



# REWIRING DENVER COUNTY

## ABOUT REWIRING

**Rewiring** is an audacious collaborative of counties working to transform child welfare. Through targeted programmatic and financial support, Rewiring will advance a system of child wellbeing that:

- Reduces the number of children and families entering the child welfare system by engaging early in ways that strengthen families;
- Improves the quality of child welfare services for children and families who need them; and
- Reshapes the flow of local, state, and ultimately national funding to ensure that the lessons of Rewiring are woven into future sustainable public funding streams that allows for replication across Colorado and nationally.

### *Rewiring & Denver County*

“When we support communities in growing the resources they provide, we support children and families in getting their needs met closer to home and outside of child welfare involvement.” – Josie Berry, Interim Director of Child Welfare and Adult Protection, Denver Human Services

## OUTCOMES OVERVIEW AND TARGETED POPULATIONS

Denver County has been engaged in Rewiring from the very beginning, bringing strong leadership and vision to the work. As a diverse city and county, Denver poses a variety of unique opportunities and challenges. Rewiring in Denver is focused on data driven decisions and providing support that is relevant to, and desired by, the community.

Utilizing child welfare hotline referral data, Denver County is identifying communities in the city with higher referrals to child welfare. The county is conducting deep analysis of past referrals to better understand the drivers of child welfare involvement, in order to support families to earlier access community-oriented solutions.

Denver County is working to create an improved, equitable, and coordinated community response to children and family needs, that reduces contact with the child welfare system and promotes families' inherent strengths.

- 1 Engage in community problem solving**
- 2 Mobilize and fund community-led solutions**
- 3 Reduce referrals to child welfare by increasing social connections for isolated families.**

# REWIRING DENVER COUNTY

## PROOF POINTS (2019)

335

BIRTHS BY TEEN MOTHERS<sup>1</sup>

51%

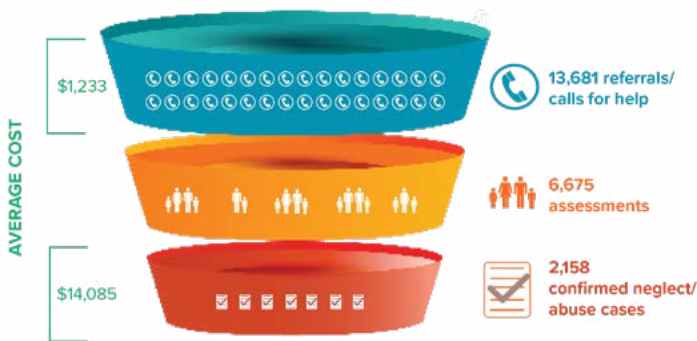
OF 9TH GRADERS ARE CHRONICALLY ABSENT<sup>2</sup>

13%

OF CHILDREN LIVE IN AREAS OF CONCENTRATED POVERTY

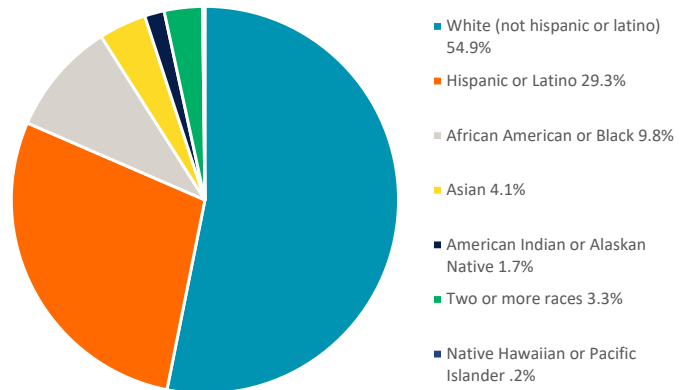
## DENVER FUNNEL

### 2019 DENVER COUNTY SNAPSHOT OF MALTREATMENT



## DEMOGRAPHIC INFO<sup>3,4</sup>

- Population: 727,211
- Population of children under the age of 5: 5.9%
- Population of children under the age of 18: 19.1%
- Population racial breakdown:



## OTHER INFORMATION

- The child welfare system has a \$558M budget in Colorado, with about 8,820 out-of-home foster placements in 2019.
- Information about implementing the Family First Prevention Services Act in Colorado can be found [here](#).

## ENGAGED PARTNERS



More coming soon!

<sup>1</sup> <https://bit.ly/2IBxB3S>

<sup>2</sup> <https://geospatialdenver.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=939edc78fa0e4c799089f233ff07395a>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/denvercountycolorado/PST045219>

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.countyhealthrankings.org/app/colorado/2019/rankings/denver/county/outcomes/overall/snapshot>