



Department of  
**Mental Health &  
Substance Abuse Services**



# It Takes a Village:

Keeping Families Together Using a Community  
Ecological & Strengths-Based Approach

CWLA 2016 National Conference  
August 2, 2016

# Objectives for the Presentation

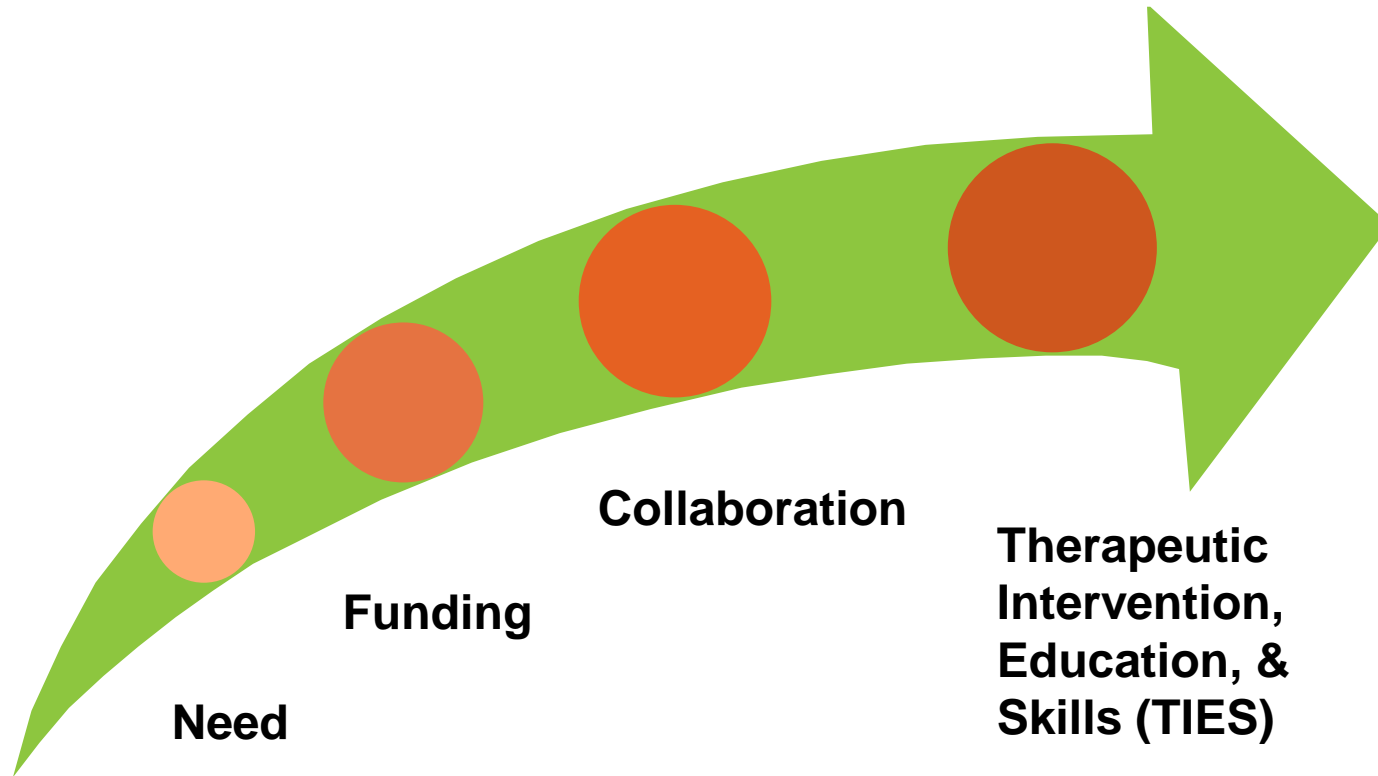
1. To describe the development of *TIES* community partnerships and the *TIES Program* using a tree analogy within an ecological system
2. To share how we establish & maintain a strong *therapeutic alliance*
3. To present preliminary *TIES* family outcomes
4. To share how our village is *maintained*
5. To describe collaborative “DO’s and DON’Ts”
6. To share our vision and plans for the *future*



# Presenters

- *Edwina Chappell, PhD*  
*Tennessee Department of Mental Health  
and Substance Abuse Services*
- *Kristi Ward, MA*  
*Centerstone of Tennessee*
- *Crystal Parker, MA, LMSW*  
*Bureau of TennCare/formerly Tennessee  
Department of Children's Services*
- *Kathryn Mathes, BSN, NP, MS,  
PhD*  
*Centerstone Research Institute*

# Building the TIES Village.



**BSF2 TIES  
Collaborative  
Council**

**BSF2 TIES  
Advisory/  
Steering  
Committee**

**Centerstone  
Community  
Behavioral  
Health Center**

**Centerstone  
Research  
Institute**



**Therapeutic Alliance**  
Respect, Unconditional Positive Regard

**Bureau of  
TennCare**

**TN Department  
of Mental Health  
& Substance  
Abuse Services**

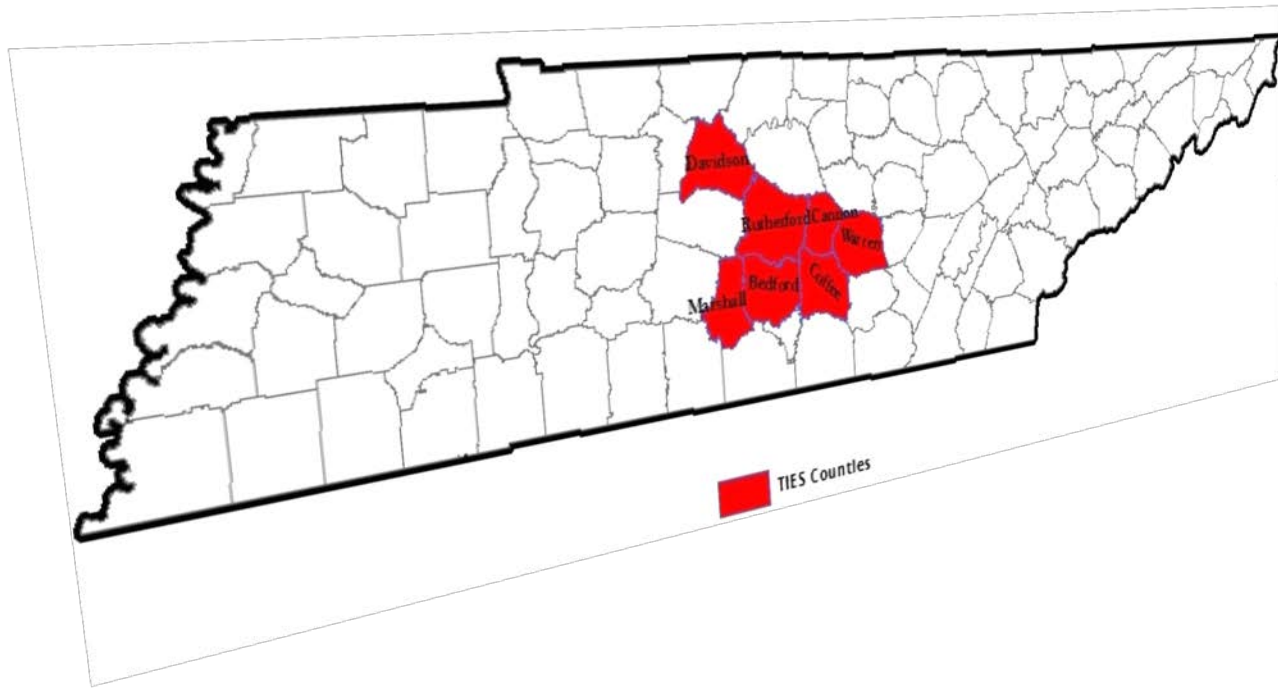
**TN Department of  
Children's Services**



**Everything is About  
Relationships.**



# TIES Service Area



# Raising the TIES Village.

## Therapeutic Alliance

Respect, Unconditional Positive Regard

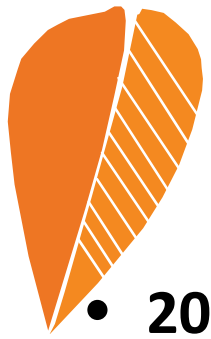
- Must begin immediately
- Starts with respect (family roles, culture, home, rules, etc.)
- Clarify worker's role
- Join with the family by determining THEIR strengths and goals
  - ~ "Your Deal" Cards
- Collaborate with family on how to best merge their goals with DCS (or other tx monitor) goals for best outcome
- Collaborate with family on how their strengths will move towards goal completion
- Collaborate with family on any obstacles they foresee and begin planning for barriers based on family's own strengths





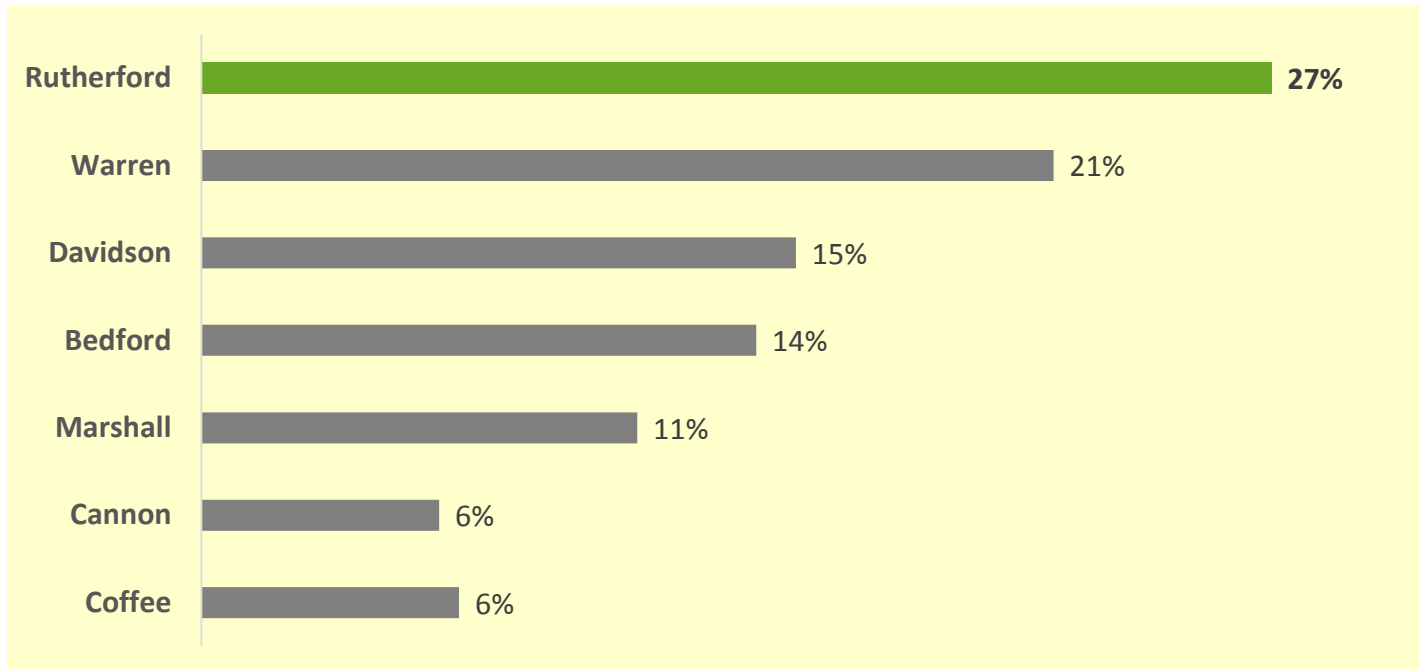
# **TIES** Village Outcomes





# Program Demographics

- **202** total cases enrolled.
- **73%** of cases have **successfully completed** both the IFPS and Seeking Safety portions of the TIES program.
- The majority of TIES families are from Rutherford County





# Evaluation Demographics: Focal Children

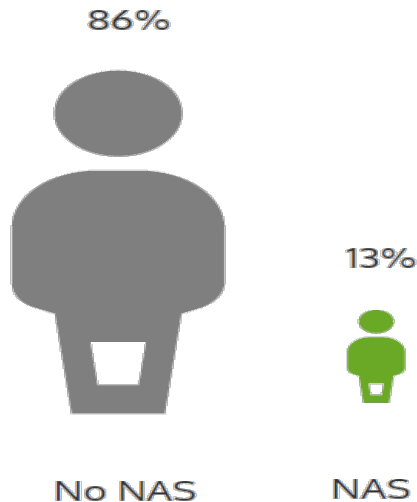
- The majority of the focal children in the TIES evaluation are **White, Male, and under one year old (n=134)**.





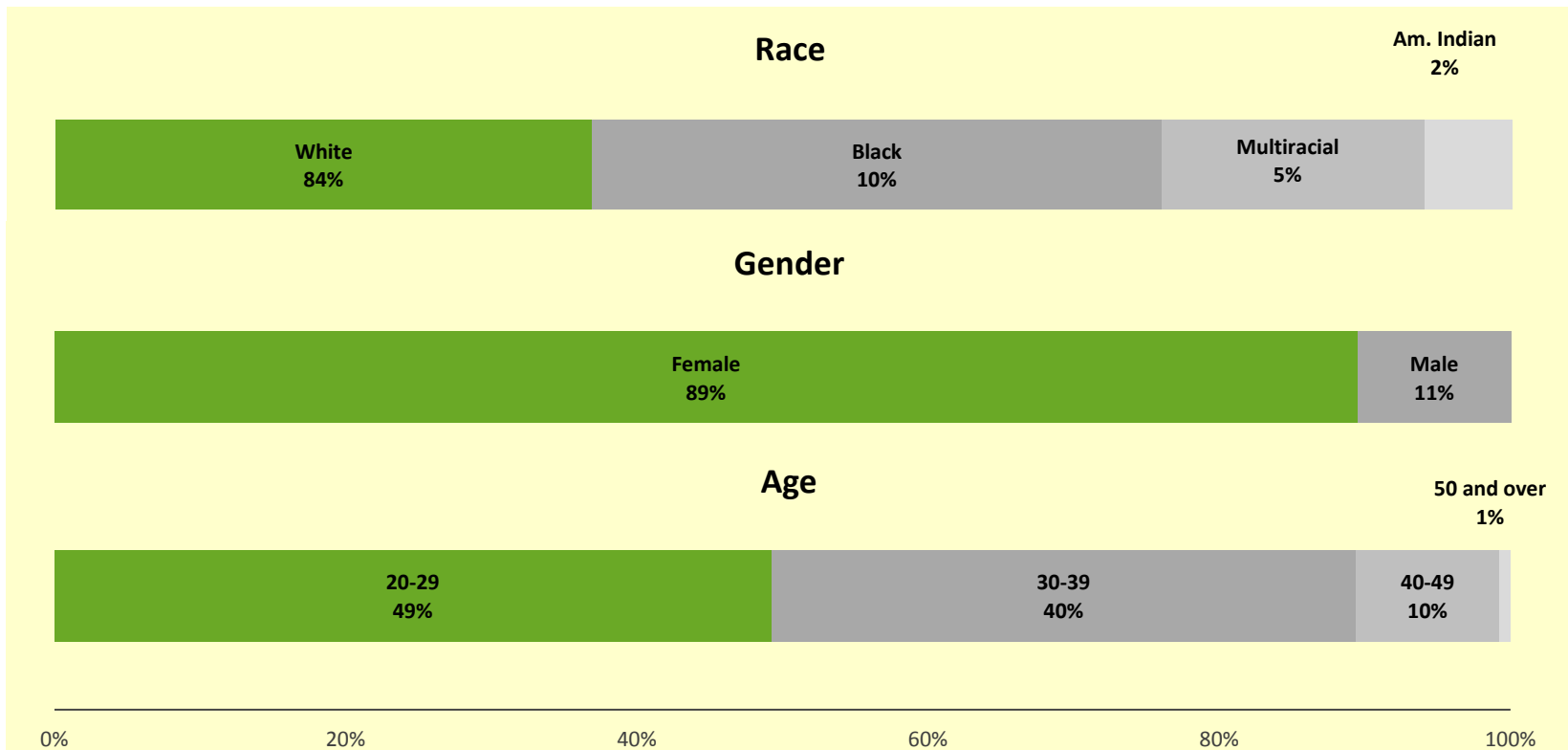
# Evaluation Demographics: **NAS**

- **13%** of TIES evaluation focal children have been diagnosed with Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome (**NAS**) at birth.



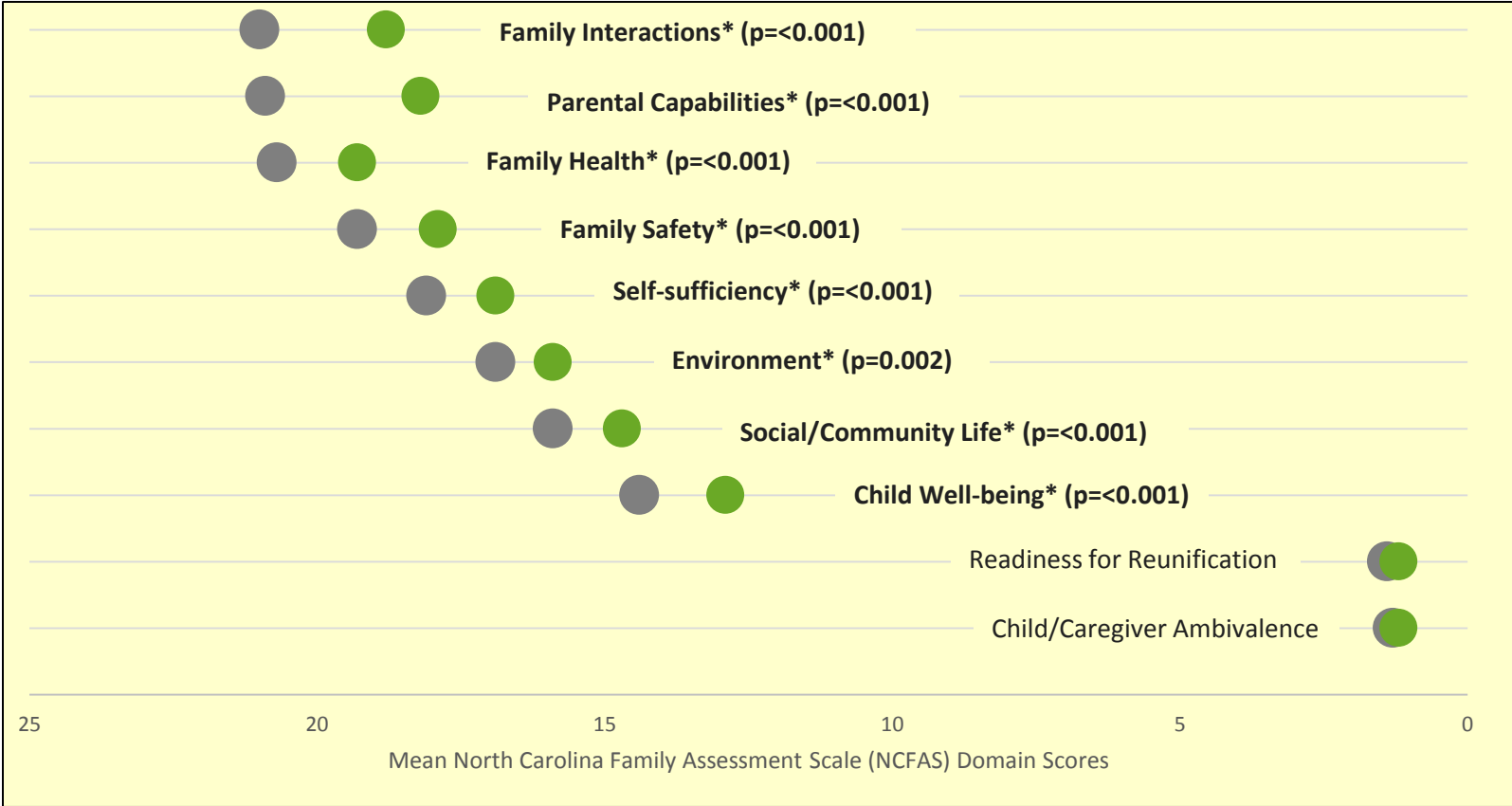
# Evaluation Demographics: Caregivers

- The majority of the primary caregivers in the TIES evaluation are **White, Female,** and between the ages of **20-29 years old** (n=134).

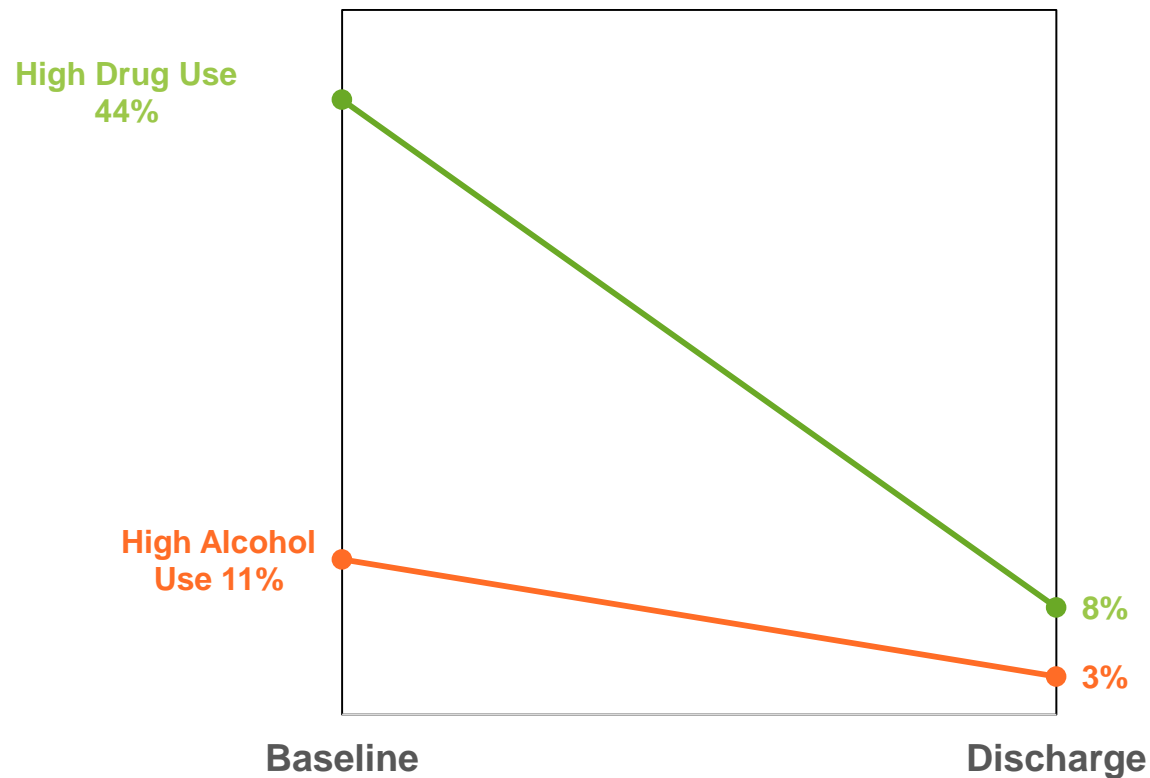


# Family Functioning is improving from baseline to discharge (n=94).

Improvements are statistically significant \* in 8 domains (lower is better).



**The proportion of caregivers meeting the threshold for high drug and alcohol use is decreasing from baseline to discharge (n=79).**



# 92% of TIES focal children are currently in their homes post-services (n=106).

No removal = 98



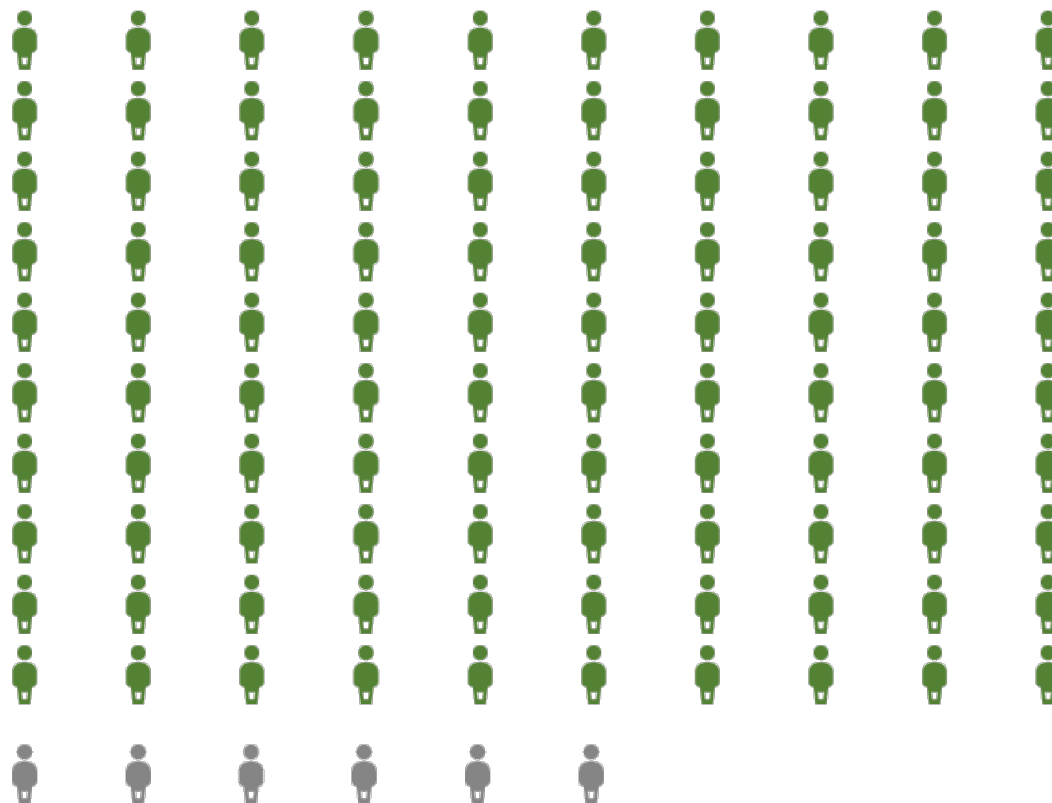
Removal = 8



**94% of all TIES focal children currently have no additional substantiated maltreatment post-services (n=106).**

No substantiated maltreatment = 100

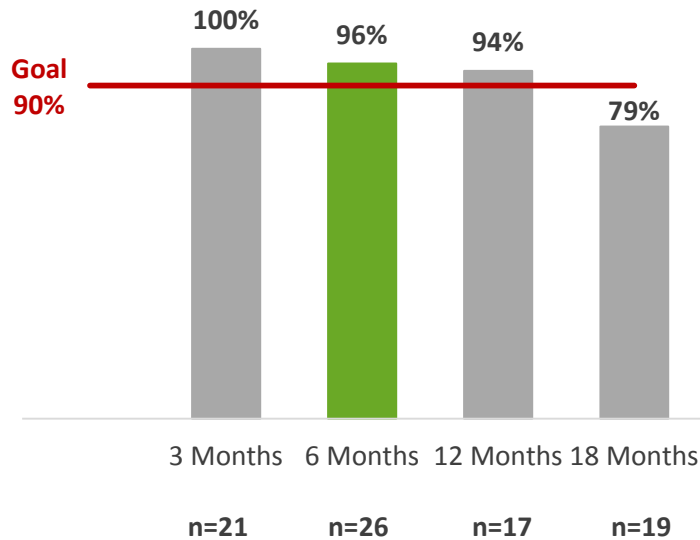
Substantiated maltreatment = 6



# TIES is currently exceeding its safety and permanency goals.

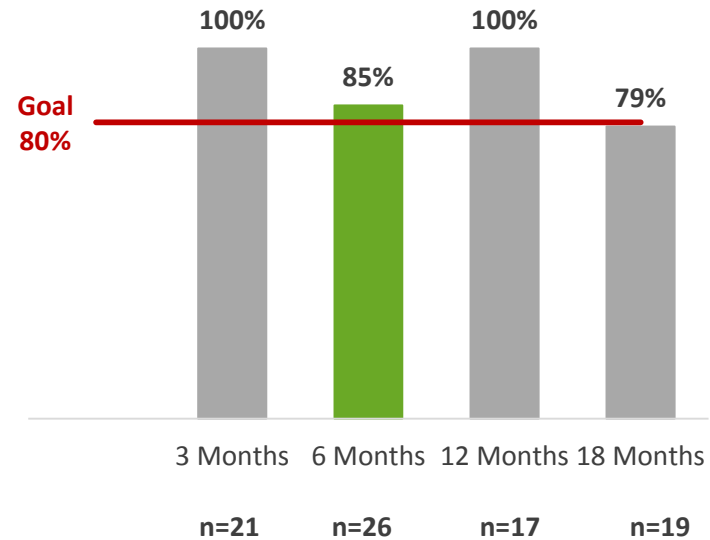
## Safety Goal:

90% of children without substantiated maltreatment at 6 months post-services.



## Permanency Goal:

80% of children with no removal at 6 months post-services.





# Maintaining the TIES Village

- BSF2TIES Regional Collaborative Council  
– Primarily rural
- BSF2TIES Advisory/  
Steering Committee  
- Primarily state  
departments





# **What we've learned through these collaborations**



# Do's

- Seek varied opinions about who to include in your collaboration
- Extend a personal invitation
- Offer opportunities for everybody to **WIN**
- Provide opportunities for everybody to feel **SPECIAL**



# Don'ts

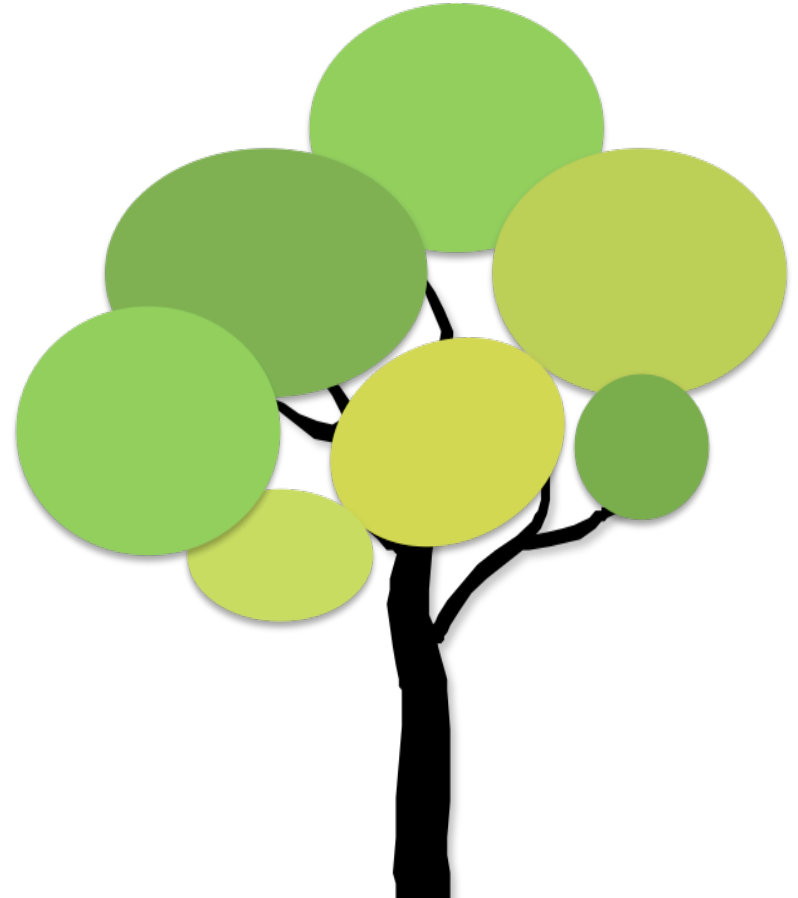
- Assume that every individual/group invited will continue to come
- View losses at your table as a failure (unless your table has emptied substantially)
- Take the position that it's your table or nothing
- Try to push individuals/groups into more formal collaboration



Department of  
**Mental Health &  
Substance Abuse Services**



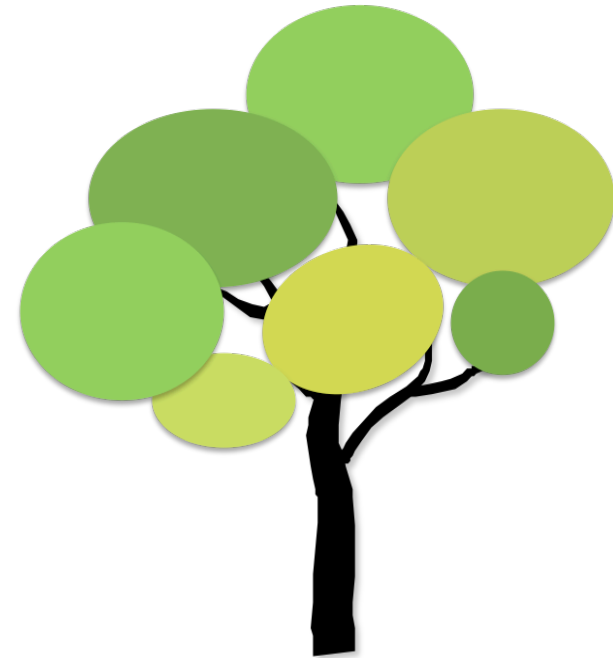
# The Parable of the River



# It takes a village.

Each connection within the larger community is important for overall success.

- Department of Mental Health & Substance Abuse Services
- Department of Children's Services
  - Regional & Central Offices
- Department of Education
- Administrative Office of the Courts
- Department of Health
- Governor's Children's Cabinet
- Department of Human Services
- Potential funders (State Medicaid)

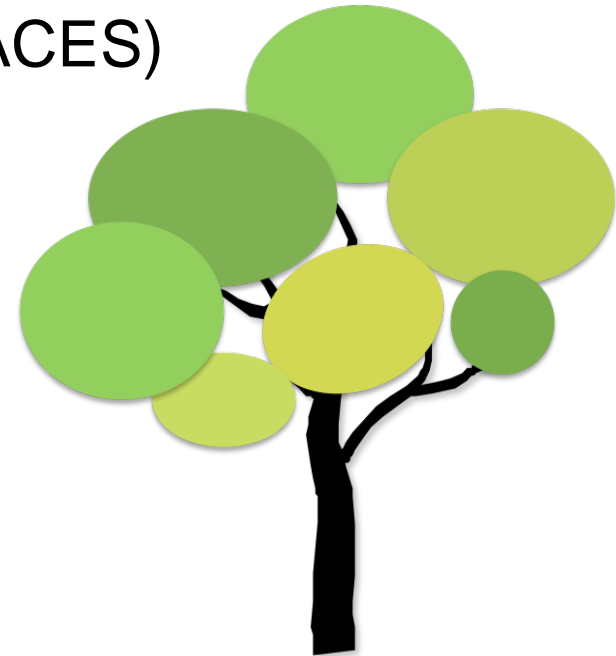






# Working together for a healthier future

- Adverse Childhood Experience Study (ACES)
  - treatment & prevention of ACEs
    - Seeking Safety
    - Outside referrals





**For additional information, contact:**

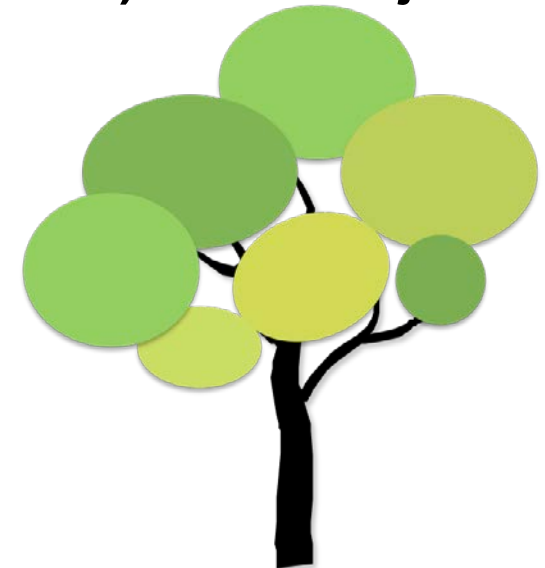
**Edwina Chappell, Ph.D. | Licensed Psychologist**

**PI/Therapeutic Intervention, Education, & Skills (TIES) Grant Project**

**p. 615-741-9476**

[edwina.chappell@tn.gov](mailto:edwina.chappell@tn.gov)  
[tn.gov/behavioral-health](http://tn.gov/behavioral-health)

*\*NOTE:* TIES is funded through the United States Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Children's Bureau, Grant # 90CU0069. Contents of this presentation do not necessarily reflect the views or policies of the funder.

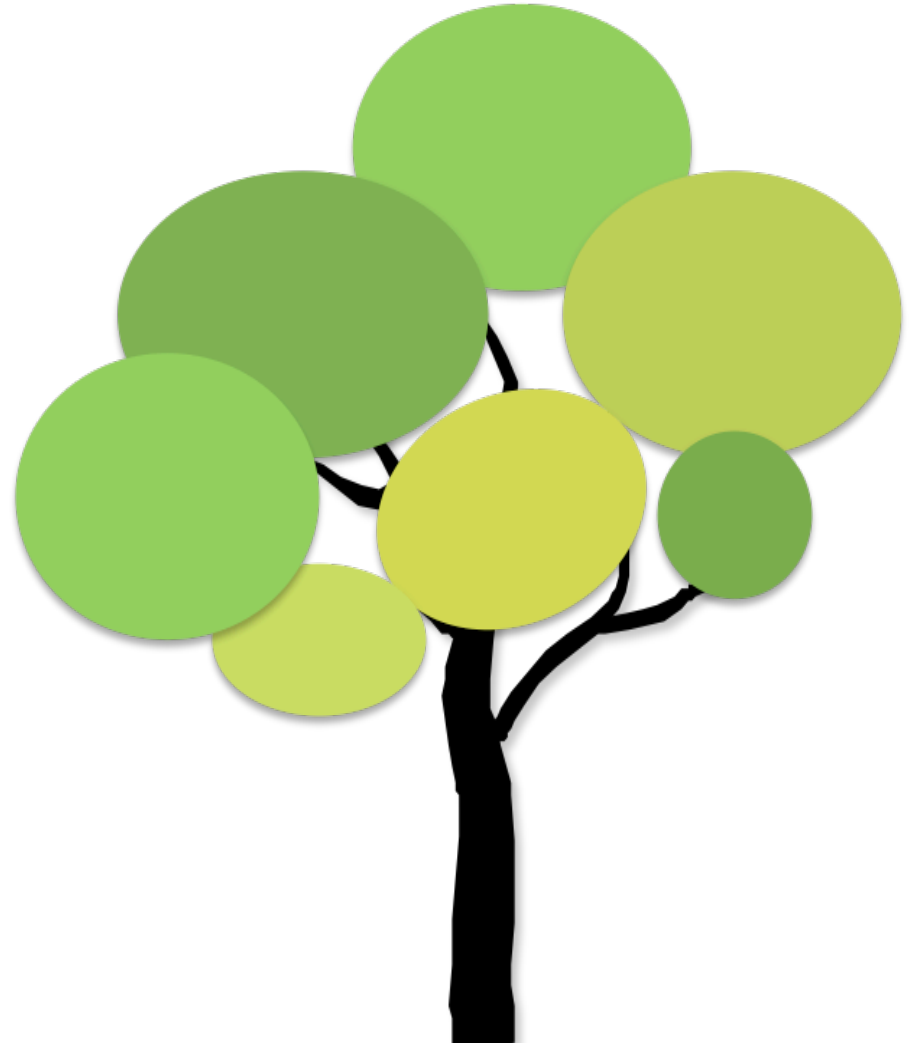




Department of  
**Mental Health &  
Substance Abuse Services**

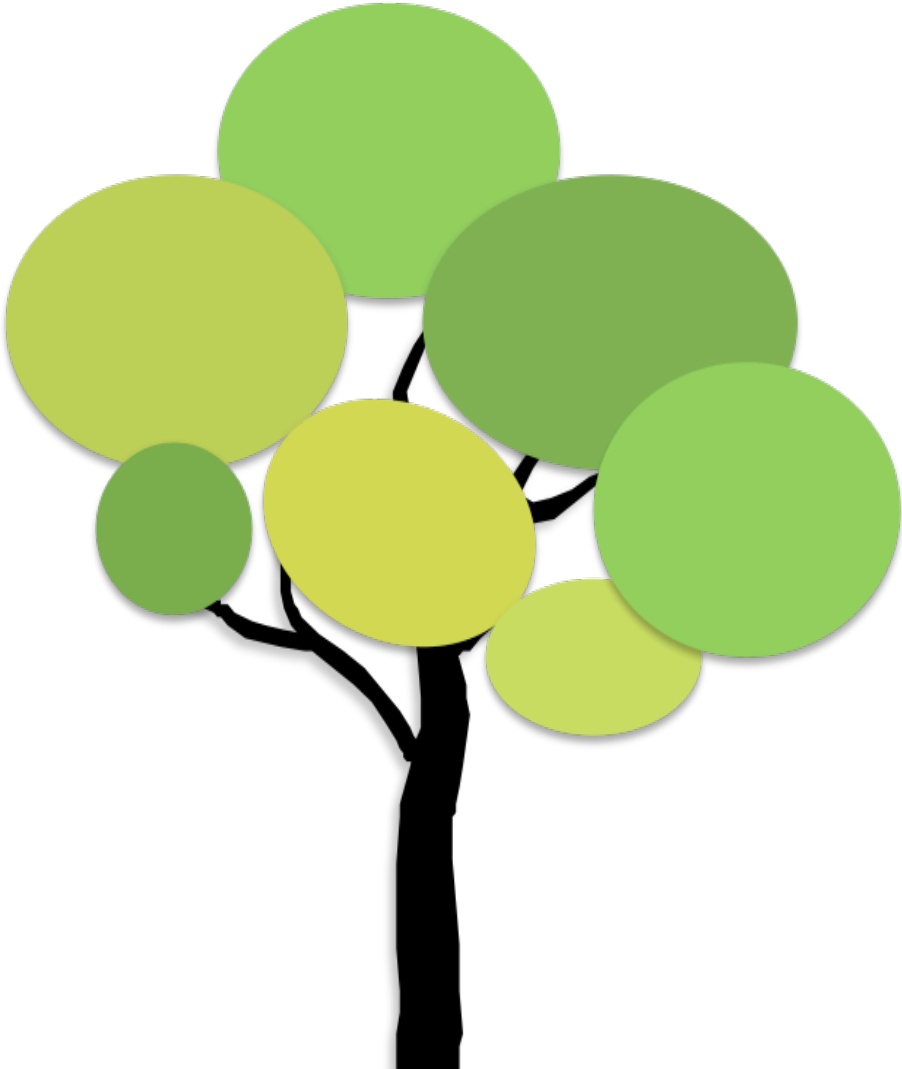


# Questions?





Department of  
**Mental Health &  
Substance Abuse Services**



**Thank you!**