

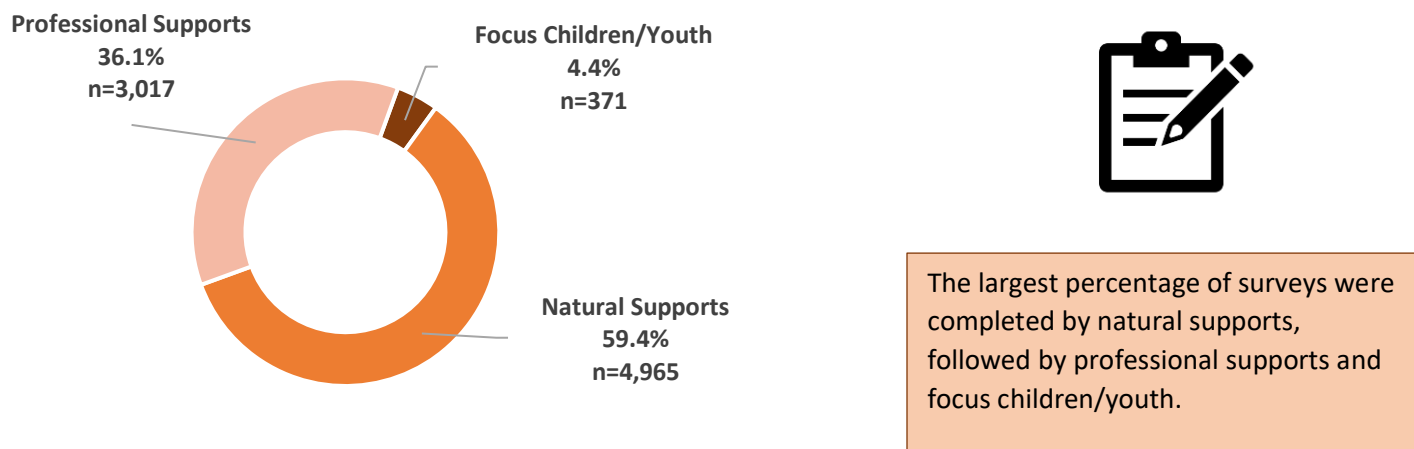
Family Group Decision Making Statewide Evaluation



The Implementation of Best Practices & Non-Negotiables

This data brief highlights the implementation of some best practices and non-negotiables that are key to following FGDM model fidelity. Results are based on conferences that occurred from July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2022. During this time period, there were **3,225 FGDM conferences** that were held in **47 counties**. Best practices and non-negotiables were assessed via a survey that included questions about participants' experiences during the conference. This brief presents the experiences of focus children/youth, natural supports, and professional supports. Data include evaluation form submissions through January 9, 2023.

Figure 1: Survey Responses (N=8,353)



Note: The majority of focus children/youth who responded to the survey were ages 13-17. Natural supports include family, friends, neighbors, and clergy.

Figure 2: Perspectives of Conference Appropriateness and Respect



Almost all focus children/youth and natural supports agreed or strongly agreed with the following:

- The conference was held in a place and in a way that “felt right.”
- The FGDM facilitator was respectful.

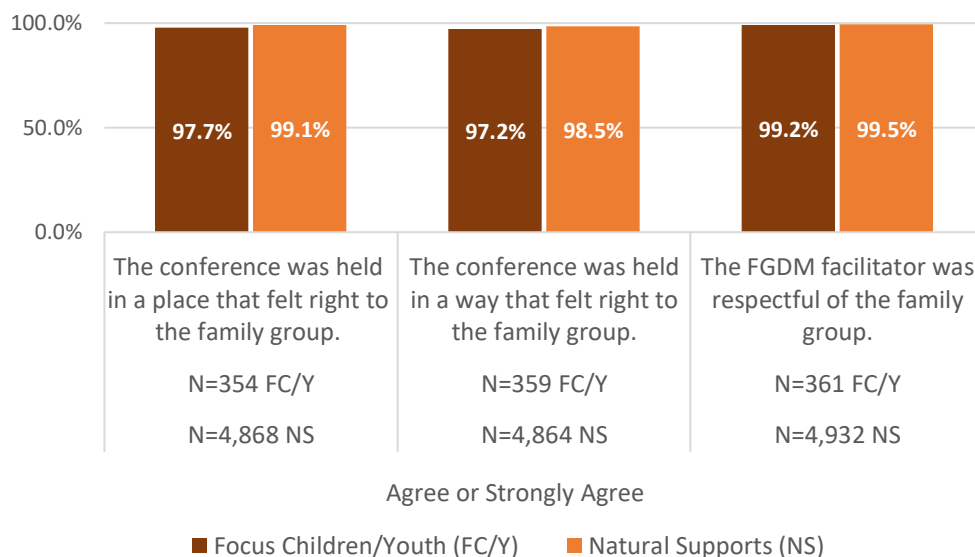
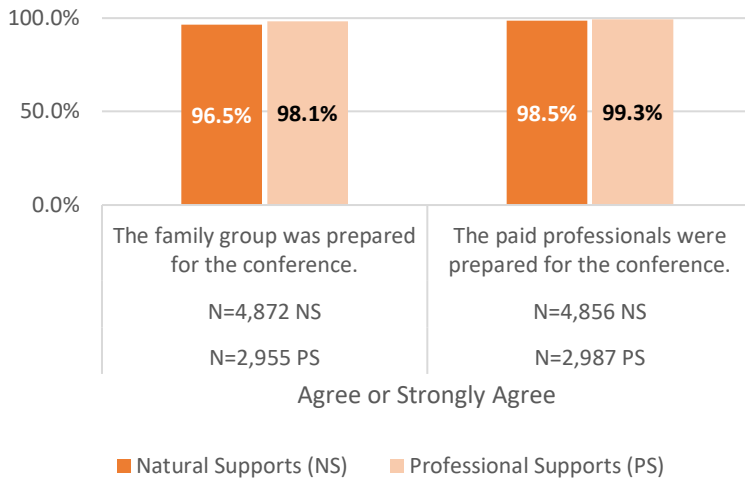


Figure 3: Perspectives of Conference Preparedness



The majority of natural and professional supports agreed or strongly agreed that the participants, including themselves, were prepared for the conference.

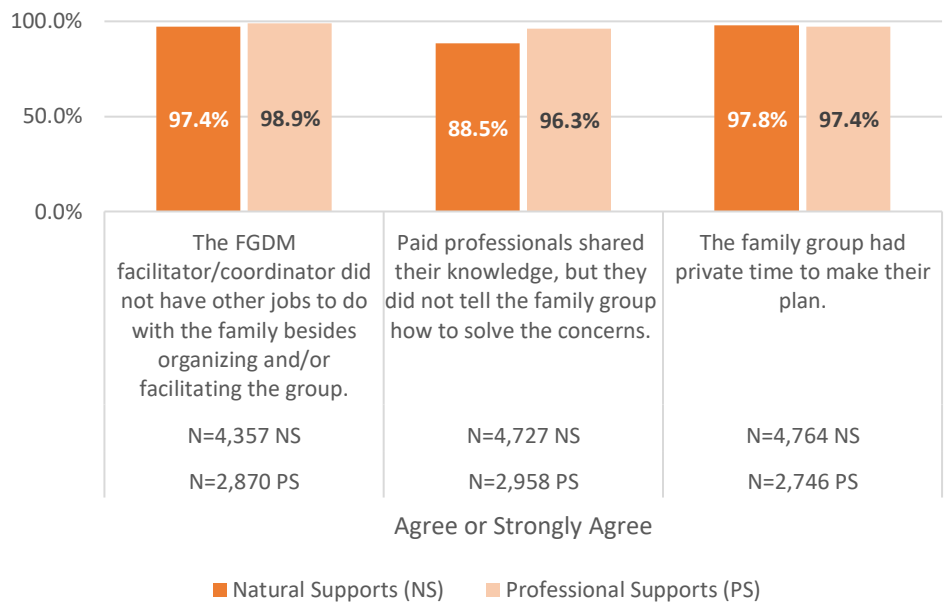
Most natural and professional supports agreed or strongly agreed with the following:

- The facilitator/coordinator was not involved with the family beyond organizing and/or facilitating the group.
- Private family time occurred at the conference.

There was a notable difference in agreement between natural and professional supports for the following:

- Natural supports were less likely to believe that the family group took the lead in solving the concerns.

Figure 4: Perspectives of Family Leadership



Key Takeaways

- Based on participants' perspectives, various best practices and non-negotiables are being implemented successfully, such as ensuring the conference is held appropriately for the family group, participants are prepared, and private family time is occurring.
- There is a notable difference in perspectives between natural and professional supports regarding whether the family group is taking the lead in developing solutions.

Reflection Questions

- What are your county's strengths in implementing FGDM practice that is true to the model?
- What are the areas your county could improve upon to ensure successful implementation of FGDM practice that is true to the model?
- What are the areas your county needs support in to ensure FGDM model fidelity?