Placing Agency Foster Homes

**1,047**  
DFPS Foster Homes

**747**  
GRO Child Care Only

**1,562**  
Residential Treatment Centers

**689**  
Emergency Shelters

**478**  
Other Foster Care

**11,746**  
were in other types of substitute care

**10,606**  
Kinship Care

**365**  
CPA Adoptive Homes

**119**  
DFPS Adoptive Homes

**656**  
Independent Living and Other



# Adult Protective Services

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APS conducts investigations of alleged abuse, neglect and exploitation (ANE) of persons age 65+ and persons with disabilities living in the community. APS also provides protective services to alleviate ANE.

## APS Investigates:

- Individuals in state of self-neglect;
- Caretakers;
- Family members;
- Individuals who have an ongoing relationship with alleged victim; and
- Certain paid caretakers.

**APS does not** investigate abuse, neglect or exploitation, including financial exploitation, by strangers.



# Prevention & Early Intervention (PEI)

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PEI prevents child maltreatment by promoting child, family and community protective factors and building resilience among children and youth. PEI accomplishes its mission by:

- Contracting with community-based organizations and local governments to deliver voluntary, evidence-based parenting programs, early childhood services and positive youth development programs;
- Supporting community coalitions working on systemic issues impacting child and family well-being; and
- Conducting public awareness and education initiatives



# Major PEI Programs

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## ➤ **Community Youth Development (CYD)**

- The CYD program contracts with community-based organizations to develop juvenile-delinquency prevention programs in ZIP codes with high juvenile crime rates for youth ages six to 17 (with a focus on youth ages 10 through 17). Communities use mentoring, youth-employment programs, career preparation, and alternative recreational activities to prevent delinquency. CYD services are available in 15 targeted Texas ZIP codes.

## ➤ **Healthy Outcomes through Prevention and Early Support (HOPES)**

- Project HOPES is a community-based program started in FY14 providing child abuse and neglect prevention services that target families with children between zero to five years of age. The Project HOPES program is intended to address child abuse and neglect prevention by focusing on community collaboration in high risk counties and by increasing protective factors of families served, thereby reducing the likelihood of abuse.

## ➤ **Family and Youth Success Program (FAYS) (formerly STAR)**

- The Family and Youth Success Program (FAYS) provides crisis intervention, short-term emergency shelter, individual and family counseling, youth and parent skills groups, and universal child abuse and neglect prevention activities. This program is available in all counties in Texas.

## ➤ **Texas Home Visiting (THV)**

- The primary goals of Texas Home Visiting (THV) are to enhance maternal and child outcomes and to increase school readiness for children. To accomplish these goals, THV includes two primary components: (a) provision of evidence-based home visiting services for at-risk pregnant women and parents/caregivers of children birth to age five; and, (b) development/enhancement of early childhood coalitions that effectively coordinate services and address broad, community-level issues that impact young children and families.



# FY 2020-2021 Accomplishments

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Investments by the Legislature last session contributed to significant improvements in DFPS programs and operations across the state in the current biennium including:

- APS caseworker turnover has decreased by 19.4 percent, from 23.6 percent in July 2018 to 19 percent in July 2020. APS cases per worker are also down by 33%.
- SWI frontline worker turnover has decreased by 61 percent, from 16.2 percent in July 2018 to 6.3 percent in July 2020.
- DFPS' Prevention and Early Intervention program increased Healthy Outcomes through Prevention and Early Support services into four new counties as well as hiring nine additional nurses to expand TNFP services and add coverage in four new counties.
- Expanded foster care continuum by increasing the age of eligibility in Treatment Foster Care program from 0-10 years of age to now serving all children and youth in care up to age 18.
- Expanded to 21 Supervised Independent Living programs across the state, which includes 16 SIL contracts with colleges and universities.



# Community-Based Care

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CBC is a community-based approach to meeting the individual and unique needs of children, youth, and families.

Within a geographic service area, a Single Source Continuum Contractor (SSCC) is responsible for finding foster homes or other living arrangements for children in state care and providing them a full continuum of services.

- **Stage I** includes the provision of paid foster care placement services;
- **Stage II** includes the provision of substitute care placement and case management services; and
- **Stage III** includes holding the SSCC financially accountable through the use of incentives and remedies for the timely achievement of permanency for served children beginning 18 months after case management services have transferred.



# M.D. v Abbott

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- Filed in 2011 by Children's Rights, a class action lawsuit regarding the constitutional rights of PMC children.
- Trial in December 2014, followed by Memorandum Opinion in December 2015.
- District Court rendered final order in January and modified final order in November 2018. State appealed both orders and 5<sup>th</sup> Circuit rendered opinion in July 2019.
- The 5<sup>th</sup> Circuit vacated, modified, or affirmed a number of the district court's injunctions.
- Since July 2019, the case has moved to compliance/implementation phase, in which the agency is fully engaged.
- Court Monitors issued report in June 2020 and District Court held contempt hearing in September 2020.
- District Court issued contempt order in December 2020. Agency filed certifications of compliance for 13 remedial orders.
- Status Conference held February 9, 2021.
- Compliance hearing scheduled for May 5, 2021.
- Agency has requested an Exceptional item for lawsuit critical compliance efforts.



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# Summary of Exceptional Items: HB1

Item	Biennial		FY 2022	FY2023
	GR/GRD	All Funds	FTE	FTE
<b>1 Sustain Child Protective Services</b>	<b>\$ 127,647,908</b>	<b>\$ 99,680,323</b>	-	-
a. Maintain Purchased Client Services at Current Levels	35,081,852	35,084,832		
b. Foster Care Payments	84,152,509	55,290,117		
c. Restore Travel Funding for CPS staff	8,413,547	9,305,374		
<b>2 Comply with Federal Court Orders in Foster Care Lawsuit</b>	<b>\$ 83,100,542</b>	<b>\$ 88,741,367</b>	<b>486.0</b>	<b>545.0</b>
a. Conservatorship Staff to Remain within Court Mandated Guidelines	36,404,104	40,194,026	253.0	312.0
b. Heightened Monitoring of Residential Facilities	15,266,058	16,489,280	103.0	103.0
c. Residential Child Care Investigations Staffing	7,951,931	8,073,096	58.0	58.0
d. Permanent Managing Conservatorship Case Reads	676,448	747,752	5.0	5.0
e. IT Projects to Meet Court Orders	3,122,001	3,557,213		
f. Court Monitor Fees	19,680,000	19,680,000		
g. FTE Authority for Current Compliance Related Staff			67.0	67.0
<b>3 Expand Community Based Care</b>	<b>\$ 87,237,884</b>	<b>\$ 92,371,768</b>	<b>55.0</b>	<b>67.0</b>
a. Catchment Area 8A, Stage II (Bexar County)	40,565,152	43,288,796	25.0	25.0
b. Catchment Area 8B, Stage I (Counties Surrounding Bexar/San Antonio Area)	4,525,590	4,581,351		
c. Catchment Area 1, Stage II (North Texas Including Abilene)	22,368,219	23,988,535	18.0	18.0
d. Catchment Area 8B, Stage II (Counties Surrounding Bexar/San Antonio Area)	6,996,094	7,404,496		12.0
e. Catchment Area 3E, Stage I (Dallas Area 9 Surrounding Counties)	6,822,043	7,011,726	6.0	6.0
f. Catchment Area 9, Stage I (West Texas 30 Counties Including Midland/Odessa/San Angelo)	1,996,667	2,044,634	2.0	2.0
g. Catchment Area 4, Stage I (North East Texas 23 Counties Including Tyler)	2,109,505	2,159,089	2.0	2.0
h. Catchment Area 5, Stage I (East Texas 15 Counties Including Beaumont)	1,504,614	1,543,141	2.0	2.0
i. RMTS Costs	350,000	350,000		



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# Summary of Exceptional Items: HB1

Item	Biennial		FY 2022	FY2023
	GR/GRD	All Funds	FTE	FTE
<b>4 Expand Prevention Services</b>	<b>\$ 10,000,000</b>	<b>\$ 10,000,000</b>	<b>4.0</b>	<b>4.0</b>
a. STAR (Family Youth and Success Program)	3,886,304	3,886,304		
b. Healthy Outcomes through Prevention and Early Support (HOPES)	4,286,312	4,286,312		
c. Prevention Services for Military and Veteran Families	1,000,000	1,000,000		
d. Staffing Support	827,384	827,384	4.0	4.0
<b>5 Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
a. Placeholder for expansion of FFPSA prevention services				
<b>6 Data Center Services</b>	<b>\$ 3,146,126</b>	<b>\$ 3,433,847</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
a. Sustain Data Center Services	3,146,126	3,433,847		
<b>7 Requested Technical Adjustments</b>	<b>\$ 5,407,591</b>	<b>\$ 5,426,201</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
a. Realignment for Screener Staff from CPS to Statewide Intake Strategy				
b. Adult Protective Services Program Support	636,188	654,798		
c. General Revenue for Children's Trust Fund Revenue Loss	4,771,403	4,771,403		
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 316,540,051</b>	<b>\$ 299,653,506</b>	<b>545.0</b>	<b>616.0</b>



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**Thank you**

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