

# Parents as Teachers (PAT) Affiliate Survey Highlights

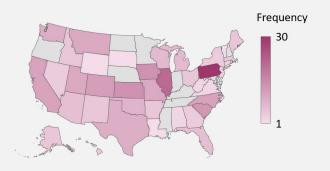


## **SURVEY OVERVIEW**



TIER partnered with PAT National Center (PATNC) to administer a survey to PAT affiliates across the country to learn how PAT supports families who are involved with child protective services (CPS)

**311** respondents from **40** states completed the online survey



### PREVALENCE OF CPS INVOLVEMENT





**88%** of respondents reported their affiliate worked with families experiencing custody disruptions

Respondents estimated that, of families enrolled in program year 2021:

22% were involved with CPS



~ 1 of 5 families



experienced custody disruptions



~ 1 of 6 families

## UNDERSTANDING OF PATNC GUIDANCE ON WHETHER PARENT-ONLY VISTS ARE "ALLOWED"

Fewer than half of respondents—46.9%—understood that PAT visits may take place without the child present if the family is experiencing custody disruptions and the goal is reunification

## **Top 5 challenges**

PAT staff experience when supporting families involved with CPS

Requirement—what "counts" as a personal visit

71.6%

Insufficient curriculum & resources for parents with custody disruptions 70.5%

Requirement—assessment/screening schedules

66.9%

Uncertainty about documentation of parent-only visits, reunification plans, etc. in the data system

62.9%

Requirement—all 3 areas of emphasis be covered at each visit

62.5%

## FAMILIES FIND VALUE IN PAT SUPPORT BEYOND A CPS REQUIREMENT

Nearly three-fifths of respondents—58.3% estimated that all of the families at their affiliate, continued PAT services upon regaining custody



#### NATURE OF THE PAT-CPS RELATIONSHIP: IT'S COMPLICATED



"CPS often refers families to us. They understand how PAT can help increase the protective factors that keep children safe and healthy."

"Our relationship with CPS varies according to the worker. There are some CPS workers that communicate well... There are those who operate in an opposite way..."





"It's hard to trust an agency that oftentimes simply creates more stress and more benchmarks for families who are already struggling to meet their own basic needs."

## **Top 3 challenges**

PAT staff experience when working with CPS

66.1%

62.3%

56.0%







High turnover rates among CPS staff

CPS staff are overstretched, leaving limited time for collaboration

Fear parents will associate PAT with CPS, harming the PAT- parent