

STRENGTHENING FAMILIES LOCALLY

Supporting community-driven solutions to reduce child maltreatment

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Family Support Programs Division | Approved for distribution by Laura Alfani, Administrator

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Washington State Department of
CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES

What Is Strengthening Families Locally?



Strengthening Families Locally aims to **increase family resilience** and **reduce rates of child maltreatment** and **entry into foster-care** in target communities.

DCYF will **partner** with community organizations, government, tribes, schools, families, volunteers, and others in local communities to achieve these outcomes.

Funded by the Administration for Children and Families, this 5-year project started in 2019.

Strengthening Families Locally is located within the **Family Support Programs Division** of DCYF.



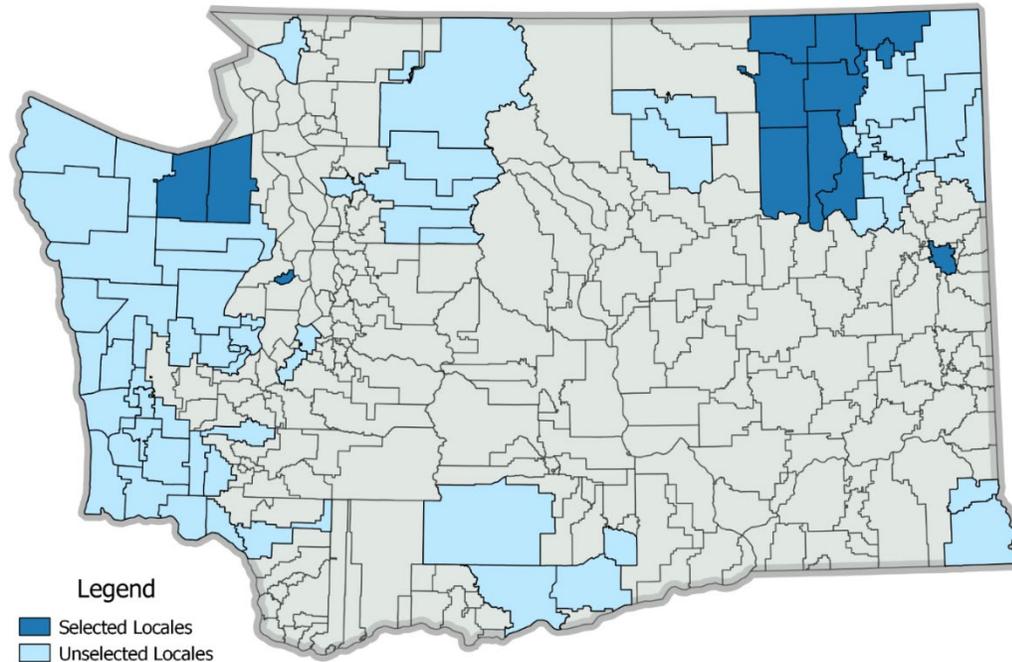
Goals

DCYF seeks to partner with the community in service areas to:

1. Reduce rates of child maltreatment
2. Reduce rates of foster care entry
3. Increase community resilience
4. Develop a replicable community-driven prevention model

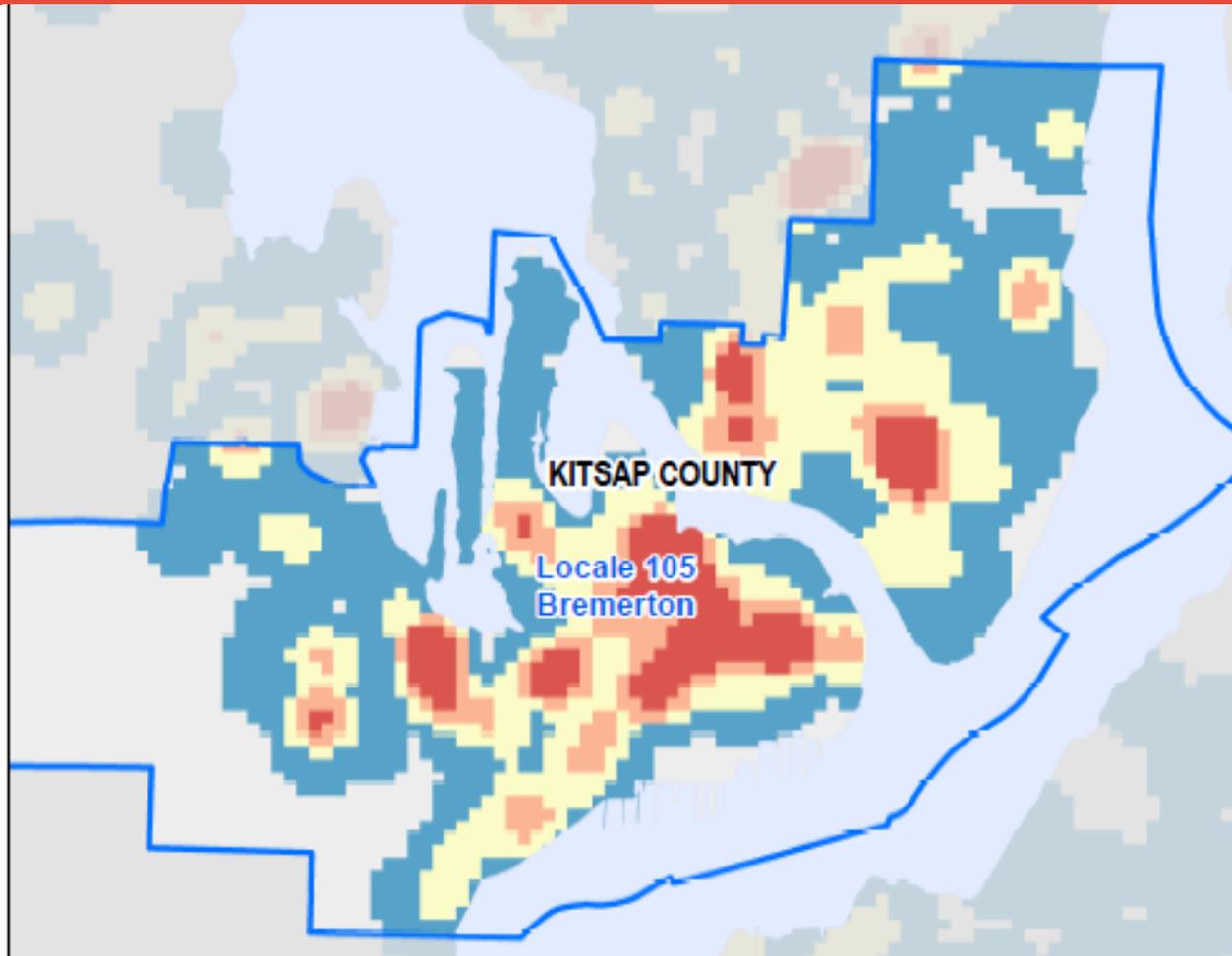


Service Area Selection



- “Locales” that comprise 1 or more school districts; 20,000+ people (DSHS)
- Identified locales with top 20% of child welfare intakes
- Randomly selected 4 locales
- Sites:
 - Bremerton SD
 - Port Angeles/Sequim SDs
 - Spokane SD
 - Stevens Co.

Service Areas - Bremerton



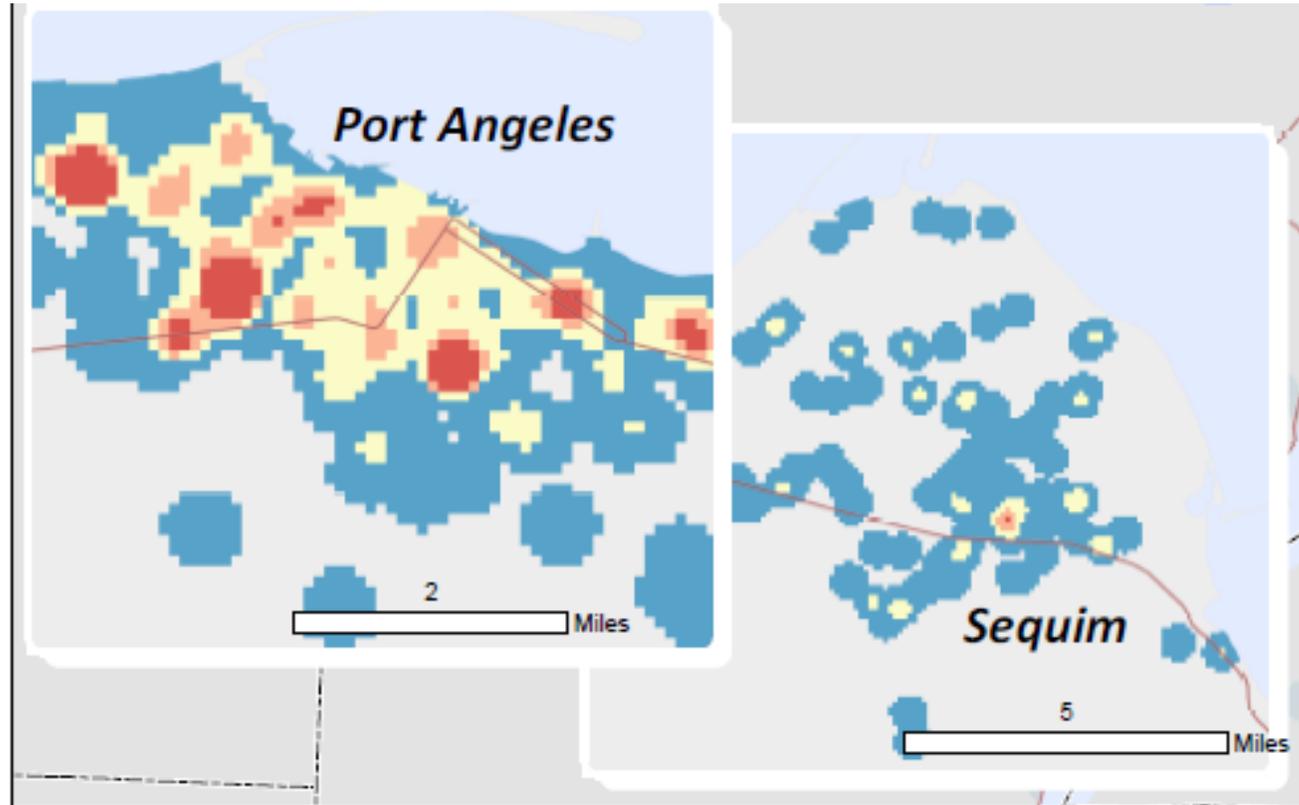
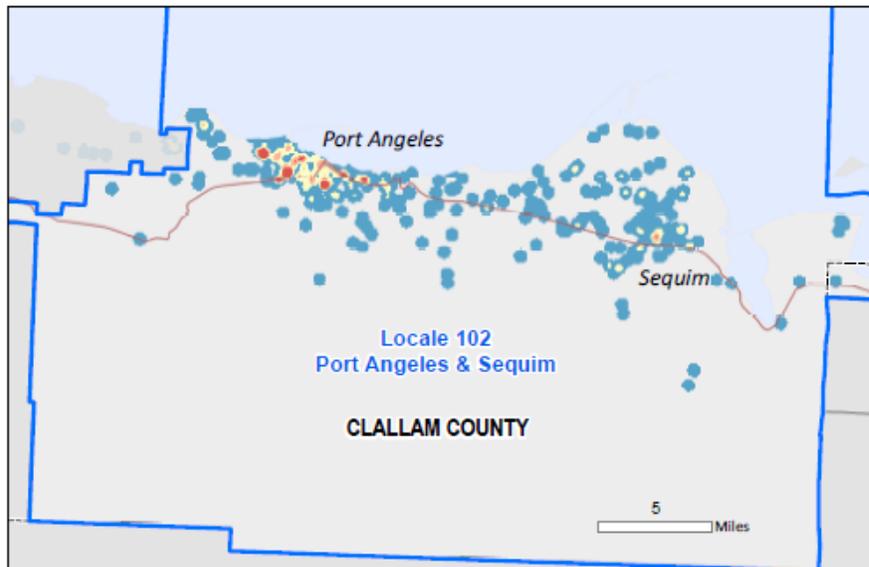
Map Legend

- Locale 102
- Density per Sq. Mi.**
- Low
- Average
- High
- Very High
- Locales
- Counties
- Highways
- Water

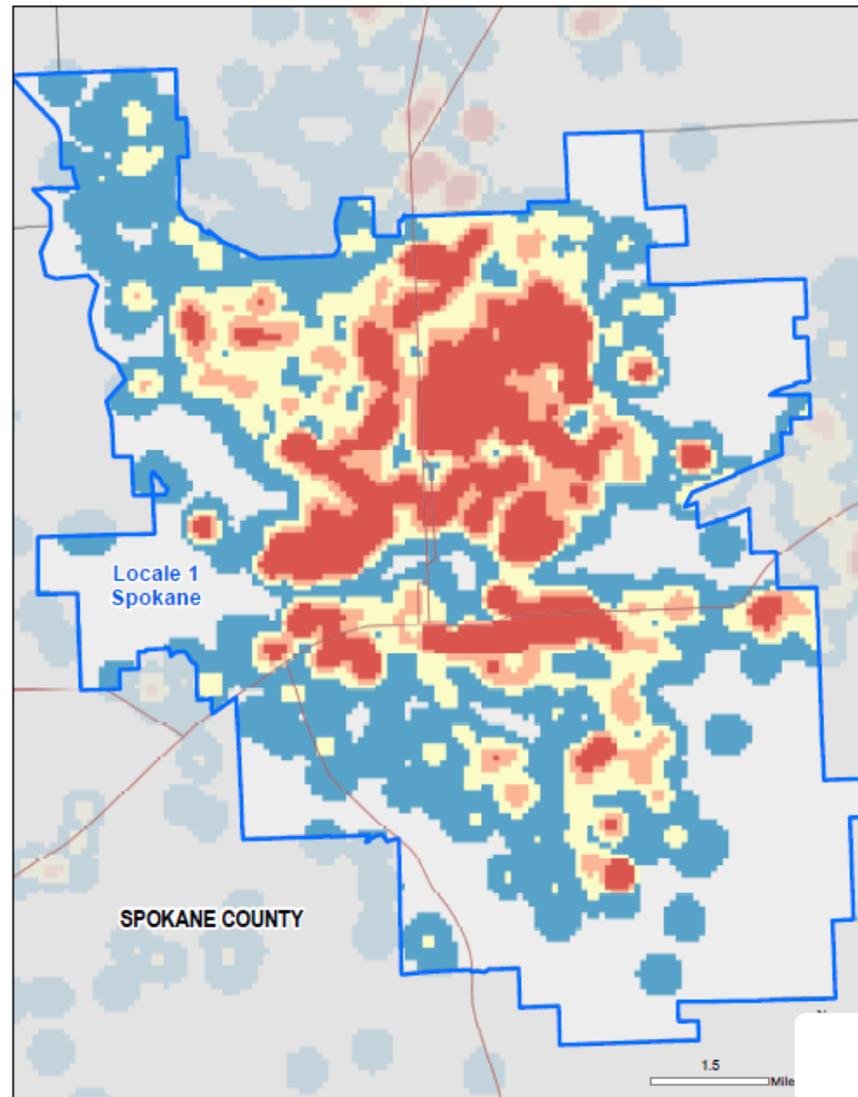
DATA NOTES:
Kernel density per square mile of children in screened-in CPS intakes for SFY'16 and SFY'17 for Washington. Child records have not been de-duplicated: if a child was screened-in more than once during the 2-year period, more than 1 record exists in the data and was mapped. Areas without children may have other residents or be unpopulated.

SOURCES:
Screened-In CPS Intakes: DCYF.
Counties, Roads: US Census Bureau;
Locales: CORE-GIS.
Map created using ArcGIS 10.5.1,
© 2018 Esri.
DATE: 5/15/2018
Rev. 6/4/2019

Service Areas – Port Angeles/Sequim



Service Areas - Spokane

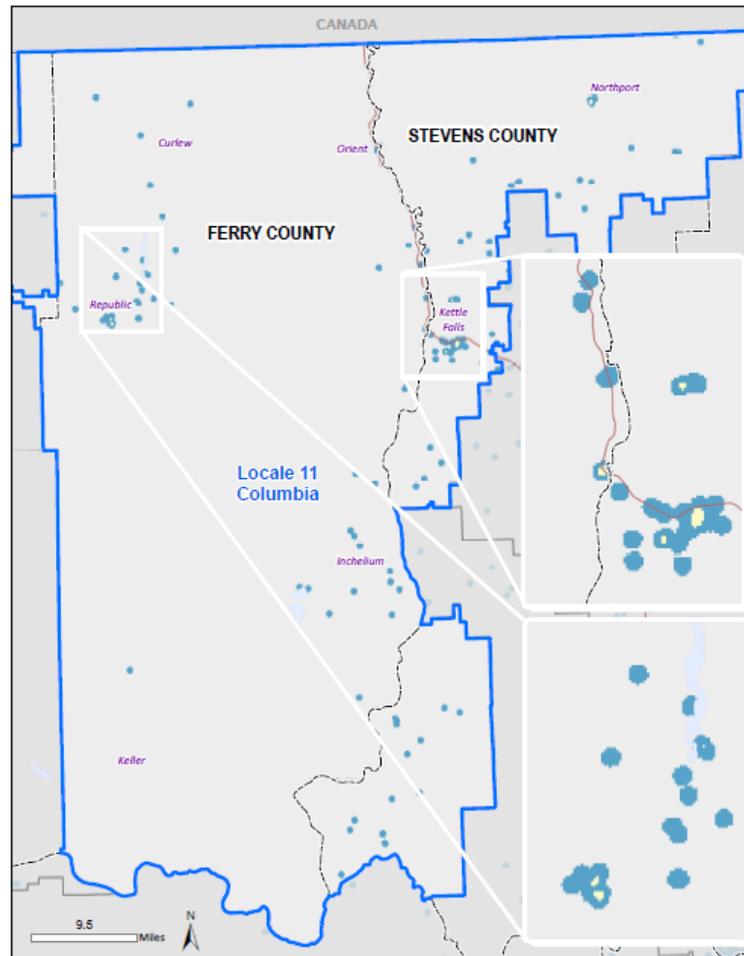
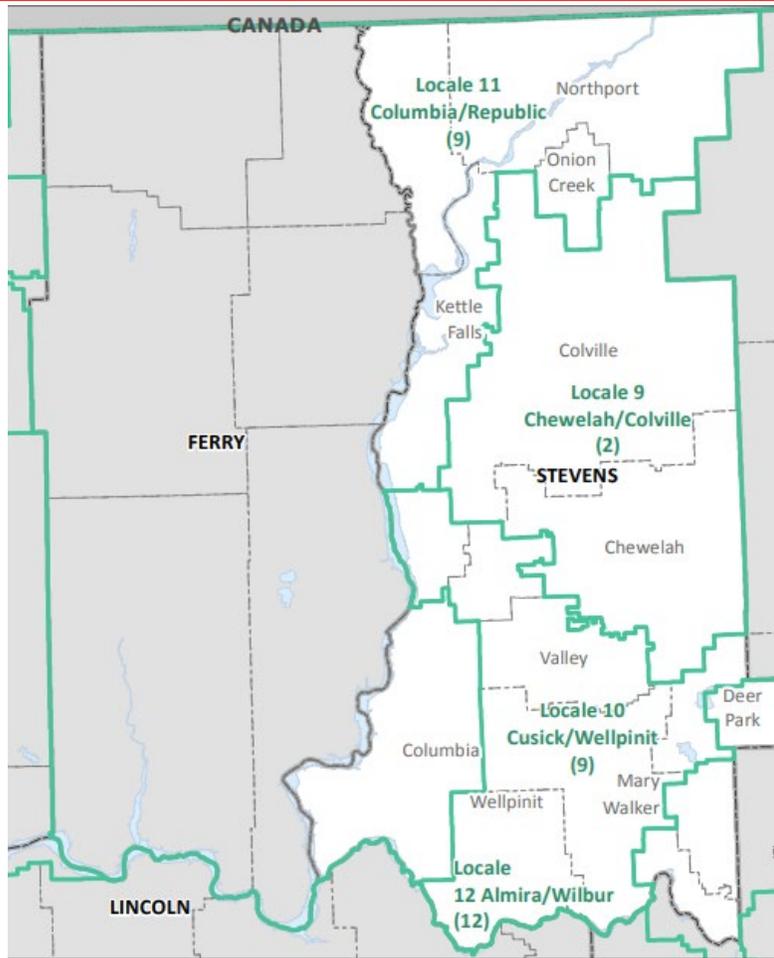


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Service Areas - Stevens

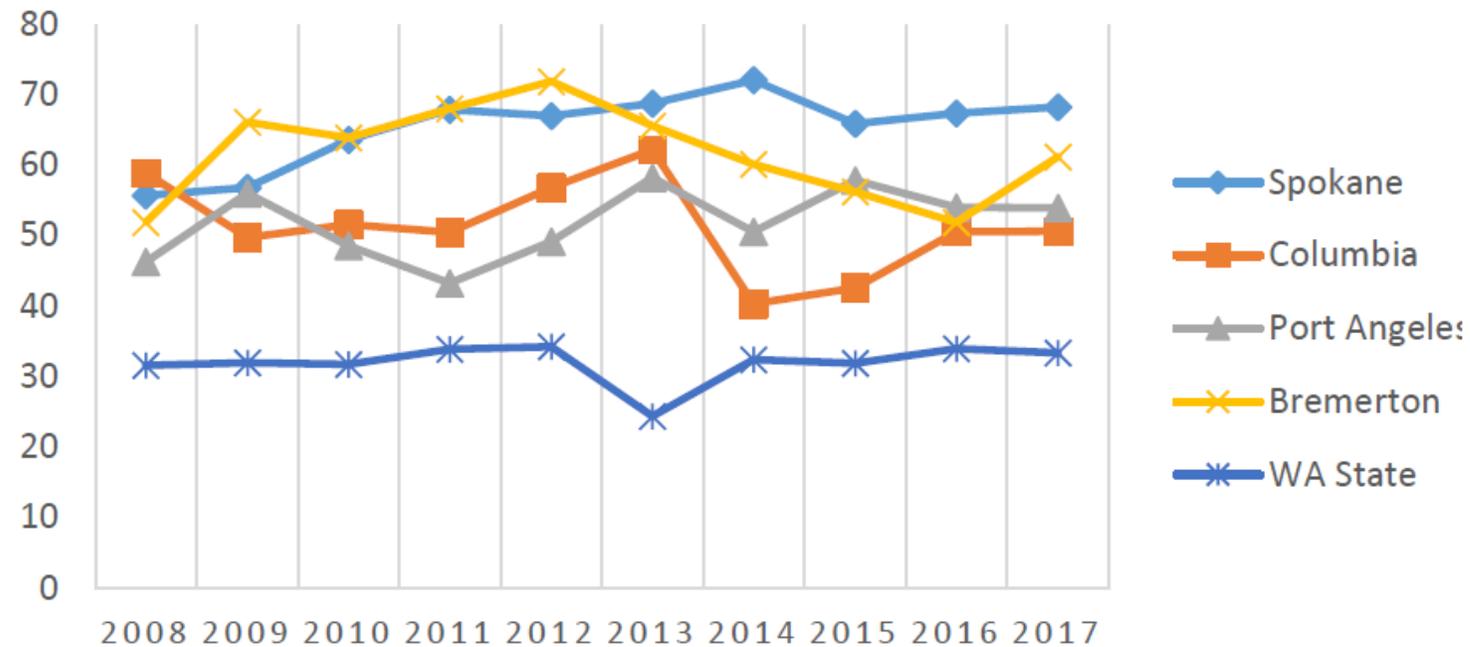


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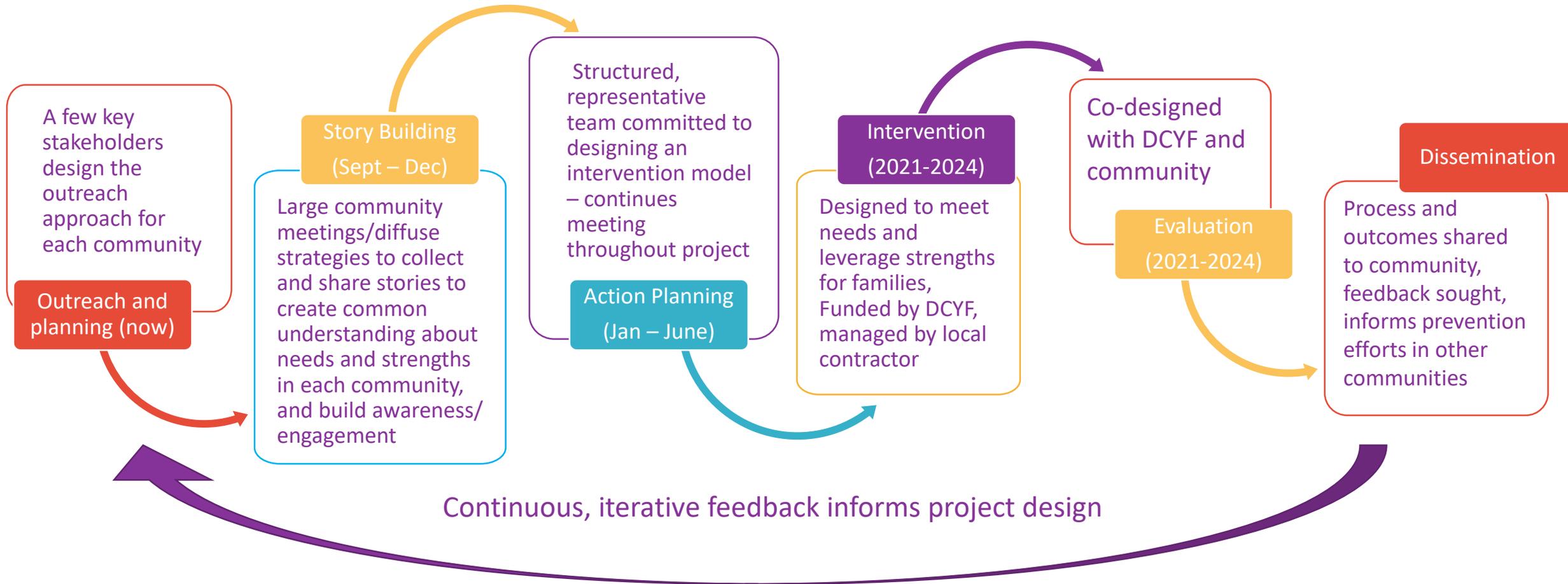
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Target Area for Project Implementation

Figure 1. Rate of Victims of Accepted Referrals, WA State and Selected Locales, 2008-2017



Project Planning Process



6 Core Principles

1. Approaches will be **strengths-based, culturally appropriate, and inclusive**
2. Mobilization will occur at **multiple levels**, including state government, local government, local non-profits, schools, families, volunteers, tribes, faith communities, etc., and will occur through a **variety of means**
3. We will work to develop **trust** and strengthen shared **values**
4. Our work will strengthen **community organizations**
5. Teams will develop a continuum of **information, services, and supports** to strengthen families
6. Communities will **target** interventions for families with **complex and co-occurring** risks



Implications of Covid-19



- Family and community needs are heightened
- Traditional protective systems compromised
- Community meetings: virtual, small-group, phone
- Lasting implications on educational, government, child welfare systems...?



Get Involved

1. Join the planning team
 - Monthly (or more) meetings
 - Review materials between meetings
2. Participate in Story Building
 - Short-term engagement, more details to come
3. Spread the word
 - Let others know about the importance of prevention
 - Outreach materials available



Contact: Dr. Joy Lile | joy.lile@dcyf.wa.gov | 360-688-4956

Discussion



Questions?

What **strengths** does your community have that can help support children and families?

What **challenges** and **barriers** exist in your local systems?



THANK YOU!

Contact: Dr. Joy Lile
joy.lile@dcyf.wa.gov
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