

**ACF PERFORMANCE PROGRESS REPORT  
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			Page 1	of Pages
1. Federal Agency and Organization Element to Which Report is Submitted  US Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families	2. Federal Grant or Other Identifying Number Assigned by Federal Agency	3a. DUNS  3b. EIN	4. Reporting Period End Date (MM/DD/YYYY)  09/29/2011	

4. Recipient Organization (Name and complete address including zip code)  Public Children Services Association of Ohio 510 E. Mound Street, Suite 200 Columbus, OH 43215			5. Recipient Identifying Number or Account Number  none	
6. Project/Grant Period Start Date: (Month, Day, Year)      End Date: (Month, Day, Year)  09/30/2009                                  09/29/2012		7. Reporting Period End Date (Month, Day, Year)  09/29/2011	8. Final Report? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No  9. Report Frequency <input type="checkbox"/> annual <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> semi-annual <input type="checkbox"/> quarterly <input type="checkbox"/> other (If other, describe: _____)	

10. Performance Narrative

11. Other Attachments      *(attach other documents as needed or as instructed by the awarding Federal Agency)*

**12. Certification: I certify to the best of my knowledge and belief that this report is correct and complete for performance of activities for the purposes set forth in the award documents.**

12a. Typed or Printed Name and Title of Authorized Certifying Official  Crystal Ward Allen, Executive Director Public Children Services Association of Ohio	12c. Telephone (area code, number and extension) 614/224-5802
	12d. Email Address <a href="mailto:crystal@pcsao.org">crystal@pcsao.org</a>
12b. Signature of Authorized Certifying Official	12e. Date Report Submitted (Month, Day, Year) 10/31/2011

13. Agency use only

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Item	Data Elements	Instructions
1.	<b>Awarding Federal agency and Organizational Element to Which Report is Submitted</b>	Enter the name of the awarding Federal agency and organizational element identified in the award document or otherwise instructed by the agency. The organizational element is a sub-agency within an awarding Federal agency.
2.	<b>Federal Grant or Other Identifying Number Assigned by the awarding Federal agency</b>	Enter the grant/award number contained in the award document.
3a.	<b>DUNS Number</b>	Enter the recipient organization's Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number or Central Contract Registry extended DUNS number.
3b.	<b>EIN</b>	Enter the recipient organization's Employer Identification Number (EIN) provided by the Internal Revenue Service.
4.	<b>Recipient Organization</b>	Enter the name of recipient organization and address, including zip code.
5.	<b>Recipient Account Number or Account Number</b>	Enter the account number or any other identifying number assigned by the recipient to the award. This number is strictly for the recipient's use only and is not required by the awarding Federal agency.
6.	<b>Project/Grant Period</b>	Indicate the project/grant period established in the award document during which Federal sponsorship begins and ends. Note: Some agencies award multi-year grants for a project/grant period (e.g., 5 years) that are funded in increments known as budget periods or funding periods. These are typically annual increments. Please enter the project/grant period, not the budget period or funding period.
7.	<b>Reporting Period End Date</b>	Enter the ending date of the reporting period. For quarterly, semi-annual, and annual reports, the following calendar quarter reporting period end dates shall be used: 3/31; 6/30; 9/30; and or 12/31. For final PPRs, the reporting period end date shall be the end date of the project/grant period. The frequency of required reporting is usually established in the award document.
8.	<b>Final Report</b>	Mark appropriate box. Check "yes" only if this is the final report for the project/grant period specified in Box 6.
9.	<b>Report or Frequency</b>	Select the appropriate term corresponding to the requirements contained in the award document. "Other" may be used when more frequent reporting is required for high-risk grantees, as specified in OMB Circular A-110.
10.	<b>Performance Narrative</b>	<b>Leave blank and complete Form ACF-OGM-SF-PPR-B</b>
11.	<b>Other Attachments</b>	Attach other documents as needed or as instructed by the awarding Federal agency.

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B-01	Major activities and accomplishments during this period		<p>Each of the Ohio Kin Navigator grant sites provided an update on their work in September, 2011. You can link below to access their diverse presentations. They have learned from each other, and are sharing with others across the state. Interestingly, as one can see from review of the presentations, each program has taken advantage of local partners, available resources, opportunities, etc.</p> <p><a href="#">Ashtabula County Kinship Care Program Report, September 2011</a> – this site is particularly excellent in outreach, and by creatively engaging the children in age appropriate activities, they engage the caregivers; Ashtabula has also formed many community partnerships resulting in development of a respite program for kin caregivers and a fund for needs such as Pay to Play Sports, Graduation, Prom and other costs, specifically available for kinship children and youth.</p> <p><a href="#">Crawford County Kinship Care Program Report, September 2011</a> – a very small rural county, their small support group is vibrant, has formed a 501(c)3 non-profit status, in order to continue post grant time.</p> <p><a href="#">Clark County Kinship Care Program Report, September 2011</a> – the Clark program partnered with a federally qualified healthcare center, Rocking Horse, to create a curriculum driven support group, and it has been very successful.</p> <p><a href="#">Hardin County Kinship Program Report, September 2011</a> – another very small county with few resources, kinship support has been critical to their survival.</p> <p><a href="#">Lorain County Kinship Care Program Report, September 2011</a> – located in the Office on Aging, the Kinship Navigator program has leveraged federal funds for senior caregivers, they patch together a number of foundation grants, and they have an in-house food pantry. Their Local Advisory Board has been innovative and responsive. This is a robust program.</p> <p>Portage Kin Navigator <a href="#">Learn more about the County Kinship Program</a> – as part of a strong community non-profit provider, the Kin Navigator program has been able to seamlessly mesh kin caregiver needs/supports with those of other vulnerable families in the community.</p> <p><a href="#">Richland County Kinship Care Program Report, September 2011</a> – the presentation shows the excellent “resource mapping” regularly done by the community provider. This is supplemented by Legal Support (provided as part of the grant for any legal caregiver needs, primarily achieving legal custody or guardianship). The child welfare agency also funds many tangible needs for kin caregivers outside of grant funds, based on case specifics.</p>
B-02	Problems		<p>The <b>depressed economy</b> continues to be a challenge for caregivers and Kin Navigators as they work to access existing (diminishing) resources.</p> <p><b>Redesign of child welfare kinship services.</b> As the grant sites (7 counties) are all part of the <b>Title IV-E ProtectOhio Waiver</b> (18 counties), which received a five year extension effective Oct. 2010. The waiver counties have committed their flexible funding resources to include <b>Family Team Meetings for all open child welfare cases, and to provide Enhanced Kinship Supports to all open Kinship Cases</b> (irregardless of custody status, it is based on physical location of child with and open child welfare case).</p>

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			<p>The common elements of Enhanced Kinship Supports (implementation effective Oct. 1, 2011) strategy include commitment to a structural support of kinship within the agency staffing; a common assessment of the Kinship caregiver (in addition to use of our CAPMIS safety, risk and case planning tool); enhanced supportive services based on family need; and common elements of SACWIS data entry irregardless of custody status (sometimes informal arrangement, sometimes held by agency, sometimes transferred to caregiver – custody status is often based on both agency and court trends, so that similar situations might have different custody status, based on county of residence). The ProtectOhio Consortium has finalized a Practice Manual, they are using it to develop training with our Ohio Child Welfare Training Program, and changes have been made to SACWIS and training held, to accommodate the new data entry requirements.</p> <p>While this is very exciting practice, and the rest of Ohio is waiting to learn from the waiver counties, it has caused some <i>confusion for the Kinship Navigator counties as the agencies sort thru dedicated practice, data documentation, merging or not their Kinship Navigator program with the new ProtectOhio strategy</i>. It seems to be playing out differently in various counties, so evaluation of this overlapping Kinship Navigator Grant and ProtectOhio strategy for FFY 2012 will be intriguing.</p> <p>The other ProtectOhio Waiver counties (and other child welfare agencies in the state) are also very interested in the Kinship Navigator program evaluation as it impacts child welfare outcomes – they realize that as the Kin Navigator program diverts kinship families from child welfare, they can devote their enhanced practice to those kinship families in dire need of support. The Kinship Navigator program can also be utilized as an exit support from child welfare – for those families that receive custody of children in their care, the child welfare agency might be able to close the case sooner, if there is a navigator program as a community support.</p>
B-03	<b>Significant findings and events</b>		<p><b>The Supreme Court of Ohio Advisory Committee on Children, Families and the Courts took on a new charge</b>, as provided below. Dionne Simmons, member of the Statewide Kinship Caregivers Advisory Council to ODJFS and director of the Kinship Navigator Program in Montgomery County (hosted at Wright State U’s Center for Healthy Communities), was appointed to the Subcommittee:</p> <p><i>In order to consistently provide for the best interests of children across court jurisdictions and provide a clear legal structure for kinship care in Ohio, the Subcommittee on Responding to Child Abuse, Neglect, and Dependency is charged with the following tasks:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <i>To make recommendations to address any inconsistencies between court jurisdictions and create a clear and consistent legal path as related to child custody in kinship care situations.</i></li> <li>2. <i>To make recommendations for resources and tools that might be provided to those seeking custody of children in kinship care situations, including pro se litigants.</i></li> </ol>

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			<p>The Subcommittee has now had two meetings (they meet quarterly) with significant discussion and analysis on this topic. The <b><i>National Center for Adoption Law and Policy is providing expert support to the committee</i></b>, and has made two presentations, and is now collecting related case law.</p> <p>The <b><i>ABA Improving Legal Paths for Kinship Caregivers Presentation</i></b> was shared with the Subcommittee and distributed widely, causing much interest in the topic.</p> <p><b>Ohio's General Assembly restored most of the Kinship Permanency Incentive funds in our state budget</b>, despite the fact that many funds were slashed, such as the Local Government Fund (by one-half!) Much value was built for kinship care.</p>
B-04	Dissemination activities		<p><b>Media coverage and newsletters continued</b>, as summarized below (various audience sizes, similar to past reports). Summer media included a number of items that covered broad kinship issues, due the proposed elimination of the Kinship Permanency Incentive program. This provided the opportunity to build value re kinship care. An Ohio family (from Richland County, a Kin Navigator site) was named Grandparent of the year.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">September 2011  <a href="#">Magazine honors Ontario grandma: Online publication names Ontario woman one of its Grandparents of the Year</a>, <a href="http://www.mansfieldnewsjournal.com">www.mansfieldnewsjournal.com</a>. By Special to the news Journal. September 17, 2011.  <a href="#">September 2011 Crawford County Kinship Connection</a>, Crawford County  <a href="#">September 2011 Grand Newsletter</a>, Portage County</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">August 2011:  <a href="#">August 2011 Crawford County Kinship Connection</a>, Crawford County</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">July 2011:  <a href="#">Ashtabula County Children Services pays a visit to Comp Dairy Farm</a> : Organizations celebrate relationship with donation, outing. By WARREN DILLAWAY, <a href="#">Star Beacon</a>.  <a href="#">July 2011 Crawford County Kinship Connection</a>, Crawford County  <a href="#">July 2011 Grand Newsletter</a>, Portage County</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">June 2011:  <a href="#">June 2011 Crawford County Kinship Connection</a>, Crawford County  <a href="#">June 2011 Newsletter</a>, Area Office on Aging Kinship Navigator Program, Lucas County</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">May 2011:  <a href="#">May 2011 Crawford County Kinship Connection</a>, Crawford County  <a href="#">May 2011 Newsletter</a>, Area Office on Aging Kinship Navigator Program, Lucas County  <a href="#">May 2011 Grand Newsletter</a>, Portage County</p>

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			<p>April 2011:  <a href="#">April 2011 Crawford County Kinship Connection</a>, Crawford County  <a href="#">April 2011 Newsletter</a>, Area Office on Aging Kinship Navigator Program, Lucas County</p> <p><b>Advertising Effort</b> – Ashtabula county invests in quarterly outdoor advertising, often combining messages for kinship and foster caregivers.</p> <p><b>Local and State Advisory Groups</b> – continue to meet regularly, engaging key local and state stakeholders and building value and education about kinship issues. The Statewide Advisory Group provided input to ODJFS as they had to slightly adjust/reduce benefits provided by Kinship Permanency Incentive Program due to state budget cuts.</p> <p><b>Statewide Training and Outreach Activities</b> – As part of the Kinship Navigator grant, PCSAO provided caregiver sponsorship support to the Ohio Grandparent Kinship Coalition Conference, held in September. Kin Navigators from some of the grant sites also attended, as did professionals from other locations in the state, policy makers, and youth. Kinship Champions were recognized. <b>Congratulations OGKC On a Successful 3rd Bi Annual Kinship Conference "Healing Hearts – Kinship Care"</b> see summary and pictures at <a href="http://www.ohiograndparentkinship.org/">http://www.ohiograndparentkinship.org/</a>.</p> <p>The Kinship Navigator grant sites presented a <b>workshop about their programming at the annual PCSAO Conference on Oct. 19, 2011</b>. The workshop was closed out at 35 individuals attended the workshop, with excellent evaluations. 2 hours of CEUs were provided. <b>PCSAO also hosted Carol Musil, PhD, RN from Case Western University School of Nursing that has completed a ten year cohort study of Grandparents</b> and their grandchildren, tracking the status of caregiving relationship, wellbeing status of grandparents and children, as well as many other demographic data pieces.</p> <p><b>Kinship Caregivers recognized at PCSAO Conference</b> – Ohio Supreme Court Justice Yvette McGee Brown presented Family of the Year awards to two Kin Caregiver Families, and Dauntea Sledge, Ohio foster alum and FosterClub All Star presented Rising Up and Moving On Awards to two transitional young adults that are kin caregivers to their younger siblings. Read more and see pictures at <a href="http://www.kinshipohio.org/News/2011PCSAOConference/KinshipHighlights.pdf">http://www.kinshipohio.org/News/2011PCSAOConference/KinshipHighlights.pdf</a>.</p> <p><b>National Legal Education</b> – as selected presenters for the <b>American Bar Association’s Center for Children and the Law Conference in July 2011</b>, Lorain County Attorney Tim Smith and PCSAO’s Crystal Allen presented a workshop on Improving Legal Paths for Kinship Caregivers. While the workshop included other materials and several case studies presenting legal dilemmas for kin caregivers, you can review <a href="#">the official workshop paper online</a>.</p>

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			<p><b>Legislative, Judicial and Educational Community Education</b> – as Ohio’s biennial budget was being heard Feb – June 2011, opportunity to continue to educate state policy makers continued. The testimony below, includes education about the importance of Ohio’s Kinship Permanency Incentive program - <a href="#">Senate Finance Committee Testimony, Impact of HB 153, Biennial Budget on Child Welfare, May 18, 2011</a> by Crystal Ward Allen, Executive Director, PCSAO</p> <p>Furthermore, PCSAO is working closely with Rep. Cheryl Grossman (R), in House Leadership, on a bill for informal caregivers. <a href="#">HB 279</a> - Budget Neutral Kinship Care bill. <a href="#">HB 279 Outline</a>, bill would expand HB 130 Grandparent Power of Attorney and Caregiver Authorization Affidavits to other informal kin caregivers. This effort has allowed valuable conversations with legislative leadership, the judicial community, and the education community.</p> <p><b>PCSAO General Outreach Efforts</b> – PCSAO has continued to regularly highlight the Kin Navigator Grant in a variety of venues. Our <b>electronic Weekly Update</b>, both are widely distributed and can be found on our home page, <a href="http://www.pcsao.org/">http://www.pcsao.org/</a>. This goes out weekly, to our statewide child welfare community and many partners. Kinship is often discussed as part of the PCSAO District meetings, in our Executive membership meetings, and in partnership meetings with ODJFS. At an August, 2011 meeting with ODJFS Director Michael Colbert, public child welfare directors from nine NE Ohio highlighted important issues in their county; over half specifically discussed investment in identifying, connecting, placing with and supporting kinship caregivers as key in their safe reduction of children in care and improving child wellbeing.</p> <p><b>PLANNED</b> – the Kinship Navigator Project will develop a Replication Manual during FFY 12, it will be widely distributed to all communities in Ohio, both public child welfare agencies and private provider agencies. PCSAO is also hoping to have serious discussions at the State Level about the possibility of a State or Regional Kinship Navigator resource.</p>
B-05	<b>Other Activities</b>		<p>Progress is being made in accordance with the evaluation plan; evaluation activities are proceeding in accordance with our timeline. We require additional time to prepare and submit complete, accurate and consistent evaluation data for this reporting period in a form which will support the cross-site analyses underway. With the agreement of the Federal Project Officer, an addendum to this report, with full evaluation data included, will be submitted separately, <u>by Nov. 30, 2011.</u></p> <p>Talking with other grant sites and federal staff during the Grantee meetings is very valuable. It provides:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A grounding or comparison for Ohio’s progress</li> <li>• Lessons learned for things like success and challenges for support groups</li> <li>• PCSAO is very interested in the success of the phone line Kin Navigators, as it is clear there will be a mix in Ohio</li> <li>• Good to hear about how other states are embracing the Title IV-E Relative Guardianship option</li> <li>• Good to hear about other policies in different states</li> </ul>

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Differences in evaluation activities are interesting</li> <li>• The Leadership Conference offered great opportunity to analyze challenges and design an action plan</li> <li>• Enjoyed learning more about the Residential Tx programs and the Family Search and Engagement programs. Ohio is doing both, but for broader populations, not directly connected with Kinship Navigator activities.</li> </ul>
B-06	<b>Activities planned for next reporting period</b>		<p>The Kinship Navigator Project will develop a Replication Manual during FFY 12, it will be widely distributed to all communities in Ohio, both public child welfare agencies and private provider agencies.</p> <p>PCSAO is also hoping to have serious discussions at the State Level about the possibility of a State or Regional Kinship Navigator resource.</p> <p>We will also report on the integration status of Kinship Navigator and Title IV-E ProtectOhio Waiver Kinship Strategy integration and of course...sustainability of the grant sites.</p>