

OFC Bi-Monthly Touchpoint Talking Points

November is National Adoption Month!

November 23, 2022

Welcome - Jeff Van Deusen

Good morning and welcome to the November Touchpoint Call. November is National Adoption Awareness Month! Remember, small steps open doors. If you need information about permanency planning for teens, relationship building tools or engagement resources please let us know.

For those of you I have not met, I am Jeff Van Deusen, Deputy Director of the Office of Families and Children.

Regarding some housekeeping, if you would please mute your microphones and turn off your camera unless you are presenting, it would be appreciated. You may enter any questions you may have in the chat, and they will be responded to either during the presentation or in the follow up that we send out after the event. As a reminder, I encourage you to share the notes with all appropriate staff within your agency to ensure they also receive the information.

I am thankful for all of you who were able to join us on this day before Thanksgiving. I know this is a busy time of year for all of us and we value the time we have together.

Before I turn it over to Mr. Edelblute from the Ohio Supreme Court, I wanted to address some concerns I received regarding the data entry requirement for the Title IV-E Juvenile Courts.

Data Entry Requirements Title IV-E Funding – Jeff Van Deusen

As many of you are aware, we sent a Policy and Practice Guidance Document in September clarifying data entry requirements for the IVE Courts. A few concerns have been raised about this requirement and therefore we want to pause this requirement and create a workgroup to help find a reasonable solution, while also ensuring proper data is being collected for IVE reimbursement.

The workgroup will convene in January 2023 and we ask for your help to identify representatives from the following groups:

- o 1- Ohio Association for Court Administration
- o 1- Ohio Urban Juvenile Court Administrators Association
- o 3-5 representatives from Title IV-E Juvenile Courts

Please submit the names to Trish Wilson at Patricia.Wilson01@jfs.ohio.gov by COB Friday, December 9, 2022.

This workshop will provide an opportunity to review, discuss and understand the various requirements for Title IV-E funding.

To provide adequate time for the workgroup to develop a solution, we will postpone the data entry requirement and allow the Title IV-E Juvenile Courts to continue entering Candidates for Foster Care cases as they have done in the past. The Office of Families and Children will send communication informing of the postponed date.

Certainly, if a court has already begun entering data into the Ohio SACWIS, they may continue to do so. As you know, it is crucial to capture appropriate data for funding accountability. I believe this workgroup can recommend creative solutions that meet this objective. We appreciate your partnership as we continue working together to improve outcomes for children and families.

Supreme Court of Ohio Resources– Dave Edelblute, Manager Families and Children Section

- Review the table of organization for Advisory Committee on Children and Families of the Supreme Court of Ohio and its purpose.
- Discuss various resources available from the Supreme Court of Ohio’s including:
 - Toolkits
 - Desktop Guides
 - Bench Cards
 - Court Café’s
 - Judicial College
 - Supreme Court of Ohio Website: <https://www.supremecourt.ohio.gov/>
- Give a tour of the Supreme Court of Ohio website and demonstrate how to access the various resources that are available.

November National Adoption Month – Trish Wilson & Lynn Sowards, OFC

- **AA update \$350 payments** - It’s important to note that the state is increasing its participation rate for Title IV-E Adoption Assistance (AA) subsidies. The state participation rate for the non-federal match for Adoption Assistance (AA) payments for any initial Title IV-E AA agreement becoming effective on or after January 1, 2023, is \$350. Public Children Services Agencies (PCSA) will be responsible for providing the non-federal match amount for any payments above \$350.
 - If you have any questions, please reach out to your assigned Title IV-E policy developer.
- **PASSS update** – ODJFS began to administer this support program July 1, 2022.
 - ODJFS aligned with Kinnect- Kinnect is an Ohio-based nonprofit that seeks to transform the child welfare system by leveraging its expertise to design programs, products, and services.
 - Partner with organizations to transform beliefs, values, and practice to achieve permanency for youth and families in the shortest time possible.
 - Implementation Science Approach to large scale projects.
 - Committed to improving permanency outcomes.
 - Ohio Kinship and Adoption Navigator Program (OhioKAN)
 - Mission Statement: OhioKAN is a statewide flexible and responsive kinship and adoption navigator program designed to assist children, caregivers, families.
 - 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.
 - PASSS applications as of 10/31/2022:
 - There have been a total of 607.
 - 114 are Pending (OhioKAN working on)
 - 14 are submitted to the state awaiting further action

- 437 are Approved
 - 27 have been withdrawn
 - 15 children have been Denied
- The total PASSS Budget per year is 4,498,000 (3,500,000 Federal and 998,00 State).
- To date, the total amount issued for PASSS is \$699,445.04. A total of 710 payments have been issued thus far.

Kinship Updates – Becky Murray, Trish Wilson & Denielle Rittinger, OFC

- **KSP overpayments**

- In November of 2021, the Office of Families and Children issued Families and Children Letter #017, which highlighted the possibility of KSP overpayments and the obligation that ODJFS must attempt to recoup overpayments from kinship caregivers.
- KSP payments are issued and terminated through an automated process in Ohio SACWIS and relies on the accuracy and timeliness of child kinship placement information entered in the system.
- KSP overpayments most often occur as a result of late entry of data into Ohio SACWIS. For example, when a kinship placement ends, Ohio SACWIS does not recognize that the KSP payments need to stop until the placement is end-dated. If the placement is not end-dated in SACWIS, the kinship caregiver will continue to receive payments until that occurs, which will result in an overpayment.
- If a caregiver is receiving KSP for other children when an overpayment is identified, Ohio SACWIS will attempt to deduct the overpayment amount from any existing payments. When that is not possible, the overpayment may be subject to recoupment.
- As highlighted in FCL #017, procedures have been developed to notify and recoup overpayments from kinship caregivers. Procedures for identifying overpayments that are subject to recoupment, notifying kinship caregivers of the overpayments, and efforts to recoup the overpayments will begin January 1, 2023. Only those overpayments that occur after January 1, 2023, may be subject to recoupment.
- FCL #050 communicates the specific steps that will be taken to identify overpayments, notify caregivers, and recoup overpayments.
- All overpayments will be identified on a monthly Ohio SACWIS report, which will be run on the first business day of the month after the 10th of the month.
- A KSP recoupment threshold has been calculated at \$528 per child.
- All overpayments identified that are above the threshold are subject to the recoupment procedures.
- OFC will send the following to the kinship caregivers:
 - A notice of the overpayment amount and the right to request a state hearing.
 - If a repayment has not been made within six months, OFC will send the caregiver an invoice with instructions on where to send the repayment. The full amount must be repaid within 45 days.
- If repayment is not made by the end of 45 days, OFC will certify the amount with the Attorney General's office for collection.
- In an effort to reduce the number of overpayments subject to recoupment, OFC has made a monthly KSP State Provider Repayment Plan Report available to PCSAs to monitor caregivers with identified overpayments. OFC will also begin sending letters to kinship caregivers in January 2023 after the first payment is issued, or after the first payment exception is identified. These letters are intended to inform kinship caregivers of their KSP eligibility and remind them of the eligibility requirements. Caregivers will be

encouraged to contact the PCSA if they have not received their KSP payment, or if they believe they are not eligible for KSP.

- In addition to the efforts by OFC, PCSAs are asked to take the following steps:
- Monitor data entry for kinship placements, including the review and approval or denial of kinship home assessments and begin and end dates of kinship placements. Update Ohio SACWIS as soon as a child is placed or removed from a kinship caregiver, or as soon as PCSA custody of the child terminates. The Agency Placement Cost Report can be used to verify placement information is accurate.
- Utilize the exceptions report, available in the KSP section of the Financial Tab in Ohio SACWIS. This report identifies pending kinship home assessments, as well as kinship caregivers who need payment information entered.
- Utilize the KSP State Provider Repayment Plan report to identify KSP overpayments and determine how to correct issues that resulted in that overpayment.
- Work with the assigned Technical Assistance Specialist to identify practice areas that may be contributing to the overpayments and develop plans for improvement.
- Kinship caregivers who have an identified overpayment that is being recouped have a right to request a state hearing. OFC is the main point of contact for the Bureau of State Hearings and will manage the research of the overpayment and primary testimony during the state hearing. However, PCSAs may be called upon to provide additional testimony that will be necessary to describe how the overpayment occurred.

- **KGAP update**

- The Kinship Guardianship Assistance Program (KGAP) will be implemented in Ohio in January 2023. The KGAP program is a Children Services Transformation Recommendation that has come to fruition. OFC has worked with many partners to develop the KGAP program both internally and externally. We appreciate the collaboration and partnership it took to create this valuable permanency option for children and kinship caregivers.
- A Family and Children Letter #043 was sent October 19, 2022. It noted several important things:
 - KGAP rules had been published in advance of January 1, 2023, go live date
 - OAC rules for each program had been published in the FCASM
 - FCASMTL #505 – Rule 5101:2-38-05.22 – KGAP case plan rule
 - FCASMTL #508 – Chapter 46 – Federal KGAP
 - FCASMTL #506 – Chapter 56 – State KGAP
 - FCASMTL #507 – Chapter 55 – KGAP Connections to 21
 - Forms Central has posted the applicable forms for each program
 - All forms will be published by January 1, 2023
 - “Implementing the Kinship Guardianship Assistance Program (KGAP) in Ohio” overview scheduled through a Team’s Live event on December 7, 2022, from 1:00 pm-3:00 pm.
 - The training team will review PCSA and ODJFS responsibilities, as well as the varied eligibility criteria for KGAP programs. Agencies are encouraged to send staff whose regular work duties and responsibilities include Family Case Planning, kinship care, permanency, and IV-E eligibility.
 - Please forward this invitation as you deem appropriate. Please register for the training [HERE](#). A link will be available after successful registration through a pop-up. This training will be recorded and posted

on the Children Services Training and Development Webpage along with all materials and the Q & A.

- If you have any questions, please reach out to Karen McGormley karen.mcgormley@jfs.ohio.gov.

- **Caregivers as Kin**

- Recently, ODJFS field office staff and help desk staff have been receiving inquiries from agencies for technical assistance, guidance, and documenting in SACWIS regarding the receipt of court orders pursuant to ORC 2151.4119 identifying a child's foster caregiver, as kin.
- A court may issue an order under section 2151.4118 of the Revised Code if it finds all of the following:
 - The child has been living in a stable home environment with the child's current caregivers for the past twelve consecutive months.
 - The current caregivers have expressed interest in providing permanency for the child.
 - The removal of the child from the current caregivers would be detrimental to the
- Additional Ohio Revised Code relevant to the court order:
 - **Section 2151.4119 | Findings supporting court determination.** A court may issue an order under section 2151.4118 of the Revised Code if it finds all of the following:
 - The child has been living in a stable home environment with the child's current caregivers for the past twelve consecutive months.
 - The current caregivers have expressed interest in providing permanency for the child.
- The development of a comprehensive Policy and Practice Guidance Document (PPGD) is underway involving multi-program and automated systems collaboration within OFC. Targeted topics to be addressed include:
 - Purpose of the court order
 - How the order may be obtained
 - Impact of placement setting and placement decisions
 - Best interest factors
 - Continued relative searches
 - Ohio SACWIS documentation
 - Considerations of KGAP eligibility
 - Considerations of concurrent planning
 - Practice application guidance
- Finalization of the guidance document is slated for the end of this month (November). Please continue to reach out to your Technical Assistance Specialist for assistance. Additionally, you may contact Renee Lupi with any questions you may have at Renee.Lupi2@jfs.ohio.gov.

Adult Protective Services – Amy Welling, OFC

COVID-19 & ARAPA grants

- **“Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2021: Grants to Enhance Adult Protective Services (APS) to Respond to COVID-19”**
 - Started: April 1, 2021
 - Provides *one-time* federal funding to enhance and improve APS *in response to the COVID-19 pandemic*.
 - Each county received approximately \$37,152.22 – this funding is separate from the state APS allocation and *can only be used in response to the COVID-19 pandemic*.
 - Activities must be completed within the project period timeframe (i.e., spent from the grant, have an expense incurred against it, and/or obligated to it) by September 30, 2023.
 - Please see the Office of Families and Children Policy and Practice Guidance Document #008 for further information.
- **“American Rescue Plan Act of 2021: Grants to Enhance Adult Protective Services”**
 - Started: ARPA 1 - August 1, 2021; ARPA 2 - August 1, 2022
 - Each provides *one-time* federal funding to enhance and improve APS; this funding is separate from the state APS allocation and DOES NOT have to be used in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.
 - Each county received approximately \$22,727.27 for ARPA 1 and will receive the same amount for ARPA 2 once released by Controlling Board
 - Activities must be completed within the project period timeframe (i.e., spent from the grant, have an expense incurred against it, and/or obligated to it) by: ARPA 1 - September 30, 2023; ARPA 2 - September 30, 2024
 - Please see the Office of Families and Children Policy and Practice Guidance Documents #011 and #028 for further information.
- **What these grants have in common -**
 - Funds received under this grant are intended to supplement, not replace, existing funds for APS, and opportunity must add to current funding levels.
 - Funds may be used to serve any APS client who meets Ohio's statutory criteria for client eligibility for APS services.
 - Each CDJFS is requested to provide a written activity plan to ODJFS. The plan should include a list of items and/or projects the CDJFS plans to spend the funds on, and a description of how the funds will impact APS in the county.
 - Individual purchases over \$5,000.00 must be requested and approved in writing by ODJFS made. An example would be the purchase of equipment or other tangible property.
 - CDJFSs will be requested to provide updates to ODJFS every six months so that progress can be monitored, and information provided to the Administration for Community Living.
 - CDJFSs that do not plan to use these funds are to release them back to ODJFS via the BCFTA Redistribution process AND notify the ODJFS APS section
 - For APS Program questions, contact APS_Mailbox@jfs.ohio.gov
 - For fiscal questions, contact CFIS_HELP_DESK@jfs.ohio.gov

Independent Living Reporter Tool – Laurie Valentine

The Office of Families and Children implemented a voluntary soft launch of the Ohio Independent Living Reporting Tool on October 31, 2022. We have been very encouraged with the eagerness of local agencies to begin using the tool, over 90 local staff from 31 county agencies signed up for the bulk upload. A training has been offered and agencies have already begun entering youth and young adult expenses into the tool.

The Ohio Independent Living Reporting Tool is aimed to capture expenses related to the provision of Independent Living services to youth in foster care age 14 and older and young adults that have emancipated and not yet had their 21st birthday. The tool allows for agencies to distinguish between the federal funding streams offered through Chafee and TANF Independent Living as well as record instances where PCSAs utilize local funding. This tool will enhance Ohio's capacity at the state and local level to demonstrate trends and gaps in services to vulnerable foster youth and those who age out of the system without permanency.

Much collaboration and partnership went into the Ohio Independent Living Reporting Tool project. The Transition Age Youth team held listening session with both program and fiscal county partners, worked alongside OFC's Bureau of Automated Systems and Office of Information Services and the Bureau of County Finance to create a tool that would encompass many benefits to local and state practices. We appreciate all the feedback from county and state partners regarding the tool functionality and were able to incorporate most suggestions into the first phase of the tool.

The Ohio Independent Living Reporting tool does not replace the current reporting requirement for PCSAs to report their related expenses for Chafee or TANF IL funds in the County Finance Information System (CFIS) but will assist agencies in maximizing the use of these funding streams. While currently only the first phase of the reporting tool is available, development of phase 2, the reporting functionality is currently being discussed.

If your county is not already involved in the soft launch of the tool and you would like to review the recent training on the tool a recorded version of the training can be found at [Children Services Training & Development | Office of Families and Children | Ohio Department of Job and Family Services](#).

Additionally, agencies are able to gain access to the tool through the 7078 process by requesting the role of EIDMX_JFS_C - OFC - Independent Living County Worker for your staff. Please submit questions regarding tool implementation into agency processes at Transitional-Youth-Programs@jfs.ohio.gov

Youth Navigator Network – Veronica Burroughs, OFC, and Arlene Jones, Kinnect

- The Youth Navigator Network is a new program developed based on the concerns that former and current foster youth raised that they wanted to go to one place to access resources and supports on their own while they were in care, after reunification, and after aging out. ODJFS partnered with Kinnect to expand on the OhioKAN model to create a statewide navigator program for young people. The Youth navigator network is built on the belief that young people are capable of finding solutions for the circumstances and challenges they face. The navigator will be there to support the young person in an inclusive, engaging, and genuine way. Navigators

will use SACWIS to determine eligibility, document contacts and referrals made, and gather demographic information. Navigators will also be able to begin a referral to the PCSA for Young Adult Services in SACWIS, in hopes of streamlining the process when a young adult would be referred to YAS.

- The Youth Navigator Network will be able to serve young people with a Children Services history, with a focus on young people ages 14 – 21 years old who meet the following criteria:
 - The youth currently has an open, ongoing case with a PCSA or Title IV-E court.
 - This includes any case type – Prevention Services, Alternative Response or Traditional regardless of custody type or placement.
 - Young adults who have aged out of agency custody.
 - This includes young adults who may have an open Bridges case
 - Youth who have had a closed ongoing case within the last 24 months, regardless of the reason for closure.
 - Youth and young adults living in Ohio, who had an ongoing case in another state.
- To contact YNN, a youth can call or use the website to send a message. The phone lines will be open Mondays from 10am to 6pm and Tuesdays through Fridays from 8:30am to 4:30pm.
- As the program continues to develop, the website will become more robust including the ability to search for referrals on their own. An app will also be available for easy access to resources. All of the resources can be updated in real time by the navigators, so they can change hours of operations, update, remove or add a provider as services changes.

Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA) - Stevie Romano and Hannah Knies, OFC

- **Qualified Residential Treatment Program (QRTP)**
 - We continue to stay very stable on our agencies becoming QRTP compliant. As of our November 3rd notification,
 - 95 ODJFS compliant agencies
 - 26 OMHAS compliant agencies
 - 121 total compliant agencies
 - 85% ODJFS compliant beds
 - 100% OMHAS compliant beds
 - 90% total compliant beds
 - We have two monthly notifications remaining for months of November and December. Additional methods to identify QRTP status of each agency are included in monthly notifications.
 - Any questions, please contact Stevie Romano (Stephanie.Romano@jfs.ohi.gov).
- **Prevention Services Phase 2**
 - Ohio continues to plan for Phase 2 of prevention services. We are excited to add two new programs to our service array and begin drawing down additional IV-E reimbursement for these services. Similar to our original selection process for Phase 1, we took a stakeholder driven approach to selecting the services in Phase 2. There are currently several initiatives focused on mental health services, like OhioRISE, so we wanted to focus on parenting and caseworker driven services to avoid duplication and increase IV-E reimbursement opportunities.

- **Triple P**
 - We have continued to work with OCTF on the implementation of Triple P. We will be implementing both Standard Triple P and Triple P online. Utilizing existing OCTF grant agreements, we are looking to leverage coaching and consultation through Nationwide Children’s Hospital, looking at concrete supports, and will have an evaluation completed by University of Michigan and OSU.
 - We are also working on identifying updates needed to SACWIS to include Triple P and MI, and how the payment processes will flow for each service.
- **Motivational Interviewing**
 - For Motivational Interviewing, we continue to work collaboratively with the Center of Excellence, PCSAO, Hazelden Betty Ford, and our internal team to identify:
 - Who will be eligible for MI Prevention Services?
 - How will MI be rolled out in a stage-based cohort framework?
 - How will we monitor fidelity and provide coaching and consultation?
 - Family/child level outcomes.
- **Prevention Services Plan Amendment**
 - In order to begin claiming for Triple P and Motivational Interviewing, Ohio must submit an amendment to our approved Prevention Services plan. We are currently working to finalize this amendment and we plan to resubmit by the end of this year. We are currently working with our evaluators to finalize the evaluation plan for Triple P. Because these are promising and supported practices, we cannot request an evaluation waiver.
- **Prevention Services Capacity Building Efforts**
 - When we began the Prevention Services pilot, the most common piece of feedback we received was that there was not enough capacity in these services statewide. We have worked this year to expand capacity for our Phase 1 services and while this does not solve the capacity problem completely, it has given us good information on what strategies work well. We will continue to build capacity in the next SFY.
 - We provided \$2M to the Center of Excellence for MST and FFT expansion. This allowed for the creation of 9 new teams statewide. It is exciting to see this expansion, especially when we are also seeing providers of similar services close their programs because of funding and staffing issues. This RFA has shown an effective strategy for not only retention of programs, but expansion, and other agencies are interested in replicating it.
 - We provided \$1M to ODH for expansion grants to existing Help Me Grow providers, which created over 850 new slots
 - ODJFS onboarded 4 new Ohio START counties in 2022
- **Strengthening Relationships – Stevie Romano, OFC**
 - Last call we shared with you that four resources developed by our Strengthening Relationships Between Primary and Resource Families were not available on Forms Central. Those forms include:
 - JFS 08106 “Resource Parent Questionnaire”
 - JFS 08107 “Quick Tips to Support Resource Families and Primary Families in Strengthening Relationships”

- JFS 08108 “Care Guide Resource Tool”
- JFS 08110 “CARE Guide”
- This month we’re excited to share two additional updates
 - We have added a Strengthening Relationships Toolbox to the Children Services Training & Development Page here <https://jfs.ohio.gov/ocf/training.stm>
 - The toolbox will contain all JFS forms, as well as other resources we compile through shared national partners as the co-parenting approach is a common initiative across many states
 - The newest JFS form, JFS 08074 “Ohio’s Approach to Strengthening the Co-parent Relationships”, is now available on Forms Central. This form is designed to be a single sided poster, highlighting the features of Ohio’s Approach to Strengthening Relationships.
 - The poster includes our initiative’s tag line, “Every Child and Teen Deserves to Keep Everyone They Love in Their Life”, as well as information and a scan code for directing the reader to the Strengthening Relationships Toolbox.
 - Every public and private agency that operates a foster care and adoption function will receive an 11x17 poster in the mail. The poster is also available on Forms Central to print as a PDF or to order through the ODJFS warehouse.
- Lastly, we’re inviting all agencies to share any success stories they have in the Strengthening Relationships space with our office to share with all agencies across Ohio. Please email any success stories you would like to share to Stevie Romano (Stephanie.Romano@jfs.ohio.gov). Thank you!

Conclusion: Jeff Van Deusen

These calls are meant to provide some initial updates on key projects and priorities. If you have further questions or need more details, please do not hesitate to reach out to us.

Thank you and have a great day!

Helpful Links:

Links: <https://www.supremecourt.ohio.gov/JCS/CFC/SoC/>

Link to PASSS <https://ohiokan.jfs.ohio.gov/passs/>

Link to register for the Implementing KGAP training on 12/7 training, please complete the registration link here: <https://forms.office.com/g/DGmuZqrZBS>

APS_Mailbox@jfs.ohio.gov

[Children Services Training & Development | Office of Families and Children | Ohio Department of Job and Family Services.](#)

Transitional-Youth-Programs@jfs.ohio.gov

YNN (1 hour) training: https://bit.ly/YNN_live_training_11-7-22 for PCSAs and State employees

Training team website: <https://jfs.ohio.gov/oct/training.stm>

Question and Answers

Question 1: Oliver, Kathy: Good morning, Will *Communities of Support Grants* continue in the new budget? Also, will there be a statewide roll out in the new budget?

Answer: Jeff Van Deusen: Hi Kathy, we are still assessing COS grants and the feasibility of continuing.

Save the Dates/Times for 2023 Touchpoint Calls (approximately 1 hour)

| Month | Date | Start Time |
|-----------|----------|------------|
| January | 1/18/23 | 11:00 A.M. |
| March | 3/15/23 | 11:00 A.M. |
| May | 5/17/23 | 11:00 A.M. |
| July | 7/19/23 | 11:00 A.M. |
| September | 9/20/23 | 11:00 A.M. |
| November | 11/15/23 | 11:00 A.M. |

Microsoft Teams meeting link for 1/18/23 is below:

Join on your computer, mobile app or room device

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 258 543 648 076

Passcode: exG3td

[Download Teams](#) | [Join on the web](#)

Join with a video conferencing device

[682042763@t.plcm.vc](tel:682042763@t.plcm.vc)

Video Conference ID: 114 767 590 1

[Alternate VTC instructions](#)

Or call in (audio only)

[+1 614-721-2972,,895369142#](tel:+16147212972,,895369142#) United States, Columbus

Phone Conference ID: 895 369 142#

[Find a local number](#) | [Reset PIN](#)



**Department of
Job and Family Services**

Mike DeWine, Governor
Jon Husted, Lt. Governor
Matt Damschroder, Director

Health & Human Services
Office of Families and Children

Office of Families and Children

November is National Adoption Awareness Month!

November 23, 2022

Agenda

- **Welcome - Jeff Van Deusen**
- **Data Entry Requirements – Title IV-E Funding**
- **Supreme Court of Ohio Resources – Dave Edelblute, SCO**
- **November National Adoption Month – Trish Wilson and Lynn Sowards, OFC**
 - AA update \$340 payments
 - PASSS update
- **Kinship Updates – Becky Murray, Trish Wilson and Denielle Rittinger, OFC**
 - KSP overpayments
 - KGAP update
 - Caregivers as Kin
- **Adult Protective Services – Amy Welling, OFC**
- **Ohio Independent Living Reporting Tool – Laurie Valentine, OFC**
- **Youth Navigator Network – Veronica Burroughs, OFC and Arlene Jones, Kinnect**
- **Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA) - Stevie Romano and Hannah Knies, OFC**
 - QRTP
 - Prevention Services
- **Strengthening Relationships – Stevie Romano, OFC**
- **Conclusion – Jeff Van Deusen**

Welcome

- Jeff Van Deusen, Deputy Director



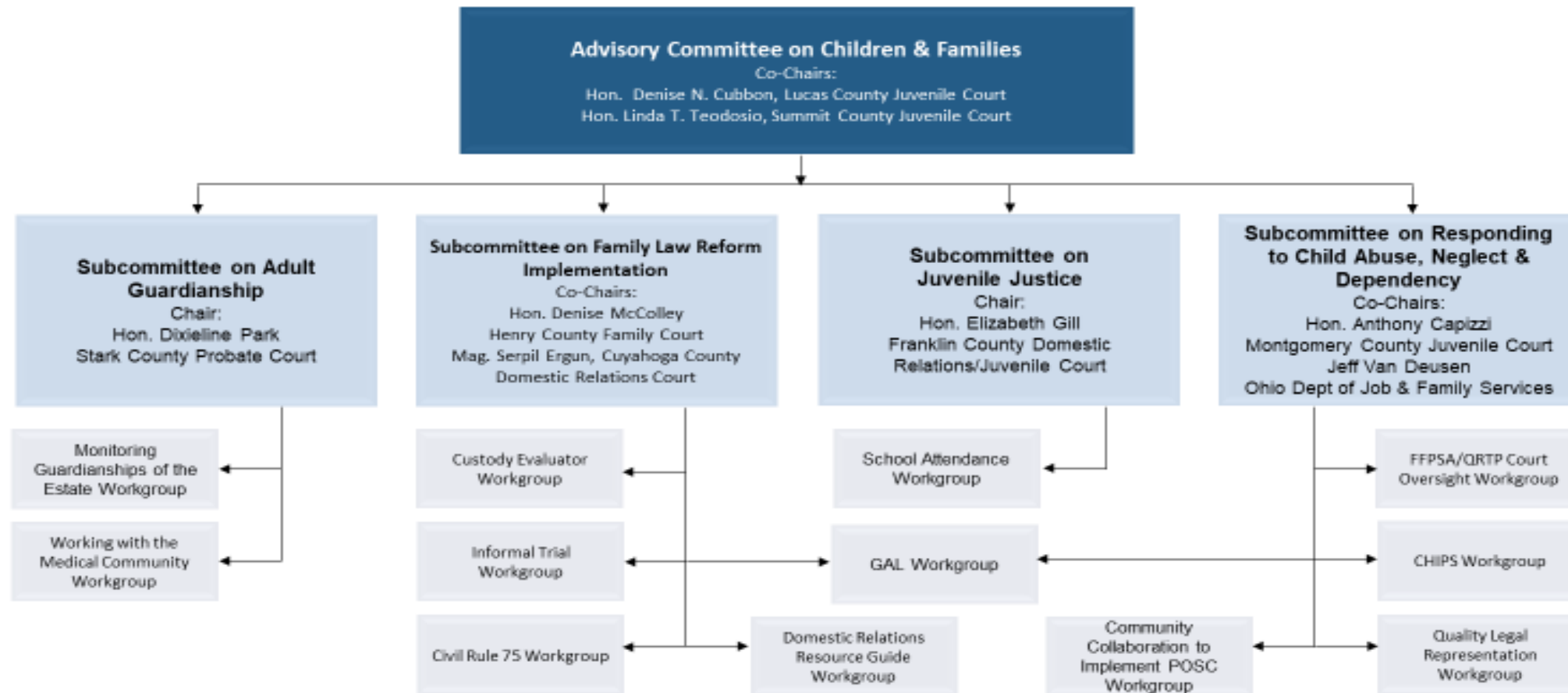
Data Entry Requirements Title IV-E Funding

- Stakeholder Workgroup – January 2023
- Identify representatives from the following groups:
 - 1- Ohio Association for Court Administration
 - 1- Ohio Urban Juvenile Court Administrators Association
 - 3-5 representatives from Title IV-E Juvenile Courts
- Submit representative's names by Friday, December 9, 2022.
- Point of Contact: Trish Wilson at Patricia.Wilson01@jfs.ohio.gov
- ODJFS will pause the Ohio SACWIS, data entry requirement, during this review period.

Supreme Court of Ohio Resources, David Edelblute, Manager Child and Families Section



2022 Table of Organization





Resources:

- Toolkits
- Desktop Guides
- Bench Cards
- Court Café's
- Judicial College
- Supreme Court of Ohio Website:
<https://www.supremecourt.ohio.gov/>

November National Adoption Month – Trish Wilson & Lynn Sowards

- **Adoption Assistance**

- The state participation rate for the non-federal match for Adoption Assistance (AA) payments for any initial Title IV-E AA agreement becoming effective on or after January 1, 2023 is \$350. Public children services agencies (PCSA) will be responsible for providing the non-federal match amount for any payments above \$350.

Post Adoption Special Services Subsidy (PASSS)

- State Administered since July 1, 2022
- Contract partnership with OhioKAN
- OFC has received 607 applications
- Funds



Kinship Updates – Becky Murray, Trish Wilson & Denielle Rittinger

Kinship Support Program

KSP payments begin and end dates

- Determined by an automated process
- Rely on the accuracy of data entered into Ohio SACWIS

KSP Overpayments

- Occur most often due to late data entry (e.g. placement end dates)
- Ohio SACWIS will attempt to recoup from existing/subsequent payments whenever possible
- Procedures to notify and recoup overpayments from kinship caregivers begin January 1, 2023
- Only those overpayments that occur after January 1, 2023 will be subject to these procedures

Kinship Updates

KSP Overpayment Recoupment Process (FCL #050)

- Overpayments will be identified on a monthly Ohio SACWIS report, which will be run on the 1st business day after the 10th of the month
- KSP recoupment threshold - \$528 per child
- All overpayments above the threshold will be assessed to the provider for recoupment
- OFC will send the following to caregivers who are assessed an overpayment:
 - Notice of the overpayment amount and the right to request a state hearing
 - If a repayment has not been made within six months, an invoice will be sent to the caregiver with instructions on where to send the repayment
- If payment is not returned within 45 days, OFC will certify the amount with the Attorney General's Office for collection

Kinship Updates

Efforts to reduce the number of KSP overpayments

- ODJFS
 - Monthly KSP State Provider Repayment Plan Report is available for PCSAs to monitor caregivers with identified overpayments
 - Letters will be sent to caregivers after the first payment or payment exception is identified – notifies them of their eligibility and remind them of the eligibility requirements

- PCSAs
 - Monitor data entry for kinship placements
 - Utilize the exception report in Ohio SACWIS for the KSP program
 - Utilize the KSP State Provider Repayment Plan Report to monitor and trouble-shoot identified overpayments
 - Work with Technical Assistance Specialist to identify practice areas that may assist in these efforts

Kinship Updates

KSP Overpayment State Hearings

- OFC is the primary point of contact
- OFC will manage research for the state hearing
- PCSA may need to attend the hearing to provide testimony about how the overpayment occurred

Kinship Updates

- **Kinship Guardianship Assistance Program (KGAP) update**
 - FCL #043 was sent out October 19, 2022
 - KGAP rules published in advance of January 1, 2023 go live date
 - OAC rules for each program have been published in the FCASM
 - **FCASMTL #505 – Rule 5101:2-38-05.22 – KGAP case plan rule**
 - **FCASMTL #508 – Chapter 46 – Federal KGAP**
 - **FCASMTL #506 – Chapter 56 – State KGAP**
 - **FCASMTL #507 – Chapter 55 – KGAP Connections to 21**
 - Forms Central has posted the applicable forms for each program
 - All forms will be published by January 1, 2023
- “Implementing the Kinship Guardianship Assistance Program (KGAP) in Ohio” overview scheduled through a Teams Live event on December 7, 2022, from 1:00 pm-3:00 pm.

Kinship Updates

Caregivers as Kin

- A court may issue an order under section 2151.4118 of the Revised Code if it finds all of the following:
 - A. The child has been living in a stable home environment with the child's current caregivers for the past twelve consecutive months.
 - B. The current caregivers have expressed interest in providing permanency for the child.
 - C. The removal of the child from the current caregivers would be detrimental to the child's emotional well-being.
- ORC 2151.4119 Findings supporting court determination

Kinship Updates

Practice and Policy Guidance Document

- Purpose of the court order
- How the order may be obtained
- Impact of placement setting and placement decisions
- Best interest factors
- Continued relative searches
- Ohio SACWIS documentation
- Considerations of KGAP eligibility
- Considerations of concurrent planning
- Practice application guidance

Please submit questions to Renee Lupi at Renee.Lupi2@odjfs.ohio.gov

Adult Protective Services – Amy Welling

COVID-19 and ARPA Grants

“Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2021: Grants to Enhance Adult Protective Services (APS) to Respond to COVID-19”

- Time Frame: April 1, 2021 - September 30, 2023
- Approximately \$37,152.22 for each CDJFS
- Can only be used in response to the COVID-19 pandemic

Adult Protective Services – COVID-19 and ARPA Grants

“American Rescue Plan Act of 2021: Grants to Enhance Adult Protective Services”

- Time Frames: ARPA 1~ August 1, 2021 - September 30, 2023; ARPA 2 ~ August 1, 2022 - September 30, 2024
- Approximately \$22,727.27 for each CDJFS (received for ARPA 1; forthcoming for ARPA 2)
- DOES NOT have to be used in response to the COVID-19 pandemic
- PPGDs #011 and #028

Adult Protective Services – COVID-19 and ARPA Grants

What these grants have in common -

- Funds are not intended to replace, existing APS funds
- Funds are to be used to serve APS clients
- Activity plans and progress reports must be submitted by CDJFS to ODJFS
- Individual purchases over \$5,000.00 must be approved by ODJFS
- CDJFSs not planning to use funds must release via the BCFTA Redistribution process

Questions -

- For APS Program questions, contact APS_Mailbox@jfs.ohio.gov
- For fiscal questions, contact CFIS_HELP_DESK@jfs.ohio.gov

Ohio Independent Living Reporting Tool – Laurie Valentine

- Implemented voluntary soft launch on October 31,2022
- 90 local staff from 31 county agencies
- Aimed to capture expenses related to the provision of Independent Living services to youth in foster care age 14 and older and young adults that have emancipated and not yet had their 21st birthday
- Access through 7078 with role of EIDMX_JFS_C - OFC - Independent Living County Worker
- Please submit questions regarding tool implementation into agency processes at Transitional-Youth-Programs@jfs.ohio.gov

YNN – Veronica Burroughs, OFC and Arlene Jones, Kinect





What is Youth Navigator Network?

A supportive service that will assist young people in identifying and connecting with existing community resources and services, such as:

- Education & Training Vouchers
- Adolescent parenting needs
- Basic needs (housing, food, etc.)
- Physical, mental & well-being supports
- Benefit programs (Title XX, SNAP, Medicaid, etc.)



Who Does Youth Navigator Network Serve?

- Young persons who are currently in foster care or have emancipated from foster care.
- Young persons who have had an open child welfare case within the last 24 months, regardless of custody status.
- Young persons ages 14 to 21.



Ways to connect with YNN

Hours

Monday from 10:00 AM – 6:00 PM

Tuesday thru Friday from 8:30 AM – 4:30 PM

Phone

1.833.OHIOYNN

(1.833.644.6966)

Online

YNN.jfs.ohio.gov

In the future we're looking to roll out an app that young people can use to connect with YNN.



For more information

Watch the recent training held on November 17th:

- [CS Training & Development | Microsoft Stream](#)
- [Children Services Training & Development | Office of Families and Children | Ohio Department of Job and Family Services](#)

Contact

Arlene Jones, YNN Program Manager arlene.jones@kinnectohio.org

Veronica Burroughs, OhioKAN Project Manager veronica.burroughs@jfs.ohio.gov



Family First Prevention Services Act - Stevie Romano & Hannah Knies

Qualified Residential Treatment Program (QRTP)

- As of November 3, 2022
 - 95 ODJFS compliant agencies
 - 26 OMHAS compliant agencies
 - 121 total compliant agencies

 - 85% ODJFS compliant beds
 - 100% OMHAS compliant beds
 - 90% total compliant beds
- Two monthly notifications remaining for months of November and December
 - Additional methods to identify QRTP status of each agency included in monthly notifications
 - Any questions, please contact Stevie Romano (Stephanie.Romano@jfs.ohio.gov)

Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA)

Prevention Services – Phase 2

- Triple P
 - Continue to work with the Ohio Children’s Trust Fund on capacity building, finalizing implementation plans

Motivational Interviewing

- Working to build on existing partnerships and resources, exploring options for fidelity monitoring

Title IV-E Prevention Services Plan Amendment

- Ohio will resubmit the Prevention Services Plan to Children’s Bureau for approval
- Triple P evaluation plan – supported and promising practices
- Goal to resubmit by the end of the year

Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA)

Capacity Building

- \$2M to COE for MST and FFT expansion – 9 new teams statewide
- \$1M to ODH for expansion grants to existing Help Me Grow providers – over 850 new slots
- 4 new Ohio START counties in 2022

Strengthening Relationships – Stevie Romano

– Forms Central

- JFS 08106 "Resource Parent Questionnaire"
- JFS 08107 "Quick Tips to Support Resource Families and Primary Families in Strengthening Relationships"
- JFS 08108 "Care Guide Resource Tool"
- JFS 08110 "CARE Guide"

– Strengthening Relationships Toolbox

- Children Services Training & Development Page
- <https://jfs.ohio.gov/ocf/training.stm>
- Additional resources will continue to be added through national partnerships

Strengthening Relationships

JFS 08074 "Ohio's Approach to Strengthening the Co-parent Relationships"

- Each agency with foster care and adoption functions will receive an 11x17 poster in the mail
- Can also be printed PDF or ordered through warehouse through Forms Central

We're excited to hear your success stories! Please email directly to Stevie Romano (Stephanie.Romano@jfs.ohio.gov).

Thank you!

Ohio's Approach to Strengthening the Co-parenting Relationships Between Primary and Resource Families

Every Child and Teen Deserves to Keep Everyone They Love in Their Life

Supporting the Co-parenting Relationship

- Comfort Connection
- All About Me Connection
- Ongoing Connections
- Reunification Efforts
- Positive Reunification Language
- Benefits
- Primary and Resource Family Development

The Co-parenting and Reunification Efforts (C.A.R.E) Guide and other resources are located in the Strengthening Relationships Toolbox located here:

<https://jfs.ohio.gov/oct/training.stm>

To learn more about these topics please contact your licensing agency

Ohio | Department of Job and Family Services

Mike DeWine, Governor
State of Ohio
Matt Rosenbach, Director
Ohio Department of Job and Family Services
JFS 08074 (10/2022)
This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.
A proud partner of the American Job Center network.

Questions?

Save the Date

The next Bi-Monthly OFC Touchpoint - January 18, 2023 at 11:00 A.M.

Happy Thanksgiving!

