



EMPOWERING & STRENGTHENING KENTUCKY CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

From community-based
supports to specialized
high-acuity care





A continuum of care paired with enduring supportive adult connections produces durable outcomes for Kentucky's most vulnerable youth.

Support before, during, and after residential care



Families should be able to enter the continuum early and remain connected as their needs change.



THE CIRCLE OF SUPPORT

Children need supportive adults who stay

Healing lasts when children remain connected to people already in their lives and build dependable relationships during treatment.

FAMILY AND COMMUNITY

People who already matter

Parents, siblings, relatives, former caregivers, teachers, coaches, mentors, and other safe adults.

INSIDE TREATMENT

Relationships and belonging

Attuned staff, EQ2, youth voice, recreation, cooking, art, and ordinary childhood experiences.

AFTER DISCHARGE

Support that continues

Home visits, resourced aftercare, a community provider, and at least one dependable adult.

Normal childhood experiences and youth voice



CLIENT STORY

Prom

Staff helped one senior find a dress, take photos, and arrive in a regular vehicle. She would have only one senior prom.



Relationships

Co-regulation and emotional skills



Cooking and gardening

Life skills around a shared table



Art classes

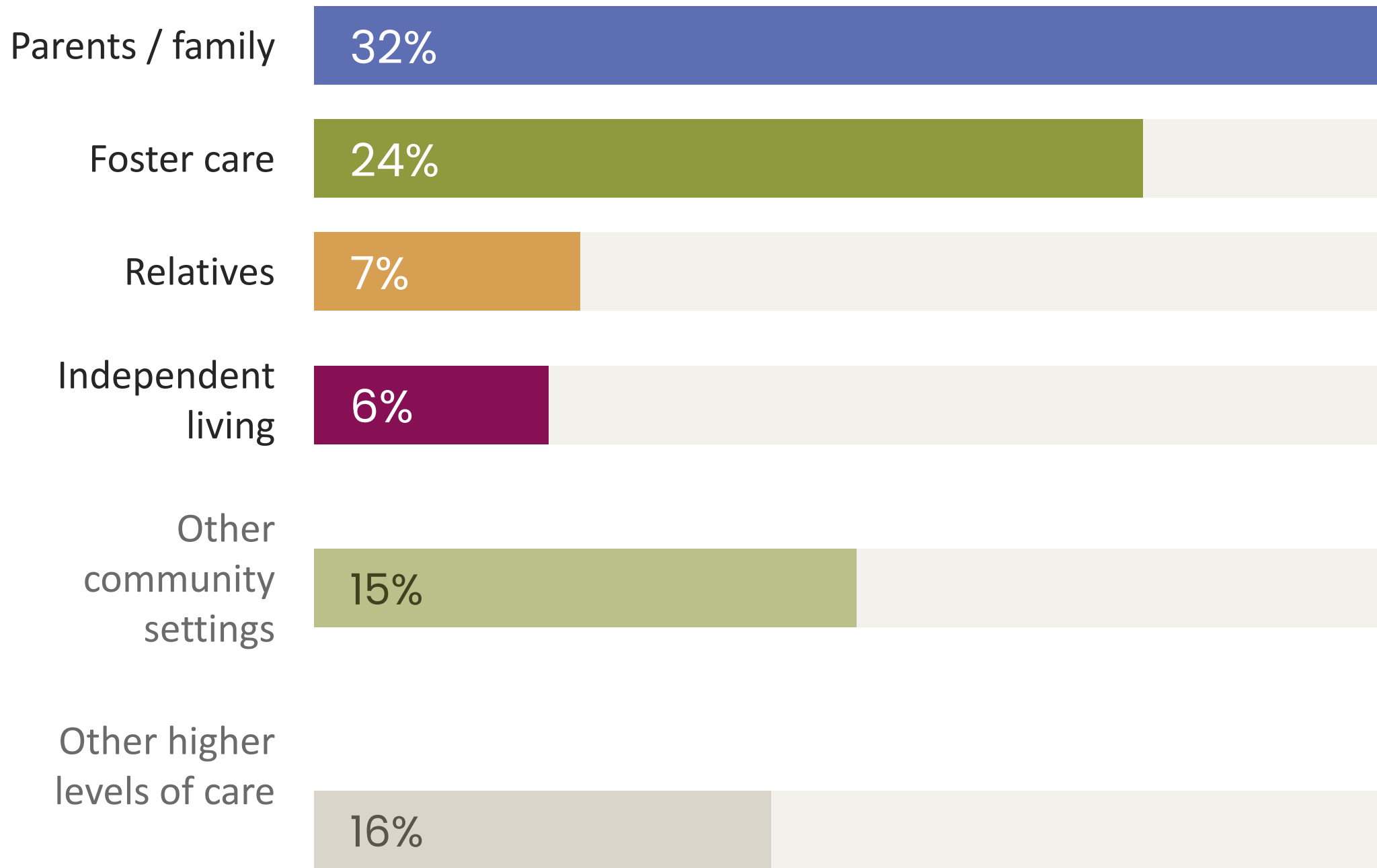
A place for expression



Community outings

Childhood beyond the campus

Where children go after residential care



84%

discharge to a less restrictive setting

63%

of children are discharged to a family setting with parents, relatives, or foster care.

Other step downs include community settings and independent living. Only a small share move to a higher level of care.

Planning begins at admission

Home and community practice

Children practice skills in the setting where they will live before discharge.

Linked with ongoing services

Provider ensures smooth transition through linkage to ongoing needed services and community supports.

Aftercare

Supports available for youth and caregivers beyond discharge.

End of support

Family, caregiver, and a designated support person are connected and support closes.

HOME AND COMMUNITY PRACTICE

Time in the community is part of treatment

Therapeutic home visits let children and caregivers practice new skills in the setting where the child will live. The residential team can adjust the plan before discharge.

Skills practiced at home

Caregiver coached

Plan adjusted before discharge



COMMUNITY BASED PREVENTION AND RESPONSE

Care where children and families already are



Therapy Individual and family counseling	Community support Skill building where clients live
Targeted case management Navigating benefits, school, and care	Medication management Psychiatric care in the community

2,000 contacts last year with people from age four through adulthood

WHERE CARE HAPPENS

- In a client's home
- In school
- In a Renewal office
- At a community partner site

Community Support Associates work inside trusted organizations so families can receive help without first navigating a complicated system.

COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH PROJECT

Funding and embedded community partnerships

SAMHSA

Federal grant support

Louisville Metro

Direct appropriation and community partnership

COMMUNITY SITES

YMCA sites, Louisville Metro community centers, Neighborhood Places, Goodwill, school based services, and other trusted partners

YMCA SITES

- Chestnut Street YMCA
- Downtown Family YMCA
- Southwest Family YMCA
- Republic Bank YMCA
- YMCA CEP

NEIGHBORHOOD PLACES

- First Neighborhood Place
- Northwest Neighborhood Place
- Cane Run Neighborhood Place

COMMUNITY CENTERS

- Newburg Community Center
- Parkhill Community Center
- Americana Community Center

OTHER PARTNER SITES

- Goodwill Opportunity Campus
- Office of Violence Prevention
- Neighborhood House
- Sowing Seeds with Faith
- Kentucky Refugee Ministries

Embedding behavioral health staff with trusted partners makes help available before a crisis and creates support for children returning from residential care.

When the worst day of three children's lives met a team that was ready



Community based care works because the relationships and support are already in place before a crisis occurs.

Maryhurst Renewal

Immediately Food, safety, listening, and trust

Maryhurst staff and YMCA partners responded while law enforcement addressed the immediate safety needs.

Next

Coordination with the children's caregiver

The team helped the family move from immediate crisis response toward ongoing care.

Afterward

Therapy and targeted case management

The family connected with services that could continue after the immediate crisis ended.

Because support was already embedded at the YMCA, help began before the family had to navigate a complicated system.

A stylized, light green leaf graphic is positioned in the top right corner of the slide. It has several pointed lobes and a central vein structure.

Four policy recommendations

Connection. Transition. Community. Accountability.

01 Keep children connected

Map important relationships, create an individualized connection plan, and identify one enduring adult.

02 Treat transition and aftercare as treatment

Plan at admission, practice at home, resource aftercare, and align billing with clinically planned home time.

03 Build community services

Embed care with trusted partners, intervene before crisis, and expand step down capacity.

04 Measure whether gains last

Track stability, school engagement, reentry, relationships, and family experience post discharge.

CLOSING

Every child should leave residential treatment with more support around them than they had when they entered.



Thank you