

FAMILY FINDINGS

Beyond Translation: Mitigating Negative Impacts of Child Language Brokering

Child language brokering (CLB) occurs when children, teens, and young adults translate and interpret for their parents and guardians in various contexts, such as medical, legal, and educational settings. This makes them **child language brokers (child LBs)**.

KEY FACTS ABOUT CLB

-  Used by many newcomer families in new, unfamiliar settings like Canada
-  Negative effects on child LBs include role strain, academic issues, and distress
-  Positive effects on children include strengthened family relationships and confidence
-  There is little support for child LBs and their families, limiting the positive impacts

PROGRAMMING FOR FAMILIES

To help raise awareness of CLB and lessen its negative effects, we offered:

FAMILY WORKSHOPS

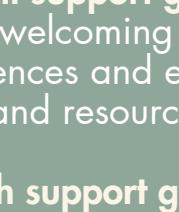


To educate and empower newcomer families about CLB

To provide families with tools to handle CLB challenges effectively

Activities include empathy training, role-playing, developing self-advocacy, and mindfulness practices

PEER SUPPORT GROUPS



Parent support groups:
To provide a welcoming space to share CLB experiences and exchange tips and resources

Youth support groups:
To facilitate a sense of belonging through various activities (summer camps, volunteering)

WORKSHOP ATTENDANCE

94 = **59** + **35**

family members

in the family workshops

in the peer support groups

Attendees completed surveys before and after the workshop to assess their parenting practices (for parents) and social connectedness (for child LBs).

“

The games made this workshop even more fun, and I also felt like my **relationships with my family improved** thanks to this workshop.

– Child LB

“

[The workshop] was useful and informative. I learned a lot [about] myself and my family. I **feel more confident in healthcare and more confident in language brokering**. It was a helpful support for [a] family like mine :)

– Parent

AFTER THE WORKSHOP...

Child LBs who felt connected to their parents ($n = 56$):

96%

Child LBs who felt connected to others in their community ($n = 56$):

86%

Parents who shared a warm, affectionate relationship with their children ($n = 26$):

96%

Parents who noticed and praised their children's good behaviour ($n = 26$):

96%

Family members who were satisfied with Beyond Translation ($n = 82$):

96%