"Meeting Parents Where They Dream"

arent

#### Locations:

- All Faith's Foodbank
- Arcadia's Housing Authority
- Better Together
- Kid's Thrive

held in:

Sarasota

Manatee Desoto & Charolotte

- **MoMM's Place**
- Mothers Helping Mothers
- Pregnancy Solutions
- Sarasota Medical
- **Pregnancy Center**
- The Florida Center
- Unidos Now
- Virtual group

**Particpants:** 

140

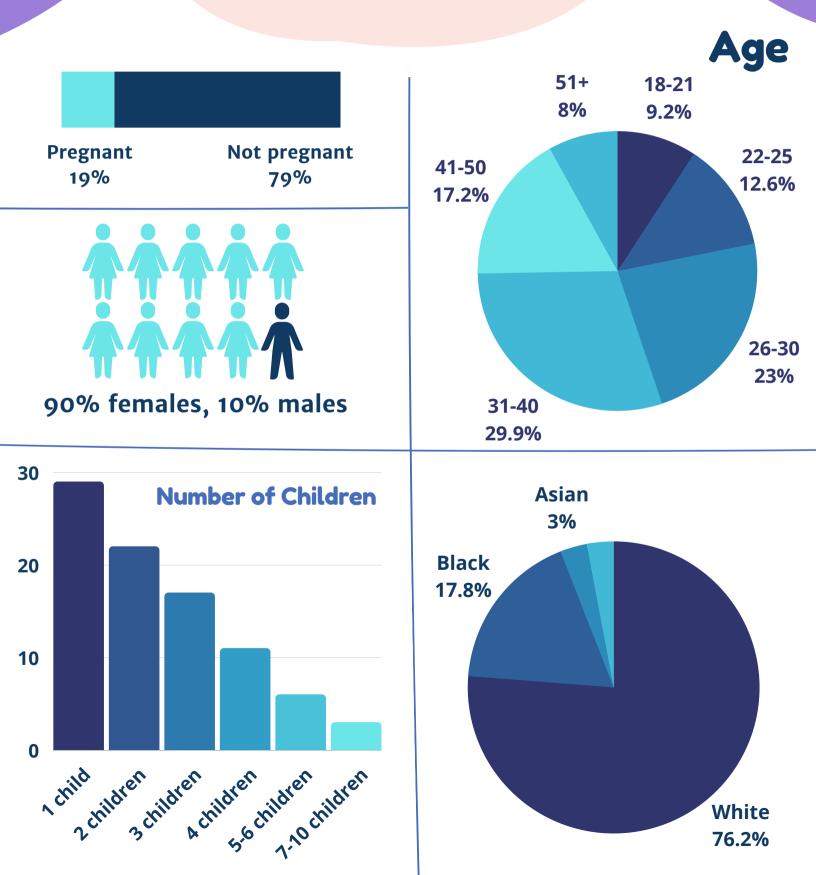
Ages: 18-64

Who came? Mothers, fathers,

foster parents & grandparents



### **Demographics** 90 participants filled out the anonymous questionnaire



### **Focus Group Logistics**

**Step 1)** Parent Empowerment Workgroup identified locations and developed questions to ask the parents. First 1,000 Days team made flyers for each location to promote the parent focus groups.

**Step 2)** Selected facilitators and note takers for each location. It was best to have facilitators from the organization leading the group since families have trusted relationships with them. The list of questions was sent to facilitators beforehand so they could familiarize themselves with the script.

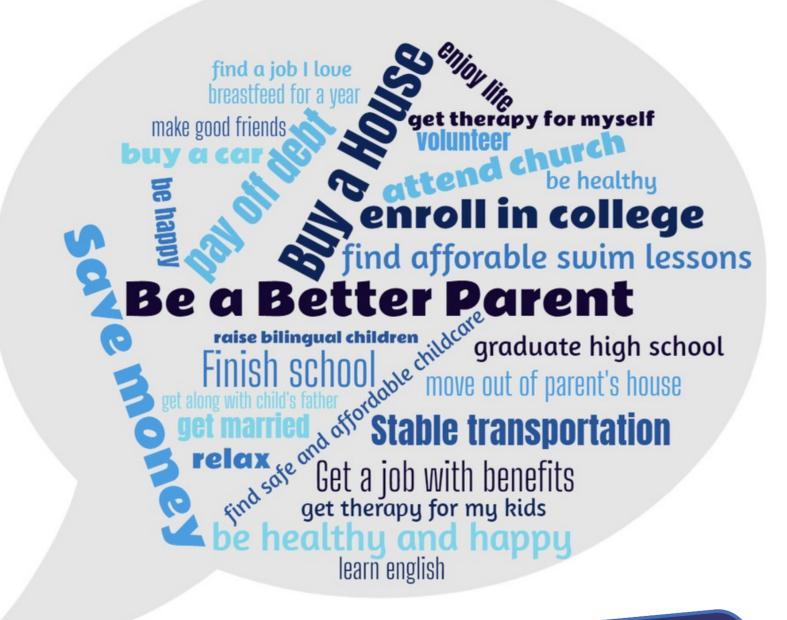
**Step 3)** Food and a \$25 gift card were provided for each participant. Some locations also provided childcare. Demographics were collected anonymously.

**Step 4)** Follow-up messages were sent to thank parents for participation and see if they needed any assistance connecting with community resources. Some parents desired to continue participation and joined our Parent Advisory Committee.



A HUGE thank you to our Parent Empowerment workgroup members: Nathan Scott, Lori Gentile, Maria Somera, Amanda Corcoran, Jamie Kattrein and Marina Felipe

### Feedback from Parent Focus Groups





## Dreams and Goals





### Barriers Faced by Families

### Feedback by County

### Sarasota

Affordable childcare Affordable swimming lessons Breastfeed for a year Socialize their children Be a better parent Mom groups Affordable housing Formula and diapers Don't qualify for WIC & need help

### Manatee

Raise bilingual children Finding a better job Mental health support Getting along with family Stable transportation Affordable swim classes Diapers and formula Affordable, reliable, and safe childcare Support groups

#### **DeSoto & Charlotte**

Learn English Raise children who are happy and healthy Affordable childcare Internet in the house Stable, good paying job Safe parks that have a fence for the kids to play More sexual education in school Formula and diapers Support groups



# Parent Focus Groups Testimonials

"I attended a Parent Focus Group because it was being held in my neighborhood. Not only was I able to meet other moms but I was able to learn about other resources to help my kids. I am a single mom and need all the help I can get." "I am so glad I got invited to a Parent Focus Group. As a first time mom, it's nice to have someone to help with what resources are available for my daughter. It is overwhelming and people do not know where to go to for help."

-Kayla V.



