



**Department for Community Based Services
Budget Review Subcommittee on Human Resources
August 30, 2018**

Kinship Care Program (KCP) 101

- In September 1999, KCP began offering financial assistance (i.e., \$300/child/month up to a max of \$1,800 for six or more children) to facilitate the placement of maltreated children, or children dependent due to the death of both parents, with qualified relatives as an alternative to foster care.
- KCP was funded then, and remains funded now, through the Temporary Assistance for Needy Family (TANF) Block Grant.
- In State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2012, expenditures began to exceed \$40M annually. The program saw an average monthly increase of 200 children per month, the difference between entries and exits.
- On April 1, 2013, due to a projected shortfall of approximately \$86 million, CHFS implemented a moratorium on new kinship care approvals.
- Those already in the program as of April 1, 2013, continue to receive the benefits as long as they continue to meet the eligibility requirements.

Kinship Care Program: Pre- and Post-Moratorium

Pre-Moratorium

- Number of Recipients (Children)- 11,476
- **Annual Benefits Cost (SFY 2012)- \$42,909,729**

July 2018

- Number of Recipients (Children)- 4,596
- **Approximate Annual Benefits Cost (SFY 2019)- \$14-15 million**

D.O. v. Glisson

- The U.S. Court of Appeals entered the ruling on January 27, 2017. The state's appeal to U.S. Supreme Court was denied on October 10, 2017.
- The ruling treated the relative caregiver like foster parent, because CHFS placed the child with the relative (i.e., conducted a home study and background checks), **and** the child's custody was transferred from CHFS' to the temporary custody of the relative.
- Under the ruling, the relative caregiver was deemed qualified for a foster care per diem for the care of the child.
- In the D.O. case, the qualification for the foster care per diem ceased upon permanent custody established using a DNA-9 form.
- *DCBS has extended the application of the ruling to other like cases, including fictive kin.*

D.O. v. Glisson Update

As of August 10, 2018:

- DCBS has received 23,137 inquiries. These inquiries include duplicates.
- 1,012 relatives/fictive kin have been notified of eligibility.
- For June, payments were made to 516 children. For July, payments were made to 748 children.
- Since November 2017, payments have totaled \$2,619,165.27. This excludes pending invoices and invoices not yet submitted by caregivers, child care assistance, special expenses, clothing vouchers, Medicaid, legal services, staffing, technology, and call services costs.
- DCBS projects \$8.5-9M in foster care per diems under the ruling for the state fiscal year.

Opportunities from 2018 Regular Session

Additional Budget Requests:

- Adoption and foster care (SFY 2018);
- More staff and workforce supports across DCBS program areas;
- Salary increases for frontline social services workers and their supervisors;
- **Kinship care and relative placement supports;**
- Adoption savings (to meet federal mandate);
- Private child care rate increases; and
- The Fostering Success Program

House Bill 1:

- Focus on timely children's permanency;
- Flexibility to innovate ; and
- **Create more robust service array for relatives**

On the Horizon: Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA) (Pub. L. 115-123)

- On February 9, 2018, the FFPSA was enacted.
- The state will be able to use federal Title IV-E funds for a portion or share of evidence-based prevention services and programs. Historically, these funds have been utilized for foster care maintenance and adoption assistance.
- Standards or criteria for the prevention services/programs and requirements affecting foster care maintenance payments are attached to the option.
- State funds must also be available to cover costs not associated with the federal share/portion.
- States can opt in as early as October 1, 2019, but all states must comply by October 1, 2021.
- Kentucky is going FIRST!

Child Welfare Transformation

A Call To Action.....

There is a child on the other side of every decision made, every policy implemented, and every law passed who will either feel the benefit or the consequence.



Relative and Fictive Kin Caregiver Supports

- 2017- Engagement of Annie E. Casey, Child Welfare Strategy Group (Casey)
- Winter/Spring 2018- Casey assessment of KY's system
- July 2018- State application for Kinship Navigator Funds (KNF)
- August 2018- Release of Casey assessment, recommendations
- Summer/Fall 2018- Engagement of stakeholders, development of training and technology, submission of administrative regulations, State Plan amendments
- Fall/Winter 2018/2019- Federal approval of State Plan amendments, KNF award, staff training, technology deployment
- Late winter/Early spring 2019- Full implementation

Budget for the Kinship Care Program

- Demand: Estimate of 15,000 children per year
- Benefit: \$300/month plus Medicaid and other supportive services
- Estimated Cost: \$54M - \$15M (present day) = \$39M per year
- HB 200 (2018RS):
 - \$1.8M (SFY 2019) and \$3.3M (SFY 2020) for Kinship Care
 - \$11.3M (SFY 2019) and \$11.6 (SFY 2020) for Relative Placement Supports **D.O. v. Glisson*

Relative Services Available Today Through DCBS

- Resource Linkage and Referral through Kinship Care Hotline

Examples:

- Support groups;
- Health/Behavioral health services;
- Social Security Administration;
- Training;
- Relative Placement Support Benefit;
- Kentucky Transitional Assistance Program or K-TAP (includes Medicaid);
- Child Care Assistance Program;
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP);
- *D.O. v. Glisson*; and
- Approval as foster parent



KINSHIP

Kinship Support Hotline

- Are you the primary caregiver for the child of a relative?
- Do you have questions about what resources are available?
- Do you need support?

Call: (877)565-5608

email: DCBSChildProtection@ky.gov

Experienced Staff are available Monday through Friday, 8:00am to 4:30pm, to assist relative caregivers in accessing services and problem solving issues and concerns.

Provided by CHFS/DCBS Division for Protection and Permanency

Paid for by funds to prevent child maltreatment and children entering foster care.

Questions?



*We want Kentucky to be the absolute best model
for foster care in the United States...*

- Governor Bevin