



Interim Joint Committee on Families and Children
Meeting 1 Agenda
Wednesday, June 17, 2026 1:00 PM ET / 12:00 PM CT
Annex Room 149



1. Call to Order and Roll Call

2. Discussion on Autism and Autism Services in the Commonwealth

A. University of Kentucky

Dr. Rachel Womack, Director of Training, LEND Director
Human Development Institute
Assistant Professor, College of Social Work, University of Kentucky
Johnny W. Collett, Deputy Executive Director
Human Development Institute
University of Kentucky

B. ABA Advocates

Bart Baldwin, Founder, Chief Executive Officer
Baldwin Consulting
Shannon, O'Connor, Executive Director, ABA Advocates
Kentucky Association for Behavior Analysis
Olivia Winstead Hardy, BCBA, LBA, Behavior Services Director
Puzzle Pieces

C. Kentucky Department of Education (KDE)

Veronica Sullivan, Office of Special Education and Early Learning,
Division of IDEA Implementation and Preschool
Kentucky Department of Education
Melody Cooper, Policy Advisor
Office of Special Education and Early Learning
Kentucky Department of Education
Jan Sellers, Office of Teaching and Learning,
Division of Academic Program Standards
Kentucky Department of Education

D. Kentucky Autism Training Center (KATC)

Larry Taylor, Ed.D., Executive Director
Kentucky Autism Training Center, University of Louisville
Heidi Cooley-Cook, M. Ed., Deputy Director

Meeting materials may be accessed online at <https://apps.legislature.ky.gov/CommitteeDocuments/369>
Kentucky Education Television (KET) provides coverage of legislative meetings (<https://www.ket.org/legislature>) and if a
scheduling conflict arises, proceedings will livestream on the following site:
<https://legislature.ky.gov/Public%20Services/PIO/Pages/Live-Streams.aspx>

Kentucky Autism Training Center, University of Louisville

E. Kentucky Academic and Behavioral Response to Intervention (ABRI)

Christy Bryce, Ed.D., Director

Kentucky Academic and Behavioral Response to Intervention
University of Louisville

Jennifer Pollard, Ph.D., Behavior Analyst, Researcher

Kentucky Academic and Behavioral Response to Intervention,
University of Louisville

F. Cabinet for Health and Family Services

Leslie Hoffmann, Deputy Commissioner

Department of Medicaid Services

Cabinet for Health and Family Services

Carmen Hancock, Director, Long Term Care and Supports

Department of Medicaid Services

Cabinet for Health and Family Services

Crystal Adams, Division Director

Department for Behavioral Health, Developmental and Intellectual
Disabilities, Cabinet for Health and Family Services

Melanie Taylor, Director, Division of Protection and Permanency

Department for Behavioral Health, Developmental and Intellectual
Disabilities, Cabinet for Health and Family Services

3. Legislative Hearing on the Social Services Block Grant (SSBG) 2027 State Plan

Lesa Dennis, Commissioner, Department for Community Based Services

Cabinet for Health and Family Services

Melanie Taylor, Director, Division of Protection and Permanency

Department for Community Based Services

Cabinet for Health and Family Services

4. Items Received for Review

Half-Year Block Grant Status Reports

A. Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF)

B. Community Services Block Grant (CSBG)

C. Social Services Block Grant (SSBG)

D. Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)

5. Adjournment

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