

## HOME STUDY TIMELINE: CWS INVOLVEMENT

01



### Unaccompanied Child Enters US

Unaccompanied children arrive at the country's southern border, with a significant number (89%) originating from Central America. Most fall within the age range of 15 to 17, as per 2022 ORR statistics.

02



### DHS Custody

Upon entry, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) takes custody of the minors, adhering to the Flores Agreement, limiting detention time to a maximum of 72 hours.

03



### UC Transported to an ORR Shelter

Minors are then transported to ORR facilities specifically designed to cater to their needs. These licensed shelters ensure provision for education, recreation, mental health, emotional support, and food while awaiting reunification.

04



### ORR Referral to CWS

During their stay at ORR shelters, case managers assess minors' cases, leading to referrals for home studies in cases where safety concerns or histories of abuse arise. Church World Service accepts these referrals.

05



### CWS Caseworker Conducts Home Study

Each referral is assigned to a dedicated CWS caseworker. The caseworker thoroughly examines the minor's case, conducting in-depth interviews with every household member and performing a comprehensive safety inspection of the sponsor's home.

06



### CWS Completes Home Study

After conducting the home visit, the CWS caseworker thoroughly assesses all aspects of the minor's case. Within 10 days of accepting the referral, the caseworker compiles their findings into an extensive report, which includes a well-considered release recommendation.

07



### ORR's Decision

Based on the caseworker's report and careful consideration of the sponsor's suitability, ORR makes the final decision regarding the minor's release, prioritizing the minor's well-being and safety.