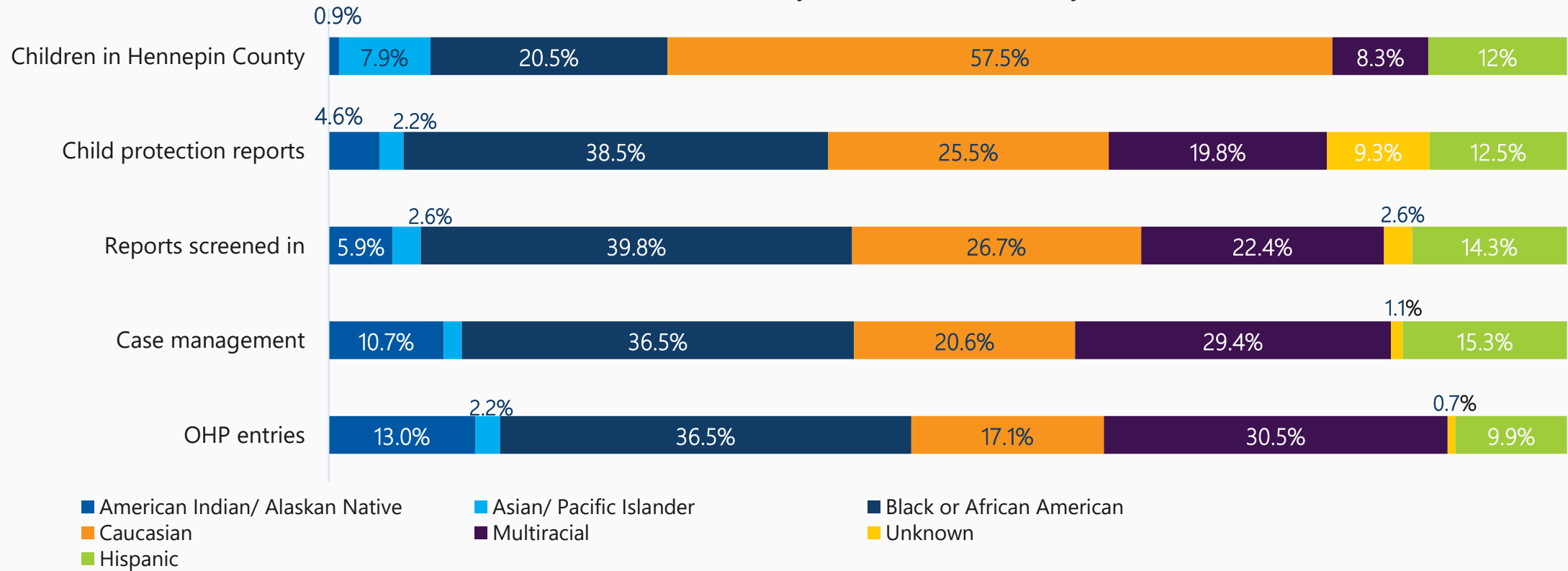


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HENNEPIN COUNTY
MINNESOTA

Who we serve

Child welfare data by race and ethnicity



Note: 2021 data for children under 18



Collaborative pilot with Village Arms

- 3-year pilot
- Culturally responsive services for African American families
- Village Arms provided family liaison services
- Piloted several provisions of the AAFPA bill
- Aligned with board direction
 - Child Well-being transformation
 - Disparity reduction
 - Racism as a public health crisis

Pilot process and engagement

- Strengths-based, family-centered
- Address implicit bias
- Safely reduce disproportionality
- Village Arms liaisons involved early and often
- Joint consults, FGDM, placement alternatives
- Services offered from first contact

Data collection

Comparison among three groups

- Families participating in pilot
- All other African American families served at the time
- 2019 baseline data

Performance measures and outcomes

Pilot cases outperformed comparison groups in nearly 60% of measures.

- Nearly 90% were able to stay in their homes
- None had a re-entry into foster care
- Similar placement with relatives
- 100% reunified in less than 12 months
- Fewer experienced repeat maltreatment*
- Fewer opened to ongoing case management

*Does not meet the federal definition of repeat maltreatment because 12 months had not passed from the time of the initial report to when the pilot concluded.

Replicable strategies

Case Continuum

- Jointly developed by CFS and Village Arms
- Investigations extended by an additional 45 days
- Several families avoided moving deeper into the system

Other Successes

- Low caseloads
- FGDM early and often
- Cultural services implemented early
- Kinship first approach

Questions?



AAFPA implementation

Implementation team

- 3 project managers assigned
- Collaboration with county attorneys, all CFS service areas
- Meeting intensely in coming months
- Initial discussion with DCYF and Ramsey County

Next steps

- Evaluating staffing needs
- Identify strategies, activities and necessary resources
- Community Engagement team lead outreach and education

Strengthening existing practices



Technical assistance for mandated reporters

Preventing unnecessary reports



Family Group Decision Making

Culturally relevant, strengths-based family engagement



Intake Review Team

Reducing implicit bias, increasing transparency



Parent Support Outreach Program

Voluntary prevention program driven by parent's goals