

BACKGROUND

- 2019-2020 school year only 51% of children in Louisville's Jefferson County Public School (JCPS) District entered school ready for Kindergarten
- Kindergarten readiness in West Louisville in 2019 was 25-30% when compared to 60% in East Louisville
- Preschool has shown to improve emotional knowledge, self regulation, writing, language, ability to follow rules and routines, improved physical and mental health outcomes, and children are more likely to graduate high school

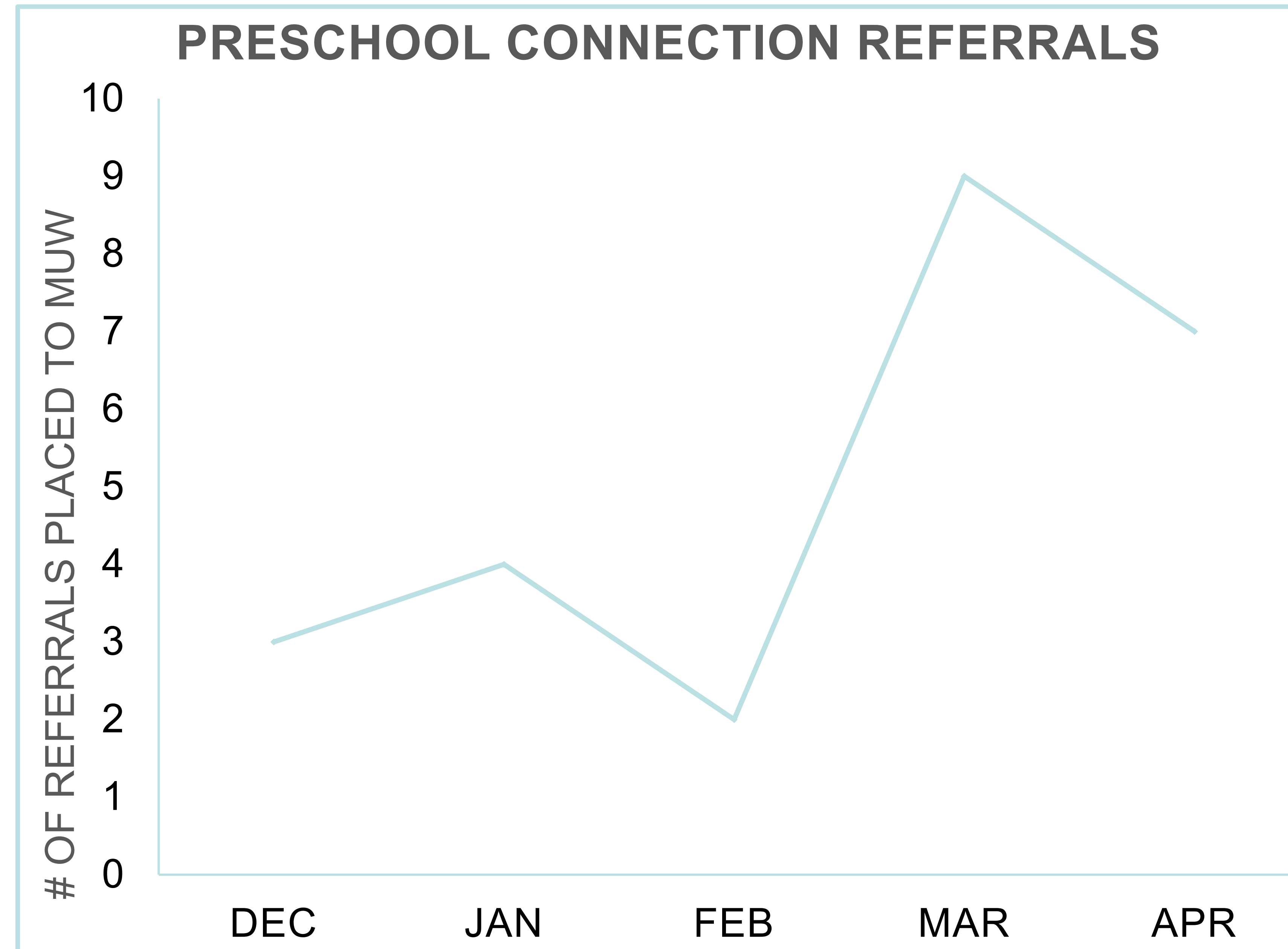
AIMS

1. Create and implement the Navigating Preschool Enrollment Program at NCMG-Novak Clinic through working with broad-based community partners and parent advocate to increase the number of underserved children age 3-5 years old in Louisville enrolled in preschool by 40% at pilot site, by April 2024 and increase engagement with primary care physicians
2. Form a new task force to create program with community partners including JCPS, Head Start, Ohio Valley Education Collaborative, Metro United Way, and Play Cousins Collective
3. Train eight pediatric attendings and two clinical social workers on the Navigating Preschool Enrollment Program and integrate ten residents to clinic workflow at Novak prior to program launch

METHODS

- Single site project at resident-run primary care clinic, serving >6300 children who primarily live in west Louisville and have state funded insurance. Project funded through AAP CATCH Program
- Community meetings with partners, named parent advocate, created preschool worksheets, and referral tool
- Community health workers, clinical social workers, pediatric residents, and attendings trained on the optimal routes for connection to preschool, and available resources in our community
- New referral system put into place through partnership with Metro United Way (MUW).
 - At three- and four-year-old well checkups guardians asked personal knowledge on preschool enrollment and provided with information in form of handouts, available in English and Spanish, and discussion with clinic team.
 - Referral placed if needed to help facilitate enrollment

RESULTS

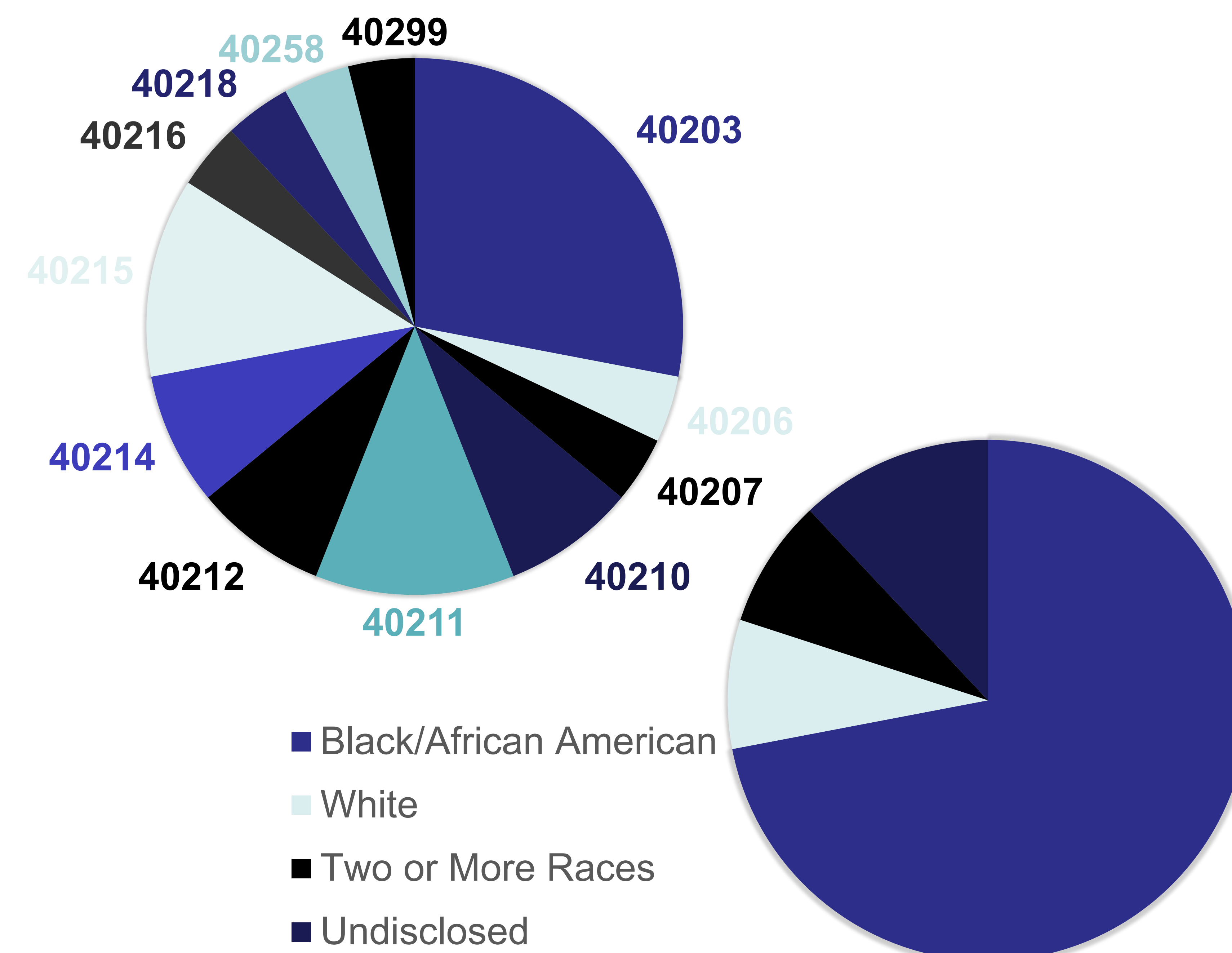
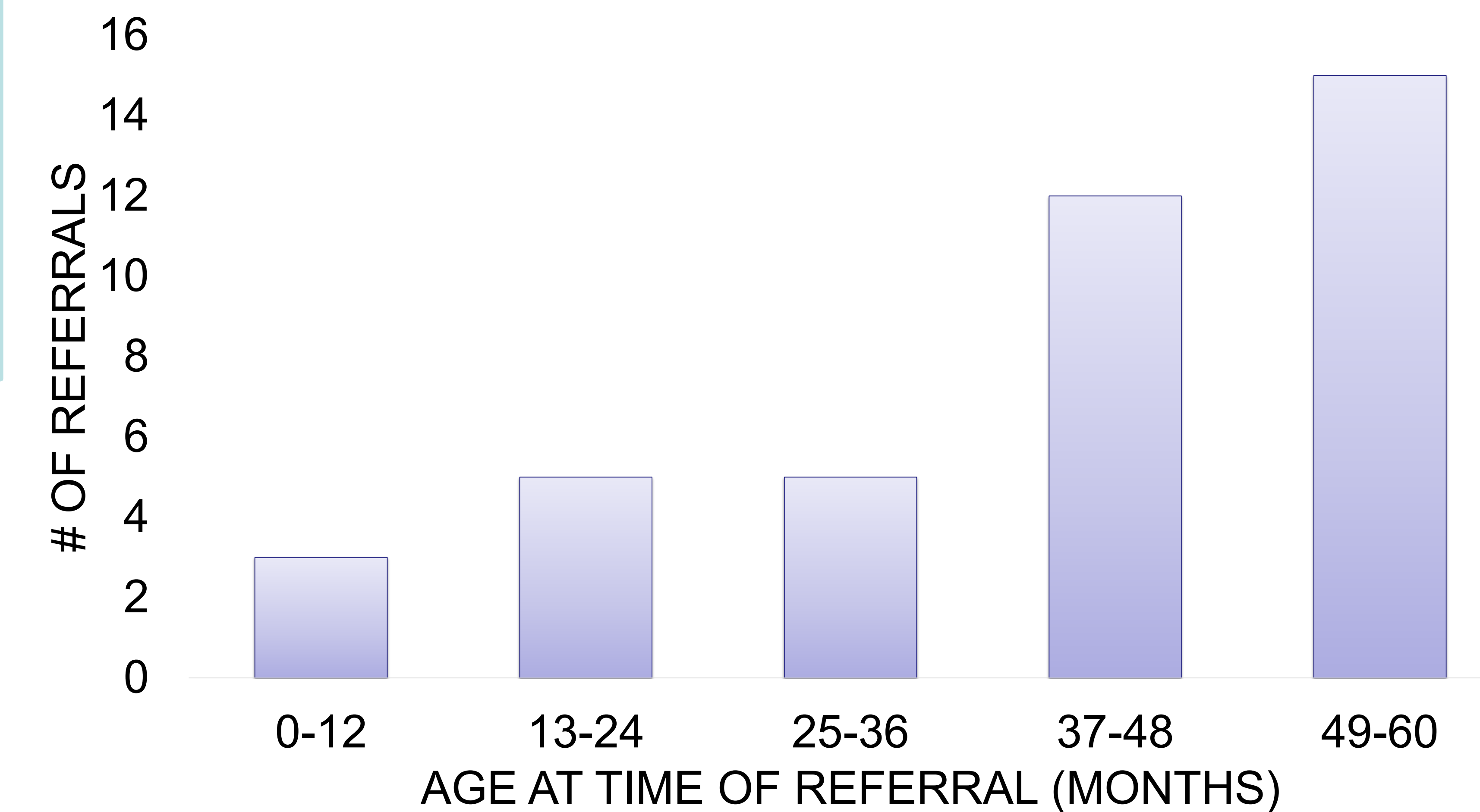


Clinic staff were educated with an oral presentation on preschool that details the basics of qualifications, options available in the community, differences between the options available, and discussed best practices for family interactions and engagement.

Number of staff trained:

- 2 Clinical Social Workers
- 1 Community Health Worker
- 37 Pediatric Residents
- 8 General Pediatrics Attendings

Through the new partnership with MUW, 15 additional referrals were made for other programs. 9 of those children are too young at this time to qualify for preschool but will be enrolled once they reach qualifying age.



CONCLUSION

This program has connected many families to preschool and has increased our conversations around preschool in the clinic setting.

Next steps:

- Expanding to three additional resident clinics
- Continued follow-up with families after the initial connection is established to ensure current and future children referred through this program are enrolled in and start preschool
- Follow children referred for Ages and Stages Program to enroll in preschool when they are appropriate age