# Using Local Evaluation Data for Sustainability

**Contra Costa County** 

#### Improving Reunification One Parent at a Time

- Introduction & Overview of Presentation
- History & Development of Parent Partner
   Program
- Overview of Mission, Purpose, and Target Population



#### Improving Reunification One Parent at a Time



- County Climate: Signs of Readiness
- Impact of Work on Systemic and Familial
- Making the Case for Sustainability – Use of Data and the Story

#### Development of the Parent Partner Program

- The Vision...four lines in a grant
- Planning and
   Implementation
  - Timeline (2004present)
  - Utilizing Technical Assistance
  - Listening to the Parent's voice and being thoughtful



#### Mission, Purpose and Target Population



Mission and Purpose

 Development of Program: Nuts and Bolts

- Parent Leadership
- Advocacy and Mentoring
- Training
- Selection of Target
   Population
  - Families entering the child welfare system

#### County Climate: Signs of Readiness

#### Looking back...

- County MH key partner
- SOC Planning and Policy Council
- Administrative
   Vision and Support
- Key People brought on board – Parent Partner Coordinator, SOC Grant Coordinator, etc.

#### Looking back....

- State climate was conducive for change: CCFSR & SIP, State Redesign, F2F growing, Foster Youth involvement growing
- Grantee Meetings traveling and collaborating together

# Impact of Work: Systemic

- Demystifying Parents
- Building Bridges between Child Welfare & Families
- Changing the Culture
- Connections with the Community
- Making better decisions about strategies having the "experts" in the room



# **Impact of Work - Familial**



- Advocacy skills
- Empowerment
- Improved skills
  - Communication
  - Social
  - Life
- Demystifying the "system"
- Developing Tools and Tips
  - Parent Partner Handbook

#### Use of Data and the "Story"

- Presenting data and personal stories at the local, state, and federal level
  - Local: Board of Supervisors, community, and staff
  - State: State CFSR, Blue Ribbon panels, State Advisory boards, State Department of Social Services
  - Federal: Presentations to Regions, SOC Grantee meetings

#### The Story is the Personal Touch

- Parents sharing their stories
  - Digital stories, presentations, media interviews, writing articles, testimonies, program brochure, in person one on one



#### **Now the Data**



#### **Evaluation Information**

- Quantitative data
- Qualitative data
- Future areas
- Thoughts on presenting the data



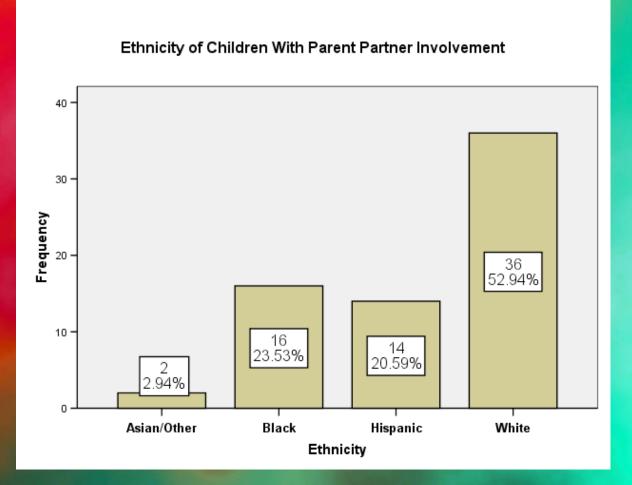
# **Analytic Information**

- 68 cases with Parent Partner mentoring
  - Child removed from home between July 2005 and May 2006

- 68 matched historical cases from 2004 were chosen
  - Matched on ethnicity, removal reason, substance use, region of the county

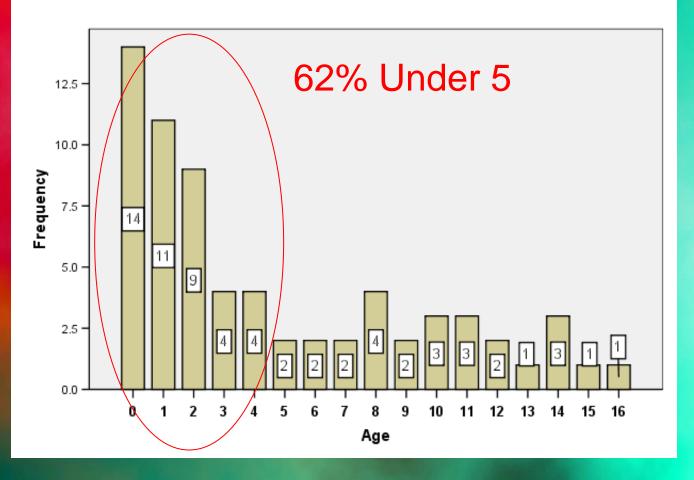
- Length of time to reunification was calculated
  - Case placement episode termination reason had to be listed as "reunified with parent/guardian"
  - Case placement episode end date was used to determine the length of time to reunification

#### **Demographics - Ethnicity**



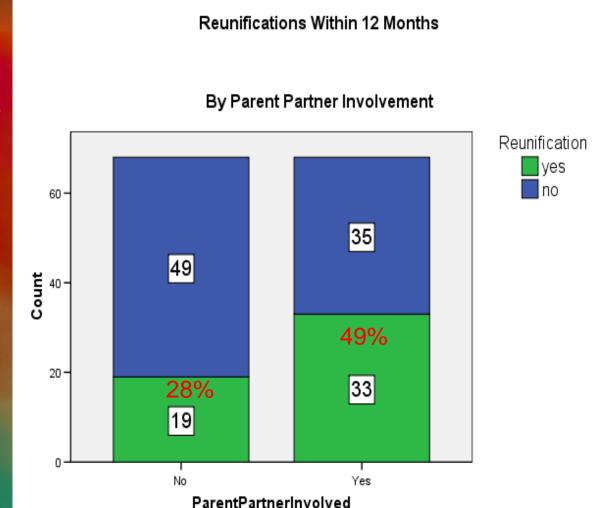
# **Demographics - Age**

Age of Child With Parent Partner Involvement



#### **Reunifications Within 12 Months**

**Using logistic** regression, **Parent Partner** involvement significantly increased timely reunifications, p = .01



#### **Recidivism After Reunification**

- Parent Partner
   Involved
  - 24 children reunified within 6 months (35%)
  - 2 children were removed again after reunification (8%)

- Non-Parent Partner Involved
  - 15 children reunified within 6 months (22%)
  - 7 children were removed again after reunification (47%)

#### **Qualitative Data**

- Parent Partner Fidelity and Satisfaction Survey: n= 50
  - Positive feedback
    - Empowerment
    - Understanding the System
    - General Satisfaction
    - Cultural Competency
    - Service Needs

#### **Qualitative Data**

- Focus group with Parent Partner clients: n= 12
- Positive feedback
  - "Sameness" of experience helpful
  - Mentoring through the court process
  - Hope
  - Suggestions:
    - Parent Partner advocate in court
    - Hire more Parent Partners

#### **Qualitative Data**

- Key informant interviews: n= 17
  - Interviews with social workers, TDM coordinators, social worker supervisors, attorneys, judges, etc.
  - Positive feedback
    - Parent Partners bridge the gap between parents and the system
    - Help with communication
    - Help parents keep up with their goals
    - Help parents advocate for themselves

# **Future Analysis**

#### Cost Avoidance?



#### **Presenting the Data**

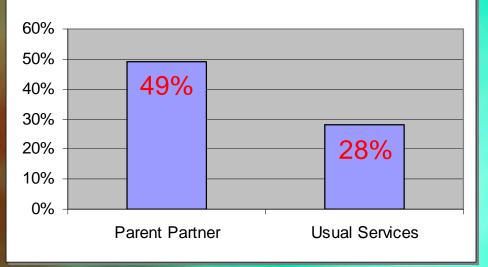
	ear ago Gross domestic product				Industrial production	Consumer prices			Unemployment	
	latest	qtr*	2007†	2008	latest		year ago	2007†		
United States	+3.1 04	+2.5	+2.3	+2.7	+3.4 Feb	+2.4 Feb	+3.6	+2.1	4.5 Feb	
pan	+2.3 Q4	+5.5	+2.3	+2.3	+2.6 Feb	-0.2 Feb	-0.1	+0.1	4.0 Feb	
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Austria	+3.3 04	+3.6	+2.3	+2.1	+3.7 Jan +8.5 Jan	+1.9 Mar +1.7 Feb	+2.2	+1.8 +1.6	4.4 Mar	
Belgium	+2.9 04	+2.4	+2.0	+2.0	+0.5 Jan +4.4 Jan	+1.7 Feb +1.8 Mar	+1.2	+1.0	4.4 mar 11.5 Feb <sup>‡‡</sup>	
France	+2.5 04	+2.9	+2.1	+2.1	-0.6 Jan	+1.0 Feb	+1.9	+1	8.4 Feb	
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Denmark	+2.9 04	- 5	+2.3	+2.3	+1.1 Jan	+1.9 Feb	+2.1	+1.8	3.9 Feb	
lungary	+3.2 04	+3.	+2.3	+3.0	+10.5 Jan	+8.8 F	+2.5	+6.6	7.4 Feb††	
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Switzerland	+2.2 04	+1.8	+2.	+2.0	+8.9 04	+0.2 Mar	+1.0	+0.7	3.2 Feb##	
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India	+8.6 Q4	na	+8.0	+/	+1 _3 Jan	+7.6 Feb	+4.9	+5.0	7.6 2006	
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Brazil	+3.8 04	+4.5	+3	+3.5	+4.5 Jan	+3.0 Feb	+5.5	+3.7	9.9 Feb##	
Chile	+4.3 04	+7.8		+5.2	+4.6 Feb	2.7 Feb	+4.1	+2.6	6.4 Feb1111	
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celand	2.5 04	+7.8	+0.48	+2.63	na	+5.9 Mar	+4.5	98	1.3 Feb##	
reland	+5.0 04	+0.1	+5.3§	+3.6§	+8.9 Jan	+4.8 Feb	+3.3	+3	4.3 Feb	
atvia	+11.9 04	na	+9.25	+7.53	+0.2 Jan	+7.3 Feb	+6.1	+6.0	6.1 Jan	
ithuan	+6.9 04	+7.4	+6.58	+6.43	na	+4.3 Feb	+3.4	+1.88	6.2 Feb	
uxer ourg	+5.4 03	+4.1	+4.65	+4.1§	+2.3 Dec	+2.0 Feb	+3.0	+3.05	.8 Feb‡‡	
Nev ealand	+2.9 04	+5.0	+2.63	+3.13	-1.4 Q3	+2.6 04	+3.1	+3.05		
P	+9.2 Jan	na	+6.1	+5.5	+11.5 Jan	+0.2 Mar	+2.5	+1.4	9. <sub>vb</sub> ‡‡	
ilippines	+6.5 04	+5.6	+5.6	+5.7	+2.0 Jan	+2.2 Mar	+7.6	+4.2	7.3	
Portugal	+1.7 04	+1.9	+1.65	+2.13	+4.5 Feb	+2.4 Feb	+2.9	+2.2	8.2 04	
lovakia	+9.6 04	na	+7.0§	+5.48	(+17.5 Jan)	+2.7 Feb	+4.4	+2.5	(11.0 Jan)	
lovenia	+5.5 04	na	+4.0§	+3.8§	+4.2 Dec	+2.3 Mar	+1.9	+2.3	8.7 Jan##	

Sources: National statistics offices and central banks; Thomson Datastream; Reuters; Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy; OECD; ECB

Clear
Concise
Presented by a Parent Partner
Work together

#### An Example

 Parent Partner mentoring appears to increase timely reunifications



#### **Children Reunified Within 12 months**

#### Add "Heart" to the Data



Having a Parent **Partner** present data combines "heart and "head" into a winning combination

# Avoid "TMI"

# Too Much Information



#### **Use "Kid" Pictures**



# And Now...the Best for Last •Sayida!





