



2014 ALLIANCE WEBINAR SERIES – #3

Understanding and Improving the Quality of Service Delivery for Immigrant Families Involved with the Child Welfare System

Today's webinar has been organized in partnership with the Migration and Child Welfare National Network.

Thursday, July 31, 2014
3:00 PM – 4:30 PM (Eastern Time)





ALLIANCE WEBINAR SERIES

Best Webinar Practices

- In your attendee control panel, be sure to choose the audio mode you intend to use (telephone or VoIP).
- Call in to the meeting from a location where there is little background noise.
- Avoid using cellular and cordless phones because of static; use the phone handset or a headset instead of speakerphones because of background noise, tunnel effect and sentence clipping.
- If you find you are having a sound quality problem, hang up and dial back in. Sometimes these problems clear themselves up when the bad connection is terminated.

What if I can't hear other callers?

- Telephone users: Hang up and dial in again.
- VoIP users:
 - Test your speakers setup. Click Audio Setup in the Audio Pane to select the correct device. Mac user should: click the speaker icon in the Audio Pane to select the correct device.
 - Check the volume setting in audio setup. Click Speakers Setup and then click Play Sound. Adjust the slider bar to the desired volume.

Please remember that this webinar is being recorded, and will be available online for later review.



ALLIANCE WEBINAR SERIES

ASKING QUESTIONS

You can submit questions at any time during the webinar. Panelists will respond to questions at the end of the formal presentations.

To submit a question for our presenters, please type it into the question box on the GoToWebinar menu bar on the side of your screen.

POST WEBINAR

You will receive a follow-up email after the webinar requesting that you fill out a brief evaluation survey. Your responses are greatly appreciated.



MISSION

The **Alliance for Racial Equity in Child Welfare** provides national leadership in support of improved outcomes for children and families of color who are involved with this nation's child welfare system. The Alliance was established in 2004 as a national, multi-year effort to eliminate racial and ethnic disparities in the U.S. child welfare system, and is guided by a coalition of national partners, including parents, alumni and youth with experience in the child welfare system and a host of national organizations, state and local leaders, judges, researchers and advocates.

GOALS

The work of the **Alliance for Racial Equity in Child Welfare** is organized around the achievement of the following goals:

- Expanding the field's understanding and knowledge of the causes and consequences of current outcomes for children and families of color in the child welfare system
- Identifying, lifting up and promoting programs, policies, strategies and conditions that improve those outcomes
- Advancing a national policy agenda focused on improving access to supportive resources and responsive systems, resulting in improved outcomes and well-being for children and families of color



➤ Alliance for Racial Equity in Child Welfare

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Supporting Immigrant Families in the Child Welfare System

Center for the Study of Social Policy, Alliance for Racial Equity in Child Welfare

Alan J. Dettlaff, PhD
Jane Addams College of Social Work
University of Illinois at Chicago

Immigration: A Critical issue for Child Welfare

- Social work with children and families in America inextricably linked with the history of immigration to the United States.
- At the end of the 19th century, concerns on child well being were focused on poor European immigrants.
- More than a century later, a second peak of immigration adds to the mix racial, cultural, language differences.
- Children of immigrants represent nearly one-fourth of all children living in the United States.

Why Immigrant Children Are At Risk of Child Welfare Involvement

- Poverty is one of the most significant predictors of child welfare involvement.
- Stressors associated with immigrant families' experiences with immigration and acculturation may also increase risk for child welfare involvement.
- Children in immigrant families are considerably more likely to be uninsured, to be reported in fair or poor health, and to lack a usual place where they can get preventive health care.
- Immigrant families may be at risk of many of the same issues as natives – domestic violence, substance abuse, health, and mental health – however access to preventive services and treatment is limited.

The Most Vulnerable: Children of Unauthorized Immigrants

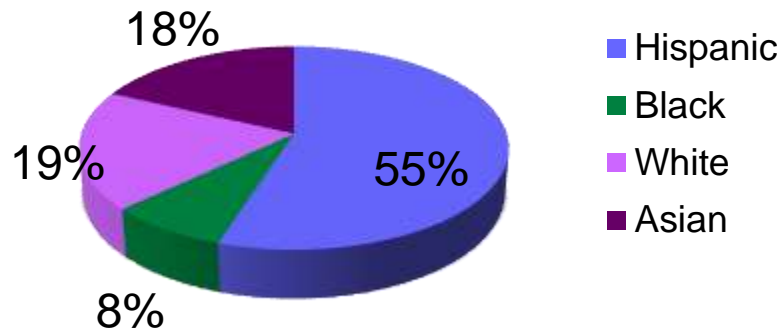
- Parents have limited formal education
- Parents often do not speak English
- Parents subject to job exploitation
- Parents are ineligible for most public benefits (although more than 2/3 of children are U.S. citizens)
- Increased immigration enforcement and consequences of immigration raids

Involvement in the Child Welfare System: Analyses of the National Survey of Child & Adolescent Well-Being (NSCAW)

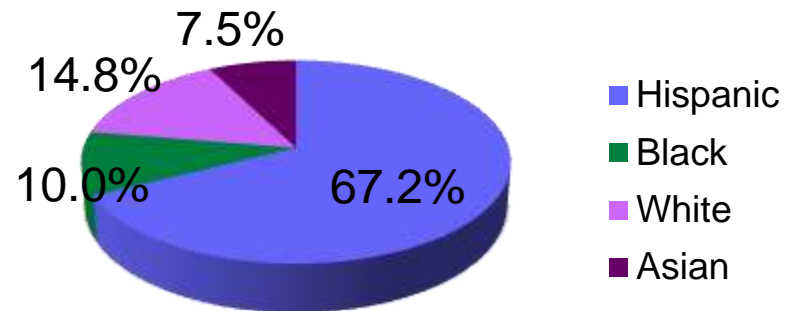
- Historically, we've known very little about the population of children of immigrants in the child welfare system as these data are not collected.
- Data from NSCAW indicate:
 - Children living with a foreign-born parent comprise 8.6% of all children who come to the attention of the child welfare system
 - More than 4 out of 5 (82.5%) are U.S.-born citizens
 - More than two-thirds (67.2%) are Hispanic
 - Non-Hispanic White (14.8%)
 - Non-Hispanic Black (10.0%)
 - Non-Hispanic Asian (7.5%)

Involvement in the Child Welfare System

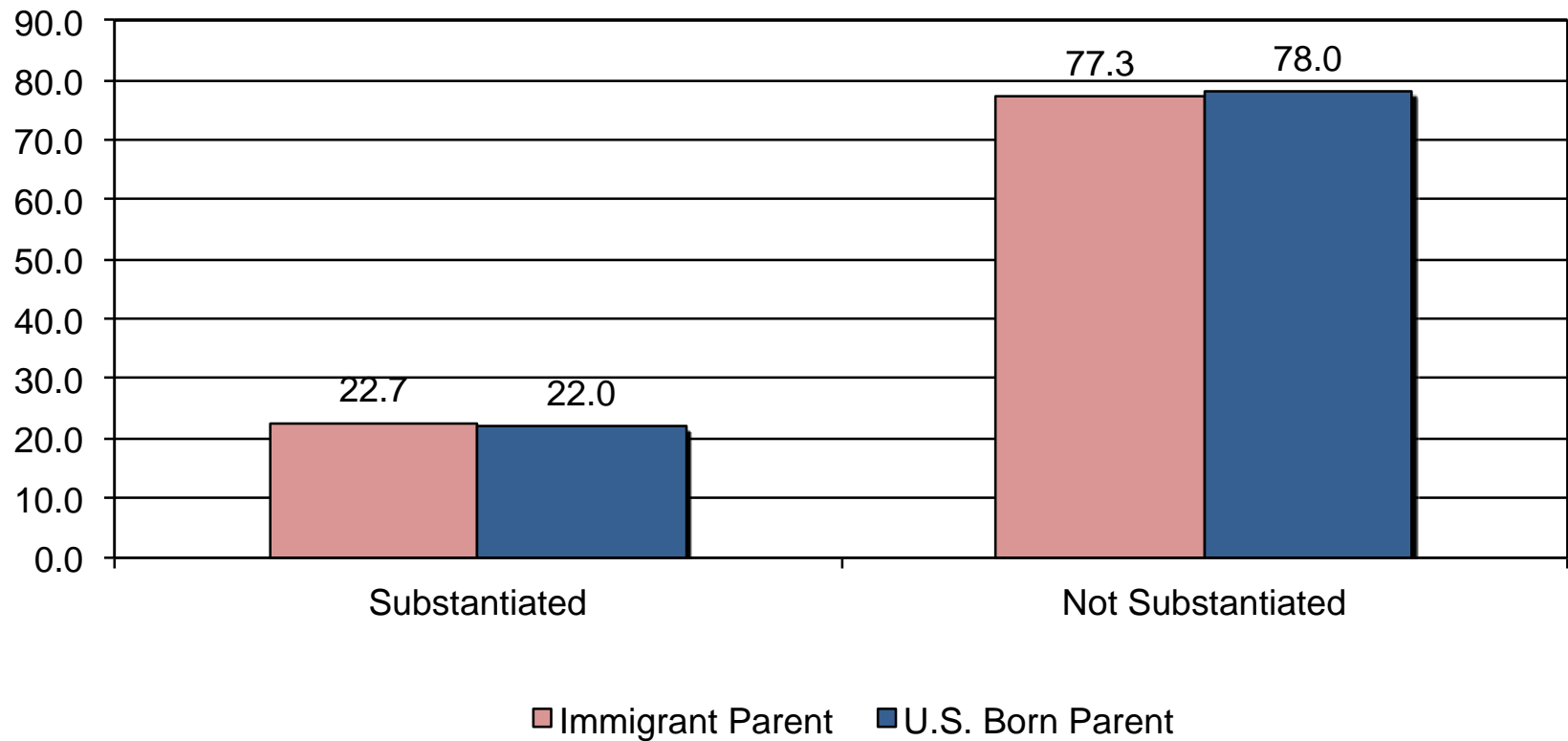
General Population



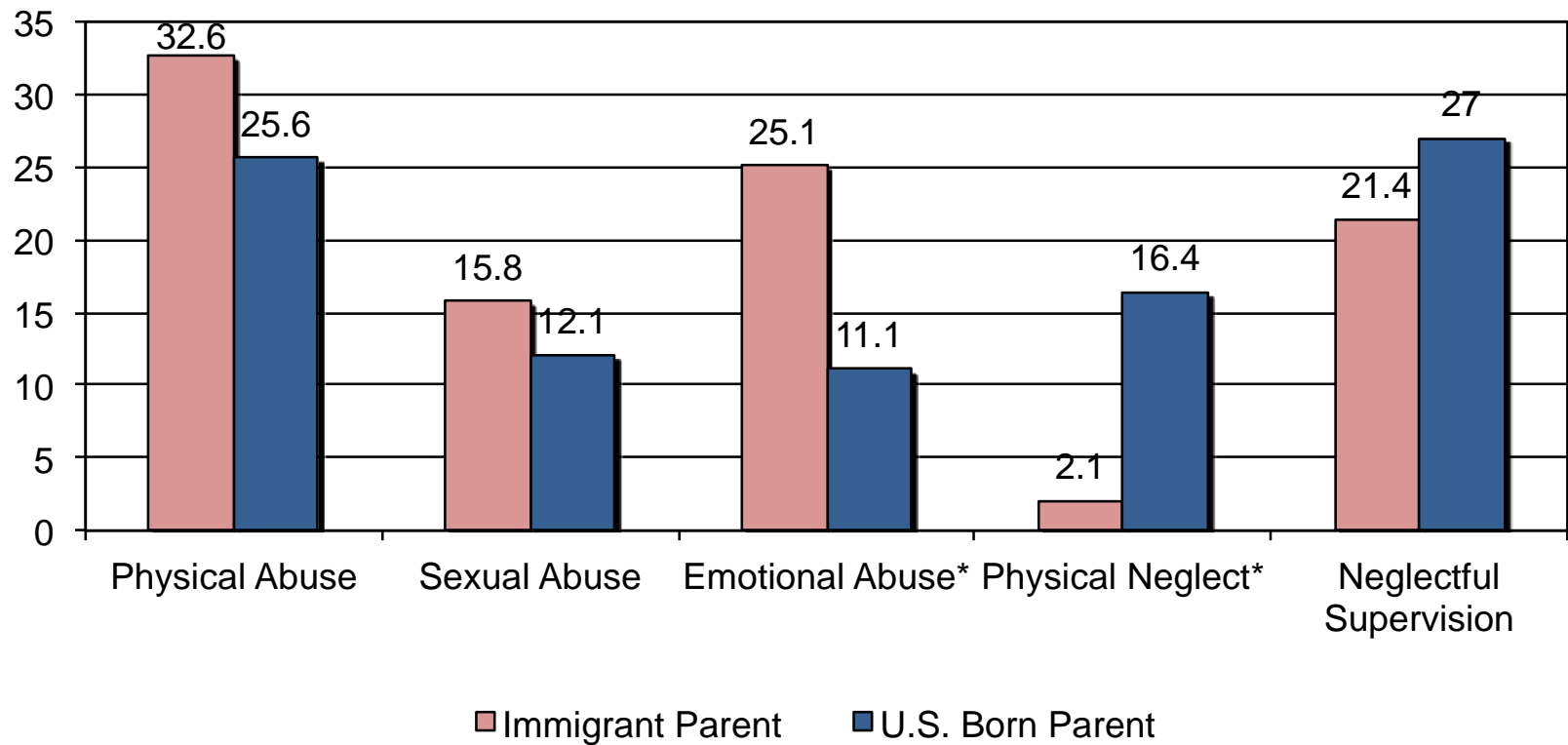
Child Welfare Population



Outcome of Maltreatment Investigation



Substantiated Maltreatment



Parent and Family Risk Factors

	U.S. Born Parent	Immigrant Parent
Active alcohol abuse	6.1	2.0
Active drug abuse	13.3	4.3
Serious mental health or emotional problem	13.3	9.3
Intellectual or cognitive impairment	6.4	2.0
Physical impairment	5.3	1.0
Poor parenting skills	27.7	24.7
Active domestic violence	12.2	13.2
Use of excessive discipline	20.0	24.0
History of maltreatment (of caregiver)	19.7	18.4
Recent history of arrest	33.1	13.0
Low social support	27.6	30.5
High family stress	50.5	43.3
Difficulty meeting basic needs	21.9	17.1

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*Significant difference at 95% confidence level

Potential Protective Factors

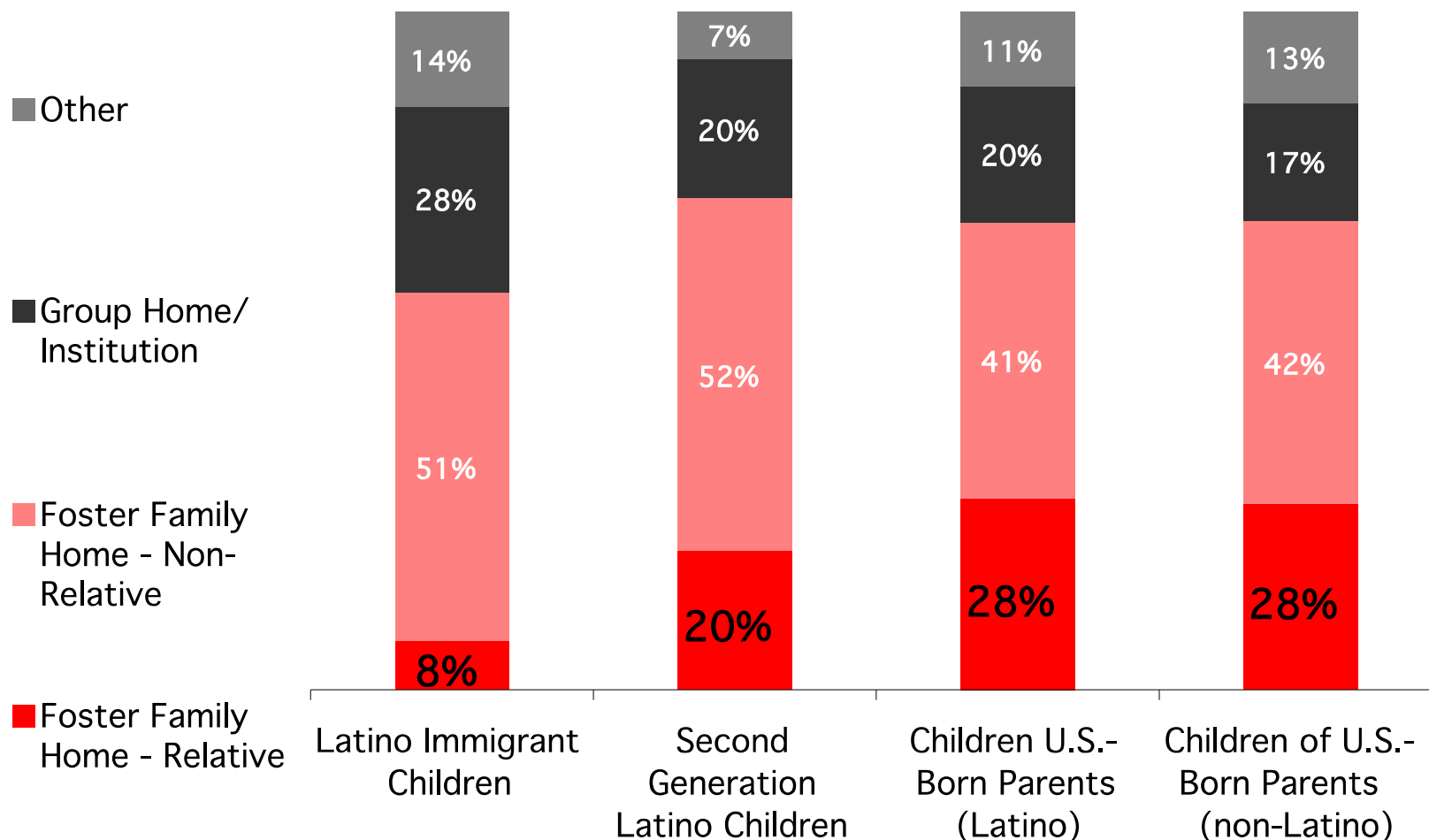
	U.S. Born Parent	Immigrant Parent
Biological father present in home*	18.6	40.6
Additional supportive caregiver*	46.2	55.5
Change of primary caregiver in past 12 months*	12.9	2.3
Live in a safe neighborhood*	70.8	82.6
Helpful neighbors*	58.2	79.8

*Significant difference at 95% confidence level

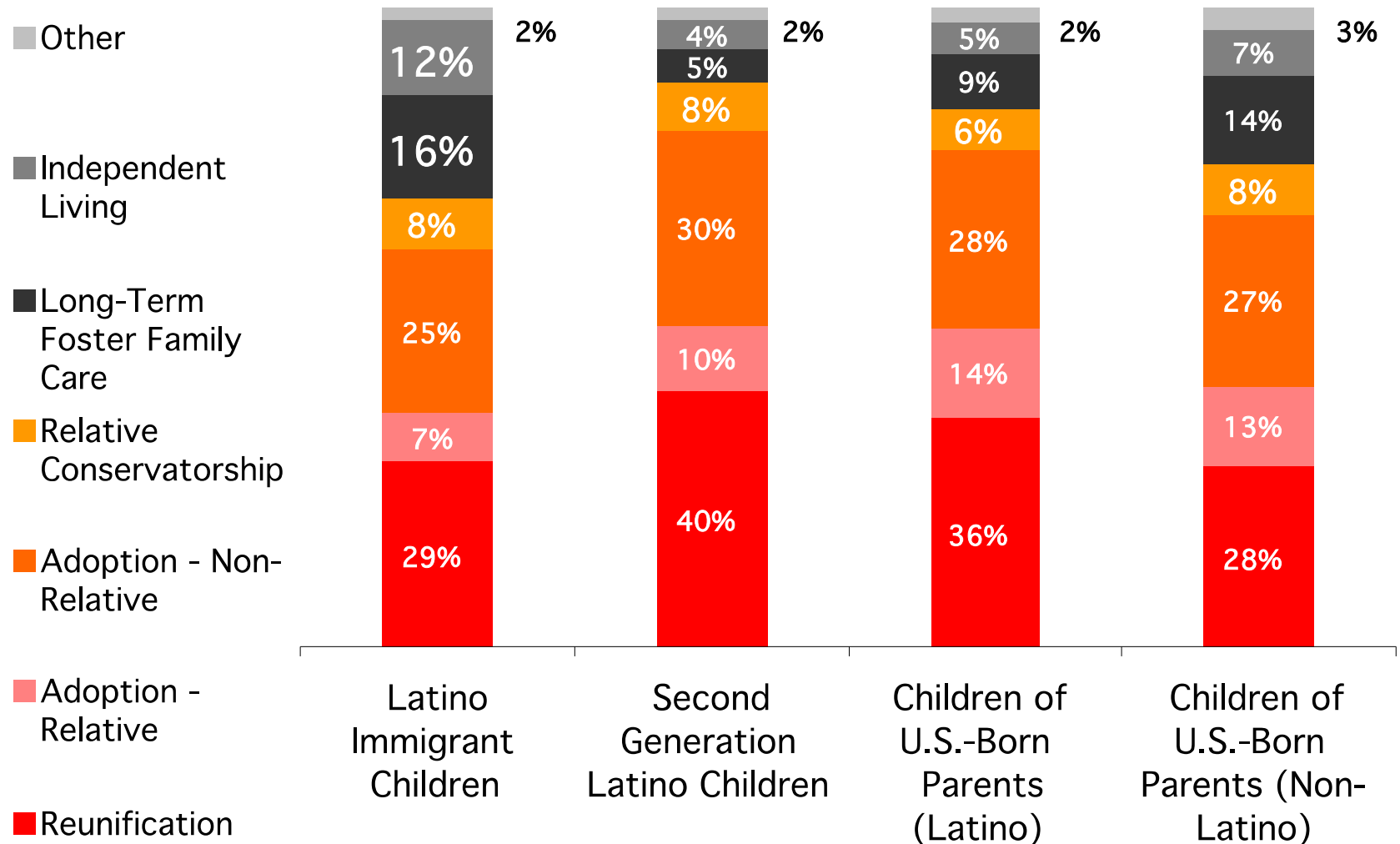
Outcomes for Latino Children

- Very little is known concerning differences in outcomes for Latino children according to generation or citizenship status.
- However, data that are available show that although children of immigrants are underrepresented in child welfare systems, they may be at a disadvantage in terms of permanency outcomes.

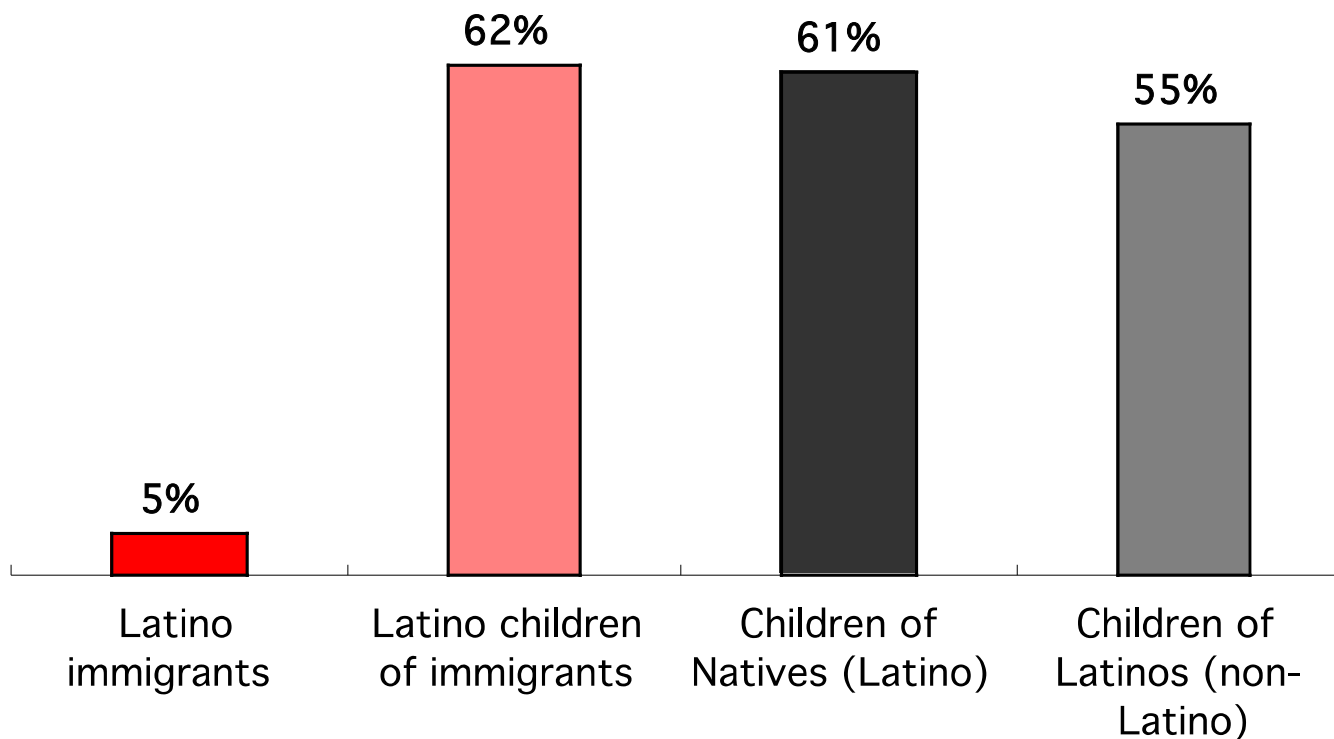
Latino Children of Immigrants Less Likely to be Placed with Relatives



Latino Immigrant Children Less Likely to Have Case Goals of Reunification or Placement with Relatives



Most Latino Immigrant Children Not IV-E Eligible



Summary: What We Know

- Children of immigrants represent 8.6% of all children who come to the attention of the child welfare system.
 - 67.2% of these children of immigrants are Latino
- Children of immigrants are significantly more likely to be experience emotional abuse, while children of U.S.-born parents are significantly more likely to experience physical neglect.
- Although risk factors are present in immigrant homes, several risk factors associated with child maltreatment – alcohol abuse, drug abuse, intellectual impairments, physical impairments, history of arrest – are more likely to be present in U.S. born families.
- Although children of immigrants are underrepresented in child welfare systems, they may be at greater risk of poor outcomes.

Current Issues in Responding to Immigrant Children and Families

- Access to culturally competent services and service providers
- Language access
- Impact of immigration enforcement on Latino children who enter the child welfare system
- Placements with undocumented relatives/kin
- Access to Special Immigrant Juvenile Status (SIJS) and other forms of immigration relief
- Awareness and understanding of unique risks and strengths within Latino immigrant families
- Impact of state and federal policies on children in immigrant families

Remaining Unanswered Questions

- What accounts for differences in types of maltreatment?
- What accounts for differences in rates of kinship placements and entry into foster care?
- What unique barriers to safety, permanency, and well-being exist for immigrant children and families?
- What policies and/or practices are effective in meeting the needs of immigrant children and families who come to the attention of child welfare systems?

California Latino Practice Advisory Committee

- Formed in 2012 to ensure appropriate and effective responses to Latino children and families in California child welfare systems.
- Activities:
 - County surveys to identify practice innovations with Latino children and families.
 - Identification of Evidence-Based Practices in California and others states that are culturally responsive to Latino children and families.
 - Collection of policies and procedures used by counties regarding Latino and/or immigrant children and families.
 - Web-based collection of information and resources on practice and policy issues with Latino children and families.
 - Data templates to provide easily accessible information on Latino children involved in county child welfare systems.



LATINO PRACTICE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Latino Practice Advisory Committee is a collaboration of the California Department of Social Services and the County Welfare Directors Association. The committee was formed to address the growing population of Latino children and families in California communities and the child welfare systems, and to facilitate the provision of culturally relevant services that respond to their unique needs. This site collects information and resources for child welfare agencies regarding Latino children and families, including research, policy, promising practices, and strategies for organizational improvement.



DATA >

Population and child welfare involvement trends among Latino children and families

RESEARCH >

Research articles and reports on child welfare issues with Latino children and families

PRACTICE >

Resources, toolkits, and training materials on practice considerations with Latino families

POLICY >

Policies, procedures, and guidelines, including examples from California and other jurisdictions

LEGAL >

Resources on state and federal legislation, including resources on immigration-related issues

ORGANIZATIONAL >

Resources on organizational capacity and improvement, including workforce development

DATA HIGHLIGHT

Percent of Population and Entries into Foster Care (Children 0-17) who are Latino: 2000-2012. For more information, [click here](#).



LPAC MATERIALS

Materials from the meetings of the Latino Practice Advisory Committee, as well as presentations and publications developed by the Committee. >

http://cssr.berkeley.edu/ucb_childwelfare/lpac/

Culturally Responsive Policies: Results from a Statewide Survey of California Counties

- Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) with foreign consulates
- Placement, reunification, or adoption with a parent/relative in a foreign country
- Placement of children with undocumented relatives
- Communication between dependent children and parents living in foreign countries
- Immigration relief options
- Language access



Policy Implications for Immigrant Children & Families Involved in the Child Welfare System

Wendy Cervantes

Alliance for Racial Equity Webinar Series

July 31, 2014



The Intersection of Immigration & Child Welfare Policies: What is at stake?



FIRST FOCUS

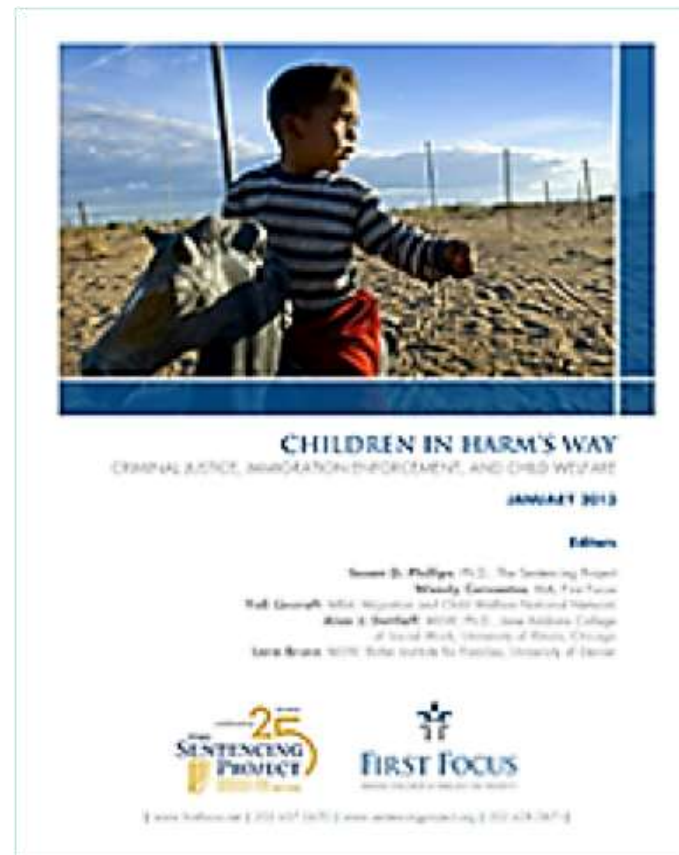
- Children of immigrants now comprise **one quarter** of all children in the U.S. and represent fastest growing segment of child population
- **5.5 million** children, **4.5 million** of whom are U.S. citizens, have at least one undocumented parent
- DHS data reveals that **72,410 parents of U.S. citizen children** were deported in 2013
- A 2013 report by Human Impact Partners estimates that over **150,000 U.S. citizen children** were affected by a parent's deportation in 2012
- A 2011 report by the Applied Research Center (ARC) estimates that **5,100** children reside in the child welfare system with a detained or deported parent



Why the increase in deportations?

Shift in immigration strategy from worksite raids to collaboration with local law enforcement agencies in late 2009 (Secure Communities/287g programs)

Increase in the number of immigrants apprehended through law enforcement creating a clash between immigration, child welfare, and criminal justice systems (*Children in Harms Way*, January 2013)



Immigration Enforcement: Consequences for Children



FIRST FOCUS

- Family separation
- Emotional trauma
- Poor health outcomes
- Economic insecurity (housing, food insecurity, etc.)
- Impact on academic performance
- Sudden “single-motherhood”
- Limited mobility
- Confusion about the terms “illegal” and “immigrant”
- Mistrust of law enforcement

What happened when a parent is detained or deported?



FIRST FOCUS

- Child stays with another parent, family member, or friend
- Child returns to the country of origin with
- Child enters the child welfare system



How do children with detained or deported parents enter the child welfare system?



FIRST FOCUS

ARC report reveals that families most often become involved with the child welfare system through the following tracks:

- **Straight Path:** Direct result of a parent's arrest or detention
- **Parallel Path:** Child comes to attention of child welfare system, and police involvement leads to a parent's detention by immigration authorities
- **Interrupted Path:** Family was already system-involved, and reunification plan is interrupted by a parent's detention

Child welfare system challenges for detained and deported parents



FIRST FOCUS

- Lack of coordination between local ICE and child welfare agencies, including lack of universal policies across the two systems
- Inability for parents to visit with their child, meet child welfare case plan requirements, or participate in family court proceedings
- Limited access to concrete services due to immigration status of parent and/or child
- Bias among child welfare staff & family court judges against detained or deported parents and undocumented caregivers
- Strict child welfare timelines that can result in the inappropriate termination of parental rights
- Difficulty in coordinating reunification at the time of a parent's release, removal, or after removal

Policy Solutions: Federal Legislative Efforts



FIRST FOCUS

- **Foster Children Opportunity Act** (O'Rourke, HR 2036): To ensure children in foster care are screened and connected to immigration relief options, including Special Immigrant Juvenile Status. Reintroduced in 113th Congress.
- **Child Citizen Protection Act** (Serrano, HR 406): To provide immigration judges with the discretion determine that an alien parent of a United States citizen child should not be ordered removed, deported, or excluded from the United States. Included in S.744 immigration bill, and reintroduced in the House in 2013.
- **Humane Enforcement and Legal Protections (HELP) for Separated Children's Act** (Franken/ Roybal-Allard): To reform Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) policies to address child well-being and family unity needs. Included in the S.744 immigration bill.
- **Help Separated Families Act** (Roybal-Allard, HR 2604): To establish requirements and policies for state child welfare systems in cases of children with detained or deported parents. Included in S.744 and reintroduced in House.

Policy Solutions: Federal Immigration Reform



- [Principles for Children in Immigration Reform](#) endorsed by over 200 organizations in February 2013
- Senate passed bipartisan **Border Security, Economic Opportunity and Immigration Modernization Act (S.744)** on June 27, 2013, which included several important provisions for children involved in the child welfare system
- House Democrats introduced House version of comprehensive immigration reform (**HR 15**) in October 2013, no action on bill or any alternative proposal in 2014

Policy Solutions: State Legislative Efforts



FIRST FOCUS

Reuniting Immigrant Families Act (de León SB 1064) - California law chaptered into law Sept 30, 2012, and requires the following:

- Authorizes courts to provide an extension in the family reunification period in cases of detained or deported parents
- Prohibits immigration status alone from being used as a disqualifying factor in determining their suitability to be a placement for a child & allows for foreign identification (such as passports) to be used for fingerprint clearance
- Requires CDSS to provide guidance on immigration relief options for children in the child welfare system (such as SIJS)—letter issued by CDSS to agencies April 8, 2014
- Requires CDSS to provide guidance for the creation of MOUs with appropriate foreign consulates in child custody cases to help facilitate family reunification

Policy Solutions: State Legislative Efforts



FIRST FOCUS

- **Maryland HB 315 (2014):** On April 8, 2014, Governor O'Malley signed legislation to ensure all eligible abused, abandoned, or neglected children may obtain Lawful Permanent Residency through Special Immigrant Juvenile Status (SIJS) up until the federal limit of age 21, instead of 18.
- **California Call for Kids Act AB (2012):** Chaptered into law September 30, 2012, reinforces existing state penal code requirements, requiring 2 additional phone calls to custodial parents at time of arrest for purposes of making child care arrangements, and requires that language accessible signs regarding the rights to phone calls be posted in facilities

Policy Solutions: Federal Administrative Reforms



FIRST FOCUS

DHS policies related to child well-being and family unity:

- Humanitarian Guidelines (2007)
- Time of Apprehension w/Juvenile Present Policy (2007)
- Sensitive Locations Policy (2008)
- Enforcement Priorities & Prosecutorial Discretion (2010)
- Detainee Locator (2010)
- Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) (2012)
- Risk Classification Assessment (2013)
- Parental Interest Directive (2013)
- Pending enforcement review and administrative action

Policy Solutions: ICE Parental Interest Directive



FIRST FOCUS

- Establishes national ICE parental rights coordinator and designates a point of contact in each ICE field office;
- Requires parents to be held in facilities reasonably close to children are living and/or location of family court or child welfare proceedings;
- Requires ICE to facilitate parent-child visitation, parent participation in family court proceedings, and parent's access to attorneys, consulates, courts, and child welfare staff;
- Requires ICE to assist parents at the time of removal to coordinate travel with their child or make guardianship arrangements;
- Provides the option for humanitarian parole on a very limited basis to parents outside the country to attend their TPR proceedings in person; &
- Facilitates coordination between ICE and the Department of Health and Human Services to develop methods for improving cooperation between immigration enforcement agencies, family or dependency courts, and the child welfare system.

- With federal legislation stalled, including immigration reform, state efforts will continue to be important
- Possible administrative relief for parents of U.S. citizen children and DACA-eligible youth has the potential to reduce the likelihood of children entering the child welfare system
- Influx of unaccompanied children may have implications for state child welfare systems

For more information:

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Please visit our websites for new resources:

www.firstfocus.net
www.ffcampaignforchildren.org



PRESENTATION BY:

Lyn Morland, MSW, MA

Senior Consultant
Migration and Child Welfare
National Network (MCWNN)

www.mcwnn.uic.edu

MIGRATION AND CHILD WELFARE NATIONAL NETWORK

Resources and Technical Assistance

Alliance for Racial Equity in Child Welfare
Webinar July 31, 2014



About the MCWNN

The Migration and Child Welfare National Network (MCWNN), a peer membership organization, promotes the welfare of children of immigrants and their families through **research, education, policy recommendations, and national leadership**. The MCWNN works nationally to **inform and coordinate** child welfare, legal, and community responses to the unique strengths and needs of children of immigrants, building organizational and individual capacities to ensure a bright future for all Americans. For more information about our mission and work, please visit our website at www.mcwnn.uic.edu.

Resources and Technical Assistance



Research



Law & Policy



Practice



Migration
and **Child Welfare**
NATIONAL NETWORK

Welcome to the MCWNN Website

Read more about who we are and what we do.

Research

- Children of Immigrants in the Child Welfare System: Findings From the National Survey of Child and Adolescent Well-Being (Part I) (Dettlaff & Earner, 2012)
- Latino Children of Immigrants in the Child Welfare System: Findings From the National Survey of Child and Adolescent Well-Being (Part II) (Dettlaff & Earner, 2012)
- Barriers to Support Service Use for Latino Immigrant Families Reported to Child Welfare: Implications for Policy and Practice (Finno-Velasquez, 2014)



Law and Policy

- **Implications of Important State Child Welfare/Immigration-Related Appellate Court Opinions** (Howard Davidson, Director, ABA Center on Children and the Law, American Bar Association)
- **Children in Harm's Way: Criminal Justice, Immigration Enforcement, and Child Welfare** (Sentencing Project, First Focus, & Migration and Child Welfare National Network)
- **Caught Between Systems: The Intersection of Immigration and Child Welfare Policies** (First Focus and Migration and Child Welfare National Network)



Practice

- ◎ A Social Worker's Toolkit for Working With Immigrant Families - Healing the Damage: Trauma and Immigrant Families in the Child Welfare System
- ◎ A Social Worker's Toolkit for Working With Immigrant Families - A Child Welfare Flowchart
- ◎ A Social Worker's Toolkit for Working With Immigrant Families - Immigration Status and Relief Options



State Resources & Examples

View example policies and procedures from child welfare agencies across the country regarding services for immigrant children and families.



Resources on this page include example policies and procedures from state and county child welfare agencies across the country regarding services to immigrant children and families. These resources can be used by other states to develop or improve their services to this population.

View Resources & Examples For:

- Arkansas
- California
- Colorado
- Connecticut
- Georgia
- Illinois
- Minnesota
- New Mexico
- New York
- Oregon
- Texas

California

San Diego County

- Program Guide - Special Immigrant Juvenile Status
- Program Guide - Role of the International Liaison
- Program Guide - Placement of Dependent Children in Mexico (2006)
- Program Guide - Mexican Border Crossing Permission Process
- Program Guide - Undocumented Children
- International Liaison Procedures Manual
- International Liaison Office - Parent Search Request Service - Insufficient
- International Liaison Screening Sheet
- International Services Request Form
- Notification to Foreign Consulate Form
- MOU with Consulate General of Mexico
- Parole Request Letter to Allow Entry into the United States for Court Proceedings or Visitation

Texas

- Texas Policies on International and Immigration Issues
- Questions to Ask About Foreign Born Foster Children to Determine Documentation Status
- Language Access Policy
- Notification to Foreign Consulate
- Motion to Determine Eligibility for Special Immigrant Juvenile Status
- Order Regarding Eligibility for Special Immigrant Juvenile Status
- Glossary of Citizenship and Immigration Terms

Illinois

- MOU with Consulate General of Mexico (2007)
- MOU with Consulate General of Mexico – Spanish version
- Policy Guide – Mexican Consulate Notification
- Policy Guide – Licensing, Payment, & Placement of Children with Undocumented Relatives
- Policy Guide – Immigration Legalization Services for Foreign Born DCFS Wards
- Burgos Consent Decree Summary Regarding Language Access
- Burgos Consent Decree
- Hispanic Client Language Determination Form
- Guide for Parents Who Are Mexican Nationals

UNACCOMPANIED IMMIGRANT CHILDREN



- ◉ Key information
- ◉ Broad range of free resources
- ◉ News and resources updated daily



Training and Technical Assistance

So far this year we have...



- ◎ **Trained professionals across the U.S. at venues including:**
 - *The National Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect; the Beyond the Bench-California Administrative Office of the Courts Annual Conference; Wisconsin Court Improvement Child Welfare Training Consortium; Annual National Conference of the Mexican Consulate; Annual Meeting of Doris Duke Foundation Fellows.*
- ◎ **Provided in-person and phone consultations on time-sensitive child welfare cases:**
 - *In California, Alabama, Maryland, Alaska, Colorado, Arkansas, Florida, Texas, Illinois, Oregon, Washington, and Arizona.*
 - *Assisted with kinship care; interpretation; immigration relief; rights of incarcerated immigrant parents; out-of-country placement; family reunification following a mother's deportation; unaccompanied children; cultural competency training for county child welfare agencies.*

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E-News

Read our latest electronic newsletter.

MCWNN FYI E-News

Bimonthly news and resources for child welfare and legal practitioners, researchers, and policy makers



ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- Please visit the MCWNN Website at www.mcwnn.uic.edu for all of the resources mentioned on the Webinar today.
- More state-specific resources are available at <http://research.jacsw.uic.edu/icwnn/state-specific-resources/>.
- More information about unaccompanied immigrant children is available at <http://research.jacsw.uic.edu/icwnn/unaccompanied-children/>.
- For a list of ICE Points of Contact for the Parental Interest Directive go to <http://research.jacsw.uic.edu/icwnn/files/2014/04/ICE-Points-of-Contact1.pdf>.
- For information and materials on early childhood programs and refugees and immigrants, visit the National Center on Cultural and Linguistic Responsiveness, Office of Head Start: <http://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/hslc/tta-system/cultural-linguistic/center>.
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- To sign up for the MCWNN newsletter, request technical assistance, or join our research, policy, and practice committees, please contact us at mcwnn@uic.edu.
- NPR podcast on the Mayan language-speaking children: <http://www.npr.org/blogs/codeswitch/2014/07/01/326426927/language-barriers-pose-challenges-for-mayan-migrant-children>
- National Maya Interpreters Network, a terrific language resource: <http://mayanetwork.org/>