



Bonnie McKinney, LMFT

Allison Anderson, LCSW



What is your current professional role?



Agenda



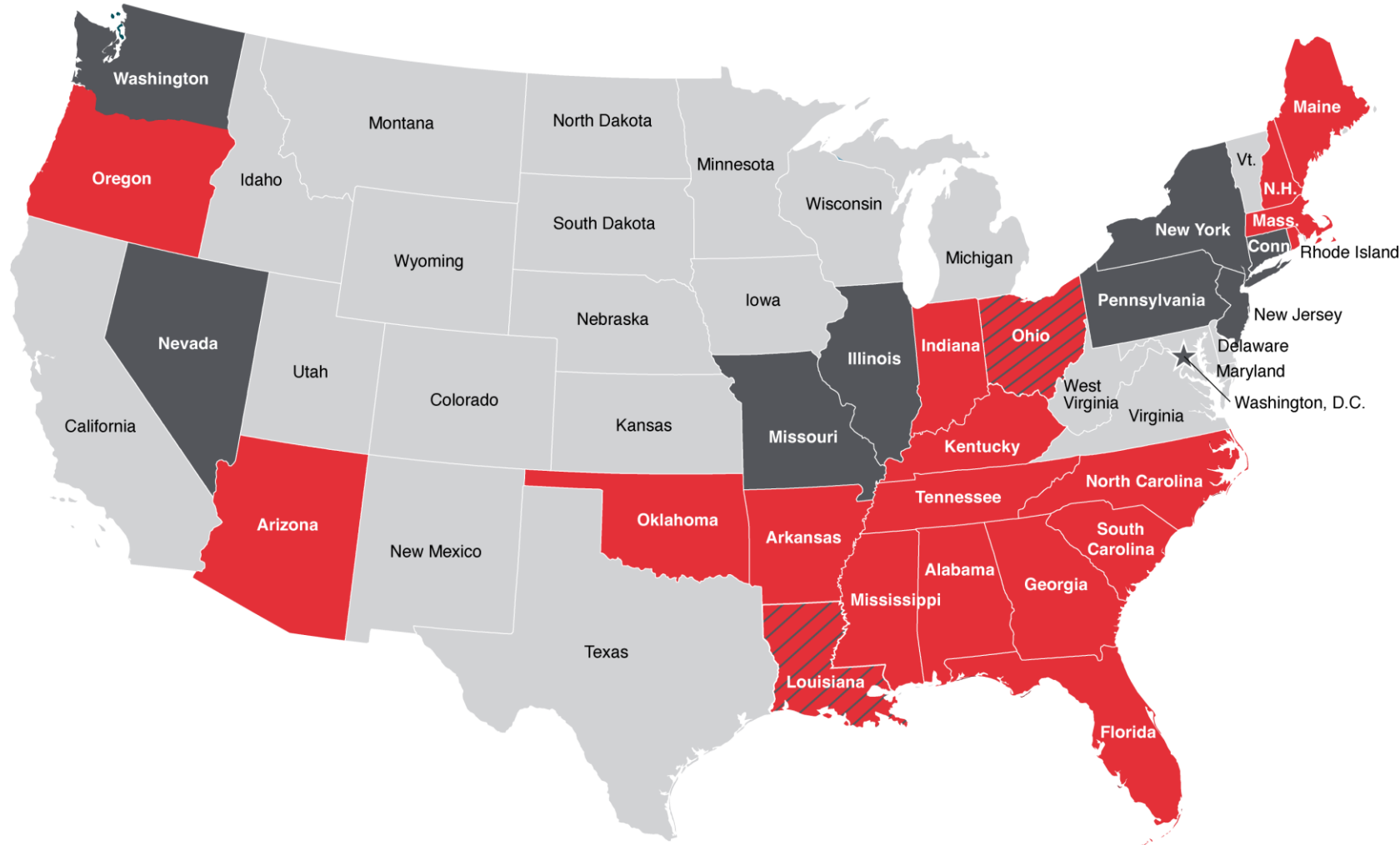
- Overview of Youth Villages
- Explanation of the Intercept program
- Intercept research studies
- Who is served by Intercept and how
- Intercept outcome data
- Intercept's clinical model
- Success stories

About Youth Villages

- Not-for-profit, headquartered in Memphis, Tennessee
- Mental health treatment provider, evidence-based model creator and purveyor, and national thought partner
- Works with vulnerable children and their families
- Serves more than 11,000 young people daily; 43,000+ annually
- Children from 36 states receive Youth Villages' services
- More than 4,500 staff members
- More than 100 locations in 27 states and the District of Columbia

Youth Villages helps children and families live successfully

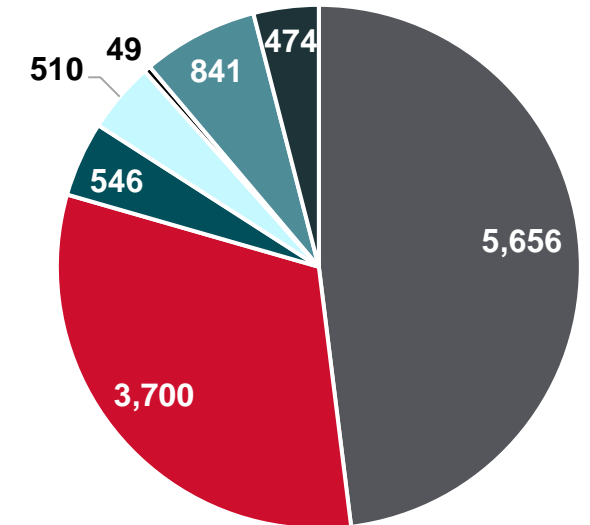
Youth Villages National Footprint



- Youth Villages direct service delivery
- Implementation of Youth Villages' services through partners

Louisiana and Ohio serve children and families through both partnerships and direct services.

11,776
Current Census by Program
(As of February 16, 2025)



- In-home Services
- Transition-Age Services
- Foster Care
- Residential
- Group Homes
- Wraparound
- SWITCH



In-home Services That Keep Families Together

Intercept: The Path to Well-Being for Children and Families



Whole family care



Family
engagement
& collaboration



Safety & stability



Communication
& problem-solving



Strong
community
relationships

Intercept: The Path to Well-Being for Children and Families



Whole family care

Family well-being is the focus. Specialists identify family strengths and help everyone build new skills. Addressing the needs of every member of the family—including caregivers and siblings—promotes long-term success for the whole family.

Intercept: The Path to Well-Being for Children and Families



Family engagement & collaboration

Families are the foundation of everything we do. Staff build trust and engage with caregivers to plan and implement interventions that help youth and improve family functioning.

Intercept: The Path to Well-Being for Children and Families



Safety & stability

All families need to feel safe. With Intercept support, safety in the home and community is addressed, allowing an increase in family stability leading to permanency for the youth.

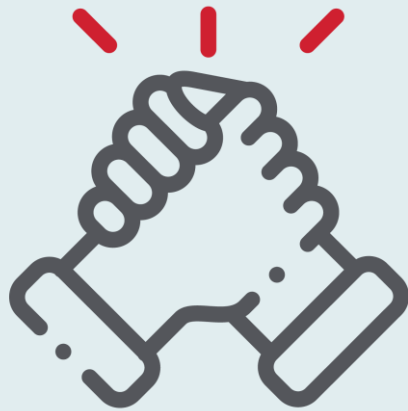
Intercept: The Path to Well-Being for Children and Families



Communication & problem-solving

Youth and families build communication and problem-solving skills leading to improved family functioning and healthier relationships.

Intercept: The Path to Well-Being for Children and Families



Strong community relationships

Effective relationships built between caregivers and the community, including school staff, social services and other service providers strengthen a family's network of support. Specialists make connections with community resources, neighbors and the youth's peer group to build ongoing positive support.

The Intercept Difference



**Family-centered &
individualized**



**Comprehensive &
versatile**



**Intense &
accountable**



GuideTree®



**Long-lasting
impact**

The Intercept Difference



Family-Centered and Individualized

After a thorough assessment, services are tailored to meet the needs and goals of the identified youth and all members of the family, navigating concerns in the neighborhood, school, extended family, peer group and community.

The Intercept Difference



Comprehensive and versatile

Intercept is one of the most flexible evidence-based, in-home program models, helping children from birth to age 18, involved in child welfare, children's mental health or juvenile justice systems. It is effective when used for family preservation, including prevention of entry and re-entry into care.

The Intercept Difference



Intense and accountable

Intercept provides intensive—above and beyond—support to families for six to nine months. This includes 24/7 in-person crisis support if needed in an emergency. Intercept specialists are the single point of contact for the family and accountable for helping each family find well-being and long-term success.

The Intercept Difference



GuideTree®

GuideTree is a scientifically based approach used in Intercept that pairs the ongoing guidance of a master's level Licensed Program Expert with a robust online platform containing hundreds of evidence-based and best-practice interventions and resources. GuideTree allows specialists to do their best work for every family.

The Intercept Difference



Long-lasting impact

Through Intercept, caregivers and youth learn interventions, communication skills and family management practices they can use to handle challenges going forward. Specialists help families navigate multiple systems, including school, court, peer groups and the broader community promoting collaboration and allowing success to be sustainable.

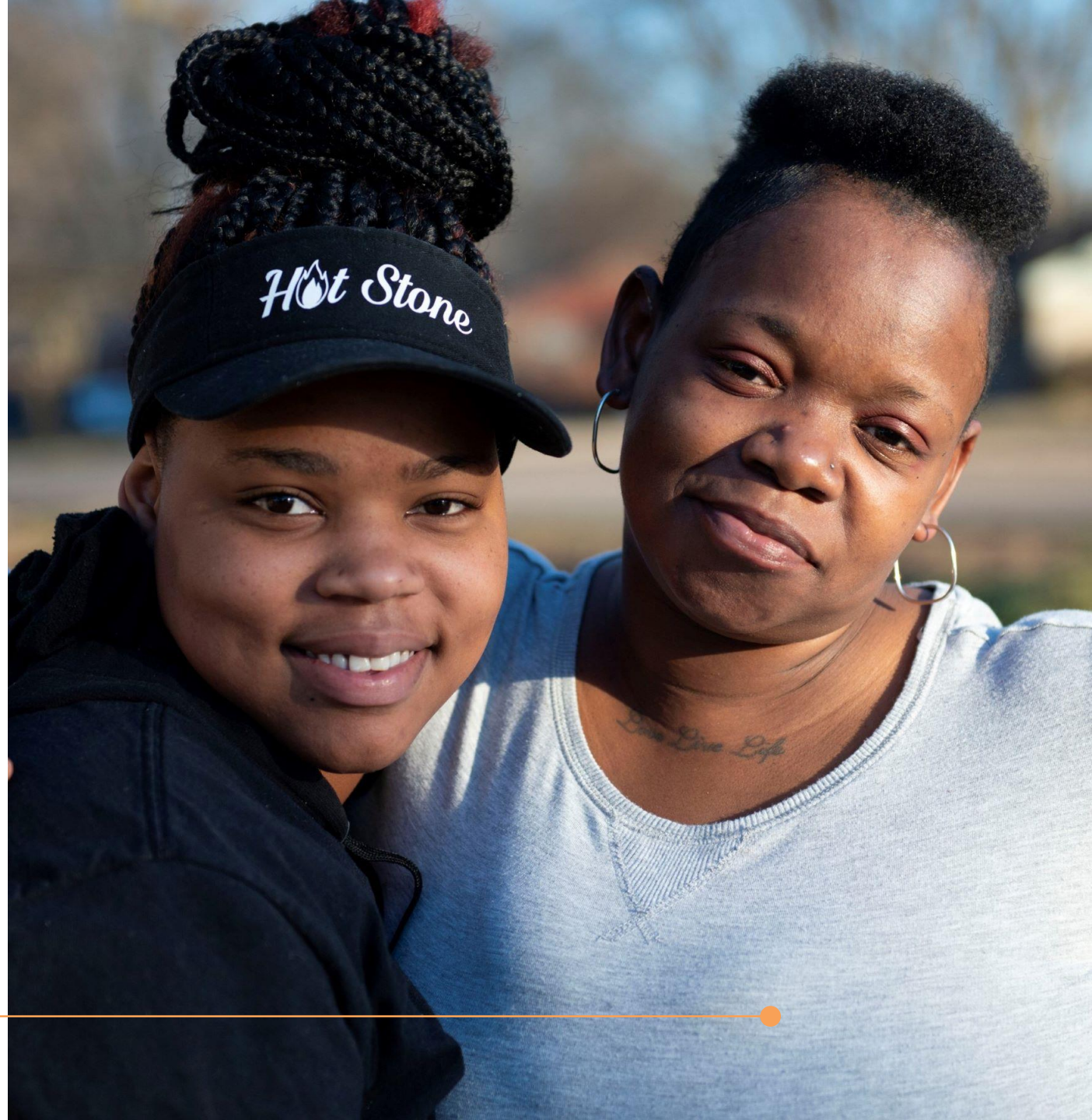
Key Model Elements

- Ecological model, **serving infants to age 18** as identified client
- Teams include **4-5 specialists** with caseloads of **4-6 families** per specialist.
- Service is intensive—average **three sessions per week**, per family
- Program length **average 4-6 months**; reunification will have a longer length of stay
- Crisis support available **24/7**
- **Outcome data collection** at program completion, 6- and 12-months post



Key Model Elements

- **Codified program model** with practice elements and adherence measures; programs reviewed annually for fidelity
- Utilizes the **Youth Villages GuideTree** case conceptualization and service planning process (science- and evidence-driven interventions)
- **Treatment planning every two weeks** with intensive training and supervision
- **Three rigorous evaluations** have been completed showing positive outcomes



Rigorous Evaluations



Three independent evaluations: (2) child welfare entry prevention and (1) permanency and re-entry prevention; conducted by researchers from the Center for State Child Welfare Data, Chapin Hall, University of Chicago using Tennessee DCS administrative data.

Intercept has been rated “Well-Supported” by the Family First Clearinghouse

Rigorous Evaluations



Placement Study No. 1: Intercept reduced the odds of out-of-home placement by **53%** following the first maltreatment investigation.

Placement Study No. 2: Examining a more recent sample of youth in a shorter evaluation window, **Intercept reduced the odds of out-of-home placement by 37%** following a maltreatment investigation.

Permanency Study: Compared to a matched comparison group, **the odds of achieving permanency were 24% higher with Intercept.**

Rigorous Evaluations

An initial placement study found that Intercept significantly reduced the odds of out-of-home placement following the first maltreatment report

- Among youth whose families participated in Intercept, the odds of out-of-home placement were reduced by 53% compared to families not receiving Intercept
- Impact was especially strong within the first three months following referral
- Additional analysis also showed a sustained effect up to 12 months after treatment



**Reduced
out-of-home
placement
by 53%**

Rigorous Evaluations

A second placement study found that Intercept reduced the odds of out-of-home placement by 37% following a maltreatment investigation

- Involved a unique sample of youth
- Involved a shorter evaluation window



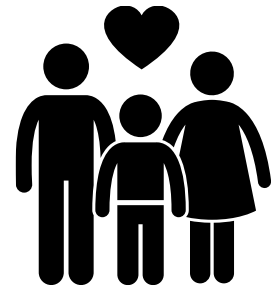
**Reduced
out-of-home
placement
by 37%**

Rigorous Evaluations

An independent permanency study found the odds of achieving permanency were 24% greater for youth who participated in Intercept

- Compared to a matched comparison group
- After controlling for length of time in care prior to exit

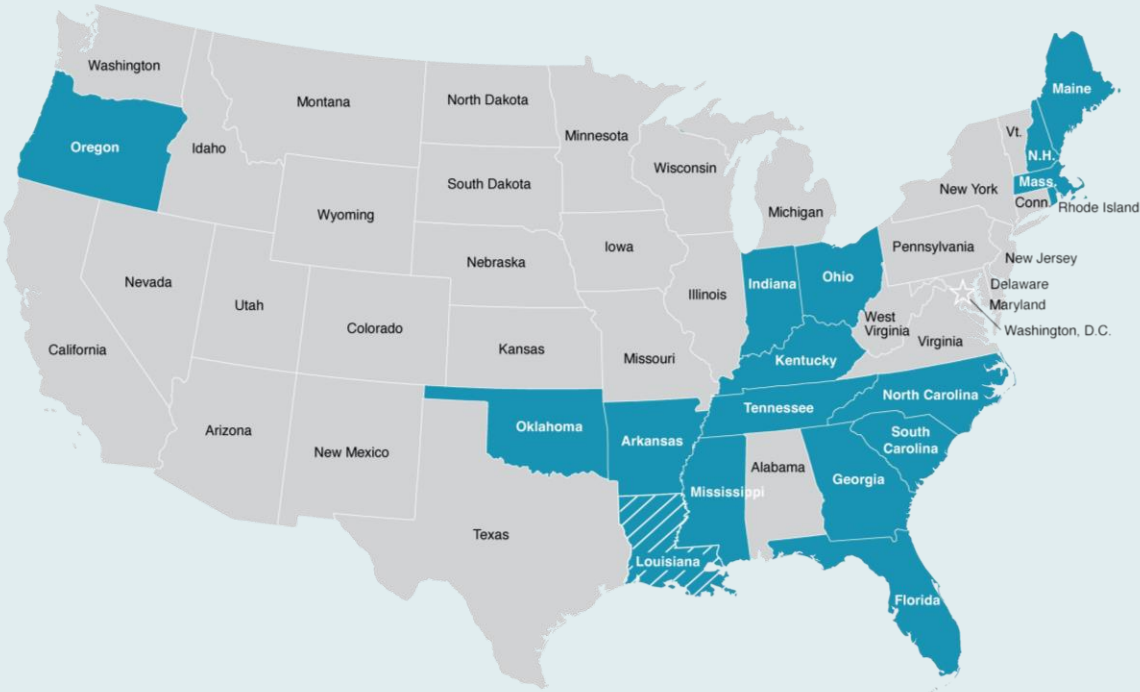
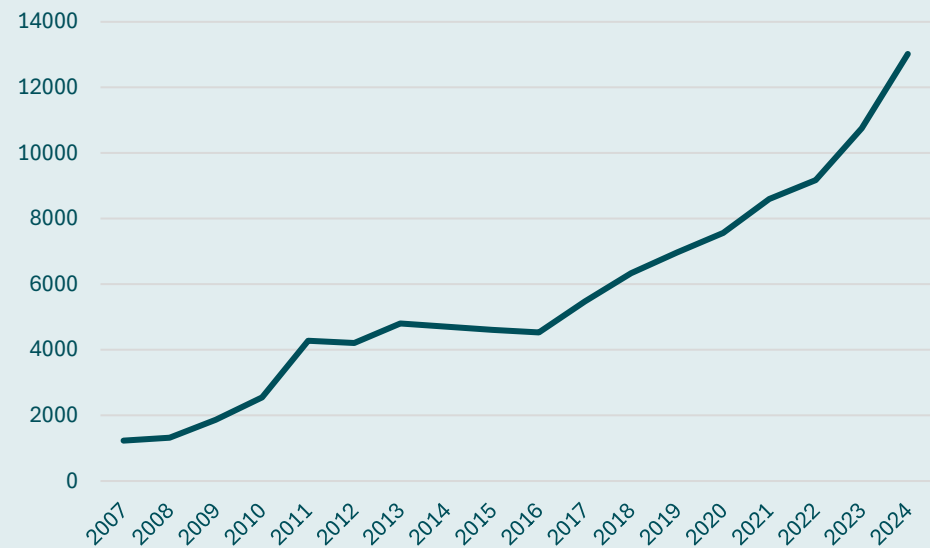
**Improved
permanency
by 24%**



Intercept is Growing

Since 2007, Intercept has served more than 71,000 young people in 19 states

Youth Served by Fiscal Year



Youth Served by State

Services Delivered by Youth Villages

AL	1,670	KY	396	NC	3,625	RI	N/A
AR	1,494	LA	384	NH	1,489	SC	50
FL	2,006	MA	8,331	OH	929	TN	40,837
GA	1,535	ME	72	OK	2,092	VA	59
IN	2,769	MS	1,921	OR	1,839		

Services Delivered by Partner Agencies

LA	53
----	----

Who We Serve

Current data (FY22-FY24)

12.6 years

Average Age at First Intercept Enrollment



47%
Female

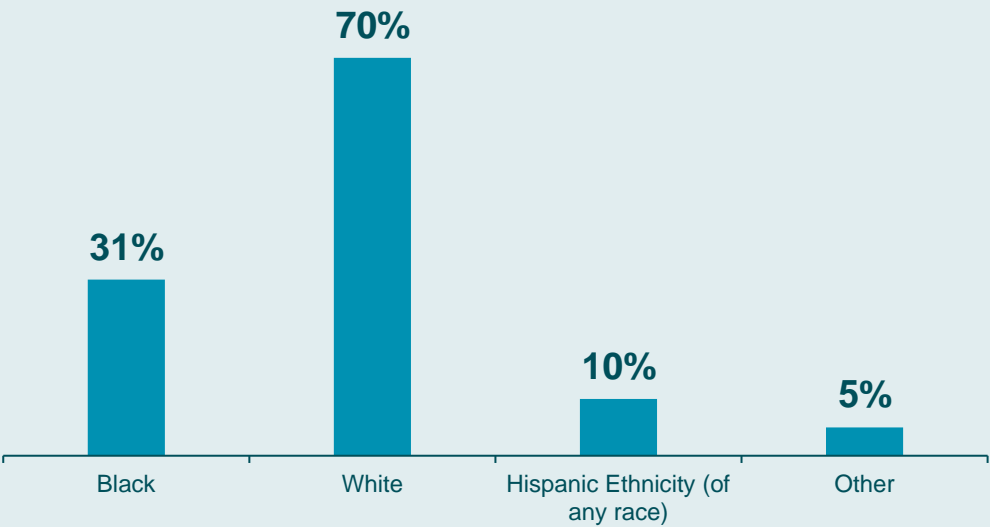


51%
Male



2%
Other

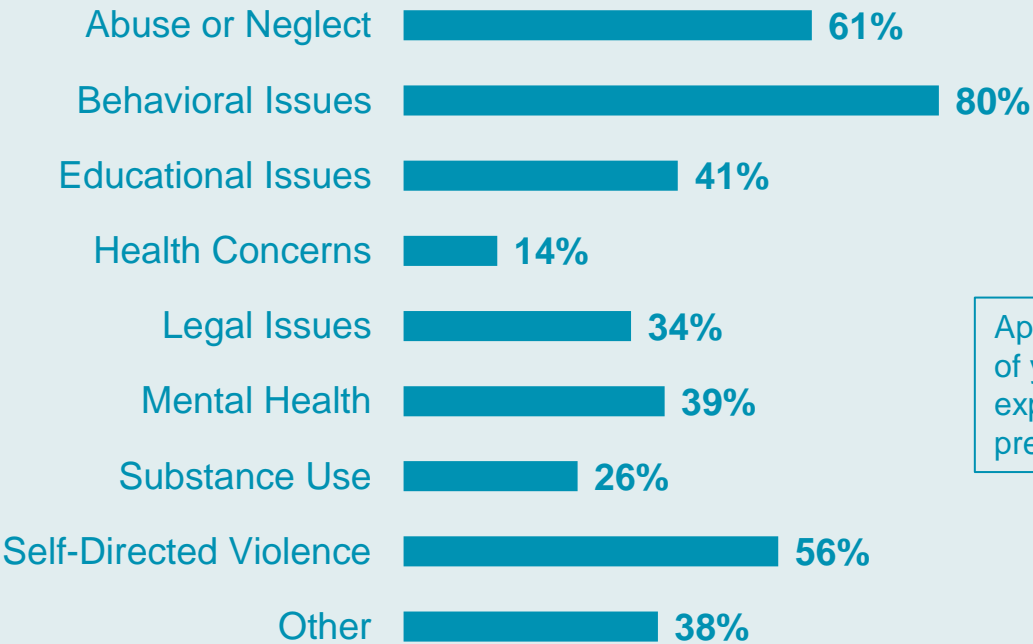
Other gender includes transgender; gender fluid; and does not identify as male, female, or transgender.



Note: Young people may report more than one race. Percentages may add to more than 100%. Percentages are among young people with reported race and ethnicity data. 7.9% are missing this information.

Other race includes Native American, Asian and Hawaiian/Pacific Islander

Presenting Issues



Approximately 91% of young people experience multiple presenting issues

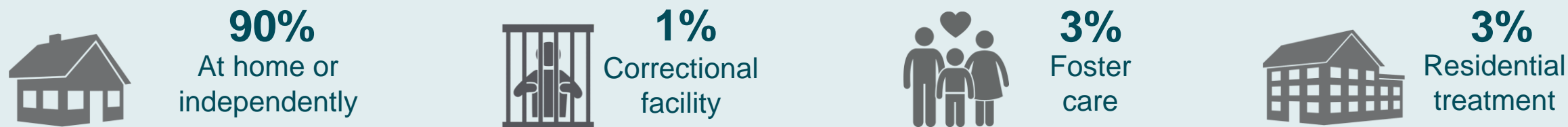
Other presenting issues include life skills issues; interpersonal connectedness needs; lack of legal permanency; parenting needs and other unspecified issues

Outcomes at Discharge

Current data (FY22-FY24)

 **92% of families were satisfied with Intercept services.**

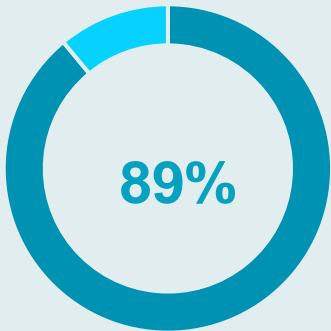
Living Situations at Discharge



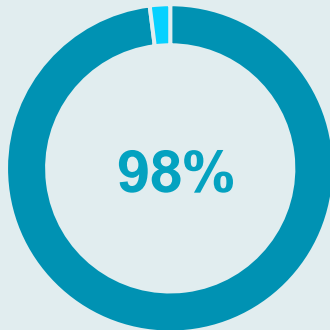
Approximately 3% were in other living situations such as psychiatric hospitals, groups homes, emergency shelters, drug/alcohol rehab centers, or medical hospitals; or were in an unknown placement in state custody, on runaway status, transient/couch surfing, homeless, or contact was lost.

Intercept Outcomes at One Year Post-Discharge

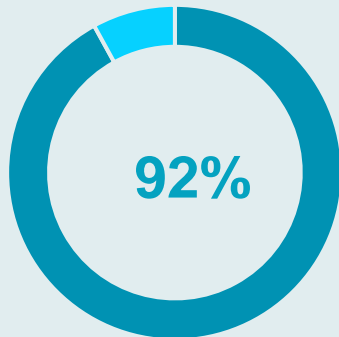
Current data (FY22-FY24)



Living with family
or independently



In school, graduated,
or employed



No trouble with
the law

What are common crises that your clients/families face?





Case
Conceptualization
Process



Online Clinical
Tools & Resources



Consultation
Process

It's how staff know what to do when they spend time with children, youth and families



Online Clinical Tools and Resources

- Updated and user-friendly user interface
- Significant improvements in functionality with improved searchability and better navigation that matches clinical flow
- Feedback mechanism for users to submit requests for new features and content

Clinical content based on the most up-to-date science in the field:

34

REFERRAL
ISSUES

248

INTERVENTIONS

723

WORKSHEETS
AND SESSION
RESOURCES

831

EXTERNAL
WEBSITES

304

VIDEOS

Case Conceptualization Process



- Treatment design is systemic
- Treatment planning involved critical thinking and ongoing assessment
- Engaging all systems in the child's life is key

Who are some important key players in various systems that you have worked with that have supported/helped families?



Sally Smith*- Intercept success story

(name has been changed to protect privacy)

This youth had Intercept services 4 different times, starting with a YV Mobile Crisis referral at 11 years old. After her fourth enrollment with Intercept, she was 16 years old.

- Youth Villages mobile crisis involvement 3 different times within those 5 years due to extreme suicidal ideation and physical aggression
- Total of 19 months of Intercept within 5 years

Sally Smith*- Intercept success story

(name has been changed to protect privacy)

Sally's Referral Issues:

- Trauma/toxic stress
 - Sexual abuse, medical trauma, Grief and Loss
- NSSI, Anxiety, Suicidal ideation, Substance Use, Physical Aggression, Homicidal Ideation, Inappropriate Sexual Behavior, and Runaway

Sally Smith*- Intercept success story

(name has been changed to protect privacy)

- Barriers presented:
 - Low trust from youth and attachment concerns
 - Unresolved grief from mom and youth
 - Low support from biological father
 - Basic needs concerns

Sally Smith*- Intercept success story

(name has been changed to protect privacy)

- Risk factors versus Protective factors
 - Family lives in a community in which the family has lived several generations
 - IEP at school and TN Voices for Children involvement
 - Caring and attentive mother
 - Youth's intelligence and desire to have friendships
 - Mental health involvement

Sally Smith*- Intercept success story

(name has been changed to protect privacy)

- Intercept treatment conceptualization:
 - Prioritized the youth's suicidal ideations and behaviors
 - Educated mom on the CALM intervention (Counseling on Access to Lethal Means)
 - Focused on building mom's mental health supports
 - Addressed the mom and youth's unresolved grief

Sally Smith*- Intercept success story

(name has been changed to protect privacy)

- Focus on including and interacting with all systems included:
 - Met with youth's mental health supports
 - Assessed social supports for mom
 - Met with school and educational advocates
 - Attended grief support groups with family

Sally Smith*- Intercept success story

(name has been changed to protect privacy)

- Safe place to process grief and loss
- Increased family and community supports
- The mom and youth's relationship improved

Questions?