



PROGRESS REPORT: CSEC RECEIVING CENTER (HB 1775, 2020)



Washington State Department of
CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES

DCYF does not discriminate and provides equal access to its programs and services for all persons without regard to race, color, gender, religion, creed, marital status, national origin, sexual orientation, age, veteran's status, or presence of any physical, sensory, or mental disability.

If you would like free copies of this publication in an alternative format or language, please contact DCYF Constituent Relations at 1-800-723-4831 or email communications@dcyf.wa.gov.

Original Date: Jan. 08, 2024 | Revised Date: Feb. 21, 2024
Division: Partnership, Prevention & Services | Approved for dist. by Vickie Ybarra, Asst. Sec



Washington State Department of
CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES

CONTENTS

Introduction 1

Background 2

Data and Observations..... 3

2023 Updates from the DCYF Missing & Exploited Youth Program 7

Conclusion..... 8

Introduction

This report outlines data from the Daybreak Commercially Sexually Exploited Children (CSEC) Restorative Receiving Center, prepared in compliance with HB 1775 (2020) Sec. 9 (3). The section states, “(3) The department shall provide an annual report to the commercially sexually exploited children statewide coordinating committee established under RCW 7.68.801 by December 1st that includes: (a) A description of services provided by the department to commercially sexually exploited children; and (b) Nonidentifiable data regarding the number of commercially sexually exploited children.”

It is important to note that the program was intended to serve all youth in Washington state with this need, not just those served by DCYF.

For a detailed report including recommendations related to the agency’s CSEC work, please refer to the [House Bill 1775 Implementation Update Report](#).

Background

The Daybreak CSEC Restorative Receiving Center (RRC) was open in Spokane from March 2022 to August 2022 to serve youth of all genders between the ages of 12 to 17, then placed on a temporary pause in response to the Department of Health filing an intent to suspend the facility license. In December of 2022, DCYF asked Daybreak to take four female youths in on an emergency basis for one night to assist in a high-profile case involving the FBI, which they accommodated. The Daybreak Receiving Center, whose license remained active, became operational again in January 2023 and remained open until Jun. 16, 2023, when DOH ultimately suspended its license, resulting in the closure of the contract and facility.

During the time the Daybreak Commercially Sexually Exploited Children Restorative Receiving Center was operational, the facility received 26 referrals from a combination of sources in the community, law enforcement, DCYF, and families. Of the 26 referred youth, 21 intakes occurred, with 20 unique youth serving in the Receiving Center. The average age of youth served was age 15.4, with the youngest being age 13 and the oldest 17.

During its operation, Daybreak’s services included:

- Provide case management upon admission to the receiving center and provide up to one month follow up after youth is discharged for all children who are being served or were served by the program.
- Provide short-term evaluation and stabilization that is accessible twenty-four (24) hours per day, seven (7) days per week, that has the capacity to evaluate the immediate needs of commercially sexually exploited children ages twelve (12) through seventeen (17) and either meet those needs or refer those children to the appropriate services. Mental

Original Date: Jan. 08, 2024 | Revised Date: Feb. 21, 2024

Division: Partnership, Prevention & Services | Approved for dist. by Vickie Ybarra, Asst. Sec

health and substance use disorder assessments will be provided within the first 72 hours. Appropriate discharge plans and aftercare resources will be conducted once youth enter the receiving center. The maximum length of stay shall not exceed 30 days.

- Assess children for mental health and substance use disorder needs within [72 hours] and provide appropriate referrals as needed.
- Provide trauma-focused cognitive behavioral therapy with a stages of change component provided in individual and group counseling focused on developing and strengthening coping skills and improving self-esteem and dignity [while youth are in receiving center].

Data and Observations

Below are some of the key observations made by the former Director of External Relations at Daybreak, who led the Receiving Center development:

- Nearly 80% of clients were using fentanyl.
- Many clients exhibited the need for a 24/7 Detox for benzodiazepines, alcohol, and polysubstance abuse.
- The population would benefit from different levels of care based on the client's stage of readiness for change - a step-down approach model.
- Combining services for at-risk clients and clients that were confirmed as trafficked resulted in significant challenges.
- Many referrals were received from parents when they heard the program could serve "at-risk children." Several of those children were not suitable for the program but still needed preventive services.
- More referrals were received than the program was able to serve; issues preventing participation appeared to be youth willingness to participate or transportation.
- It was a challenge to help find places for clients to receive community-based services after they left the program.
- Per the DCYF contract, Daybreak followed clients for a month after they left, which was beneficial but also presented issues. With so many clients referred from the West side of the state, aftercare follow-up was difficult. It would be beneficial to have case managers in other areas to help with this and a Receiving Center located on the Westside.

Below are charts representing the unidentified data collected by Daybreak and provided to DCYF as contracted:

Original Date: Jan. 08, 2024 | Revised Date: Feb. 21, 2024

Division: Partnership, Prevention & Services | Approved for dist. by Vickie Ybarra, Asst. Sec

Figure 1. Percent of Intakes by Race/Ethnicity (N=21)

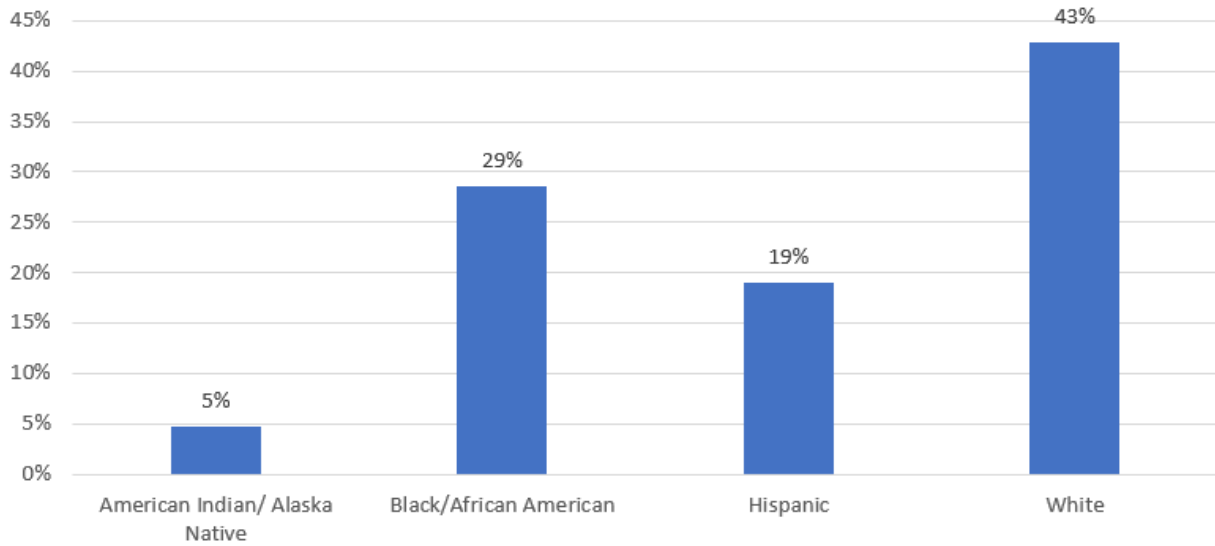
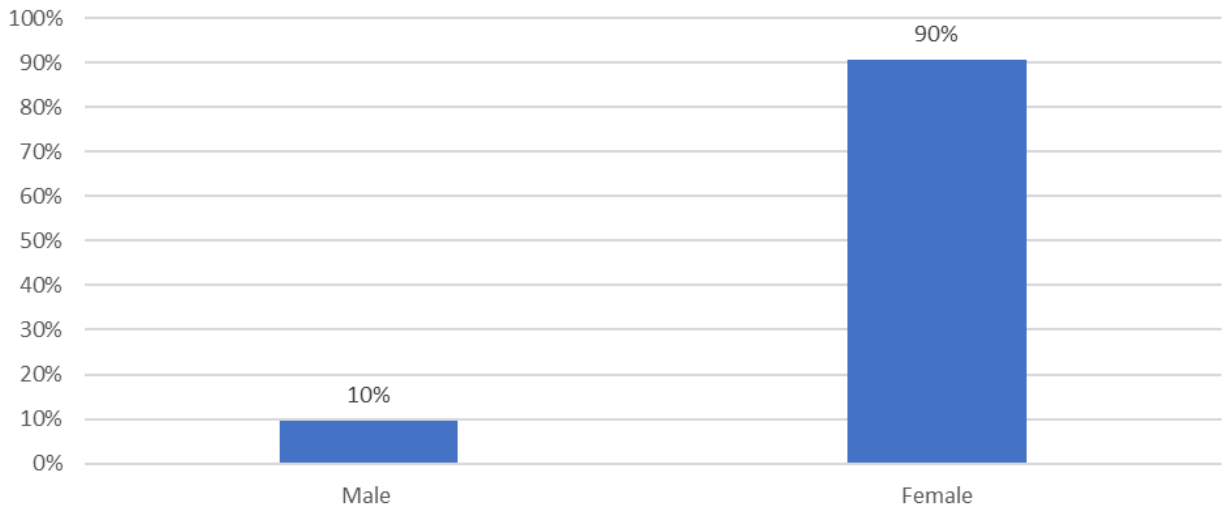


Figure 2. Percent of Intakes by Identified Sex (N=21)



Original Date: Jan. 08, 2024 | Revised Date: Feb. 21, 2024

Division: Partnership, Prevention & Services | Approved for dist. by Vickie Ybarra, Asst. Sec

Figure 3. Percent of Intakes by County of Origin (N=21)

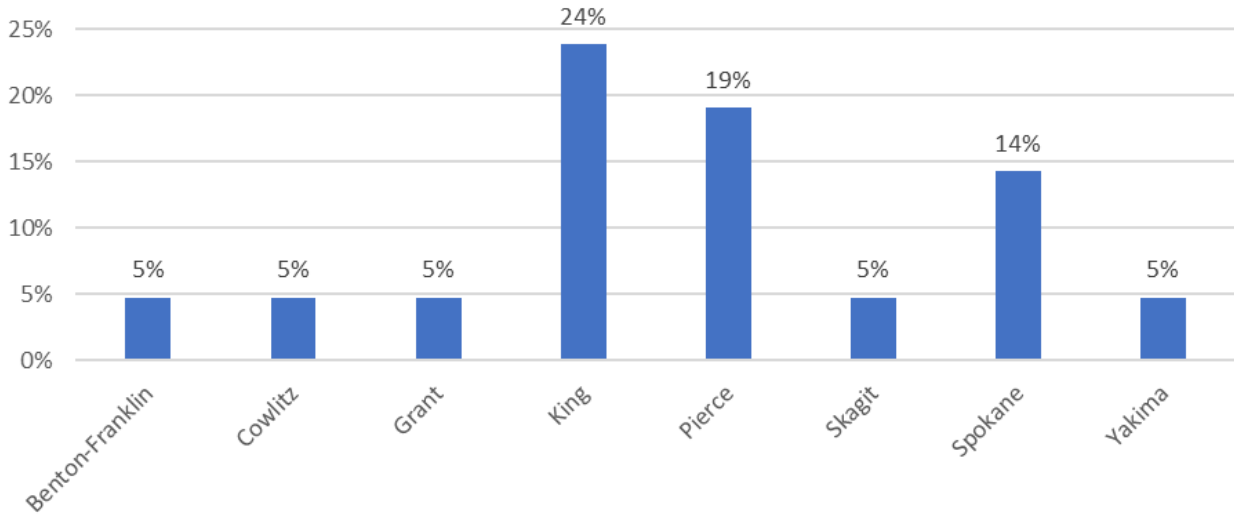
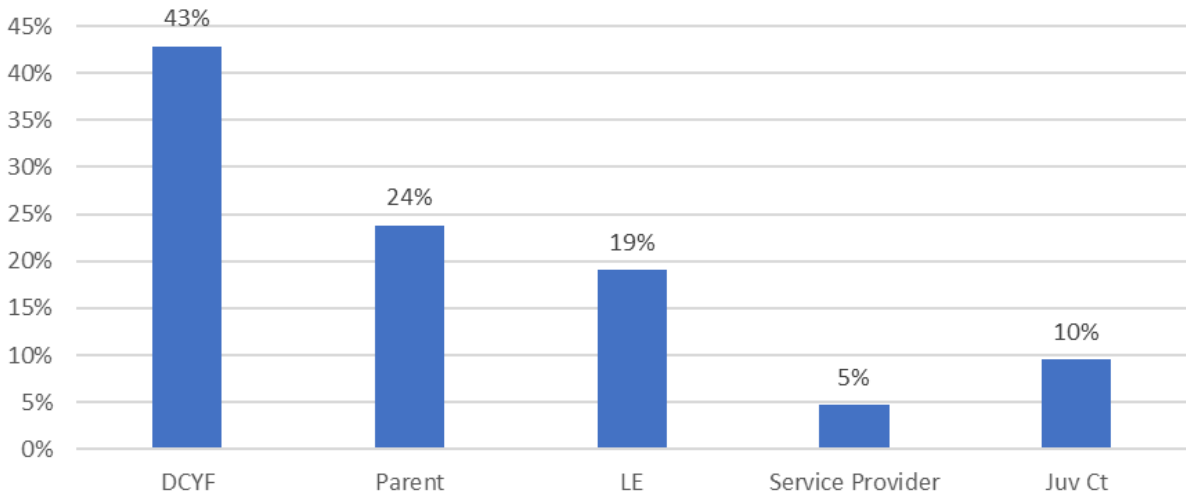
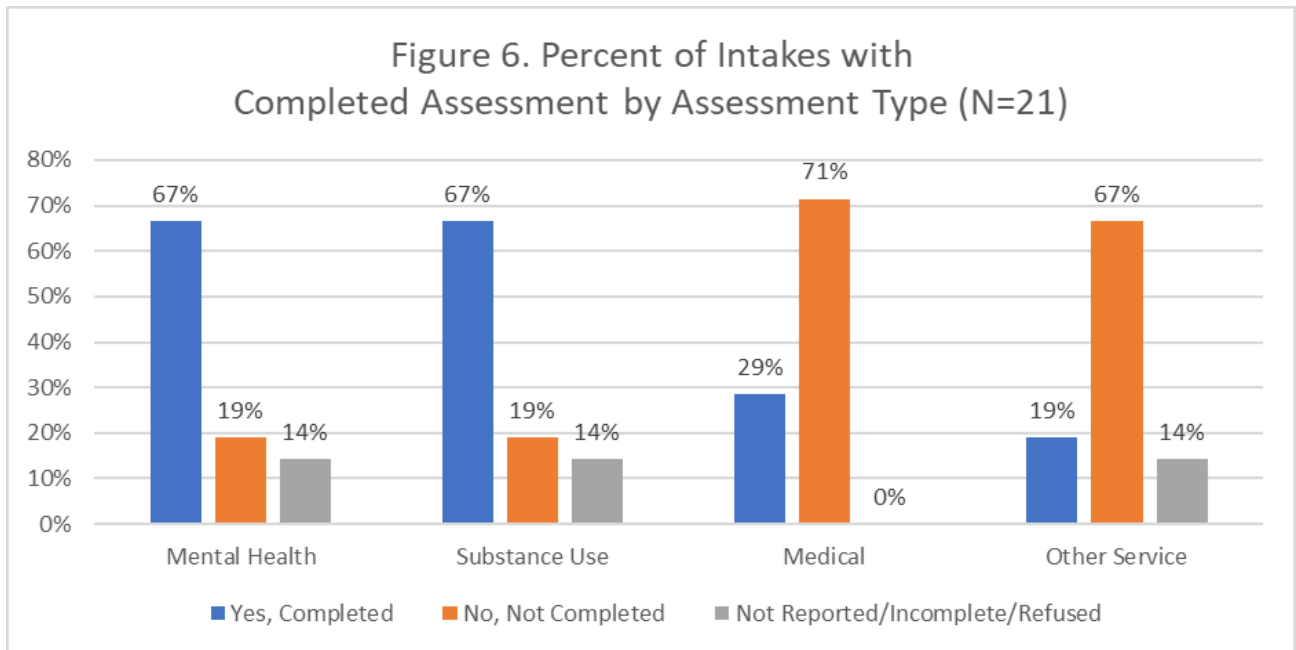
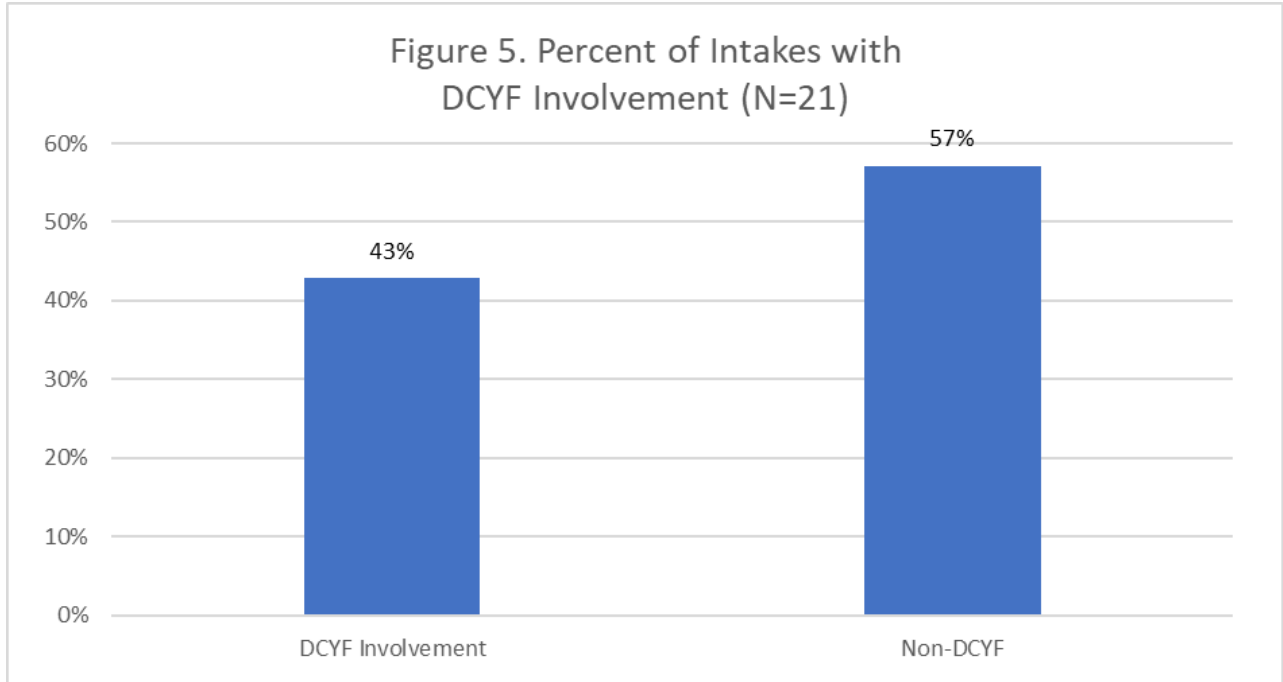


Figure 4. Percent of Intakes by Referral Source (N=21)



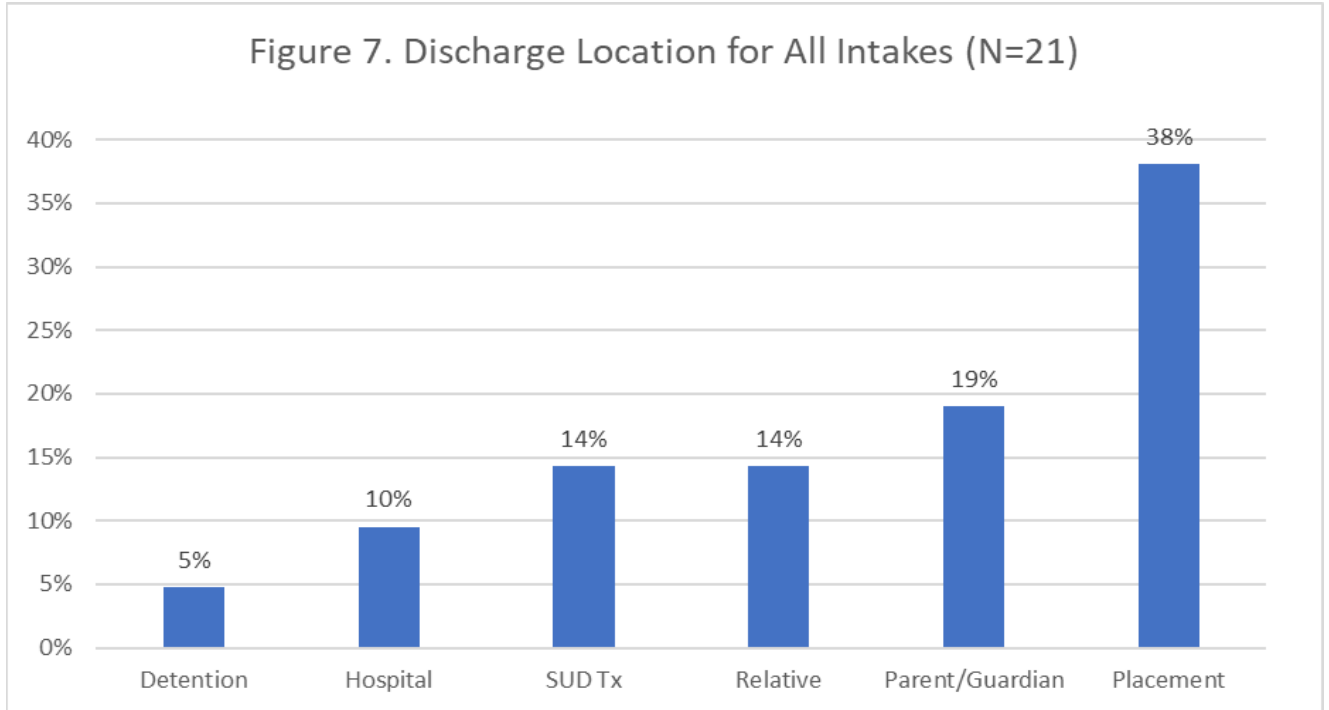
Original Date: Jan. 08, 2024 | Revised Date: Feb. 21, 2024

Division: Partnership, Prevention & Services | Approved for dist. by Vickie Ybarra, Asst. Sec



Original Date: Jan. 08, 2024 | Revised Date: Feb. 21, 2024

Division: Partnership, Prevention & Services | Approved for dist. by Vickie Ybarra, Asst. Sec



2023 Updates from the DCYF Missing & Exploited Youth Program

- The DCYF Missing and Exploited Youth (MEY) program manager and MEY liaisons actively engaged with various community stakeholders throughout Washington, including local branches of law enforcement, State Patrol, FBI, Homeland Security, Military programs, County Prosecutor's Offices, Tribal entities, and community agencies that fostered impactful collaborations through a trauma-informed approach in support of commercially sexually exploited children and youth. In 2023, program staff participated in numerous Regional CSEC Task Forces, Child Advocacy Center Multidisciplinary Team Meetings, and various community-based working groups.
- Within DCYF, the Missing and Exploited Youth program assisted in staffing numerous complex cases, connected with community service providers, provided resources and gave educational presentations related to effective understanding, identification, and screening of sexually exploited children.

Original Date: Jan. 08, 2024 | Revised Date: Feb. 21, 2024

Division: Partnership, Prevention & Services | Approved for dist. by Vickie Ybarra, Asst. Sec

- In 2023, the DCYF Missing and Exploited Youth Program Manager had the opportunity to join the National Child Welfare Human Trafficking Collaborative to strengthen understanding of other state child welfare entities' Safe Harbor implementation, policies, and introduction of labor trafficking investigations.

Conclusion

The CSEC receiving center program at Daybreak was short-lived due to external concerns with the organization, leading to its closure and a smaller number of youths served than had been anticipated. Many of the youth who were referred to Daybreak were from out of the region, making it apparent that service needs exist on the west side of Washington as well as the east.

The majority of youth impacted and referred for services were BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and People of Color).

The vision of Receiving Centers outlined in HB 1775 created an opportunity to innovate by providing short-term intervention and assessment of needs for youth who have been impacted by exploitation and trafficking in a behavioral health setting. There were unprecedented challenges related to the timing of the passage of HB 1775 and subsequent shifts in the provider field that have, to this point, been a barrier.

While challenges with CSEC Receiving Center implementation have continued, the DCYF Missing and Exploited Youth liaisons have successfully connected community service providers, law enforcement, and DCYF in collaborative efforts to improve awareness, service delivery, and resource sharing throughout Washington State.