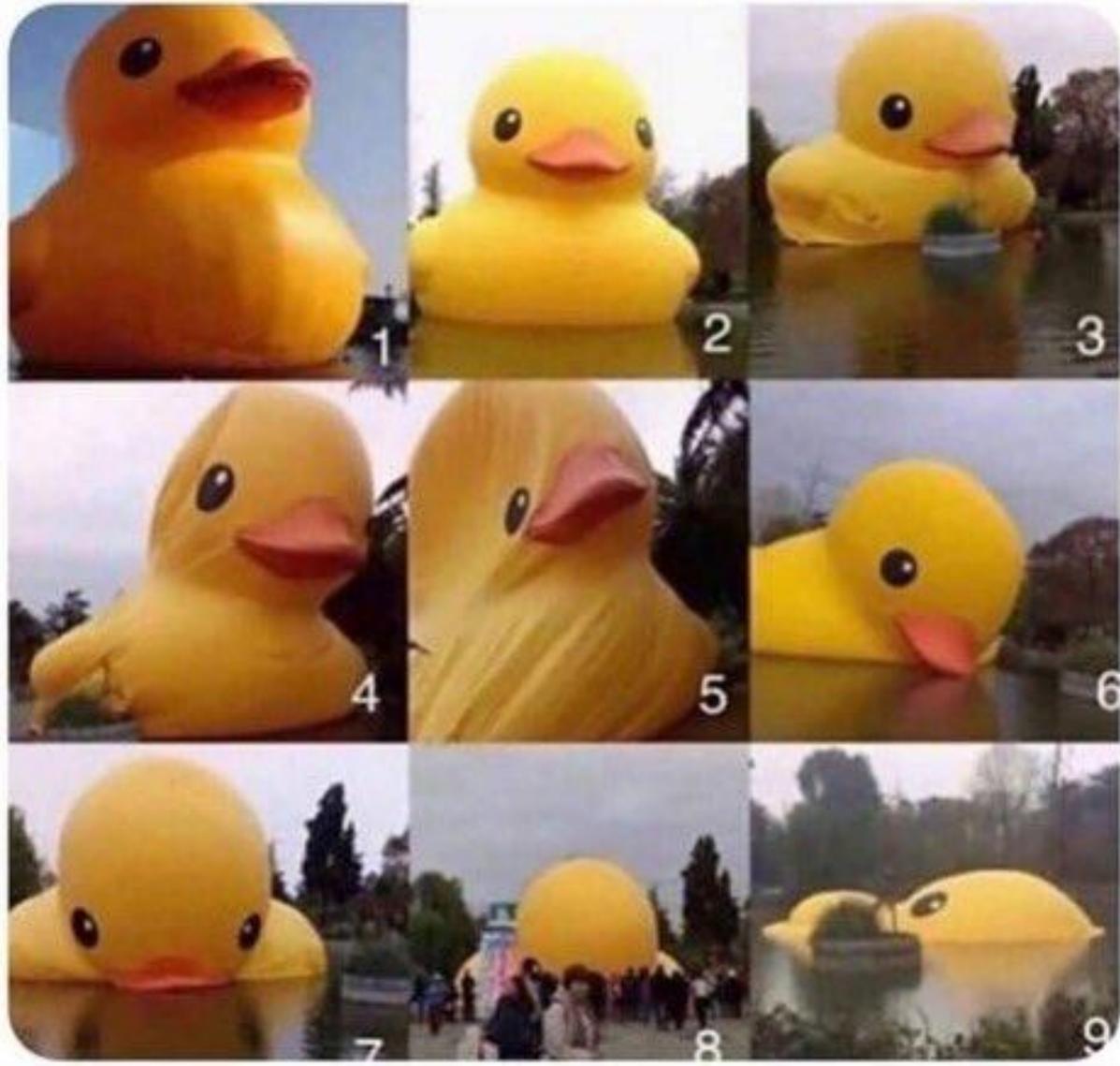




Addressing the Crisis in Youth Mental

Lisette Burton, Chief Policy & Practice Advisor, ACRC





AGENDA

- Who is ACRC?
- Mental Health Awareness
- Quality & Safety Across the Continuum
- Target Initiatives & Specific Populations
- Trends
 - Public
 - Workforce
- Solutions



VISION

ACRC envisions youth and families thriving in their homes and communities with uncompromised access to high-quality residential and community-based interventions in a robust continuum of care.



MISSION

To provide a powerful voice for quality residential and community interventions through relationships, leadership, advocacy, and the promotion of innovative treatment and best practices.



TOGETHER, THE VOICE

Strengthening
Impact.



TOGETHER, THE VOICE

Amplifying Voices,
Together.



ACRC is now the
home of the
Building Bridges
Initiative!

[https://togetherthevoice.org/
bbi/](https://togetherthevoice.org/bbi/)

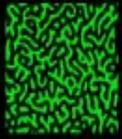
2023 Policy & Advocacy Priorities

1. Addressing the Global Crisis in Children's Mental Health
2. Quality & Safety Across the Continuum
3. Strengthening the Workforce
4. Implementation of FFPSA
5. JJDPA Reauthorization



Awareness

- Crisis in child and adolescent mental health
 - UNICEF State of the World's Children 2021
 - Sound the Alarm
 - US Surgeon General
 - Congressional action
 - CDC statistics
- COVID made negative trends worse



SPEAK OUR MINDS
ENDING THE YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS

ABOUT US

TAKE ACTION 

UPDATES



END THE YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS. **NOW.**

Join us. We are the only organization focused on
creating a working system of youth mental health care.

But we can't do it alone.

PUSH THE PLEDGE



Quality & Safety

- **National Reports**
 - GAO [Report](#) - *HHS Should Facilitate Information Sharing Between States to Help Prevent and Address Maltreatment in Residential Facilities*
 - AAP/Chapin Hall [report](#) - *Family First Implementation: A One-Year Review of State Progress in Reforming Congregate Care*
 - AEI [report](#) - *Why Foster Children Are Sleeping in Offices and What We Can Do About It*
- **Quality Standards**
 - Why implement [quality standards](#)?
 - [Institute for Quality Children's Services](#)
- **Federal Legislation**
 - Stop Institutional Child Abuse Act (SICAA – S. 1351/H.R. 2955)

Targeted Initiatives & Specific Populations

Family First Prevention Services Act Implementation

- Status
- Prevention Services
- Out-of-home Care

Juvenile Justice

Complex Care Initiatives

Child Welfare News

- Foster kids sleeping in offices, hotel rooms because there's no other option | Why, and what can be done? 05/12/2022, Virginia News Channel 10 Local News
- UpEnd Movement 2022 Impact Report – Abolitionist movement to protect children, support families, and dismantle the family policing system
- A 15-year-old stayed in a hospital for 40 days. The reason? The state child welfare agency had no place to put him. 2/11/23, Boston Globe
- Senate Judiciary Subcommittee to Investigate Georgia Child Welfare 2/25/2023, The Imprint
- North Carolina foster children sleeping in jails, emergency rooms, DSS offices amid a foster family shortage 03/2/2023, Local News Channel 8
- Bunking Texas foster kids in CPS offices may have ended, but bed shortage persists 3/6/2023, The Dallas Morning News
- States look to New Jersey as model for child mental health interventions 3/21/2023, NPR

Prevention Efforts Across the Country



- 47 Approved Prevention Plans (including states, territories, and Tribes)
 - 42 states and DC have approved plans
 - 4 states and Puerto Rico have submitted plans for approval
 - 4 states have not yet submitted plans
- 4 Approved Kinship Navigator Programs
 - AZ Kinship Support Services
 - CO Kinconnected Kinship Navigator Program
 - OH Kinship Support Intervention/Protect OHIO
 - NV Foster Kinship Navigator Program
- In FY22, states claimed Title IV-E prevention funding for approximately 6,200 children

QRTP Picture Across the Country

- At least 18 states and DC are not currently implementing QRTPs
- Some states are limiting QRTP size to 16 beds to avoid IMD
 - however aggregate bed counts, determined according to CMS guidance, push many QRTPs over the threshold even when children are served in small settings
- At least one state has faced an enforcement action from the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) for improper claiming related to QRTP implementation (no process for judicial oversight)
- Some states are identifying IMDs and using state/county dollars to make up for lost federal Medicaid funding
- Some states are exploring Psychiatric Residential Treatment Program (PRTF) implementation or expansion to maintain or increase access to treatment
- At least 3 states are including QRTPs in a Medicaid 1115 SMI/SED waiver



Juvenile Justice News

- Wayne County empties troubled juvenile jail, sends 120+ youths to former adult lockup 10/28/2022, Detroit Free Press
- Inside months of chaos at L.A. County's juvenile halls: lockdowns, staff shortages 11/28/2022, LA Times
- Documents show mental health issues go untreated – Special Report: Juvenile Justice Center 12/14/2022, Adair County Community Voice (KY)
- Staffing shortages at NC juvenile detention centers: So bad that, 'If you show up to work today, you get a bonus.' 12/14/2022, NC Policy Watch
- Lawmakers offer stark choices for ending the crisis in Texas' youth prisons — shut them all down, or build more 03/09/2023 Texas Tribune

Behavioral Health News

- 'It's Life or Death': The Mental Health Crisis Among U.S. Teens 04/23/22, New York Times series by Matt Richtel
- Justice Department Secures Agreement to Provide Community-Based Services to Children with Disabilities in Rhode Island 05/18/2022, DOJ Press Release
- Justice Department Finds Maine in Violation of ADA For Over-Institutionalization of Children with Disabilities 06/22/22. DOJ Press Release
- DOJ investigation finds Nevada unnecessarily institutionalizing children 10/5/2022, Nevada Current
- Insurance Giant Failed Foster Kids with Inadequate Care (Centene Medicaid Managed Care) 11/9/22, Illinois Answers Project

Youth Crisis Continuum

SAMHSA
Substance Abuse and Mental Health
Services Administration



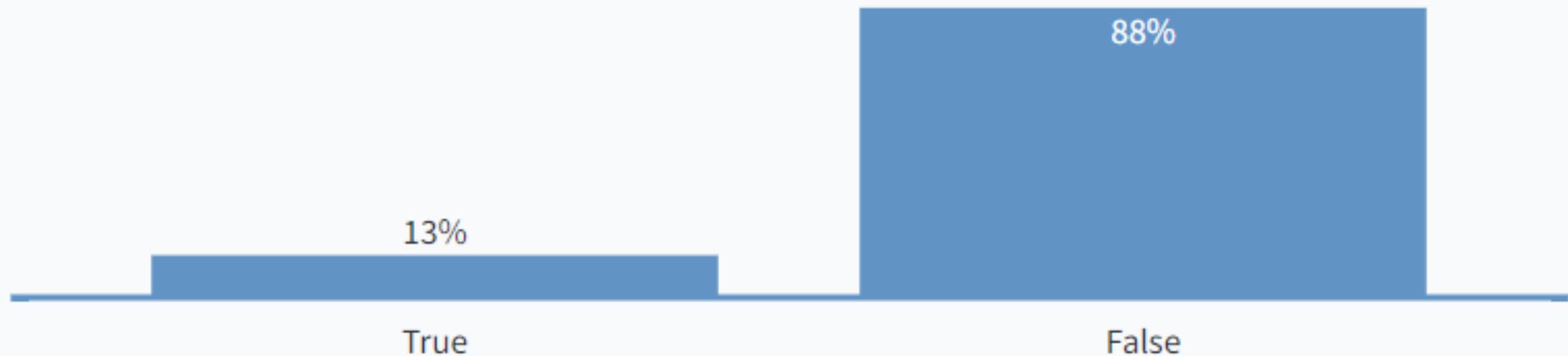
CORE PRINCIPLES

Safety • Equity • Trauma-informed • Peer Support
Culturally and Developmentally Appropriate
No Wrong Door

🌐 When poll is active, respond at Pollev.com/lburton222

📱 Text **LBURTON222** to **22333** once to join

Most people understand that high quality residential interventions have positive impacts on youth & families.

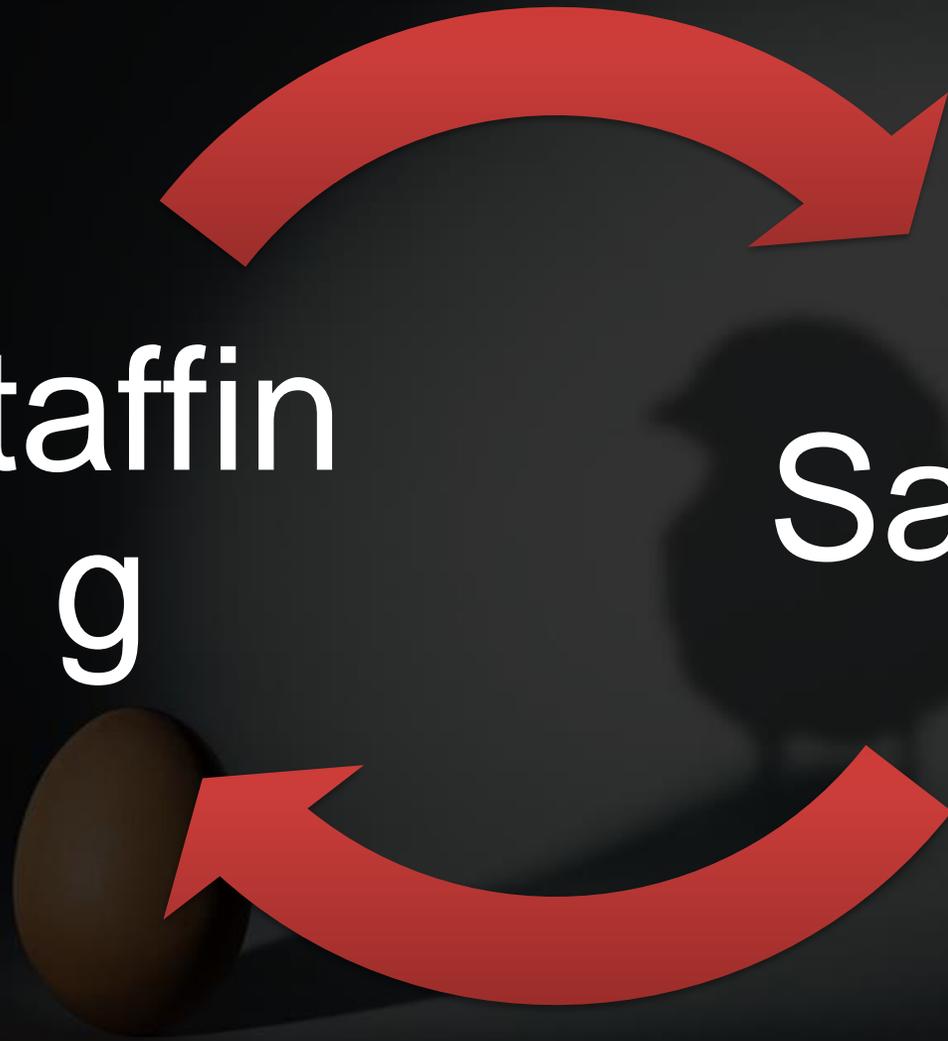




"I've found my colleagues crying in the treatment room or in the storeroom and you meet up with your friends after work and they're on the verge of a breakdown as well."

Staffin
g

Safety



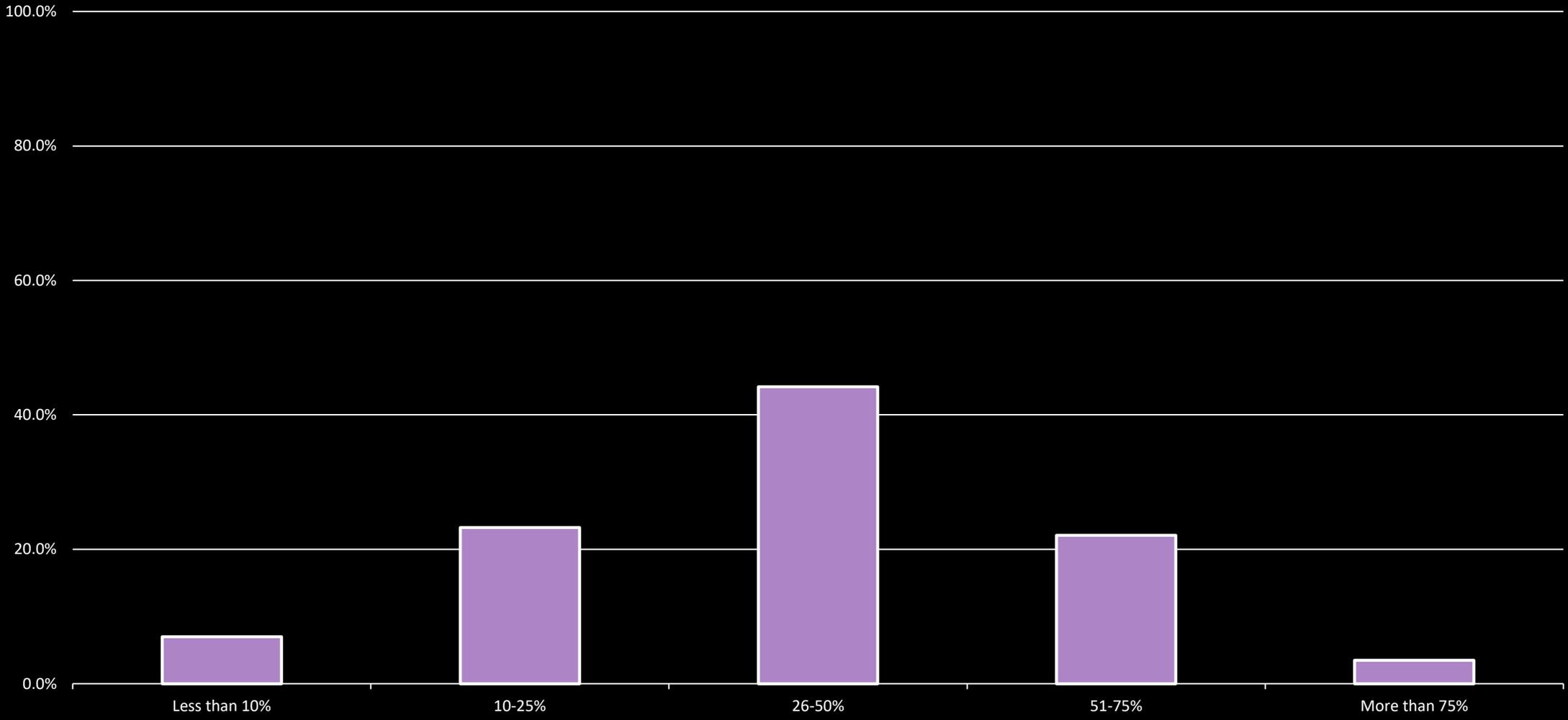
2022 ACRC Workforce Survey

102 Agencies

- 3 countries
- 32 states

Northeast United States	29.5%
Southern United States	12.5%
Midwest United States	34.1%
Western United States	19.3%
Canada	2%
Australia	1%

12 Month YTD Turnover





association of
**Children's
Residential &
Community**
services

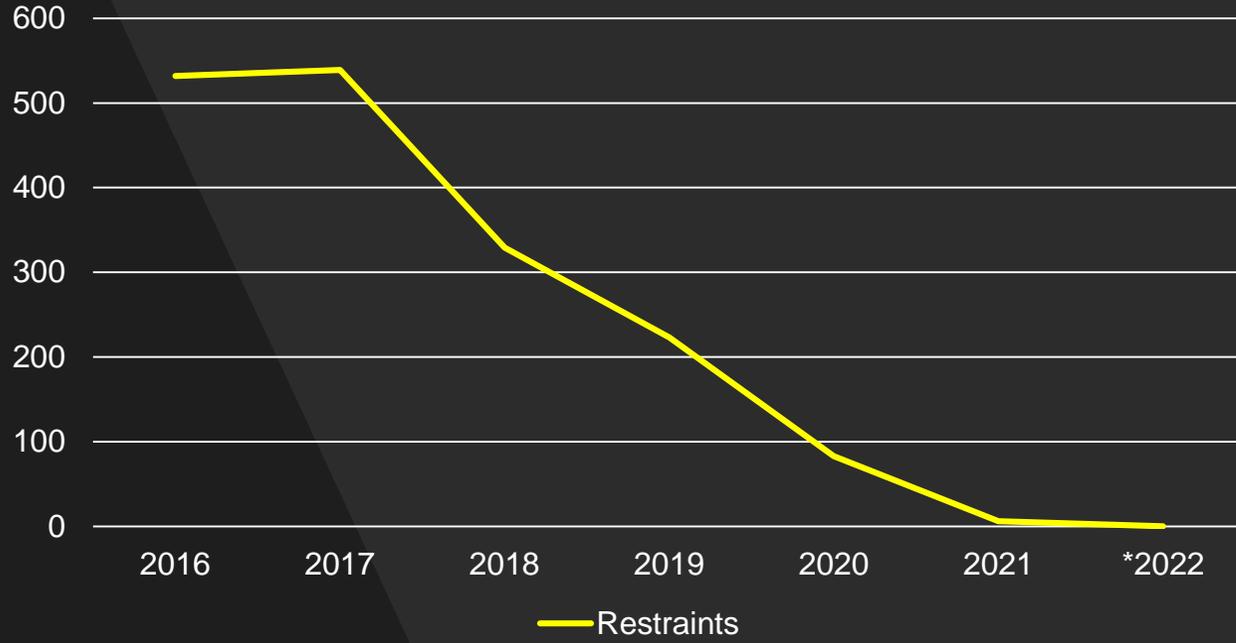
Many agencies reported staffing shortages so profound that their capacity to provide services diminished, leading to the closure of facilities, pausing of intake, and the ending of programs.

It is clear that staffing shortages have exacerbated challenges in access to care for children, youth, and families.

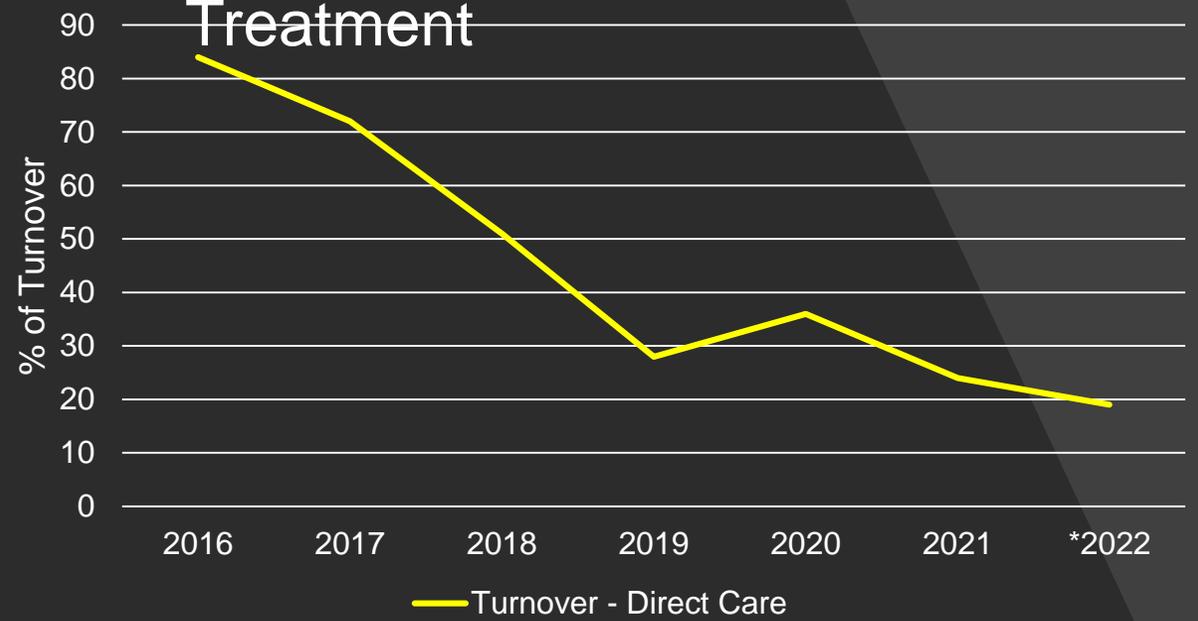


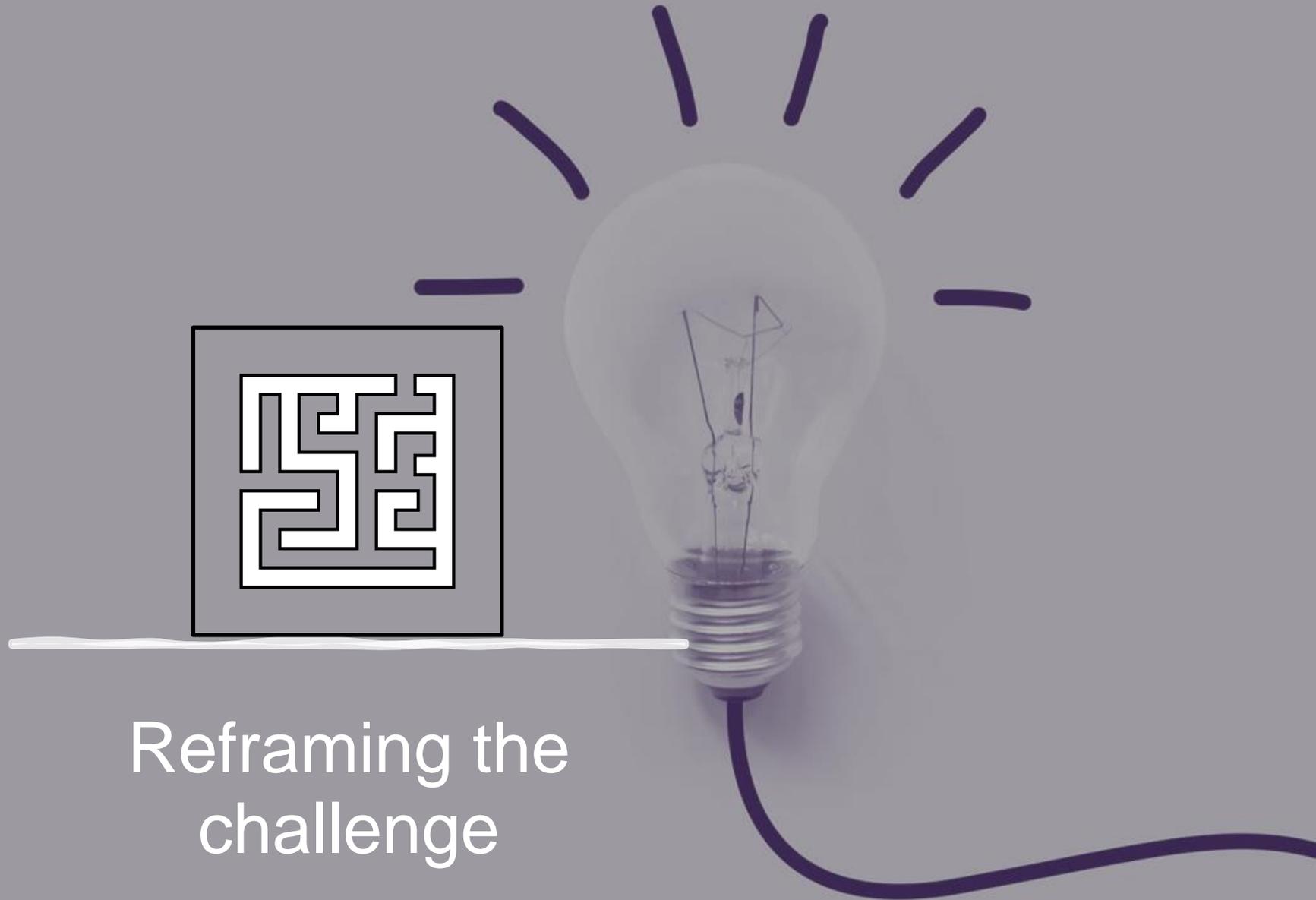
Case Study: MCHS Family of Services

Restraints

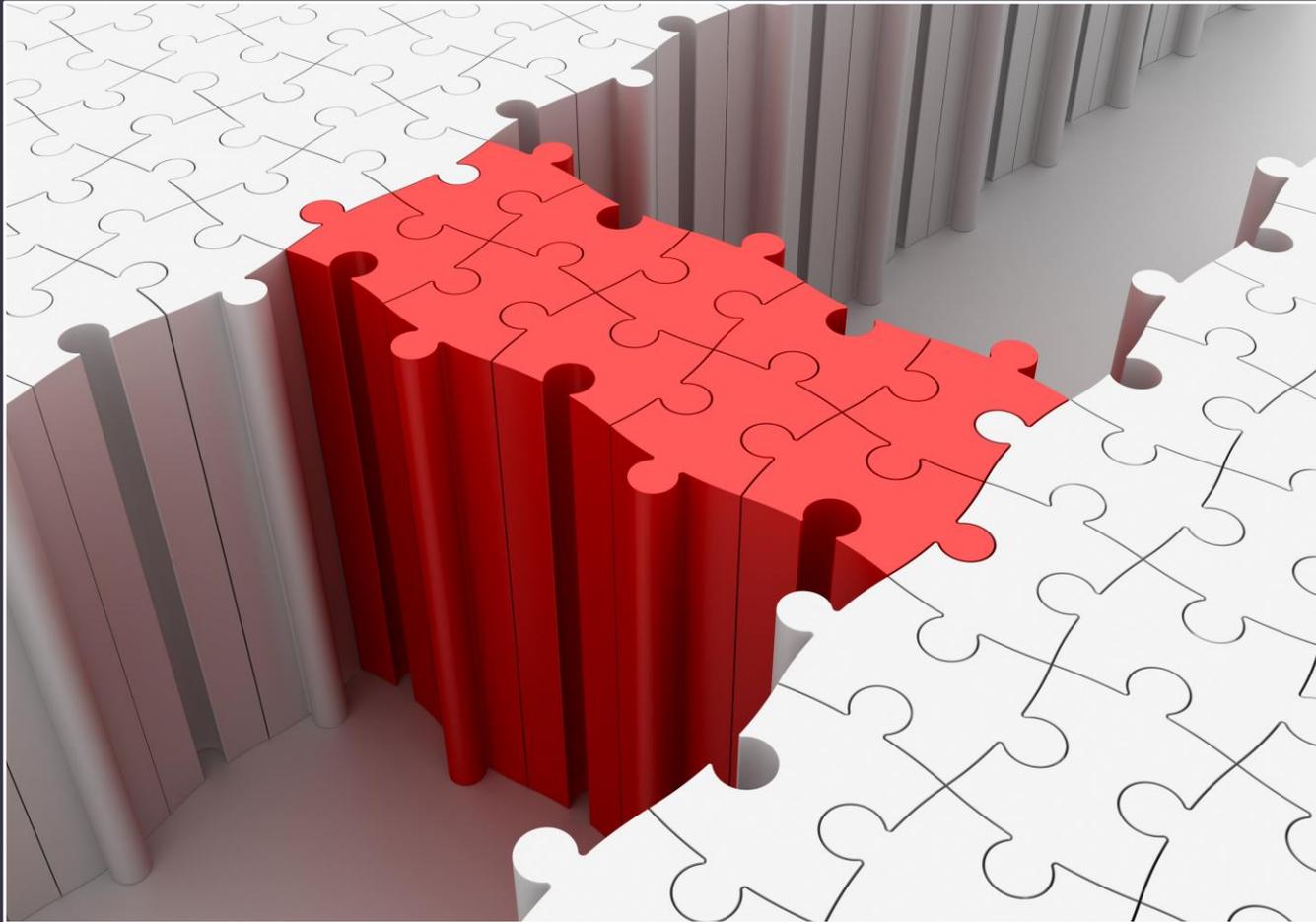


Turnover % - Residential Treatment





Reframing the
challenge



Siloed solutions don't solve big problems.

- Ideas vs. Ideology

Mass Production vs. Customization

Elevate What Works

Revolutionize Access

Invest in Quality

**REGISTER
NOW!**

ACRC'S 68TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE



MAY 6-9, 2024 | PHOENIX, AZ

WWW.TOGETHERTHEVOICE.ORG



Q&A

Contact:
Lisette Burton
lburton@togetherthevoice.org

JOIN US!

Phoenix, Arizona

May 6-9, 2024



**Annual Conference - Association of
Children's Res...**

togetherthevoice.org