

Birth & Beyond Home Visitation Program

AmeriCorps Impact Evaluation | 2013 - 2015



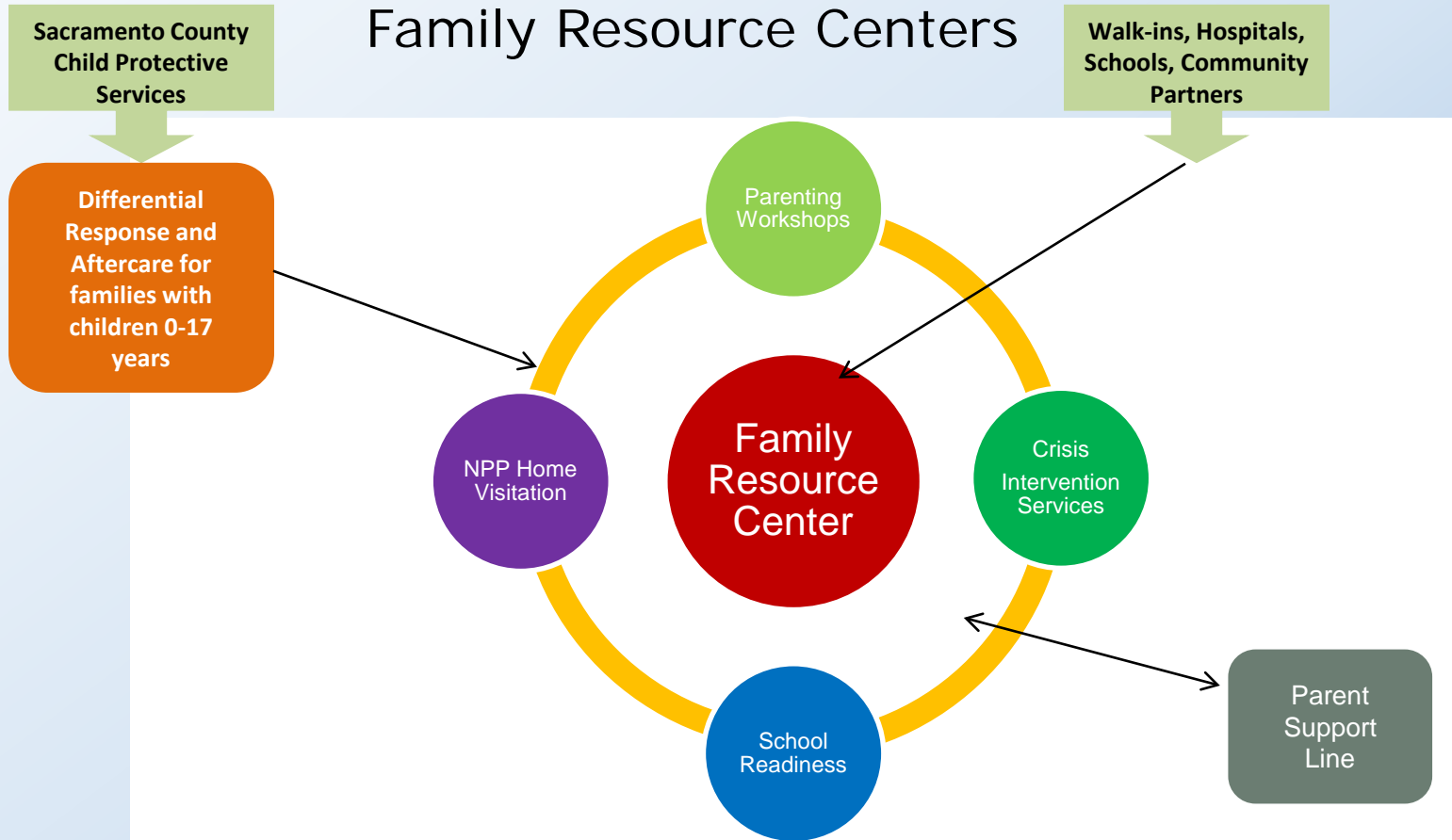
History

- Series of tragic deaths
- Increased CPS caseloads
- Champion on the Board
- Public demand
- Convening
- Recommendation

Birth & Beyond | Theory of Change

- **NEED:** Documented high rates of child abuse and neglect are attributable to deficits in parenting knowledge/practices that prevent a child's healthy emotional/physical development.
- **INTERVENTION:** Provide at least 8 hours of parenting education through home visits and workshops to high risk parents using the Nurturing Parenting Program to teach parents child development, building empathy, parent/child roles, establishing family routines, and replacements to corporal punishment, to build parenting skills as an alternative to abuse and neglect.
- **OUTCOMES:** Parents demonstrate reduced risk for child abuse and neglect and do not enter/re-enter the child welfare system.

Birth & Beyond Family Resource Centers



Why Family Resource Centers

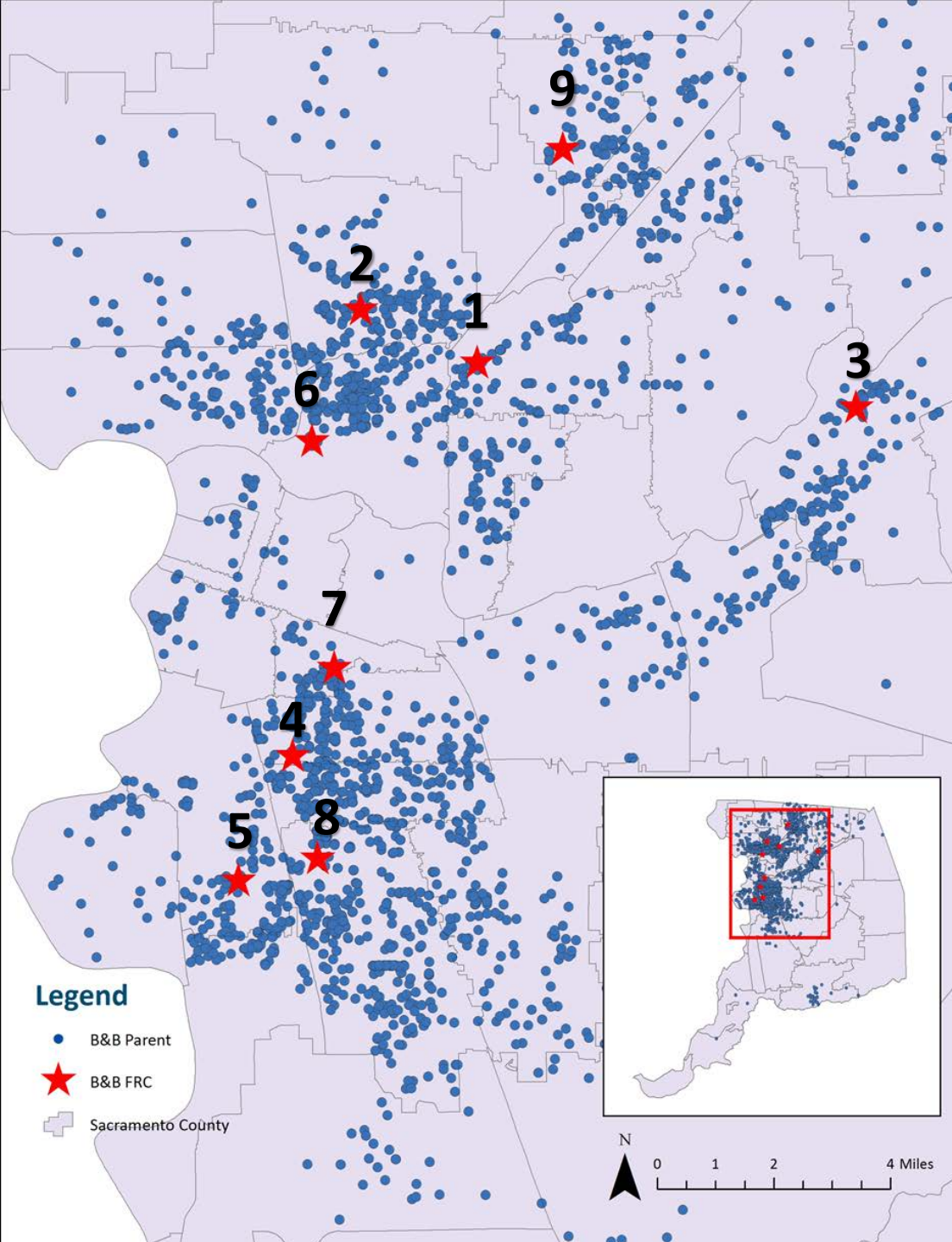
- Trusted community resource
- Expanded services
- Available for transition and future needs
- Availability of location
- Cultural

Other Services

- Economic Assistance
- Job Training
- School Readiness
- Health Clinics, Screening & Access
- Playcare
- Transportation
- Youth Development
- Social Events
- Fatherhood Groups
- Immigration Assistance
- Nutrition and Fitness
- Parent Leadership
- And, More

Birth & Beyond Family Resource Centers

1. Arcade Community Center
2. Firehouse Community Center
3. Folsom Cordova Community Partnership
4. La Familia Counseling Center
5. Meadowview Family Resource Center
6. North Sacramento Family Resource Center
7. River Oak Family Resource Center at Dunlap House in Oak Park
8. Valley Hi Family Resource Center
9. WellSpace Health's North Highlands Multi-Service Center



Sacramento County CPS Referrals by Zip Code

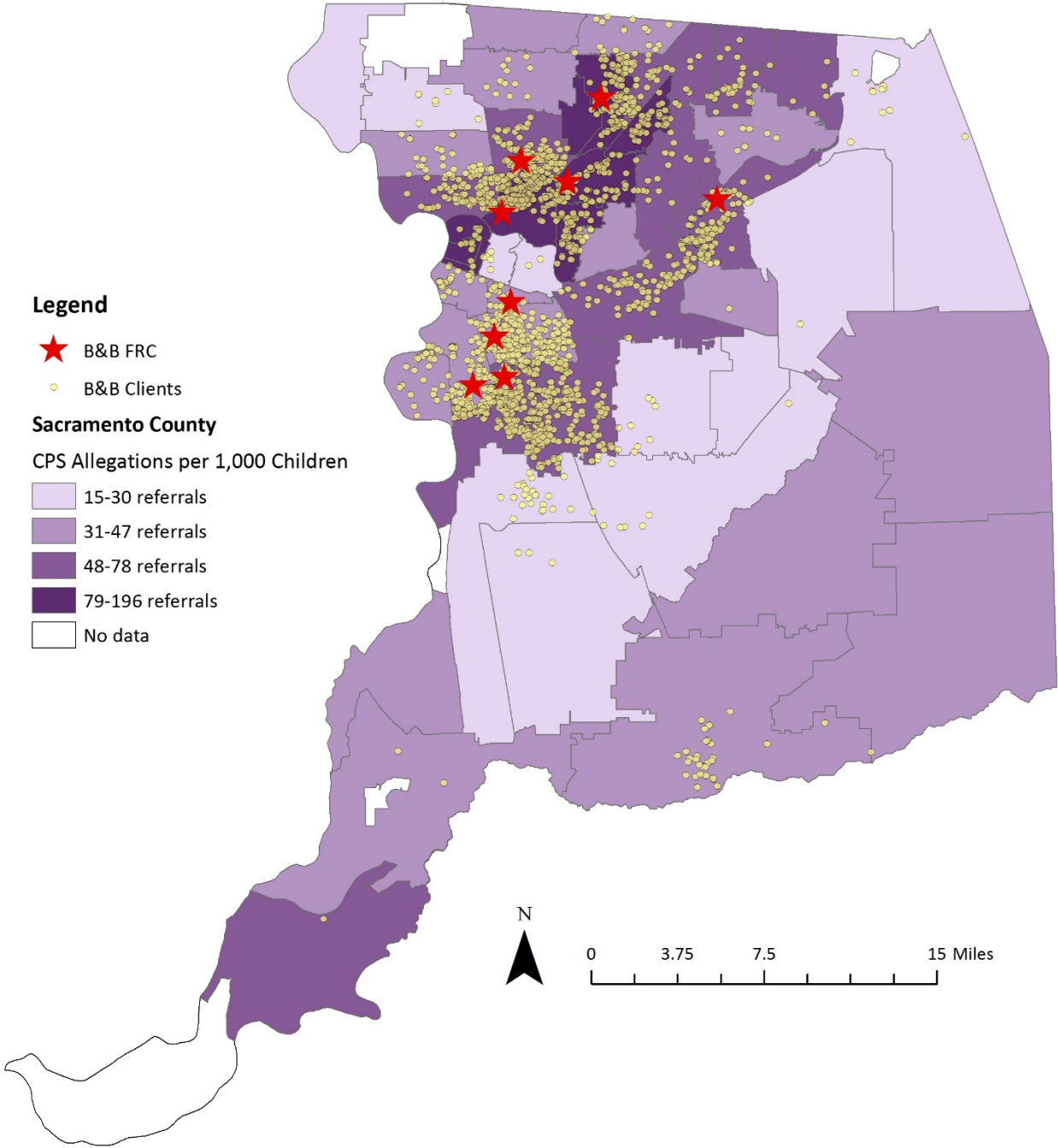
Legend

- ★ B&B FRC
- B&B Clients

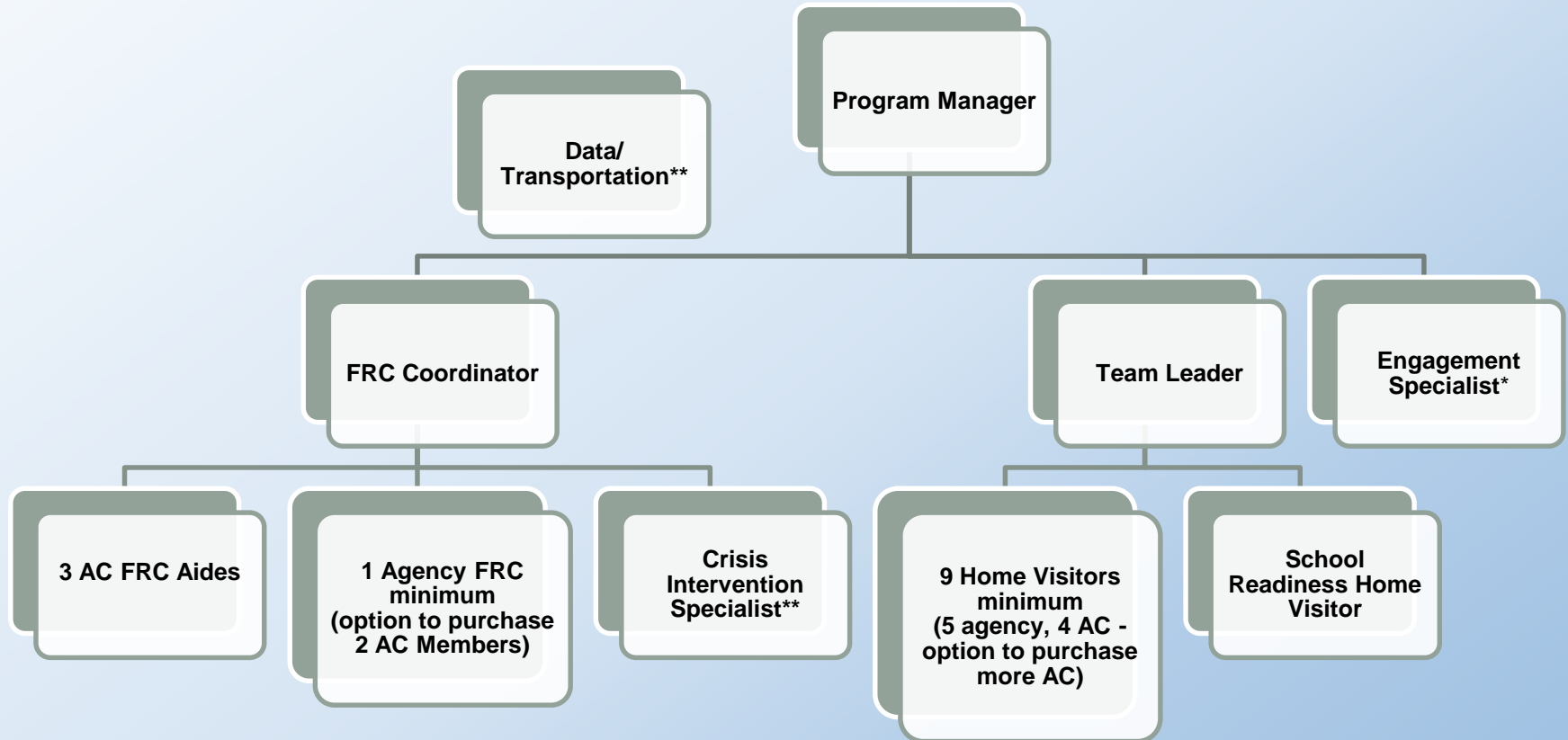
Sacramento County

CPS Allegations per 1,000 Children

- 15-30 referrals
- 31-47 referrals
- 48-78 referrals
- 79-196 referrals
- No data



Birth & Beyond Core Staff



AmeriCorps

- Recruited from/know the community
- Reflect the cultural/linguistic diversity of the community
- Half costs subsidized
- More families can be served
- 4 year terms exceed staff retention
- Remain in the community
- Education Award builds the field
- Stay in the field
- Health care/child care
- Outcomes meet/exceed staff

Funding

- First 5 Sacramento
- Sacramento County DHHS
- AmeriCorps
- MAA
- Agency Match
- Others

Governance

- Collective Impact Model
- Management Committee
- Policies & Procedures
- Staff Committees by level
- Parent Cabinets
- Centralized Training
- Centralized Evaluation
- Shared Responsibility and Data
- Accountability
- Transparency

Children Served by B&B Visitor (2013-15)

4,588

Children 0-5 years old served

B&B Families
Served



24%

Mother pregnant
at intake



36%

First time
parents



42%

2 or more children
0-5 years old



63%

2 or more children
of any age

Parents Served by B&B Visitor (2013-15)

Race/Ethnicity

Latino/Hispanic 39%

African American 28%

All Other 18%

White 15%

10% Less than 20 years

Age

20-29 years 49%

30 years or older 40%

Never Married 37%

Married 28%

Marital Status

18% Living with Partner

10% Separated/Divorced

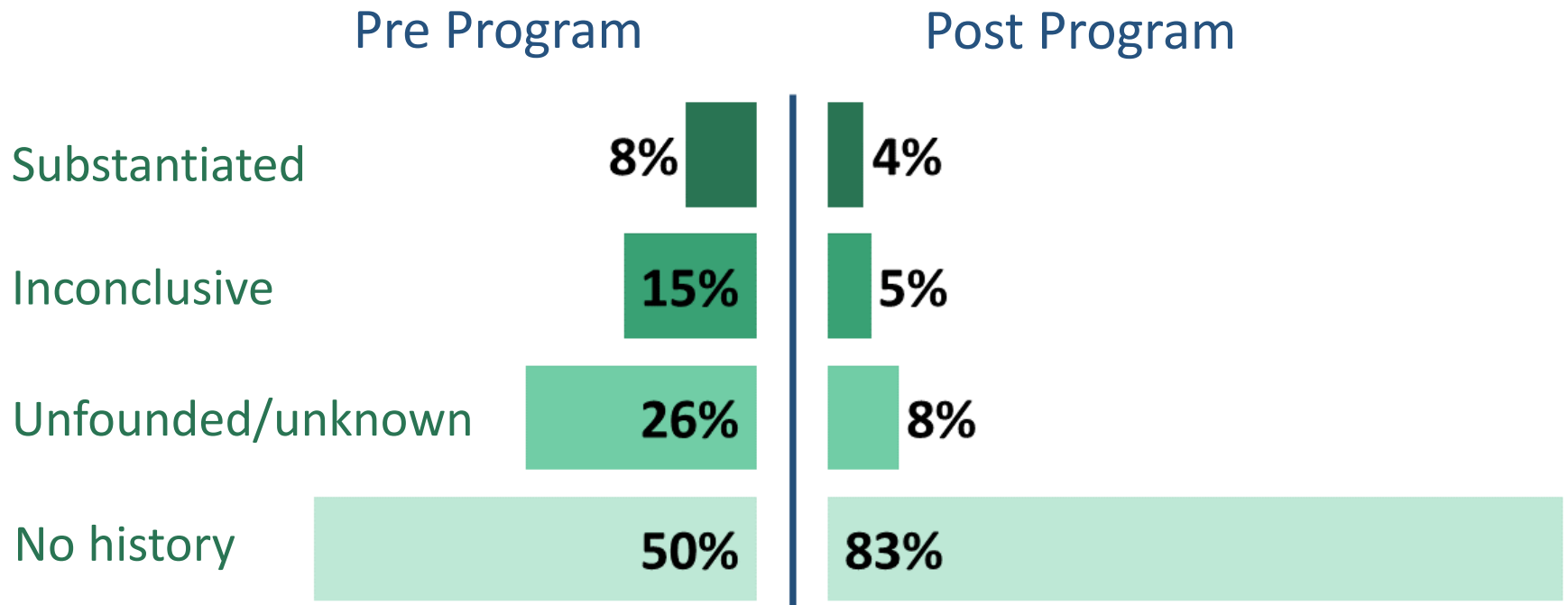
7% Other/Unknown

Past Evaluation |

Did Birth & Beyond Parents Have a Reduced Rate of CPS Referrals?

- CPS 'look up' study conducted annually since 2001
- Consistently positive results for CPS outcomes
- Half of B&B parents had a prior history of CPS referral (including as victim)
- However, all B&B parents with at least 8 hours of HV had a reduced rate of CPS contact one year after their case closure

Past Evaluation | CPS Referrals for Birth & Beyond Parents Receiving 8+ Hours of HV Programming (2010-2014)



n = 2,512

Other Findings

- Increased immunizations
- Increased breastfeeding
- Increased access to healthcare
- Safe sleeping for infants

Current Evaluation |

Will any parent participating in Birth & Beyond have a reduced rate of CPS referrals?

- Quasi-experimental study includes all HV parents, with CPS history, who were ‘touched’ by AC member in 2013-2015 program years
- Impact evaluation allows for the direct attribution of positive changes to HV program (i.e., provides ‘higher-level of evidence’ of program effectiveness)

Current Evaluation

- **Compares HV parents** (n=496) with previous CPS history to non-HV parents (n=985) with similar CPS history
- **Controls for bias** that some individuals are more willing/likely to participate in HV program
- **Accounts for rolling program entries and exits**
- **Holds all demographic factors constant** to compare CPS recidivism over time

Current Evaluation | Findings

- All parents participating in HV were **41% less likely to have a substantiated referral** over a four-year period than non-HV parents.
- Parents with 25-36 hours of HV were **173% less likely to have a substantiated referral** over a four-year period than non-HV parents.
- Parents with at least 8 hours of HV showed an **average decrease in risk/increase in parenting skills** as measured by the AAPI (statistically significant at $p < 0.01$)

Birth & Beyond (B&B) Home Visitation Services

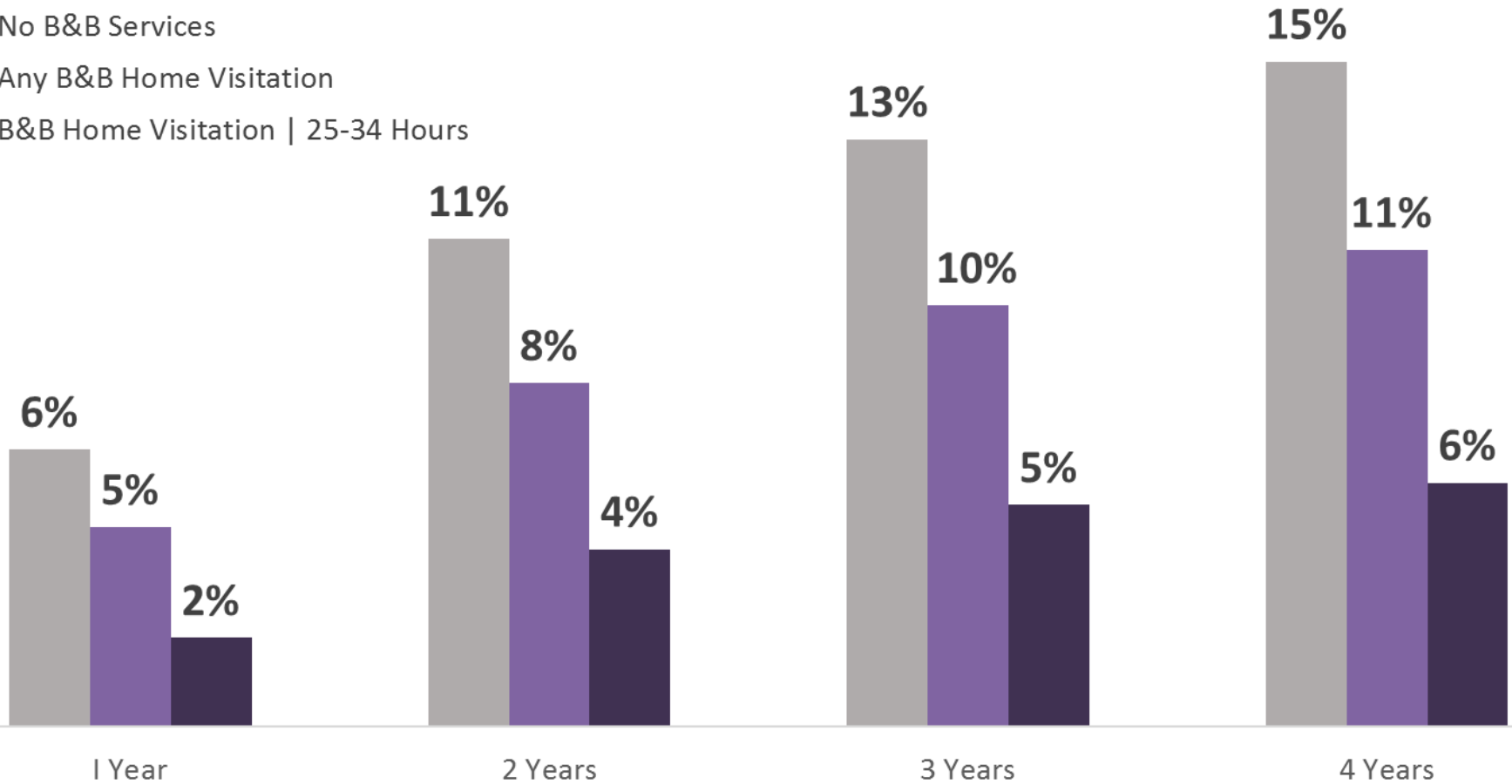
Likelihood of Parent Having a Substantiated Referral

Identifying Decreased Risk of Child Welfare System Referral
through Quasi-Experimental Comparison

■ No B&B Services

■ Any B&B Home Visitation

■ B&B Home Visitation | 25-34 Hours



Years After Start of B&B Program (or Eligibility to Start)

B&B Home Visitation Participants, n = 496 | Parents with No B&B Services, n = 985

All differences in the likelihood of recidivism are significant at $p < 0.05$

Current Evaluation | Summary

- **CPS Recidivism** | All parents participating in HV have a reduced likelihood of new CPS referrals.
- **Optimal Hours** | Those parents receiving 25-34 hours of HV have the greatest reduction in the likelihood new CPS referrals.

The findings of this study provide strong evidence that Birth & Beyond home visitation supports Sacramento County parents and their families by reducing the risk of child welfare referrals after participating in the program.

Birth & Beyond Home Visitation

Return on Investment

- Average cost of Birth & Beyond home visitation - \$700 per parent annually.
- Average cost per child protection case (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention 2011) - \$210,000 annually.
- Sacramento County saves significant dollars annually by keeping children out of the child protection system.

Evaluation | Recommendations

- Consider aligning home visitation dosage towards the optimal 25-34 hour range.
- Explore strategies to address program attrition to ensure parents are receiving optimal level of home visitation program dosage.
- Consider additional research to explore remaining and emergent questions from this study about effectiveness and impact.

Next Steps

- Revised policies
- Planning Grant from California Volunteers
- Seeking more AmeriCorps members
- Plan to increase geography

“A lack of failure tolerance stifles innovation.”

