

Ujima Project is a multi-site **targeted intervention initiative** of the Ontario Association of Young Parent Agencies (OAYPA) that supports young families. It is a one-stop model of access to services focusing on **early childhood development** and **family navigation** for equity-deserving, young parents (29 and under) and their children (0-6 years).



**1800+**  
ASQ'S COMPLETED

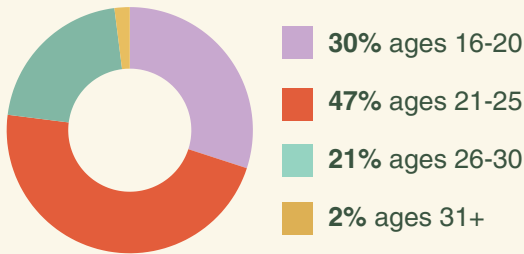
**250+**  
LITERACY GROUPS

**1190+**  
CHILDREN RECEIVING 1:1 LITERACY SUPPORT

**200**  
SPEECH & LANGUAGE REFERRALS



## Demographics of Young Parents:



**53%**  
Indigenous, Black, or Racialized

**83%**  
High school education or less

**36%**  
Rely on social assistance as their main source of income

## Ujima Project Hubs Offer a One-Stop Model of Access to Services Including:



**Preventative Attachment Programs**  
(Baby Love)



**Early Language and Literacy**

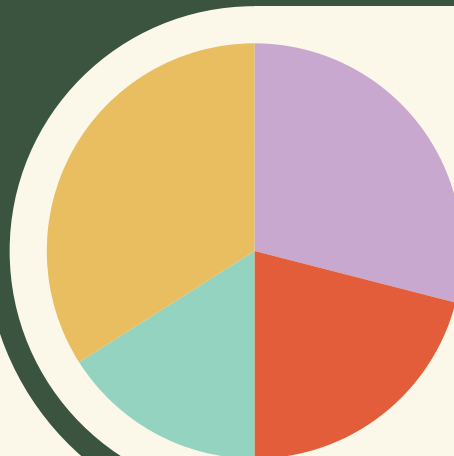


**Developmental Screening, Intervention, and Referral**  
(Ages and Stages Questionnaires)



**Family Navigation/Advocacy/ Addressing Social Determinants of Health**

## Primary Needs of Children Accessing Ujima Services



- General Development (29%)
- Behaviour (21%)
- Speech and Language (16%)
- Other (34%)

Based on **retrospective pre/post surveys**, Ujima Project is found to **increase access** to parenting and social support, and have a significant impact on **vulnerable communities**.



**89%** Felt **supported** by Ujima staff.



**95%** Felt Ujima staff **understood** their own/their child's needs.



**94%** Felt Ujima staff recommendations were **relevant** to their child's needs.

*Being a first time mom, I didn't have a lot of resources when it came to my son. After a conversation with my family navigator, I was able to make a plan for my future and access resources to help with the day-to-day journey of life.*

*[Ujima Project] has provided more insight on my children and their needs and how to respond appropriately.*



## Baby Love:

Evidence-based preventative intervention to foster secure attachment relationships.

### 100% of Participants:

- Enjoyed participating in Baby Love.
- Felt supported by facilitators.
- Learned new information.
- Would recommend Baby Love to other parents.



*There has been so many times where I have needed support. My family navigator is amazing at finding us resources and being there for appointments and so much more.*

## Evaluation findings showed large effect sizes (.71 to .96) in the following areas:

- ✓ Increased access to appropriate **referrals**
- ✓ Enhanced access to **parenting** and **social support**
- ✓ Increased confidence in addressing their **children's needs**
- ✓ Increased **advocacy** skills among parents
- ✓ Increased confidence in **navigating systems**
- ✓ Increased ability to **build healthy bonds** with their child(ren)
- ✓ Improved **connection** with their children, feeling more eager to spend time with their child and help them with their needs

If you would like to learn more about Ujima Project, please **visit our website**.