

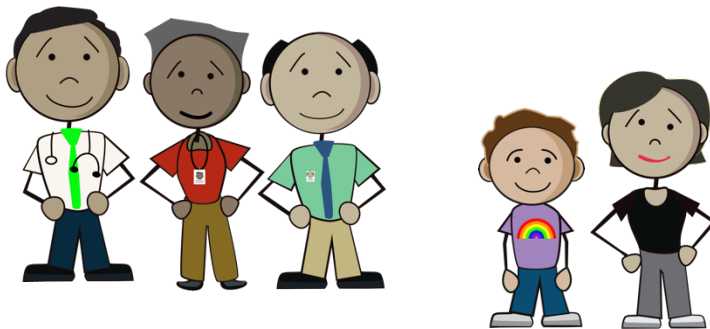


## CLAS Health Equity Plan Development

### What's CLAS?

Delivering **Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services (CLAS)** and promoting health equity are essential to any organization or system. The CLAS cohort process aims to promote health equity and help organizations reduce health disparities based on race, ethnicity, language, ability, and other dimensions of identity.

Promoting health equity means everyone has a fair and just opportunity to be as healthy as possible.



### Why CLAS?

Children and families come into contact with healthcare, behavioral health, child welfare, juvenile justice, and education systems, and can be negatively impacted by racial and ethnic disparities. CLAS improves the quality of service-delivery and care that addresses these disparities.

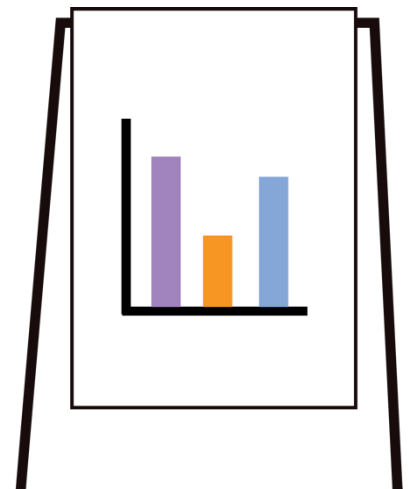
### Promoting CLAS

Connecting to Care encourages child and family-serving organizations to implement CLAS to advance health equity, improve the quality of services, and eliminate racial and ethnic disparities.

### CLAS Change Model

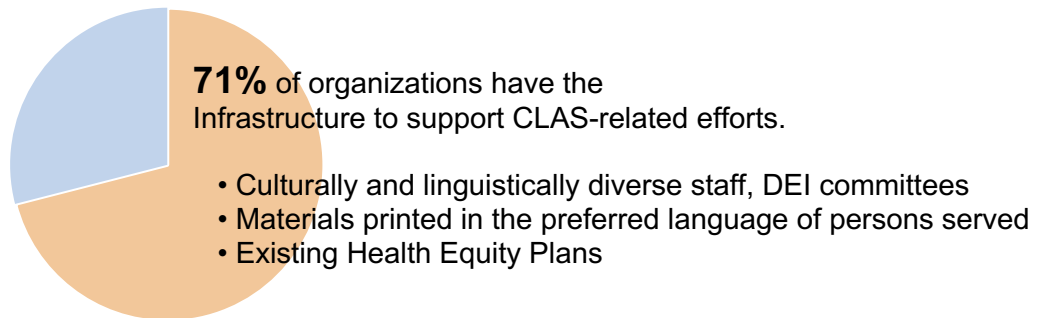
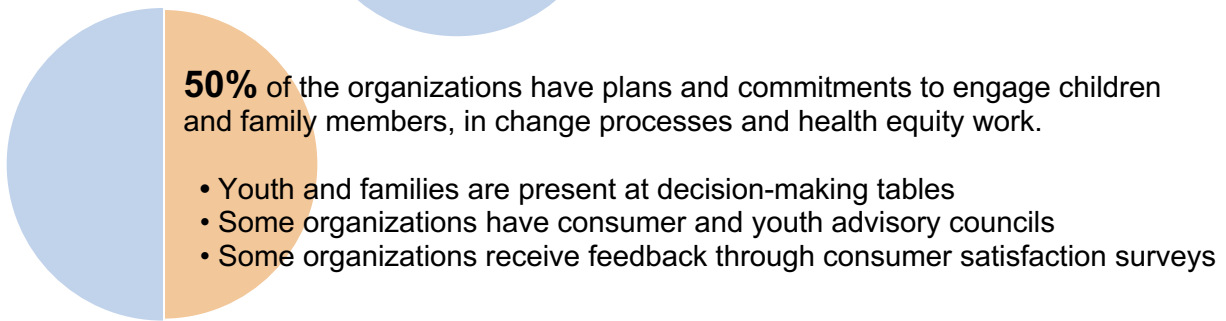
Connecting to Care's four-phase change model helps organizations develop health equity plans based on CLAS standards and address racial justice and health disparities.

- Phase 1: Initiation and Engagement
- Phase 2: Agency-Wide Health Equity Organizational Assessment
- Phase 3: Implementation and Evaluation
- Phase 4: Health Equity Plan Finalization and Sustainability



# Work in Progress Findings

9 organizations participated in Phase 1 of the Connecting to Care's four-phase change model from April 28, 2022 to September 29, 2022.



*"By participating in the CLAS Cohort process, I learned what CLAS really meant. Our organization completed an organizational assessment for the first time, and it was incredibly beneficial. I now have the CLAS Toolkit to refer to at all times."*

CLAS Cohort Member

Connecting to Care is a partnership that focuses on coordinating access to quality care through a youth-guided and family-driven approach. To improve behavioral health outcomes for children in Connecticut, Connecting to Care seeks to change the way that the system operates so that all children have the opportunity to thrive.