



# EUSARF

## Conference XVI



RESEARCH CENTRE FOR  
**Better  
Outcomes**  
FROM FOSTERING & RESIDENTIAL CARE

1-3 September 2021, Zurich, Switzerland

## **The Extended Foster Care Evidence Base: Needing and Valuing Young People's Perspectives**

Dr Iain Matheson

Research Centre for Better Outcomes from Fostering and Residential Care  
New Zealand

[www.betteroutcomes.org.nz](http://www.betteroutcomes.org.nz)

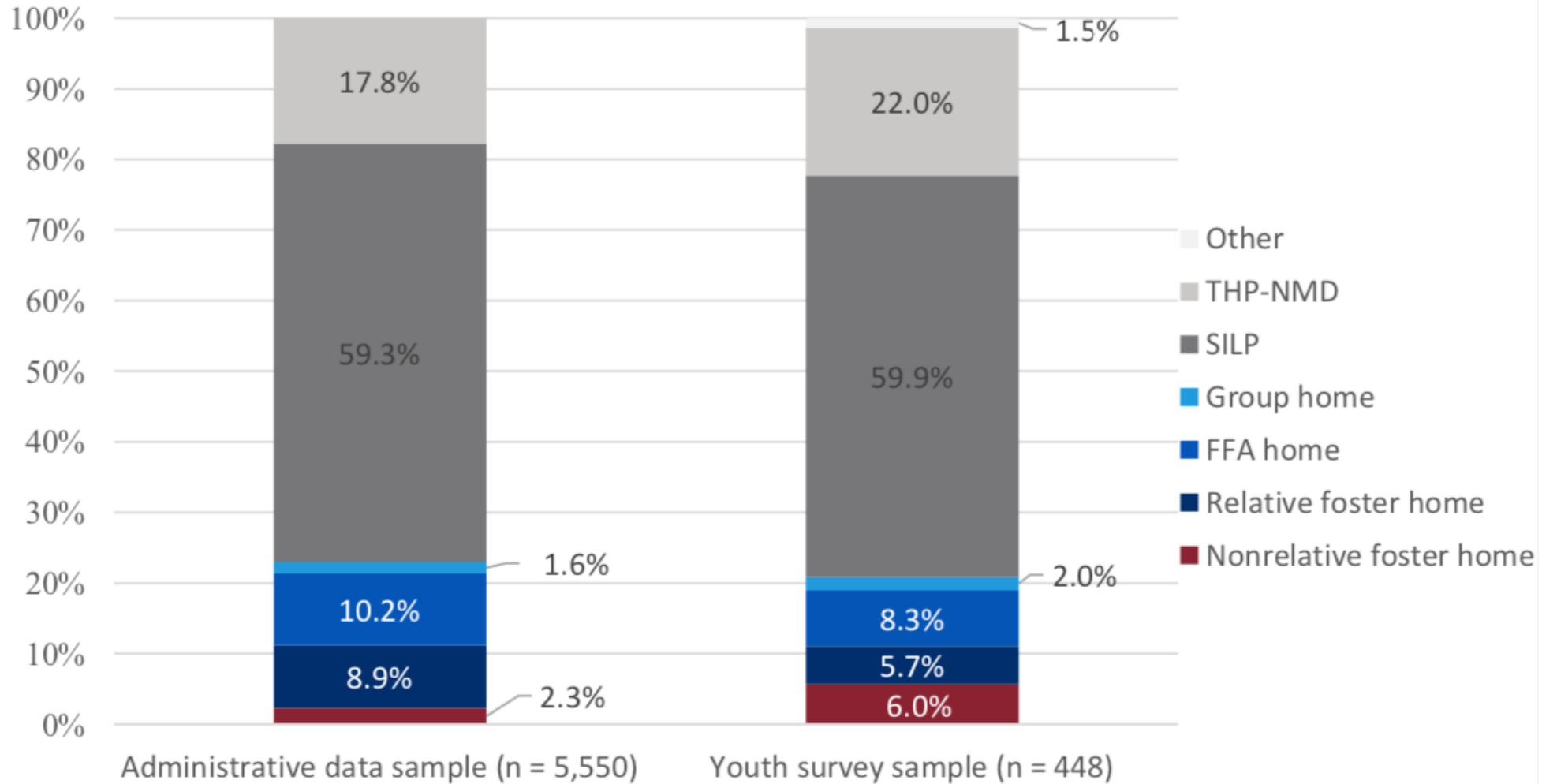


# INTERNATIONALLY WHAT IS EXTENDED CARE?

---

1. Formally remaining with foster carers
2. Formally remaining with foster carers OR in residential placement
3. Formally remaining with foster carers OR in residential placement AND/OR supported accommodation
4. Aftercare without necessarily any of the above

# PREDOMINANT PLACEMENT TYPE 18-21





# ALTERNATIVE APPROACHES

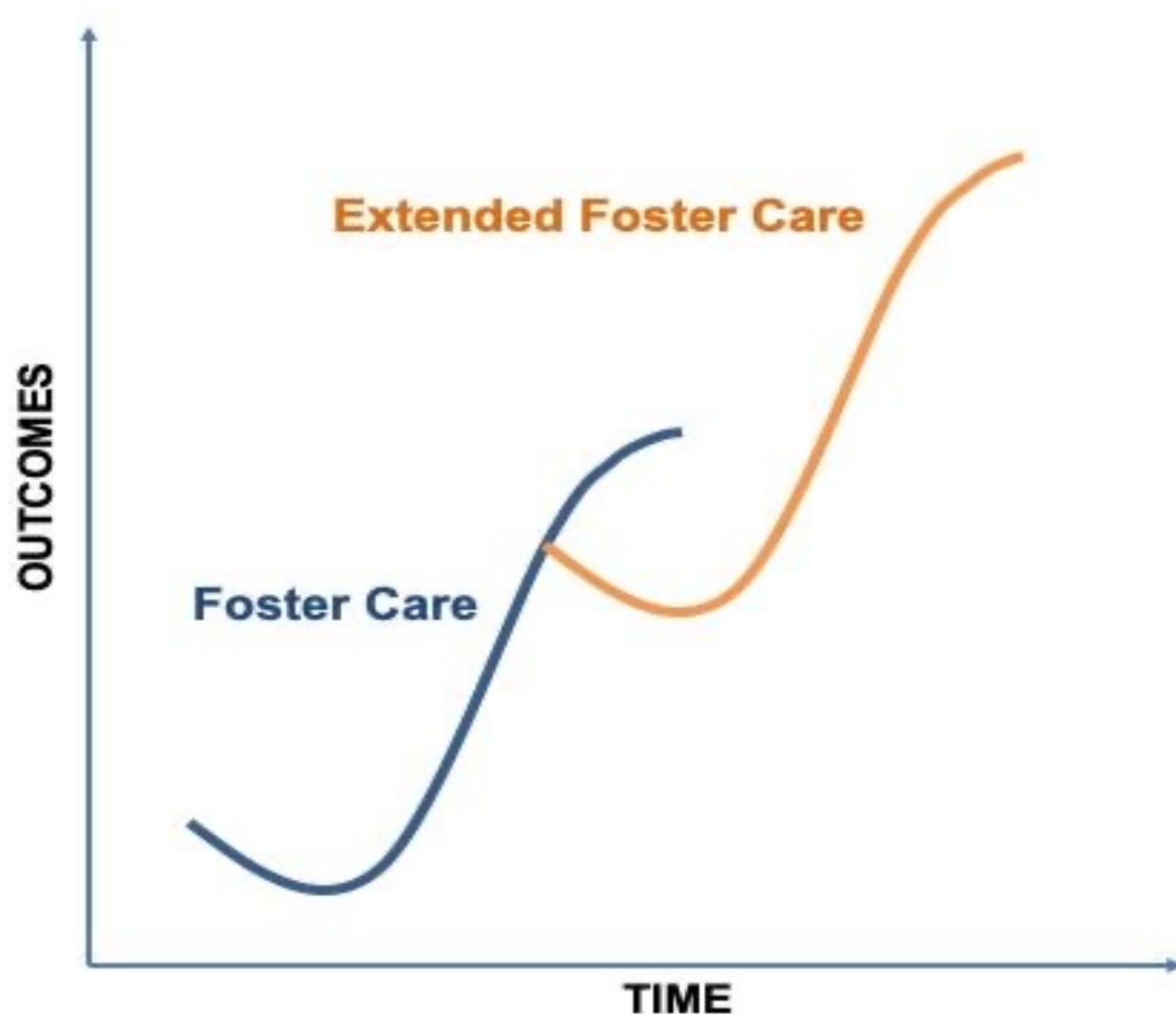
---

- **Later leaving care age**
- **Completion of education**
- **Informal private arrangements**
- **Permanency**
- **COVID-19 moratoriums**

# THERE IS EXTENDED CARE RESEARCH LITERATURE BUT...

Action for Children, 2020	Anglicare Victoria, 2016	Baidawi & Home Stretch, 2016	Burley & Lee, 2010	Child Trends, 2017	Children's Advocacy Institute, 2007	Children's Bureau, 2017
Deloitte Access Economics, 2016	Fostering Network, 2013	Fostering Network, 2018	Fostering Network & Action for Children, n.d.	Gilligan, 2018	Jones, 2019	Jim Casey Youth Opportunities Initiative, 2013a
Jim Casey Youth Opportunities Initiative, 2013b	Jim Casey Youth Opportunities Initiative, 2014	Juvenile Law Center, n.d.	McCrea, 2008	Mendes, 2018	Mendes, 2021	Mendes & Rogers, 2020
Miller, 2018	Miller, Bales & Hirsch, 2020	Munro et al., 2012	Nat'l Care Advisory Service, 2012	Nat'l Conference of State Legislatures, 2017	Peters et al., 2009	van Breda et al., 2020
Midwest Study (Courtney, et al., various)			CaYOUTH (Courtney et al.)			

## LITTLE RESEARCH ON EFFECTIVENESS?



*Arguably, there is a received wisdom...that extended care is an important vehicle to facilitate...transitions from care to adulthood and improve outcomes. However...the evidentiary base to support this assertion is thin (van Bred et al., 2020).*

# YOUNG PEOPLE'S PERSPECTIVES LARGELY ABSENT

Action for Children, 2020	Anglicare Victoria, 2016	Baidawi & Home Stretch, 2016	Burley & Lee, 2010	Child Trends, 2017	Children's Advocacy Institute, 2007	Children's Bureau, 2017
Deloitte Access Economics, 2016	Fostering Network, 2013	Fostering Network, 2018	Fostering Network & Action for Children, n.d.	Gilligan, 2018	Jones, 2019	Jim Casey Youth Opportunities Initiative, 2013a
Jim Casey Youth Opportunities Initiative, 2013b	Jim Casey Youth Opportunities Initiative, 2014	Juvenile Law Center, n.d.	McCrea, 2008	Mendes, 2018	Mendes, 2021	Mendes & Rogers, 2020
Miller, 2018	Miller, Bales & Hirsch, 2020	Munro et al., 2012	Nat'l Care Advisory Service, 2012	Nat'l Conference of State Legislatures, 2017	Peters et al., 2009	van Breda et al., 2020
Midwest Study (Courtney, et al., various)			CalYOUTH (Courtney et al.)			

# FINAL THOUGHTS

1. Untapped potential
2. Simple...but not easy
3. Empirical research
4. Young people's perspectives and preferences

Email: [iain@betteroutcomes.org.nz](mailto:iain@betteroutcomes.org.nz)

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/iainmatheson>

Website: [www.betteroutcomes.org.nz](http://www.betteroutcomes.org.nz)