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FINAL EVALUATION REPORT: GROUP 1

AUGUST 2026

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**KNOWLTON SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE
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Executive Summary of Findings

This evaluation examines outcomes among Families Flourish (Flourish) Group 1 participant families approximately one, two, and three years after relocation. Evaluation outcomes were assessed using surveys and administrative data.

Three surveys were administered: the Year 1 and Year 2 surveys were conducted during program participation, while the post-program survey was conducted after program completion. Sample sizes varied due to early participant exit. A total of 14 of 15 participants responded to the Year 1 survey, and all 13 participants responded to both the Year 2 and post-program surveys.

In the Child Health, Well-Being, and Development section, participants provided responses on behalf of each of their children: 15 children in Year 1, 16 children in Year 2, and 17 children in the post-program survey.

Applications for Group 1 opened in spring 2022. Fifteen participants began the program in September 2022. Group 1 participants completed the program between September 2025 and January 2026, reflecting staggered enrollment and relocation.

Two participants exited the program approximately 13 months after relocation. In August 2025, 13 of the 15 participants graduated from the program, resulting in a retention rate of 87%.

The mission of Flourish is to offer a three-year program that transforms the lives of low-wage working families and their children by providing a comprehensive path to economic mobility and wellness.

The preliminary outcomes demonstrate that the program is making progress toward its goal of improving outcomes for participating families. The findings indicate positive changes among participants and their families following program participation.

After program completion, nearly half of the participants remained in the same housing they occupied during the program. Of the remainder, four moved to moderate- to very high-opportunity neighborhoods, bringing over three quarters (10 of 13, 77%) into moderate- to very high-opportunity areas.

The majority reported improved housing conditions after program completion compared with pre-enrollment. Some participants also reported improved neighborhood conditions after program completion compared with pre-enrollment.

The majority of participants reported improvements in their economic circumstances, income, and employment during program participation. Most participants indicated that their credit scores were “Better” or “Much better” during the program compared with before program enrollment.

Executive Summary of Findings (continued)

Nearly half of participants had participated in a job or career training program, while most reported completing additional education within the past 12 months. The majority also reported receiving one or more promotions while participating in the program, and this proportion increased gradually.

During their participation in the program, all participants reported completing additional education, such as taking the GED, enrolling in college, or taking classes to learn a new skill. Similarly, during their participation in the program, 11 of 13 participants reported participating in a job or career training program, and 9 of 13 reported receiving one or more promotions.

The majority of participants also reported improvements in physical health, and all but one reported improvements in mental health during program participation. Most participants reported positive or very positive changes in stress levels during the program.

Participants reported positive or very positive changes in the physical health of the majority of children and in mental health of some children during program participation. Participants reported that most children had good or very good adjustment to school, and academic outcomes improved for nearly two-thirds of K–12 children.

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PART 1

EVALUATION DESIGN AND KEY OUTCOMES



1.1 Evaluation Design and Methodology

The evaluation design for the Flourish program involves quantitative and qualitative data collection spanning a three-year period. The evaluation is a formative evaluation with extensive communication between the evaluation team and the program leaders.

This evaluation examines outcomes among Group 1 participant families approximately one, two, and three years after relocation. Evaluation outcomes were assessed using surveys and administrative data. In this analysis, Year 1 and Year 2 surveys were conducted during program participation, while the post-program survey was conducted after program completion.

Key outcome items were worded slightly differently across survey periods. Respondents in the Year 1 and Year 2 surveys typically reported changes since relocation or program enrollment, whereas the post-program survey asked about changes during program participation compared with before program entry.

Sample sizes varied due to early participant exit. A total of 14 of 15 participants responded to the Year 1 survey, and all 13 participants responded to both the Year 2 and post-program surveys.

In the Child Health, Well-Being, and Development section, participants provided responses on behalf of each of their children: 15 children in Year 1, 16 children in Year 2, and 17 children in the post-program survey.

For a more detailed description of the pilot program and the evaluation design, please refer to the pilot evaluation reports. The pilot evaluation reports (1.0, 2.0, 3.0, 4.0, and final) are available at: www.familiesflourish.org/reports-and-resources/

1.2 Key Outcomes for Groups 1 Families

Key findings from the Group 1 post-program survey are summarized below.

Program Retention & Housing Stability

Most participants (13 of 15, 87%) successfully graduated from the program, with only two exiting approximately 13 months after relocation.

Nearly half of participants (6 of 13, 46%) remain in the same housing they lived in while enrolled in the program. Of the remainder, four moved to moderate- to very high-opportunity neighborhoods, bringing over three quarters (10 of 13, 77%) into moderate- to very high-opportunity areas.

Housing & Neighborhood Conditions

All participants rated their housing conditions improved (61.5%) or about the same (38.5%) after program completion compared with their pre-enrollment circumstances.

All participants rated their neighborhood improved (38.5%) or about the same (61.5%) after program completion compared with pre-enrollment.

Among 7 participants who moved, all but one (85.7%) rated their housing conditions improved or about the same and 4 of 7 (57%) rated their neighborhood improved or about the same compared with during the program.

Financial Well-Being

The majority of participants reported improvements in their economic circumstances (54%), income (62%), and employment status (54%) during program participation.

The majority of participants (69%) reported improved credit scores during the program.

Nearly half of participants engaged in a job or career training program, while most completed additional education within the past 12 months. The majority reported receiving one or more promotions during program participation.

Adult Health & Wellness

The majority of participants (9 of 13, 69%) reported improvements in physical health, and all but one participant (92%) reported improvements in mental health during program participation.

Most participants (11 of 13, 85%) reported positive or very positive changes in stress levels while participating in the program.

Child Health & Development

Participants reported positive or very positive changes in physical health for nine of 16 children (56%) and in mental health for six of 16 children (38%) (excluding one nonresponse per measure) during program participation.

Most children (11 of 13, 85%, excluding nonresponses) adjusted well to their school, and nearly two-thirds of K–12 children (5 of 8, 63%) experienced improved academic outcomes during program participation.



PART 2

PARTICIPANT PROFILE



2.1 Participant profile at a glance (Group 1) – At Program Completion

Participant profiles are summarized below using administrative data.

Work & Wages & Housing

Three months after the end of rent support, 10 of 13 participants remained employed. Excluding the three participants who were unemployed, the average household income was approximately \$47,400 per year, with a median income of \$46,300.

A little over half of the participants (7 out of 13) were homeless or not in a space of their own (either doubled up or renting a room) at program entry.

Race/Ethnicity

Most participants identified as Black (10 of 13), while two identified as two or more races, and one identified as White.

College Educated

The majority of participants (8 of 13) had some college education, including two-year and four-year college degrees or some college experience, while the remaining participants had a high school diploma, GED, or trade school certificate.

Geographic Diversity

Participants generally originated from neighborhoods throughout the Columbus area (if not doubled-up), with most relocating from suburban areas within the city.

Credit Score

Among participants who reported both pre- and post-program credit scores (n = 8), most participants showed improvements in their credit scores during program participation. At program completion, most had scores between 580 and 739, while a small number had scores below 580 or between 740 and 799.

2.2 Participant Profile in detail (Group 1) – At Program Completion

Participant profiles are based on administrative data collected three months after the end of rent support.

Age and Number of Children

Age: Participants ranged in age from 24 to 42 at program completion. The average participant age was 32 years, with nearly half of the participants in their 20s.

Number of Children: Participants had between one to three children aged 16 years and under, with an average of 1.3 children per participant. Ten participants had one child, two participants had two children, and one participant had three children. Of the 17 children, three were born during the program participation.

Education and Employment

Education (Highest Level of Education/Certifications): The majority of participants (8 of 13) had some college education, including two-year and four-year college degrees or some college experience, while the remaining participants had a high school diploma, GED, or trade school certificate.

Employment: Participants had various employers, including those in healthcare facilities and services, child-related services, and additional industries.

Income and Credit Score

Household Income: Three months after the end of rent support, 10 of 13 participants remained employed. Excluding the three participants who were unemployed, the average household income was approximately \$47,400 per year, with a median income of \$46,300. For three participants, losing a job, health issues, and education impacted their post-graduation housing.

Credit Score: Among participants who reported both pre- and post-program credit scores (n = 8), most participants showed improvements in their credit scores during program participation. At program completion, most had scores between 580 and 739, while a small number had scores below 580 or between 740 and 799.

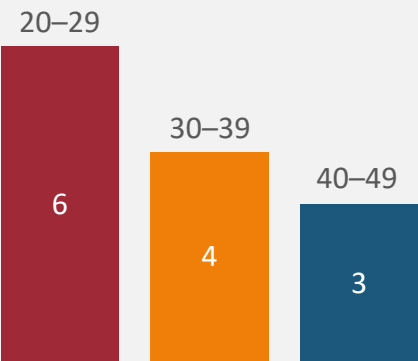
2.3 Our Families (Group 1) – At Program Completion

Beginning in September 2022, 15 families enrolled in Group 1 of the program. Two families exited the program approximately 13 months after relocation. The remaining 13 families completed the program between September 2025 and January 2026.

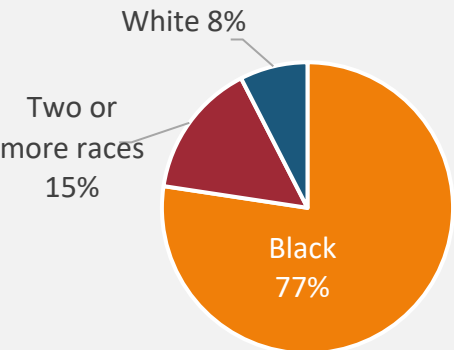
Program families are illustrative of a broader segment of the Central Ohio population—economically vulnerable, living in challenging environments, and receiving limited or no public assistance due to a lack of available funding or benefits cliff issues. Prior to enrollment, participants had resided in low-opportunity neighborhoods (with the possible exception of those who were doubled up or renting a room), experienced housing instability, or experienced periods of homelessness. Nearly all participant families are ALICE (Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed) families.

The charts below present key demographic characteristics of the 13 participant households based on participant and household status at program completion, using administrative data.

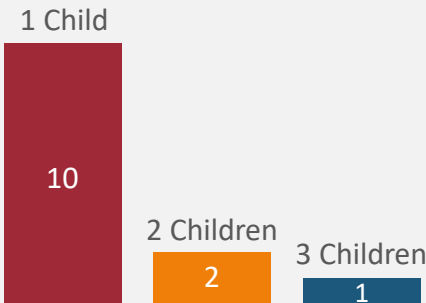
Age of Adults (N=13)



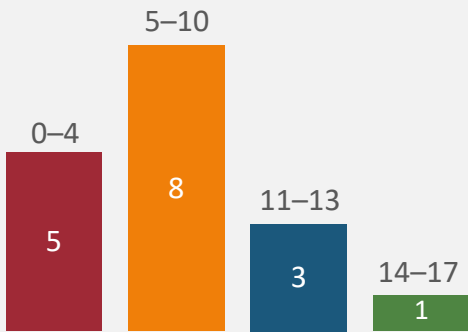
Race of Adults (N=13)



Number of Children Per Household (N=13)



Age of Children (N=17)



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PART 3

HOUSING STABILITY AND
NEIGHBORHOOD EXPERIENCE



3.1 Program Enrollment, Participation, and Retention

Applications for Group 1 opened in spring 2022. Fifteen participants were selected from a pool of 445 applicants and began the program in September 2022.

Group 1 participants moved to apartment complexes located within the Bexley, Dublin, Gahanna-Jefferson, Licking Heights, Olentangy, and Worthington school districts. Participants completed the program between September 2025 and January 2026, reflecting staggered enrollment and relocation.

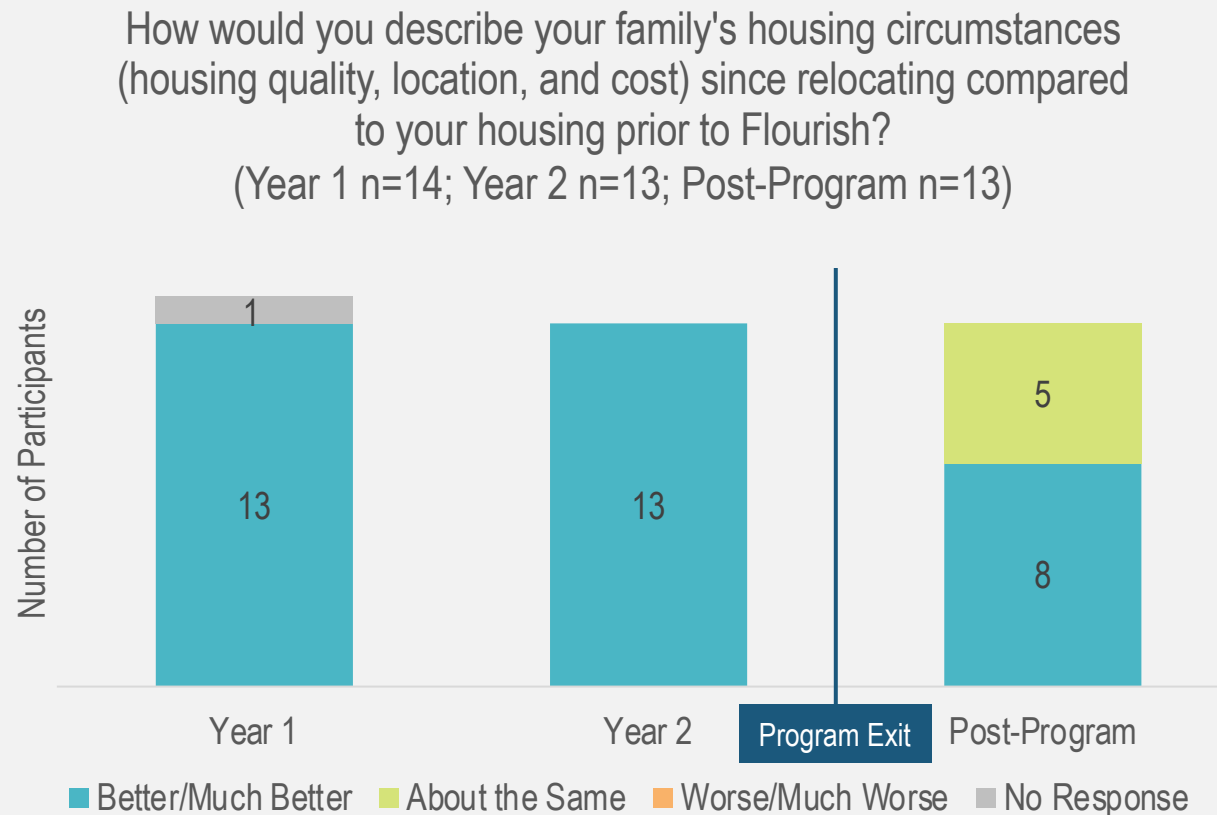
Two participants exited the program approximately 13 months after relocation. In August 2025, 13 of the 15 participants graduated from the program, resulting in a retention rate of 87%.



3.2 Housing Experience

In Year 1 and Year 2, all participants (excluding one nonresponse) rated their housing circumstances as “Better” or “Much better” compared with pre-enrollment.

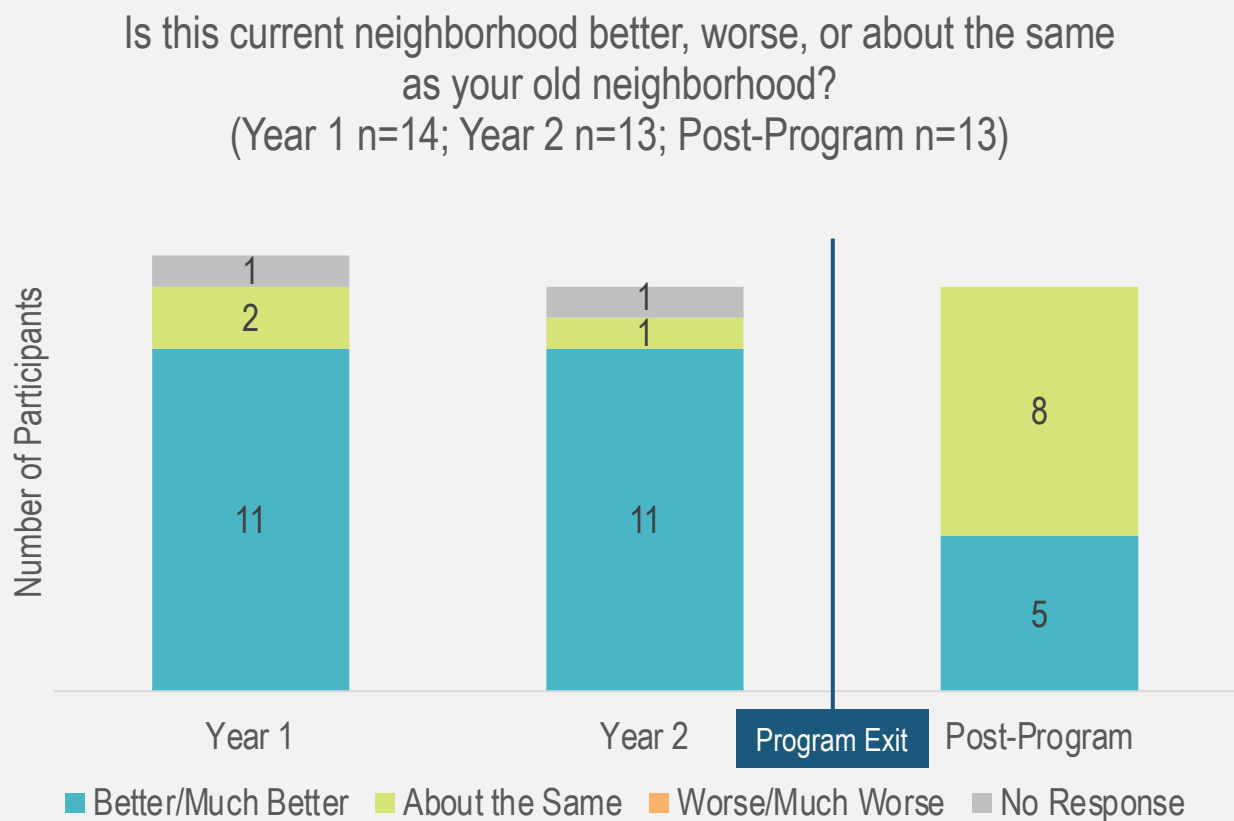
In the post-program survey, eight participants rated their housing circumstances as “Better” or “Much better,” while five reported no change. Because post-program responses reflect housing circumstances after program completion, participants who moved were comparing their current housing conditions with pre-enrolment conditions.



3.3 Neighborhood Experience

In Year 1 and Year 2, most participants (11 of 13, excluding one nonresponse in Year 1, 11 of 12, excluding one nonresponse in Year 2) rated their current neighborhood as “Better” or “Much better” compared with pre-enrollment. Two participants in Year 1 and one in Year 2 reported that their current neighborhood was “About the same.”

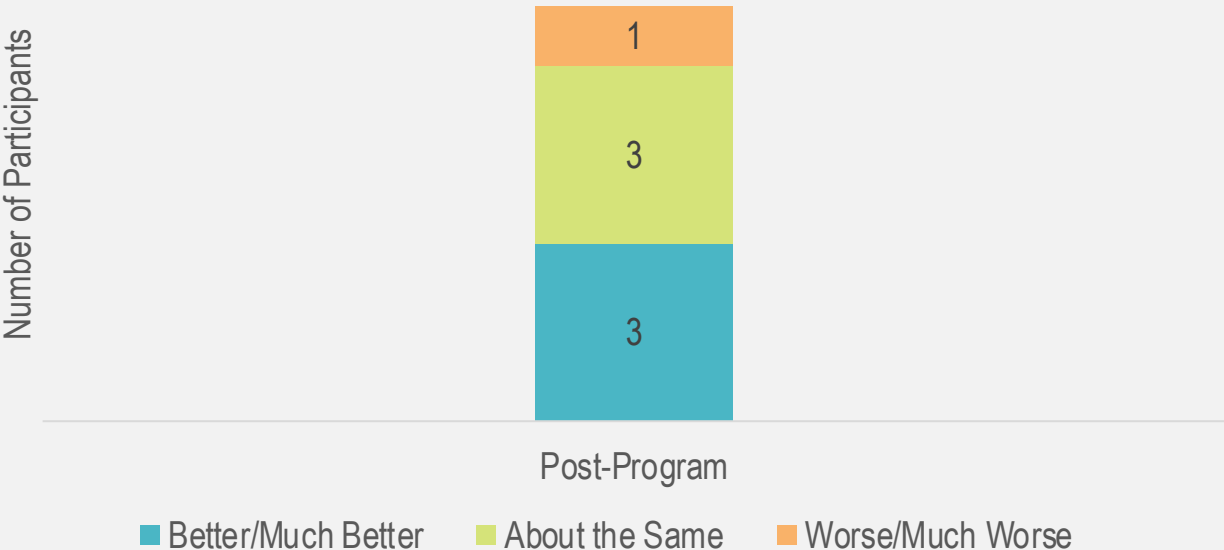
In the post-program survey, five participants rated their neighborhood as “Better” or “Much better,” while eight reported it as “About the same.” Because post-program responses reflect neighborhoods after program completion, participants who moved were comparing their current neighborhood with those they experienced before enrollment.



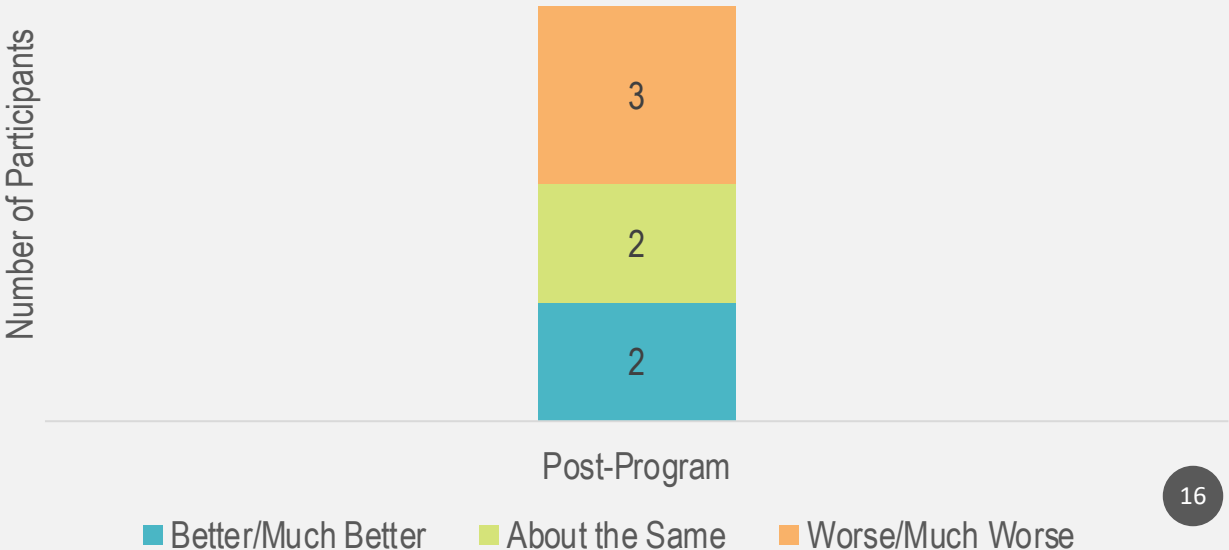
3.4 Post-Program Housing and Neighborhood Conditions

Among 13 participants, nearly half (six of 13, 46%) remained in the same housing they occupied during program participation, while seven have moved to different housing and/or neighborhoods. The following analysis focuses on the seven participants who no longer lived in the same housing as they did during the program. Regarding current housing circumstances, three of the seven participants (43%) rated their situation as “Better” or “Much better” compared with their housing circumstances during the program, three rated it as “About the same,” and one rated it as “Worse” or “Much worse.” Regarding current neighborhood conditions, two of the seven participants (29%) rated their current neighborhood as “Better” or “Much better” compared with their neighborhood during the program, two rated it as “About the same,” and three rated it as “Worse” or “Much worse.”

How would you describe your current housing circumstances (housing quality, location, and cost) compared to the housing you lived in while in the Flourish program?
(n=7; participants who moved after program participation)



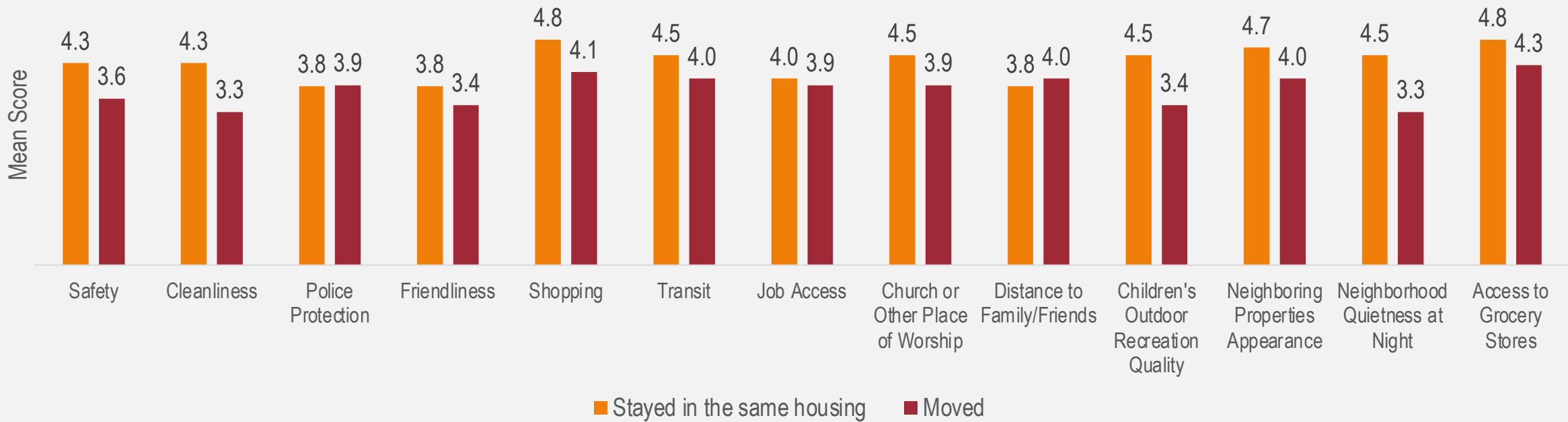
Since leaving the Flourish program, would you say your current neighborhood is better, worse, or about the same as the neighborhood you lived in during the program?
(n=7; participants who moved after program participation)



3.5 Post-Program Neighborhood Satisfaction

The following analysis compares current neighborhood satisfaction between two groups: six participants who remained in the same housing they occupied during program participation (stayed) and seven participants who no longer lived in the same housing as they did during the program (moved). Of the remainder, four moved to moderate- to very high-opportunity neighborhoods, bringing over three quarters (10 of 13, 77%) into moderate- to very high-opportunity areas. In the post-program survey, participants who remained in the same housing generally reported higher neighborhood satisfaction than those who moved after program participation. Access to shopping and grocery stores, neighboring property appearance, neighborhood quietness at night, access to church or other place of worship, and access to transit were among the highest-rated neighborhood conditions for participants who stayed. In contrast, participants who moved reported lower satisfaction across most neighborhood conditions, with cleanliness and neighborhood quietness at night, friendliness, and children’s outdoor recreation quality receiving the lowest ratings.

Neighborhood Satisfaction Scores (mean score) on a scale of 1 (very dissatisfied) to 5 (very satisfied)
Stayed in the Same Housing (n=6); Moved (n=7)



3.6 Current Housing Situation: Excerpts from the Post-Program Survey

- *“Love my townhouse, [though the] location is far from family.”*
- *“Brand new building, so everything is updated and fresh. Closer to my new employer, so my commute is easier.”*
- *“I chose to reside in my Families Flourish unit. It was easy and affordable due to the gentle transition process; Families Flourish was supportive.”*
- *“I have to state that, unfortunately, the rent is very expensive; however, it is an overall better experience for my family and [me].”*
- *“Losing the program’s support during a major life transition while in graduate school feels daunting and scary. I don’t feel more equipped to afford housing on my own. My rent will increase [by \$600] a month, which is a big jump.”*
- *“I am currently back in an unstable housing situation. I unfortunately had many things happen in my life during the last year in the program and did not have enough time to recover from them. If I could have extended the program one more year, I know my current situation would be more positive.”*

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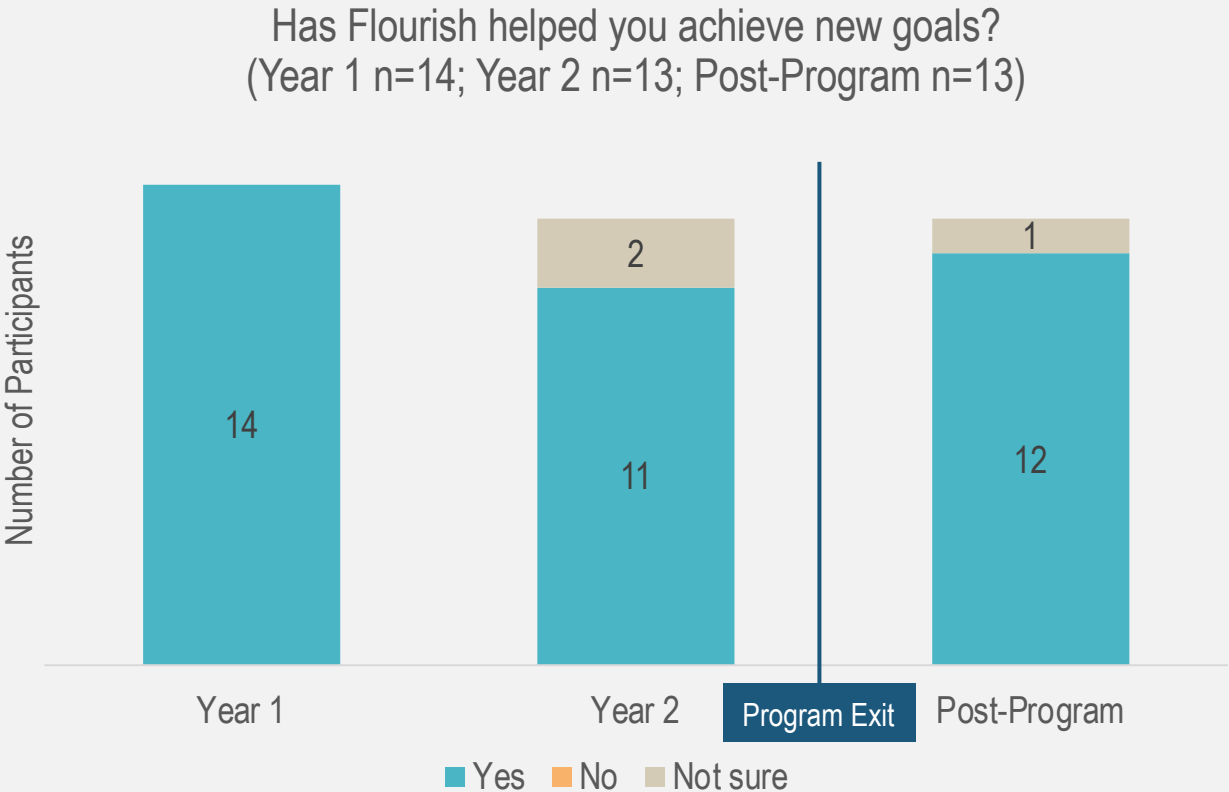
PART 4

FINANCIAL WELL-BEING



4.1 Goal Setting and Achievement

In Year 1, all participants reported that Flourish helped them achieve their goals. In Year 2 and the post-program survey, most participants reported that Flourish helped them achieve their goals, while two participants in Year 2 and one participant in the post-program survey reported being “Not sure.” The post-program survey indicated that the most commonly achieved goals were educational goals (e.g., graduate school, returning to school), followed by career goals, financial goals, and goals related to their children’s education.



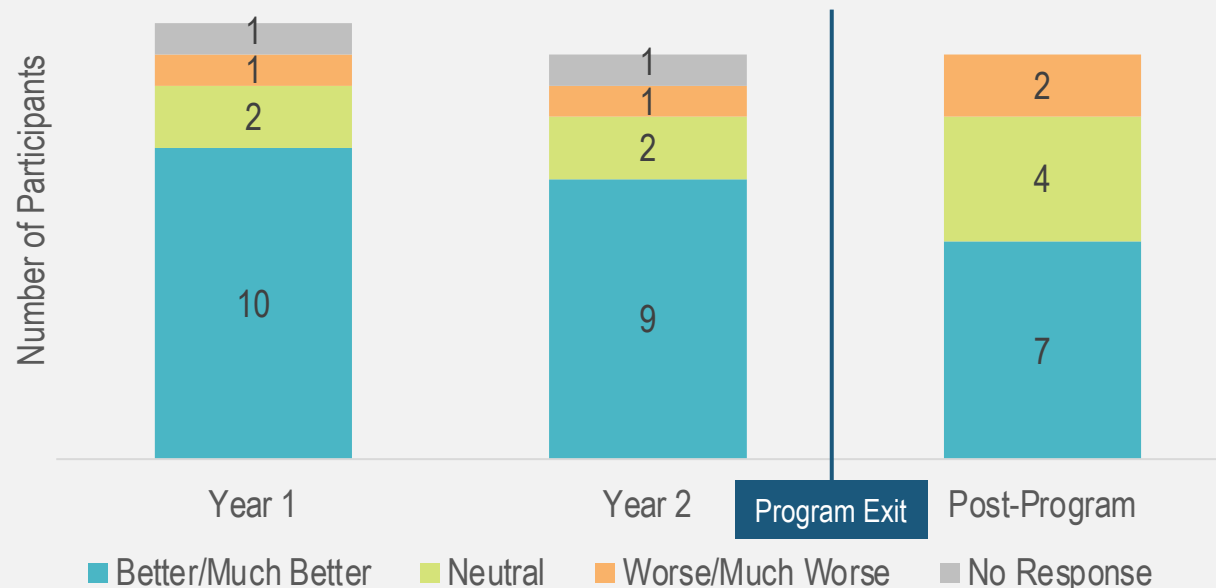
Goals Achieved: Excerpts from the Post-Program Survey of 12 Participants

- “Start college.”
- “Going back to school.”
- “Grad school.”
- “I am currently enrolled in two colleges—one for Medical Imaging and the other for Phlebotomy and EKG.”
- “To go back to school [and] increase my credit score.”
- “It helped provide more stability, which helped me marry my best friend, graduate from college with a bachelor’s [degree], and give birth to another baby.”
- “Money management [and] creating my own business.”
- “Increased salary, career with benefits, building credit, and support network.”
- “New Job, new car, enrolled in school.”
- “New job and school/daycare for my sons.”
- “Moving my daughter to a thriving school district!”
- “All.”

4.2 Family Economic Well-Being

In Years 1 and 2, approximately three-quarters of participants (10 of 13, excluding one nonresponse in Year 1; nine of 12, excluding one nonresponse in Year 2) reported improvements in their economic circumstances compared with pre-enrollment. One participant in each year reported worsening circumstances, while two in each year reported no change. The post-program survey indicated that the majority of participants (seven of 13) reported improvements in their economic circumstances during program participation compared with pre-enrollment, while two participants reported worsening circumstances and four reported no change. We observed a discrepancy between reported improvements in economic well-being and income, with fewer participants reporting improved economic well-being than improved income in the post-program survey. This may reflect income gains that were not sufficient to offset increases in living costs or inflation, resulting in limited perceived improvement in overall economic well-being despite higher earnings. Additionally, economic well-being is influenced by factors beyond income, including household expenses and changes in public benefits.

How would you describe your family's economic circumstances since relocating compared to prior to entering the program?
(Year 1 n=14; Year 2 n=13; Post-Program n=13)

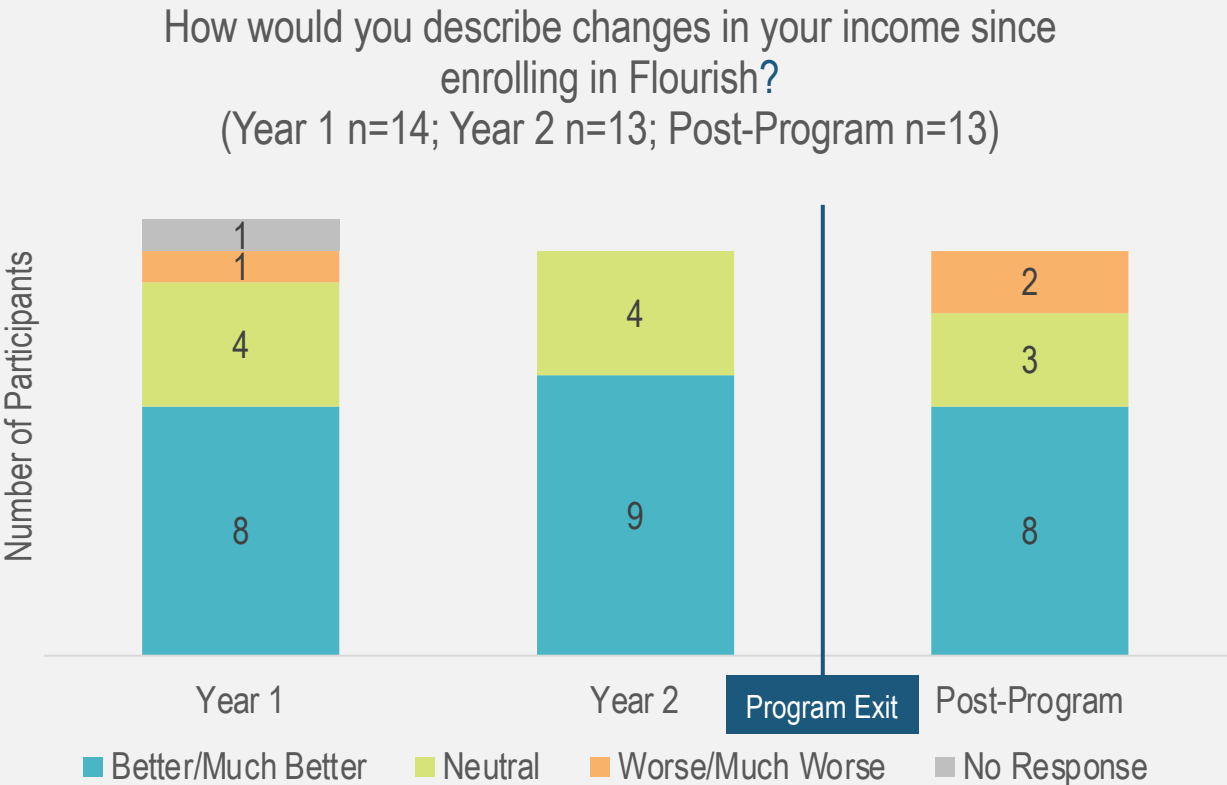


4.3 Family Income

In Year 1, the majority of participants (eight of 13, excluding one nonresponse) reported improvements in their income since enrolling in the program, while four participants reported no change and one reported worsening income. In Year 2, two-thirds of participants (nine of 13) reported improvements in their income, while four participants reported no change.

The post-program survey indicated that the majority of participants (eight of 13) reported improvements in their income during program participation, while three participants reported no change and two reported worsening income.

According to administrative data collected three months after the end of rent support, three participants were unemployed (including one full-time student), and two reported a decrease in income. Among participants who reported income improvements, annual income increases ranged from approximately \$5,000 to \$43,000.

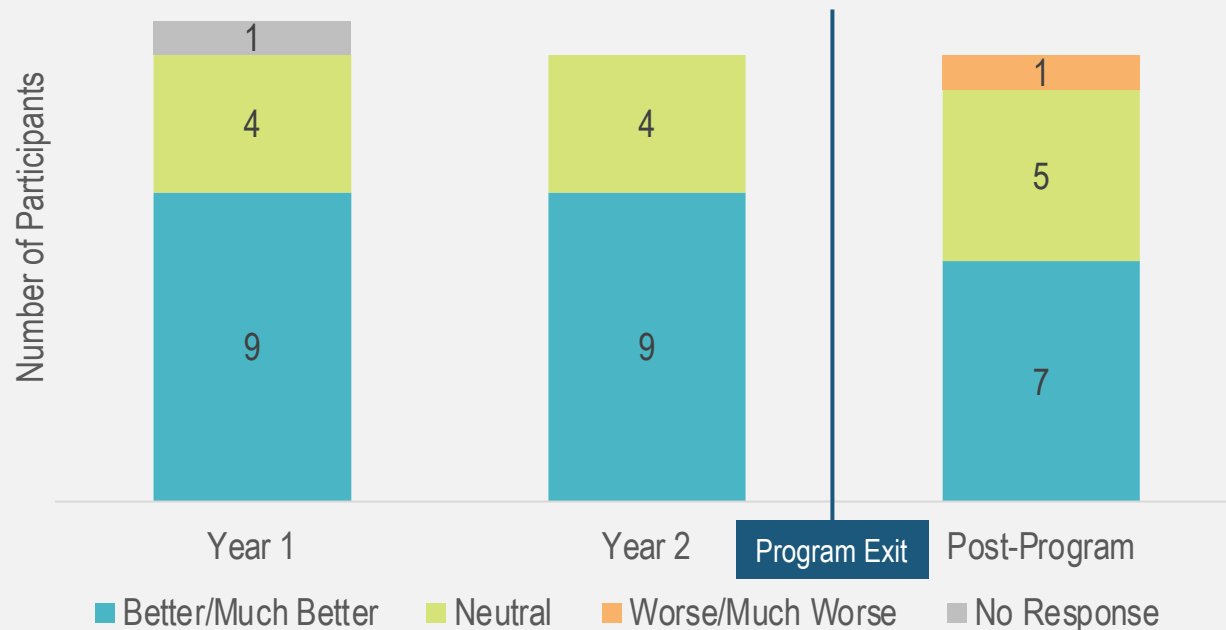


4.4 Employment Changes

In Years 1 and 2, over two-thirds of participants (nine of 13, excluding one nonresponse) reported improvements in their employment since relocating, while four participants reported no change.

The post-program survey indicated that the majority of participants reported improvements in their employment during program participation compared with pre-enrollment, while five participants reported no change and one reported worsening employment. Reasons for employment changes varied and included better pay, advancement opportunities, school enrollment, childcare issues, and major health events.

How would you describe changes in your employment since relocating? (Year 1 n=14; Year 2 n=13; Post-Program n=13)



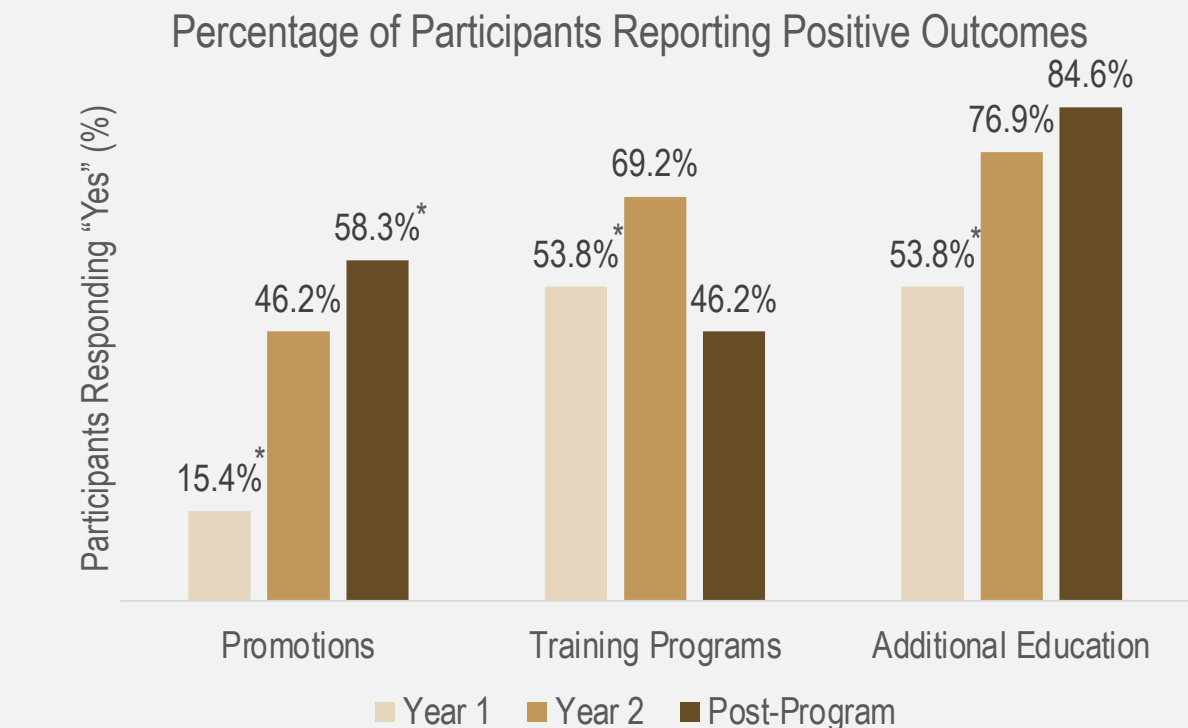
Reasons for Employment Changes: Excerpts from the Post-Program Survey of Seven Participants

- “New job.”
- “Better-paying job.”
- “New opportunity for advancement.”
- “I changed for money, benefits, and a career [rather than] a job.”
- “Toxic work environment, and school enrollment.”
- “A lot was going on. I lost daycare at one point, [along with] transportation, which caused me to have to find other jobs.”
- “I survived a [major health event], and my position was put up for hire. My hours were reduced, and I was shifted to a contingent position.”

4.5 Employment Advancement and Career Development

Regarding promotions, two of 13 participants (excluding one nonresponse) in Year 1 reported receiving one or more promotions since enrolling in the program. This number increased to six of 13 participants in Year 2 and seven of 12 participants (excluding one nonresponse) in the post-program survey. In Year 1, seven of 13 participants (excluding one nonresponse) reported participating in job or career training during the last 12 months. This number rose to nine of 13 participants in Year 2 and decreased to six of 13 participants in the post-program survey. Similarly, in Year 1, seven of 13 participants (excluding one nonresponse) reported completing additional education, such as taking the GED, enrolling in college, or taking classes to learn a new skill during the last 12 months. This number increased to 10 of 13 participants in Year 2 and 11 of 13 participants in the post-program survey.

During their participation in the program, all participants reported completing additional education, 11 of 13 reported participating in a job or career training program, and 9 of 13 reported receiving one or more promotions.

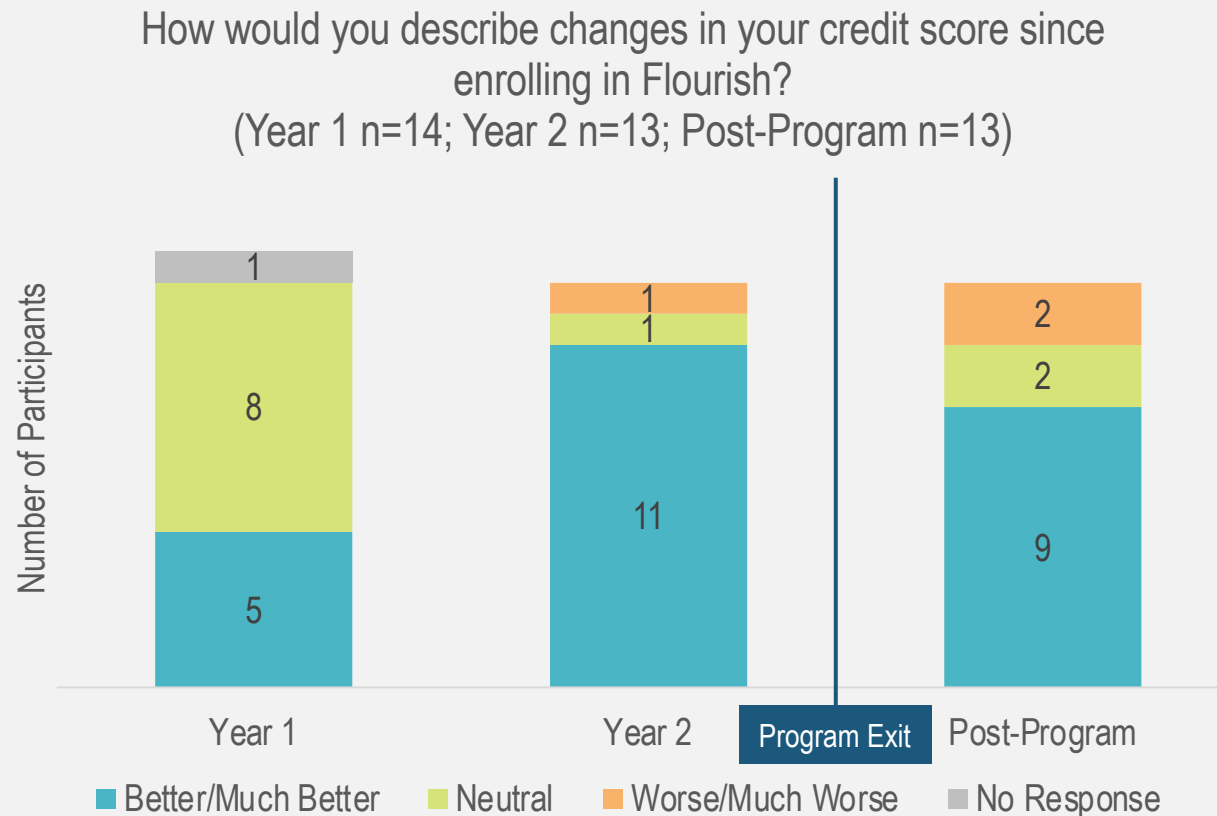


Note. *One response was missing. Percentages were calculated excluding missing data.

4.6 Credit Score Changes

In Year 1, five of 13 (excluding one nonresponse) reported that their credit scores were “Better” or “Much better” since enrolling in the program, while eight participants reported no change. In Year 2, most participants (11 of 13) reported that their credit scores were “Better” or “Much better,” while one participant reported no change and one reported “Worse” or “Much worse.”

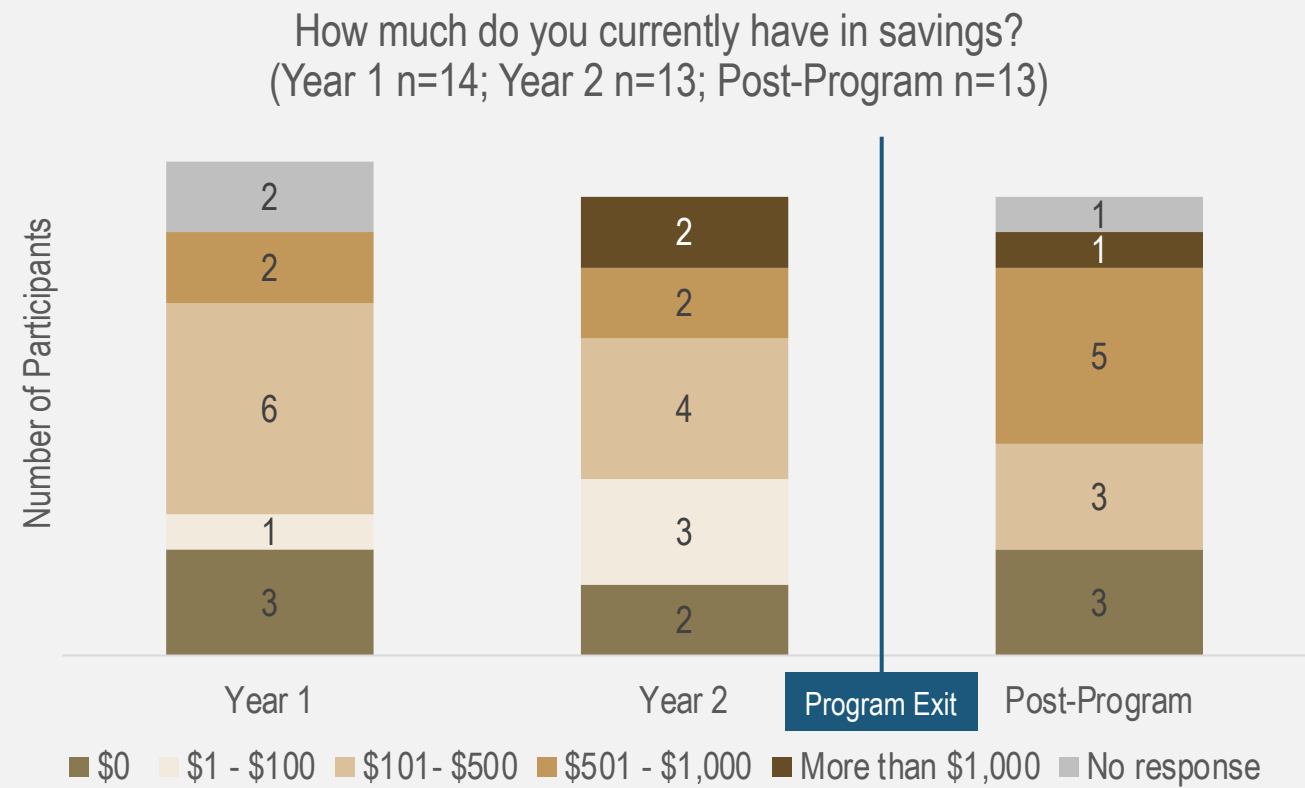
In the post-program survey, the majority of participants (nine of 13) reported that their credit scores were “Better” or “Much better” during program participation compared with pre-enrollment, while two participants reported no change and two reported “Worse” or “Much worse.” Participants (excluding those with missing responses) reported credit score changes ranging from a decrease of 76 points (reported as worse) to an increase of approximately 150 points (reported as much better).



4.7 Savings

Regarding savings, in Year 1, three of 12 participants reported having no savings, one reported \$1-\$100, six reported \$101-\$500, and two reported \$501-\$1,000; two responses were missing. In Year 2, two of 13 participants reported having no savings, three reported \$1-\$100, four reported \$101-\$500, two reported \$501-\$1,000, and two reported more than \$1,000. In the post-program survey, three of 12 participants reported having no savings, three reported \$101-\$500, five reported \$501-\$1,000, and one reported more than \$1,000; one response was missing.

While the percentage of participants reporting no savings remained relatively consistent survey periods, the percentage reporting saving greater than \$500 (i.e., “\$501-\$1,000” or “More than \$1,000”) increased each year, from 17% in Year 1 to 31% in Year 2 and 50% in the post-program survey, excluding nonresponses.



4.8 Median Income and Credit Score Changes After Program Exit

Program staff conducted a survey after Group 1 participants exited the program. According to administrative data, the median individual income increase among all graduates after program exit was \$8,112, and the median individual income growth rate was 21.7%.

Among graduates who maintained active employment, the median individual income increase was \$13,868, and the median individual income growth rate was 47.2%.

Among graduates who reported both pre-program and post-program credit scores, the median individual credit score increase was 62 points, and the median individual credit score growth rate was 10.4%.

Median Income and Credit Score Changes After Program Exit

Outcome	Median Absolute Change	Median Growth Rate (%)
Income (All Graduates, n=13)	\$8,112	21.7%
Income (Employed Graduates, n=10)	\$13,868	47.2%
Credit Score (Graduates who reported both pre-program and post-program credit scores, n=8)	62 points	10.4%

Note. Values represent the median of individual participant changes from baseline to post-program.

4.9 Economic Conditions and Employment Changes: Excerpts from the Post-Program Survey

- *“My income changed, and I get to do what I love and start my own business.”*
- *“I survived a [major health event] after giving birth. As a result, I’m not flourishing as well economically or financially as I thought I would. However, I’m recovering and my family is thriving, and that’s of greater importance to me and takes greater precedence.”*
- *“I lost my job 6 weeks before I had to move due to hardships pertaining to my child’s [health needs]. I had been working towards getting him the help he needs during the 7 months prior to this. Due to waiting lists and [I] was unable to get him the therapies he needed until the month after we moved. To make matters worse, I had to move out 2 months prior to the program ending because of a renovation project that the apartment complex was doing on my building.”*

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PART 5

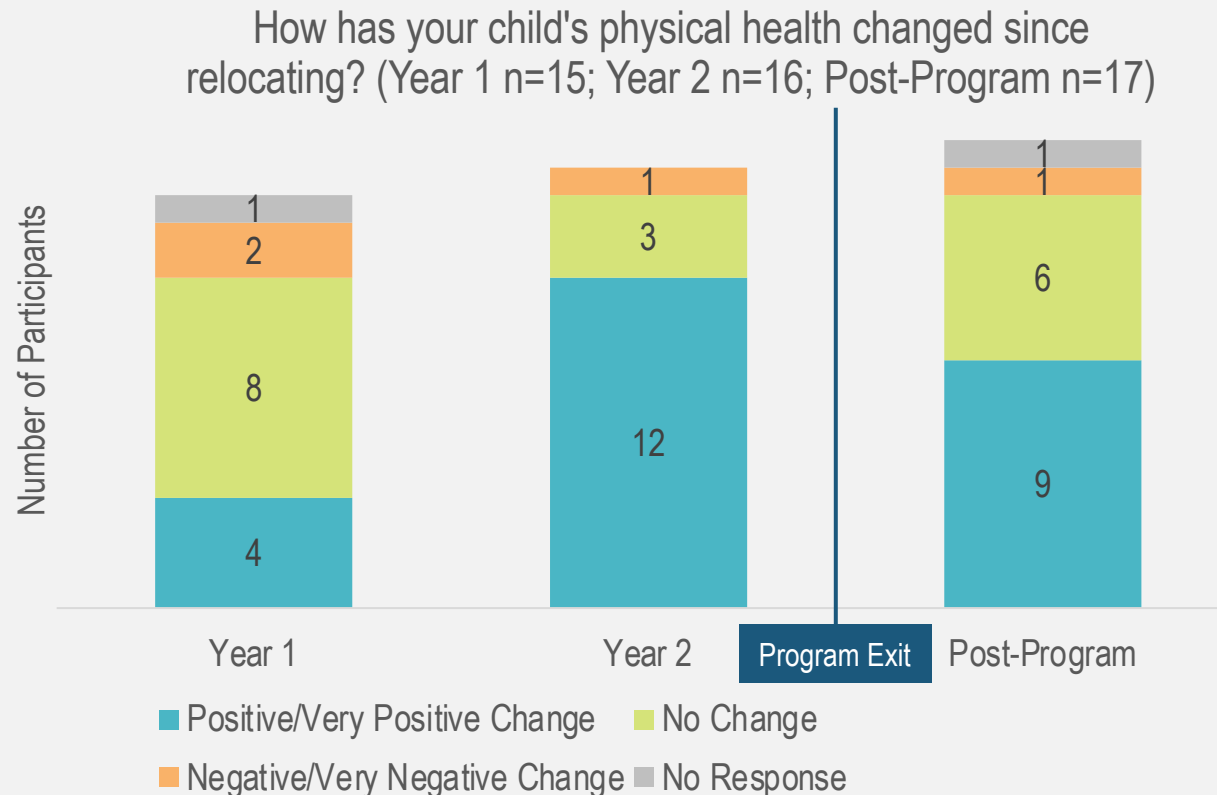
CHILD HEALTH, WELL-BEING, &
DEVELOPMENT



5.1 Changes in Children's Physical Health

Participants (parents) provided responses on behalf of each of their children: 15 children in Year 1, 16 children in Year 2, and 17 children in the post-program survey. In Year 1, participants reported positive changes in the physical health of four of 14 children (excluding one nonresponse), no change for eight children, and negative changes for two children following relocation. In Year 2, participants reported positive changes in the physical health of 12 of 16 children, no change for three children, and a negative change for one child following relocation. In the post-program survey, participants reported positive changes in the physical health of nine of 16 children (excluding one nonresponse), no change for six children, and a negative change for one child during program participation compared with pre-enrollment.

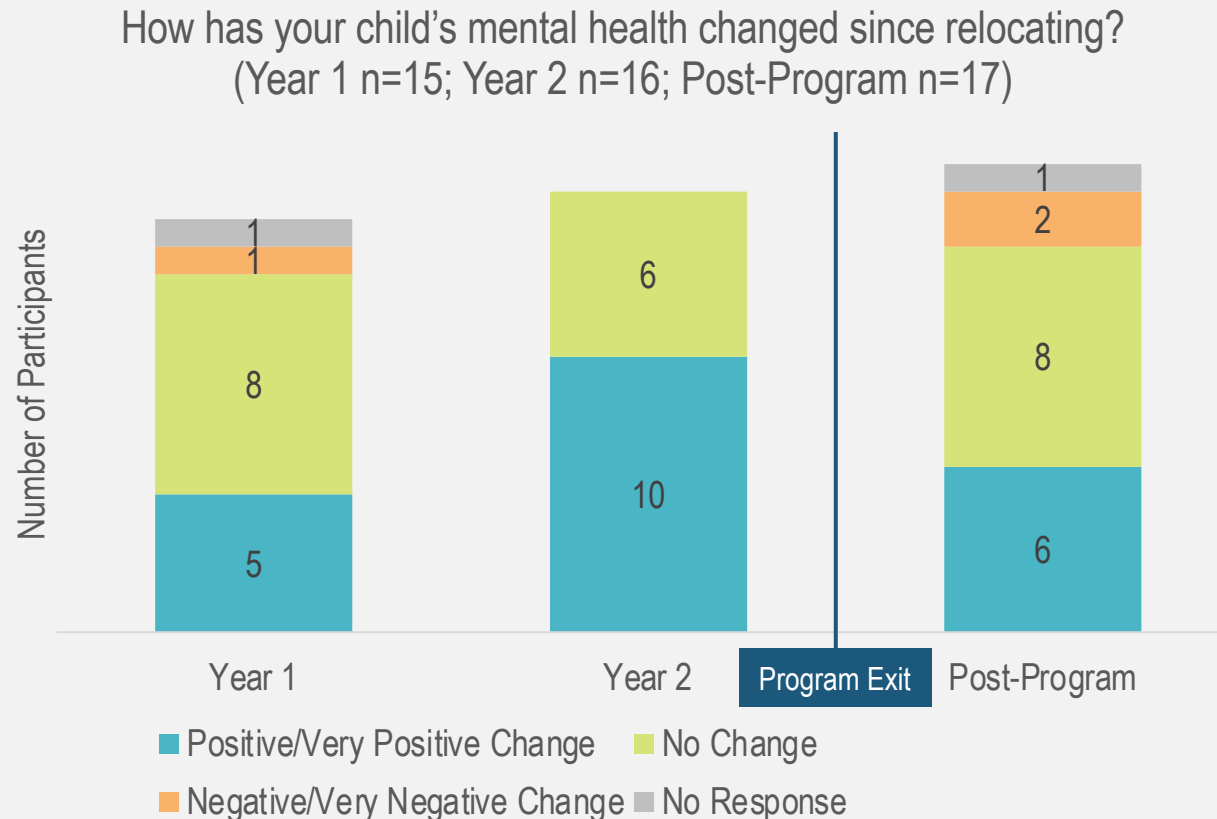
No change in a child's physical health should not be interpreted negatively. For children who began the program in very good or excellent health, maintaining their health status can be considered a positive outcome.



5.2 Changes in Children's Mental Health

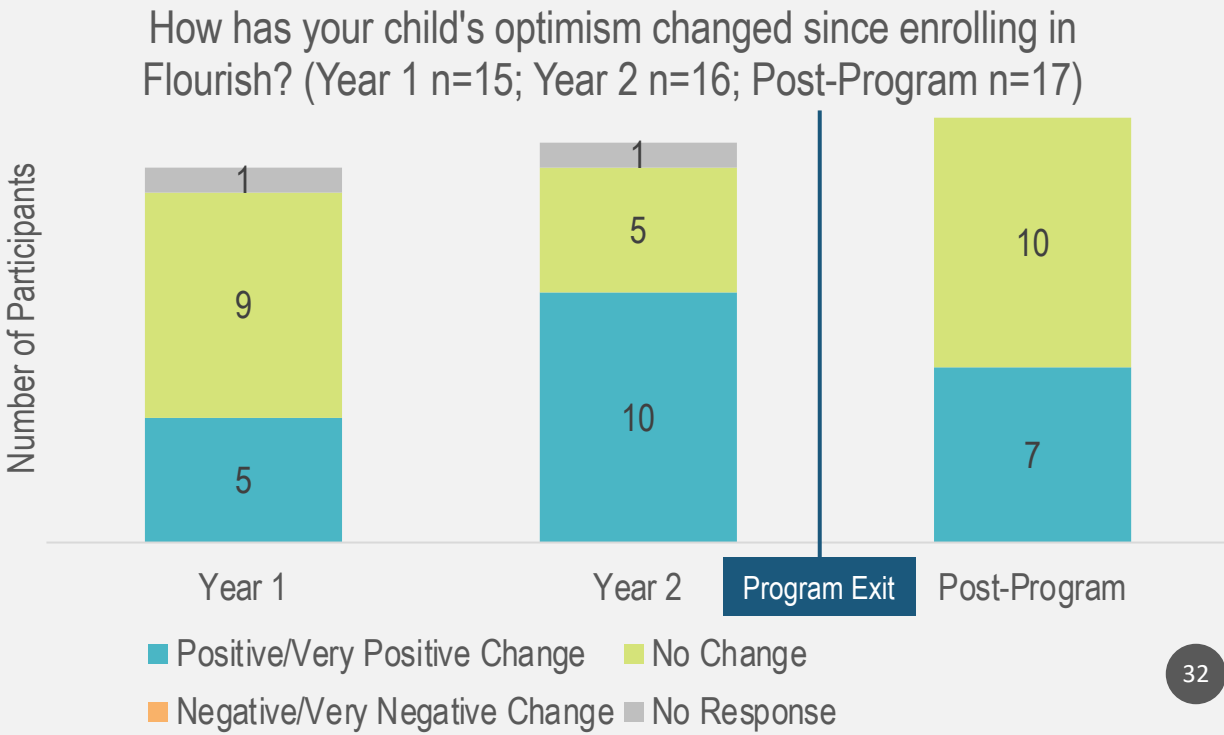
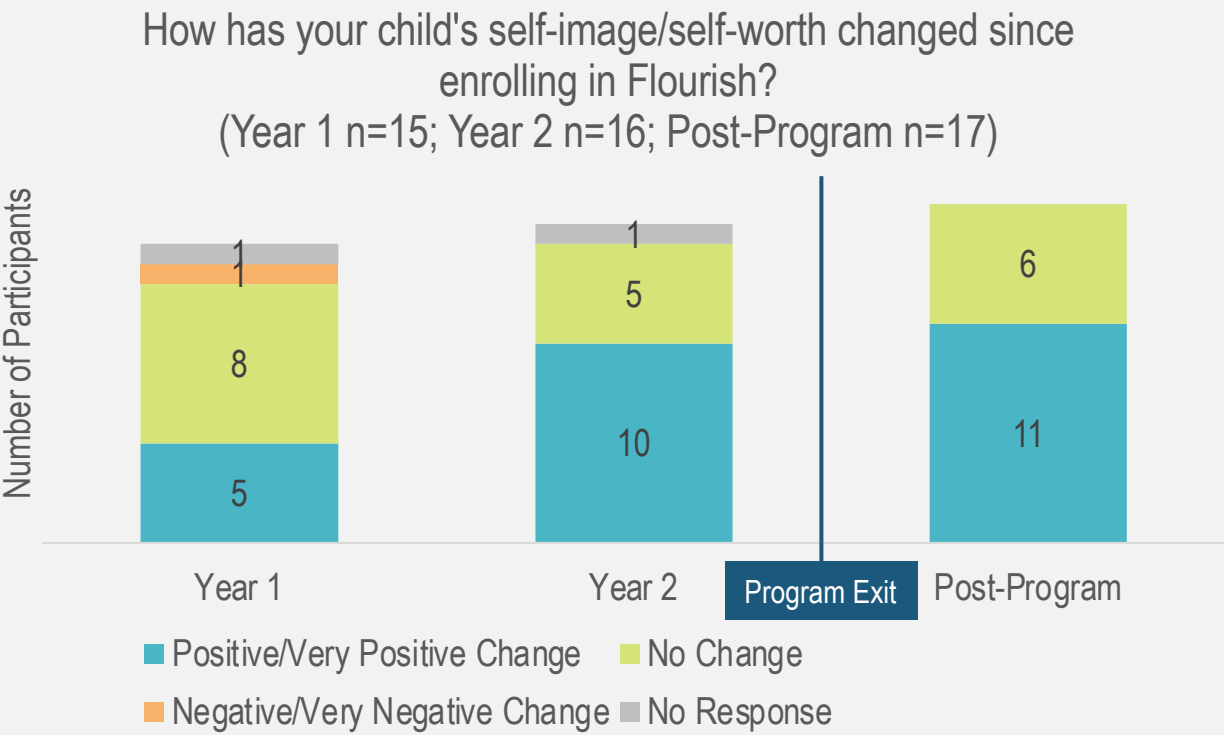
In Year 1, participants reported positive changes in the mental health of five of 14 children (excluding one nonresponse), no change for eight children, and a negative change for one child following relocation. In Year 2, participants reported positive changes in the mental health of 10 of 16 children, and no change for six children following relocation. In the post-program survey, participants reported positive changes in the mental health of six of 16 children (excluding one nonresponse), no change for eight children, and negative changes for two children during program participation compared with pre-enrollment.

No change in a child's mental health should not be interpreted negatively. For children who began the program in very good or excellent mental health, maintaining their health status can be considered a positive outcome.



5.3 Changes in Children’s Emotional Health

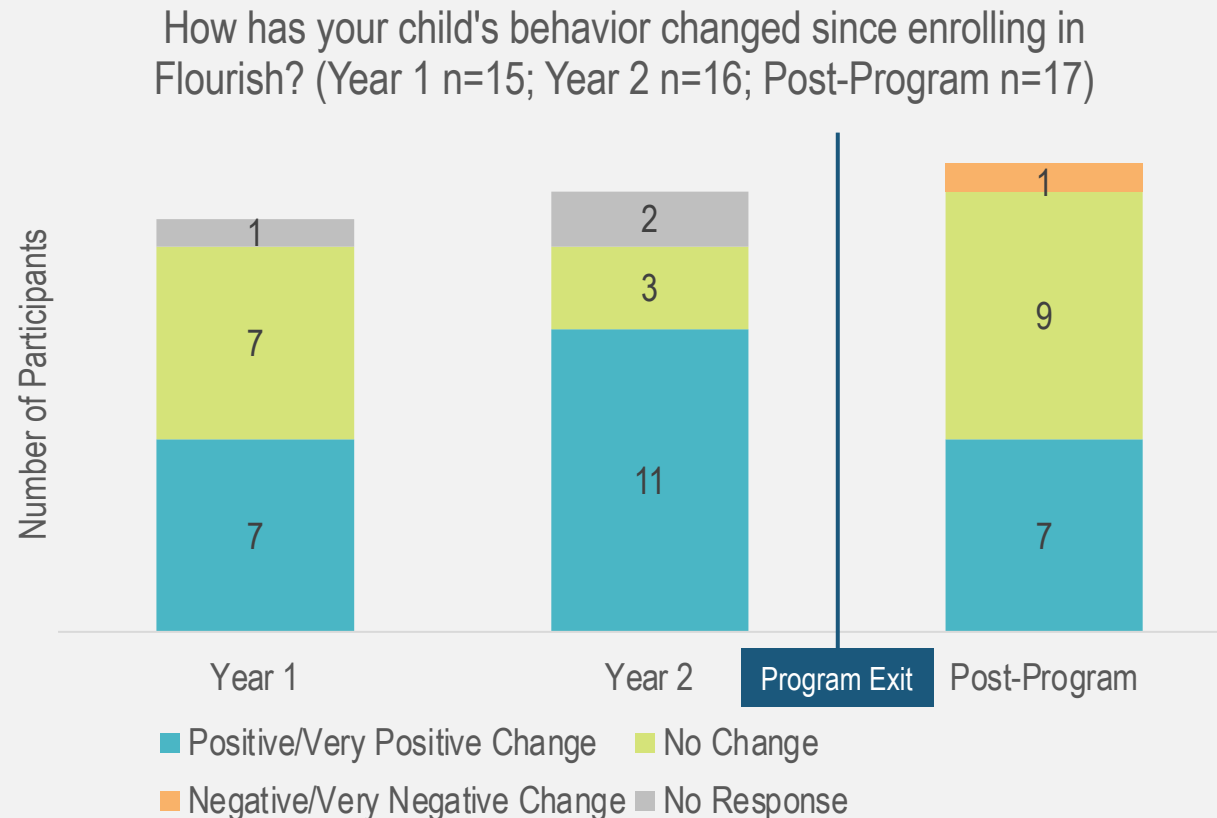
Participants generally reported improvements in children’s self-image/self-worth after enrolling in the program. In Year 1, five of 14 children showed positive change (excluding one nonresponse), eight showed no change, and one showed a negative change. In Year 2, 10 of 15 children showed positive change (excluding one nonresponse), while five showed no change. Post-program survey results indicated positive change for 11 of 17 children, with six reporting no change during program participation compared with pre-enrollment. Additionally, participants reported improvements or no change in children’s optimism after enrolling in the program. In Year 1, five of 14 children showed positive change (excluding one nonresponse), while nine showed no change. In Year 2, 10 of 15 children showed positive change (excluding one nonresponse), while five showed no change. Post-program survey results indicated positive change for seven of 17 children, with 10 reporting no change during program participation compared with pre-enrollment. No change in children’s emotional health should not be interpreted as negative or concerning. In some cases, participants may have felt their child’s emotional health was already positive before joining the program.



5.4 Changes in Children's Behavior

In Year 1, participants reported improvements in the behavior of seven of 14 children (excluding one nonresponse) since enrolling in the program, while they reported no change for seven children. In Year 2, participants reported improvements in the behavior of 11 of 14 children (excluding two nonresponses), while they reported no change for three children. In the post-program survey, participants reported improvements in the behavior of seven of 17 children during program participation compared with pre-enrollment, while they reported no change for nine children and a negative change for one child.

No change in children's behavior should not be interpreted as negative or concerning. In some cases, participants may have felt their child's behavior was already positive before joining the program.

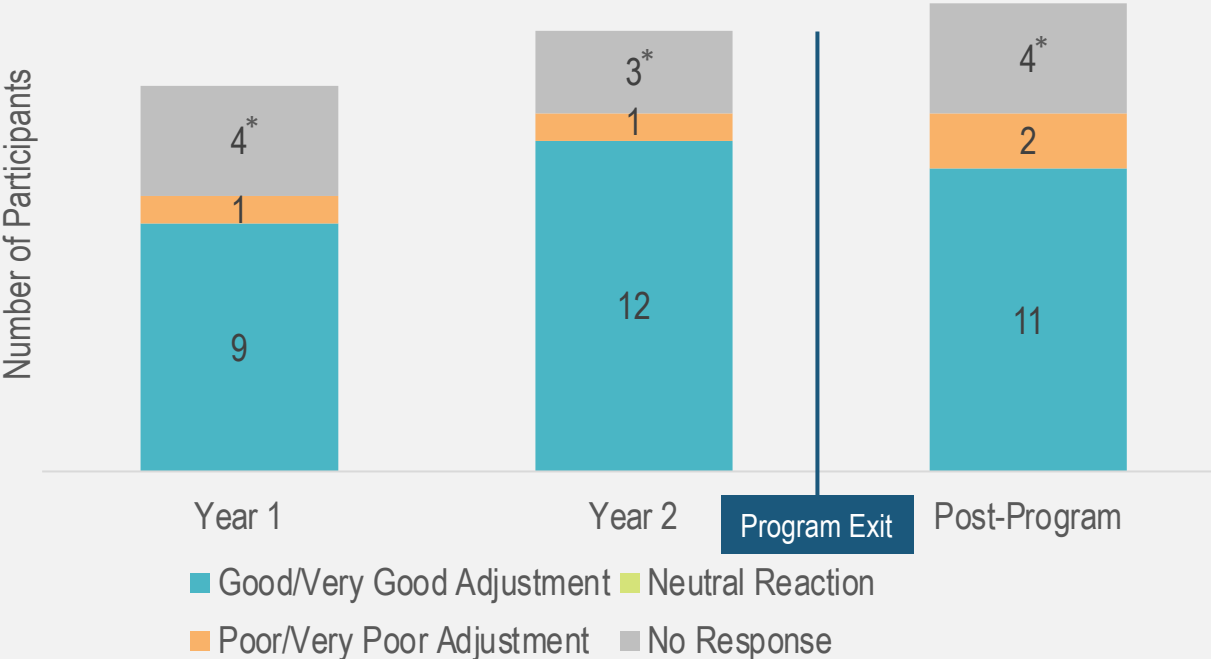


5.5 Adjustment to New School and Change in Academic Outcomes

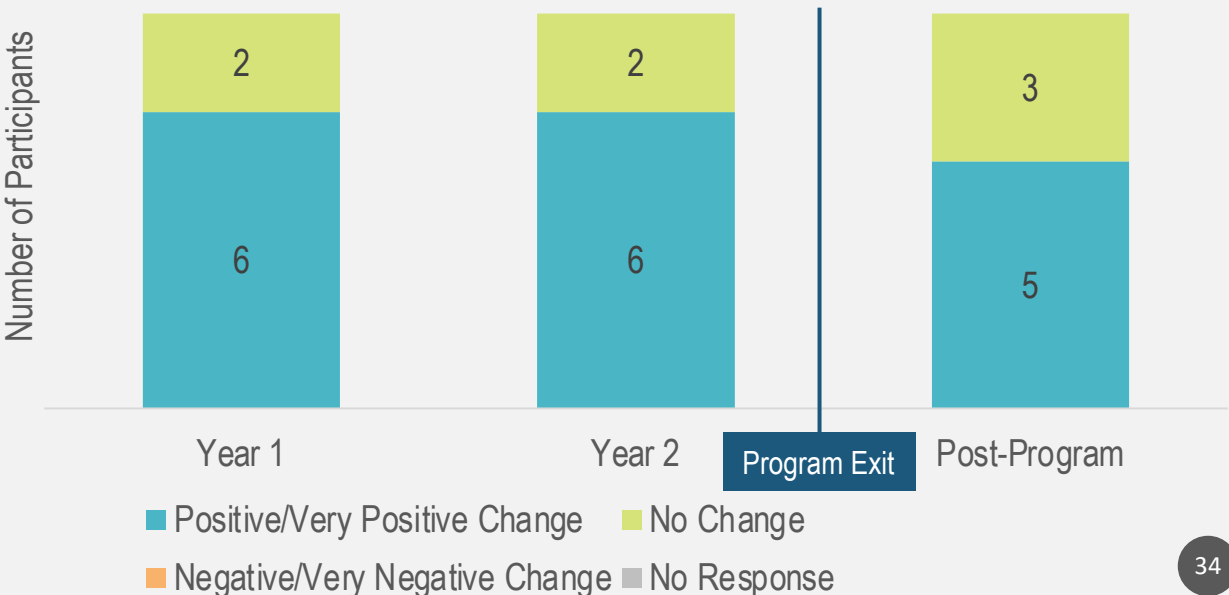
Across all survey periods, participants reported that most children (excluding nonresponses) had a good or very good adjustment to their new school (including daycare and preschool). One child was reported to have poor adjustment in both Year 1 and Year 2 and two children were reported to have poor adjustment in the post-program survey.

Since enrolling in Flourish, participants reported improved academic outcomes for most K–12 children across all survey periods. Two children were reported to have no change in academic outcomes in both Year 1 and Year 2, and three children were reported to have no change in the post-program survey. No change in child’s grades should not be interpreted as negative. In some cases, children were already achieving good grades before joining the program, so maintaining that level of performance can be considered a positive outcome.

How has your child adjusted (or reacted) to their new school?
(Year 1 n=15; Year 2 n=16; Post-Program n=17)



For children in K–12, how have your child's grades changed since enrolling in Flourish?
(Year 1 n=8 ; Year 2 n=8; Post-Program n=8)



*Non-responses were from participants with children in preschool or younger.

5.6 Child Development and Health: Excerpts from the Post-Program Survey

- *“My son jumped two grade levels in reading.”*
- *“My daughter’s adjustment has been amazing.”*
- *“Moving into a thriving school district changed the amount of opportunities and like-minded students.”*
- *“In the beginning, I believe the adjustment was a bit difficult; however, she’s adjusted and adapted very well. I believe it just took time for her to get acclimated to her new school environment and peers.”*
- *“Has an IEP for speech delay and [is] doing well.”*
- *“Advanced for a one-year-old.”*
- *“He’s only one but is often sick [when] attending daycare.”*
- *“[A child with an early health condition is] thriving, with [the condition] resolved by age one.”*
- *“There were behavior changes, and he was expelled from daycare, but they were unrelated to the participation in the program.”*
- *“She has a chronic illness, so her physical and mental health depend heavily on her physical condition.”*

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PART 6

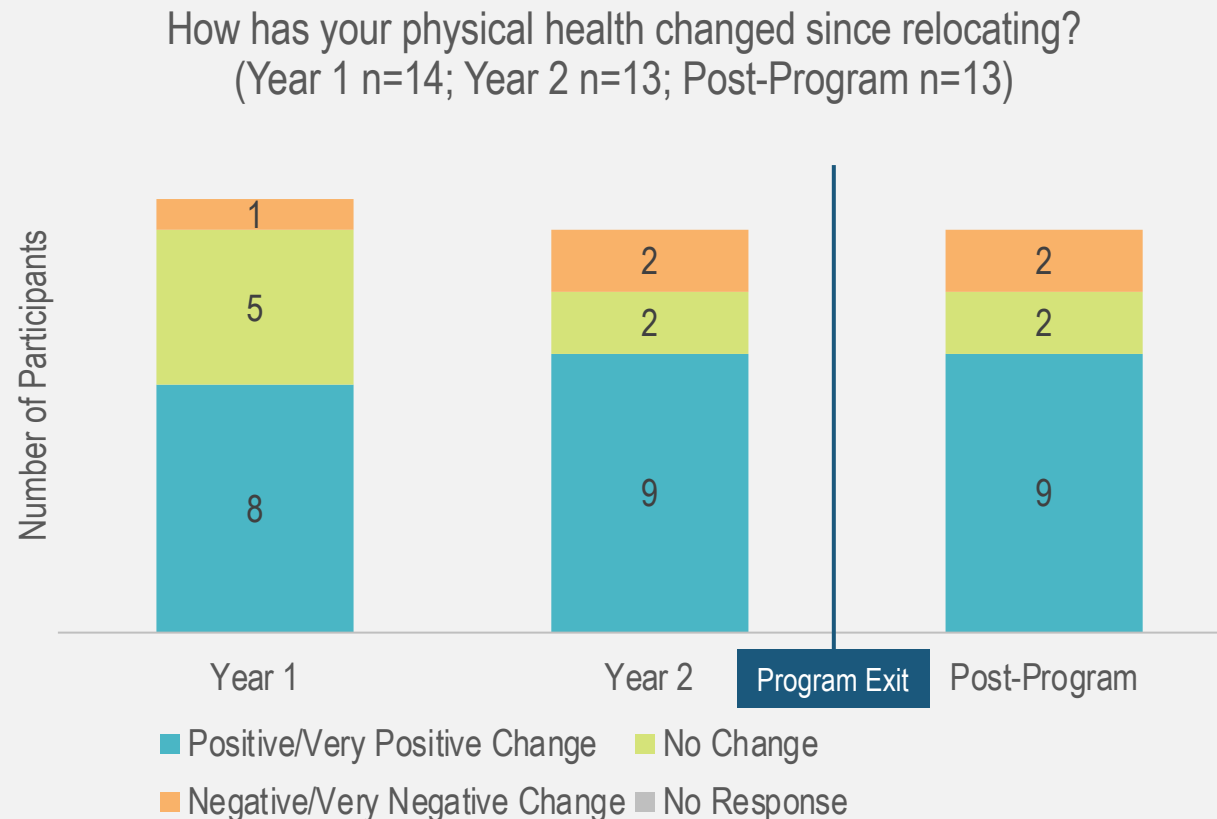
PARTICIPANT HEALTH



6.1 Changes in Participant Physical Health

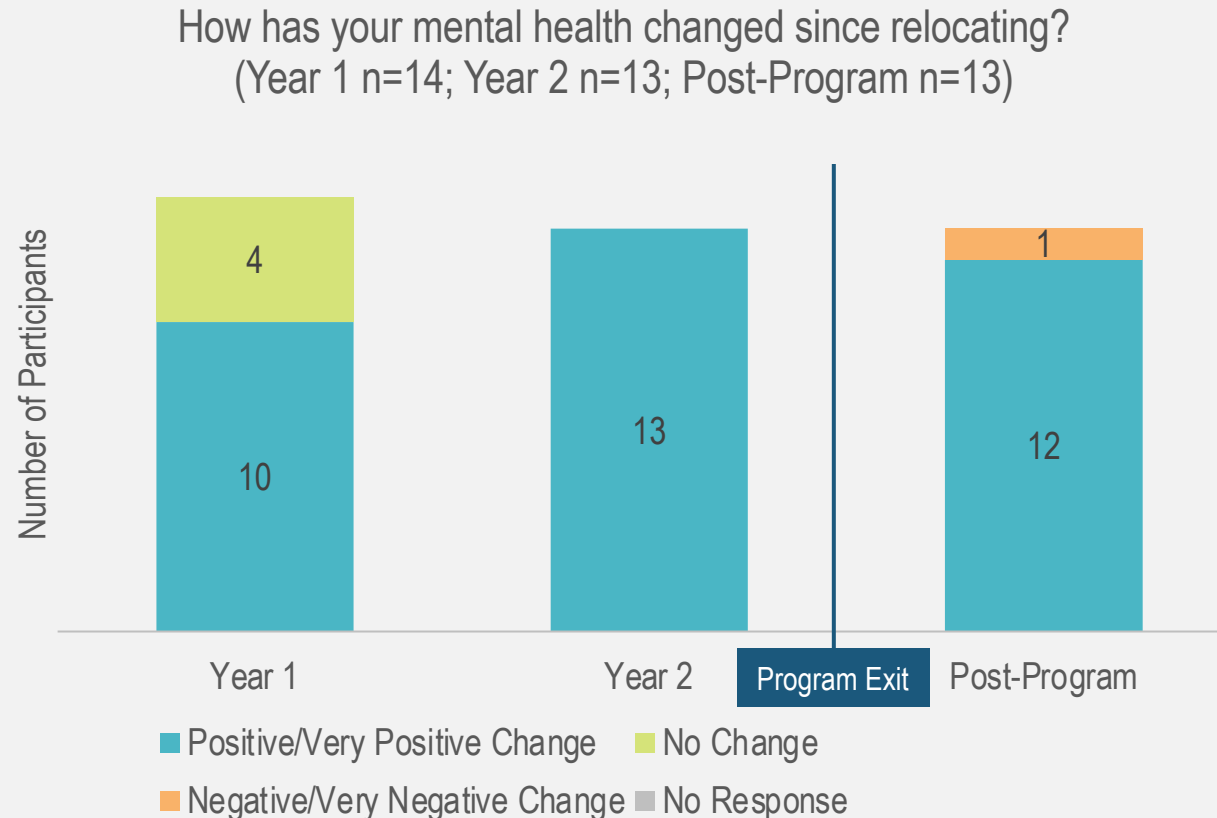
In Year 1, over half of the participants (eight of 14) reported improvements in physical health since relocating, while five reported no change and one reported a negative change. In Year 2, the majority of participants (nine of 13) reported improvements in physical health since relocating, while two reported no change and two reported negative changes. Similarly, in the post-program survey, the majority of participants reported improvements in physical health during program participation compared with pre-enrollment, while two reported no change and two reported negative changes.

While most participants reported improvements or no change in physical health, a small number experienced declines, often linked to chronic conditions or broader life circumstances (e.g., pregnancy-related medical restrictions, a postpartum health complication).



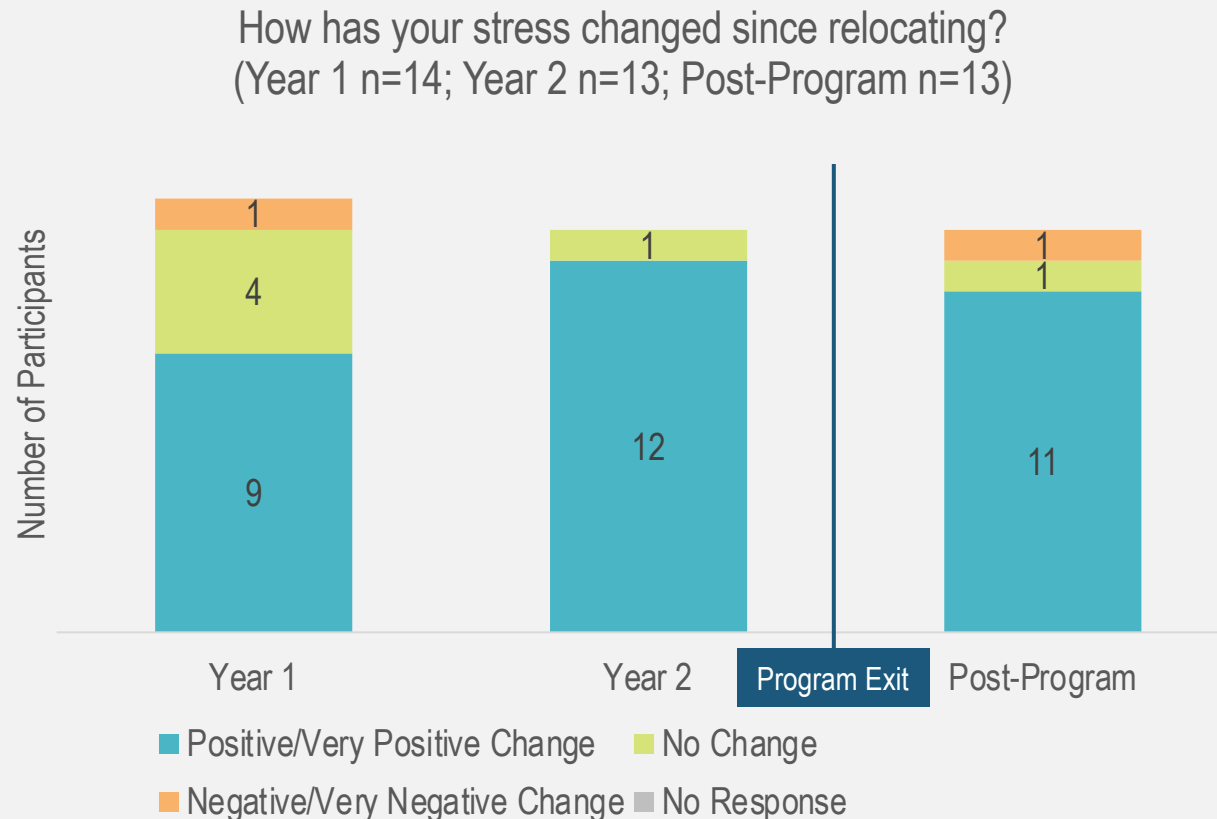
6.2 Changes in Participant Mental Health

In Year 1, most participants (10 of 14) reported improvements in mental health since relocating, while four reported no change. In Year 2, all participants reported improvements in mental health since relocating. In the post-program survey, all but one participant reported improvements in mental health during program participation compared with pre-enrollment, while one reported a negative change.



6.3 Stress Levels

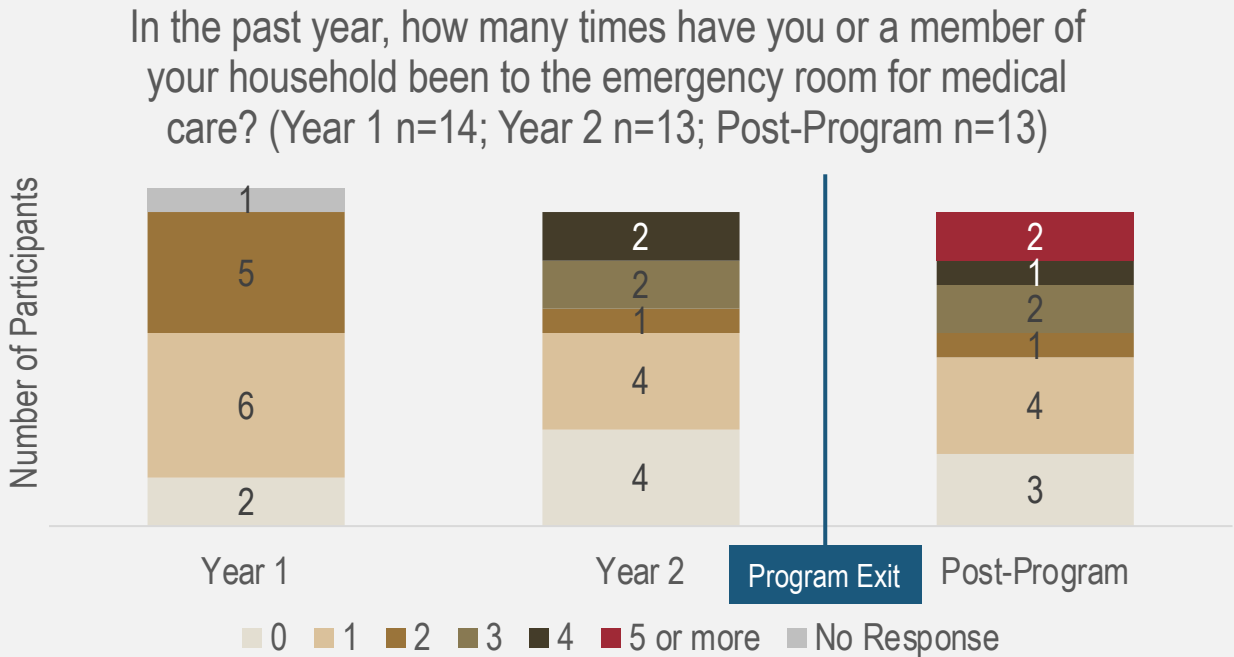
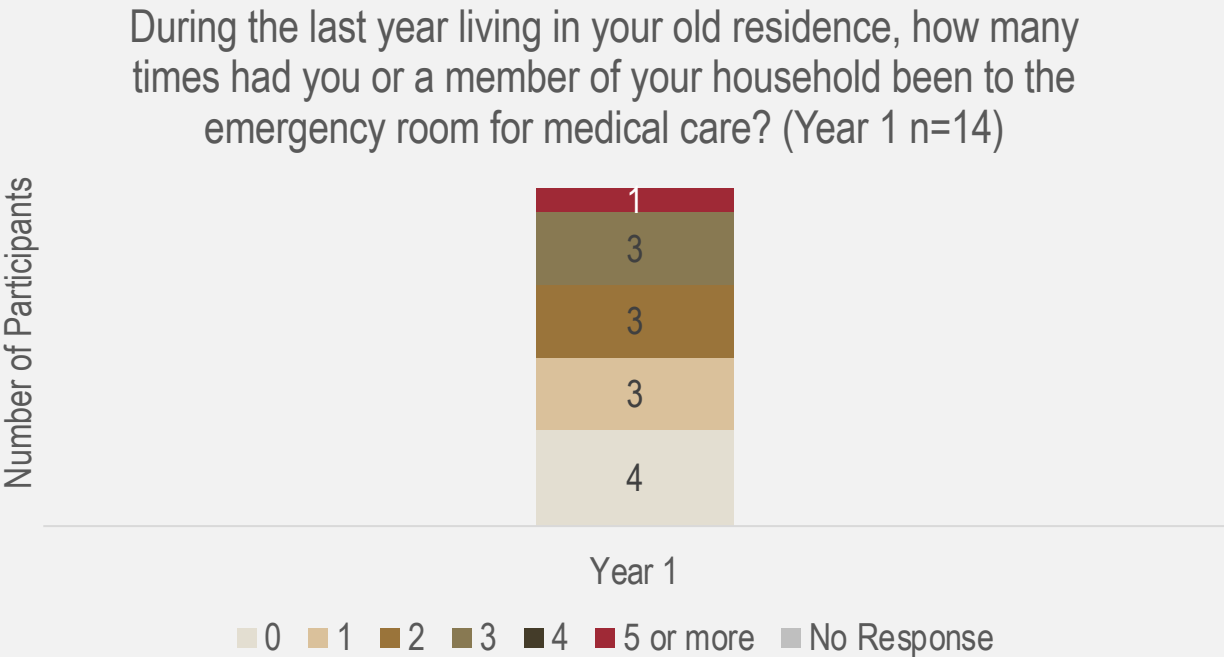
In Year 1, the majority of participants (nine of 14) reported a positive or very positive change in their stress levels since relocating, while four reported no change and one reported a negative change. In Year 2, all but one participant reported a positive or very positive change in their stress levels since relocating, with one reporting no change. In the post-program survey, the vast majority of participants (11 of 13) reported a positive or very positive change in their stress levels during program participation compared with pre-enrollment, with one reporting no change and one reporting a negative change.



6.4 Health Care Utilization: Emergency Room Usage

Participants reported the number of times they or their household members visited the emergency room (ER) for medical care during the past year. The percentages reporting any ER use (at least one visit) and frequent ER use (three or more visits) varied across survey periods. Overall, the total number of reported ER visits decreased from 23 at pre-enrollment to 16 in Year 1 and 20 in Year 2 before increasing slightly to 26 in the post-program survey (with responses of ‘five or more’ visits coded as five).

In the post-program survey, ER visits were related to respiratory or infectious illnesses (e.g., flu symptoms, COVID), chronic health conditions, and postpartum health complications.



6.5 Health: Excerpts from the Post-Program Survey

- *“Overall, my health is really good. This includes physically, mentally, spiritually, and emotionally. I have a great support system (family and friends), my faith is strong, and I have regular check-ins with a mental health counselor.”*
- *“I [experienced postpartum mental health challenges] twice, and Family Flourish supported me.”*

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PART 7

KEY FINDINGS FROM STATISTICAL ANALYSIS



7.1 Key Findings from Statistical Analysis

We used Wilcoxon signed-rank tests to assess whether participants reported meaningful changes in key outcomes during their participation in the program compared with before they entered the program. Participants reported nonrandom improvements in mental health, stress, income, and multiple child well-being outcomes during program participation compared with before joining the program. Detailed results from the statistical tests are provided in the Appendix.

These findings suggest meaningful positive changes among participants, although the absence of a comparison group limits the ability to determine whether the observed improvements were attributable to program participation or other factors. Employment and credit scores also showed positive trends; however, additional data with comparable measurements from a larger number of participants are needed to assess the consistency and robustness of these findings.

Outcome Area	Findings
Mental health	Meaningful positive change reported
Stress	Meaningful positive change reported
Income	Meaningful positive change reported
Children’s Well-Being	Meaningful positive change reported across multiple domains, including behavior, grades, self-image/self-worth, optimism, and physical health
Employment	Encouraging trend observed
Credit Score	Encouraging trend observed

Note. Results reflect changes reported by participants and should be interpreted considering the study’s limitations. Detailed tables are included in the Appendix Section for reference.

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PART 8

PROGRAM EXPERIENCE



8.1 Program Experience: Excerpts from the Post-Program Survey of Nine Participants

- *“I enjoyed holiday parties and gatherings when I could attend. It is very helpful around the holidays to make it festive and community-filled!”*
- *“Home location and coaching.”*
- *“My experience was amazing! It changed me a lot. It made me a lot more responsible. The program is such a great program and encourages you to do better, exceed your expectations and goals. I loved the coaches. I had a few, but I loved them all. They are very considerate, honest, and caring. The relocating made me a different person. I don’t ever want to go back to where I came from.”*
- *“If I hadn’t gone through this program, I’m unsure of how far I would’ve gone or if I would’ve been able to maintain in the new community I moved to.”*
- *“My experience has been beneficial, and I believe fruitful. I did the work, and the extra help gave me the push I needed to help set me and my family up for greater successes and additional opportunities.”*
- *“Relocating was a big transition, and it went well! Monthly programs made huge differences in my perspective on life.”*
- *“Relocating was supported from the start with monthly program education on how to choose relocating and life coaching, following up on the transition process. Monthly programming led to resources which I have utilized, and it has grown me and my family. Life coaching was a big part of my life, [helping me] face new things and get a different perspective.”*
- *“There were many benefits to participating in the program. I loved the area I lived in and hope to move back there one day. I made friendships with other families in the program that I may not have met if I wasn't in this program. There were many monthly programs that had great information about things you should know but were never taught, from credit scores to home buying. What I learned I can directly apply it to my life.”*
- *“...The programming topics and education quality were excellent. Coaching and resource connections stood out as the biggest strengths. With more individualized support, stronger community engagement, and better collaboration with property partners, the program could be even more impactful for families working toward stability.”*

Note. One participant noted extensive challenges with their property management company.

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PART 9

GROUP 1 COMPARED TO THE PILOT



9.1 Group 1 Compared to the Pilot

Metric	Pilot	Group 1
Program years	July 2018–July 2022 (4 years)	July 2022–July 2025 (3 years)
Number of participants	10	15
Retention rate	90%	87%
Income increase (\$)*	\$17,000 (4-year average)	\$13,868 (median)
Credit score increase	100+ points	62 points
Stayed in same apartment	8	6
Joined from homelessness**	5 of 10	7 of 13
Average age of children at entry***	9.2	5.2
Average age of participants at entry	35 (range 26–53)	29 (range 20–38)

Note. This analysis is based on administrative data.

*Group 1 families participated in the program for three years, while pilot families participated for four years due to the pandemic. Income figures compare the pilot-group average with the Group 1 median; therefore, findings should be interpreted accordingly.

**For the pilot families, participants joined the program from homelessness or had experienced homelessness within the five years preceding program participation.

***Group 1 children ranged in age from 6 months to 12 years at program entry (3 were born during the program and 9 were age 1 or younger at entry). Pilot children ranged in age from 3 to 13 years at entry.

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PART 10

DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION



10.1 Discussion and Conclusion

The Group 1 final evaluation provides substantial evidence that the program is achieving many of its intended goals related to housing stability, neighborhood opportunity, economic well-being, and overall quality of life. Findings from three years of data indicate generally consistent and positive outcomes across multiple domains.

Overall Program Success

After three years of program participation, most participants successfully graduated from the program, with two of 15 participants exiting prior to program completion, resulting in a retention rate of 87%.

Housing Stability and Neighborhood Opportunity

With the exception of the two participants who exited the program, most participants achieved housing stability. This is a meaningful outcome given participants' housing circumstances before enrollment. Prior to entering the program, participants had experienced housing instability, periods of homelessness, and/or resided in low-opportunity neighborhoods.

Among the 13 participants who graduated from the program, six remained in the same housing they occupied during program participation. Of the remainder, four moved to moderate- to very high-opportunity neighborhoods, bringing over three quarters (10 of 13, 77%) into moderate- to very high-opportunity areas.

Additionally, following program completion, the majority of participants reported improved housing conditions, and some reported improvements in neighborhood conditions compared with their pre-enrollment circumstances.

Financial Stability

The Group 1 families finished on pace with the income improvements seen in the Pilot program at three years.

The majority of participants reported improvements in employment, income, credit scores, and overall economic circumstances during program participation compared with pre-enrollment status.

Almost all participants reported that participation in the program helped them achieve new goals. The most commonly achieved goals were educational goals, followed by career goals, financial goals, and goals related to children's education.

During their participation in the program, all participants reported completing additional education, such as taking the GED, enrolling in college, or taking classes to learn a new skill. Similarly, during their participation in the program, 11 of 13 participants reported participating in a job or career training program, and 9 of 13 reported receiving one or more promotions.

10.1 Discussion and Conclusion (continued)

Adult Health and Wellness

The most profound outcome for Group 1 families is the reduction in chronic stress. Chronic stress for families entering the program is fueled by housing instability/homelessness and fear of neighborhood safety risks. The reduction in stress from being housing stable and in a safe environment is a critical element to family wellbeing. These improvements in mental health are foundational to the other educational and economic benefits experienced later in the program.

Participants reported notable improvements in health and well-being, particularly in mental health and stress levels. Almost all participants reported improvements in mental health and most reported positive or very positive changes in their stress levels during program participation. These improvements were consistent over time, with findings from both the Year 2 and post-program surveys indicating better outcomes than those reported in Year 1. In addition, the majority of participants reported improvements in physical health.

Regarding ER utilization, the percentages of participants reporting any ER use (at least one visit) and frequent ER use (three or more visits) varied across survey periods. The total number of reported ER visits decreased from 23 at pre-enrollment to 16 in Year 1 and 20 in Year 2 before increasing slightly to 26 in the post-program survey (with responses of ‘five or more’ visits coded as five).

In the post-program survey, ER visits were related to respiratory or infectious illnesses (e.g., flu symptoms, COVID), chronic health conditions, and postpartum health complications.

Child Health and Development

Participants reported positive changes in their children’s health and educational outcomes. Positive or very positive changes in physical health were reported for more than half of the children, while no change was reported for most of the remaining children, except for one child. Participants reported either positive changes or no change in mental health for all but two children during program participation. Participants also reported that most children adjusted well to their schools, and that nearly two-thirds of K–12 children improved academic outcomes during program participation. These findings are important, as they may contribute to children’s long-term well-being and economic mobility.

Limitations

The findings are based primarily on self-reported survey data and reflect the experiences of Group 1 participants only. As participants in other groups are still enrolled, future evaluation activities will provide a more comprehensive assessment of program outcomes. Because the evaluation did not include a control or comparison group, the findings should be interpreted accordingly. Despite these limitations, the findings provide valuable insights into participants’ experiences and outcomes across multiple domains.



PART 11

APPENDIX



11.1 Appendix A: Descriptive Statistics and One-Sample Wilcoxon Signed-Rank Test Results for Key Adult Outcomes From the Post-Program Survey

	N	Median	% Negative change	% Neutral	% Positive change	Wilcoxon Z	r	p-value
Mental health	13	4	7.7%	0%	92.3%	2.950	0.8182	.0032
Stress	13	4	7.7%	7.7%	84.6%	2.845	0.7891	.0044
Income	13	4	15.4%	23.1%	61.5%	2.109	0.5849	.0349
Employment	13	4	7.7%	38.5%	53.8%	1.969	0.5461	.0489
Credit score	13	4	15.4%	15.4%	69.2%	1.896	0.5259	.0579

Note. Effect size (r) represents the rank-biserial correlation calculated as $(Z/\sqrt{N})$. To account for multiple comparisons across the 10 total Wilcoxon signed-rank tests conducted in this study, p-values were adjusted using the Benjamini-Hochberg False Discovery Rate (FDR) procedure. All results with a raw $p < .05$, except employment and credit score, successfully survived this correction threshold ($q < .05$). While the calculated rank-biserial correlations indicate large effect sizes across our significant variables, caution should be exercised when generalizing these findings because of the limited sample size ($n = 13$).

11.2 Appendix B: Descriptive Statistics and One-Sample Wilcoxon Signed-Rank Test Results for Key Child Outcomes From the Post-Program Survey

	n	Median	% Negative change	% Neutral	% Positive change	Wilcoxon Z	r	p-value
Children's behavior	17	3	5.9%	52.9%	41.2%	2.156	0.5229	.0311
Children's grade	8	4	0%	37.5%	62.5%	2.236	0.7905	.0253
Children's self-image/self-worth	17	4	0%	35.3%	64.7%	3.250	0.7882	.0012
Children's optimism	17	3	0%	58.8%	41.2%	2.626	0.6369	.0086
Children's physical health	16	4	6.3%	37.5%	56.3%	2.313	0.5783	.0207

Note. n varies due to item-level missing data; The children's grade item was asked only of participants with children in K-12. Effect size (r) represents the rank-biserial correlation calculated as $(Z/\sqrt{N})$. To account for multiple comparisons across the 10 total Wilcoxon signed-rank tests conducted in this study, p-values were adjusted using the Benjamini-Hochberg False Discovery Rate (FDR) procedure. All results with a raw $p < .05$ successfully survived this correction threshold ($q < .05$). While the calculated rank-biserial correlations indicate large effect sizes across our significant variables, caution should be exercised when generalizing these findings because of the limited sample size ($n = 8, 16, \text{ or } 17$).



For more information about the Families Flourish program, please visit: <https://familiesflourish.org/>