

Ohio Kinship and Adoption Navigator (OhioKAN)

PROGRAM PROPOSAL

Submitted To: Ohio Department of Job and Family Services

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Part I. Acknowledgments

Kinnect wishes to acknowledge our foremost partner in the development of OhioKAN, the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS). We are especially grateful for the support of OFC Deputy Director, Carla Carpenter, and guidance from ODJFS OhioKAN Project Managers, Karen McGormley and Veronica Burroughs. We extend further appreciation to ODJFS staff members, Tara Shook, Rebekah Murray, Alicia Allen, Kristine Monroe, and Carrie Block, for their wealth of knowledge in policy and data resources throughout this process.

Thank you for the tremendous work done by our Leadership Team, whose efforts were instrumental towards the expedited development of this program proposal.

We would also like to acknowledge the invaluable contributions of the Stakeholder Workgroup towards the development of OhioKAN. Building a successful program was possible due to the insights of our stakeholders with personal lived experience and expertise from professionals doing this work every day.

Special thanks to the Family and Youth Law Center at Capital University Law School in Columbus, Ohio for their generous hosting of our 3 Stakeholder planning and design meetings in 2019.

Finally, we would like to acknowledge all of our kinship caregivers and adoptive parents throughout Ohio. We couldn't do it without you!

Coauthors of this document include: Cara Textoris, Roxana Bell, Shannon Deinhart, Sarah Kaye, Stephanie Beleal, and Mike Kenney.

Part I. Executive Summary

On February 9, 2018, the federal government signed into law the Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA) as part of Division E in the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018 (H.R. 1892). Under FFPSA, states can receive federal matching funds for the provision of prevention services implemented by a federally approved Kinship Navigator Program. The Ohio Department of Jobs and Family Services (ODJFS) immediately began to plan how to develop a statewide Kinship and Adoption Navigator Program. Ohio has experienced a dramatic increase in kids entering foster care because of the opioid epidemic. Important to note is there are about 100,000 grandparents raising their grandchildren in Ohio (PCSAO). That number is probably much higher as there are many aunts, uncles, cousins, stepparents and fictive kin raising their relatives.

Kinnect utilized an Implementation Science Approach to develop the framework for the Ohio Kinship and Adoption Navigator Program (OhioKAN). During **Assessment**, Kinnect reviewed research on ten national and statewide Kinship and Adoption Navigator programs, conducted a survey of caregivers and professionals in Ohio, and reviewed multiple data sources about Ohio's needs and available resources. During **Teaming**, Kinnect convened almost 90 Stakeholders to develop a program recommendation for ODJFS, and presented the initial design in community town hall meetings throughout the state. During **Design**, Kinnect considered stakeholder recommendations with requirements defined in Ohio Revised Code for the navigator program, and FFPSA requirements.

OhioKAN will operate in 10 regions in Ohio that include all 88 counties. OhioKAN will have three tiers of service; inform, connect and support. The implementation plan identifies the activities that will occur in the **Exploration, Installation, Initial Implementation** and **Full Implementation**. The Implementation plan outlines what is needed to inform how the regions will identify services and readiness for the Navigators as well as the refinement of what the inform, support and connect intervention will be to meet evaluation and eligibility requirements for Title IV-E Prevention Services reimbursement. A staged evaluation design will be developed to follow best practices in intervention research to systematically prepare the OhioKAN model for rigorous evaluation.

The Stakeholders worked tirelessly to develop OhioKAN with the mission to be a statewide program that utilizes a flexible and responsive approach to meeting the needs of kinship and adoptive caregivers. Evaluation of the assessment, teaming and design process indicate that stakeholders felt actively engaged in the process and believe that the recommended model and implementation strategies will meet the needs of children and families in Ohio. Responses from the initial town hall meetings around the state gave communities the opportunity to learn more about the OhioKAN model and ask questions about what to expect, and how they can be involved.

Stakeholders across the state agree that OhioKAN will provide needed supports. Positive momentum that came from this design process will be built upon in the next phase of implementation. Families and professionals are ready to get to work on supporting Ohio's children and families.

*“Changes are not happening at the pace the trauma is happening to our families.”
-Crystal Turner, Kinship Caregiver and OhioKAN Stakeholder*

Part II. Introduction

Purpose and Background

On February 9, 2018, the federal government signed into law the Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA) as part of Division E in the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018 (H.R. 1892). Under FFPSA, states can receive federal matching funds for the provision of prevention services implemented by a federally approved Kinship Navigator Program. To receive FFPSA funding, state-level kinship navigator programs will be expected to meet specified requirements to be rated as a “promising”, “supported”, or “well-supported” practice by the Title IV-E Prevention Services Clearinghouse.

In 2016, the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) created a workgroup of adoptive families who voiced a need for post-adoption support services to help prevent adoption disruptions and dissolutions. Recognizing an opportunity to serve distinct populations facing similar trauma and service needs, ODJFS expanded the target population of Ohio’s Kinship Navigator Program to include families after adoption finalization. Post-adoption navigation services will not be eligible for federal kinship navigator funding under FFPSA. Eventually, after the OhioKAN program is evaluated and given a federal rating, the post-adoption program component may be eligible for prevention funding through FFPSA.

On December 27, 2018, ODJFS issued a Request for Proposal (RFP) number JFSR1819068155 to obtain a qualified vendor to manage and provide oversight to the development of the Ohio Kinship and Adoption Navigator Program (OhioKAN). Kinnect, a Cleveland-based non-profit organization that specializes in reshaping child welfare practices, was awarded this grant by ODJFS in March 2019. In addition to managing the development process of OhioKAN, Kinnect will design and submit a final implementation and evaluation plan for the proposed OhioKAN program to ODJFS on September 30, 2019.

OhioKAN Leadership Team

The OhioKAN Leadership Team was comprised of ranking members of the Office of Families and Children (OFC) for the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS); executive-level members of the Kinnect office, providing oversight to the direction of OhioKAN program development; Kinnect staff members dedicated to the research, coordination, and development of OhioKAN; and outside experts brought in as project consultants.

Members of the OhioKAN Leadership Team met weekly to outline project objectives, discuss desired program outcomes, and manage tasks and timeframes.

Members of the OhioKAN Leadership Team included:

ODJFS Staff

Karen McGormley, Project Manager, OhioKAN
Veronica Burroughs, Project Manager, OhioKAN
Tara Shook, Section Chief, Substitute Care and Permanency
Rebekah Murray, Human Services Program Developer
Alicia Allen, Chief, Bureau of Fiscal Operations

Kinnect Staff

Shannon Deinhart, Associate Director
Mike Kenney, Executive Director
Stephanie Beal, Director of Program Innovation
Cara Textoris, Project Manager, OhioKAN
Roxana Bell, Project Manager, OhioKAN

Consultants

Jamole Callahan, Principal, Callahan Training & Consulting
Sarah Kaye, Principal, Kaye Implementation & Evaluation
Bob Friend, Director, National Institute for Permanent Family Connectedness

Part III. OhioKAN Model Design Process

Because collaboration is central to the work done at Kinnect, an implementation science approach was utilized in the planning and design process to ensure an adaptable and successful statewide program recommendation. This approach involved three stages: Assessment, Teaming, and Design.

Assessment

Kinnect is committed to implementing a Federally-approved program that is eligible for funding through the Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA). To effectively build a successful program model, Kinnect conducted an assessment process to identify the scope of needs of families and caregivers and understand program components that are important to address when implementing a kinship navigator and/or post-adoption service model. To accomplish this, Kinnect focused three sources of information:

- a) Reviewing research about existing kinship navigator and/or post-adoption service models,
- b) Facilitating conversations with subject matter experts, including professionals and individuals with lived experience, and
- c) Conducting a survey of Ohio caregivers and professionals.

Research Review of Kinship and Post-Adoption Services Models

During the assessment period, Kinnect reviewed research about kinship navigator and post-adoption programs throughout the country, as well as the success of models previously implemented in Ohio. The goal of the research review was to identify successful program components in existing kinship navigator and/or post-adoption service models that could influence the design of OhioKAN and meet the diverse needs of Ohio's kinship and adoptive families. This extensive research was presented to the Stakeholder Workgroup at the first meeting on May 29, 2019. Ten programs were reviewed and summarized as part of this process:

Kinship Navigator Programs	Post-Adoption Programs	Combined Programs
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Florida (KIN-Tech)• New Jersey (<i>Kinship Cares</i>)• Ohio (Enhanced)• Ohio (KSI)• Washington	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• New York• Pennsylvania (SWAN)• Virginia• Wisconsin (PARC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tennessee (ASAP/GSAP)

See **Attachment A** for complete summaries on these program models, as well as a research synthesis comparing all programs and whether they meet national FFPSA guidelines for an approved kinship navigator model.

Conversations with Subject Matter Experts

The Kinnect team held meetings and phone calls with subject matter experts in kinship care and/or adoption. Subject matter experts included kinship caregivers; adoptive parents; leadership of the Ohio Grandparent/Kinship Coalition; professionals who participated in the Enhanced Kinship Navigator Program that was developed in 2009 as part of the Fostering Connections Grant; and professionals administering kinship support services within organizations that participated in the Protect Ohio Waiver Demonstration Grants.

Using an appreciative inquiry approach, subject matter experts were asked a series of questions that included:

- a) What do you believe to be your greatest impact in strengthening and supporting kinship and/or adoptive families?
- b) Please share one story about how your program/organization's service highlights your ability to support kinship and/or adoptive caregivers and their youth.
- c) If you could imagine Ohio working at its best to support kinship and adoptive caregivers, what would it look like? Who would be involved and in what capacity? What are the results and how would you know the results?
- d) As you think about the future for Ohio's Kinship and Adoption Navigator Program what do you imagine is needed to ensure its success and sustainability? What is needed to enable this outcome?
- e) What three wishes do you have for kinship and adoptive caregivers? For the Kinship and Adoption Navigator Program?
- f) What three wishes would you grant Kinnect to improve kinship and adoption services to youth and families?

The information and data collected from these conversations helped act as a preliminary general needs assessment and begin community mapping. This information helped shape and inform the development of OhioKAN.

Caregiver and Professional Survey

The OhioKAN Program Evaluator, Sarah Kaye, Ph.D., developed a survey to gather feedback from caregivers and professionals to identify kinship and post-adoptive family needs, and inform the model design process. The survey consisted of 32 multiple-choice questions inquiring about kinship and adoptive family needs; available community resources; core beliefs about kinship care and adoption; and service utilization in respondents' communities. The survey also included two open-response questions about a vision for the OhioKAN program and the opportunity to share a success story involving a kinship or adoptive family.

The initial survey was sent out to OhioKAN stakeholders in May 2019, in advance of the first stakeholder meeting. The survey defined caregivers in the following ways for the purpose of the survey and these definitions continued to be used throughout the design process:

Informal kinship caregivers are privately arranged by the parent and kinship caregiver and no child welfare agency is involved. Kinship caregivers might include relatives or fictive kin (i.e., family friends). Informal kinship arrangements could include ones in which the parent still holds custody, the caregiver has a Power of Attorney (POA), Caregiver Authorization Affidavit (CAA), and the caregiver has temporary or legal custody or legal guardianship.

Formal kinship caregivers are relatives or fictive kin (i.e., family friends) licensed by the state or approved through a kinship home assessment. The caregiver or the child welfare agency could hold custody of the child. It is formal because the caregiver/child are working with a Public Child Serving Agency(PCSA).

Adoptive parents are parents that have adopted children through any type of adoption (private, international, from foster care), excluding step-parent adoption.

Preliminary survey results from 65 respondents were shared during the first stakeholder meeting in May 2019. OhioKAN Stakeholders were invited to share the survey via an online link to both kinship and adoptive families in their network, as well as with other professionals that interact with kinship and/or adoptive families in their community. Additionally, members of the OhioKAN leadership team brought the survey in paper form to kinship caregivers at the 15th Annual 2019 Caregiver Conference, hosted by the North Central Ohio Regional Training Center (NCORTC) and Cuyahoga County Division of Children and Family Services (CCDCFS), to gather additional survey responses from those with lived kinship and/or adoption experience. As a result of these collective efforts, survey responses nearly doubled during the three weeks between the first and second stakeholder meetings, from 65 respondents to 124 respondents. The survey closed following the second stakeholder meeting in June 2019.

Final survey results were shared during the second Stakeholder Workgroup in June 2019. Findings from the survey were used to generate discussion among the stakeholders about the relative needs of different populations and to solidify shared values. Survey result highlights that were discussed included:

- 79% of respondents felt services were inadequate for informal kinship caregivers,
- 70% of respondents felt services were inadequate for formal caregivers,
- 51% of respondents felt services were adequate for adoptive families after an adoption is finalized.

Top three services needed by Kinship Caregivers:

- 1) Financial Support/Childcare
- 2) Kinship Navigator Services
- 3) Legal Support Services

Top three services needed by Adoptive Families

- 1) Adoption Navigator Services
- 2) Adoption Competent Mental Health Treatment
- 3) Support Groups

Respondents were given the option of entering into a drawing for a \$50 gift card as an incentive, which was awarded at the second stakeholder meeting. Survey respondents could also request a copy of the survey results and an infographic displaying these final survey results was sent via email in August 2019. See **Attachment B** for the full Caregiver and Professional Survey results.

Teaming

Stakeholder Workgroup

Kinnect was committed to convening a diverse Stakeholder Workgroup to help inform the design of OhioKAN. In partnership with ODJFS, Kinnect identified and invited 84 individuals to join the OhioKAN Stakeholder Workgroup. The Stakeholder Workgroup was vital to informing the direction of OhioKAN and ensuring the needs of both rural and urban social landscapes throughout Ohio were considered when developing the program framework. OhioKAN Stakeholders represented 19 of Ohio's counties (for 90% regional representation); 16 individuals with lived experience (9 kinship/7 adoption); representatives of 18 PCSA's; and representatives of 30 community organizations. For a list of OhioKAN Stakeholders, please see **Attachment C**.

The OhioKAN Stakeholder Workgroup met once a month throughout the development process for a total of 3 meetings:

- 1) May 22, 2019
- 2) June 17, 2019
- 3) July 22, 2019

All meetings were centrally located in Columbus, OH at the Family and Youth Law Center at Capital University Law School to allow for statewide participation. The Stakeholders were charged with collaborating with the OhioKAN Leadership Team to discuss comparative program research findings (compiled by Kinnect); federal and state program requirements; and to provide insight about the needs of kinship and adoptive families in their community.

Stakeholder Workgroup #1: May 22, 2019

The goal of the first Stakeholder Workgroup was to provide an overview of the objectives of the OhioKAN program development initiative; discuss national and state kinship navigator program requirements; present research on existing national kinship navigator and post-adoption programs; and obtain insight into the needs of kinship and post-adoption support services from the vast personal and professional experience of the subject matter experts gathered in the room. Multiple opportunities for teaming and discussion were provided throughout the larger meeting, with smaller breakout sessions available for Stakeholders to offer even more specific insights and expertise. The OhioKAN Leadership Team synthesized the information gathered from the Stakeholders in this meeting to inform various program component recommendations.

Number of Stakeholders in Attendance: 66

Please see ***Attachment D*** for full meeting minutes from the first Stakeholder Workgroup.

Stakeholder Workgroup #2: June 17, 2019

The goal of the second Stakeholder Workgroup was to review program components drafted by the Kinnect team, which were informed by discussions during the first Stakeholder meeting. Potential regional structures for the operation of OhioKAN were presented to Stakeholders, which were based on several pre-established regional structures for other programs in Ohio, as well as a previously recommended regional model created in 2012 for a kinship navigator program in the state. Stakeholders provided valuable feedback about how to develop a more effective regional model by considering current data points, community partnerships, and area readiness. This process of gathering feedback was crucial for creating a successful structure for the required regional approach to the OhioKAN program in the state.

Number of Stakeholders in Attendance: 57

Please see ***Attachment E*** for full meeting minutes from the second Stakeholder Workgroup.

Stakeholder Workgroup #3: July 22, 2019

The goal of the third Stakeholder Workgroup was to present more finalized program components to help identify potential gaps in the drafted recommendations. The OhioKAN Leadership Team described the program recommendations including: state-wide regional structure; OhioKAN service model framework; understanding on how existing kinship and/or post-adoption programs throughout Ohio fit into the OhioKAN model; overview of the OhioKAN implementation strategy; and the necessity of developing a robust evaluation plan. Stakeholders were reminded that the successful implementation and evaluation of OhioKAN will impact whether the program qualifies to receive future federal matching funds under FFPSA guidelines.

Number of Stakeholders in Attendance: 57

Please see **Attachment F** for full meeting minutes from the third Stakeholder Workgroup.

OhioKAN Design Process: Stakeholder Satisfaction Survey

As part of soliciting ongoing feedback from stakeholders, the OhioKAN evaluator developed a survey to gather feedback and priorities from stakeholders. At the end of the third stakeholder meeting, stakeholders completed a paper survey about the design process. Findings from the survey indicated consistently positive perceptions of the design process and indicated a high level of support for the developed program model.

Please see **Attachment G** for results from the OhioKAN Stakeholder Workgroup survey.

Town Hall Meetings

In August and September 2019, the second major phase of teaming activities included presentations to the community in town hall style meetings throughout the state of Ohio. The town hall meetings provided an opportunity for any kinship caregiver, adoptive parent, community organization, service provider, or other interested party to be involved in the discussion of OhioKAN. At each session, Kinnect gave a presentation of the program recommendation that will be formally submitted to ODJFS for consideration. Special attention was paid to being as transparent as possible about the process used to arrive at the program recommendations. Each community town hall meeting concluded with an hour of open floor time for the community to ask questions, provide public feedback, or submit anonymous feedback via paper surveys.

Ten community town hall meetings were held in five counties (Athens, Butler, Franklin, Summit, and Lucas). Meetings were distributed throughout the state, and held in public libraries within major metro areas to encourage attendance. An afternoon and an evening session were offered in each county to accommodate varying scheduling needs of attendees (from 2:00pm-4:00pm and again from 6:00pm-8:00pm).



August 27, 2019: Athens County

Athens County Public Libraries
Athens Library Branch
30 Home Street, Athens, Ohio 45701

August 28, 2019: Butler County

The Lane Libraries
Hamilton Lane Library Branch
300 North 3rd Street, Hamilton, Ohio 45011

September 4, 2019: Franklin County

Columbus Metropolitan Library
Hilliard Library Branch
4500 Hickory Chase Way, Hilliard, Ohio 43026

September 11, 2019: Summit County

Akron-Summit County Public Library
Highland Square Branch
807 W Market Street, Akron, Ohio 44303

September 17, 2019: Lucas County

Toledo-Lucas County Public Library
Kent Library Branch
3101 Collingwood Boulevard, Toledo, Ohio 43610

A combined 197 individuals attended the 10 community town hall meetings. By conducting preliminary community mapping throughout the state, Kinnect identified 2,151 relevant community organizations and invited them to attend the town hall meetings via a direct mailing. In addition, Stakeholders were called on to use their networks to invite community members (either professionals or those with lived experience) to attend the scheduled sessions.

OhioKAN Town Hall Meeting Satisfaction Survey

Attendees were given an opportunity to complete a paper survey about their satisfaction of the Community Town Hall Meeting. These surveys showed a positive association with the information shared at these sessions and overall support of the developed program model.

Please see **Attachment H** for results from the OhioKAN Town Hall survey.

Design

In the final stage of the planning and design process, Kinnect synthesized all information learned from the Assessment and Teaming stages to design a final program recommendation. The final OhioKAN program recommendation is outlined in the pages that follow.

Part IV. OhioKAN Program Model Recommendation

Stakeholders were asked to consider many factors when developing the structure for OhioKAN. The Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA) and the Title IV-E Prevention Services Clearinghouse outlined federal requirements for Title IV-E Kinship Navigator Programs to receive funding at 50% Federal Financial Participation (FFP). Additional state-level requirements were included in the Amended Substitute House Bill 166 of the 133rd General Assembly.

According to the eligibility requirements outlined by the Title IV-E Prevention Services Clearinghouse, in order to be eligible for Title IV-E dollars, kinship navigator programs and services must be comprised of services that are focused on assisting kinship caregivers in learning about, finding, and using programs and services to meet the needs of the children and youth they are raising as well as their own needs, and that promote effective partnerships among public and private agencies to ensure kinship caregiver families are served. Support services may include any combination of financial supports, training or education, support groups, referrals to other social, behavioral, or health services, and assistance with navigating government and other types of assistance, financial or otherwise. Kinship caregivers may be grandparents or other blood relatives, as well as tribal kin, extended family, and/or family friends (“fictive kin”) who are caring for children. Kinship care relationships may be formal or informal.

Federal requirements also include standards of evidence that must be met upon review by the Title IV-E Prevention Services Clearinghouse. At the time of this recommendation, no kinship navigator programs were approved by the Clearinghouse. Additionally, none of the programs included in the research review were broad enough to encompass the many goals of the OhioKAN program or adaptable enough to meet the diverse needs of Ohio’s kinship and adoptive families. Therefore, the Stakeholder Workgroup did not choose to adopt an existing model, but instead designed a new OhioKAN model that builds from existing programs with substantial opportunities for local adaptation to fit unique context. The recommended implementation and evaluation strategies allow for intentional program model refinement during early implementation, leading to rigorous testing needed for Clearinghouse approval and ongoing Federal funding.

Ultimately, the goal of OhioKAN is to provide a statewide infrastructure of community supports and services for kinship caregivers and adoptive families, which includes a network of professionals who are connected to each other (on a micro and macro level) and their community. This framework of information, service/support linkages and resources will include ongoing Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) that promotes program adaptability and refinement. The CQI process will allow us to learn and build upon what effective outreach strategies for informal caregivers looks like, to learn more about what services/supports that families’ need so that OhioKAN can

help identify what community resources are available and where community resources need to be developed. Considering potential future shifts in social landscapes and identified needs, necessary prevention supports and community partnerships may require adaptability to best mirror those changes, but the OhioKAN framework will remain as the stable linkage mechanism for families to find required supports and resources.

Recommendation for the OhioKAN Program Model includes:

- a) OhioKAN Mission, Vision, and Values
- b) OhioKAN Regional Structure
- c) OhioKAN Framework
- d) OhioKAN Program Components
- e) OhioKAN Job Descriptions and Scope of Duties

OhioKAN Mission, Vision, and Values

OhioKAN Mission Statement

OhioKAN is a statewide flexible and responsive kinship and adoption navigator program designed to assist children, caregivers, and families.

OhioKAN Vision Statement

By taking an inclusive, engaging, and genuine approach, OhioKAN will partner with families to strengthen their networks. We believe that families are inherently capable of finding solutions to the circumstances and challenges they face.

OhioKAN Values Statement: OhioKAN CARES

Children: We value Ohio's children and are determined to keep the safety, permanency, and well-being of our children as our primary driver.

Accountability: We value integrity and transparency. We do what we say and say what we do.

Respect: We value the diversity of our families and hold the belief that everyone deserves to be treated with dignity and respect.

Engagement: We value the voices of all kinship and adoptive families and will engage them knowing their perspective is the foundation on which we will build our relationship.

Strengths: We value every family's strengths and believe everyone can contribute to the solution.

OhioKAN Regional Structure

Under section 5101.851 of the Ohio Revised Code, Ohio's kinship and adoption navigator program will support the development of regions to manage implementation of OhioKAN on a statewide level. As further outlined in ORC 5101.853, the Director of Job and Family Services is tasked to divide the state into 5-12 regions for the implementation of OhioKAN, taking the following factors into consideration when establishing these regions:

- a) The population size
- b) The estimated number of kinship caregivers
- c) The expertise of kinship navigators
- d) Any other factor the director considers relevant

The OhioKAN Leadership Team and OhioKAN Stakeholder Workgroup used the following data to develop the 10 Regions for OhioKAN:

- a) ORC 5101.853 criteria
- b) 2010 State of Ohio census data
 - a. Number of grandparent households
- c) County-reported data:
 - a. Total population
 - b. Number of children in foster care
 - c. Number of children receiving adoption assistance or SAMS
- d) Counties currently providing kinship services as part of the Protect Ohio Demonstration Grant

The Stakeholder Workgroup was a strong voice in ensuring accurate and current data was used in the development of the OhioKAN regions. Please see **Attachment I** for the data that was collected and used to inform the development of the OhioKAN regional structure.

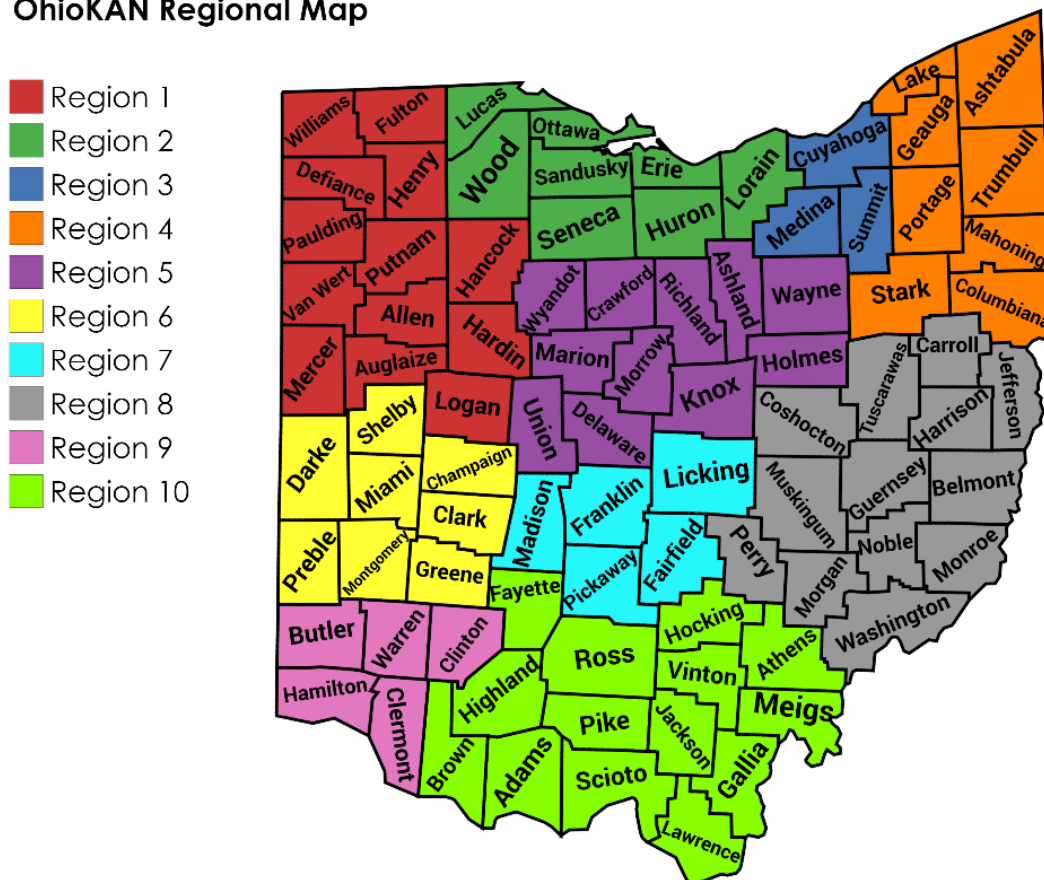
Counties that had been part of the Protect Ohio Demonstration Grant were disbursed throughout the 10 regions, since many have strong navigator or kinship support programs, which would enable them to support other counties in necessary capacity building and support the framework for future Learning Communities.

Navigators' scope of work was an important consideration in developing the final recommendations of counties across regions. Regions that are more densely populated consist of fewer counties to allow for more focused expertise of navigators in a smaller geographic area. Regions with a larger number of counties share a similar landscape which the navigator will have exceptional knowledge of.

Regions could not be derived by dividing an equal number of counties in each region because each of the 88 counties in Ohio have drastically differing population sizes. Alternatively, if regions were based solely on population size and number of kinship caregivers, some regions would consist of only one county, while other regions would be made up of 20 counties or more, which could create unintended equity challenges. Therefore, final recommendations about counties in regions were made through a process of balancing. To balance regions, all of the following were considered: population size; geographical scope; existing partnerships between counties; and total number of counties that ultimately define a region.

Based on this data and the outlined requirements, Kinnect proposes the following 10-region structure for implementing OhioKAN in the state:

OhioKAN Regional Map



Region 1

Auglaize, Allen, Defiance, Fulton, Hancock, Hardin, Henry, Logan, Mercer, Paulding, Putnam, Van Wert, Williams

- 13 counties
- Total population size: 576,241
- Number of children in foster care: 702
- Estimated kinship caregivers: 1,491
- Number of children receiving adoption assistance: 604
- Existing Protect Ohio county

Region 2

Erie, Huron, Lorain, Lucas, Ottawa, Sandusky, Seneca, Wood

- 8 counties
- Total population size: 1,164,481
- Number of children in foster care: 2,022
- Estimated kinship caregivers: 7,512
- Number of children receiving adoption assistance: 2,116

Region 3

Cuyahoga, Medina, Summit

- 3 counties
- Total population size: 1,967,528
- Number of children in foster care: 4,864
- Estimated kinship caregivers: 13,221
- Number of children receiving adoption assistance: 3,231

Region 4

Ashtabula, Columbiana, Geauga, Lake, Mahoning, Portage, Stark, Trumbull

- 8 counties
- Total population size: 1,518,908
- Number of children in foster care: 2,464
- Estimated kinship caregivers: 12,767
- Number of children receiving adoption assistance: 2,010

Region 5

Ashland, Crawford, Delaware, Holmes, Knox, Marion, Morrow, Richland, Union, Wayne, Wyandot

- 11 counties
- Total population size: 789,662
- Number of children in foster care: 1,128
- Estimated kinship caregivers: 3,394
- Number of children receiving adoption assistance: 726

Region 6

Champaign, Clark, Darke, Greene, Miami, Montgomery, Preble, Shelby

- 8 counties
- Total population size: 1,122,314
- Number of children in foster care: 1,826
- Estimated kinship caregivers: 9,952
- Number of children receiving adoption assistance: 1,741

Region 7

Fairfield, Franklin, Licking, Madison, Pickaway

- 5 counties
- Total population size: 1,676,299
- Number of children in foster care: 5,286
- Estimated kinship caregivers: 11,810
- Number of children receiving adoption assistance: 3,047

Region 8

Belmont, Carroll, Coshocton, Guernsey, Harrison, Jefferson, Monroe, Morgan, Muskingum, Noble, Perry, Tuscarawas, Washington

- 13 counties
- Total population size: 582,630
- Number of children in foster care: 1,266
- Estimated kinship caregivers: 1,108
- Number of children receiving adoption assistance: 965

Region 9

Butler, Clermont, Clinton, Hamilton, Warren

- 5 counties
- Total population size: 1,622,600
- Number of children in foster care: 4,898
- Estimated kinship caregivers: 14,131
- Number of children receiving adoption assistance: 3,206

Region 10

Adams, Athens, Brown, Fayette, Gallia, Highland, Hocking, Jackson, Lawrence, Meigs, Pike, Ross, Scioto, Vinton

- 14 counties
- Total population size: 560,238
- Number of children in foster care: 1,772
- Estimated kinship caregivers: 2,425
- Number of children receiving adoption assistance: 950

OhioKAN Framework

The proposed framework and professional roles within the OhioKAN Program are as follows:

- 10 Regions
- 1 ODJFS Program Manager
- 1 OhioKAN Program Director (statewide)
- 1 OhioKAN Program Coordinator (statewide)
- 10 Regional Directors (1 per region)
- 10 Regional Coordinators (1 per region)
- 20 Coaches (2 per region)
- 100 Kinship & Adoption Navigators (10 per region)

Each region will be overseen by **1 Regional Director**, whose responsibility is to understand the needs specific to their geographic region and plan for the implementation of OhioKAN (with the support and guidance from the **ODJFS Program Manager**). Each region will have **1 Regional Coordinator** who will directly assist the **Regional Director**. Each region will be composed of **10 Kinship/Adoption Navigators** designated to work solely within their regional territory. The **Kinship/Adoption Navigators** will support both formal and informal kinship and/or adoptive families in their defined geographic region. Each region will have **2 Coaches** that will act as partners to the **10 Kinship/Adoption Navigators** assigned to their geographic region, providing coaching, support and direct assistance as needed.

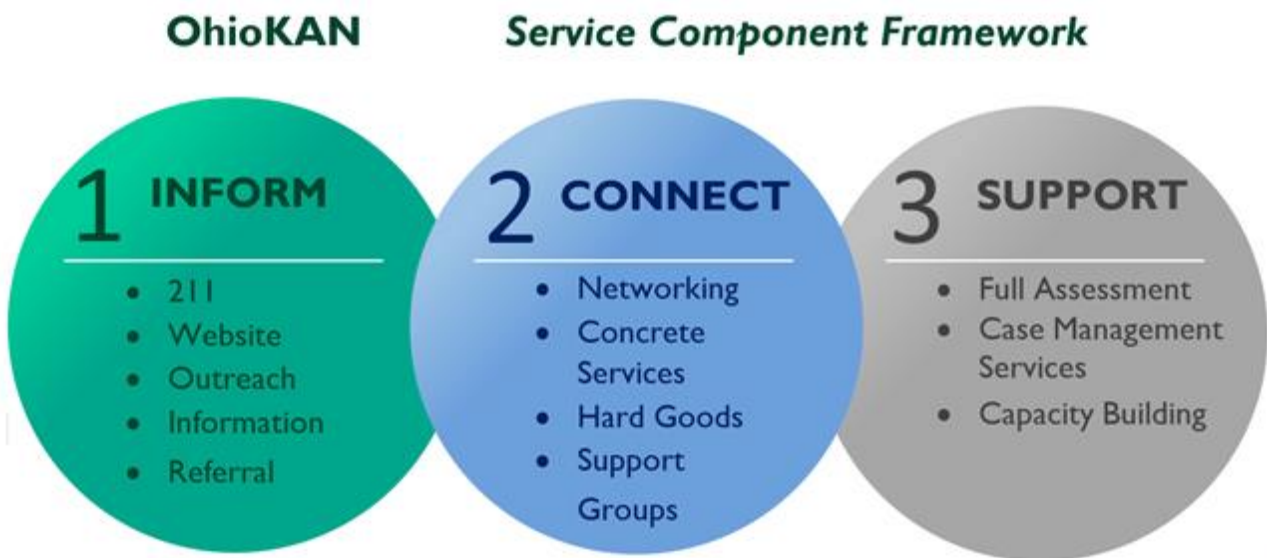
During the beginning stage of initial implementation, the **OhioKAN Program Director** will oversee **10 Regional Directors** who may perform varied tasks including system-level development; community mapping; readiness assessments to develop a plan for kinship and adoption navigators in their region; and identification of organizations who are ready to employ kinship and adoption navigators. In conjunction with the **Regional Coordinators**, the **Regional Directors** will plan, with identified partnering organizations, for future hiring (if needed), onboarding, training, and supervision of the **Kinship/Adoption Navigators**, along with supporting the partnering organizations' execution of that hiring plan.

It will be the responsibility of the **Regional Director** to convene a **Regional Advisory Council** in the beginning stage of initial implementation, if one does not currently exist in the region. The purpose of the **Regional Advisory Council** would be to support the successful implementation of OhioKAN in their region. In partnership with the **OhioKAN Program Director**, the Council would help identify existing programs and services that support kinship and adoptive families. They would determine how existing programs and services should be enhanced to best support the OhioKAN model. They would identify service gaps for kinship and adoptive families and how those

gaps should be addressed. The Council will provide recommendations on behalf of the region for needed services and resources to prevent entry into foster care (aiding the State of Ohio as it continues lifting up prevention services that are in line with FFPSA); and any other areas that are identified to support the sustainability for the regional OhioKAN program.

It is important to remember that in order for OhioKAN to draw down federal FFPSA matching funds in the future, the program must be: evaluated; submitted to the Title IV-E Clearinghouse; and rated as either “promising”, “supported”, or “well-supported”. This will involve intentional support of implementation and evaluation by the ODJFS Program Manager, OhioKAN Program Director, and OhioKAN Project Coordinator.

OhioKAN Program Components



**Suggested services. Other than Title IV-E requirements for kinship navigator portions of the program, the potential examples are not a promise of services, but samples (ideas of offerings). Actual services will be based on jurisdictional needs, demographic needs, and available resources.*

Target Population

OhioKAN seeks to serve any kinship and adoptive family residing in the state of Ohio. OhioKAN exists to serve all kinship families, whether they are formed formally (through child welfare placement) or informally (through familial agreements between biological parents and their relatives or other ‘fictive’ kin). OhioKAN will refer families considering kinship care to other community and legal supports, and will be able to serve those families when the child is living in the home.

OhioKAN will serve families who have adopted privately, publicly, or internationally are all eligible for OhioKAN (excluding step-parent adoptions). OhioKAN will serve adoptive families *only* in the post-adoption stage after the adoption has been legally finalized.

Tier 1: Inform

Tier 1: Inform will include a state-wide toll-free phone number and a publicly available website that provides kinship caregivers and adoptive parents with supportive resources, contact information, and links to learning about, finding, and using programs and services to meet the needs of the children they are raising and their own needs. There will also be local phone numbers established that families can call to receive information about available community resources, as well as receive referrals (if needed) to local community organizations/support groups/services.

When a caregiver/parent reaches out to the OhioKAN team, a screening form will gather critical information about family composition, what the family is looking for, and how the OhioKAN team can reach the families. This information will be used to identify the level of service (Inform, Connect, or Support) the caregiver/parent may need.

Tier 1 information and referral services are brief, and could be offered during a single phone call, email, or in-person exchange. Tier 1 services could be provided by the Regional Coordinator or anyone on the OhioKAN team. Specific service area within Tier 1: Inform may include:

- Referring caregivers, support group facilitators, and service providers to each other
- Providing eligibility and enrollment information for local, state, and federal benefits
- Providing available community resources such as food pantries, clothing assistance, other financial supports such as rent, heat, etc.
- Referring to legal assistance and help in obtaining legal services
- Referring to relevant government agencies
- Referring to community service providers for mental health, medical services, drug and alcohol services, developmental disability services, etc.
- Referring to relevant community-based or faith-based organizations
- Referring to available training that might be supportive to the family
- Referring to support/resource groups
- Providing educational resources such as books, articles, etc.

Tier 2: Connect

Tier 2: Connect will occur when the Navigator makes phone calls with or for a caregiver to providers or other community support people. Connect could also involve Navigators following up with caregivers after an initial phone call to ensure they were able to receive the support they needed. Tier 2 services go above and beyond Tier 1 because the family is connected with a

Navigator who is available to provide a more active connection for the caregiver, and facilitate connections between caregivers as other resources. Tier 2 level of service may include several contacts between Navigators and caregivers/parents.

Areas within Tier 2: Connect may include:

- Coordinating with other state and local agencies to promote service coordination to avoid duplication or fragmentation of services to families
- Promoting the partnerships and coordination between public and private agencies (including government agencies, services providers, community-based and faith-based) to increase their knowledge of the needs of adoptive and kinship families to promote better services for those families
- Enhancing and creating networks between:
 - caregivers and fellow caregivers
 - caregivers and providers
 - providers and fellow providers
- Directly linking families to providers for concrete services such as respite and therapy
- Directly linking families to organizations for short-term support and hard goods such as a crib, car seats, and school supplies or paying for such items
- Connecting families to support/resource groups and their facilitators
- Providing training opportunities

Tier 3: Support

Tier 3: Support will include full family assessment and case management services for families where more intensive services would be beneficial to ensuring individuals receive the services they need in a timely manner. Tier 3 services are targeted toward families in need of a higher level of support, and are provided by a Navigator over extended periods of time.

Areas within Tier 3: Support may include:

- Offering one-on-one consultation with adoptive and kinship caregivers
- Completing comprehensive assessment tools to gather an in-depth understanding of family needs and resources
- Providing case management services through a collaborative process that may involve elements of planning, facilitating, in-depth coordinating, and advocating for pathways and services that will meet an individual caregiver's or family's needs

Community-Level Support

In addition to tiered services offered directly to families, the OhioKAN team will also be available to build the capacity of providers and resources. The OhioKAN team will facilitate the Regional Advisory Council (or other local community partnerships) through assessment, teaming, design, implementation, and evaluation to improve services, expand services, and increase the number of children and families served.

OhioKAN Roles and Responsibilities

The initial roles and responsibilities provided on the pages that follow serve as a framework for describing positions. These descriptions will be revised after the implementation and evaluation team further refines the model, which may inform changes/additions to these roles and responsibilities'.

Program Director

The OhioKAN Program Director is a full-time position responsible for the delivery and success of the Ohio Kinship and Adoption Navigator Program. This position will work directly with the Implementation Team and Program Evaluator in establishing and starting this new program. The OhioKAN Program Director will oversee 10 Regional Directors who will be located in the different regions across the state. This role will inform members of the Kinnect leadership team and the ODJFS Program Manager of the progress and success of the OhioKAN program.

Essential Functions:

- Works collaboratively with the ODJFS Program Manager to ensure all Federal Requirements for the OhioKAN Program are met
- Directly supervises and collects data from (10) OhioKAN Regional Directors
- Works closely with the OhioKAN evaluation team to ensure CQI data collection
- Addresses any major challenges to implementation with the ODJFS Program Manager with the Regional Directors
- Works to support the Implementation roll out to ensure deliverables are achieved
- Inform and advocate for Kinship policy and procedure changes in partnership with ODJFS as areas of needs are identified
- Inform and advocate for Adoption Competent services are made available to families throughout the state of Ohio
- In partnership with the ODJFS Program Manager ensures fiscal and budget management requirements are met
- Works with ODJFS Program Manager to ensure diversity in funding for sustainability of OhioKAN
- Works in partnership with the Regional Directors to develop partnerships with providers to increase organizations capacity to ensure service delivery to kinship and adoptive families

Skills/Competencies:

Demonstrated expertise and professional experience in statewide program supervision and program coordination. Experience in a developing and leading strong high functioning teams. Demonstrated success in supporting the evaluation of programs and working in a fast paced environment. Demonstrated experience in hiring, managing, developing and coaching individuals and teams. Ability to demonstrate a strong knowledge of kinship and adoption best practices appreciated.

Project Coordinator

The Project Coordinator is a full-time position dedicated to the Ohio Kinship and Adoption Navigator program. The Project Coordinator will work closely with the ODJFS Program Manager and the OhioKAN Program Director, as well as the Implementation Team and Evaluator to ensure that all program scheduling, communication, and data collection needs are met. The Project Coordinator will play an important role in ensuring effective service delivery through support and clear communication with the Regional Directors on behalf of and in support of the Program Director. The Project Coordinator may play a role in ensuring appropriate fiscal controls are in place and are being met.

Essential Functions:

- Support the Program Director in the successful implementation and delivery of OhioKAN
- Support the Regional Coordinators and Regional Directors in the execution of the statewide annual and quarterly learning communities
- Coordinates programmatic meetings and scheduling for the entire OhioKAN program
- Solicits input from Kinnect and OhioKAN staff on relevant agenda items for weekly standing program calls and disseminates agenda to OhioKAN team members
- Works collaboratively with all OhioKAN staff to ensure all scheduling, bookings and communication of programmatic events (travel, training, meetings) are timely and clear
- Take clear and comprehensive notes of program meetings and trainings. Store such program records and distribute to appropriate parties as needed
- Maintains programmatic records and fiscal reports for the OhioKAN program
- Maintains orderly and complete program records including MOU's, training/program materials and notes from OhioKAN programmatic activities

Skills/Competencies:

Demonstrated experience with program coordination in a changing environment. Demonstrated experience working with interdisciplinary teams utilizing innovative strategies to overcome obstacles. Experience working in an environment where a new program is being developed and implemented. Flexibility to be able to work in an environment that is fast paced and changing often. Ability to work independently and have strong leadership skills that support and complement the Program Director.

Regional Director

The Regional Director is a full-time position dedicated to the Ohio Kinship and Adoption Navigator program in one of ten regions around the state. The Regional Director reports to the OhioKAN Program Director. The Regional Director will work with the Regional Coordinator in ensuring the deliverables of OhioKAN are successfully met. The Regional Director will also work with the Evaluation team in ensuring successful data collection for the region regarding the implementation of OhioKAN.

Essential Functions:

- Oversees the Implementation of OhioKAN in the counties in their assigned region
- Ability to build relationships with public and private agencies who serve kinship and adoptive families to ensure seamless services are provided to OhioKAN families
- Ability to coordinate a Regional Advisory Council in their region
- With the support of the Implementation team, evaluation team and possibly the Program Manager the ability to effectively use readiness assessments with agencies to inform their ability to serve families immediately or to identify areas of needed growth to expand service offerings and/or expand populations served
- Ability to speak and present information to families and professionals about the program
- Experience or willingness and ability to learn Implementation Science
- Ability to collect data to support CQI reporting and program evaluation
- Ability to participate in the hiring of Navigators at the partnering sites
- Ability to contribute, collaborate, and execute Learning Communities
- Meet with partnering site Supervisors and Navigators weekly to cover status updates, deliverables, and fidelity
- Establish relationships with community service providers with the intent to educate them regarding the needs of kinship families and to develop capacity and expertise to respond to the needs of caregivers

Skills/Competencies:

Demonstrated experience working with teams and utilizing innovative strategies to overcome obstacles experienced by the teams. Experience and knowledge working with kinship and adoption caregivers. Willingness to organize groups and community agencies in the support of kinship and adoption services. Ability to facilitate organizations in determining capacity building opportunities to serve kinship and adoptive families. Knowledge and familiarity with systems that can be involved with kinship and adoptive families such as public child welfare agencies, juvenile court, mental health agencies, and other specialized services that may be needed for a young person within their family. Ability to collect information and data. Team building and team facilitation skills are important. Strong organizational and time management skills. Ability to provide pieces of training, supervision, coaching and professional feedback. Ability to work with diverse populations with a strengths-based framework.

Regional Coordinator

The Regional Coordinator is a full-time position dedicated to the Ohio Kinship and Adoption Navigator program. The Regional Coordinator will report to the Regional Director. The Regional Coordinator will oversee regional implementation of the OhioKAN program. Oversight includes primary responsibilities of assessing, engaging, and overcoming system barriers that hinder program implementation and working to ensure program sustainability. The Regional Coordinator will work collaboratively with the Regional Coaches to ensure all program expectations and fidelity measures are being met.

Essential Functions:

- Provide direct support and coaching to Regional Coaches regarding program documentation, program values, and system barrier navigation
- Works directly with Coaches, Community Partners, and Regional Advisory Councils to ensure model fidelity markers are being met in all areas of the program
- Works collaboratively with regional OhioKAN staff and Community Partners to develop and execute a plan for program sustainability
- Facilitate communication with program staff, county partners, community partners and others to ensure effective service delivery.
- Work closely with OhioKAN leadership to identify, address, and monitor any implementation challenges
- Provide training and updated information to partner agencies on the program model as needed
- Work collaboratively with program leadership to hire and develop regional support personnel
- Work with Kinnect leadership to develop micro and macro supplemental supports to kinship and adoptive families served by the program

Skills/Competencies:

Demonstrated experience working with interdisciplinary teams utilizing innovative strategies to overcome obstacles. Demonstrated experience working in a child serving agency with an understanding of kinship and adoptive caregivers.

Regional Coach

The Regional Coach is a full-time position dedicated to the Ohio Kinship and Adoption Navigator program. The Regional Coach is responsible for providing coaching and support for (10) OhioKAN Navigators and (10) Supervisors in one Region of OhioKAN. The support comes in the form of ensuring fidelity to the OhioKAN model, communication among each region's counties to develop mutual support, and case consultation. The role includes weekly supervision of the OhioKAN Navigators and ongoing collaboration with the OhioKAN team and Community Partners.

Essential Functions:

- Coach (10) OhioKAN Navigators and (10) Supervisors in the region specified for each Regional Coach
- Provide direct support to OhioKAN Navigators including, interpreting and articulating the program model
- Facilitate communication among OhioKAN counties within the assigned region to develop systems of mutual support
- Provide Navigator with technical assistance, referral and information, and case management support
- Weekly case consultation with each OhioKAN navigator, including review of program tools, fidelity measures, and data collection for evaluation team
- Coach each participating county to facilitate communication with referral agencies to ensure effective service delivery
- Coach and support the OhioKAN Navigator and Supervisor to evaluate and discern how each case with its individualized plan meets benchmarks set forth by the evaluation team
- Make certain that accurate files and records are maintained for each client, for internal and external review

Skills/Competencies:

Demonstrated capacity working within child and family-serving organizations. Demonstrated commitment to the OhioKAN program values. A strengths-based approach to engaging children and family members in a problem-solving process to identify and organize their collective resources to support them. Professional maturity to work independently, while also engaging with peers and supervisory staff. Strong advocacy and community organizing skills. Experience in team facilitation, including conflict resolution and negotiation. Ability to present accurate, timely reporting, and other documentation. Ability and comfort working with diverse populations in various environments from a strengths-based perspective. Understanding of or ability to learn SACWIS and other program applications.

Kinship and Adoption Navigator

The Kinship and Adoption Navigator is a full-time position that reports to the supervisor within the community organization or county agency where they are housed/co-located. The Kinship and Adoption Navigator will meet regularly with the Coach for OhioKAN coaching, training, and model fidelity support.

Essential Functions:

- Ability to partner and work with both kinship and adoptive families
- Ability to engage with families in need of supports and services
- Engage with families through the lens that families have strengths and should be treated with dignity and respect
- Provide direct support to kinship and adoptive families regularly or on an as-needed basis
- Able to provide all tiers of the program services (information, support and connect)
- Able to track and report data
- In partnership with the Regional Director establish relationships with community and public and private service providers with the intent to educate them regarding the needs of kinship and adoptive families and to develop the capacity and expertise to respond to their needs
- Create or further refine a county/region resource guide or list that is up to date that is useful to kinship and adoptive families
- Ability to connect kinship and adoptive families to information and services that the family specifically needs
- Ability to interact and collaborate with various and diverse families and community partners
- Ability to provide education and advocacy on behalf of kinship families
- Strong empathy and understanding of the unique role, needs and challenges of kinship and adoptive caregivers
- Participate in CQI activities with the Regional Director to ensure ongoing, high quality service provisions for families
- Ability to work in a flexible, fast paced environment to the meet the individual needs of families receiving support and services
- Participate in ongoing learning opportunities through the quarterly Learning Communities

Partnering Supervisor

The Partnering Supervisor will not be an employee of OhioKAN, but pre-established in the agency that the Navigator is housed in. The Partnering Supervisor will supervise the Kinship and Adoption Navigator. The Partnering Supervisor will meet weekly with the Coach and the Kinship and Adoption Navigator. The Partnering Supervisor will support the Navigator in data collections as well as other functions of the Navigator role. The Partnering Supervisor will participate in Kinship and Adoption training with the Navigator and will participate in quarterly Learning Communities and an annual Learning Community with all ten regions.

Essential Functions:

- Support the Navigator in collecting, tracking and reporting data to the Regional Director
- Participate in Onboarding training to support the effective supervision of the Navigator
- Participate in ongoing learning opportunities through the quarterly Learning Communities
- Ability to provide 2-3 hours per week of supervision/coaching to the new navigator (time will decrease with experience)
- Provide daily workload/case direction
- Raise issues/challenges to Regional Director as needed

Skills/Competencies:

Willingness to work with the Coach to learn the OhioKAN model and support the Navigator in the successful implementation of the intervention. The ability to ask questions, seek help and collaborate with the coach or Regional Director when obstacles arise.

Existing Kinship Programs and New Sites

OhioKAN will enhance and not replace existing kinship work being done throughout Ohio. The following existing kinship support programs have been identified in the state:

Lorain: The Lorain County Office on Aging offers Kinship Caregiver Support Services including legal assistance, food pantries, case management, and caregiver support groups. Lorain County Children’s Services offers Kinship Care Support Services including, case management, information and referral (I&R), connecting to community services, Kinship Incentive Program, and Kinship Child Care Program.

Richland: Richland County JFS offers a Kinship Navigator Program for county-involved kinship families.

Cuyahoga: Fairhill Partners in Cleveland offers a Kinship Care Program for kinship caregivers and their families. The Fairhill Partners Kinship Care program includes peer mentorship, support groups, and Kinship Village housing.

Hamilton: Hamilton County JFS offers short-term kinship programming through the county. Beech Acres Parenting Center offers a program called Kinship Connections offering navigation services and caregiver trainings for formal and informal kinship caregivers in Hamilton, Clermont, Warren, and Clinton counties.

Highland: Highland County offers a Kinship Navigator Program through local non-profit, Community Action. The Kinship Navigator program offers case management, information and referral, support groups for both caregivers and children, and community outreach.

Franklin: The Clintonville-Beechwold Community Resource Center offers a Kinship Care Program in the Columbus area for formal and informal kinship families.

Fairfield: Fairfield County offers a Kinship Care Program through the county that offers navigation services, financial support, medical coverage, and childcare options for formal kinship families.

Athens: Athens County offers a Kinship Navigator Program through Integrated Services for both formal and informal kinship families.

Muskingum: Muskingum County offers a voluntary Kinship Navigator program through the county for relatives caring for their kinship children; there is no other eligibility requirement other than taking care of a kinship child. The Muskingum KNP offers help in assessing financial resources, connecting to state/local resources, school enrollment, obtaining custody, advocacy across settings, support groups, and social events for kinship families.

Part V. Partners and Roles

The regional approach of OhioKAN will provide opportunities for existing kinship navigation sites to support the development of new sites in counties that had previously not had supports or services for kinship and adoptive families. Community Mapping, Organizational Readiness Assessments, and the formation of Regional Advisory Councils will provide the structure to build community capacity and community partnerships within the 10 regions and their assigned counties. OhioKAN will develop and support a Teaching/Learning Community structure that will allow for continuous learning and support during the implementation of OhioKAN. Regional Directors will support the execution of Learning Communities that will meet quarterly and as an entire state annually.

What follows below is an outline of how the OhioKAN Program will work to implement a statewide Kinship and Adoption Navigator Program. The OhioKAN Program Director will work with the ODJFS Program Manager to ensure timelines, procedures, processes and forms are created to ensure federal reporting requirements are met with regard to fiscal management and with regard to service delivery. The federal reporting requirements include but are not limited to:

- How OhioKAN is successfully assisting caregivers in learning about, finding and using programs and services to meet the needs of the children they are raising and needs the caregivers may have
- How OhioKAN is establishing and promoting effective partnerships between local agencies to ensure families are receiving services
- How OhioKAN is effectively reaching out to caregivers
- How OhioKAN is effectively developing and maintaining an website and relevant outreach guides/information
- How OhioKAN is educating the community about the needs of kinship caregivers

The Program Director will also oversee the Regional Directors and will work with them on building capacity in their regions to identify, support and connect/serve kinship and adoptive families. The Regional Directors will utilize community mapping to identify existing supports and will facilitate regular meetings to develop a strong network of partners ready to engage with and support kinship and adoptive families. The Program Director will also work with the Regional Directors in planning and convening an annual Learning Community for all Navigators and Partner Supervisors across the state of Ohio for learning and sharing of successes and challenges.

During initial implementation, the Regional Director and/or the OhioKAN Navigator will network with local counties, non-profits, and families with lived experience to build community networks for future referrals. Possible additional roles for counties, nonprofits, and families with lived experience are outlined below:

Counties

A county liaison or point person could provide guidance to Navigators for case information or guidance. The county liaison can connect a kinship or adoptive families involved with Child Welfare to OhioKAN

Community Providers

Community providers will take the lead in helping to build a local network with providers who serve children and families such as housing, developmental disability, mental health, churches, legal, public health agencies, food banks, etc.

Community providers can connect kinship and adoptive families to OhioKAN.

Lived Experience: (Peer-to-Peer)

Peers can serve as an informal liaison to other kinship and adoptive families to help build up their formal and informal community networks. Peers can also serve as formal liaisons through support groups, training, and networking. Peers can connect adoptive families and kinship families to OhioKAN.

Part VI. Budget and Framework

Funding Sources: Federal and State dollars will fund the statewide OhioKAN program in ten Regions overseeing 88 Ohio counties. Kinship Navigation will be funded through IV-E and state funds. Post-adoption Navigation will initially be funded by state Adoption Incentive funds. After the OhioKAN program is evaluated, the post-adoption program component may become eligible for prevention funding through FFPSA.

Budget allocation for: (1) navigator/salary/training (2) core services such as respite, daycare, legal, and immediate needs. (3) Hiring, training, and retaining staff.

Sustainability Plan: (1) adaptive budget and (2) flexible use of dollars.

OhioKAN Budget Overview 2019/2020
Expense
<i>Salaries</i>
<i>Consulting & Contract Services</i>
<i>Training</i>
<i>Travel</i>
<i>Technology</i>
<i>Flexible Hub Money</i>

Part VII. Implementation Strategy

The first step of statewide implementation is to develop an OhioKAN governance structure that will guide the implementation of OhioKAN by defining roles and expectations of the ODJFS Program Manager, OhioKAN Program Director, statewide implementation team, regional implementation teams, and as-needed task-specific workgroups. This governance structure is an evolution of the leadership team that facilitated the OhioKAN design process.

Following an intensive period of implementation infrastructure development at the state level, the OhioKAN model will be rolled out across regions over a two-year period. Each region will go through four stages of implementation that gradually move toward full implementation. The specific staging of activities and tools will be integrated into a comprehensive implementation plan, with work planning and status tracking systems in place to monitor progress toward meeting project milestones. The sections below outline what will occur at the state level to develop the implementation infrastructure to support regional roll-out.

Statewide Implementation Infrastructure Development

In selecting programs to prioritize for FFPSA funds, the Title IV-E Prevention Services Clearinghouse prioritizes programs or services that, among other considerations, have implementation supports available. During an intensive infrastructure development period, the statewide implementation team will develop and refine tools, processes, and supports in order to facilitate effective and efficient regional implementation. The implementation supports described below are consistent with best practices identified by implementation science. Supports indicated with an asterisk* are listed as examples in FFPSA guidance.

Community Mapping

Processes and tools will be developed to generate a list of available resources in each region. The resources will include stakeholders, including: existing service/resource providers, potential host organizations for navigators, key opinion leaders, potential referral sources, courts, schools, and public and private child welfare agencies.

Readiness Assessment

Readiness assessment tools will guide the selection of host organizations and tailor implementation strategies within each region by exploring regional characteristics that may speed or hinder implementation. Characteristics could include the service array, strength of professional/social networks between providers, and assessment of core OhioKAN implementation drivers.

Stakeholder Engagement

Stakeholder engagement strategies and supports will be developed for initial and ongoing stakeholder education and engagement. Activities will be designed to promote buy-in and commitment among key stakeholders, solicit input to inform planning and decision-making, share information, and to seek feedback about progress.

OhioKAN Manual*

The OhioKAN Manual will specify practice behaviors and policies that are needed for successful and sustainable implementation and replication of OhioKAN. It will include roles and responsibilities for all individuals and structures.

Staff Selection

Staff selection tools will promote effective staff recruitment by articulating specific knowledge, skill sets, and capacities needed for kinship and adoption navigators and other key roles within the OhioKAN model. Tools will include job descriptions and interview process guides.

Training*

Training strategy, curricula, resources and schedules will be developed in a way that is both comprehensive and sustainable to increase the knowledge and introduce skills for: Kinship and Adoption Navigators, Regional Directors/Managers/Coordinators, and supervisors. Trainings will be grounded in best practices in adult learning.

Supervision/Coaching*

Supervision/coaching strategy, tools, and resources will be developed to reinforce OhioKAN practice expectations for Kinship and Adoption Navigators. These strategies will be integrated into ongoing supervision activities, and may decrease as staff become more proficient and increase as staff need additional support.

Performance Monitoring*

Performance monitoring will promote high quality implementation through the development of performance evaluations that assess the right performance elements and provide timely feedback to key staff. Performance monitoring tools will include OhioKAN fidelity measures designed to assess the degree to which OhioKAN is being implemented consistent with the model.

Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI)

CQI processes will aggregate, analyze, and compare performance data within and across implementing regions. Data reports will be shared through feedback loops designed to inform course-corrections as needed to ensure consistent, high quality implementation. Data sources

could include administrative data, family surveys, case reviews, and focus groups with stakeholders collected in collaboration with evaluation efforts.

Learning Community

Learning Community supports within and across regions will offer a mechanism for peer-to-peer learning, sharing, problem-solving and connection throughout the state. The OhioKAN Learning Community will bring together resources from the state and each region for collective learning and improvement. It will be designed to share information, respond to needs, and celebrate successes identified by navigators, regional staff or partners, and/or CQI data reports.

Stage-Based Regional Implementation of OhioKAN

Regional implementation activities follow the stages of implementation defined by the National Implementation Research Network (NIRN).

Exploration

During exploration, stakeholders in each region work together, with facilitation and assistance from the statewide team, to lay the groundwork for effective OhioKAN implementation in their region. Key exploration activities include:

- Developing regional advisory council to guide local implementation,
- Conducting community mapping to identify local resources for kinship and adoptive families,
- Using stakeholder engagement materials to educate and engage community partners about OhioKAN,
- Assessing the region's readiness to implementation OhioKAN,
- Establishing organizations that can host Navigators, and what additional support they will need (if any) to build capacity for implementation.

Installation

During installation, the regional implementation plan is developed and state and local resources are mobilized to begin using tools and processes to prepare for delivering OhioKAN to families.

- Developing regional implementation plan,
- Using selection tools to recruit and hire the first implementers (i.e., newly hired or already working Navigators),
- Building capacity of Navigators, supervisors, community providers through training, coaching, and implementation support tools.

Initial Implementation

During initial implementation, families are beginning to receive Kinship and Adoption Navigator services. Navigators are beginning to apply their training as they receive coaching, supervision, and performance feedback. Sometimes called the “awkward stage” of implementation, this is when initial challenges come up and are addressed.

- Begin accepting families and providing information, connections and support,
- Weekly meetings between Regional Director, Partnering Supervisor, and Navigator,
- Weekly supervision/coaching for Navigators,
- Collect and review data through ongoing Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI),
- Host learning communities within each region (monthly), regional cluster (quarterly) and statewide (annually).

Full Implementation

When a program reaches full implementation, the model has stabilized and is being implemented consistently. Processes and procedures that were once new and different have become standard practice.

- Monitoring and support systems are in place for ongoing CQI and data-informed decision making about program operations and improvements
- Families are receiving support at appropriate levels
- Community partners are mobilized to support families

Part VIII. Evaluation Design

The OhioKAN model is an innovative program developed in collaboration with stakeholders statewide. Compared to more established evidence-based interventions, the OhioKAN intervention model—and its implementation strategies/supports—are early in their development and testing. Programs that move too quickly into rigorous evaluation risk the possibility of null or non-significant findings if the program is not well-defined or well-implemented. To mitigate those risks, and to promote an evidence-informed approach to model refinement during initial implementation, a staged evaluation design will follow best practices in intervention research to systematically prepare the OhioKAN model for rigorous evaluation.

Part of the long-term sustainable funding strategy for the OhioKAN program is to become rated on the Title IV-E Prevention Services Clearinghouse in order to receive Federal reimbursement for navigation services to formal and informal kin caregivers. Building evidence for interventions is a methodical process. The evaluation design is intended to put ODJFS in the best possible position to demonstrate the level of evidence that is needed to achieve promising, supported, or well-supported standards by taking into account important considerations during the model design and early implementation. Important considerations include features of the intervention, implementation context, and evaluation design:

- Readiness of the OhioKAN model and implementation support tools for widespread implementation and rigorous evaluation,
- Capacity of regions to implement the OhioKAN model with quality and fidelity,
- High-quality implementation with navigation services that are delivered in accordance with the OhioKAN model,
- Reliable and valid evaluation measures that are sensitive enough to demonstrate significant differences between groups,
- Strong comparison groups that attempt to isolate the impact of Kinship and Adoption Navigators services provided at Tier 2 and Tier 3 on outcomes.

Like the implementation strategies, the evaluation design follows a similar, stage-based approach that is aligned with key implementation activities. Each of the considerations described above will be assessed and addressed as part of the planned evaluation activities.

One of the first evaluation activities will be to convene and engage an Evaluation Advisory Board to provide advice and consultation into a comprehensive evaluation plan. Members of the Evaluation Advisory Board will be selected to represent a number of different perspectives,

including: ODJFS Program Manager, OhioKAN Program Director, implementation consultants, a ProtectOhio county leader, and a private agency leader. Methodological experts will be engaged as needed to support the development of a realistic and rigorous evaluation plan.

Evaluation Infrastructure Development

In selecting programs to prioritize for FFPSA funds, the Title IV-E Prevention Services Clearinghouse prioritizes programs or services that have strong levels of research evidence. The studies that will score high on study design are summative evaluations which are carefully controlled studies that examine outcomes. However, innovative interventions like OhioKAN typically begin with preliminary steps toward developing a strong research base. During the intensive evaluation infrastructure development period, the series of assessments and activities are important early steps that will lay the groundwork for successful rigorous evaluation.

Evaluability Assessment

The evaluability assessment will document the OhioKAN model's theory of change and describe clear links between the intervention activities and intended outcomes. The evaluability assessment will outline key variables to include as part of the evaluation, and assess data availability. Findings from the evaluability assessment will be used to focus the attention of the evaluation on the outcomes that are most important and likely to change as a result of the intervention.

Usability Assessment

Usability testing will gather feedback from staff and families who are trying out the OhioKAN model in a rapid cycle learning and improvement context—prior to formal implementation. Each specific practice component will be rated against its intended practice objective. Staff will practice using the OhioKAN referral, screening, assessment, and practice support tools, and then provide feedback and recommend possible improvements. Results of usability assessment will be used to refine the model and implementation support tools before larger scale implementation.

Reliability/Validity Assessment

Evaluation measures will be identified from existing research, or developed in order to track key variables of interest, including: model implementation (i.e., fidelity) and child/family outcomes (i.e., adult well-being, satisfaction with services, access to resources). In order to assure reliable and valid measurement, any measures developed and used as part of this evaluation will undergo testing to ensure that they are accurately measuring the constructs of interest, and they are sensitive enough to detect differences between intervention and comparison groups.

Data Collection System

Ultimately, ODJFS plans to include OhioKAN information in SACWIS. Depending on the timeline for SACWIS system development, the evaluation team may need to develop an interim data collection system in order to capture timely data. If needed, the interim data system will collect critical evaluation and programmatic data needed for evaluation data collection and continuous quality improvement (CQI). Members of the evaluation team and implementation will both support SACWIS system development and testing related to OhioKAN.

CQI Infrastructure

Information feedback loops are an important part of successful implementation. The evaluation team will collaborate with CQI experts and implementation staff to develop a Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) system that will provide relevant data to implementation teams across the state. Data will be used to inform and tailor implementation strategies to better support the needs of each region.

RE-AIM Implementation Evaluation

The evaluation plan is aligned with the RE-AIM evaluation framework developed by Glasgow and colleagues to assess the public health impact of interventions¹. The framework asserts that several considerations must be examined in order to understand whether implementation efforts have achieved their desired impact. Agencies must be ready for implementation of an intervention and choose to move forward with implementation (**A**doption). Targeted children and families must enroll in the program (**R**each). Staff must implement the intervention with high quality, and with fidelity to its original design (**I**mplementation). The intervention must achieve the intended outcomes (**E**ffectiveness). Positive intervention effects must be maintained over time (**M**aintenance).

RE-AIM Constructs	
R	Reach of the OhioKAN into the target populations.
E	Effectiveness of the OhioKAN in achieving desired outcomes.
A	Readiness for and adoption of OhioKAN in the regions.
I	Implementation quality and consistency (i.e., fidelity).
M	Maintenance of effects in individuals and settings over time.

¹ Glasgow, R.E., Vogt, T.M., & Boles, S.M. (1998). Evaluating the public health impact of health promotion interventions: The RE-AIM Framework. *American Journal of Public Health*, 89:1322-1327.

The evaluation plan is organized into several sub-studies that are staged with the OhioKAN implementation strategies. The readiness/adoption, reach, and implementation studies are closely tied to CQI. They are primarily descriptive in nature and designed to (1) provide the ODJFS and OhioKAN with timely data/feedback to inform and improve implementation, and (2) identify when the OhioKAN implementation is ready to move from exploratory formative testing and into more rigorous summative testing. The effectiveness and maintenance studies provide more rigorous summative testing.

Readiness/Adoption Study

During the Exploration stage of implementation, the evaluation team will partner with the implementation team to assess the readiness of each region for implementation of the OhioKAN model. The readiness assessment will include surveys and interviews with key stakeholders to evaluate regional characteristics that could speed or hinder implementation and influence outcomes. It will also evaluate the service array, and professional/social network of providers in each region to examine the level of collaboration prior to OhioKAN implementation. Findings from the readiness/adoption study will help to prioritize implementation strategies at either the community capacity-building level or the program implementation level. Exploring local context and organizations' decisions about whether to adopt the OhioKAN model will help to inform marketing and recruitment of host organizations and staff.

Reach Study

While the readiness/adoption study focuses on the behaviors of communities/organizations, the reach study examines uptake of OhioKAN among the three target populations: informal kin, formal kin, post-adoption families. During Initial Implementation, the reach study will monitor the number and characteristics of families served at each tier of service. Findings from the reach study will illustrate the aggregate scope of implementation over time. Further analysis into referral mechanisms may help to fine-tune community engagement and education strategies, as well as cross-agency systems communications through referral networks.

Implementation Study

During Initial Implementation, the implementation study will collect reliable and valid data about OhioKAN practice. Data may be collected through surveys, interviews, observations, or case record reviews. Monitoring implementation data will support consistent practice in a fast-paced wide-spread scale up effort. High-fidelity implementation of OhioKAN will help to strengthen the validity of any research study designed to test it, and will also increase the likelihood that there will be differences in the services received by families in the intervention and comparison groups.

Effectiveness Study

When regions have moved from Initial Implementation and formalized practice sufficiently to advance into Full Operation, it is appropriate to begin asking questions about effectiveness. The effectiveness study will be designed to meet FFPSA standards for study design rigor. The evaluation design will meet the following criteria:

- Examining priority outcomes identified by FFPSA,
- Analyzing outcomes of OhioKAN families' relative to a rigorous comparison group in an experimental or quasi-experimental design,
- Using or developing/testing high-quality measures of outcomes,
- Using standard statistical analyses,
- Establishing baseline equivalence between groups.

Different research design options are available, depending on which implementation decisions are made. The evaluation team will work collaboratively with the statewide implementation team and other groups within the governance structure of OhioKAN to describe methodological options that are available with different implementation staging approaches. Together with the Evaluation Advisory Board, the teams will come to consensus about how to balance the competing goals of methodological rigor, providing timely access to services for families in need, and promoting perceptions of fairness and equity across the state.

Maintenance Study

The concept of maintenance can be conceptualized at both the child/family level, and the community/organizational level. The evaluation design will examine both.

Child/family Level. In order to achieve a “supported” or “well supported” designation through the Clearinghouse, programs must demonstrate significant and positive outcomes at six and twelve months after the end of services. As an extension of the effectiveness study, the maintenance study will examine the duration of positive effects observed for intervention and comparison counties throughout the Full Operation stage of implementation.

Organization/community Level. Like other navigator models, the OhioKAN model relies on a strong collaborative network of organizations and individuals to be maximally successful. Regions that maintain or improve their level of readiness are more likely to be able to sustain effective implementation and continue assisting new families achieve improved outcomes. The evaluation will re-administer the readiness assessment after implementation to examine whether OhioKAN has improved community response to these populations.

Part IX: Attachments

Attachment A: Research on National Kinship and Post-Adoption Services Models



OhioKAN

Kinship Navigator and Post-Adoption Program

Research Summaries

Kinship Navigator Programs

1. Florida (KIN-Tech)
2. New Jersey (*Kinship Cares*)
3. Washington

Post-Adoption Programs

1. New York
2. Pennsylvania (SWAN)
3. Virginia
4. Wisconsin (PARC)

Combined Programs

1. Tennessee (ASAP/GSAP)

Research Synthesis with Crosswalk



OhioKAN

Florida: Kinship Navigator Program

Research Summary

Title of Program: Children's Home Network Kinship Supports Services (KIN-Tech, Florida)

Years it Operated: 2012-2015 (initial grant period); current

Number of families Served: 1,100 kinship caregivers served from 2012-2015.¹

Cost of Program: There is no current program cost information publicly available as of May 2019.

Funding Source: Initial federal funds were awarded through the Family Connections Grants: Child Welfare/TANF Collaboration.

Description of the Program: In 2019, Florida has not yet released current information about the KIN-Tech program. This summary is based upon a 2016 official report of the pilot program that operated from 2012 to 2015.

In 2012, the Children's Bureau granted seven three-year Family Connections grants to The Children's Home Network Inc. (CHI) in Tampa, FL and to six other Florida community partners for implementing a Kinship Navigator supports program.¹ CHI was tasked with implementing the Kinship Interdisciplinary Navigation Technologically Advanced Model (KIN-Tech). CHI serves two Florida counties, Hillsborough and Pinellas, where an estimated 15,000 to 20,000 children live in homes headed by grandparents and other non-parent relatives demonstrating significant need for kinship specific support services.¹

For the purposes of program evaluation during the initial grant period, kinship families referred to services were divided randomly and assigned to one of four options based upon a standardized decision-making tree: Usual Care, Standard Care, Enhanced KIN-Tech (Pinellas County only), and KIN-Tech Only (Hillsborough County).¹

Four main components comprise the initial KIN-Tech program:

1. A centralized intake number collects referrals for kinship support services from the public child welfare system, community based partners, and kinship caregivers themselves.
2. In Pinellas County, Enhanced Kin-Tech in partnership with the Juvenile Welfare Board (JWB) developed a new tool using the One-E App software. The new app supported kinship caregivers by providing them with a portal to state benefits which determined eligibility and enabled easy application for those benefits.

3. The KIN-Tech model utilized peers as kinship navigators instead of professional social workers. These peers are grandparents and other relatives hired by CHI to help navigate families through complex systems (for example, child welfare, TANF, and schools) and to aid families in linking to resources. Most meaningfully, these peer navigators share the lived experiences of the families.
4. An Interdisciplinary team of professionals from TANF, education, the legal community, social services, and healthcare operated as an interdisciplinary team to work with kinship families in Pinellas County. Specifically, they coordinated services and made decisions as a group regarding kinship families' cases.

Who benefits from the Program? Both informal and formal kinship families and their children in Pinellas and Hillsborough counties, FL. In 2019, this program may have expanded to other Florida counties.

What services/benefits do they receive? During the initial program implementation and evaluation, Kinship families were assigned randomly to Usual Care, Standard Care, Enhanced Kin-Tech Care Services, and Kin-Tech Only program tracks. *Usual Care* targeted system involved kinship families where children had been placed with kin by the public child welfare system. These families received services from community based organizations contracted by child welfare. *Standard Care* targeted informal kinship families and utilized traditional kinship navigator services, including intensive case management and family support services through CHI. *Enhanced Kin-Tech Care* was operated in Pinellas County where families received intensive peer navigation services, utilized the One-E Application tool for state benefits, and had access to the interdisciplinary team at CHI. *Kin-Tech Only* operated Hillsborough County where families both formal and informal received only peer navigation to receive services and supports.

How did they receive the benefits/services? Families received services through case management, peer navigation, family support services, the One-E App, community based organizations, and an interdisciplinary team at CHI.

Where were the services provided? Kinship caregiver homes, community nonprofit organizations, child welfare offices, schools, CHI offices, and other various community locations.

Sources:

1. Site Visit Report: Kinship Interdisciplinary Navigation Technologically Advanced Model (KIN-Tech) April 2016 <https://www.childwelfare.gov/pubPDFs/flkinship.pdf>



OhioKAN

New Jersey: Kinship Navigator Program

Research Summary

Title of Program: *Kinship Cares* Enhanced Kinship Navigator Program (New Jersey)

Years of Operation: The initial implementation and evaluation period for the *Kinship Cares* program was 2009 to 2012. The program has operated continuously since 2012.

Number of Families Served: During the initial implementation and evaluation period, 437 kinship caregivers and 607 children in two counties utilized *Kinship Cares*. Since 2012, the Kinship Navigator Program has expanded services to seven counties in New Jersey, serving families who are outside the public child welfare system.² In 2018, 1,050 families sought wraparound navigation services.⁶ About 300 more children are served annually, but those families only seek help with applying for legal guardianship and do not utilize wraparound navigation services.⁶

Cost of Program: The *Kinship Cares* program was initially awarded a federal Fostering Connections grant and an additional \$500,000 from The Children's Bureau to pilot the enhanced navigator program.⁶ Current annual funding for *Kinship Cares* is \$900,000.⁶

Funding Source: Federal funding to implement the Kinship Navigator program was initially provided by the Fostering Connections to Success and Increasing Adoptions Act of 2008. In 2019, funding is provided by the State of New Jersey.⁶

Description of the Program: The Children's Home Society of New Jersey (CHSofNJ) received federal funding to design, implement, and evaluate an enhanced kinship navigator program entitled *Kinship Cares* from 2009-2012.¹ CHSofNJ is a non-profit social services agency based in Trenton, New Jersey. The enhanced navigator program built upon an already existing 13-year-old, state-funded, traditional kinship navigator program in New Jersey.¹ Key to expanding the Kinship Navigator program was the addition of six professional ombudsmen who are able to work with kinship families for up to six months as opposed to one month in the traditional state navigation program.⁷ Eligibility criteria remained the same across both programs: biological parents could not reside in the caregiver home, the kinship caregiver could not have an open public child welfare case, the caregiver would have to show proof of relationship to the child and/or custody status of the child, and the caregiver income would have to meet income requirements for the *Kinship Wraparound* annual \$500.⁷

All navigator services are accessible through the 211 toll free hotline.³ *Kinship Cares* was initially implemented and evaluated in Ocean and Mercer counties, two demographically diverse counties in New Jersey (urban vs. suburban/rural). It now operates in seven counties.

Eight major components comprise the *Kinship Cares* program in New Jersey.

1. Six professional ombudsmen (male and female) staff the *Kinship Cares* program. Their mission is to “advocate for kin caregivers” and children in kinship care to get the services and supports they need.⁵
2. When assigned a case, an ombudsman makes an initial home visit to establish program eligibility for kinship families.⁵ If families are eligible for services, the ombudsman conducts a comprehensive needs assessment with the caregiver that helps to develop the Family Service Plan⁵. During the program evaluation, the ombudsman also gave families pre and post-intervention questionnaires⁵.
3. After the initial home visit, the ombudsman provides intensive ongoing support to kinship families, including follow-up home visits and direct assistance with linkage to services.⁵ Among other actions, the ombudsman can accompany kinship families to school meetings, social services offices, and healthcare appointments. The ombudsman would model self-advocacy skills for the families to help the families learn to navigate complex systems⁵. In *Kinship Cares*, the ombudsman works with families for up to six months (in contrast to the traditional kinship navigation program in New Jersey where services ended after one month)⁵.
4. Ombudsmen facilitate kinship caregiver support groups, children/youth support groups, educational trainings for caregivers, and provide current information about local resources.⁵ Additionally, the six ombudsmen provide community education sessions on the distinct needs of kinship families for both human service professionals and the kinship families themselves.⁵
5. Ombudsmen work with families in gaining Kinship Legal Guardian status and in applying for the Kinship Legal Guardian annual subsidy.⁵
6. The program works towards developing evaluation methodology to profile and document kinship families’ needs and to strengthen program outcomes during the initial evaluation period, 2009-2012.²
7. Initially in both evaluation counties, a Kinship Advisory Council was created and comprised of kinship caregivers who identified specific areas where they needed support. Kinship caregivers are encouraged to attend advisory meetings and to take a leadership role on the Advisory Council.
8. In all seven counties, the *Kinship Cares* program holds social gatherings for kinship caregivers and their children that build community and support the formation of informal support networks amongst program participants.

Who benefits from the program? Kinship Caregivers and their families in seven New Jersey counties are eligible for the *Kinship Cares* program.² The kinship caregivers have to demonstrate eligibility through income, proof of legal custody, and/or other proof of relationship to the child.⁵ Most significantly, the kinship caregiver and child cannot have an open case with the public child welfare system in New Jersey and take part in the program.

What services/benefits do they receive? Kinship caregivers receive intensive case management, which is completed within 4 to 6 months of opening a case.⁵ With the assistance of an ombudsman, the families complete a Needs Assessment and Family Service Plan.⁵ After the initial home visit, the ombudsman provides ongoing visits, I&R with direct support in service linkage, support groups, and informal social gatherings with other kinship parents.⁵ Ombudsmen

link eligible caregivers with \$500 in financial support and help them apply for legal guardianship in New Jersey.⁵

How do they receive the benefits/services? Families receive the services through ongoing case management, “hands-on” I&R, home visits, social events, and support groups⁵.

Where are the services provided? Homes, CHSofNJ, schools, medical offices, social services administration buildings, and other community locations.

Sources:

1. Feldman, L. H., & Fertig, A. (2013). Measuring the impact of enhanced kinship navigator services for informal kinship caregivers using an experimental design. *Child welfare*, 92(6).
2. Children’s Home Society of New Jersey Organizational Website, 2019: <https://www.chsofnj.org/kinship-and-kinship-navigator-services/#.XM5M9ehKjIV>
3. Kinship Cares Program Manual (CHSofNJ, 2019): <https://www.chsofnj.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/KINSHIP-CARES-Program-Manual-v.1-FINAL.pdf>
4. Understanding and Implementing CHSofNJ’s *Kinship Cares* Navigator Model (CHSofNJ, 2019): https://www.chsofnj.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/Program-Overview_CHSofNJ-Kinship-Cares_3.1.19.pdf
5. Final Evaluation Report submitted to Children’s Bureau (CHSofNJ, 2012): https://www.chsofnj.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/Final-Evaluation-Report_CHSofNJ-Kinship-Cares_12.28.2012.pdf
6. Delores Bryant, Children’s Home Society of NJ representative, personal communication, May 2019
7. CHSofNJ Kinship Cares Enhanced Navigator Program Brief, 4 pages, 2019



OhioKAN

Ohio: Kinship Navigator Program

Research Summary

Title of Program: Ohio's Enhanced Kinship Navigator Program

Years of Operation: Ohio's Enhanced Kinship Navigator program operated from 2009 to 2012 in the initial seven grantee counties. As part of ProtectOHIO, Lorain, Richland, and Ashtabula counties have been able to keep the program running since 2012.

Number of Families Served: From 2009-2012, 945 cases were managed with 1,516 children being served during the initial grant period.³

Cost of Program: Up to 1 million dollars in federal grant funds was awarded to grantees in seven Ohio counties.³

Funding Source: Funding for the Enhanced Kinship Navigator Program was provided through the federal Fostering Connections to Success Act of 2008.²

Description of the Program: From 2009 to 2012, seven Ohio counties were awarded federal Fostering Connections grants to design, implement, and evaluate an Enhanced Kinship Navigator program for Ohio kinship families, with support from the Public Children Services Association of Ohio (PCSAO) and the Human Services Research Institute (HSRI).³ Participating counties were Ashtabula, Crawford, Clark, Hardin, Lorain, Portage, and Richland representing demographically diverse communities in both urban and rural locales.²

Program implementation varied due to the location of the Kinship Navigator staff. Two models developed during the grant period: internal and external. Four counties (Ashtabula, Clark, Crawford, and Hardin) housed Kinship staff within existing public child welfare agencies, while three counties (Lorain, Portage, and Richland) housed Kinship staff externally in other community human service agencies and non-profit organizations¹. Internally placed Kinship staff worked primarily with kinship families who had an open child welfare case.¹ Externally placed Kinship Navigator staff worked in contracted organizations with pre-existing links to the Public Children's Service Agency (PCSA), but worked with all referred families regardless of their involvement with the PCSA.¹ Eligibility criteria for kinship families varied due to the program location of the kinship navigator in each participating county.

The Enhanced Kinship Navigator Program comprised seven main components:

1. The kinship navigator positions were placed either within the PCSAs or other community agency locations. The kinship navigators served as the point-person for kinship families within their community.
2. Kinship navigators and other community workers received calls from 211 and other community referral sources and offered immediate information and referral (I&R) for kinship caregivers.
3. Kinship navigators provided case management, including utilizing the Services and Supports Needs Assessment and the Family Resource Scale in identifying strengths and needs for the kinship family at the initial home visit.
4. After those tools were administered, the kinship navigator aided families with service linkage to both local and state resources while providing ongoing emotional support.
5. Kinship navigators also facilitated support groups for kinship families and children.
6. In addition to direct service, kinship navigators and staff advocated for and raised awareness about kinship families through outreach efforts and through the formation of Local Advisory Groups (LAGs).
7. Kinship navigators created and used Community Mapping to locate community resources, identify strengths, and work through challenges. The community map also served as a continually updated resource guide for kinship families.²

Who benefited from the program? Kinship families and their children involved in the child welfare system and informal kinship families without system involvement benefited from the program.

What services/benefits did they receive? Kinship families received both immediate I&R and/or intensive case management. Families that participated in case management received a detailed Needs Assessment and a personalized Support Plan. Families then received direct assistance with linking to supports and resources in the community, including state/local financial assistance, child and respite care, assistance with court processes, and to other general support groups.

How did they receive the benefits/services? Families received benefits through face-to-face home visits, visits to the child welfare agency, visits to other non-profit organizations, through participation in support groups, and via telephone.

Where were the services provided? Services were provided in homes, public child welfare agencies, community non-profits, and in other various community locations.

Sources:

1. Ohio's Fostering Connection Grant: Enhanced Kinship Navigator Project Implementation Report (January 2012, p. 1-35)
2. Ohio's Fostering Connection Grant: Enhanced Kinship Navigator Project Final Report (December 2012, p.ii-64)
3. Ohio's Fostering Connection Grant: Enhanced Kinship Navigator Project Executive Summary & Recommendations (December 2012, p.1-63)
4. Kinship Care Kinship Navigator Replication Manual (October 2012, p. 1-17)



OhioKAN

Ohio: Kinship Supports Program

Research Summary

Title of Program: Kinship Supports Intervention (KSI, Ohio)

Years of Operation: The initial grant and evaluation period for the intervention was 2011-2015. Since 2015, the Kinship Supports Intervention (KSI) program has operated in 15 remaining waiver counties due to the significant increase in positive outcomes for children. The waiver counties will continue to use the KSI through the end of the waiver in September 2019. The current waiver counties are considering how they may continue to use the KSI after the waiver ends.

Number of Families Served: 2,600 children were served in families that received the intervention during the initial grant period.¹

Cost of Program: Initial and current program costs are currently unavailable.

Funding Source: The Title IV-E Waiver Demonstration project granted Public Children Service Agencies in 26 States flexible use of Federal Title IV-E funds.¹ Historically, IV-E funds were allocated for traditional foster care with a minimal amount of funding supporting non-licensed kinship homes and other informal family arrangements.¹

Description of the Program: From 2012-2015, 16 Ohio county PCSAs utilized flexible funding through the Title IV-E Waiver Demonstration project to implement a Kinship Supports Intervention (KSI).¹ The purpose of the intervention was to make sure kinship caregivers had all the necessary supports to meet the needs of minors in their care.² The counties that implemented the KSI were part of a larger group known as the Protect Ohio consortium.² The primary goal of Protect Ohio's Kinship Strategy is to use Title IV-E funds flexibly to "change service utilization patterns" to produce better outcomes for Ohio children.² KSI services are offered to kinship families with open PCSA cases "regardless of custody status or supervision orders".²

Seven program components comprise the Kinships Supports Intervention (KSI):

1. Kinship coordinators are housed in the public child welfare agency.² Kinship coordinators serve as experts on the needs of kinship families within the child welfare agency and in the larger community.²
2. Kinship coordinators implement standardized practices for identifying, locating, and engaging potential kinship caregivers within the PCSA to increase the placement of children with kin instead of in traditional foster care.²

3. After receiving a referral, the kinship coordinator completes a Home Assessment, Needs Assessment, and Support Plan with caregivers.² The Home Assessment examines the readiness of a potential kin caregiver to have children placed in the home. The Needs Assessment determines the specific services and supports the caregiver will need to support the children in the home. Most importantly, the Needs Assessment highlights strengths already present in the home with the potential kinship caregiver. Next, the kinship coordinator drafts a Support Plan with the caregiver that corresponds to the needs identified in the Needs Assessment. The Support Plan is updated quarterly to reflect how needs change over time for youth and families.²
4. At the initial home visit from the kinship coordinator, kinship caregivers are given an official PCSA Kinship Care handbook.²
5. Kinship coordinators utilize local Family Team Meeting (FTM) providers to use with kinship families either when guiding kinship families to permanency or when facilitating reunification with the birth parent(s).²
6. In addition to direct service, kinship coordinators provide education and training on the unique needs of kinship families to local community partners. Kinship coordinators keep community resource lists up-to-date for families.²
7. During the initial implementation period, kinship coordinators collected data for evaluating the intervention

Who is benefiting from the program? The KSI targets unlicensed kinship caregivers in Ohio, especially, voluntary kinship placements (where custody was not held by the State) and public kinship placements (where custody was held by the State).¹

What services/benefits do they receive? Kinship families receive coordinated case management including a home assessment, needs assessment, and a written support plan for caregivers. The families have ongoing home visits from kinship staff. Additionally, families receive financial assistance (e.g. for clothing, food, rent, utilities, furniture, and transportation), information and referral for services, and training. Optional services included legal services, child care, and formal/informal respite.

How do they receive the benefits/services? Families receive services through phone calls, emails, face-to-face home visits, and visits to community agencies.²

Where are the services provided? KSI services are provided at homes, child welfare agencies, and other community locations.

Sources:

1. Wheeler, C. & Vollet, J.W. (2017). Supporting Kinship Caregivers: Examining Impact of a Title IV-E waiver kinship supports intervention. *Child Welfare, Special Issue 95(4)*, pp. 91-110.
2. Practice Manual for Protect OHIO Kinship Intervention (July 2011) pp. 1-25.



OhioKAN

Washington: Kinship Navigator Program

Research Summary

Title of Program: Kinship Navigator Program Washington State

Years of Operation: 2004-present

Number of Families Served: Washington's Kinship Navigator Program serves kinship families in 30 counties and 8 tribal communities across the state.⁶

Cost of Program: Washington State has access to \$1 million in state funds to provide short term support to kinship families for hard good necessities (e.g. beds and school supplies). The Kinship Navigator Program is funded with an additional \$1.1 million in state funds.⁷

Funding Source: In 2004, initial funding for pilot implementation in two counties was provided by Casey Family Programs, the Washington State Department of Social and Health Services, and the Aging and Long-Term Support Administration.² Currently, kinship support programs focus on kinship families who are not involved with the child welfare system and are funded through the Washington State Department of Social and Health Services.⁷

Description of the Program: Washington's Kinship Navigator Program started as a pilot project in July 2004 with initial site locations at Casey Family Programs field offices in King and Yakima Counties.² Within a year, two additional program sites began in the same counties at contracted agencies, Catholic Family and Child Services of Yakima and Senior Services of Seattle-King County.² Initial evaluation of the pilot program after 16 months demonstrated that kinship caregivers gained a more thorough understanding of local and state supports available for them.⁵ Most importantly, 690 children were placed with kin, which diverted them from entering foster care.²

As of 2019, Washington's Kinship Navigator Program has 8.5 full-time kinship navigators serving 30 of 39 Washington state counties⁵. The principal program goal is to keep Washington's children out of the public child welfare system.⁴ The Washington State Kinship Navigator Program is currently involved with an evaluation process through the Family First Prevention Services Act with the objective to be rated by the Family First Title IV-E Clearinghouse once the evaluation is complete.⁷

Six major components comprise Washington State's Kinship Navigator program:

1. The kinship navigator, a human service professional, is hired to provide services and supports to kinship families within a single or multi-county area or within Tribal Services.⁴ More specifically, the kinship navigator provides information and assistance to

caregivers to help them access state benefits and other local resources and support.⁵ The kinship navigator mediates between caregivers and complex systems and models self-advocacy by accompanying caregivers to court and to other state and local service providers.⁵

2. The kinship navigator uses earmarked state kinship funds to provide families with short-term hard goods such as cribs or school supplies.⁵
3. The kinship navigator provides “supportive listening” and emotional care to kinship families.⁴
4. The kinship navigator provides outreach to kinship families throughout the state and provides information about resources and supports available to them.⁷
5. The kinship navigator is tasked with developing collaborative relationships with agencies and other local groups that serve kinship families.⁵ Additionally, the kinship navigator educates the community about the distinct needs of kinship families and what local and state resources are available to them.⁵
6. Currently, the kinship navigator provides follow up as needed, with kinship families in the counties where the navigator serves.

Who benefits from the program? Formal and informal kinship caregivers and their children in 30 counties and in participating Tribal communities in Washington State benefit from the Kinship Navigator Program.⁷

What services/benefits do they receive? Kinship families have the opportunity to meet with the kinship navigator in their local area. The kinship navigator provides access to state and local resources including financial assistance, legal information and services, healthcare, support groups, caregiver trainings, and urgent-need funds.⁷ In some areas, kinship programs have developed clothing banks, retreats, special events to raise awareness (e.g., a “kinship day” at a children’s museum), support group partnerships, and kinship legal clinics. The kinship navigator also provides such intangible benefits as emotional support, mediation, and advocacy. A statewide website: www.dshs.wa.gov/kinshipcare along with printed and online materials are also available.⁷

How do they receive the benefits/services? Families receive services both at home and in community based agencies.

Where are the services provided? Homes, community agencies, state agencies, schools, and other community locations.

Sources:

1. Abramo, A. (2018, August 18). As Kinship Caregivers Struggle Washington’s Foster Care System Benefits. *Investigate West*. Retrieved from: <https://crosscut.com/2018/08/kinship-caregivers-struggle-washingtons-foster-care-system-benefits>
2. Casey Family Programs: Kinship Navigator Pilot Project Replication Manual, Tri-West Group, December 2005: <https://www.dshs.wa.gov/sites/default/files/AL TSA/hcs/documents/KinshipNavigatorReplicationManual.pdf>
3. Casey Family Programs: Final Pilot Evaluation Report July 2004-November 2005, Tri-West Group, December 2005: <https://www.dshs.wa.gov/sites/default/files/CA/pub/documents/Kinship%20Navigator%20Evaluation%20Report.pdf>

4. CEBC Washington State Kinship Navigator Program Submission (February 2009)
<https://www.cebc4cw.org/program/kinship-navigator-program/>
5. Grandfamilies Kinship Navigator Programs Summary and Analysis- Washington State
<http://www.grandfamilies.org/Topics/Kinship-Navigator-Programs/Kinship-Navigator-Programs-Summary-Analysis>
6. Washington State Department of Social and Health Services Website, Kinship Care 2019
<https://www.dshs.wa.gov/altsa/home-and-community-services-kinship-care/kinship-care>
7. Interview conducted by Roxana Bell with Hilarie Hauptman and Rosalyn Albers, Aging and Long-Term Support Administration, Washington State Department of Social and Health Services, May 15, 2019.

Other Washington State Kinship Resources⁷

- Consent to Health Care for the Child in Your Care: A Kinship Caregiver's Guide (DSHS 22-1119x) This brochure explains a new law passed by the 2005 WA State Legislature which spells out a relative's rights and responsibilities.
English, Cambodian, English, Russian, Somali, Spanish, Vietnamese. (PDF)
- Grandparents and Relatives Do you know about the services and supports for you and the children in your care? (DSHS 22-1120x) This six-page pamphlet provides a comprehensive list of various resources, benefits, and support services available to relatives raising children.
English, Cambodian, Chinese, Korean, Laotian, Russian, Somali, Spanish, and Vietnamese (PDF) (English and Spanish copies can be ordered)
- Legal Voice has an updated edition of Options for Grandparents and Other Nonparental Caregivers: A Legal Guide for Washington State English or Spanish



OhioKAN

New York: Post-Adoption Program

Research Summary

Title of Program: New York State Post-Adoption Services

Years of Operation: 2016-current

Number of Families Served: New York State has not yet published overall figures for families utilizing post-adoption support services across upstate New York (New York City is an independent entity). The example below is for the Adoptive and Foster Family Coalition of New York (AFFCNY), one of 14 Regional Permanency Resource Centers. It serves 19 New York counties that make up one-third of the state.⁴ Currently, AFFCNY serves 250 adoptive, foster, and guardianship families.⁵

Cost of Program: Current annual funding for Post-Adoption Services in New York is \$4M.⁵

Funding Source: Funding for Post Adoption Services in New York State is administered through the state Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS). The State administers federal funds from Title IV-E eligibility savings that accrued from delinking with TANF funding.⁵

Description of the Program: Child welfare services and programs in New York State are administered by counties under supervision by the state.⁴ Throughout New York, 14 Regional Permanency Resource Centers (RPRC) serve post-adoptive and post-guardianship families to prevent adoption disruptions/dissolutions and to support families throughout their development.² RPRC services are open to all adoptive families who have finalized an adoption in New York whether publicly, privately, or internationally.² Post-guardianship services through the RPRC also extend to families in New York who have legal guardianship of a minor, whether or not they have a KinGAP agreement.² The KinGAP (Kinship Guardianship Assistance) program provides a mechanism for foster children to be permanently placed with relatives who have been the child's foster parent for six months or longer.⁶ In addition to the RPRC, 11 non-profit agencies offer post-adoption support services in New York; this combination is able to cover the entire state.⁵

The Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS) website offers up-to-date crisis and hotline numbers, resources/information website listings, information about the Regional Permanency Resource Centers, and a link to local OCFS social services offices throughout the state.² While there are state guidelines for what services counties need to provide to families, services in specific areas can differ.² The Adoptive and Foster Family Coalition of New York (AFFCNY) website lists post-adoption support services for each county in New York state as well as a directory of the Regional Permanency Resource Centers.⁵

The Adoptive and Foster Family Coalition of New York (AFFCNY) was founded in 1975 and it has led statewide advocacy efforts on behalf of adoptive and foster families throughout its history. For example in 2010, AFFCNY conducted a statewide survey of adoptive families service needs post-adoption.⁵ AFFCNY was instrumental in planning a statewide regional structure for post-adoption services, the Regional Permanency Resource Centers, which began implementation in November 2016.⁵ The regional model is based upon an Employee Assistance Program and is not affiliated with child welfare (although AFFCNY has staff members in their affiliate county child welfare agencies one day a week to help refer adoptive families to their services).⁵ Importantly, AFFCNY is a parent-led organization, so staff bring not only professional expertise, but also lived adoption experience to their work⁵.

Eight major components comprise the post-adoption support services offered through AFFCNY:

1. Adoptive families are offered family and individual counseling services.¹
2. Families have the option of more intensive case management services as they need.⁵
3. Adoptive parents have access to educational trainings, including a trauma-informed parenting course.⁵
4. Adoptive families can utilize school support services that help build a supportive educational experience for adopted and guardianship children¹.
5. Adoptive families are offered information and referral with hands-on support with linkage to other community supports.¹
6. AFFCNY facilitates parent and children/teen support groups, including an adult adoptee support group.⁵
7. AFFCNY organizes social events annually for families.⁵
8. AFFCNY staffs a 24/7 information line for adoptive families statewide.⁵

Who benefits from the program? Post-adoptive and post-guardianship families and youth in 19 counties are eligible for services with AFFCNY.

What services/benefits do they receive? Post Adoption Support Services through AFFCNY include, home-based family and individual counseling, parent training, educational advocacy, I&R to community resources, support groups for both parents and youth, access to a 24/7 information line, and social events.⁵

How do they receive the benefits/services? Families received services both in-home and in the community through AFFCNY

Where are the services provided? Services were provided by human services workers in-home and in the community (e.g. schools, mental health agency, and other locations).

Sources:

1. Office of Children and Family Services, government website, 2019: https://ocfs.ny.gov/adopt/post_adoption/
2. Governor's Office Brief: <https://www.governor.ny.gov/news/governor-cuomo-announces-157-million-post-adoption-services>
3. State vs. County Administration in Child Welfare Brief, 2018 <https://www.childwelfare.gov/pubs/factsheets/services/>
4. AFFCNY Post-Adoption Services, 2016: <https://affcny.org/adoption/post-adoption-services/>
5. Interview conducted by Roxana Bell with Richard Heyl de Ortiz, Executive Director of Adoptive and Foster Family Coalition of New York, AFFCNY, May 14, 2019.
6. Kin-GAP information page, Office of Children and Family Services, 2019 <https://ocfs.ny.gov/kinship/kingap.asp>



OhioKAN

Pennsylvania: Post-Adoption Program

Research Summary

Title of Program: Statewide Adoption Network (SWAN), Pennsylvania

Years it Operated: 1992-present

Number of families Served: SWAN has facilitated 38,200 adoptions since 1992⁹.

Cost of Program: In 2013, Pennsylvania earmarked \$4.6 million of its state budget for Post-Adoption Services.⁶ Current annual funding for Post-Adoption Services is not yet available online.

Funding Source: The Pennsylvania Department of Human Services receives federal Title IV-E, Title IV-E Part B, State child welfare funds, and other Adoption Incentive program funds to implement SWAN.⁶

Description of the Program: Child Welfare Services in Pennsylvania are state supervised and county administered¹⁰. Pennsylvania's Statewide Adoption and Permanency Network (SWAN) began in 1992.¹ SWAN partners with the Department of Human Services, the Pennsylvania Adoption Exchange (PAE), Diakon Lutheran Services Ministry, public and private human service agencies, non-profits, judges, court advocates and with foster and adoptive parents.¹

PAE is an important piece of SWAN, PAE works directly with Pennsylvania's counties, SWAN affiliate agencies, the public, and other national adoption exchanges.¹ PAE recruits families, matches waiting children, and provides information and referral services to prospective parents seeking to adopt in Pennsylvania.⁹

Diakon Lutheran Services Ministry is the program administrator for SWAN and it offers technical assistance and professional training to public and private child welfare agencies that support best practices for the adoption community in Pennsylvania.⁴

The primary goal of SWAN is fast-tracking permanency for children waiting to be adopted from the public child welfare system.³ Every child entering the public child welfare system is eligible for pre-adoption services with SWAN. Post-adoption support services are available to all adoptive, kinship, and legal custodianship families in Pennsylvania through SWAN's affiliate agencies and community partners,³ including to families who have adopted privately and internationally.⁸ SWAN partners with 151 affiliate agencies throughout the state, including The Children's Home of Pittsburgh, Child to Family Connections, Children's Home of Easton, and Bethesda Lutheran Services.⁴

Four main components comprise SWAN's post-adoption services program:

1. Families can self-refer for services through SWAN's helpline staffed with information and referral specialists daily.¹
2. SWAN offers case assessment and case advocacy for adoptive families to help support permanency. The intensity of case management is determined by the family's individual needs, with the principal goal being to prevent disruption of the placement.¹ Affiliate agencies conduct a needs and strengths assessment, create a family support plan, and coordinate services to help strengthen families moving forward¹. These services can be educational, mental health, healthcare, and mediation with a focus on adoption and foster care competence from service providers.¹
3. SWAN offers families access to support groups in each county. These support groups are for the adoption community as well as for those with connections to foster and kinship care.¹
4. Lastly, SWAN offers families planned respite to help mitigate pressures felt by parenting children who potentially have a myriad of special needs.¹ SWAN's confidential post-adoption support services are free to all families in Pennsylvania who have "provided permanency for children and youth."¹

Who benefits from the Program? Any adoptive, kinship, or custodianship family that has provided permanency for a child in Pennsylvania. As of 2014, SWAN had helped to facilitate 38,200 adoptions in the Pennsylvania Commonwealth.⁸

What services/benefits do they receive? Prospective adoption families are offered pre-adoption services. Adoptive, kinship, and custodianship families who finalized adoptions and made a commitment to permanency for children are offered free post-adoption services (e.g., case assessment, case advocacy, referral to services, support groups, and planned respite services).¹

How do they receive the benefits/services? Social workers provide the initial visit to complete the needs and and strengths assessment in families' homes. After the initial visit, the social worker provides up to six months' case management and advocacy at home and at various community locations with families.⁷

Where are the services provided? Adoptive families receive services at home, in the community, and at other various locations.

Sources:

1. Pennsylvania Statewide Adoption and Permanency Network (SWAN): <http://adoptpakids.org/Swan.aspx>
2. SWAN Post Permanency: <http://adoptpakids.org/PostPermanency.aspx>
3. Child to Family Connections SWAN: <https://childtofamilyconnections.org/swan/>
4. Diakon SWAN: <https://www.diakon-swan.org/swan/contacts/affiliate/?page=1>
5. DHS Pennsylvania SWAN: <http://www.dhs.pa.gov/citizens/childwelfareservices/adoptioninpennsylvania/index.htm>
6. Donaldson Adoption Institute: Profiles of Publicly Funded Post-Adoption Services, 2014: <https://www.adoptioninstitute.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/04/Supporting-and-Preserving-Families.pdf>
7. Children's Home of Pittsburgh (Post Adoption Services): <http://www.childrenshomepgh.org/adoption/other-services/post-adoption-information-support/>
8. Pennsylvania Adoption Exchange: <http://www.adoptpakids.org/AdoptionExchange.aspx>
9. Pennsylvania Adoption Exchange Annual Report (2014): http://www.adoptpakids.org/Documents/PAE_Annual_Report_2014.pdf
10. Child Welfare Information Gateway: State Vs. County Administration, 2018: <https://www.childwelfare.gov/pubs/factsheets/services/>



OhioKAN

Virginia: Post-Adoption Program

Research Summary

Title of Program: Post-Adoption Support Services (Virginia)

Years it Operated: 2000-present

Number of Families Served: 3,900 Virginia families have utilized post-adoption services over the past 15 years at United Methodist Family Services (UMFS).³

Cost of Program: The Adoptive Family Preservation program through UMFS has an annual budget of \$1.1 Million in federal and state funds. In 2013, \$500,000 was allocated to expand post-adoption services with a regional target on the Piedmont and Western regions of Virginia.³ The 2013 funds were used to train adoption competent professionals and to strengthen support services for adoptive families in those geographical areas.²

Funding Source: Post-Adoption Services are funded through the Virginia Department of Social Services.⁴

Description of the Program: Child Welfare Services within Virginia are administered by individual counties under supervision from the state.⁷ Since 2013, post-adoption services have been included in the state framework for the Virginia Department of Social Services.⁴ Contracted agencies carry out the statewide provision to make post-adoption services accessible for adoptive families in Virginia.⁴ Types of post-adoption services outlined by the state are: adoptive parent support groups, children/youth support groups, online support groups, children's camps, social events, heritage activities, therapy/counseling, respite care, birth family search/reunion, and educational trainings/resources.⁴ Post-Adoption Services provider contracts for 2018-2019 have been granted to Catholic Charities of Eastern Virginia, The Center for Adoption Support and Education (C.A.S.E.), Children's Home Society of Virginia, DePaul Community Resources, and United Methodist Family Services (UMFS).⁶

In addition to the contracted agencies, there is a statewide Adoption Family Preservation Program (AFP) that is funded through the Virginia Department of Social Services; it is implemented by UMFS statewide through their 10 agency locations.³ AFP through UMFS is free for all adopted children and their families as long as they reside in Virginia.³ Services offered through AFP include information and referral, parenting classes, educational trainings, adoption competent counseling, attachment therapy, crisis intervention, school based services, care coordination, and advocacy.³ Important to note: AFP, hires and trains adoptive parents to serve as Adoptive Parent Liaisons (APLs) who provide peer support services to families.²

One contractor for 2018-2019 post-adoption support services is The Children’s Home Society of Virginia. The Children’s Home Society of Virginia serves families and children in the Fredericksburg and Richmond regions of Virginia.¹ Four major program components comprise the post-adoption services available there:

1. Adoptive parents are eligible to receive intensive parent coaching in partnership with clinical social workers whose training focused on trauma and attachment. Families can receive weekly sessions in person and over the phone.¹
2. Families receive comprehensive support services including I&R to adoption competent service providers, specialized parent trainings on trauma and attachment, networking activities with other adoptive families, and case advocacy.¹
3. Adopted children ages 6 to 18 are invited to participate in Kid’s Club, held eight times per year, during school breaks and holidays as planned respite for parents. Social workers lead children’s recreational and therapeutic activities for a day-long event at the agency.¹
4. Adoptive parents have the opportunity to network with other families through formalized meet-ups and social gatherings planned by the agency.¹

Who benefits from the Program? Adoptive families and children living within the regions served by each agency are eligible to participate in post-adoption service programs across the state.⁴

What services/benefits do they receive? Families are eligible to receive post-adoption support services including: support groups, educational trainings, counseling and therapy, camps, heritage activities, Respite care, and access to information and community resources.⁴ Adult adoptees in Virginia have access to birth family search and reunion tools through the state.⁴

How do they receive the benefits/services? Adoptive families and children receive services through contracted human services agencies serving Virginia.

Where are the services provided? Location of services is dependent on the local contracted agencies’ protocol. Intensive services can be provided in the home and at the local agency as well as other various community locations.⁴

Sources:

1. Children’s Home Society of Virginia Post-Adoption Services (2019): <https://chsva.org/post-adoption-program/program-overview/>
2. Donaldson Adoption Institute: Profiles of Publicly Funded Post-Adoption Services: <https://www.adoptioninstitute.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/04/Supporting-and-Preserving-Families.pdf>
3. UMFS Adoptive Family Preservation Program (2019): <https://www.umfs.org/services/foster-care-adopt/adoption-services/>
4. VDSS Post-Adoption Services Brief (2013): http://dss.virginia.gov/files/division/dfs/ap/intro_page/manuals/07-2013/section_4_post-adoption_services.pdf
5. VDSS Post Adoption Pamphlet: https://www.dss.virginia.gov/files/division/dfs/ap/intro_page/pos/post-adoption-pamphlet.pdf
6. VDSS Post Adoption Services Contractor List 2018: http://dss.virginia.gov/files/division/dfs/ap/intro_page/pos/Post_Adoption_Services_Contractor_List_2018-2019.pdf
7. Child Welfare Information Gateway: State vs. County Administration, 2018: <https://www.childwelfare.gov/pubs/factsheets/services/>



OhioKAN

Wisconsin: Post-Adoption Program

Research Summary

Title of Program: Post Adoption Resource Centers (PARC, Wisconsin)

Years it Operated: The PARC system has operated in Wisconsin since 2005.⁵ On July 1, 2019 PARC will be transitioning from being administered by five contracted agencies to one single agency statewide.⁵

Number of Families Served: In 2018, more than 500 adoptive families were served by Coalition for Children, Youth, and Families, a regional PARC location serving Milwaukee and the Southeast Region of Wisconsin.⁵

Cost of Program: Current annual funding for PARC is \$225,000.⁵

Funding Source: The Wisconsin Department of Children and Families administers funding for Post-Adoption Services through Title IV-E B, Part 2, state child welfare funds, and Adoption Incentive funds.¹

Description of the Program: Child Welfare Services and Programs in Wisconsin are considered a “hybrid” as both the counties and the State share child welfare administration.⁴ Wisconsin has created five regional Post Adoption Resource Centers (PARC), which provide post adoption support services to families across the state.¹ PARC programs are implemented by four contracted Catholic Charities agencies in Eau Claire, La Crosse, Madison, and Wausau, plus the Coalition for Children, Youth, and Families, and Family Services of Northeast Wisconsin.¹

Broadly, PARC services include a toll free information line, educational trainings for adoptive parents, access to support groups for both children and parents, family mentoring, lending libraries, and formalized social gatherings for adoptive families¹. Services through PARC are available to all Wisconsin families who have adopted in Wisconsin, and for adoptive families who may have adopted in another location but now reside in Wisconsin¹. –Some of the PARCs including the Coalition offer closed online support groups via Facebook. Families use it as a forum, sounding board, to share with each other, stay apprised of upcoming events/news related to post adoption, etc.

“Home to Stay” is a unique program offered at the Coalition for Children, Youth, and Families serving Milwaukee and the Southeast region of Wisconsin. “Home to Stay” is supported by Jockey International, Inc., through its Being Family corporate citizenship initiative. The program targets adoptive families who have finalized an adoption from foster care and

connects them to a post-adoption specialist from the Coalition or another of Wisconsin's Post Adoption Resource Centers.¹ Participants receive a backpack with gifts inside for both children and parents, including a teddy bear, book, and blanket.⁵ When families are receiving the backpack, the post-adoption specialist explains the role of the Post Adoption Resource Centers and offers services and supports.¹ Jockey International also funds annual parent trainings and family recreational events throughout the year.¹

Who benefits from the Program? Any adoptive family living in the state is eligible for post-adoption services through PARC in Wisconsin.¹

What services/benefits do they receive? While services can vary slightly from region to region, PARC's core offerings are: Information and Referral, toll-free warm line, educational trainings, a lending library, support groups for both parents and children, therapy and counseling, social advocacy, and formalized social gatherings for adoptive families.¹

How do they receive the benefits/services? Children and families receive services through their regional PARC location at a contracted agency.

Where are the services provided? Services are provided to families at PARC regional locations, in their homes, and at other community locations.

Sources:

1. Donaldson Adoption Institute: Profiles of Publicly Funded Post-Adoption Services: <https://www.adoptioninstitute.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/04/Supporting-and-Preserving-Families.pdf>
2. Wisconsin Department of Children and Families: <https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/adoption/resources>
3. PARC-Family Services (Green Bay, WI), program brochure, 2018: <https://www.familyservicesnew.org/parc/>
4. Child Information Gateway State Vs. County Administration, 2018: <https://www.childwelfare.gov/pubs/factsheets/services/>
5. Phone interview with Mai Her-Lee, Coalition for Children, Youth, and Families, Program Manager, Milwaukee, May 17, 2019.



OhioKAN

Tennessee: Kinship Navigator and Post-Adoption Program

Research Summary

Title of Program: Adoption Support and Preservation Program and the Guardianship Support and Preservation Program (ASAP/GSAP) - Tennessee

Years of Operation: 2004-present¹

Number of families Served: 600-700 children served per year³.

Cost of Program: \$2-4M per year.¹ In 2017, \$2.1M was awarded to ASAP/GSAP and \$2M was awarded for the FOCUS program.³

Funding Source: The Tennessee Department of Children's Services administers funds to the contracted and subcontracted nonprofit agencies, using federal Title IV-B funds, savings from IV-E eligibility, and State of TN funds.³

Description of the Program: The Tennessee Adoption Support and Preservation Program and the Guardianship Support and Preservation Program (together known as ASAP/GSAP) is one of the only national programs created to address both adoptive and guardianship families' needs from initial contemplation to post-adoption/post-guardianship support services.² Adoption Support Services became available for Tennessee adoptive families in 2004, specifically for adoptive families who had declared intent to adopt in Tennessee and for those who had already finalized an adoption previously.² In 2008, ASAP services extended to include Tennessee families considering adoption as a way to build their families.²

While funding is provided by the state's Department of Children's Services (DCS), the program is operated out of two nonprofit agencies, Harmony Family Center, serving Eastern Tennessee, and Catholic Charities of Tennessee serving Western Tennessee¹. Adoption support services are available for any adoptive family residing in Tennessee who has adopted publicly or privately through Tennessee, another U.S. state, and internationally². Guardianship support services are available for any Tennessee family seeking legal guardianship of minor(s) in their care.

For minors still in the foster care system and not yet in permanent placement (guardianship or adoption) ASAP/GSAP offers a host of support services called FOCUS. The FOCUS program targets children and youth who have been in foster care longest; it serves 100-120 children per year.³ FOCUS youth have high needs and are often in residential treatment programs. Youth have access to up to 24 visits within any nine-month period.³ The program goal of FOCUS is permanency with the hope of continuing support services through ASAP/GSAP once youth transition out of FOCUS.³

Eight major components comprise the ASAP/GSAP program:

1. Pre-adoption and pre-guardianship training is available for families in Tennessee before finalizing an adoption or assuming guardianship.² The pre-training provides a comprehensive mental health foundation to parents in attachment theory, trauma-informed care, caregiver expectations, parental self-awareness, resilience and attachment, grief and loss, race and culture; it also covers building a relief team, and navigating emotional triggers.¹
2. Home based therapeutic services is available to families and is carried out statewide by Masters' level therapists who employ evidence-based approaches such as Trauma Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy the Attachment, Self-Regulation, and Competency Model, and the Trust-Based Relational Intervention in working with adoptive families.¹
3. Crisis intervention is offered to families when crises arise; ASAP/GSAP therapists are on call 24/7.¹ ASAP/GSAP staff helps families build their own supportive network known as a "relief network" that can provide support and respite as needed.
4. Staff facilitate support groups around the state in addition to planning informal social gatherings for adoptive and guardianship families.¹
5. For children whose adoption or guardianship has not been finalized, ASAP/GSAP staff work towards achieving permanency for that child. For example, staff help families create a community-based network for the child, which can include teachers, mental health professionals, parents, legal supports, and any other people involved in the child's life who may be able to support the child with the goal of maintaining a permanent placement.¹
6. Families have access to the ASAP/GSAP website with current updates and web resources available in Tennessee.¹
7. Families are invited to retreats, including the annual R.E.S.T (Respite Education Support, and Training) that allows parents a weekend of learning and relaxation with other adoptive and guardianship parents. Since 2012, ASAP/GSAP has hosted therapeutic summer camps for families that include individual and family therapy, equine therapy, and traditional summer camp activities.¹
8. ASAP/GSAP offers human service workers professional training to build up professional competency in working with adoptive and guardianship families.¹

Who benefits from the program? The ASAP/GSAP program supports any adoptive or guardianship family living in Tennessee.¹

What services/benefits do they receive? Families receive pre-adoption or pre-guardianship trainings, access to home-based therapy, 24/7 crisis intervention, support groups, informal social gatherings, help with creating natural support systems, advocacy, website resources, retreats, and family camps.

How do they receive the benefits/services? Families can call an 800 number or be referred by the public child welfare system or other community-based. Families receive services either as needed or as part of comprehensive case management.

Where are the services provided? Families are provided services at the contracted nonprofit agencies, in homes, and in various community locations.

Sources:

1. National Resource Center for Diligent Recruitment: Adoption Support and Preservation program summary, March 2015 retrieved from: <http://www.nrcdr.org/develop-and-support-families/support-matters/adoption-support-preservation-tn>
2. TN Adoption and Guardianship Preservation program website <http://www.tnasap.org/>
3. ODJFS Post-Adoption Work Groups Notes 3/17 and 4/17



A Review of 10 Kinship and Adoption Navigator Programs

Introduction to OhioKAN Development Program

Under new Federal legislation, states around the country have an unprecedented opportunity to prevent children and youth from entering foster care. The Family First Prevention Services Act of 2018 (FFPSA) allows states to use Federal dollars to fund evidence-based in-home, mental health, substance abuse treatment, and kinship navigator programs. Ohio is maximizing this opportunity by designing and implementing a statewide kinship navigator program beginning implementation on October 1, 2019.

Nationally, adoptive families have voiced a need for post-adoption support services that recognize the lifetime impact of adoption on adoptive families and adoptees themselves. Therefore, the Ohio Department of Jobs and Family Services (ODJFS) has expanded the FFPSA target population to also include families post-adoption.

The Ohio Department of Jobs and Family Services (ODJFS) has partnered with Kinnect, a Cleveland-based non-profit, specializing in strengthening child welfare practices, to facilitate the design process and to lead implementation of Ohio's Kinship and Adoption Navigator program (OhioKAN). The development process includes:

- Researching existing kinship and adoption navigator programs
- Facilitating an implementation science design process with over 80 stakeholders statewide
- Conducting five regional town halls to solicit feedback and data from community partners
- Submitting a final implementation and evaluation plan for the proposed OhioKAN Program to the State

This document summarizes Kinnect's review of kinship and adoption programs.

Programs Selected for Review

FFPSA created a federal Title IV-E Prevention Services Clearinghouse to review prevention services programs nationally and to award scientific ratings based on their evidence base. The Clearinghouse is conducting their initial review of programs now that will result in a short list of programs that will be approved for Federal funding.



While the Clearinghouse’s evidence review process is underway, Kinnect reviewed existing kinship navigator programs and post-adoption support services both in Ohio and across the nation. Kinnect’s review is intended to inform the design process by offering stakeholders examples of how other states have structured their kinship and adoption navigator programs.

The OhioKAN team carefully selected programs for review that would be most informative to the work in Ohio. Because Ohio’s child welfare system and programs are state-supervised but county-administered, ODJFS is seeking to design the OhioKAN program with regional hubs to help support implementation and evaluation of the program across 88 distinctive Ohio counties. The OhioKAN team reviewed 5 kinship programs, 4 post-adoption programs, and one program designed to serve both kinship and adoptive families.

- Ohio’s Enhanced Kinship Navigator and the Kinships Supports Intervention (KSI) highlight Ohio’s current and past history with kinship-specific programs.
- New Jersey’s Kinship Cares program and Florida’s KIN-Tech program are currently awaiting federal Clearinghouse approval as evidence-based models.
- Washington State’s Kinship Navigator program is one of the first pilot programs for kinship navigation in the United States. Moreover, as of December 2018, Washington State is beginning the process to be evaluated by the University of Washington with hopes of being rated as an evidence-based program.
- Post-adoption support programs from New York, Pennsylvania, and Virginia are all regionally-based and county-administered, mirroring Ohio’s system.
- Wisconsin is a “hybrid state” that shares child welfare administration between the states and counties, but regionally administers post-adoption services statewide.
- In the Adoption and Guardianship Support and Preservation Program (ASAP/GSAP), Tennessee is the only state to have developed a statewide program model to address both the needs of adoptive and guardianship (kinship) families together.

Kinnect’s review process drew from information on websites, evaluation reports, program manuals, telephone interviews, and other sources. Table I lists the FFPSA review criteria and summarizes how each of the reviewed kinship navigator programs could meet the criteria. The pages that follow provide a synthesis of the programs, highlighting similarities and unique program offerings.



	Federal Requirement	Kinship Navigator Program				
		Ohio EKN	Ohio KSI	Florida	New Jersey	Washington
Requirements for Title IV-E Kinship Navigator Programs*	Coordinated with agencies that provide info and referral services (i.e. 211)	x	x	x	x	x
	Planned and operated in consultation with kinship caregivers, youth, and relevant organizations	x	x		x	x
	Include info and referral systems that link individuals to each other; government benefits info; training; legal assistance	x	x	x	x	x
	Provide outreach to kinship care families	x	x		x	x
	Promote partnerships between public and private agencies	x	x			x
	Establish and support a kinship care ombudsman				x	
	Support other activities designed to assist kinship caregivers in obtaining benefits and services to improve their caregiving	x	x	x	x	x

* Requirements per Title IV-E Program Instruction

Kinship Navigator Support Services*	Financial Supports	x	x	x	x	x
	Training or Education	x	x		x	x
	Support Groups	x		x	x	x
	Referrals to Social, behavioral, or health services	x	x	x	x	x
	Assistance with navigating government and other types of assistance, financial or otherwise	x	x	x	x	x

*Requirements per Title IV-E Handbook of Standards and Procedures



	Federal Requirement	Kinship Navigator Program				
		Ohio EKN	Ohio KSI	Florida	New Jersey	Washington
Child and Family Eligibility	Formal Kinship Caregivers	x	x			
	Informal Kinship Caregivers	x		x	x	x
Kinship Navigator Program Requirements	Book or manual that describes how to implement or administer the practice	x	x	x	x	x
	Target outcomes: - child safety, permanency, well-being - adult well-being - access & referral to services - satisfaction with programs & services		x		x	
Program Priorities	Programs/services rated by other clearinghouses		x			x
	Programs/services evaluated as part of any grants supported by the Children's Bureau			x		
	Programs or services that are in active use	x	x		x	x
	Programs or services that have implementation supports, for example: - implementation manuals or frameworks - fidelity-monitoring tools - training programs, coaching programs, etc	x	x		x	
Evidence Requirements	One or more rigorous studies (with comparison group)		x		x	
	Positive effects on one or more target outcomes		x			
	Published in peer-reviewed journal or publicly available report		x		x	



Program Funding and Administration

Age of Programs

The programs reviewed vary from 7 to 26 years old: kinship navigator programs seem to have started as pilot projects for a few years before becoming permanent, whereas the adoption programs appear to have been established as permanent from the onset.

Funding

Most programs seem to have between half a million and \$4 million in funding that is generally jointly state and federally funded. Florida's pilot program for KIN-Tech was federally funded altogether, while Washington State and Pennsylvania are currently entirely state-funded. Wisconsin's Post Adoption Resource Centers, are currently working with the least amount of state funds at \$225,000 for FY2018.

Administration

States vary widely in how they administer child welfare programs. Some states, including Ohio, are state-supervised and county-administered; other states, such as Washington, are both supervised and administered by the state supervised. States that have county administration admit that they often have a high level of variability in the services and programs provided across a state.

Program Service Offerings

Each of the programs reviewed offered different types of services to kinship and adoption families. All the states except for Ohio house their kinship programs in established nonprofits and/or affiliate agencies outside of (external to) the state or county child welfare system. Several services were offered in half or more of the programs reviewed:

- All 10 programs link kinship families to local, state, and national resources and offer immediate information and referral services to families.
- Nine programs have support group available for children, teens, and parents/caregivers.
- Eight programs had an adoptive parent or kinship caregiver training offering pre-adoption/guardianship and/or post-adoption/guardianship trainings for families.
- Seven have a case management component for families to utilize.
- Seven used either 211 or had independent warm line or information lines specifically for adoptive and kinship families in their state.



- Six offered formalized social events for adoptive and/or kinship families through their programs and contracted agencies.
- Six had home-based counseling services and/or made home visits to families using their services.
- Half the programs conducted outreach to both families themselves and professionals in the community.

Some programs also offered unique services that were designed to meet the needs of families in their communities.

- Four programs utilized a Needs Assessment leading to a Family Support Plan in their case management sequence with families.
- Two programs have crisis intervention services specifically available for adoptive and/or kinship families. Tennessee's ASAP/GSAP program offers crisis intervention with on-call adoption competent therapists 24/7.
- Both of Ohio's Enhanced Kinship Navigator Programs developed Local Advisory Groups (LAGs) in each participating Ohio county to provide guidance in developing the Kinship Navigator services in that county. The LAGs also facilitated Community Mapping conducted by community stakeholders to explore each county's resources, strengths, and challenges and to strengthen relationships between community stakeholders serving kinship families.
- New Jersey's Kinship Cares created a Kinship Advisory Council comprised of kinship caregivers to provide feedback to the program, plus enabled kinship caregivers to plan social events, brainstorm workshop topics, and help with developing local resources.
- New York's Adoptive and Foster Family Coalition of New York (AFFCNY) runs an adult adoptee support group recognizing the lifetime impact of adoption.
- Virginia assists adult adoptees in searching for their birth families and seeking reunion.
- Two programs are parent-led and/or services are provided by those with lived experience AFFCNY and Adoptive Family Preservation at United Methodist Family Services in Virginia.
- Two programs provide training opportunities that are trauma-informed (AFFCNY and The Children's Home Society of Virginia).
- New Jersey's Kinship Cares program utilized ombudsmen to enhance their kinship navigator program. Six professional ombudsmen (both male and female) work "closely and intensely" with families for longer periods of time than the traditional kinship navigation program that existed for New Jersey (i.e. 6-months in enhanced versus 1



month in traditional). The ombudsmen implement support groups, caregiver trainings, and children's groups.

- In addition to other services, Tennessee's ASAP/GSAP program offers equine therapy, retreats, and family camps.
- Washington State offers mediation and hands-on navigation services: the kinship navigator actually goes to different community locations with kinship families to help advocate and to model self-advocacy skills.

Current Evidence Base of Kinship Navigator Programs

- Florida's KIN-Tech and New Jersey's Kinship Cares programs will be first to be reviewed by the Title IV-E Prevention Services Clearinghouse in 2019.
- Ohio Kinships Supports Intervention (KSI) has been submitted to the California Clearinghouse for Child Welfare and is awaiting a scientific rating based upon one study of the program.
- Washington's Kinship Navigator Program was submitted to the California Clearinghouse in 2009, but was not rated at that time because they had not had a formalized study. The University of Washington began an evaluation December 2018 with hopes to be rated as evidence-based by the IV-E Prevention Services Clearinghouse.

For the six remaining researched programs, it is unknown whether they are seeking evaluation or how the new FFPSA legislation will affect their trajectory towards evidence-based status in the future.

Implementation Support Materials

As part of the requirements to receive Federal funding for Kinship Navigator programs, programs must have manuals, and programs with implementation documents available are prioritized. As of May 2019:

- Ohio's Enhanced Kinship Navigator has a Replication Manual and Implementation Report from 2012.
- Ohio's Kinship Supports Intervention has a Practice Manual for the ProtectOHIO Kinship Intervention from July 2011. Additionally, there is a Practice Manual for ProtectOHIO Kinship Strategy from July 2011.
- Washington State's Kinship Navigator has a Pilot Project Replication Manual and Final Pilot Evaluation Report both from December of 2005.



- New Jersey's Kinship Cares program has a programmatic implementation guide called Understanding and Implementing CHSofNJ's Kinship Cares Enhanced Navigator Model from 2019 which is publicly available online.
- Florida has program materials available for a fee. More information is available at <https://mykinship.org>

Recommendations and Lessons Learned from Existing Kinship Navigator Programs

New Jersey, Washington, and Ohio offered program recommendations for the program evaluations they each conducted in 2019, 2005, and 2012. Post Adoption Support Programs did not have manuals and were not evaluated in the same way as the Kinship Navigator programs. Therefore, only recommendations from Kinship Navigator programs are reflected here.

- Services that reflect the demographics of the families being served and the varied geographic locations where families are. For example, ombudsman and other staff should be bilingual in English and other languages appropriate to the area being served.
- Any program responding to the needs of kinship families should be prepared offer "concrete, emotional/behavioral, and health needs [supports]" to both kinship caregivers and children.
- Transportation services should be added to the program budget when serving kinship families.
- Frequent crisis situations may occur when serving kinship families, so kinship programs should be prepared to offer help in those situations.
- Advisory groups should include kin caregivers and local community partners to offer feedback on project operation.
- Grouping kinship and adoption together may be positive because separation could block families from accessing services and potentially from moving from guardianship and/or custody towards adoption (as determined by each individual family).
- Cost-benefit of the programs should be evaluated to demonstrate the economic effectiveness of funding a Kinship Navigator program.
- Post-adoption services should be continued into adulthood.

Attachment B: Caregiver and Professional Survey Results.

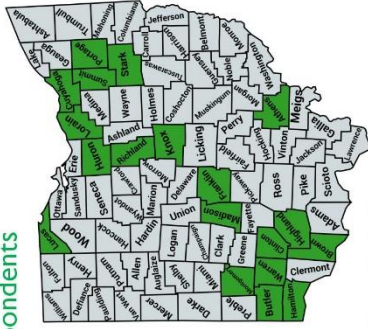
Results from OhioKAN Caregiver & Professional Survey (May-June 2019)

Survey Respondents

55 Families

68 Professionals

18 Counties



Stakeholder Perceptions of Available Services

79%

Of survey respondents felt services were **inadequate** for informal kin

70%

Of survey respondents felt services were **inadequate** for formal kin

51%

Of survey respondents felt services were **adequate** for adoptive families, after adoption is finalized

Stakeholder Values & Beliefs

- Kinship caregivers deserve support and **recognition**
- Community-based services should be available to **ALL** kinship & adoptive families
- Kin caregivers often feel pressured to accept formal or informal responsibility for kin children out of **fear** of foster care placement
- The government can adequately ensure safety and support caregivers without assuming custody and providing on-going supervision
- **Families and kin** should not be expected to step in when parents are in crisis to ensure safety of children

Top Services Needs Identified for Kinship & Adoptive Families

Kinship Caregivers	Adoptive Families
Financial support for child care	Adoption navigator
Kinship navigator	Mental health therapy
Legal support services	Adoptive parent support groups
Mental health therapy	Crisis intervention
Caregiver support groups & respite	Adoptive parent training & respite

*significantly more professionals than families identified need for respite services

“Changes are not happening at the same pace as the **trauma** is happening to our families.”

-Crystal Turner (Kinship Caregiver & OhioKAN Stakeholder, May 2019)



Attachment C: OhioKAN Stakeholder List



Department of
Job and Family Services

OHIO KINSHIP AND ADOPTION NAVIGATOR (OhioKAN)

DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

STAKEHOLDER LIST

1. Alicia Allen, ODJFS
2. Doug Althausser, Family and Youth Law Center
3. Mimi Anglin, Adoptive Parent
4. Joe Atkinson, Montgomery County PCSA
5. Darlene Baad, Summit County PCSA
6. Stephanie Beleal, Kinnect
7. Roxana Bell, Kinnect
8. Ricka Berry, Beech Acres Parenting Center
9. Stephanie Blaine, Athens County PCSA
10. Carrie Block, ODJFS
11. Sandy Bryant, Dayton Children's Hospital
12. Nicole Caldwell, Guernsey County PCSA
13. Jamole Callahan, Kinnect
14. Beth Cardina, Summit County CASA/GAL Program
15. Rosalind Caro, Stark County PCSA
16. Carla Carpenter, ODJFS
17. Karen Carter, Fostering Hope
18. Brenda Cheatham, Fairhill Partners
19. Chelsea Cordonnier, Office of Children's Initiatives
20. Maridell Couture, Cuyahoga County DSAS
21. Kenneth Crookston, Stark County PCSA
22. Imee Dalton, Adult Adoptee
23. Shannon Deinhart, Kinnect
24. Patrick Donovan, Muskingum County PCSA
25. Angela Earley, Chrysalis Family Solutions
26. Dave Earley, Chrysalis Family Solutions
27. Elizabeth Edington, Catholic Social Services of Miami Valley
28. Quovadis Ellison, Kinship Caregiver
29. Destry Fallen, Dayton Children's Hospital
30. Stephanie Frantz, Madison County PCSA
31. Bob Friend, Kinnect
32. Tina Gaston, Area Office on Aging of Northwestern Ohio
33. Cathy Ghering, ODJFS
34. Julie Gilbert, Butler County PCSA
35. Deborah Gnann, Adoptive Parent
36. Heather Gonzales King, Adult Adoptee
37. Jewell Good, Montgomery County PCSA
38. Nancy Griffith, Lorain County PCSA
39. Kelley Gruber, Institute of Human Services
40. Heather Gutierrez, Kinship Caregiver
41. Elise Hagesfeld, Kinship Caregiver
42. Tim Harless, Richland County PCSA
43. Shannon Harnichar, Homes for Kids
44. Sarah Harvan, Summit County CASA/GAL Program
45. Kristie Heckman, Clark County PCSA
46. Megan Heydlauff, Family and Youth Law Center
47. Bill Hobstetter, Beech Acres Parenting Center
48. Elizabeth Holzworth, ODJFS
49. Sarah Kaye, Kaye Implementation and Evaluation
50. Mike Kenney, Kinnect
51. Catherine Lachman, Integrated Services for Behavioral Health
52. Carla Lanier, Fairhill Partners
53. Tori Lemaster, Clark County PCSA
54. Traci Marr, Hamilton County PCSA
55. Jaqueline McCray, Cuyahoga County PCSA
56. Karen McGormley, ODJFS
57. Dawn Merritt, Beech Acres Parenting Center
58. Kristine Monroe, ODJFS
59. Johnna Myers, Summit County PCSA
60. Betsie Norris, Adoption Network Cleveland
61. Kim Novak, Kinship Caregiver
62. Sue Nowlin, Lorain County Office on Aging
63. Alexandra Patsfall, Hamilton County PCSA
64. Johanna Pearce, Fairfield County PCSA
65. Bobbi Pederson, Adoptive Parent
66. Amy Reinhart, ODJFS
67. Karen Sauers, Highland County PCSA
68. Tara Shook, ODJFS
69. Wendy Spoerl, Ohio Adoption Planning Group
70. Lynette Stevens, Ohio Grandparent Kinship Coalition
71. Helene Stone, Lorain County Office on Aging
72. Cheryl Tarantino, Northeast Ohio Adoption Services
73. Cara Textoris, Kinnect
74. Sarah Tornichio, Institute of Human Services
75. Crystal Turner, Kinship Caregiver
76. Wendi Turner, Ohio Family Care Association
77. Barbara Turpin, Ohio Grandparent Kinship Coalition
78. Mary Wachtel, PCSAO
79. Crystal Ward-Allen, Casey Family Programs
80. Jennifer Wikette, Beech Acres Parenting Center
81. Crystal Williams, ODJFS
82. Lindsay Williams, Ohio Children's Trust Fund
83. Trish Wilson, ODJFS
84. Louanne Zipfel, Clintonville Beechwold Community Resource Center

Attachment D: Meeting Minutes from Stakeholder Workgroup #1



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

Stakeholder Workgroup: Session I of 3

May 29, 2019 Meeting Minutes

ATTENDEES

Alicia Allen, ODJFS; Mimi Anglin, Adoptive Parent; Joe Atkinson, Montgomery County PCSA; Stephanie Beal, Kinnect; Roxana Bell, Kinnect; Carrie Block, ODJFS; Sandy Bryant, Dayton Children's Hospital; Nicole Caldwell, Guernsey County PCSA; Jamole Callahan, Kinnect; Beth Cardina, Summit County CASA/GAL Program; Rosalind Caro, Stark County PCSA; Carla Carpenter, ODJFS; Karen Carter, Fostering Hope; Brenda Cheatham, Fairhill Partners; Chelsea Cordonnier, Office of Children's Initiatives; Maridell Couture, Cuyahoga County DSAS; Kenneth Crookston, Stark County PCSA; Shannon Deinhart, Kinnect; Patrick Donovan, Muskingum County, PCSA; Dave Earley, Chrysalis Family Solutions; Elizabeth Edington, Catholic Social Services of Miami Valley; Quovadis Ellison, Kinship Caregiver; Destry Fallen, Dayton Children's Hospital; Stephanie Frantz, Madison County PCSA; Bob Friend, Kinnect; Tina Gaston, Area Office on Aging of Northwestern Ohio; Cathy Ghering, ODJFS; Julie Gilbert, Butler County PCSA; Deborah Gnann, Adoptive Parent; Heather Gonzales King, Adult Adoptee; Jewell Good, Montgomery County PCSA; Kelley Gruber, Institute of Human Services; Heather Gutierrez, Kinship Caregiver; Tim Harless, Richland County PCSA; Shannon Harnichar, Homes for Kids; Bill Hobstetter, Beech Acres Parenting Center; Mike Kenney, Kinnect; Catherine Lachman, Integrated Services for Behavioral Health; Traci Marr, Hamilton County PCSA; Jaqueline McCray, Cuyahoga County PCSA; Karen McGormley, ODJFS; Kristine Monroe, ODJFS; Johnna Myers, Summit County PCSA; Betsie Norris, Adoption Network Cleveland; Kim Novak, Kinship Caregiver; Sue Nowlin, Lorain County Office on Aging; Alexandra Patsfall, Hamilton 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; Cara Textoris, Kinnect; Sarah Tornichio, Institute of Human Services; Crystal Turner, Kinship Caregiver; Wendi Turner, Ohio Family Care Association; Mary Wachtel, PCSAO; Crystal Ward-Allen, Casey Family Programs; Jennifer Wikette, Beech Acres Parenting Center; Crystal Williams, ODJFS; Lindsay Williams, Ohio Children's Trust Fund; Trish Wilson, ODJFS; Louanne Zipfel, Clintonville Beechwold Community Resource Center

FACILITATORS

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

Scribe: Cara Textoris

I. Welcome and Introductions

- Shannon Deinhart opened the meeting by welcoming workgroup members and discussing the overall purpose of the day's session.
- Carla Carpenter introduced the federal legislation driving the development of a statewide navigator program, the Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA), as well as the broader work being done around family permanency by the Ohio Family First Prevention Services Act Leadership Committee.

2. Setting the Context

- Jamole Callahan discussed the purposes and non-purposes of the meeting to set the stage for the day's work.
- Workgroup members introduced themselves by addressing the following:
 1. What is your connection to kinship and/or adoption?
 2. What are you hoping to contribute to the workgroup?

3. Design Approach and Subcommittee Expectations

- Mike Kenney introduced the workgroup members to the 5 phases of Kinnect's design work, which will drive the design process of OhioKAN:
 1. Assess
 2. Team
 3. Design
 4. Implement
 5. Evaluate
- The process of using an implementation science framework was discussed as to how the program will be developed, rolled out, and evaluated.
- Workgroup members were introduced to the 3 Stakeholder Subcommittees (WHAT, HOW, and WHO) and asked to choose their membership in a subcommittee based on their own reflection of where their talents and expertise might best fit.
- There was an acknowledgement that there is an urgency to this work and we need to take advantage of the time together as a larger committee, but also members will need to do "homework" between meetings to be prepared for discussions.

4. Research Review

- Shannon presented an overview of research conducted on national and local kinship navigator and post-adoption program models. Common programmatic components were examined. Stakeholders were encouraged to read and become familiar with the provided research summaries on these models for further background on framing, which will influence the framing of OhioKAN.
- Special attention was paid to Title IV-E requirements for a kinship navigator program to receive matching federal dollars at the state-level. The provided IV-E Crosswalk document was referenced for stakeholders.
- The evidence-base of the researched programs was reviewed for stakeholders, with special consideration being paid to Ohio's Kinship Supports Intervention (KSI) submission to the California Clearinghouse.
- The initial stakeholder survey results were reviewed, focusing on service needs identified by professionals and families; perceived availability of resources for adoptive and kinship families; and qualitative responses.

5. Subcommittee Breakout Session

- The larger workgroup broke into 3 subcommittees (WHAT, HOW, and WHO).
- See subcommittee meeting minutes for discussions held in individual sessions.

6. Report Out

- Bob Friend reviewed the findings from the subcommittees and held a discussion on what worked from this first Stakeholder Workgroup session, as well as what didn't work:
 - What worked: Allowed time for brainstorming and conversation; Recognition that workgroup is an impressive collection of experience and expertise; Appreciation of process.
 - What didn't work: Acknowledgement that we are missing the youth voice/perspective; Desire for larger workgroup to move towards a "YES/AND" perspective and away from a divide of kinship "versus" adoption (even though they are distinct populations, the children face similar trauma and have similar service issues/needs - all families should be supported).

7. Meeting Adjourned

Next Meeting:

Monday, June 17, 2019 | 10:00a.m. – 3:00p.m.
Family and Youth Law Center | Capital University Law School
303 East Broad Street, Columbus, OH 43215



Ohio Kinship and Adoption Navigator (OhioKAN) Development Project

Stakeholder Workgroup: Session 1 of 3 May 29, 2019

“WHAT” Subcommittee – Meeting Minutes

KINNECT FACILITATORS

Bob Friend and Stephanie Bealeal (with Roxana Bell)

ATTENDEES

Sandy Bryant, Beth Cardina, Kenneth Crookston, David Earley, Elizabeth Edington, Cathy Ghering, Julie Gilbert, Deborah Miller-Gnann, Heather Gutierrez, Shannon Harnichar, Traci Marr, Jacqueline McCray, Kim Novack, Amy Reinhart, Sarah Tornichio, Crystal Turner, Lynette Stevens, Mary Wachtel, Crystal Ward Allen, Patricia Wilson

Introductions

- 1. Bob and Stephanie introduced themselves and clarified the role of the subcommittee. Bob shared his perspective on facilitating this subcommittee section (What).
2. Questions guiding discussion: What is most important? What is working? Where are the gaps? Who else has important WHATS? Where are the areas of most interest?
3. Bob leads WHAT questions with group. 1st question is question #2: What do caregivers and parents need? What do adoptees and adoptive parents need?

1. Question: What do we think we know?

Table with 2 columns: Ohio's Model (Pros and Needs) and National Models (Strength: TN Blended Program- Scope of offerings)

2. Question: What do caregivers need?

One-stop-shop centralized place
Assessment -> Services and Supports (3m, 6m, 9m, 1yr, etc.)

Consistent Access:

- Accountability
• Good Overall Program Communication
• Service Delivery Across Populations
➢ "front door" should look the same for all groups

Categories of Kin:

- Agency custody & placed with kin
• Kin are licensed (per diem)
• Informal (no custody)
• Kin has custody & agency is involved

Navigator Roles:	Services and Supports:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Linkage ability • Diversity/cultural training (navigator and agency wide) • Trusting, relational, and supportive • Partner to complete paperwork/forms • Advocacy • Capacity/time • Visitation support • Community Mapping • Relationship with courts • Use Technology creatively (ie: rent laptops) • Communicates whole process • Honest about service gaps • Family centered/driven • Open minded to needs changing over time • Listener • Barrier busting • Engages information and natural supports • Flexible and adapts to families' needs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Phone, Home visit, 1 or 10 meetings • Ability to assist with & knowledge of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ medical rights ○ PASSS ○ ICPC ○ legal/court system ○ policies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sharing information • Statewide website • Child care • Crisis intervention • BH support (quick) • Respite care • Curriculum based support groups • Education- books • Specific training • Hard services-cribs/beds, food, clothing, legal fees • Affordable housing (is: "grand-housing") • Peer support • Legal assistance • School support (ie: enrolling, IEPs, rights) • Employment protection • Mediation • Literacy assessment (ie: Children's Hospital) • Outreach- proactive contact with families • Visitation support- handling complex dynamics <p>Specific Youth Needs: Experiential Services, Peer Support, In home counseling, Wraparound access</p>

****Network of Community Professionals** (linked with navigator and each other)

****Network of Navigators** (linked with each other across the state- possible Quarterly Meeting)

3. Question: What are we doing to validate that we are meeting actual needs?

- Relaying gaps in services to team
- Continual check-ins with families
- Good customer service evaluation
- Customization

How will families know about what is available?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communication (How and where? - mailing, court, school, support groups, police, word-of-mouth, not just internet, billboards, and other outlets i.e. AARP) • PR Education and Marketing (strategies unique to each region) • Agency responsibilities • Consistent language • Break stigma <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px; width: fit-content;"> <p>IDEA: <i>"You are a caregiver" → "One in 10 someone you know is a kin caregiver"</i></p> </div>



Ohio Kinship and Adoption Navigator (OhioKAN) Development Project

Stakeholder Workgroup: Session 1 of 3
May 29, 2019

“HOW” Subcommittee – Meeting Minutes

KINNECT FACILITATORS

Mike Kenney (with Cara Textoris)

ATTENDEES

Alicia Allen; Maridell Couture; Quavadis Ellison; Destry Fallen; Tina Gaston; Jewell Good; Kelley Gruber; Bill Hobstetter; Catherine Lachman; Johnna Myers; Karen Sauers; Wendy Spoerk; Helene Stone; Lindsey Williams; Jennifer Wikette

Introductions

1. Mike introduced himself and clarified the role of the subcommittee. Mike shared his perspective on facilitating this subcommittee section (HOW).
2. **Questions guiding discussion:** How is OhioKAN funded? How do we develop a budget? How is funding allocated at a regional level and what does that look like? How is funding allocated to families and what does that look like? How are resources available outside of this budget being used? How do we develop an adaptive resource model?
3. Mike lead group through HOW questions.

I. Question: How is OhioKAN funded?

3 Funding “Buckets”		
STATE KINSHIP \$\$	FEDERAL KINSHIP \$\$	STATE ADOPTION \$\$

Kinship Navigator Funding	Adoption Navigator Funding
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State Funding: House Bill No. 14 introduced by Representatives Boyd and Baldrige that would establish funding for regionally based kinship navigator programs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Potentially \$5MM in state funding (if passed) • Federal Funding: Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA) provides for Title IV-E agencies to receive funding for kinship navigator programs at 50% Federal Financial Participation (FFP) by meeting established requirements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ State-matching funds (potentially \$5MM) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State Funding: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Adoption Incentive Funds (Variable) ○ General Revenue Fund: \$1.26MM requested for 2020/2021 fiscal year (not yet approved) <p>**Adoption Navigator services not eligible for federal funding under FFPSA</p>

- How do we address overlaps in services between Kinship and Adoption and ensure funding remains accessible through FFPSA?
- How do we identify and capitalize on services/resources that are already in place, in order to make best use of available funding?

2. Question: How do we develop a budget?

Goal: Focus on building a budget that creates an adaptable framework that allows for collaboration, partnership, and an avenue for other resources to be connected into OhioKAN programming/services

**Available state/federal funding not enough to equitably support 88 individual/robust kinship navigator programs

3. Question: How is funding allocated?

Regional Funding		Local Funding	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional framework Hiring/Training/Retaining Education Support CQI 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implementation Navigators Core services (Respite; Daycare; Legal; etc) Flexible dollars (Crisis services/supports; Concrete needs; etc) 	
Family Support Funding: Tiers of Service			
Tier 1 "Information"	Tier 2 "Connections"	Tier 3 "Support"	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Website 211 Support groups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All from Tier 1, plus: Navigator Referrals 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All from Tiers 1 & 2, plus: Case management/relationship Follow-up 	

4. Question: How are resources outside of this budget being used?

- **Community Mapping:** What resources are currently available in communities; how do we complement current available resources and not duplicate them?
- Navigator and Regional Director will build connections to pull other avenues of available resources, soft and hard services

5. Question: How do we build an adaptive resource model?

- Model cannot be prescribed, but based on current resources and needs
- Navigator not the sole source of knowledge – that role in itself is adaptable, as a connector and relationship builder
- Trust between Navigator/community is paramount to a successful and adaptable program



Ohio Kinship and Adoption Navigator (OhioKAN) Development Project Stakeholder Workgroup: Session 1 of 3 May 29, 2019

“WHO” Subcommittee – Meeting Minutes

KINNECT FACILITATORS

Jamole Callahan and Shannon Deinhart

Attendees: Carrie Block, Rosalind Caro, Brenda Cheatham, Karen Cook, Patrick Donovan, Heather Gonzales-King, Tim Harless, Carla Lanier, Kristine Monroe, Betsie Norris, Sue Nowlin, Alexandra Patsfall, Bobbie Pedersen, Tara Shook

Introductions

- 1. Jamole and Shannon introduced themselves and clarified the role of the subcommittee. Jamole shared his perspective on facilitating this subcommittee section (Who).
2. Questions guiding discussion: Who are the identified organizations that are already established in the community? Who do we need at the table? Who are families reaching out to as a resource in the community? Who is leading the organizations that are already established in the community? Who will receive each service outlined in OhioKAN?
3. Jamole leads group through WHO questions.

1. Question: Who are the identified organizations that are already established in your community?

Table with 2 columns: PCSA Organizations Represented by Group and Nonprofit Organizations Represented by Group. Includes a section for Services Provided by the Organizations Represented within the Group.

2. Question: Who is leading the organizations that are already established in the community? Should they be at the table?

**Community mapping is necessary to define established community resources

Community Organizations that should potentially be identified as partners
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Family First Council • Supreme Court of Ohio • Bar Association/CASA/GAL's <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ (GAL's for caregivers and attorneys to help caregivers with estate planning) • Ohio Department of Education / PEP • Area Office on Aging • Drug and Alcohol • Ohio Mental Health • Faith Based Organizations • Wendy's Wonderful Kids Recruiters • Settlement Houses • Department of Disabilities • Network Hospitals • Big Brothers Big Sisters / Boys and Girls Club • JFS Benefits/Child Only/ Social Security/Office of Family Assistance • Early Intervention • Saving our Sisters • Providence House/Crisis Nurseries/Blessing House • Food Bank • DODD - Ohio Coalition of Education with Special Needs • Mothers Helping Mothers (Teen Moms) • Legal Aid – Grandparent Power of Attorney • Youth Advisory Board • Judge Michael Ryan – Cuyahoga County & Sarah LaTourette • Red Tree House (Jeanine Carroll)

3. Question: Who will receive services outlined in OhioKAN?

- **What core services are common across national programs?
- **Adoption needs identified from the survey mirrored FFPSA program eligibility requirements

What is needed to decide and define services?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Define Kinship • Data Tracking • Training needs for Kinship Care • What assessments are needed? • Training for Courts – What is out there –Tim Harless • Educational Liasons • Childcare Resources • Housing • Consistent Relationships for Youth • Juvenile Court Involvement • Legal Aid • Education • Medical Care • Current pilot project between Providence House and Informal Caregivers at Fairhill Partners centered around support

Attachment E: Meeting Minutes from Stakeholder Workgroup #2



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)
- 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):

Top 5 Service Needs Identified (as of 6.13.19)	
Kinship Caregivers	Adoptive Families
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
Families: Kinship caregiver support groups / Respite Professionals: Respite services*	Families: Training for adoptive parents Professionals: 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



Ohio Kinship and Adoption Navigator (OhioKAN) Development Project

Stakeholder Workgroup: Session 2 of 3 June 17, 2019

RESOURCE Breakout – Meeting Minutes

KINNECT FACILITATORS

Mike Kenney (with Cara Textoris)

INTRODUCTIONS

- 1. Mike introduced himself and clarified the role of the 2 breakout sessions.
2. Mike led group through the 2 breakout sessions.

I. Resource Breakout: Session #1

Questions Guiding Discussion:

Table with 2 columns: Navigators (Are the adoption and kinship one person?, Where do they work and meet?, Who will supervise them?) and Budget Structure (State, In-kind, Direct payments)



Main discussion points table with 2 columns. Left column: Adoption Navigators & Kinship Navigators are separate people, They should work for private nonprofits with some co-located at public agencies, The number of Navigators should be determined by county population, There should be a set minimum on number of Navigators and/or service hours allocated for each county, Daily/weekly supervision should be given by the housing agency; Regional oversight and structure will be given by Hub Navigator. Right column: Kinship Funds: \$10MM (\$5MM State funds, \$5MM FFPSA matching funds), Adoption Funds: \$2.2MM (state), Allocation per Navigator = \$75,000 (That includes salary, benefits, travel), For context: \$1MM funds ~13 Navigators, Funding 88 Kinship Navigators = \$6.7MM, Funding 20 Adoption Navigators = \$1.5MM

2. Resource Breakout: Session #2

Goal: Allocate \$12.2MM potential funding and create a **DRAFT** budget structure, to begin thinking about and highlighting the actual costs of program components

Budget Assumptions: Kinship: \$10MM Adoption: \$2.2MM Total Budget: \$12,200,000			
Line Item	# Staff	Budget	Info
Overhead		\$1,220,000	
Kinship Navigators (67% of available Kinship Funds)	88	\$6,700,000	Includes: salary, benefits, travel
Adoption Navigators (67% of available Adoption Funds)	20	\$1,500,000	Includes: salary, benefits, travel
Project Director	1	\$160,000	Includes: salary, benefits, travel
Hub Directors	5	\$600,000	Includes: salary, benefits, travel
Supervision		\$540,000	At local agency
ODJFS (2.5%)		\$300,000	
Evaluation		\$540,000	
Marketing		\$220,000	
Training		\$220,000	
Technology		\$170,000	
	Total:	\$12,170,000	



Ohio Kinship and Adoption Navigator (OhioKAN) Development Project

Stakeholder Workgroup: Session 2 of 3
June 17, 2019

“SERVICE” Breakout – Meeting Minutes

KINNECT FACILITATORS

Bob Friend, Jamole Callahan and Sarah Kaye (with Roxana Bell)

INTRODUCTIONS

1. The facilitators introduced themselves and clarified the goal of the 2 breakout session.
2. The facilitators led the group through the 2 breakout sessions.

Service Breakout: Session #1

****The subcommittee broke into four groups to discuss structure:**

How many regions should Ohio be divided into? <i>**Using sample 10-Region and 12-Region maps as a guide</i>			
Group #1	Group #2	Group #3	Group #4
Consensus: 12 regions	Consensus: 12 regions	Consensus: Split (10 or 12 regions)	Consensus: 12 regions
Thoughts driving decisions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Large Metro areas may be sucking up resources for rural areas • People from rural areas are already driving to larger Metro areas for services • 12 may be more accessible than 10 • Con for 12 counties may be that SW counties are stretched thin • Might need to redraw 12 regions to create equitable distribution for SW counties 			

Where should Regional Hubs be located? <i>**Using sample 10-Region and 12-Region maps as a guide</i>			
Group #1	Group #2	Group #3	Group #4
Athens Summit Hamilton Montgomery Allen Wood Franklin Lucas Cuyahoga	Montgomery Clark Richland Franklin Hamilton Athens or Fairfield Muskingum Lorain Cuyahoga Ashtabula	Stark Franklin Muskingum Richland Fairfield Athens Hamilton Lucas Lorain Montgomery	Lucas Hamilton Richland Ashtabula Montgomery Franklin Lorain Summit Muskingum

Which potential structure options seems to work best for OhioKAN? <i>**Using 3 sample program structure options as a guide</i>			
Group #1	Group #2	Group #3	Group #4
Consensus: Split Version 1 or Version 2 Version 1: seems stronger, as 1 person responsible for each area Version 2: fiscally sound	Consensus: Version 1 Version 1: "more is better"	Consensus: Split Version 1 or Version 2 Version 1: ideal world Version 2: consistency; fiscally sound	Consensus: Split Version 1 or Version 2 Version 1: ideal world Version 2: fiscally sound

Takeaways from Session #1:

- No consensus on # of regions
- Need more equitable distribution of regions especially for SE Ohio counties
- More data is needed to determine structure
 - Census 2020 data for kinship providers
 - SACWIS and other juvenile court data
- Flexibility in regional structure will be important
- Voices from educational community are needed
- Who are the managers? Are they social workers? Are they Caregivers?

Service Breakout: Session #2

****The subcommittee broke into 3 groups to discuss Service Tiers and Key Program Components**

Group #1: Inform (Information, Referral)
Possible Line Items: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 211 • Website outreach • Information • Referrals
Takeaways from group: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outreach and Word-of-Mouth is imperative • Educate/outreach to legal community • Outreach ideas: Lunch and Learns (in-person) and updated website • Social Media tie-ins (i.e. National Adoption and Kinship Month) • Untapped resource: churches and faith communities • Community Mapping for existing and new sites • Language matters: standardized definitions (accessible) • Large community businesses could be resources

Group #2: Connect (Networking, Hard Services, Support Groups)

Possible Line Items:

- Community networking
- Linking to community providers
- Respite
- Mental health services
- Hard goods (cribs, beds, car seats, school supplies, etc)
- Support groups
- Resource groups
- Training opportunities

Takeaways from group:

- Values/curriculum building/consistency
- Regional Approach to learning communities (navigators and directors)
- Kin/adopt- IV-E eligibility, build community, peer led programming
- Building therapists who are trained in each topic area
- Navigator → follow-up and feedback loop

Group #3: Support (Assessment, Case Management)

Possible Line Items:

- Full Assessment
- Case Management Services (per hour? Per visit?)

Takeaways from group:

- Pre-existing training for less advanced counties
- Use technology for learning communities ("real-time" FB message board)
- Intensive Services (ombudsman? Case worker?)
- Move from linkage to case management
- How to leverage sites already doing well? (Ohio Grandparent Coalition)
- Community and region | learning from region 2? (provide training and development)

Existing and New Sites Discussion:

- Leverage what already exists via Learning Communities
- Importance of navigators being able to access current data
- Learning variation in courts
- Richland and other current counties with kinship navigators can serve as regional HUBs
 - We can go to those counties
 - Survey current services
 - Information gathering and building up network
 - Community Mapping (low resourced vs. high resourced)

Attachment F: Meeting Minutes from Stakeholder Workgroup #3



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

Stakeholder Workgroup: Session 3 of 3

July 22, 2019 Meeting Minutes

ATTENDEES

Alicia Allen, ODJFS; Doug Althaus, Family and Youth Law Center; Mimi Anglin, Adoptive Parent; Joe Atkinson, Montgomery County PCSA; Darlene Baad, Summit County PCSA; Stephanie Beleal, Kinnect; Roxana Bell, Kinnect; Ricka Berry, Beech Acres Parenting Center; Stephanie Blaine, Athens County PCSA; Carrie Block, ODJFS; Sandy Bryant, Dayton Children's Hospital; Jamole Callahan, Kinnect; Rosalind Caro, Stark County PCSA; Carla Carpenter, ODJFS; Brenda Cheatham, Fairhill Partners; 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 Gnnan, Adoptive Parent; Heather Gonzales King, Adult Adoptee; Nancy Griffith, Lorain County PCSA; Heather Gutierrez, Kinship Caregiver; Elise Hagesfeld, Kinship Caregiver; Tim Harless, Richland County PCSA; Kristie Heckman, Clark County JFS; Sarah Kaye, Kaye Implementation and Evaluation; Mike Kenney, Kinnect; Beth Kowalczyk, Area Office on Aging; Carla Lanier, Fairhill Partners; Jaqueline McCray, Cuyahoga County PCSA; Karen McGormley, ODJFS; Dawn Merritt, Beech Acres Parenting Center; Kristine Monroe, ODJFS; Betsie Norris, Adoption Network Cleveland; Kim Novak, Kinship Caregiver; Sue Nowlin, Lorain County Office on Aging; Alexandra Patsfall, Hamilton County PCSA; Johanna Pearce, Fairfield County PCSA; Amy Reinhart, ODJFS; 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; Crystal Turner, Kinship Caregiver; Barbara Turpin, Ohio Grandparent Kinship Coalition; Mary Wachtel, PCSAO; Crystal Ward-Allen, Casey Family Programs; Louanne Zipfel, Clintonville Beechwood Community Resource Center

FACILITATORS

Stephanie Beleal, Jamole Callahan, Shannon Deinhart, Bob Friend, Sarah Kaye, and Mike Kenney

SPEAKERS

Carla Carpenter and Karen McGormley

Scribe: Cara Textoris

I. Welcome and Introductions

- A. Shannon Deinhart opened the meeting, welcoming workgroup members and providing an update on the work done by the leadership team since the last session. An overview was given on how the insights and feedback from stakeholders over the last two meetings helped inform key decisions of the developed OhioKAN framework and design

- B. Carla Carpenter thanked stakeholders for their participation, time, and energy. We are well positioned to implement a robust program in the state because of the rich history we have in the realm of kinship care supports services and state officials are committed to seeing the work move forward
- C. Carla gave an update on House Bill 166, the 2-year State of Ohio budget bill, passed by the 133rd General Assembly and officially signed by Governor Mike DeWine on 7/18/19. Under HB 166, the State of Ohio budget has allocated \$8.5MM for the implementation of a kinship navigator program, more than the anticipated \$3.5MM - \$5MM
- D. Karen McGormley walked stakeholders through budget updates. Program evaluation is key to ensuring OhioKAN is achieving impact for families and that we are hitting the Title IV-E Clearinghouse critical standards. Funding for OhioKAN is guaranteed by this state budget (and the program will begin under state funding only), however federal FFPSA matching kinship funds will draw down only after OhioKAN is:
 - 1. Evaluated;
 - 2. Submitted to the Title IV-E Clearinghouse; and
 - 3. Rated by the Title IV-E Clearinghouse as either:
 - ✓ Promising;
 - ✓ Supported; or
 - ✓ Well-Supported
 (more information on the Title IV-E Clearinghouse or to review the programs that have already received ratings through this process can be found by visiting their website: <https://preventionservices.abtsites.com>)
- E. The kinship page on the State of Ohio's Foster, Adoption, and Kinship Care website went live on 7/23/19 (<https://fosterandadopt.jfs.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/ofc/kinship-care>)
- F. Mike Kenney asked Stakeholders what they would like to walk away with from the day's meeting and the group identified the following topic areas:
 - Program framework
 - Recommendation for regional structure
 - Information on evaluation plan
 - Understanding on how existing programs will fit into the model
 - Implementation strategy (how do we implement in sites that are ready but not leave out those that aren't)

II. OhioKAN Program Design and Framework

- A. The working OhioKAN budget framework was shared with stakeholders, identifying a design of how available funding would be allocated within the program
 - The shared budget framework was not the final or approved budget, but an overview on potential structure
 - The shared budget was the operational budget, after OhioKAN was fully implemented and functional; beginning implementation would require a different budgeting structure
 - The majority of funding in an operational budget allocated to direct service staff

- A large percentage of funding in an operational budget is carved out as flexible hub money. As regions conduct community mapping and assess their needs, they will be able to individually determine how to fill in service gaps and how to best allocate flexible dollars
- B. The OhioKAN Mission, Vision, and Values statements were shared and feedback was received from stakeholders on what might need to be altered or improved:

Mission Statement:

OhioKAN is a flexible and responsive kinship and adoption navigator program designed to support children, youth, and their families.

Stakeholder Feedback on Mission Statement:

- Make language more inclusive, it could be perceived that the support offered by the program is only for biological families
- Be more explicit that the program is offered state-wide, not only in select counties
- Spell out the full name of the program and put the acronym in parenthesis

Vision Statement:

We believe that families are inherently capable of finding solutions to the circumstances and challenges they face. By taking an inclusive, engaging, and genuine approach, OhioKAN will strengthen families and their networks.

Stakeholder Feedback on Vision Statement:

- Appreciate that it sounds strengths based
- Add an action statement that shows the value of partnership between family and professional
- Consider flipping the order of the two sentences in the statement

Values Statement:

Children: We value Ohio's children and are determined to keep the safety, permanency, and well-being of our children as our primary driver.

Accountability: We value integrity and transparency. We do what we say and say what we do.

Respect: We value the belief that everyone deserves to be treated with dignity and respect.

Engagement: We value the voices of all kinship and adoptive families

Strengths: We value every family's strengths and believe everyone can contribute to the solution.

Stakeholder Feedback on Values Statement:

- Add the value of culture and background
- Update language to showcase OhioKAN will engage directly with families

C. The proposed regional structure of OhioKAN: **10 Regions**

- Regional structure was developed using the following (data and considerations):
 - Stakeholder recommendations
 - ORC 5101.85 criteria
 - 2010 Ohio Census data
 - Number of grandparent households
 - County-reported data:
 - Total population
 - Number of children in foster care
 - Number of children receiving adoption assistance or SAMS
 - Ensuring that counties currently partnering together in the realm of child welfare would be paired within the same region
 - Density of population and geographic scope were balanced to promote maximum equity between regions and workload for Navigators (the denser the population of a region, the less counties assigned to that specific region; the less dense the population, the greater the number of counties assigned to a region)

OhioKAN Regional Map

- Region 1
- Region 2
- Region 3
- Region 4
- Region 5
- Region 6
- Region 7
- Region 8
- Region 9
- Region 10



D. Proposed structure and framework:

- OhioKAN overseen by the **OhioKAN Program Director**
 - Ensures program fiscal responsibility; oversees implementation & evaluation
- Each region overseen by a **Regional Hub Director**
 - Reports to Program Director; coordinates scope of work within region
- Each region will have **Kinship and Adoption Navigators**
 - Work assigned based on specific needs of region & determined by community mapping/regional needs assessment completed by Regional Hub Director and OhioKAN Program Director
- Each region will convene a **Regional Advisory Council** to support goals and outcomes of OhioKAN
 - Identify service gaps and provide regional recommendations



E. Existing programs and new site development:

- OhioKAN will enhance (not replace) existing work being done throughout Ohio
- Teaching/Learning Community Structure; The regional approach of OhioKAN will provide for existing sites to support the growth of development in counties that had previously not provided support/services to kinship families
- Counties that had been part of the Protect Ohio Demonstration Grant were disbursed throughout the regions, since many have existing navigator or support programs, which will aid in future Learning Communities

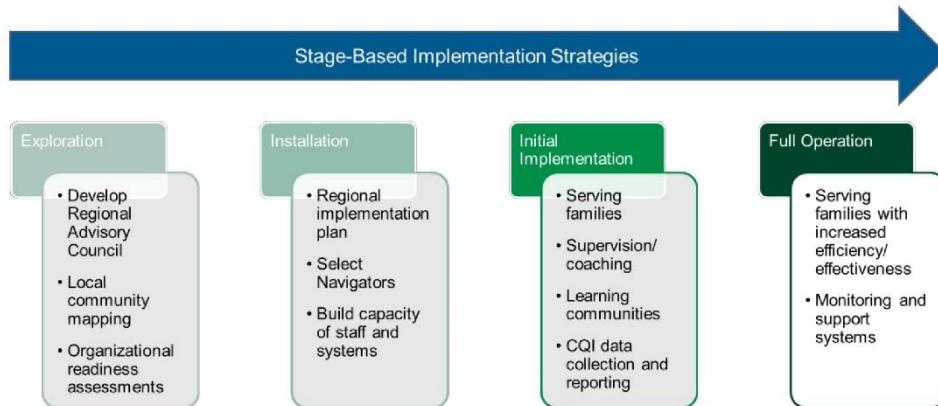
III. OhioKAN Next Steps

A. OhioKAN Regional Town Hall Meetings:

- Currently planned for 5 meetings in August/September, disbursed throughout the state in the following counties: Athens, Butler, Franklin, Summit, and Lucas
- Stakeholders suggested a regional approach to Town Hall Meetings, expanding to 10, which would bring community/regional partners together before implementation and begin the process of community mapping

B. OhioKAN Implementation:

- Sarah Kaye walked stakeholders through stage-based implementation and a potential regional roll-out throughout the state to illustrate what the implementation process may look like
- Implementation roll-out will be planned in order to support final favorable program evaluation



C. OhioKAN Evaluation:

- A favorable evaluation is key to ensuring OhioKAN is ultimately eligible for matching federal funds under FFPSA
- After evaluation, OhioKAN will be submitted to the Title IV-E Prevention Services Clearinghouse to be rated.
- Title IV-E Prevention Services Clearinghouse ratings and rating criteria:

Rating	Number of studies*	Design	Effect	Usual Care
Promising Practice	1	Moderate, High	Favorable	
Supported Practice	1	Moderate, High	Sustained favorable for 6 months	✓
Well-Supported Practice	2	Moderate, High	Sustained favorable for 12 months	✓

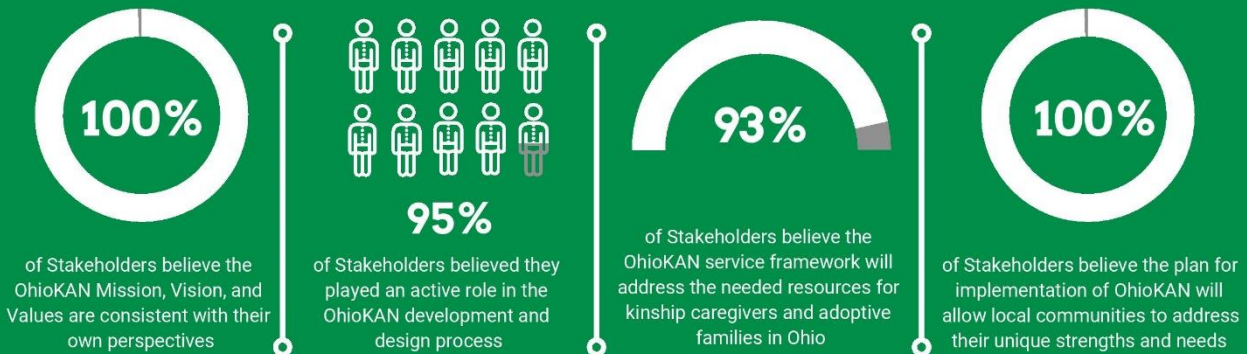
*non-overlapping study samples

IV. Closing of Meeting and Adjournment of OhioKAN Stakeholder Workgroup

Attachment G: Results from Stakeholder Satisfaction Survey

OhioKAN Stakeholder Satisfaction Survey

Feedback About the OhioKAN Design Process



Reflections on What Went Well



Findings based on Design Workgroup survey, July 23, 2019
n=40, percent agreement in (%)

Attachment H: Results from Town Hall Satisfaction Survey

OhioKAN Development Project Town Hall Meetings Satisfaction Survey

Feedback About the OhioKAN Town Hall Meetings



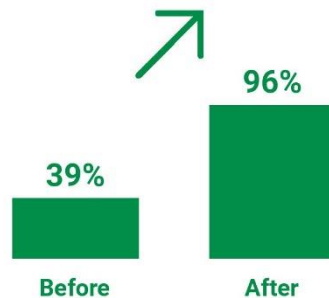
of attendees believed the OhioKAN Town Hall Meetings were beneficial to the community



of attendees agreed the presenters were clear and informative



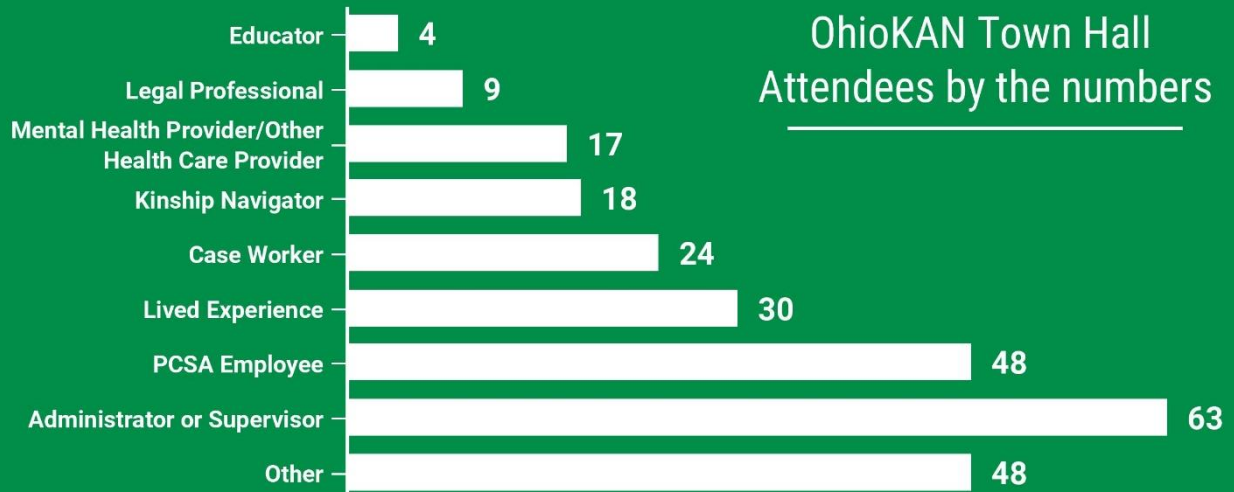
of attendees felt their voices were heard and their questions were answered



57% growth

in understanding around the concepts of kinship care, post-adoption services, and/or navigator services

**before and after attending a community town hall meeting



Findings based on Town Hall Surveys from August 27, 2019 | August 28, 2019 | September 4, 2019 | September 11, 2019 | September 17, 2019
n=167, percent agreement in (%)



Attachment I: State-wide County and Regional Data

OhioKAN Development Project
County and Regional Data

Region 1: County Count = 13				
County	Total Population	# of Children in Foster Care	# of Grandparent Households	# Children Rcv'ng Adoption Assistance or SAMS
Auglaize	45,949	17	0	17
Allen	106,331	148	1,034	143
Defiance	39,037	47	0	51
Fulton	42,698	38	0	25
Hancock	74,782	88	457	134
Hardin	32,058	51	0	39
Henry	28,215	36	0	16
Logan	45,858	85	0	67
Mercer	40,814	93	0	50
Paulding	19,614	12	0	14
Putnam	34,499	19	0	4
Van Wert	28,744	12	0	6
Williams	37,642	56	0	38
Region 1 Totals:	576,241	702	1,491	604

Region 2: County Count = 8				
County	Total Population	# of Children in Foster Care	# of Grandparent Households	# Children Rcv'ng Adoption Assistance or SAMS
Erie	77,079	180	875	56
Huron	59,626	26	0	40
Lorain	301,356	234	2,108	345
Lucas	441,815	1,373	3,606	1,476
Ottawa	41,428	38	0	32
Sandusky	60,944	66	0	56
Seneca	56,745	17	0	59
Wood	125,488	88	923	52
Region 2 Totals:	1,164,481	2,022	7,512	2,116

Region 3: County Count = 3				
County	Total Population	# of Children in Foster Care	# of Grandparent Households	# Children Rcv'ng Adoption Assistance or SAMS
Cuyahoga	1,249,352	3,294	8,223	2,263
Medina	176,395	161	1,028	70
Summit	541,781	1,409	3,970	898
Region 3 Totals:	1,967,528	4,864	13,221	3,231

Region 4: County Count = 8				
County	Total Population	# of Children in Foster Care	# of Grandparent Households	# Children Rcv'ng Adoption Assistance or SAMS
Ashtabula	101,497	421	1,376	208
Columbiana	107,841	137	1,632	81
Geauga	93,389	95	0	69
Lake	230,041	152	1,312	114
Mahoning	238,823	322	1,509	204
Portage	161,419	400	1,835	107
Stark	375,586	671	2,755	862
Trumbull	210,312	266	2,348	365
Region 4 Totals:	1,518,908	2,464	12,767	2,010

Region 5: County Count = 11				
County	Total Population	# of Children in Foster Care	# of Grandparent Households	# Children Rcv'ng Adoption Assistance or SAMS
Ashland	53,139	152	0	43
Crawford	43,784	102	0	59
Delaware	174,214	60	1,219	42
Holmes	42,366	32	0	22
Knox	60,921	150	0	8
Marion	66,501	126	0	82
Morrow	34,827	65	0	28
Richland	124,475	153	1,294	188
Union	52,300	69	0	33
Wayne	114,520	198	881	196
Wyandot	22,615	21	0	25
Region 5 Totals:	789,662	1,128	3,394	726

Region 6: County Count = 8				
County	Total Population	# of Children in Foster Care	# of Grandparent Households	# Children Rcv'ng Adoption Assistance or SAMS
Champaign	40,097	33	0	18
Clark	138,333	179	1,477	291
Darke	52,959	49	0	33
Greene	161,573	239	1,480	134
Miami	102,506	64	1,532	94
Montgomery	535,153	1,072	5,463	1,011
Preble	42,270	149	0	100
Shelby	49,423	41	0	60
Region 6 Totals:	1,122,314	1,826	9,952	1,741

Region 7: County Count = 5				
County	Total Population	# of Children in Foster Care	# of Grandparent Households	# Children Rcv'ng Adoption Assistance or SAMS
Fairfield	146,156	253	1,377	263
Franklin	1,264,518	4,253	8,662	2,225
Licking	166,492	677	1,771	501
Madison	43,435	35	0	19
Pickaway	55,698	68	0	39
Region 7 Totals:	1,676,299	5,286	11,810	3,047

Region 8: County Count = 13				
County	Total Population	# of Children in Foster Care	# of Grandparent Households	# Children Rcv'ng Adoption Assistance or SAMS
Belmont	70,400	66	0	81
Carroll	28,836	12	0	10
Coshocton	36,901	55	0	33
Guernsey	40,087	134	0	87
Harrison	15,864	70	0	24
Jefferson	69,709	112	1,108	79
Monroe	14,642	24	0	13
Morgan	15,054	24	0	3
Muskingum	86,074	344	0	182
Noble	14,645	52	0	2
Perry	36,058	108	0	62
Tuscarawas	92,582	149	0	327
Washington	61,778	116	0	62
Region 8 Totals:	582,630	1,266	1,108	965

Region 9: County Count = 5				
County	Total Population	# of Children in Foster Care	# of Grandparent Households	# Children Rcv'ng Adoption Assistance or SAMS
Butler	368,130	541	3,664	687
Clermont	197,363	295	1,891	525
Clinton	42,040	126	0	111
Hamilton	802,374	3,583	6,888	1,710
Warren	212,693	353	1,688	173
Region 9 Totals:	1,622,600	4,898	14,131	3,206

Region 10: County Count = 13				
County	Total Population	# of Children in Foster Care	# of Grandparent Households	# Children Rcv'ng Adoption Assistance or SAMS
Adams	28,550	122	0	82
Athens	64,757	181	0	163
Brown	44,846	130	0	81
Fayette	29,030	107	0	83
Gallia	30,934	34	0	33
Highland	43,589	181	0	96
Hocking	29,380	47	0	45
Jackson	33,225	60	0	26
Lawrence	32,450	98	0	74
Meigs	23,770	53	0	35
Pike	28,709	88	0	42
Ross	78,064	241	677	126
Scioto	79,499	378	1,748	47
Vinton	13,435	52	0	17
Region 10 Totals:	560,238	1,772	2,425	950