

Kentucky Court of Justice

MENTALHEALTH



Executive Committee

Mental Health Summit Planning Committee **Civil & Family Justice**

Criminal Justice Committee

Chair - Hon. Cole Maier Vice Chair - Hon. John Tackett

Prearrest/Diversion Workgroup

Lead - Steve Shannon

Competency Workgroup

Lead - Dr. Koleen Slusher

Juvenile Justice Workgroup

Lead - Hon, Lisa Jones

Reentry Workgroup

Lead - Erica Hargis

Committee

Chair - Hon. J. Foster Cotthoff Vice Chair - Chris Griffith

Guardianship & Commitment Workgroup

Lead - Stacy Tapke

Domestic Violence Workgroup

Lead - Hon. Denise Brown

Dependency, Neglect & Abuse Workgroup

Lead - Hon, Marcus Vanover

Treatment & Access Committee

Chair - Amy Luttrell Vice Chair - Sec. Eric Friedlander

Strengthening Communities Workgroup

Lead - Wes Butler

Court Responses Workgroup

Lead - Hon. Stephanie Burke

Intellectual and Development **Disabilities Workgroup**

Lead - Crystal Adams

MENTAL HEALTH





Cabinet for Health and Family Services v. K.S., 585 S.W.3d 202 (Ky. 2019)

T. C. v. Cabinet for Health and Family Services, No. 2022-CA-0219-ME, 2022 WL 12111373 (Ky. Ct. App. 2021)



• National removal rates where parents have **psychiatric disability** \rightarrow as high as **70** – **80**%

• National removal rates where parents have intellectual disability \rightarrow as high as 40 – 80%

 Nationally, 13% of families with a parental physical disability reported discriminatory treatment in custody cases



• **16%** of Kentuckians reported having a disability that limits activity Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act State Plan, Kentucky PYs 2020-2023 (2023)

- **34%** of the Kentucky adult population are living with a disability Center for Diseases, Kentucky: Universal Design and Bingocize (July 2024)
- Data shows **rural areas** tend to have **higher disabilities rates** than urban areas in Kentucky Kentucky Career Center, Comprehensive Statewide Needs Assessment (2024); University of Montana, Disability Rates: Kentucky (2024)



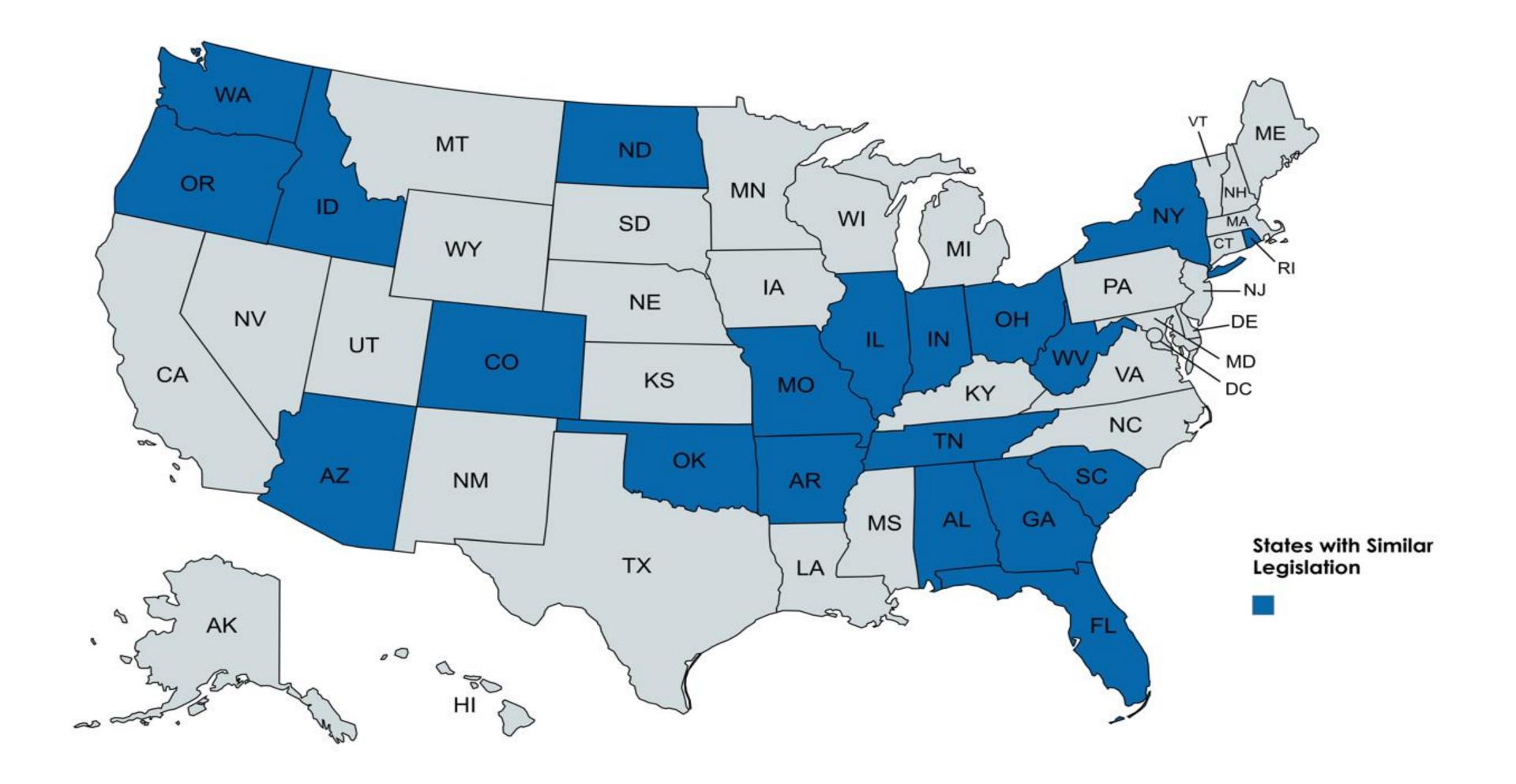
• As of February 2025, there were **8,262** Kentucky children in out of home care

Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services, Statewide Foster Care Facts (Feb. 2025)

- 17% out of home care population is represented by children who are placed with relative and fictive kin givers

 Kentucky Youth Advocates, Report on Relative and Fictive Kin Placements (Sept. 20th, 2023)
- Approximately 55,000 children are being raised by a relative or trusted friend, which is twice the rate of the national average

Kentucky Youth Advocates, Kinship Across Kentucky: Recommendations from Caregiver Voices (Sept. 24th, 2024)



MENTAL HEALTH



Key Provisions

- Preserving Family Integrity
- Ensuring Supporting Services
- Enhancing Transparency and Accountability
- Aligning with Federal Standards
- Clarifying Legislative Language



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Questions?

For More Information
Email JCMH@kycourts.net
Webpage kycourts.gov/kjcmh