

APPENDIX C

UPDATE ON OHIO'S FOSTER CARE AND ADOPTION RECRUITMENT PLAN

The Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) has made significant progress in implementing the state's 2015-2019 Foster and Adoptive Parent Recruitment Plan. The recruitment plan consists of five core goals. Ohio does not have any changes or additions to the recruitment plan this year. The accomplishments will be discussed by goal. Some of the accomplishments span across two or more goals; in those instances, the accomplishment will only be discussed once and not repeated. Statewide 1474 new foster homes and 1681 new adoptive homes were licensed/approved in calendar year 2016. Ohio does not have any policies or laws in place that limit an agency's ability to recruit foster and adoptive families that reflect the diversity of children in care.

Goal I: Continue and Expand Statewide Collaborative Initiatives to Enhance General, Targeted and Child Specific Recruitment for Children and Youth in Care.

The Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption (DTFA) Partnership

To keep older children with lengthy placement histories from lingering in the foster care system in Ohio and further assure the population of adoptive families reflects the ethnic and racial diversity of children needing permanency, ODJFS began a partnership with the Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption in July, 2012. At that time ODJFS allocated \$2.3 million, including \$1.1 million in state funding, to hire specialized, child-focused recruiters whose sole mission is to find adoptive families or other permanency (legal custody/reunification) for older children in foster care. In state fiscal year 2013, the amount allocated was increased to just over \$3.4 million per fiscal year, and the target population expanded to include children in a planned permanent living arrangement (PPLA) status. The contract has been renewed through state fiscal year 2017 and the SFY 2018 contract renewal should be completed by the end of June 2017. Using the renowned child-focused, *Wendy's Wonderful Kids* (WWK) program model, recruiters across Ohio work to match and place children between the ages of 9 and 17, who have been awaiting adoption for more than two years or those who are in the legal status of PPLA. WWK strategies include: an initial referral process; relationship building; in-depth case record reviews; child-specific family search efforts; assessments; child readiness efforts; network capacity building; and child-focused recruitment plans.

Outcomes directly relating to the WWK program continue to be realized. To date, forty-six recruiters under contract work to implement an aggressive, statewide recruitment strategy aimed at moving Ohio's longest-waiting children from foster care into adoptive families and other types of permanency. The model has been successful in finalizing 82 adoptions from July 1, 2016 through March 31, 2017, bringing the total to 358 finalized adoptions since the inception of the ODJFS contract, including several sibling groups. As of March 31, 2017, 720 children were enrolled in Ohio's WWK program. From July 1, 2016 to March 31, 2017, 137 children have been matched, bringing the total to 722 since the program's inception. There are 85 children in pre-adoptive placements as of March 31, 2017. Just under 4 percent of the children on current caseloads are in the PPLA status.

The program benefits the children who are most at risk of aging out of care. Children referred to the program include:

- older youth (the average age is 14, and 38 percent are sixteen or older and 61 youth are age 18 or older);
- sibling groups (59 percent are part of a sibling group);

- children with special needs (88 percent have at least one identified special need);
- children who were in care many years before Wendy's Wonderful Kids (on average, 1,917 days);
- children with multiple placements (average number of placements prior to being referred to WWK is 4);
- children in congregate care or the juvenile justice system (45 percent of the children being served are in a group home, institution or are incarcerated); and
- children who have experienced an adoption disruption or dissolution (11 percent experienced a failed adoption prior to WWK).

Refer to the Update to the Plan for Improvement (Section III) of the APSR for additional information on ODJFS' partnership with the Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption this past year.

Casey Family Programs Partnership

Ohio continues to partner with Casey Family Programs to expand the implementation of Permanency Roundtables (PRTs). PRTs provide counties with an opportunity for structured case consultation designed to generate solutions and overcome the barriers to permanency faced by youth in foster care. The objective of the PRT approach is to expedite permanency and ensure that all options have been exhausted. PRTs also seek to ensure that each child or youth has at least one permanent connection in his or her life. Ten counties continue to be involved in the implementation of the PRT model as one Round One county had to drop out of the program. At the quarterly meetings all pilot agencies continue to bring successes as well as challenges to the group. The counties continue to work together to troubleshoot and come up with solutions for each other's issues.

This past year the advisory council has focused on evaluation and expansion. It was decided that in order to fully evaluate the program an external evaluator was needed. Steven R. Howe and Associates has contracted with PCSAO and a data sharing agreement has been signed with ODJFS to complete the evaluation. Mr. Howe presented the initial findings at the May 12, 2017 council meeting. The PRT website (www.ohioprt.org) has also been greatly enhanced this past year and includes a variety of information on the project including history, reports and news articles, tools, tips and strategies, stories and a member page. Included on the site is a video titled, *Permanency for Older Youth in Foster Care*, produced with partners of the project from two Round One counties and a PRT trainer who is also an Ohio foster care alumni. The video describes the project and the unique approaches being used to find permanency for older youth as a result of PRTs. Finally the council decided that a Readiness Assessment tool needed to be developed and provided to potential counties before they volunteer to participate as a Round Three county. This tool will allow the agency to assess its current state of readiness for implementation of Youth Centered Permanency Roundtables. The assessment is broken down into the following areas: Institutional Readiness, Leadership Commitment, Community Readiness, Staff Readiness and Infrastructure Readiness. The council finalized this tool at the meeting in May.

Family and Youth Law Center – Capital Law School, Columbus, Ohio

ODJFS utilizes the Family and Youth Law Center (FYLAW), formerly known as the National Center for Adoption Law & Policy, for additional recruitment purposes. FYLAW is responsible for staffing the Ohio Adoption Photolisting website (OAPL) in concert with AdoptUSKids.

OAPL highlights waiting children who are in the permanent custody of Ohio's public children services agencies and for whom families are being sought. A photo and brief profile is posted for each child as

well as caseworker contact information. FYLaw reviews new profiles as they are added to the photolisting to ensure all information provided about the children is appropriate and safe and also arranges for Spanish translations of profiles as they are added to the site. FYLaw's other OAPL responsibilities include responding to questions from OAPL administrators regarding use of the site, setting up usernames and passwords for new users, maintaining monthly site usage statistics, and maintaining statistics that track the profiles removed from the site, including the reason for same.

General information such as who may adopt, the adoption home study process, adoption subsidies available, costs associated with adopting, access to adoption records and information on interstate adoptions can also be found on this website. In addition, OAPL provides links to ODJFS publications such as the *Ohio Adoption Guide* and the *Adoption Subsidies Guide*, and also provides contact information for state-wide public and private adoption and foster care agencies/organizations. FYLaw adds and regularly updates information about timely, state-wide adoption-related events to the Resources section of the website, including informational sessions, meetings, and support groups.

FYLaw continues to prepare monthly sets of profiles of waiting children from OAPL for circulation within the ODJFS internal broadcast network, an initiative that started in September of 2014. As of March 15, 2017, there were 438 total individual child listings (335 active) and 82 total sibling group listings (35 active) posted on OAPL.

FYLaw responds to all new Ohio AdoptUSKids inquiries about adoption or foster care and continues to regularly follow up with individuals with pending cases by phone, email, and letters. A FYLaw staff attorney also serves as a resource for clients who contact AdoptUSKids directly with specific questions and conducts research to respond to these inquiries and provides appropriate referrals as needed. FYLaw utilizes a Spanish translator to contact families who indicate that Spanish is their primary language. From June 1, 2016 to March 15, 2017, 514 new Ohio AdoptUSKids inquiries were made.

It is expected ODJFS will continue to collaborate with FYLaw, whose mission is to work within child welfare, adoption, and juvenile justice systems to support positive outcomes for children, youth, and families.

County Adoption Incentive Payments

The Ohio Adoption Incentive Program was created in 2012. This program provides up to \$1.5 million per year in financial incentives to Public Children Services Agencies (PCSAs). The agencies become eligible for the incentive money when they finalize adoptions for the target populations of youth under 9 and youth who are 9 and over. Each county's finalizations for the target populations are averaged for the previous three-year period to establish the baseline. Any county exceeding its baseline will receive an incentive payment for each finalized adoption over the baseline. The county must then reinvest the incentive money received to support adoption activities during the SFY.

During SFY 2017, Ohio provided \$1,500,000 in county incentive payments. A total of \$793,000 was split among fifty counties for their work in finalizing adoptions of children under the age of 9 years old. The incentive payments for this younger target population ranged from \$3,250 to \$68,250. For finalizations of children 9 years and older, a total of \$624,000 was split among twenty-nine counties. The counties who exceeded the baseline for the older population received payments ranging from \$6,500 to \$117,000. In total, seventy-eight PCSAs received an adoption incentive payment in SFY 2017.

Communication was sent to all county directors on April 15, 2016 stating that the amount of the adoption incentive payments will be calculated differently moving forward if the entire \$1.5 million is not spent each year. Furthermore, beginning in SFY 2017 incentive funds will not be used to draw down additional Title IV-E Adoption Administrative funds.

Goal II: Increase the Use of Effective Recruitment Tools at the Local Level

Adoption and Foster Care staff at ODJFS have worked with local agencies as well as statewide and national partners to increase effective recruitment at the local level. In September 2016, ODJFS again updated the *Ohio Adoption Guide*. The guide is a resource for potential adoptive families that helps give them the information needed to locate the right agency for them and that discusses the entire adoption process from inquiry to home study completion, searching for a child, being matched with a child, adoption subsidy information and post adoption services. ODJFS has been collaborating with the Ohio Family Care Association (OFCA) to develop the *Guide for Ohio Resource Families*. This guide will provide a variety of information and resources for foster, adoptive and kinship families in Ohio.

ODJFS continues to work with AdoptUSKids in a variety of ways this year. ODJFS receives monthly reports from AdoptUSKids of children registered on the photolisting website who are in need of their profiles being updated. Adoption staff examines the list and forwards it on to the applicable local agencies, in an ongoing effort to ensure Ohio children on the adoption site are kept up to date. ODJFS is also working with AdoptUSKids to present a workshop specifically for Ohio regarding recruiting and supporting kinship, foster, and adoptive parents in rural communities. The workshop is currently being planned and is to occur in the summer of 2017. ODJFS is also assisting AdoptUSKids in finding families who have adopted teens from the foster care system who are willing to be professionally trained to share their stories nationally and serve as ‘spokespersons’ to help in their national campaign to highlight adoption from foster care.

In addition to utilizing the services listed in Goal I, Ohio agencies employed several other strategies to recruit families for waiting children during this past year. Some of these included:

- Registering children with FYLaw and the U.S. Health and Human Services’ AdoptUSKids Website;
- Placing information on waiting children on the local agency’s website;
- Distributing child specific recruitment flyers at adoption events;
- Participating in the Statewide Matching Expo on July 8, 2016 hosted by the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services;
- Hosting online virtual mixers designed to provide information to potential adoptive families about children available for adoption;
- Partnering with faith-based organizations to recruit families;
- Conducting searches for significant adults noted in the child’s case file;
- Sponsoring “Foster and Adoption Parties” designed to provide information to potential families about foster care and adoption programs and the need for resource homes;
- Participating in community fairs and festivals to highlight the need for foster and adoption parents;
- Hosting foster and adoptive parent recognition banquets and other honorary events;
- Participating in adoption fairs;
- Profiling waiting children in newspapers, and on television and radio spots; including linking PCSAs with the organization Grant Me Hope, which creates professional videos of waiting children to air on local television news programs;

- Publishing agency calendars which feature harder to place youth who are available for adoption;
- Collaborating with community partners (e.g., schools, churches, libraries, businesses, service organizations) to promote recruitment events;
- Working with foster parent associations to identify recruitment strategies and ensure retention of existing resource families;
- Hosting family-centered, child-friendly events including movie nights and game nights in order to recruit new families and help retain current foster and adoptive families; and
- Ensuring the agency is supporting the foster parents we already have, recognizing that they are the agency's best recruiters.

Ohio currently has more than 15,000 children residing in foster homes or other out-of-home placement settings. Of that number, over 3,000 children are waiting to be adopted. Many of the approximately 925 young adults who "age-out" of care each year are without permanent connections. The data is significant in that it demonstrates the need to continually raise the public's awareness, to recruit additional foster and adoptive families who are willing and able to meet the significant needs of the children who are in need of homes in Ohio, whether permanently or temporarily. Additionally, Ohio is working to support existing families, so that experienced foster and adoptive families are able to continue providing much needed services to children in care.

Ohio has annually recognized May as National Foster Care Month and November as National Adoption Month. The purpose of the recognition is to acknowledge the efforts of child welfare practitioners and caregivers across the state responsible for providing care to children that have been abused, neglected or dependent. PCSA, private child placing agencies (PCPA), and private non-custodial agencies (PNAs) are encouraged to continue to support their resource families. Proclamations were prepared and signed by the governor to acknowledge adoptive and foster families and kinship families for the work and service provided. Across the state, events were held to honor foster and adoptive parents for their dedication to vulnerable children.

In addition to special recognition during the months of May and November, agencies implement strategic recruitment plans aimed at promoting public awareness and/or foster and adoptive parenting. Pursuant to OAC 5101:2-5-13 and 5101:2-48-05, each foster care and adoption agency is required to develop and implement a comprehensive recruitment plan that describes diligent recruitment of families which reflect the diversity of the children for whom homes are needed. These recruitment plans are submitted and reviewed by ODJFS to ensure compliance with the Multiethnic Placement Act, Oct. 20, 1994, P.L. 103-382, as amended by Section 1808 of the Small Business Job Protection Act of 1996, P.L. 104-188 (MEPA), and the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title VI) as it applies to the foster care and adoption process, to ensure that Race, Color, or National Origin does not interfere with foster care and adoption processes. In addition, ODJFS requires that agencies conduct child-specific recruitment efforts when prospective adoptive families cannot be identified within their own agency.

In circumstances of non-compliance, ODJFS provides technical assistance to the agency which includes, but is not limited to: the issue of noncompliance and needed revision(s), discussions about the basis of the regulation, and sharing information about other agencies' successful recruitment efforts. ODJFS also monitors MEPA compliance via announced and unannounced onsite agency visits and recruitment plan implementation reviews. During these visits, ODJFS staff reviews the agency's data profiles and compares that information with state-level data to determine whether changes are needed in the recruitment plan's design or implementation.

Goal III: Tailor local recruitment plans to customize general, targeted and child-specific recruitment efforts based on need.

MEPA Biennial Comprehensive Self-Assessment Report

PCSAs, private child placing agencies (PCPA) certified to perform the foster/adoption function, and private non-custodial agencies (PNA) certified to perform the foster/adoption function are required to submit a *MEPA Biennial Comprehensive Self-Assessment Report* by March first of every even numbered year. One of the components of the self-assessment requires the agency to address the following:

- Whether its foster care and/or adoption recruitment plan includes information on efforts to diligently recruit foster caregivers and/or adoptive parents that reflect the racial and ethnic backgrounds of the population of children in foster care and available for adoption.
- Methods for targeting individuals as foster caregivers/adoptive parents where there is a disparity between the racial and/or ethnic groups of children in care and the racial/ethnic groups of foster or adoptive parents certified/approved currently.

The *MEPA Biennial Comprehensive Self-Assessment Report* is discussed during MEPA reviews of public and private agencies, which occur on a 24-month cycle. The discussion of recruitment efforts with PCSAs includes a presentation of data on children in the temporary and permanent custody of the agency by race and ethnicity as well as data on foster /adoptive parents by race and ethnicity. ODJFS staff and agency staff then determine if a disparity exists between the racial and/or ethnic groups of children in care and the racial and/or ethnic groups of foster or adoptive parents. If a disparity exists, further discussion occurs on what recruitment efforts will be used to reduce the disparity.

MEPA reviews conducted with private agencies (agencies that have contracts with PCSAs to provide foster and/or adoptive services) include a discussion of statewide data on the number of children in the temporary and permanent custody of the PCSAs by race and ethnicity as well as data on foster/adoptive parents by race and ethnicity licensed/certified by the agency. ODJFS staff and agency staff then determine if a disparity exists between the racial and/or ethnic groups of children in care and the racial/ethnic groups of foster or adoptive parents. If a disparity exists, further discussion occurs on what recruitment efforts will be used to reduce the disparity.

As noted above, child-specific recruitment efforts are required when the custodial agency has yet to identify a family for the child. MEPA Cycle VI commenced on March 1, 2016 and will conclude on February 28, 2018. Thus far in MEPA Cycle VI, 374 child case records have been reviewed from a total of 50 PCSAs to determine if there were families presented at the most recent matching conference. If there were no families presented, the reviewers assessed whether the agency engaged in child-specific recruitment efforts prior to the most recent matching conference. Failure to engage in child-specific recruitment efforts would require the agency to develop a Corrective Action Plan (CAP). Of the 50 agencies reviewed, 39 PCSAs were found to be in compliance on this area of the review. The 11 PCSAs not in compliance at the time of the review were required to develop a CAP to address how they would come into compliance with the requirement to engage in child-specific recruitment efforts prior to the next matching conference. Child-specific recruitment efforts noted during reviews included:

- Registering children with photolistings, such as FYLaw and the U.S. Health and Human Services' AdoptUSKids Website;
- Placing the child's information on the agency's website;
- Distributing child-specific recruitment flyers at adoption events;

- Distributing child-specific recruitment flyers to other agencies;
- Conducting searches for significant adults noted in the child's case file;
- Profiling waiting children in social media, print media, and in television and radio spots; and
- Publishing agency calendars which feature harder to place youth who are available for adoption.

Goal IV: Include a Focus on Diligent Recruitment in Statewide CQI Efforts

In 2014, the Deputy Director invited staff from Ohio's 88 PCSAs to participate in a variety of CFSP workgroups. One of the workgroups was the adoption group. In an effort to improve the process of matching children with families, the workgroup spent much of 2016 reviewing and revising the rules and forms related to that process. The rule and form changes suggested were approved by the workgroup in their final meeting in August 2016. The rules and forms entered clearance in the fall, and should be effective in the summer of 2017. The revisions to the matching process aim to improve adoption practices across the state.

A few of the changes to the matching process are highlighted below:

- Assessors will be required to visit with the children they are working with every other month at minimum before the children are ever in adoptive placement. Assessors shall visit monthly prior to adoptive placement if they are assigned as the primary caseworker.
- Clarification was provided that the pre-adoptive staffing and matching conferences could be completed prior to birth for a private agency infant adoption.
- The addition that the prospective adoptive family, if deemed appropriate by the PCSA or PCPA, shall be invited to the pre-adoptive matching conference.
- The addition of any child specific recruiter to be invited to the matching conference. Additionally, the child, if deemed appropriate by the PCSA or PCPA, shall be invited to the matching conference.
- Allowances have been made for the necessary individuals to participate in the matching conference electronically if they are unable to attend physically. Additional leeway was afforded for another individual familiar with the family being presented to participate in the matching conference if the assigned worker was unable to. These changes were added in an effort to provide flexibility and not delay permanency for children in substitute care.
- The requirement that a potential kin placement resource must have been named by the biological parent was removed. This change was put in place to allow agencies to give preference to non-relatives who may not have been given as a potential resource by the family, but who could be a positive placement for the child due to their strong relationship.
- The pre-adoptive staffing was revised to occur only one time, after the child is in permanent custody and prior to the first matching conference. This change should reduce duplication of efforts, as well as the paperwork involved.
- The activities that may constitute child specific recruitment were broadened, to allow agencies more autonomy in deciding what is best for the children in their care.
- The forms used to document the pre-adoptive staffing, the matching conference, and the adoptive placement agreement were all updated to be more user-friendly, more helpful in determining potential match decisions, and to eliminate duplication between forms and processes.

Goal V: Enhance Training and Information Resources for Prospective Foster and Adoptive Parents and Agency Staff

The Ohio Revised Code (ORC) requires training for prospective foster parents and adoptive parents and requires ongoing training for foster parents. The table below identifies these key requirements.

	Preservice Hours	Ongoing Hours
Pre-adoptive Infant foster care	12	24 hours of training within a two-year certification period
Family foster care	36	40 hours of training within a two-year certification period
Specialized foster care	36	60 hours of training within a two-year certification period

Addressing Basic Skills and Knowledge for Foster and Adoptive Parents

The OCWTP determines the basic skills and knowledge needed by foster and adoptive parents through:

- Key informant interviews with foster and adoptive parents, caseworkers, assessors, and ODJFS staff.
- A review of state law and administrative code.
- Needs identified in Ohio’s CFSP 2015 – 2019.
- Literature reviews, presentations by content experts at conferences.
- Feedback from OCWTP trainers, RTC onsite visits, and a Foster, Adoptive and Kinship Work Team.

Preservice Training

The ORC requires prospective foster parents to attend 36 hours of “preservice” training. ORC identifies the topic areas to be covered in Preservice training for foster parents, and OAC identifies the topic areas to be covered in Preservice training for adoptive parents. Preservice training consists of 12 three-hour modules. As reported in last year’s report, the training was revised in June 2015. This year’s report will focus on addressing the ongoing training needs of foster and adoptive parents to build their skills and knowledge.

Foster Parent and Adoptive Parent Specialized and Related Trainings

This year IHS accomplished the following:

1. Collaborated with OCWTP to expand use of the Fundamentals of Fostering course on Working with Birth Parents and other specialized training curricula that support quality visitation between parents and children.

- *Relating to Primary Families: Challenges, Issues, and Strategies*, one of the trainings in the Fundamentals of Fostering series, was offered five times (55 participants) and is scheduled six more times before June 30, 2017.
- In addition, 23 other caregiver trainings have been offered and nine are scheduled by the end of June 2017 to support quality visitation between parents and children. Titles include:
 - *Promoting Developmentally Appropriate Transitions for Young Children*
 - *Effectively Dealing with Children’s Issues in Visitation*
 - *Helping Children to Deal with Feelings Before and After Visits*
 - *Impacting Visitation for Success*
 - *Working with Birth Parents: Making it Positive for Everyone*

2. Collaborated with OCWTP to expand use of specialized trainings (e.g., Positive Youth Development, Maintaining Permanent Connections, and Transition Planning) for workers and caregivers on working with Independent Living Youth and Transitional Youth.

- The OCWTP offers four standardized trainings for caregivers of transitioning youth. The NRCYD Independent Living series is a set of three trainings (total 24 hours) and the other training, *Fostering Self-Reliance in Children and Youth: Roots and Wings*, is part of the Fundamentals of Fostering series.
- In addition, the OCWTP maintains a strong catalogue of non-standardized learnings for staff and caregivers focused on independent living. The table below provides statewide data on both standardized and non-standardized course offerings between July 1, 2016 and June 30, 2017 on independent living for staff, caregivers, and adoptive parents, including some joint sessions. By the end of FY 2017, 93 sessions will have been offered.

OCWTP Standardized Courses

Independent Living Series/ Fundamentals of Fostering	Sessions Offered	Attendance	Sessions Scheduled
<i>Positive Youth Development: The Vital Link</i>	5	39	2
<i>Life Long Connections: Permanency for Older Youth</i>	7	74	2
<i>Engaging Youth in Transition Planning</i>	5	67	4
<i>Fostering Self-Reliance in Children and Youth: Roots and Wings</i>	8	88	6

OCWTP Non-Standardized Courses

Independent Living	Sessions Offered	Sessions Scheduled
Independent Living sessions for caseworkers	13	4
Independent Living for foster care and adoptive parents	28	9
<i>Working with and Engaging Emancipating Youth</i>	1	
<i>Nine Essential Connections to Independent Living</i>	1	1

Note: Report does not include *Foster Parent College* courses offered to Caregivers through the OCWTP. Please refer to Section XII Chafee Foster Care Independence Program (CFCIP) for more information on IL caregiver trainings.

3. Worked with OCWTP and the National Child Traumatic Stress Network to provide training to PCSA staff on implementation of trauma-informed client engagement strategies and related case plan services.

- There are 77 active caregiver and adoptive parent trainings in E-Track that have the classification of trauma. **Seventy-three sessions of these learnings have been offered or are scheduled this year.**
- New Trauma-Related Trainings Implemented in CFSP Year 3

- A 12- hour series for caregivers, caseworkers, and supervisors based on Dr. Karyn Purvis' Trust Based Relational Intervention Model
- A nine-hour training for caseworkers entitled, *Promoting Successful Futures by Addressing Child Traumatic Stress in the Child Welfare System*
- A three-hour training for caregivers and caseworkers entitled, *Living out the Essential Elements of Trauma Informed Care*
- Vetted and entered into E-Track NCTSN's online course, *Adolescent Trauma and Substance Abuse*

4. Integrated substance abuse information and learning opportunities into existing venues, newsletters and other communications.

- The OCWTP maintained the new website, Ohio Substance Abuse Training Gateway (OSATG (www.osatg.org)) as a "one-stop shop" that includes local, state and national resources to assist child welfare system staff and caregivers with families impacted by substance abuse. The website provides a centralized library of substance abuse resources to help public children services agencies, foster and kinship caregivers, adoptive parents, and community partners connect with local, state, and national substance abuse resources and work together to better serve families involved with the child welfare system. This year a new partner page was added for the Statewide System Reform Program and a distance learning tab for the webinar series.