

# FOSTER CARE IN MINNESOTA

## 9,300

children and young adults are in foster care on an average day

### COMMON REASONS KIDS ENTER FOSTER CARE:

- 31% due to parental drug abuse
- 22% due to allegations of neglect
- 10% due to allegations of physical abuse



### DISPROPORTIONALITY IN THE FOSTER CARE SYSTEM

- 30% of foster children are age 3 or younger
- 61% of foster children are living in Greater Minnesota
- Children of color are over-represented compared to the general population
- American-Indian children are 18 times more likely to receive out-of-home care
- African American or black children are 3 times more likely to receive out-of-home care
- Children of two or more races are 6 times more likely to receive out-of-home care

### PLACEMENT OPTIONS FOR CHILDREN

- Emergency foster care when removed from their homes by law enforcement
- Family foster homes, which offer a temporary substitute until children can be safely reunified with their families, placed permanently with relatives or adopted
- Group residential settings, which provide structured, temporary care



#### How children leave foster care in MN:

- 56%** were reunited with their birth parents or legal guardians
- 29%** were adopted or achieved permanency with a relative or other caregiver
- 15%** left foster care without the benefits of a permanent family

#### How children leave foster care at EVOLVE:

- 49%** were reunited with their birth parents or legal guardians
- 36%** went to another relative or non-relative foster home
- 15%** achieved permanency through adoption or transfer of legal custody

*All data collected from the Minnesota Department of Human Services in 2019*