

HomeFirst

Client Demographics 7/1/05 – 1/31/06

# of Families:	74	# of children 0-5:	109
Gender			
Female: 56		Male: 53	
Child Information			
Age			
Under 1			14
1			21
2			24
3			12
4			21
5			17
Ethnicity			
Native American			2
Black			2
Hispanic			53
White			43
Bi-racial			9
Parent/Caregiver Information			
Marital Status			
Married			41
Single			25
Divorced/Separated			8
Housing			
Own			7
Rent			54
Transitional			9
Homeless			4
Education			
Less than HS			32
HS or GED			26
Some college			15
4 yr degree/higher			1



HomeFirst Participant Survey

1. The services provided respected my language, beliefs and cultural values.
 strongly agree agree disagree strongly
2. I was treated professionally by all staff.
 strongly agree agree disagree strongly disagree
3. My primary transportation is:
 My car A bus I walk

4(a) Has your home visitor provided activities that promote your child/children's healthy development? If yes, please explain what has been most helpful or enjoyable.

(b) Do you feel you have the skills to continue these activities even after you are no longer in the HomeFirst program? If yes, please explain or give examples of activities you will continue.

5. Has HomeFirst supported you in becoming more confident in your parenting knowledge? If yes, please explain.

6. How have you shared parenting knowledge you have learned in HomeFirst with other parents? What information have you shared? Who have you shared it with (family, friends, etc.)?

7. Are you interested in participating in a monthly parent group at the Family Resource Center? If yes, what type of parent group do you want? (support group, play group, parent leadership class)

HomeFirst Participant Survey

1. The services provided respected my language, beliefs and cultural values.

strongly agree agree disagree strongly disagree

2. I was treated professionally by all staff.

strongly agree agree disagree strongly disagree

3. My primary transportation is:

My car A bus I walk Mom's car

* Two participants marked both *A bus* and *I walk*

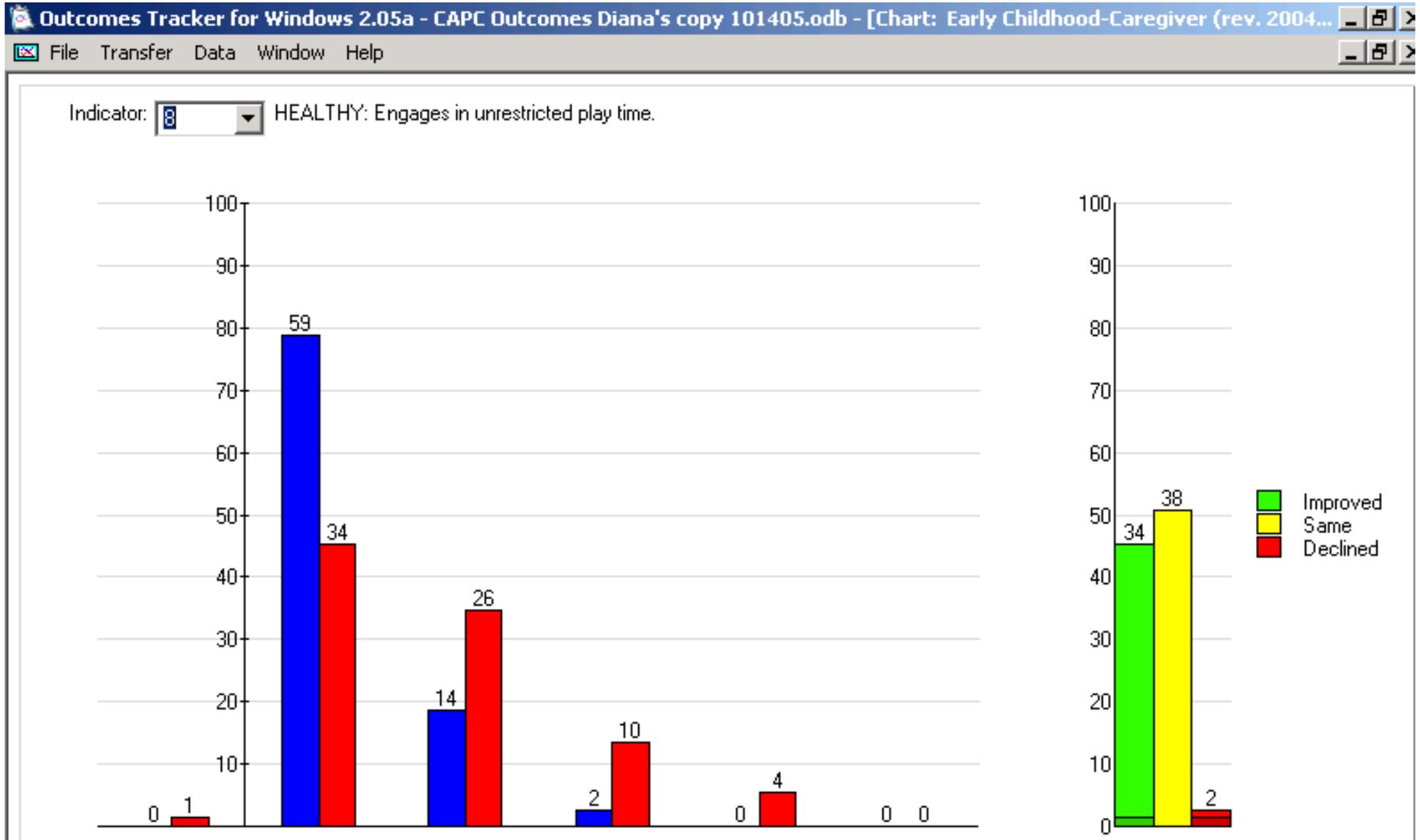
Reasons Families Left the HomeFirst Program

Families Closing Cases 7/1/05 – 1/31/05

	July-Sept	Oct-Jan	Total
Achieved Goals	1	1	2
Moved from Area	3	1	4
Client Request	2	2	4
Lack of Client Contact	2	5	7
Entered Alternate Program	1	1	1
Total	9	9	18

Outcome #8

Engages in unrestricted play time





The mother of this baby worried about placing her child on the floor to play because she feared the baby will pick up germs and become sick. The home visitor explained to the mom the value of floortime, and mom now allows unrestricted play time on the floor.



This dad is allowing his children to take the lead in play. He is supporting them by being a participant in the stories they are acting out.

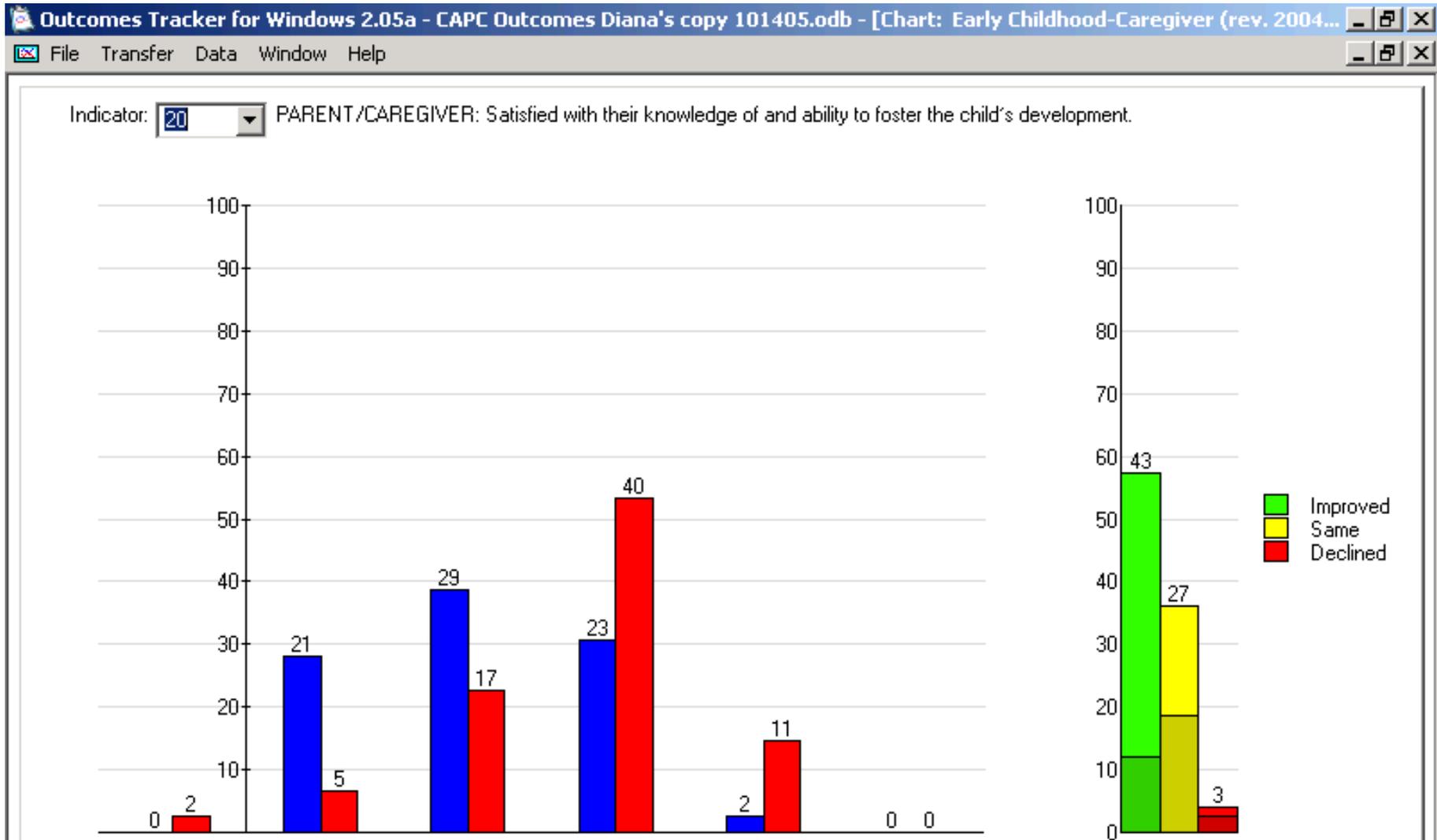
97% of children are above the True Line.

45% of children showing improvement during their participation in HomeFirst.

Despite these improvements, 2 children remain below the True Line.

Outcome #20

Parent satisfied with their knowledge of and ability to foster the child's development





The home visitor on the left is supporting this mother in understanding how to enhance her infant's cognitive development. In this game, the mother is learning how to give her daughter opportunities to track objects, followed by a chance to explore them with her hands and mouth. By explaining how this simple game correlates to brain development, the mother can develop additional learning activities on her own to foster the child's development.

67% of parents above True Line.

57% of parents showing improvement during participation in HomeFirst program.

Despite these improvements, 25 remain below True Line. In addition, many have experienced decline.

*Review responses to question #6 of Parent Survey

Parent Quote

“HomeFirst teaches you many things. Sometimes as parents we don’t know how to do it. After the home visit we feel more confident and we have more confidence taking care of our children and sharing with other parents.”

Reasons for 2s, 3s, and declines

(1) The reason many families are engaging in HomeFirst is they are seeking additional information and support regarding how foster their children's development. However, responses on parent survey indicate parents are gaining confidence and knowledge in this area.

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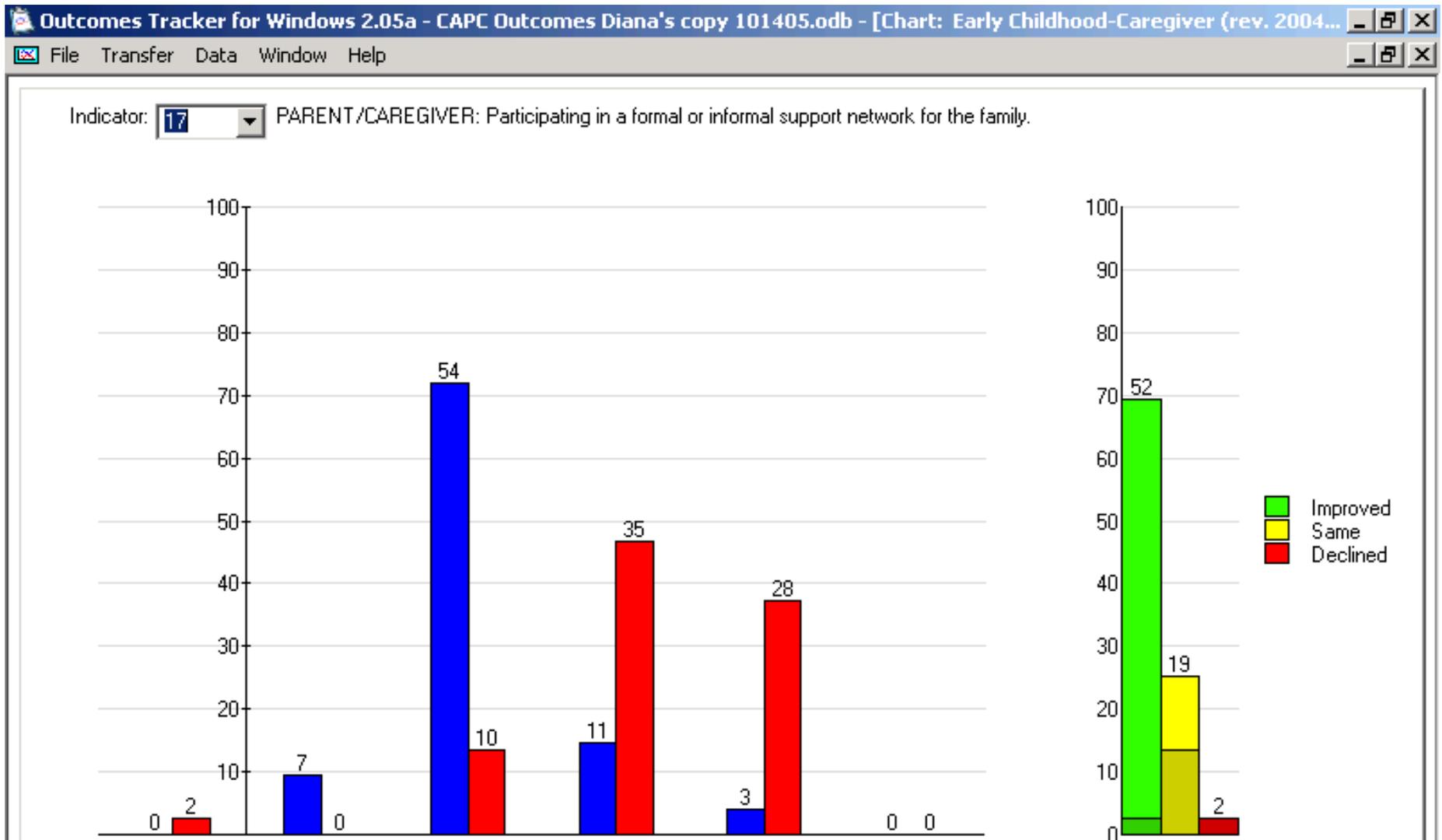
(2) Even when parent starts to feel more confident, their children enter a new developmental stage or show new behaviors that are challenge to a parent.

(3) A large portion of are mothers lack self confidence due to their own experience with emotional abuse, growing up in homes with drugs and/or domestic violence.

(4) Several parents have obtaining physical custody of an additional child during their participation in HomeFirst. It is not uncommon for the challenges of parenting a child recently released from foster care to stress a parent's confidence.

Outcome #17

Parent participating in a formal or informal support network for the family





These women are chatting during an FRC parent/child play group. Play groups are structured to give parents an hour to socialize and build an informal parent support network.

81% of children above True Line.

69% of children showing improvement during their participation in HomeFirst.

Despite these improvements, 14 children remain below True Line.

Explanation for Low Scores

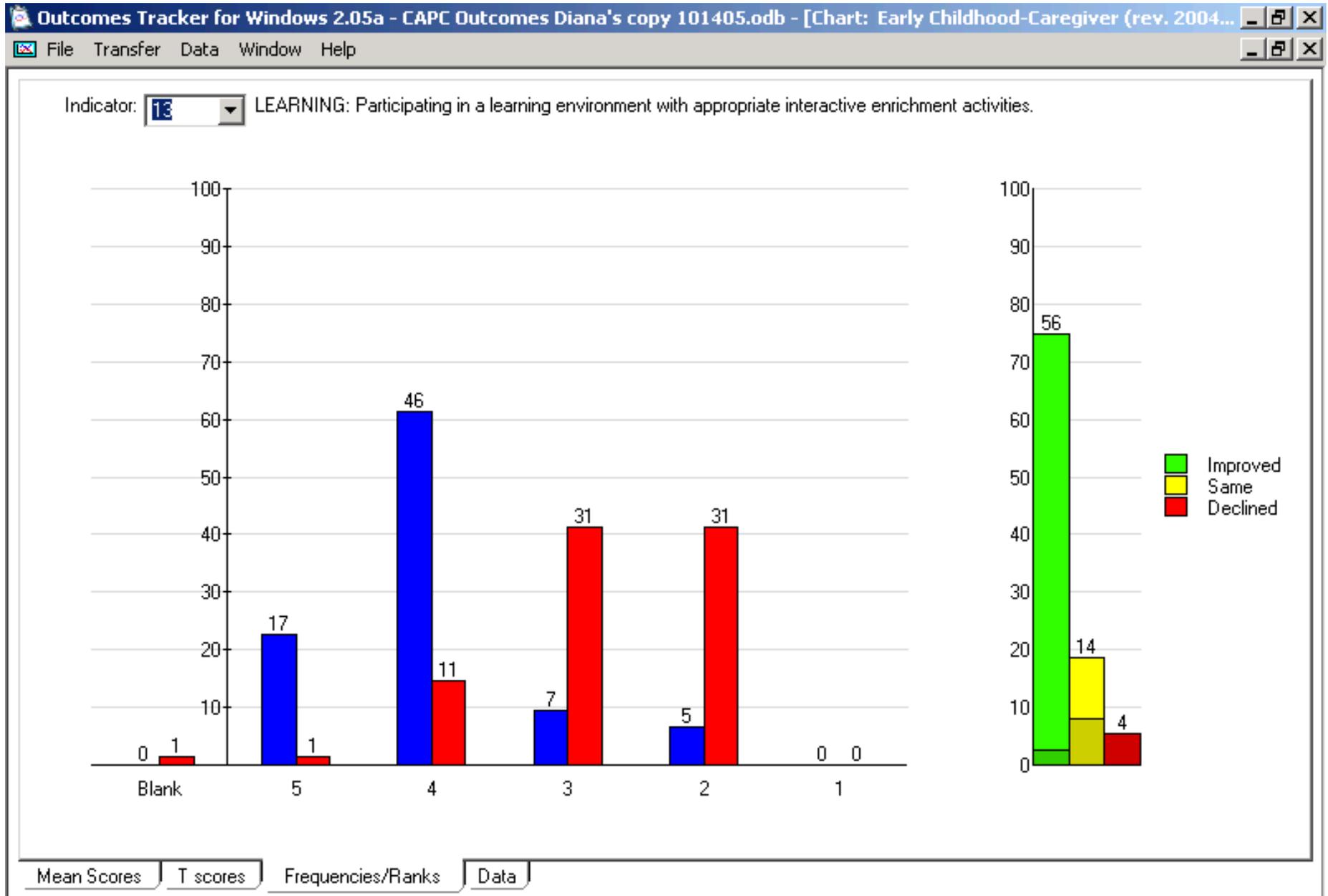
- Many HomeFirst families are Spanish speakers who are new to the community, and have not yet developed a support network. These families are linked to the Hispanic Support Groups at the Auburn and Roseville Family Resource Center.
- Families sometimes close before developing a formal or informal support network.
- Lack of consistency in home visits due to instability in homelife. This is common in homes with domestic violence
- Example: Mother who closed with HomeFirst without reaching this outcome because father concerned that homevisitor was "watching" and judging family. This was a father who was controlling, emotionally abusive, and possibly physically abusive.

** Add success story from FIND

** Add Gina's parent quote from LPP

Outcome #13

Participating in a learning environment with appropriate interactive enrichment activities





This mother receives a new *Raiser a Reader* bag from her home visitor each month. The home visitor is teaching the mother how to use reading time as an opportunity to engage her sons and increase their early literacy skills.



The home visitor on the left is supporting this mother in understanding the value of providing interactive enrichment activities for her 10 month old.

The older child on the right is a graduate of the HomeFirst program.

HomeFirst Participant Survey, con't

4(a). Has your home visitor provided activities that promote your child/children's healthy development? If yes, please explain what has been most helpful or enjoyable.

Activities/Referrals that enhance child's development

5

"Yes. She always brings fun puzzles that my 3 year old love working with. Both my boys get excited when they see her pull up."

"Yes. The program has helped my family and me. My home visitor referred my daughter to Alta for speech therapy."

"Yes, you always bring things and he remembers them beads."

Increased parent's knowledge of child development

3

"Yes, what they help me with good was to help Emily's development. Also, they help me know what to expect."

"Yes, different stage of development ages"

General positive responses about program

3

"Yes. She always brings fun puzzles that my 3 year old love working with. Both my boys get excited when they see her pull up."

"Yes. The program has helped my family and me. My home visitor referred my daughter to Alta for speech therapy."

Improved parent-child interactions

2

"Absolutely. Interactive play with my boys, reading, and the activities I've learned to help develop my son's fine motor skills. Also parenting skills."

"Yes, to play with my children and also to know which objects can be dangerous like hot things."

HomeFirst Participant Survey, con't

4(b). Do you feel you have the skills to continue these activities even after you are no longer in the HomeFirst program? If yes, please explain or give examples of activities you will continue.

Yes

9

“Absolutely, I have learned so much from this program for interactive play/Lead Play. The importance of reading, patience, etc.”

“I do because she has shown me how to go back and forth with the boys in an easier manner than I did before.”

“Yes. Paper bag puppets, painting, puzzles, reading and other projects and games.”

Yes, but request additional support

3

“Yes, but I'd like that they continue with home visits. It helps me a lot.”

“Yes I think so but I know that I need help I can always – Puzzels, games, one on one Action – quiet time.”

No

1

“No, not yet.”

HomeFirst Success Story

Maria* entered HomeFirst when she was five months pregnant with her sixth child and had three little ones under the age of 5. Maria was feeling overwhelmed and depressed because she had to leave her apartment in another city to come stay with her brother whom she didn't get along with.

Maria had received no prenatal care and was having difficulty bonding with her unborn child. She had considered getting an abortion or giving the baby up for adoption. Her other children were behind on their immunization and well baby exams. They also needed dental care.

Maria began HomeFirst services with weekly visits. The home visitor linked Maria to an OB-GYN for prenatal care. During visits, the home visitor brought Maria information about how the unborn baby was growing and accompanied her to an ultrasound appointment. After this appointment, Maria began enjoying the baby's kicks, and eventually Maria started bonding with the baby and decided to keep her.

The home visitor assisted Maria in obtaining a pediatrician for her children and mom was successful in slowly getting her children caught up on their immunizations and dental care. Maria also moved into an apartment. Her stress level decreased because she was no longer living with family members.

It took a few visits and modeling from the home visitor to encourage Maria to get down on the floor and play with her children, but she now sees the benefits of having a few minutes a day of quality time with each of her children. Maria expresses that she loves to play, draw and color with her children.

*Name changed due to confidentiality

HomeFirst Success Story

Mandy* is a 30 year old woman with developmental delays. She has a 4 ½ year old son named Jacob enrolled in Head Start. Mandy first joined the HomeFirst program in 2002 and closed in 2004. She called in October 2005 to resume home visitation to gain support in teaching her son to listen.

When Mandy's home visitor started working with her, Mandy was withdrawn and did not actively participate in the visits. Mandy normally sat on the couch and communicated that she wanted the home visitor to "fix" her son Jacob. When Mandy did interact with Jacob, it was to reprimand him in a strict manner. As the home visitor started encouraging Mandy to play with Jacob, she noted that Mandy used a flat tone of voice, and rarely praised Jacob. Jacob's response to his mother's harsh communication style was to act agitated, hyperactive, and show difficulty in focusing.

In the past three months Mandy's home visitor has been modeling how to use voice inflection and play with Jacob. The home visitor is teaching Mandy how to watch for times when Jacob completes requested tasks, and how to praise him. Together, they are also working on increasing consistency in Mandy's parenting, and how to use timeouts more effectively.

In recent visits Mandy has joined the home visitor in playing with Jacob on the floor, and has begun using a lot of inflection in her voice when interacting with Jacob. Mandy is also praising Jacob for his successes and thanking him for following through with her requests.

In addition to working with Mandy and Jacob, the home visitor is meeting with Family Advocates from Head Start to ensure that Mandy is receiving consistent, thorough support from the professionals serving her. A January ASQ showed Jacob's development to be within the target range.

*Names changed due to confidentiality

HomeFirst Participant Survey, con't

7. Are you interested in participating in a monthly parent group at the Family Resource Center? If yes, what type of parent group do you want? (support group, play group, parent leadership class)

Yes = 8

- 2 Yes
- 5 Yes, the play group
- 1 All the above when transportation permits

No = 4

- 3 No
- 1 No, I don't have transportation

Other = 1

- 1 In the future

HomeFirst Participant Survey, con't

6. How have you shared parenting knowledge you have learned in HomeFirst with other parents? What information have you shared? Who have you shared it with (family, friends, etc)?

Yes, examples of knowledge shared

6

“With things I have learned in the program such as how to understand my daughter and to be patient.”

“How to be with children.”

“I have told everyone with babies that I know how to potty train them very quickly when their time comes.”

Yes, shared with family and/or friends

5

“I have shared some of the knowledge with my sister that has a 7m old baby.”

“I’ve shared with friends and family.”

“My peers at New Leaf. I also shared my FIND experience with my peers.”

No

2

“No, I haven’t share with anybody. But the program helps me a lot.”

“No.”

HomeFirst Participant Survey, con't

5. Has HomeFirst supported you in becoming more confident in your parenting knowledge? If yes, please explain.

Yes, increased skill/confidence in general parenting

6

"Yes, I know that I am making a positive impact on my children."

"Yes, I feel more confident as a mother. The program has helped me."

"It has given me the skills to raise my son."

"Yes, they help me know I am doing the right things."

Yes, in general

5

"Yes, I've learned a lot with my home visitor."

"Yes, I'm learning a lot."

Yes, increased skill in interacting with child

2

"Yes. I am more patient and can sit down with my daughters to play and talk with them."

"Absolutely with technique. The 4 Rules – Safety, Respect for Self, Others, and Property. Counting to 3 and giving my sons options of their consequences."

Little People Play Group Success Story

Tara* is a 22-year-old mother with a 1 ½ -year-old daughter, Lucy. When Tara first came to the Resource Center she had just recently separated from Lucy's father, who was emotionally abusive to her and Lucy. In addition, Tara was grieving over the recent death of a close family member. Because of these turbulent emotional issues, Tara appeared withdrawn and listless and did not seem bonded to Lucy.

Resource Center staff assisted her in developing a plan to attend weekly individual counseling sessions and also to bring Lucy to Little People Play Group once a week.

Tara has been attending counseling and bringing Lucy to Play Group for almost 6 months now, and staff has noticed that she has improved drastically in her interactions with Lucy and other Play Group participants. Tara now engages Lucy in play and they both appear happier and more energetic. Mother and daughter smile and laugh more often now, and mom seems to possess a new, positive outlook on life.

* Names changed due to confidentiality