



Ohio's Fostering Connection Grant: Enhanced KN Project

Implementation Report

November, 2011 KN In-person Meeting
Overview of Report- Julie Murphy



Goal of Implementation Report

Summarize KN Grant

Experience

- Background
- Implementation Activities
- KN Program Profiles
- Outputs

Data sources

- Site visits (summer 2010)
- Implementation Reports
- Semi-annual reports
- KIDS data (through Feb 2011)
- Family survey

Areas for Discussion

- Replication Guide
- Focused effort for remainder of grant

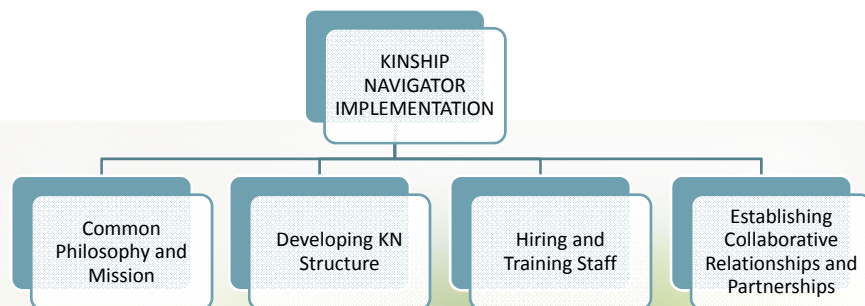


BACKGROUND

- Fostering Connections to Success Act
- Ohio Enhanced Kinship Navigator Program
- Kinship Caregivers in Ohio
- History of Kinship Supports in Ohio
- Other Ohio Initiatives Impacting KCG



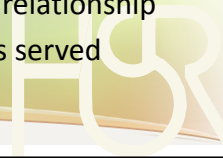
IMPLEMENTATION





Common Philosophy/Mission of PCSA

- Early identification of relatives when children need to be removed
- Keeping children with families is best interest of children, as well as financially advantageous
- Common among PCSA across Ohio: seven KN sites view grant as pushing forward this philosophy by
 - providing resources in tight financial time
 - creating networking opportunities and peer relationship
 - Allowing KN program to expand populations served



Developing KN Structure

Internal KN Programs

- Knowledge of PCSA
- View of community
- Communication with PCSA



- *What were the factors which lead to the establishment of these structures?*
- *Does this distinction in type of structure impact the perceptions of kcg or the effectiveness of the program?*

External KN Program

- View of community
- KN Background/experience
- Communication w/ PCSA staff





Comparison of Fostering Connection KN Counties to Comparison Counties

	Fostering Connection KN Counties	Comparison Counties
Designated Staff (other than PCSA case workers)	7 Counties	7 Counties
External Kinship Navigators	3 External KN	3 External KN
Internal Kinship Navigators	4 Internal Kinship Navigators	1 Internal Kinship Navigator
Counties with no formal KN position		3 comparison counties have PCSA staff who provide KPI and/or KCG Home Studies, who also provide I&R



Hiring and Training KN Staff

- 4 sites had existing KN program
- 4 sites had expanded staff, 3 created new position. Possible through grant funding
- 3 have experienced turnover





CONSIDERATIONS IN HIRING KN POSITION

Qualifications, Skills, Experience Vital Characteristics

Social work qualifications and skills

Social work prior experience

Educational requirements

Knowledge of community

Administrative skills (marketing, networking, development skills)

Experience as a kcg

Team player, willing to partner w/other providers

Don't try to be 'the fix', help find 'the fix'

Teach self sufficiency

Flexible, creative problem-solver

Able to relate to kcg- good listener

Learn from others

Patient and persistent

Straightforward about what KN can/can't do

Compassion and empathy

Passion for working with families

Knowledge of community resources

Hands-on



Training KN Staff

- KN In-Person Meeting Training Opportunities
 - “Assessing and Supporting Kinship Caregivers” - provided by OCWTP
 - “Community Building, Outreach, and Evaluation”
 - “Using KIDS” (KN Grantee data system)
 - Benefit Bank
- Training provided in individual counties
- Training PCSA Staff



Is there a need/desire for additional trainings?





Establishing Collaborative Relationships and Partnerships

- LAG
 - LAG in five counties, part of other collaborative groups in 2 counties
 - Challenge of establishing LAG and getting attendance
 - Participation of KCG on LAG



Is LAG a critical of component?

- SAG
- Community Mapping



Implementation Reflections

- **Agency Philosophy:** easy to implement kinship supports if PCSA and community embrace the principals
- **Qualified and Caring Staff:** Personality important
- **Community Partners:** Relationship building takes time, but important
- **Building community to support kcg:** need for outreach, networking, ongoing process

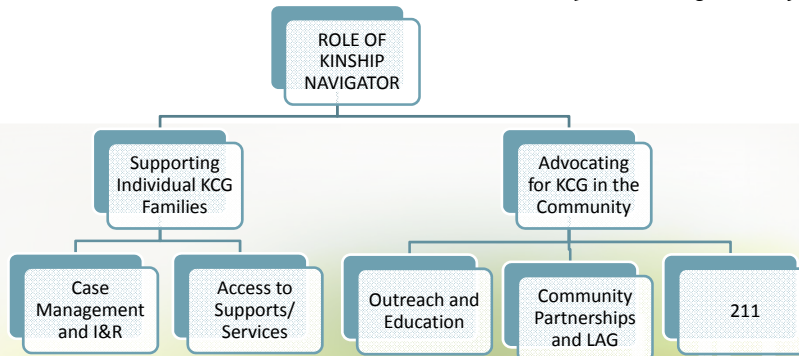




KN Program Profile

"Don't recreate the wheel, find the wheel and send them to it"

"Help them navigate the system"




Collaboration through 211

- **Goal:** to improve the county-level support system for KCGs through increased communication and coordination among relevant organizations and groups in the community through the development of a centralized Information & Referral (I&R) service for the county.
- Five counties have centralized I&R; two counties have no current or pending 211
- Three counties have 211 on LAG
- Of 85,000 calls to 211, only 130 referrals made to KN

Is there potential for more collaboration/ relationship building with 211?




Current perceptions of LAG, opportunities for improvement


LAG  Current perceptions of LAG, opportunities for improvement?

Response on SNA survey: What is the Primary Role and Focus of LAG? (Date collected)

	Reporting	Advocacy	Advising	Building Resource network	Other	Unknown
Ashtabula: KN Response LAG Response (n=11)	✓ 4		1	2		4
Clark: KN Response (n=1) LAG Response (n=11)	✓ 1	✓ 2		3		5
Crawford: KN Response (n=1) LAG Response (n=3)				1	✓ (501c3 status)	2
Hardin: KN Response (n=1) LAG Response (n=6)		1	✓ 3			2
Lorain: KN Response (n=1) LAG Response (n=7)	2	1	1	✓ 3		
Portage: KN Response (n=1) LAG Response (n=5)	1		3	✓ 1		
Richland: KN Response (n=1) LAG Response (n=2)	✓ 1		✓	1		
TOTAL	3 KN 9 LAG	1 KN 4 LAG	2 KN 8 LAG	2 KN 11 LAG	1 KN	13 LAG

 **PCSAO Efforts**

- Statewide Training and Outreach
- Presentation in conjunction with ProtectOhio efforts
- PCSAO Dissemination
- Presentations to State and Federal policy makers



Program Profile Reflections

- Summary of key outputs: 370 I&R, 369 Initial Assessments complete, 288 Ongoing cases
- Successes: very well develop efforts in serving individual kcg
- Challenges: continued focus on community development
- Supported by time study

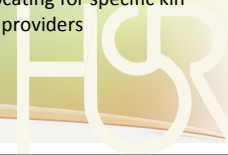
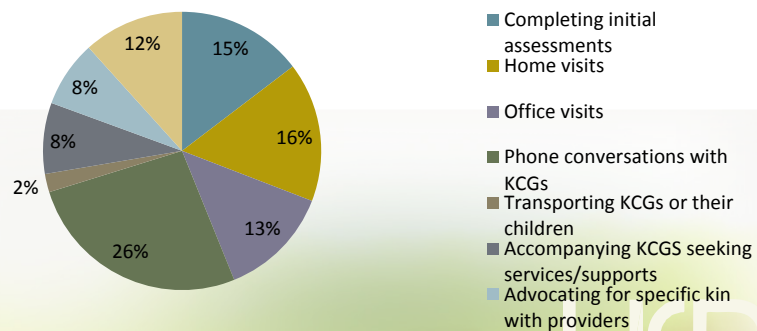


Has focus shifted over time?



Time Study

Proportion of KN Time by Case Management Activity





Outputs: Family Perceptions

Coming Soon!!

