



## Ohio Kinship and Adoption Navigator (OhioKAN) Development Project

Stakeholder Workgroup: Session 2 of 3

June 17, 2019 Meeting Minutes

### ATTENDEES

Alicia Allen, ODJFS; Mimi Anglin, Adoptive Parent; Joe Atkinson, Montgomery County PCSA; Roxana Bell, Kinnect; Stephanie Blaine, Athens County PCSA; Carrie Block, ODJFS; Sandy Bryant, Dayton Children's Hospital; Jamole Callahan, Kinnect; Rosalind Caro, Stark County PCSA; Maridell Couture, Cuyahoga County DSAS; Imee Dalton, Adult Adoptee; Shannon Deinhart, Kinnect; Patrick Donovan, Muskingum County, PCSA; Angela Earley, Chrysalis Family Solutions; Dave Earley, Chrysalis Family Solutions; Elizabeth Edington, Catholic Social Services of Miami Valley; Destry Fallen, Dayton Children's Hospital; Bob Friend, Kinnect; Tina Gaston, Area Office on Aging of Northwestern Ohio; Julie Gilbert, Butler County PCSA; Deborah Gnann, Adoptive Parent; Heather Gonzales King, Adult Adoptee; Heather Gutierrez, Kinship Caregiver; Elise Hagesfeld, Kinship Caregiver; Tim Harless, Richland County PCSA; Sarah Harvan, Summit County CASA/GAL Program; Kristie Heckman, Clark County JFS; Megan Heydlauff, Family and Youth Law Center; Elizabeth Holzworth, ODJFS; Sarah Kaye, Kaye Implementation and Evaluation; Mike Kenney, Kinnect; Catherine Lachman, Integrated Services for Behavioral Health; Carla Lanier, Fairhill Partners; Tori Lemaster, Clark County PCSA; Traci Marr, Hamilton County PCSA; Jaqueline McCray, Cuyahoga County PCSA; Johnna Myers, Summit County PCSA; Betsie Norris, Adoption Network Cleveland; Sue Nowlin, Lorain County Office on Aging; Alexandra Patsfall, Hamilton County PCSA; Johanna Pearce, Fairfield County PCSA; Bobbi Pederson, Adoptive Parent; Amy Reinhart, ODJFS; Karen Sauers, Highland County PCSA; Tara Shook, ODJFS; Wendy Spoerl, Ohio Adoption Planning Group; Lynette Stevens, Ohio Grandparent Kinship Coalition; Helene Stone, Lorain County Office on Aging; Cheryl Tarantino, Northeast Ohio Adoption Services; Cara Textoris, Kinnect; Sarah Tornichio, Institute of Human Services; Crystal Turner, Kinship Caregiver; Wendi Turner, Ohio Family Care Association; Barbara Turpin, Ohio Grandparent Kinship Coalition; Mary Wachtel, PCSAO; Crystal Ward-Allen, Casey Family Programs; Jennifer Wikette, Beech Acres Parenting Center

### FACILITATORS

Jamole Calahan, Bob Friend, Sarah Kaye, Mike Kenney, and Shannon Deinhart

Scribe: Cara Textoris

#### I. Welcome and Introductions

- A. *May Meeting Minutes*. Shannon provided an update on what was accomplished in the last Stakeholder Workgroup Meeting on May 29, 2019. Minutes from that session were provided to stakeholders via email and are also available on the OhioKAN website ([www.kinnectohio.org/ohiokan](http://www.kinnectohio.org/ohiokan))
- B. *Live Poll*. A live poll was conducted to assess the confidence of Stakeholders on where we are in the current stage of the OhioKAN development process

Results from the live poll introduced questions from stakeholders and a clarifying conversation was held on:

**1) Expected 10/1/19 deliverables. These include:**

- The submission of a final implementation and evaluation plan to ODJFS for the proposed OhioKAN Program that meets Title IV-E Prevention Clearinghouse requirements
- An implementation timeline with identified key benchmarks for OhioKAN rollout
- A detailed budget that incorporates all resources necessary to implement OhioKAN

**2) The development process and goals for final program design:**

- **Desired Outcome:** OhioKAN will provide a statewide infrastructure that includes a framework of professionals who are connected to each other (on a micro and macro level) and their community. This consistent and reliable framework of linkages to supports and resources will include ongoing CQI that promotes adaptability and refinement as families, needs, and community resources are continuously identified over time. Considering potential future shifts in social landscapes and family needs, necessary prevention supports and community partnerships may need to shift in order to mirror those changes, but the OhioKAN framework will remain as the stable linkage mechanism for families to find required supports and resources.

**2. Updates from the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services**

- A. House Bill 14 (Kinship Navigator Bill) was passed by the Ohio House of Representatives on 6/11/19
- B. House Bill 14 is still awaiting funding approval by the Ohio State Senate
  - Introduced for state funding of \$5MM, however, there is an option to only approve at \$3.5MM
- C. Ohio Kinship Supports Intervention (KSI) was rated as a “Promising Practice” by the California Evidence Based Clearinghouse
- D. Ohio KSI is being submitted to the Title IV-E Clearinghouse to be rated
- E. As of 6/6/19, the federal government made transitional funds available for kinship navigator programs that have been submitted for rating and are awaiting approval

**3. Research Review**

- A. Survey incentive winner (\$50 gift card): Mimi Anglin (congratulations!)
- B. **First look at survey results:**
  - 124 total responses to survey (doubled since last meeting)
  - 55% of respondents were professionals; 45% of respondents were families
  - Most survey respondents believed that more services were available for adoptive families than informal or formal kinship caregivers
  - Professionals indicated greater service availability than families for formal and informal kinship caregivers
  - 54 out of 74 stakeholders responded to survey (*Note: Despite high response rate of group, stakeholders didn't feel as though the survey results reflected their experience*)

- According to survey responses from Stakeholders (isolated group results):  
Stakeholders AGREE with the following statements:
  - Community-based services should be available to all kinship caregivers
  - Community-based services should be available to all adoptive families
  - Kin caregivers can sometimes feel pressured to accept formal or informal responsibility because they fear the children will be placed in foster care

Stakeholders DISAGREE with the following statements:

- The government cannot adequately ensure safety and support caregivers without assuming custody and providing ongoing supervision
- Families and kin are expected to step in when parents are in crisis to ensure safety of the children; they should not need financial or other incentives to do so

**C. Stakeholders' interpretation of survey results:**

- Identified needs show a strong desire for front end prevention supports, rather than back end crisis supports (see following chart of needs identified):

| <b>Top 5 Service Needs Identified (as of 6.13.19)</b>  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>Kinship Caregivers</b>  | <b>Adoptive Families</b>   |
| Financial support for child care   | Adoption navigator   |
| Kinship navigator*   | Mental health or family therapy for children who have been adopted                       |
| Legal support services   | Adoptive parent support groups   |
| Mental health or family therapy for children in kinship care   | Crisis intervention  |
| <b>Families:</b> Kinship caregiver support groups / Respite<br><b>Professionals:</b> Respite services* | <b>Families:</b> Training for adoptive parents<br><b>Professionals:</b> Respite services |

\*significantly more professionals identified need than families

**4. Subcommittee Breakout Sessions (1 and 2)**

- The larger workgroup broke twice into separate subcommittees (SERVICE & RESOURCES)
- See subcommittee meeting minutes for discussions held in individual sessions

**5. Meeting Adjourned**

**Next Meeting:**

Monday, July 22, 2019 | 10:00a.m. – 3:00p.m.  
 Family and Youth Law Center | Capital University Law School  
 303 East Broad Street, Columbus, OH 43215