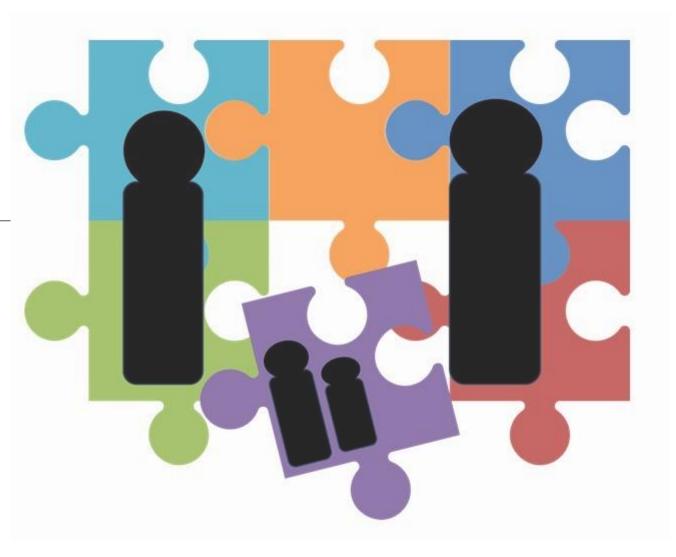
## Safe Spaces

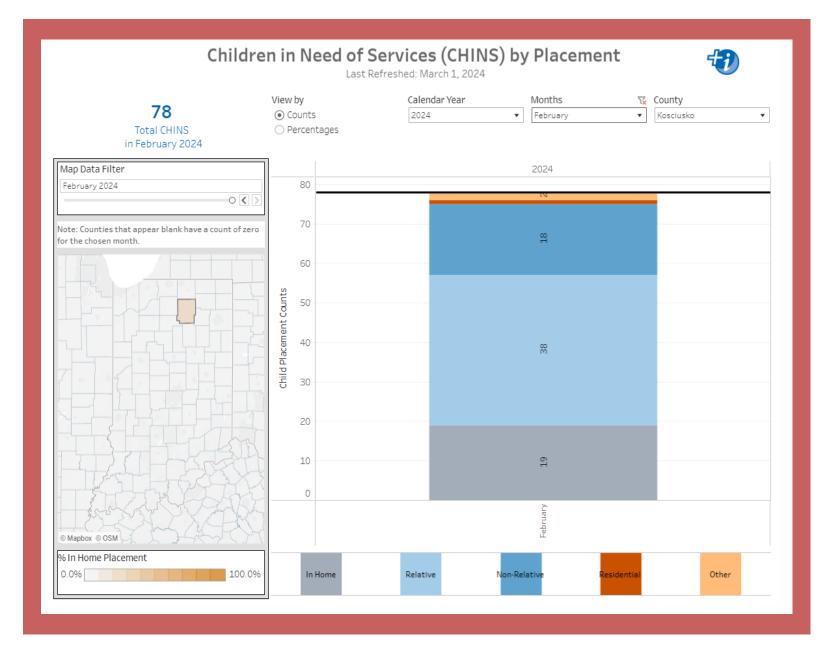
Creating a Safe Place for Foster Children to have Supervised Visits with Biological Parent(s)



#### Vicky Owens | Shari Benyousky | Nichole Fifer | Mary Lepird

## "Reunification is the most common goal for children in foster care. When children are separated from their families, the first goal is to reunify them when it is safe enough to do so."

(Child Welfare Information Gateway. 2011, June).



75

Average number of Kosciusko County children in need of services per month in 2023

**58** Average number of placements where reunification visits were encouraged

(Indiana Department of Child Services Performance Measures. 2024, January).

#### What a visit looks like currently...



(69 News, 2019)

(North Webster Community Public Library, 2024)



## "Increasing the frequency of visits leading up to reunification helps to facilitate achievement of this goal and decreases reentries to foster care"

### "The Cooper House was to be a place, a space, a home where the lives of ALL who are involved in foster care are welcomed, loved, seen, heard, and chosen."



(Howe & Howe, 2019)



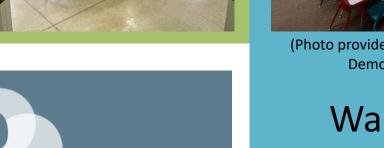
(Photo provided by Mary Lepird)

Branches Vineyard Warsaw

#### **Animal Welfare League Pierceton**

(Photo provided by Shari Benyousky)





(Photo provided by Pastor Greg Demopoulos)

Warsaw Community Church

# BOWEN CENTER HEALTHCLINIC

(Bowen Center Admin, 2024)



#### **Mission Point** Winona Lake

(Photo provided by Nichole Fifer)

**Country Bible** Church North Webster

(Photo provided by Pastor Chris Frank)



75 Kosciusko County children in need of services per month

**58** 

Placements where reunification visits were encouraged Visits per week

37

20 Happening at the Bowen Center

(Indiana Department of Child Services Performance Measures. 2024, January).





(Walmart, 2024)

## HELPING KOSCIUSKO FAMILIES REBUILD, One piece at a time...



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