PRACTITIONER 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

PRACTITIONER WORKSHOPS

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

Two types of workshops tailored to **settlement** and **healthcare practitioners**

3-hour sessions that introduce CLB and its impacts on children and families

WORKSHOP ATTENDANCE

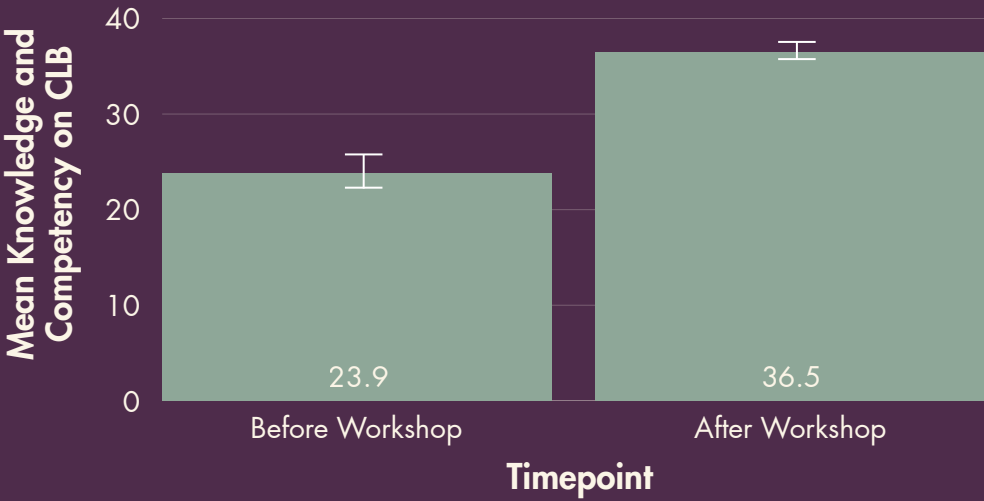**69** practitioners **=** **23** social work students **+** **37** settlement workers **+** **9** healthcare workers

Attendees completed surveys before and after the workshop to assess their knowledge of CLB (e.g., "I am aware of what CLB is") and provide feedback on the session.

Self-reported knowledge and competency of CLB was scored on a scale from 1-40, with higher scores indicating higher knowledge and competency.

Overall, the workshops were successful in increasing practitioners' self-reported knowledge and competency on CLB.

n = 61

Bar chart — Mean Knowledge and Competency on CLB by Timepoint. Before Workshop: 23.9; After Workshop: 36.5.

Note. This graph contains findings from a one-tailed paired sample *t*-test. Error bars = 95% CI. $t(60) = -13.29$, $p < .001$, $d = 7.42$, 95% CI [-2.09, -1.30]

"The [information on] trauma-informed care is very valuable in my role as a nurse. The drawing activity helped me understand… **what it would feel like to be a child LB**.

– Healthcare worker

Practitioners who found Beyond Translation helpful (*n* = 58): 100%

Practitioners who found Beyond Translation easy to access (*n* = 44): 98%

Practitioners who would recommend Beyond Translation (*n* = 59): 97%