

Grow the Green!

Presented by

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Washington State Department of
CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES

www.dcyf.wa.gov

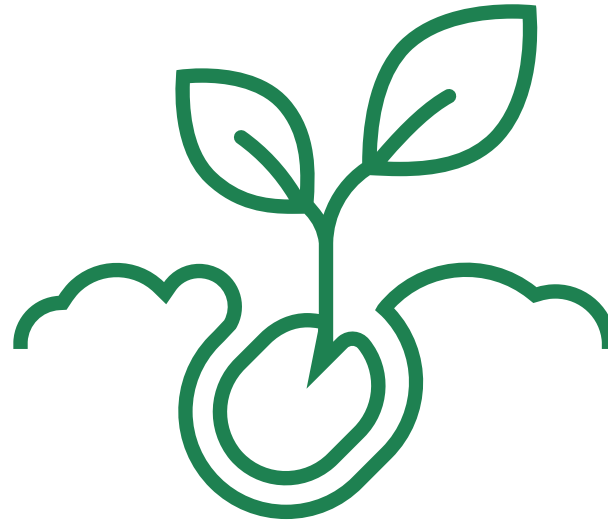
Flow



Lead	Topic Activity	Time
Marcella & Nicole	Parent Leaders - Lived Expert Engagement	5 min.
Doug & Megan	Background	5 min.
Doug & Megan	Safe Reduction dashboard	10 min.
Doug & Megan	Safe Reduction Dashboard with personas	25 min.
Marcella & Nicole	Family Strengths and Breakout Discussion	25 min.
Doug	What does it mean to Grow the Green?	10 min.
Doug	Closing Remarks	10 min.



Marcella



Nicole

Lived Expert Engagement ~ Parent Leaders



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**FOSTER
AMERICA**
Until every family thrives



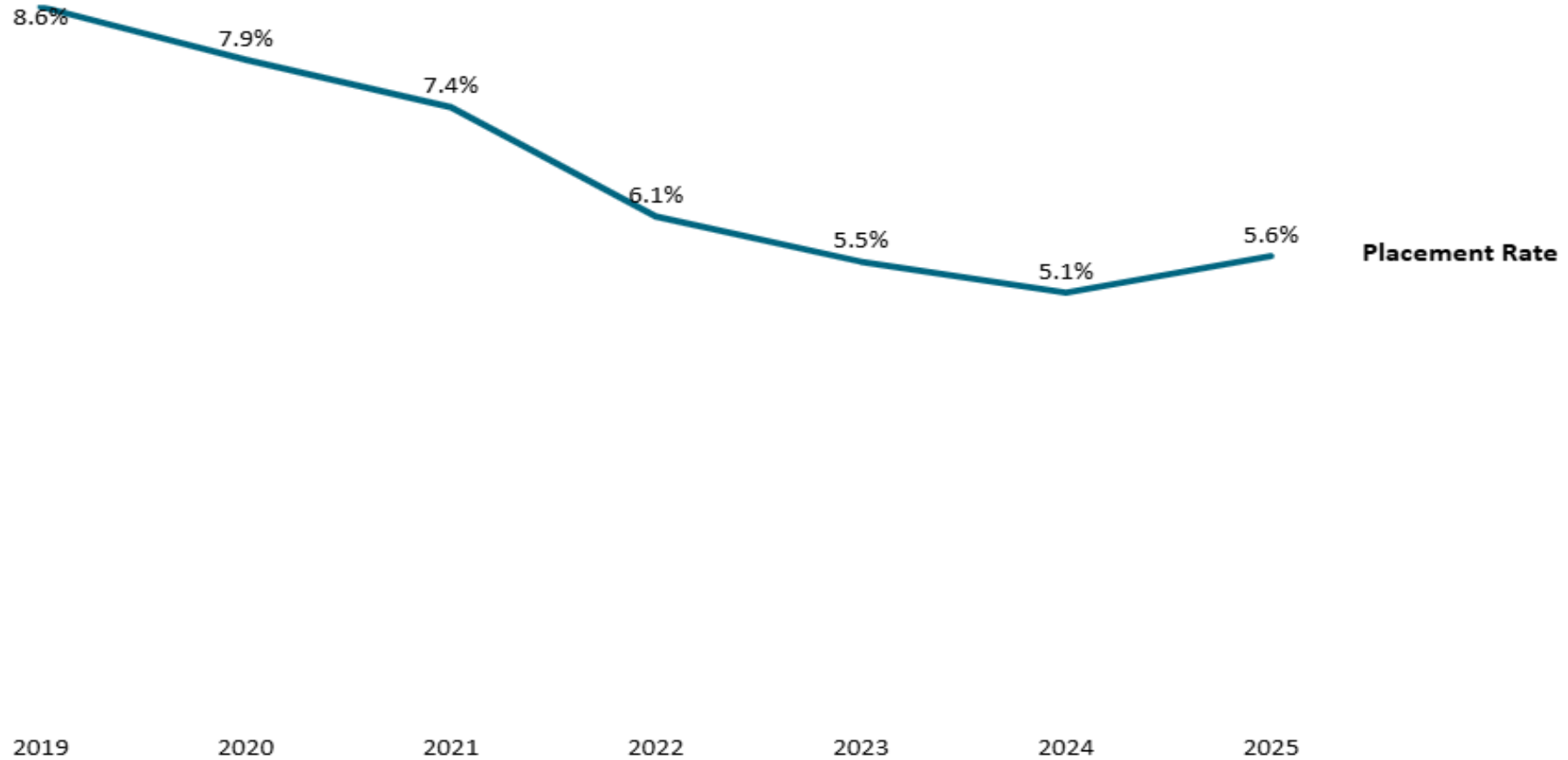
Child Welfare Trends 2019 - 2025

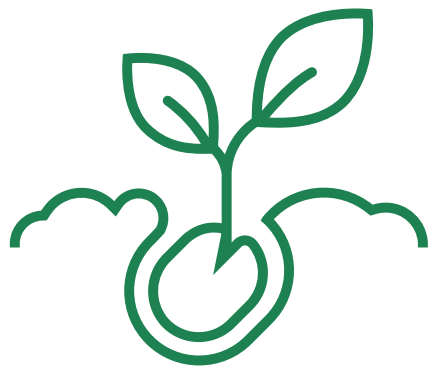
- *intake*
- *placement*
- *re-referral*



2019 - 2025

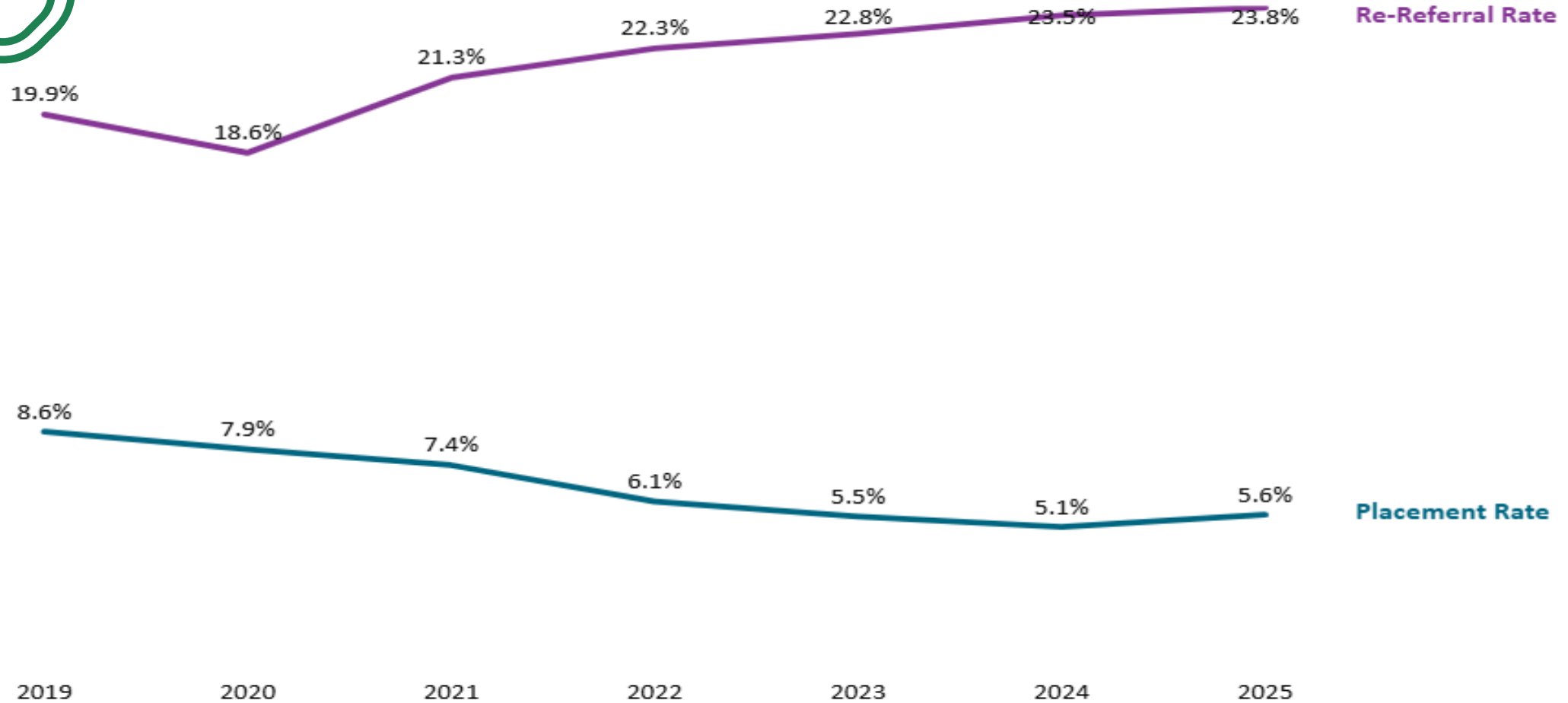
child welfare intakes that resulted in out of home placement decreased by three percentage points

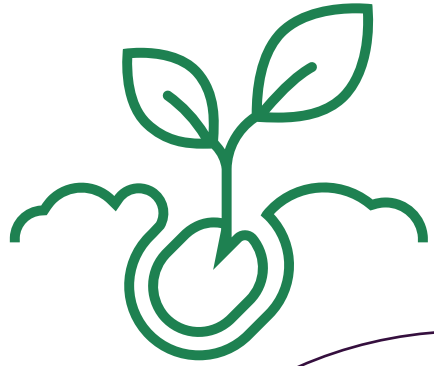




2019-2025

intakes that had a new referral within 6 months **increased by almost four percentage points**

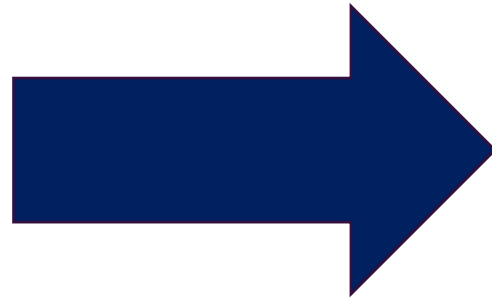




What and So What

**Out-of-home
placements have
reduced significantly**

*But many children returned to
the system*



Why...

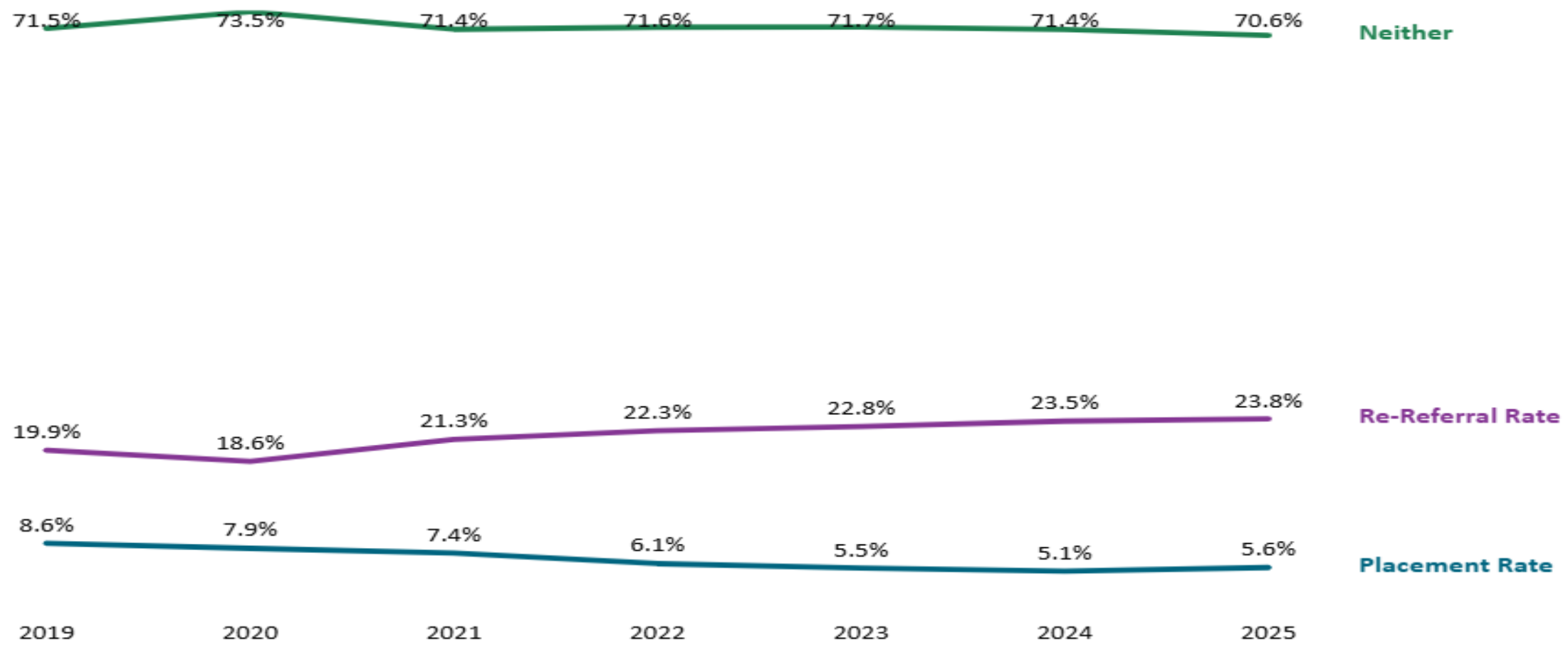
Conditions that initially brought families to child welfare didn't change – resulting in new intakes/re-referrals





2019 - 2025

intakes that had neither outcome within 6 months **decreased by almost a percentage point**





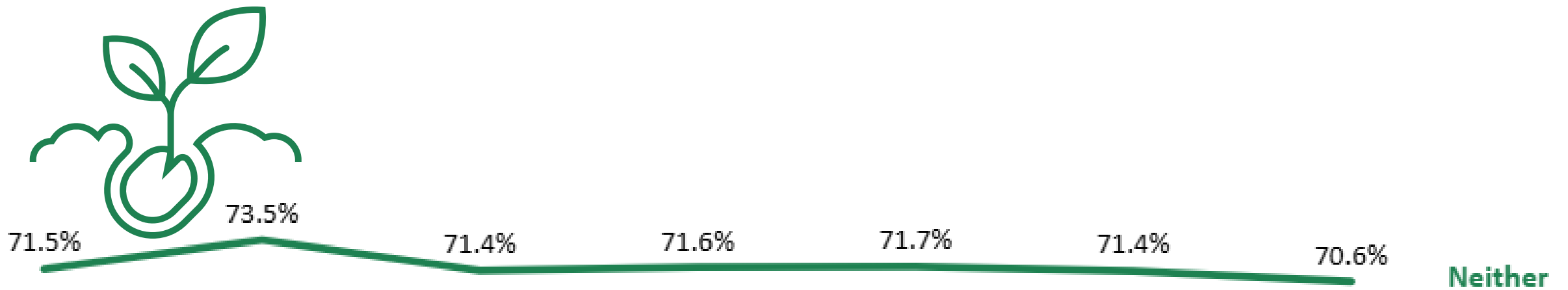
The system had reduced one outcome without changing the overall trajectory of ongoing system involvement.

What would it look like to change the trajectory so less children had ongoing child welfare involvement?



Safe Reduction Dashboard





Conceptually visualizes the population of children who experience:

- No out of home placement
- No new screened-in CPS intake

These children are represented in green. 



Child Welfare Safe Reduction Dashboard

Office of Innovation, Alignment, and Accountability

Statewide Trends

Trends by Region

Trends by Office

Trends by Race/Ethnicity

Grow the Green!

CPS Involvement

Grow the Green!

This view highlights re-referral and placement outcomes within 180 days of a reference CPS intake, including intakes with no subsequent CPS involvement. It supports review of system performance related to the goal of reducing further child welfare involvement following an intake.

View

placement, re-referral, and
neither trends over time

Visualize

trends

Apply

filters to trends to see how
they differ by factors such as
race/ethnicity, age, risk level

Filters

Race/Ethnicity

All

Age Group

All

SDM Score

All

Intake Reason

All

Major CAN

All

Prior CPS Intakes

All

Region

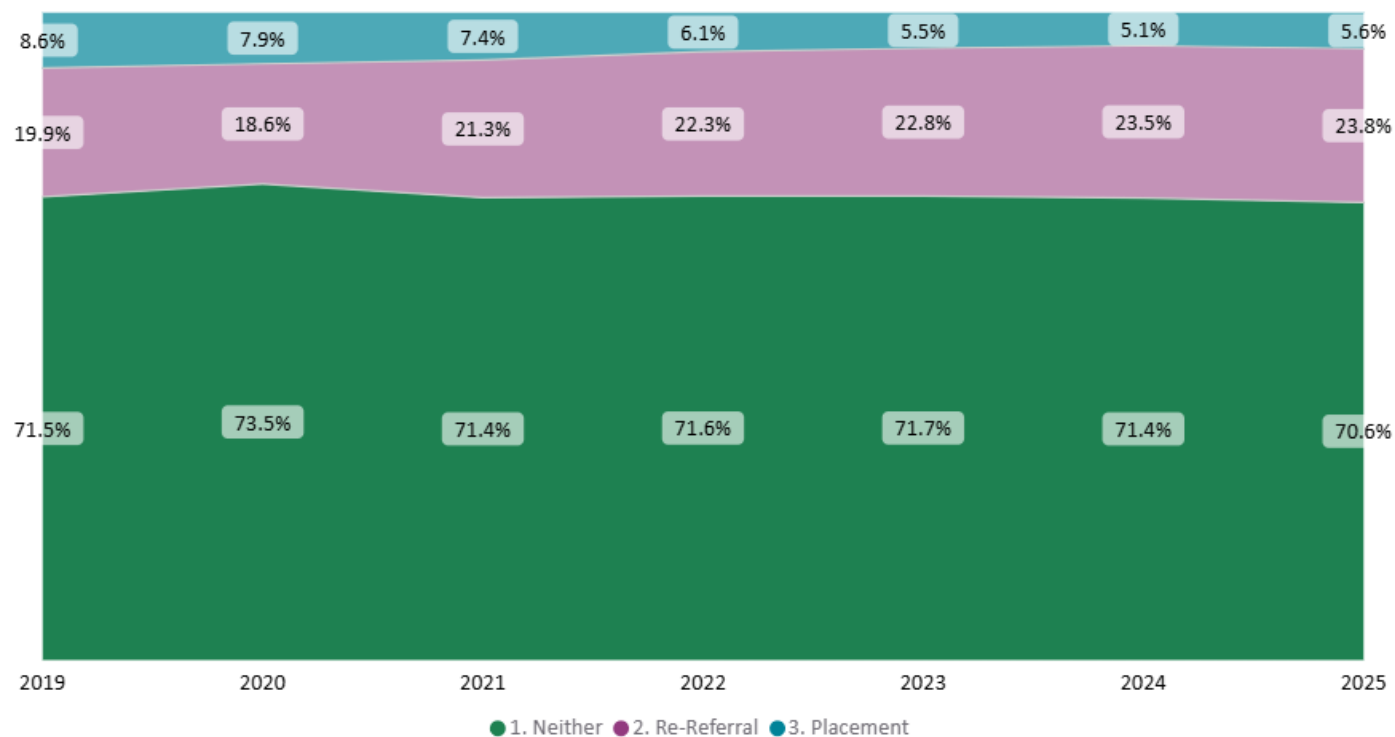
All

Office

All

Data as of:
1/5/2026

Since 2019, the share of intakes with no subsequent CPS involvement in 180 days has decreased by 0.9 percentage points



Year Selector: State Fiscal Year





Safe Reduction Dashboard AND Personas



Angela is a first-time mom with a 1-year-old child. She was referred to child protective services for child neglect. There are concerns that she is not properly feeding her child and having inappropriate people care for her child.

Goals and motivation

- Wants to feel emotionally stable and confident
- Hopes her child will grow up to be a good person
- Wants to be independent, no longer need to rely on government assistance

Strength and challenges

- Has a positive outlook
- Has the support of her own parents
- Has cognitive delays that impact her ability to comprehend
- Complex directions, becomes easily overwhelmed





Children age 1-4 re-referred for neglect | trend

Child Welfare Safe Reduction Dashboard
Office of Innovation, Alignment, and Accountability



Statewide Trends

Trends by Region

Trends by Office

Trends by Race/Ethnicity

Grow the Green!

CPS Chronicity

Re-Referral and Placement Trends - Statewide

In the chart below, at the child level, we look at whether a new intake or placement happened within 180 days of a reference intake (a screened in CPS intake). If both events occurred, the one that happened first is counted as the outcome. These trends vary by race/ethnicity, age, SDM risk level, type of alleged maltreatment, and prior number of CPS intakes. These categories can be explored using the filters.

Filters

Race/Ethnicity

All

Age Group

1-4

SDM Score

All

Intake Reason

All

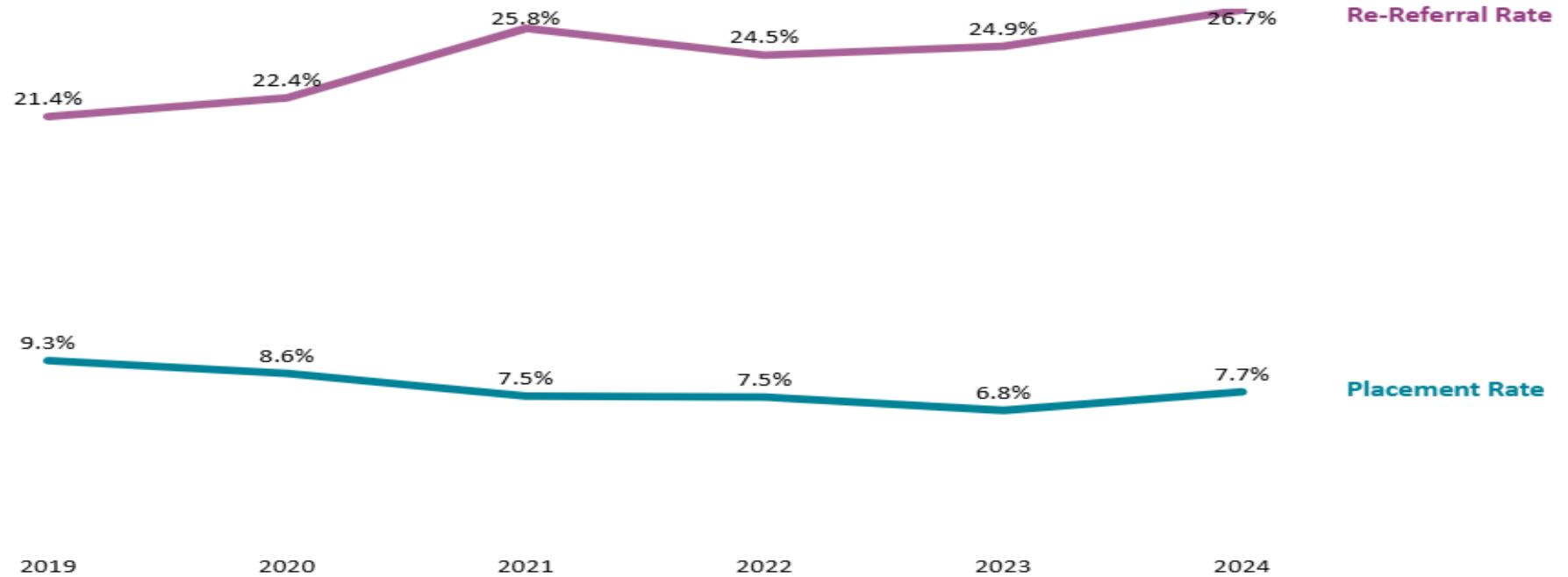
Major CAN

Neglect

Prior CPS Intakes

All

Re-Referral and Placement Trends within 180 Days - Statewide Trends



Year Selector: Calendar Year



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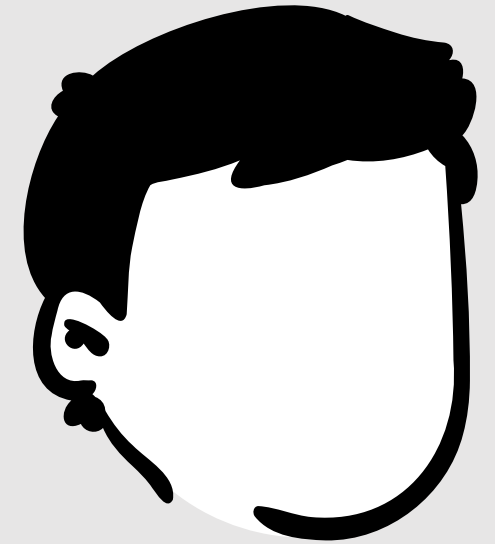
Frank and Pika are American Indian. They have three children, including a newborn. Frank and Pika were referred to child protective services due to concerns that their substance abuse is impacting their ability to meet their children's basic needs.

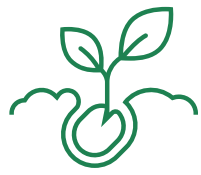
Goals and motivation

- Want a better life for themselves and their children
- Wants stable housing
- Wants to find a job where she can help others

Strength and challenges

- Makes efforts to be involved with their children
- Utilizes the local crisis line and resources when needed
- Struggling with housing stability
- Has a fear of "messaging everything up", of failing
- Feels impossible for to "jump through all the hoops"





Native American/Alaska Native Infant | trend

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Statewide Trends

Trends by Region

Trends by Office

Trends by Race/Ethnicity

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CPS Involvement

Re-Referral and Placement Trends by Race/Ethnicity

This chart presents re-referral and placement trends within 180 days of a reference CPS intake, disaggregated by race and ethnicity.

Filters

Age Group
0

SDM Score
All

Intake Reason
All

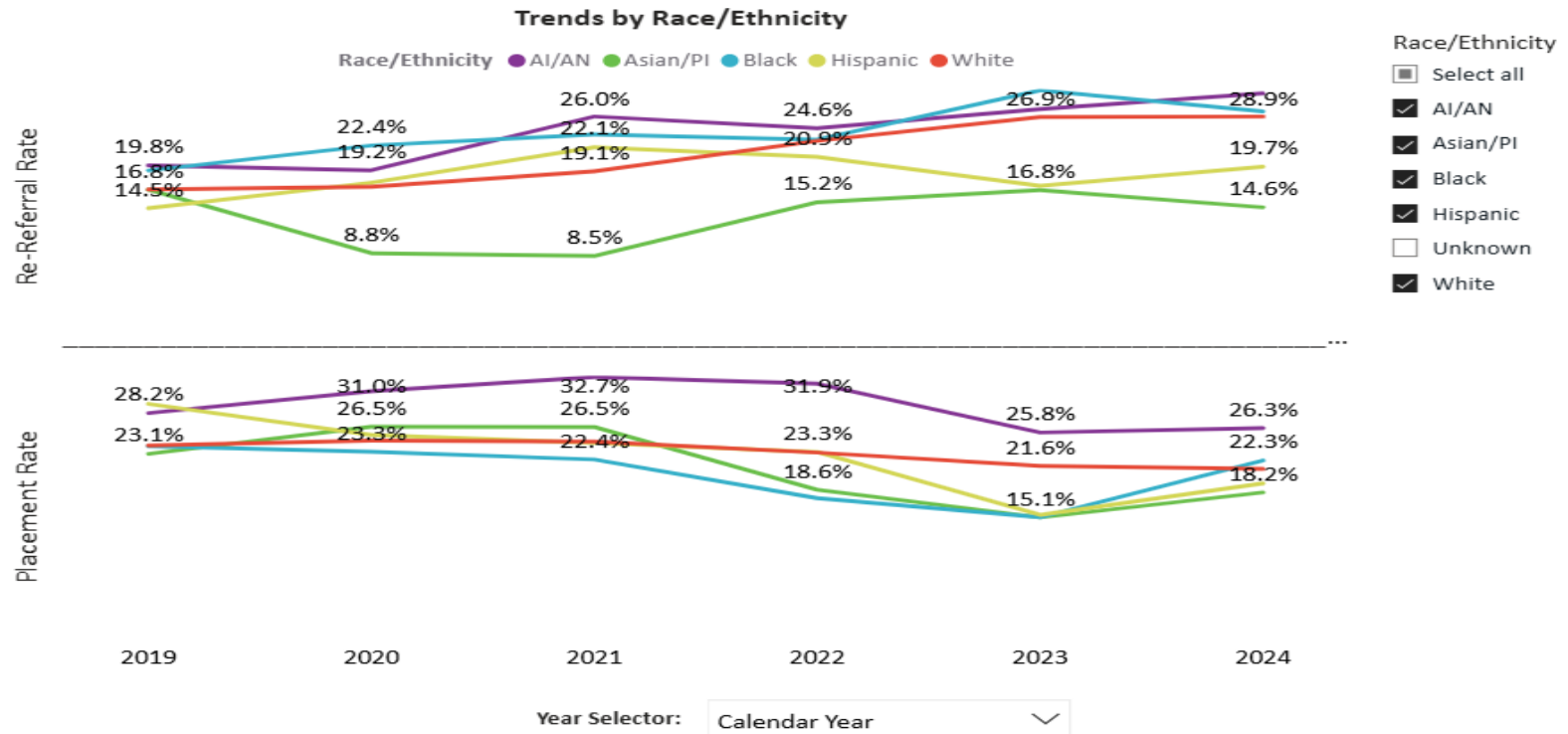
Major CAN
All

Prior CPS Intakes
All

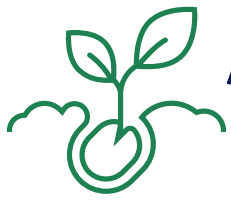
Region
All

Office
All

Data as of:
1/5/2026



Confidential client & provider information, and summary numbers between 1-9, can only be used for DCYF internal business purposes, unless explicitly authorized by a DCYF data share contract or approved by the Office of Innovation, Alignment, and Accountability



American Indian/Alaska Native Infant | trend

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Statewide Trends

Trends by Region

Trends by Office

Trends by Race/Ethnicity

Grow the Green!

CPS Involvement

Grow the Green!

This view highlights re-referral and placement outcomes within 180 days of a reference CPS intake, including intakes with no subsequent CPS involvement. It supports review of system performance related to the goal of reducing further child welfare involvement following an intake.

Filters

Race/Ethnicity

AI/AN

Age Group

0

Select all

0

1-4

5-9

10-13

14-16

Prior CPS Intakes

All

Region

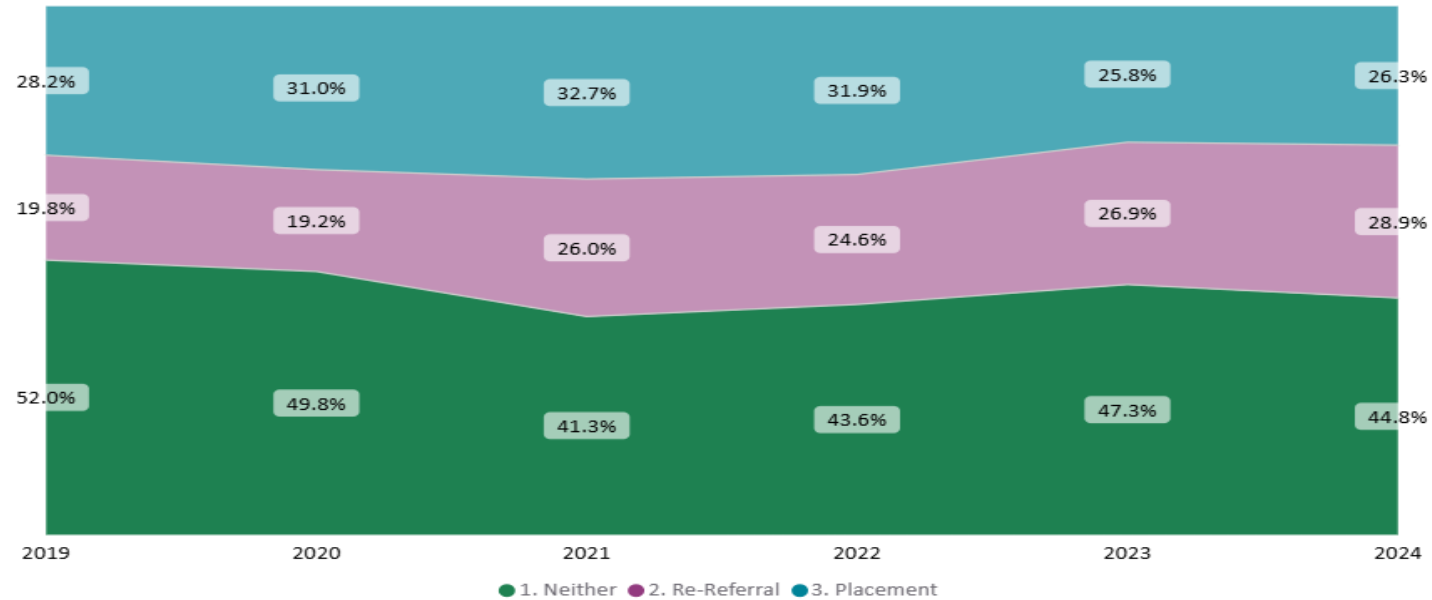
All

Office

All

Data as of:
1/5/2026

Since 2019, the share of intakes with no subsequent CPS involvement in 180 days has decreased by 7.2 percentage points



Year Selector: Calendar Year

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Kylee is a mother with a 10-year-old child. Kylee has been involved with Child Welfare off and on since the birth of her child. Kylee was referred to child protective services due to concerns that her depression was impacting her ability to meet the special needs of her daughter.

Goals and motivation

- Wants to provide a stable environment for her daughter
- Wants to stabilize her own functioning so that she can be a more consistent support for her daughter

Strength and challenges

- Has a close relationship with her daughter
- Eager to engage in services to improve her parenting so she can support her daughter
- Parenting a child with special needs





CPS involved children who are assessed high or moderately high risk | trend

Child Welfare Safe Reduction Dashboard Office of Innovation, Alignment, and Accountability



Statewide Trends

Trends by Region

Trends by Office

Trends by Race/Ethnicity

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CPS Involvement

CPS Involvement

This view shows the distribution of prior CPS involvement among children with a CPS intake, measured by the number of prior CPS intakes. It supports review of how frequently children entering the system have previous CPS history, and how this has changed over time.

Filters

Outcome

All

Race/Ethnicity

All

Age Group

10-13

SDM Score

Multiple selecti...

Intake Reason

All

Major CAN

All

Region

All

Office

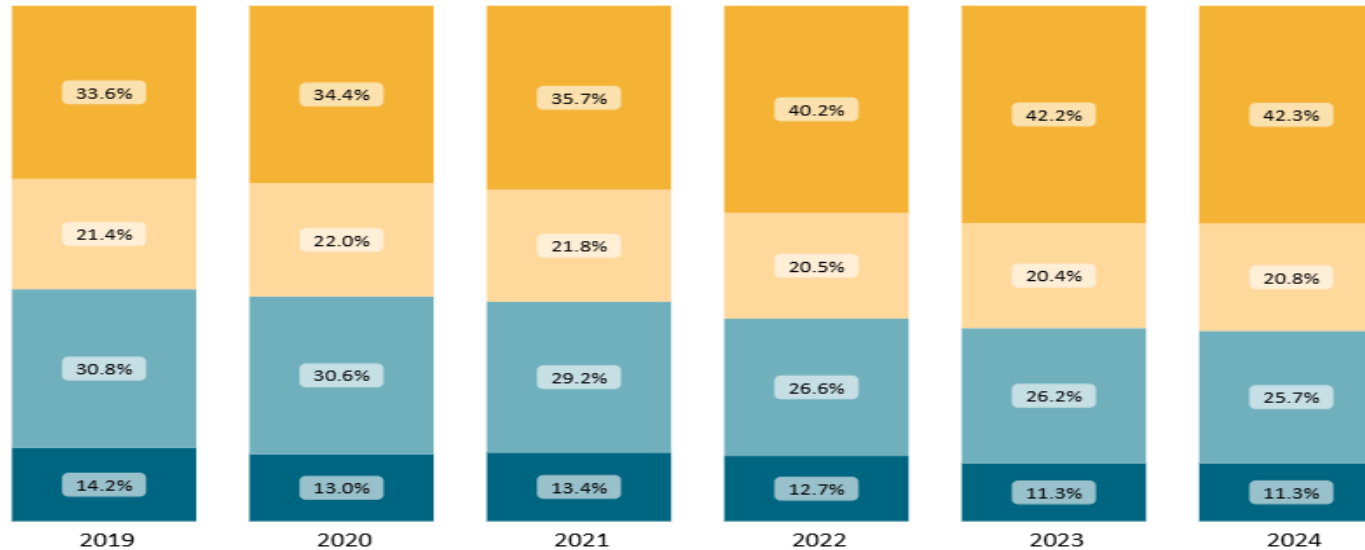
All

Data as of:
1/5/2026

CPS Involvement over Time

Distribution of prior # of CPS intakes among child intakes

Prior CPS Intakes ● 0 ● 1-2 ● 3-4 ● 5 or more



Year Selector: Calendar Year

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What does it mean to Grow the Green?



Growing the Green means **increasing the number of children who remain safely at home and outside the system over time**



Small Group Breakouts



Select a Group

Group 1 Angela

Group 2 Frank & Pika

Group 3 Kylee



Prompts

What conditions may be contributing to the trends we see in the data?

What supports would help this family remain or move into the green?

What could systems or agencies do earlier or differently?



Close

1-2 key takeaways from your group

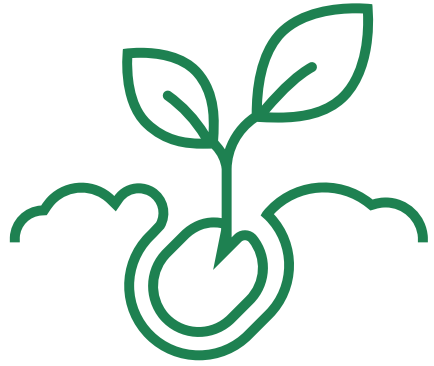


Learning Arc and Engagement

Learning Arc Sessions

- Emotional Readiness & Informed Choice
- What Counts as Data?
- Data Champion
- Exploring Data
- Active Dashboards
- Honoring Stories & Sovereignty
- Asset-Based Stories
- Action Labs





Next Steps!

01

Replicable pieces
you can have in
your community

02

Bring Grow the
Green to your
community!

03

Use the dashboard
to influence your
community
decisions



Related CJC Presentations of Interest

Grow the
Green booth
near the main
lobby

Session 7, 5/5 @
2:45pm: Theory of
Change to Action for
Children Placed in
Out-of-Home Care

Session 7, 5/5
@2:45pm:
Community is a
Garden – Partners
for Prevention



Thank you!

For Additional Information

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