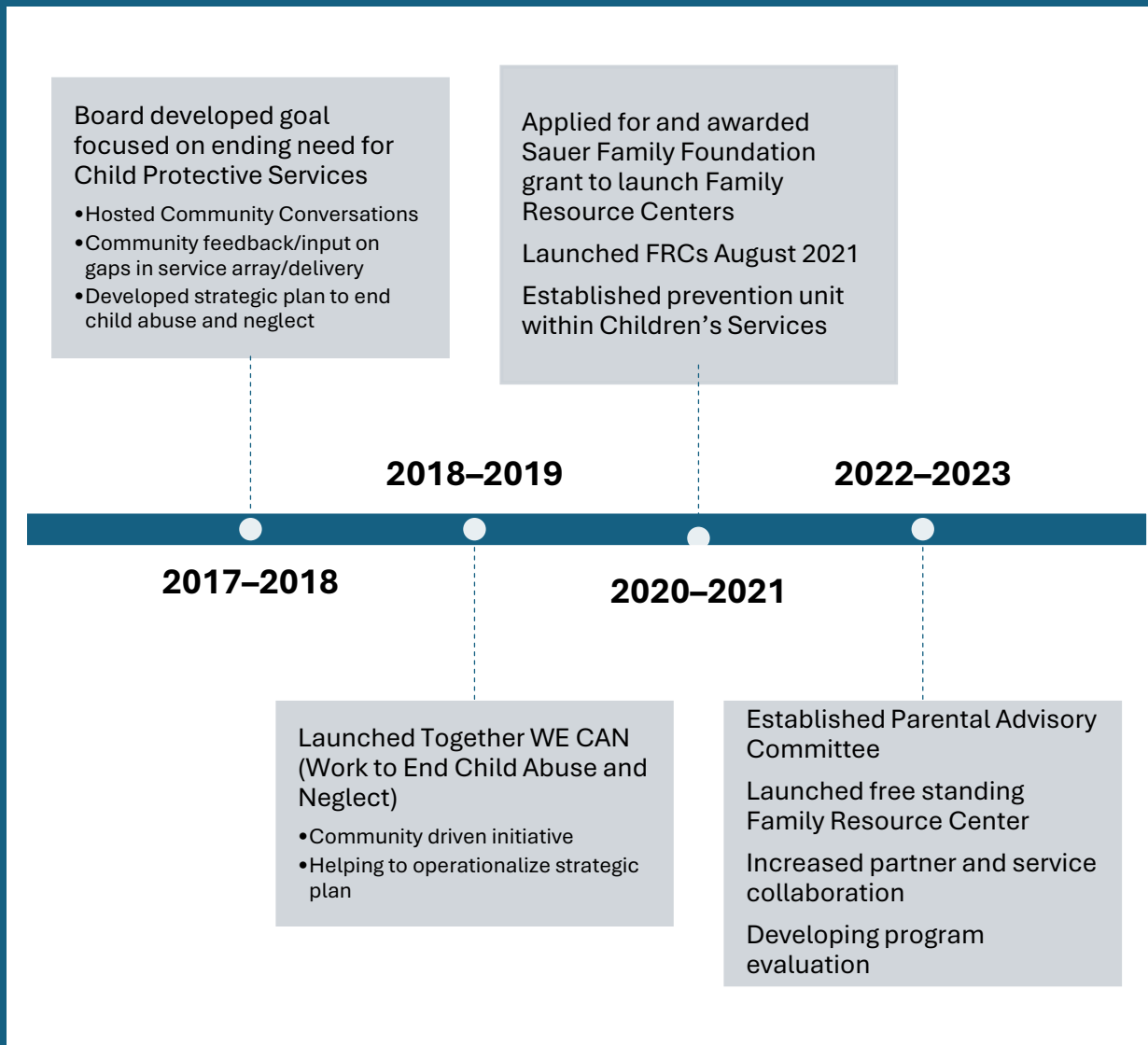
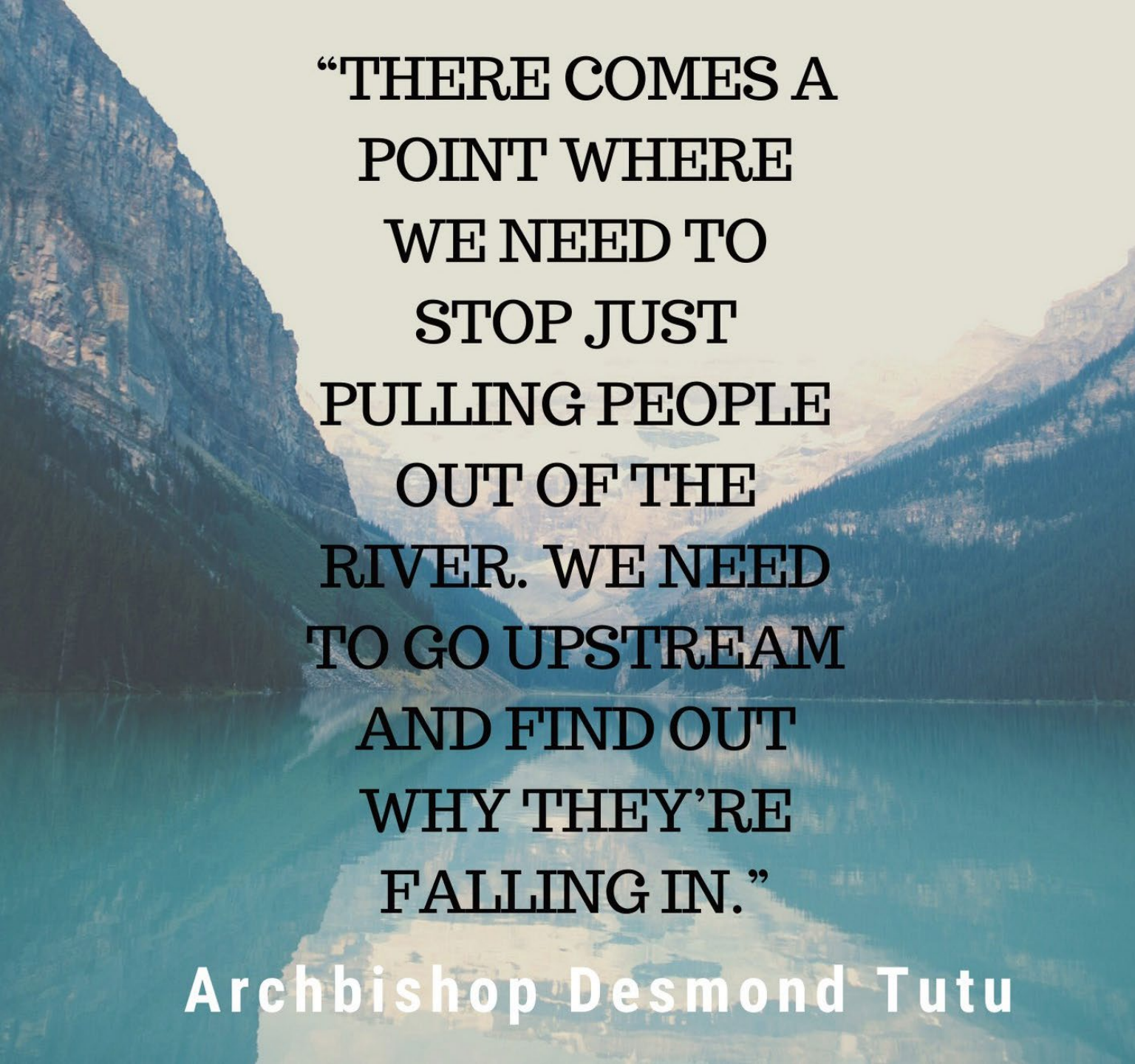


Scott County Prevention Initiatives

Scott County Prevention Timeline





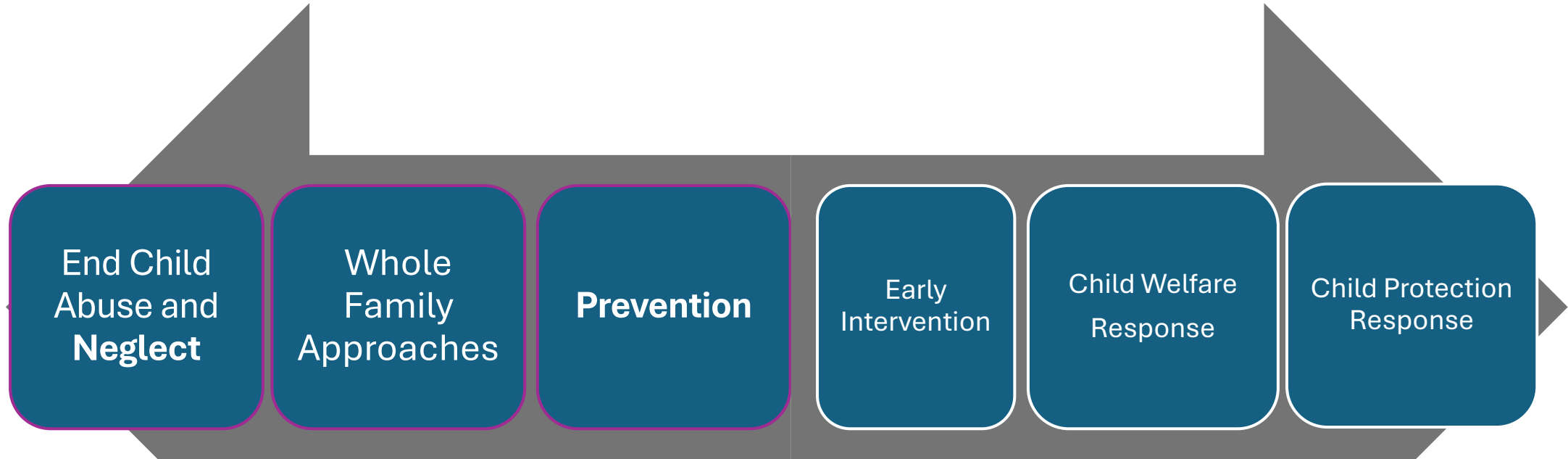
**“THERE COMES A
POINT WHERE
WE NEED TO
STOP JUST
PULLING PEOPLE
OUT OF THE
RIVER. WE NEED
TO GO UPSTREAM
AND FIND OUT
WHY THEY’RE
FALLING IN.”**

Archbishop Desmond Tutu

Why Focus on Prevention?

- Government cannot do it all.
- Less Government intrusion, more community support, and more family choices.
- Try new things. Cannot get different results from the same programs.
- Minimize the deep-end county programs that are more costly and tend to have less positive outcomes for the community, families, and individuals.

The Child Wellbeing Continuum



Together WE CAN (TWC) is a community driven initiative that acts as a think tank for upstream prevention programming designed to end child abuse and neglect.

TWC launched in 2018 as a community-driven initiative focused on how to end child abuse and neglect



Accomplishments:

- Strong community engagement
- Generated ideas for launching Family Resource Centers (FRC)
- Researched and developed peer recovery services, fatherhood programming, and culturally specific community circles

FAMILY RESOURCE CENTERS OF SCOTT COUNTY



Mission

To promote positive outcomes for all Scott County children, families, and communities by advancing quality family supports through family-centered practices and policies and leveraging partnerships with public, private, non-profit, business and faith communities to promote healthy child development and family resiliency.

Vision

A community in which community partners, collaborators and individuals come together to help families and children thrive.

What is a Family Resource Center?

Universal access point for education, supports, services, and community building.



Safe, accessible place for families to connect with supports and services.



Programs tailored to the culture and needs of the community they serve.



Core services focus on parenting education and skills, early childhood literacy, and access to concrete supports.



A place where individuals and organizations come together to help families thrive.



FRC Foundations

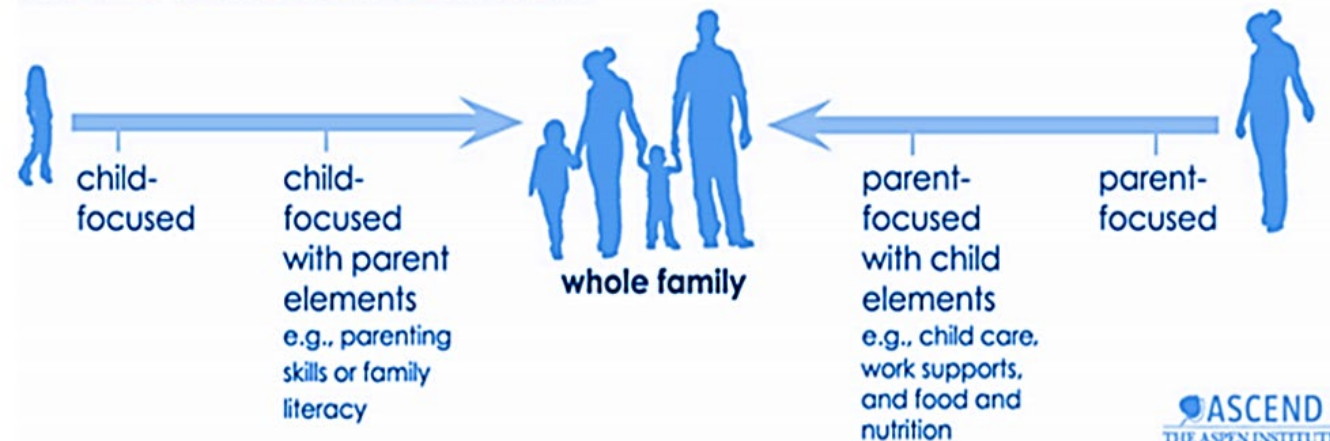


Strengthening Families
5 Protective Factors

Diversity, Equity,
Inclusion, and Belonging

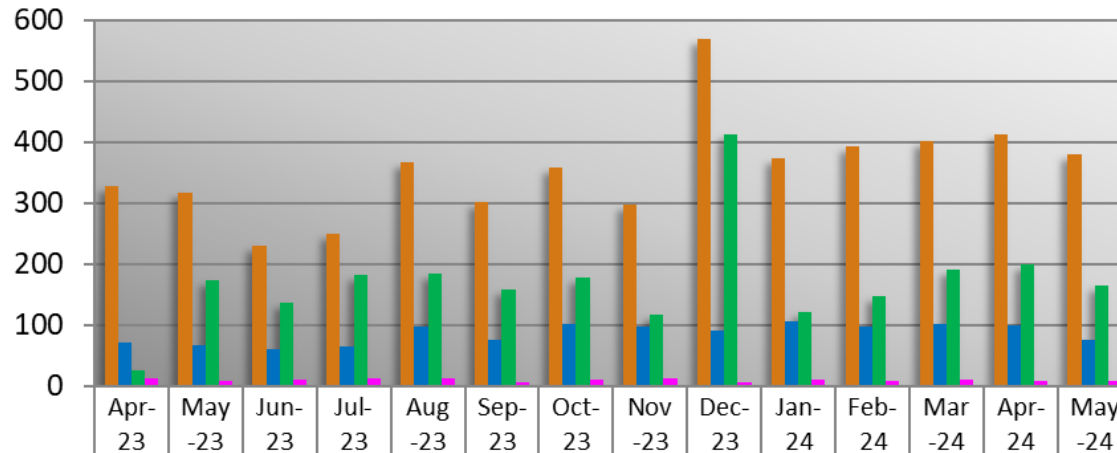


The Two-Generation Continuum



Two-Generation Continuum

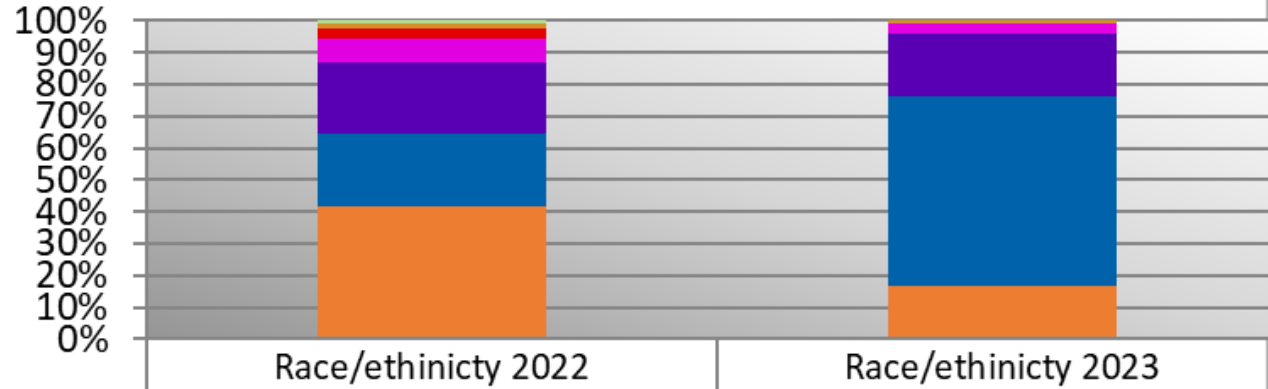
Family Resource Center Engagement Outcomes



**TOTAL
NUMBERS
SERVED by
Month
2023-2024**

Children & Adults Engaged	327	318	231	250	368	302	358	298	570	374	394	401	412	381
Resource Navigation (Families)	71	68	60	65	97	75	101	97	91	106	97	101	99	76
Programming/Classes (Attendance)	25	173	137	183	185	158	178	118	413	121	148	192	199	164
Family Development	12	9	11	12	12	7	11	12	7	10	9	10	9	8

Family Resource Center Participants by Race and Ethnicity



	Race/ethnicity 2022	Race/ethnicity 2023
Hispanic (any race)	17.9%	54.9%
American Indian	0.8%	0.4%
Two or more	1.7%	1.3%
Self Identify	3.0%	0.0%
Asian / Pacific Islander	7.4%	3.3%
African American	22.3%	19.8%
No Response	22.9%	59.1%
White	41.9%	16.9%

**WHO DOES THE
FRC SERVE:
DEMOGRAPHICS**

Family Resource Center Impact Story

- Emily-Mom
- My 4 year old sometimes had significant meltdowns that I couldn't manage by myself in large public places while also watching my 1 year old. I didn't feel like I could keep them safe when it happened, but I knew they needed regular socialization with other kids. I went to the Family Resource Center to see if they knew of any safe places for my situation, and it turned out FRC Shakopee was that safe place! When attending play times, I can park right outside the front door only a few feet away to limit the chance of a meltdown becoming dangerous around vehicles. The main area is small enough that if my daughter has a meltdown, I can help her while keeping my toddler contained within my sight. The staff and other parents there are an additional safety net for me - they help and support each other beyond what staff or patrons in most public places normally do. FRC ended up having other services we needed, too - messy sensory play for my sensory-seeking daughter (which I struggled to do at home with the toddler), and formal advice/support in the Balanced Parenting group (I had never been able to attend anything like that because I rarely have someone who can watch my kids). It is a very special place!



**ALTERNATIVE
PATHWAYS TO
ADDRESS
SCHOOL
ABSENTEEISM**

Creating New Pathways of Support for Children & Families with School Attendance Concerns

Background:

- Increased focus on preventing need for involuntary services
- Child protection response to school attendance concerns/educational neglect may be “too big of a response”
 - MN is one of 35 states that include education neglect in the child protection system
 - Chronic absenteeism is a growing concern nationally
 - Growing interest nationally and in MN to create alternative pathways to serve families where school attendance is a concern
- School attendance concerns linked to overrepresentation of BIPOC families in our CW system:
 - 2021 Educational Neglect Data: 82% were children from BIPOC communities

IS THERE ANOTHER WAY?



PASS Program (Promoting Attendance and School Success): School Attendance Concerns for Students Under Age 12

PASS Prevention:

- Enables school to make referral directly to community provider, St. David's, when a student (under age 12) has 3 unexcused absences
 - St. David's engages the student and family and school to overcome barriers to school attendance and assist in linking family with needed supports/services (e.g., Family Resource Centers, Mental/Chemical Health services, etc.)
 - Engagement across all Scott County School Districts
-

PASS Program-Diversion



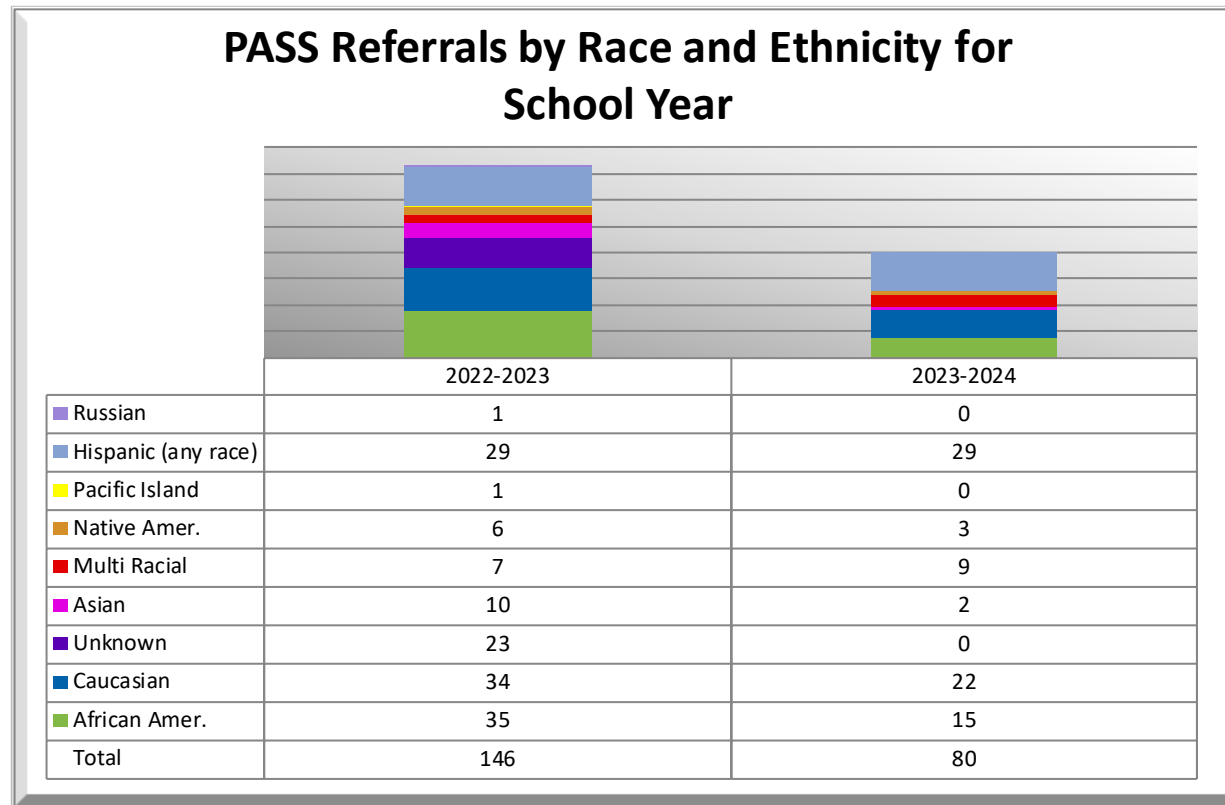
PASS Diversion

- Schools make mandated report for educational neglect to child protection after student has 7+ unexcused absences and school intervention is not effective
- Scott County CP will screen report and, if appropriate, screen-out and divert it to community provider, St. David's.
- St. David's will engage student, family and school in addressing and overcoming barriers to school attendance and assist in linking family with needed supports/services (e.g., Family Resource Centers, Mental/Chemical Health services)
- Strong engagement and coordination between St. David's and local school districts
- If student/family refuses to engage in PASS Diversion, the case may be referred back to child protection

Demographics of Students Served by PASS Program

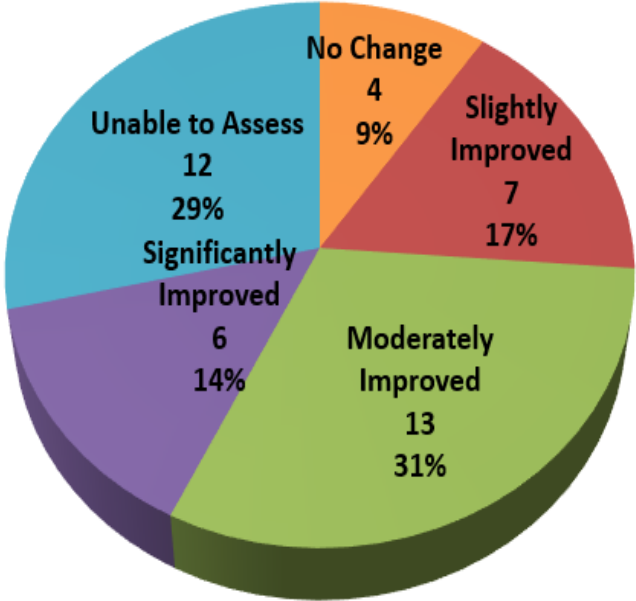
About this measure:

This snapshot identifies the self-identified race and ethnicity of all referrals made to the PASS program to St. David's Center for Child and Family Development. Please note number will be higher in this measure than number of total referrals as Hispanic is an ethnicity, therefore families will also identify their race.

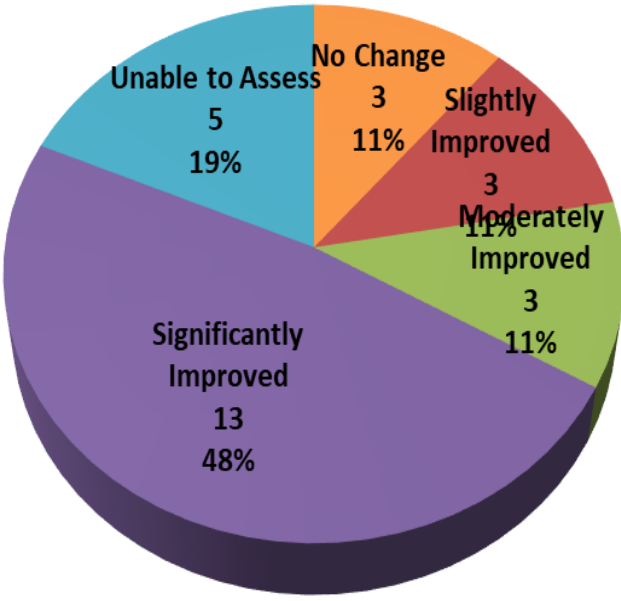


PASS: Improved School Attendance

PASS Diversion Program: Improved Attendance for School Year 2022-2023



PASS Diversion Program: Improved Attendance for School Year 2023-2024





PASS: IMPACT STORY ON SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

- Bently is a 3rd grader who was referred to the PASS Prevention program by the school district for several unexcused absences and multiple tardies. The school expressed concerns about Bently's attendance, challenging behaviors in the classroom and a lack of communication from the parents. The Family Support Specialist (FSS) worked with the family for a year, meeting with Mom, Bently and Bently's two younger siblings. Visits occurred in the home weekly and sometimes bi-weekly when stressors and challenges were at their peak. The FSS spent time getting to know Bently and the rest of the family and learning about Mom's history and what she identified as stressors for herself and her family, including a conflictual relationship with Bentley's father, financial stressors and a very limited support system.
 - The Family Support Specialist supported parent child interactions by bringing out activities and supporting healthy family interactions through developmental guidance, psychoeducation and modeling. The FSS coached Mom in the moment to set appropriate expectations for her children and increase healthy communication between parent and children.
 - The FSS also provided emotional support and concrete resources to the family. After some time building relationships, the family accepted referrals for longer-term family home visiting for the younger children and counseling for Bently through the school Connect Program. The FSS collaborated with the school staff and advocated for the family to receive continued counseling services when attendance was inconsistent.
 - As a result of programming, we saw a decrease in family stressors and an increase in protective factors. Mom was expecting a new baby and looking forward to continuing support from the home visiting program. Bently was attending school consistently and tardies were significantly reduced.
-



Promoting Attendance
Through Hope (PATH):
Students Age 12+_

PATH Program

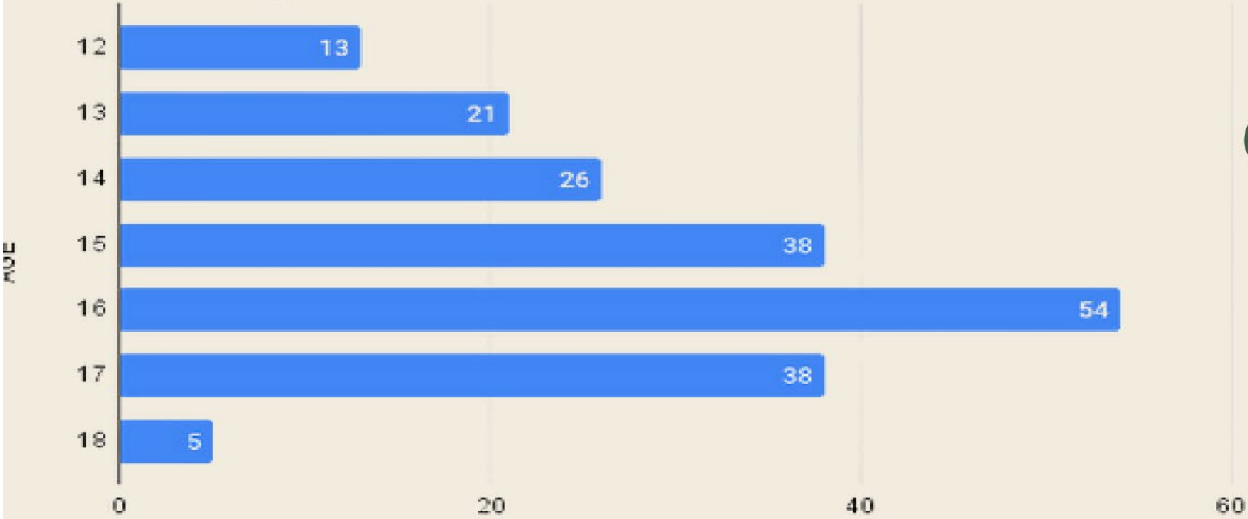
Partnership with TreeHouse

- TreeHouse Mission: End Teen Hopelessness
- Schools make prevention referrals directly to TreeHouse when they identify a student with unexcused absences
 - Schools can make truancy referrals to CAO after student (age 12+) has 7 or more unexcused absences and school intervention is not effective
- TreeHouse will engage student, family and school in addressing and overcoming barriers to school attendance and assist in linking family with needed supports/services (e.g., Family Resource Centers, Mental/Chemical Health services)
- Strong engagement and coordination between TreeHouse and local school districts
- If student/family refuses to engage in PATH diversion, the case may be referred back to County for formal truancy intervention

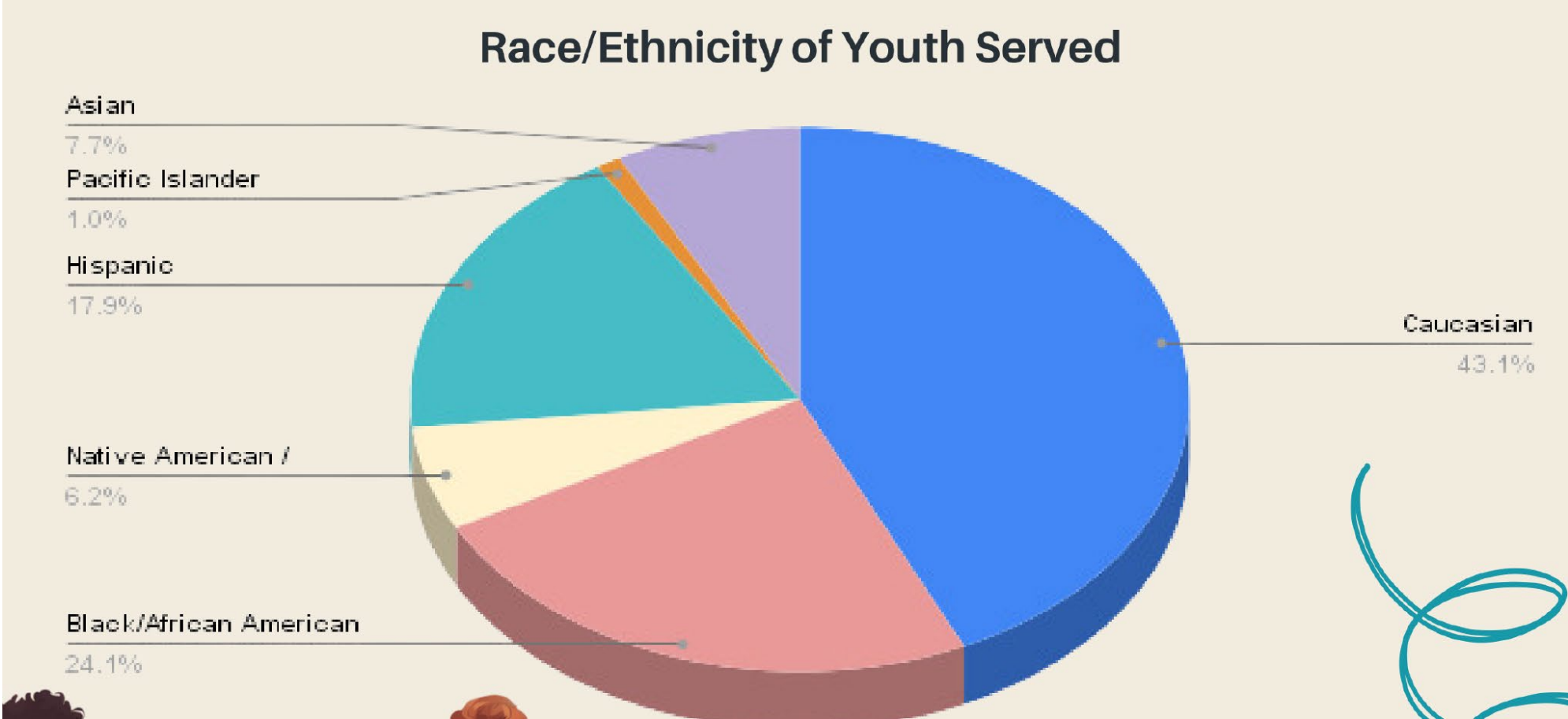
Youth Served by TreeHouse

DEMOGRAPHICS OF YOUTH SERVED DURING THE 2023-2024 SCHOOL YEAR

Ages of Youth Served (195 total)



Youth Served by TreeHouse (cont.)



Youth Served by TreeHouse (cont.)

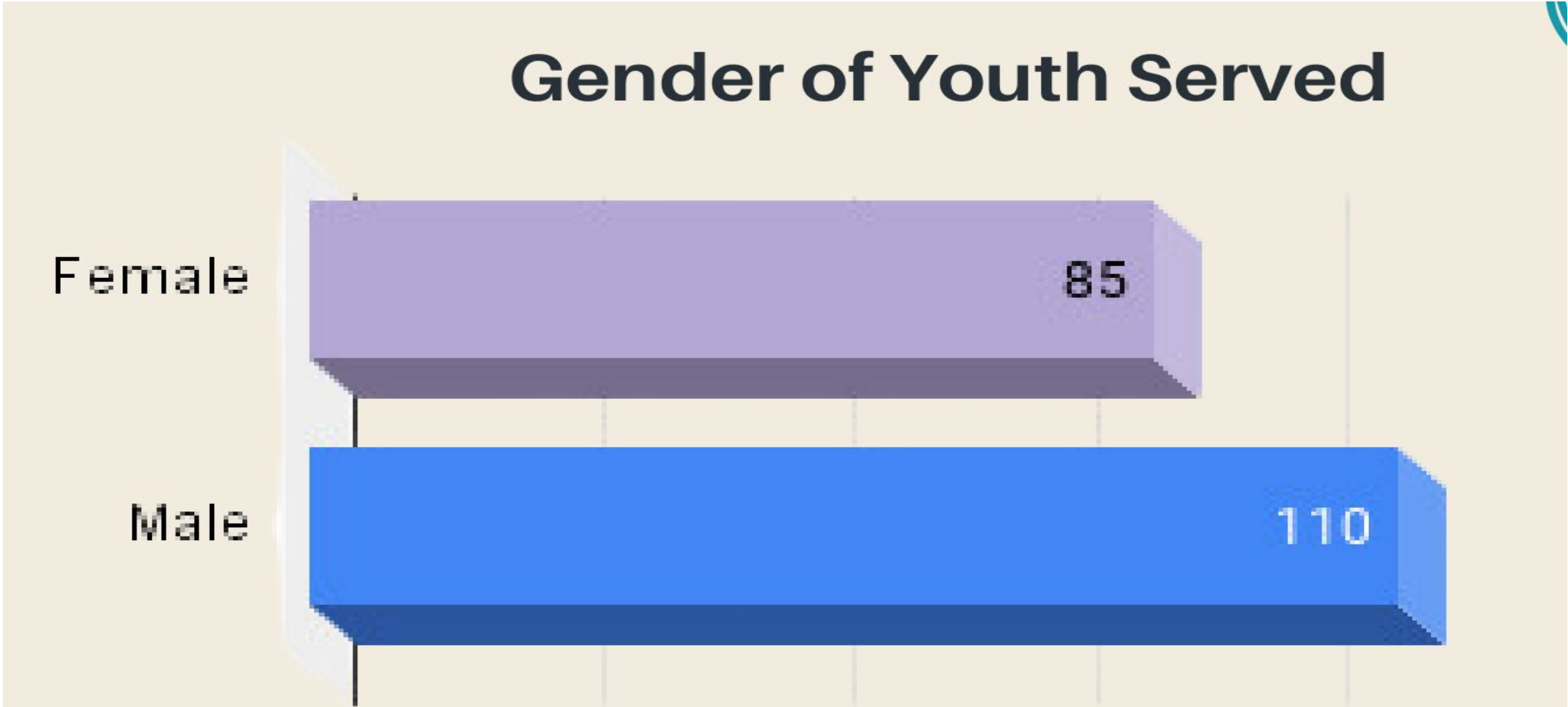
Gender of Youth Served

Female

85

Male

110





PATH Impact Stories/Testimonials

Student Testimonials

- I appreciate your honesty and integrity and communication.
- You guys did amazing, keep it up
- A little more of a private spot, although we were in a separated room the walls didn't connect to the ceiling so I would assume we could still be heard.
- You guys did great, keep it up
- I love you guys♥
- They are amazing I love them

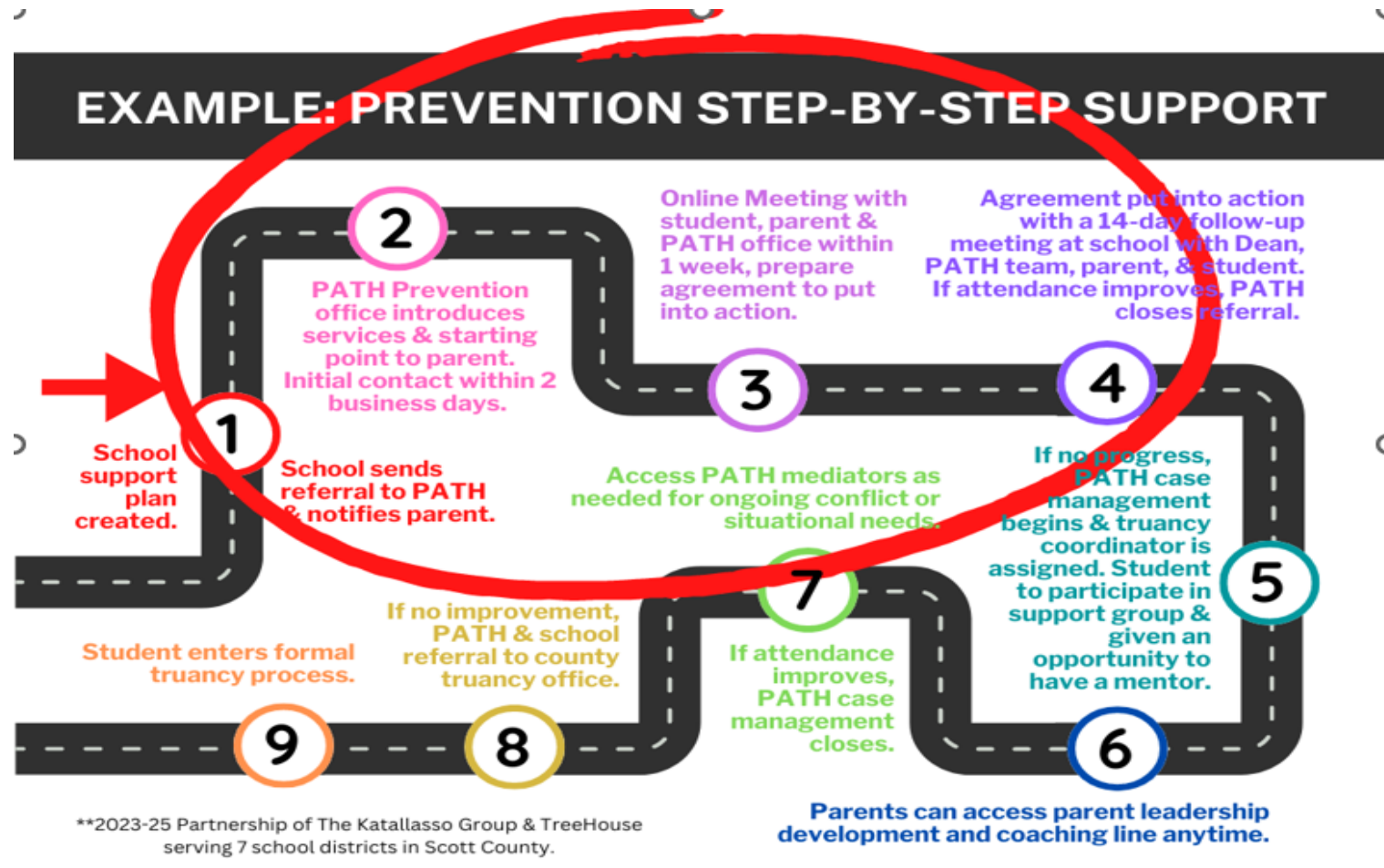
Parent Testimonials

- I don't know what I would have done if Marie and Courtney and the whole PATH program hadn't come into our lives. Charlie was struggling to get to school. His anxiety and depression were taking over our daily lives. The minute Marie came to our house to meet Charlie, I knew we were in good hands. Both Marie and Courtney took time to build a relationship with Charlie. They were kind and understanding but also firm with him. It's a journey that we are not finished with yet, but without the intervention of this program, I don't even want to think where Charlie would be.
- Courtney, Thank you so much for everything you have done for Megan! We have noticed a huge change in her over the last couple of months. We are excited to see what next year brings!
- Marie was the absolute KEY to moving our son forward. His school dropped the ball quite along time ago with hardly any communication at all. We are beyond grateful for what you have done. You achieved more in that short of a time than they were able to in two years. ♥

Restorative Circles-The Katallasso Group

- The Katallasso Group and TreeHouse partner together to provide truancy prevention support to students age 12+
 - Restorative Circles is funded via a 2 year grant from a local Family Foundation
 - Katallasso served approximately 194 students

Roadmap for PATH Prevention Supports (TreeHouse & The Katalasso Group)





Katallasso Impact Stories

- All school partners expressed its effectiveness, reduction to workload for staff, and the support of outside neutrals stepping in to conduct meetings.
 - 60-65% of referrals from schools closed at step 4 using restorative conversations only and heavy amounts of education on school attendance. (The time frame to close was 4-6 weeks).
 - A notable success story involves a 3-year truant youth (6-8th grade) who was referred to diversion and sent for Restorative Family Mediation. The parents, who had been dealing with a 3-year divorce and homelessness, underwent parent leadership development/coaching and mediation. The result was a transformed family – the student returned to school consistently and entered therapy, and the parents completed their divorce peacefully and out of court, effectively co-parenting.
-

Race ↑	Record Count
American Indian or Alaska Native	5
Asian	4
Black or African American	8
Hispanic or Latino	4
White	20
Unknown	2
Total	43

Scott County Truancy Diversion Services

Total Referrals: 43

Thank you