# Beyond Translation:
## Mitigating Negative Impacts of Child Language Brokering

**Child language brokering (CLB)** is when children, teens, and young adults help their family members by translating or interpreting language 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 children** 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

**To help raise awareness of CLB and lessen its negative effects, we offered the following programming:**

### Family Workshops
- Educate and empower newcomer families about CLB
- Provide families with the tools and knowledge to handle CLB challenges effectively and prevent its negative effects

### Practitioner Workshops
- Provide tailored, practical information about CLB to settlement and healthcare workers who face CLB situations in their sectors
- Introduce CLB and its impacts on children and families

### Peer Support Groups (Parents & Youth)
- Parent support groups provide a welcoming space to share CLB experiences and exchange tips and resources
- Youth support groups focus on facilitating a sense of belonging through various activities (summer camps, volunteering)

### OUR IMPACT

**163** people in attendance across all programming, including:

- 31 parents
- 63 child LBs* *aged 6 – 23
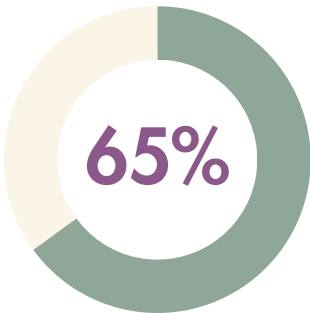- 69 practitioners

## After attending Beyond Translation...

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

**95%** of child LBs felt connected to their parents

**65%** of parents consistently noticed and praised their child LB(s) for good behaviour

### Differences in CLB Competencies Among Practitioners

- Pre-workshop
- Post-workshop



Bar chart — % of Practitioners (y-axis, 0 to 100) vs Competency (x-axis):
- Aware of best practices in supporting child LBs and their families: Pre-workshop 13, Post-workshop 93
- Feeling prepared to address CLB in the future: Pre-workshop 29, Post-workshop 92

Parents and child LBs satisfied with Beyond Translation: **96%**

Practitioners that would recommend Beyond Translation: **97%**

*"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."*