

**ACF-OGM SF-PPR
Attachment B, Item B-05, Other Activities
Evaluation Activities**

Funding Recipient: Public Children Services Association of Ohio

Grant #: 90-CF-0024

Program Name: Ohio Enhanced Kinship Navigator Project

City and State: 7 counties in Ohio – Ashtabula, Crawford, Clark, Hardin, Lorain, Portage, & Richland

Reporting Period: September 30, 2009 to March 31, 2011¹

EVALUATION PROGRESS AND MODIFICATIONS

1. Evaluation Planning: The evaluation team continues to work on analysis of data from qualitative interview data from site visits to both Kinship Navigator (KN) project sites and comparison sites and is finishing up with data collection for the first round of system network analysis surveys with local advisory group members and community providers in each of the seven sites. The evaluation team is also planning for continued data collection via the Kinship Informational Data System (KIDS), system analysis, and the receipt of administrative SACWIS data. We are also planning for telephone interviews with the KN and comparison sites during the summer of 2011. More information about these efforts is found throughout this attachment.

2. Evaluation Goals, Questions, & Outcomes of Interest:

Evaluation Goals:

Evaluation goals have not changed since the prior reporting period, nor since the project proposal. See the “Abstract-Evaluation” section of the Grantee profile and/or section 3.1 of the project proposal (p 48).

Evaluation Questions:

The table below provides the original evaluation questions and updated evaluation questions. Updates represent modifications we feel more appropriately reflect the project’s focus, and our ability to collect and analyze data.

Process Questions		
Original	Modification	Explanation
a. Does the KN program help to increase both the amount and accessibility of resources available to kinship caregivers (KCGs) in intervention counties, as compared to control counties?	None at this time	

¹ Data included in this report was collected through February 2011.



b. Do community organizations that serve KCGs in demonstration counties have stronger relationships than organizations in comparison counties?	None at this time	
c. As a result of the KN program, is the larger community (inclusive of, but not limited to, KCGs), more aware of supports and services needed by and available to KCGs?	None at this time	
Outcome Questions		
Original	Modification	Explanation
d. Does the KN program make it more likely that potential KCGs will step forward to care for children?	Does the KN program increase rates of kin placements in project counties?	We are unable to measure original question. Therefore, we will examine rates of formal placements in project counties v. comparison counties.
e. Does the KN program make it more likely that current KCGs will remain committed to caring for children?	None at this time.	
f. Does the KN program provide services and supports to make caregiving easier and more rewarding?	Does involvement with the KN program make caregivers feel that caregiving is easier and more rewarding?	We will collect this via follow up family surveys and through focus groups. We have no direct data link between services/supports received and feelings of ease/reward – though we may ask about this in focus groups as well (which services/supports were most helpful in making caregiving easier, more rewarding, etc.)

g. Do target population children in the intervention counties experience greater well-being during the project period than similar children in the comparison sites?	Not at this time.	We are now hopeful that we will be able to draw down data on child level well-being from SACWIS, primarily via family and ongoing assessment data, but are not yet certain what specific data elements will be available and reliable. We also continue to collect subjective information on well being at the family level via the family follow-up survey.
h. Does the KN program make it more likely that children will reach permanency sooner?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Does involvement in the KN program increase rates of permanency (i.e. reunification, legal custody to kin, and adoption)? 2. Does involvement in the KN program shorten time from placement to permanency? 	We will compare KN counties with comparison counties.
i. Does the KN program increase child safety?	Does the KN program maintain or increase child safety?	Children should be <u>as safe</u> or safer in kin placement under KN program as in kin placement in comparison counties. We will utilize post-placement occurrence of substantiated/ indicated abuse/neglect – children with formal child welfare involvement in KN v. comparison counties
j. What child and family characteristics influence outcomes? (demographics)	None at this time.	

Evaluation Outcomes of Interest:

The outcomes of interest remain as they appeared on the logic model submitted to the cross site evaluator in spring of 2010. They include:

1. Well-Being Outcomes:
 - a. KCG increased satisfaction with caregiver role
 - b. Diversion from PCSA
2. Safety Outcomes:
 - a. Decrease in number of re-reports: CFSR Safety Outcome 1.2

- b. Decrease re-entry to ooh care: CFSR Safety Outcome 2.3
3. Permanency Outcomes:
- a. Shorter time away from biological home
 - b. Decrease # days and children placed in foster care
 - c. Shorter time between removal and permanency
 - d. Increase proportion of kcg taking permanent custody of child (LC, LG, PC-adoption)
 - e. Decrease # changes in kinship placements (disruptions)
 - f. Increase # children placed with & exiting to kin
 - g. Increase time kinship caregivers remain committed to caregiving
4. Improvements in Disproportionality: Demographic variables such as race will be use in the exploration of impact of KN on child welfare outcomes. If possible, we will also look at families receiving KN services and how their experience may vary based on race.
5. Increased Community Awareness

3. Evaluation Design: There have been no major changes in the evaluation design in this reporting period. See the “Abstract-Evaluation” section of the Grantee profile and/or section 3.1 of the project proposal (p 48) for more information about the evaluation design. Please see subsequent sections for minor changes in methods.

4. Evaluation Participants: There have been no major changes in the participants the project proposes to measure during this period. While we do not anticipate any major changes in the population to be explored in the outcomes analysis, the evaluation team is currently working with the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services to outline the project’s needs regarding the receipt of administrative data – the primary source of data on child outcomes. This could potentially result in changes to the proposed plan regarding our target population.

5. Primary and Secondary Data Sources:

Primary Data Sources:

The following primary data collection efforts are underway or planned:

Primary Data Collection Effort	Timeline	Notes
Implementation reports	Collected on period Oct 2009 – Mar 2010	Analyzing in conjunction with 2010 site visit data, shared some findings with project sites in February 2011 – will be fully presented as vital element of implementation and outputs analysis for final report.

Primary Data Collection Effort	Timeline	Notes
211 data	Data was collected in five counties beginning in May 2010.	Counties have had an increasingly difficult time getting this data, but the evaluation team continuing to collect it as available. Four counties are included in this report's analysis due to missing data in the fifth county. We expect to be able to include all five counties' data in the next report. See 6.10 for preliminary findings regarding 211 data.
Site visits and Telephone Interviews	Completed summer 2010 site visits for KN and Comparison sites; telephone interview with project manager in late 2010; planning for late summer/early fall 2011 telephone interviews	Currently analyzing, provided some findings to project sites during February in-person meeting, using that conversation (reflection on their implementation) to inform implementation analysis, which is underway.
Kinship Informational Data System (KIDS), including family follow-up	Began using in March, data from families referred in February forward. Family follow up began in August 2010. The first family survey was received by the evaluation team on September 1.	One project site continues to struggle with data entry; data for this county is included in this report but it is unknown the degree to the cases in KIDS represent the much larger caseload they work with. The Project Manager and Evaluation team are working with the program staff and leadership at this site on this issue.
Time study	Collected in September/October 2010; will next collect in mid-2012	Preliminary findings from 2010 included in previous semi-annual report.
System Analysis	Data collection for 2011 underway via surveys with Kinship Navigators, Local Advisory Group members, and community providers in each project county	Evaluation team expects data collection will close in April 2011; findings will not be available for this report, but team plans to share them with project sites in spring or summer in-person meeting. Results from this effort will be combined with the findings from site visits and telephone interviews to form analysis on collaborations.

Primary Data Source Updates:

- **Site Visits** (proposal p 50): As reported in the first semi-annual report, the evaluation team determined that it is unnecessary to complete two visits to each KN program site per year. Regular project conference calls, in-person meetings, and ongoing conversations with KN

staff have provided the evaluation team with valuable information that would otherwise have been collected at site visits; HSRI will continue to participate in conference calls and attend the quarterly KN in-person meetings throughout the life of this project. HSRI has determined that it is unnecessary to complete full site visits in 2011; rather, the study team will complete telephone interviews with project staff in Kinship Navigator counties and their counterparts in the comparison counties. A final set of site visits will be conducted in 2012, and will include focus groups or interviews with kinship caregivers, and possibly with local advisory group members and/or community providers.

- **System Analysis:** The primary data collection effort for the system analysis is now underway. Surveys are being conducted with Kinship Navigators, Local Advisory Group members, and community providers (identified during the 2010 site visits) in the Kinship Navigator counties. These surveys include questions about service availability in each KN community, awareness of the needs of kinship caregivers, and the perceived impact of the KN program, as well as a collaborative scale that provided data on the level of relationships between the local providers and Kinship Navigator programs. The purpose of this effort remains to explore relationships between the KN programs and other community organizations with regard to support for kinship families. Survey data will be used to complete a social network analysis for each of the project sites. At this time we do not anticipate being able to explore differences between the Kinship Navigator and comparison counties; instead, our goal will be to explore change in community networks over the grant period. The evaluation team also continues to explore the feasibility of including additional efforts on this topic in the future, such as interviews or focus groups with community providers.

Secondary Data Sources: As noted in #4 above, the evaluation team is currently working with the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services to outline the project's needs regarding the receipt of administrative data (SACWIS data) – the primary source of data on child outcomes. This could potentially result in changes to the proposed plan regarding our target population, as well as outcomes of interest. A data sharing agreement is now in place; however, data is not yet available and will not be included in this report.

6. **Data Collection Procedures:** All data collection procedure changes are noted above. Data collection is underway or planned for all proposed efforts unless otherwise noted above.
7. **Data Analysis:** The evaluation team is currently working on analysis or planning for analysis of a number of primary data collection efforts including: qualitative interview data from site visits to Kinship Navigator project sites and comparison sites, data from the Kinship Informational Data System (KIDS), and system network survey data.
8. **Reporting and Dissemination:** The evaluation team completed the first and second semi-annual reports on time, submitting them in March and October of 2010, respectively. During this period the evaluation team shifted focus somewhat from supporting implementation and providing training and TA regarding data collection efforts to providing and discussing preliminary findings. Ongoing reporting back to the project sites happens now primarily via quarterly in-person meetings, or via county-specific email updates on data collection efforts. The semi-annual

reports have been shared with the project sites at the in-person meeting following their due dates, and additional county-level findings provided whenever feasible. Additional county-specific reporting of data is provided automatically via the program and case level canned reports built into the Kinship Informational Data System (KIDS).

9. Other: N/A

PROCESS EVALUATION

At this stage, the evaluation team anticipates providing process evaluation data on the following participant groups.

1. Participant Unit of Analysis

Case Managed Kinship Caregivers & Kinship Families: Cases in Kinship Informational Data System (KIDS) are built around a family unit, with a primary kinship caregiver designated to provide demographic information on caregivers, and feedback via the family follow up survey. Some data in this category will be reported per primary caregiver (such as demographic information) and some per family (number of persons, kinship children, in the home). Most data comparing the initial assessment period to the family follow up will be at the caregiver/family level, rather than child.

Case Management Involved Kinship Children: Data is entered into KIDS for each kinship child in the home for case managed families. This data includes demographic information, legal status, involvement in child welfare, etc. This data is updated at the time of family follow up, and will later be matched with data from SACWIS for any child involved in the state child welfare system and for whom matching IDs can be found in order to explore outcomes.

County/Project Site: Each project site is located in a county in Ohio and may be treated as its own unit of analysis, particularly when we examine fidelity to the program model. Project sites are as follows; Ashtabula Children Services, Clark DJFS, Crawford Children Services, Hardin DJFS, Lorain Office on Aging, Portage Family and Community Services (contracted by Children Services), and Richland DCS (contracted by Children Services). In addition, our study includes seven comparison sites, selected to match the project site group on a number of key factors. These seven comparison sites are the public children services agencies in Allen, Brown, Butler, Columbiana, Fairfield, Greene, and Jackson counties.

Kinship Navigator Staff: Key to implementation and operation of this project are the Kinship Navigators themselves. At this time 25 individuals work on some aspect of the Kinship Navigator project in the seven project sites, including managers, supervisors, Kinship Navigators, and data entry staff. Of these 25, 14 are Kinship Navigators. Kinship Navigator staff time and roles vary – some staff are dedicated to specific functions while others take on all tasks, some are full time, some part time. The evaluation team plans to use staffing as a unit of analysis primarily for time study analysis (see below)

2. Number of Participants Served

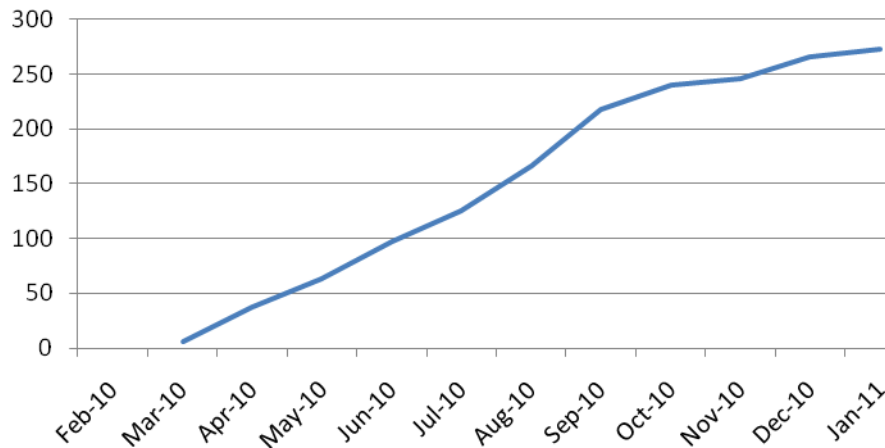
Timeframe	Case Managed Kinship Caregivers/ Families, referred after Feb 1, 2010	Case Management Involved Kinship Children	Counties/ Project Sites	Project Staff
February to September 2010, updated	Cases referred this period: 256		7 Kin Navigator sites & 7 Comparison sites	14 Kinship Navigators in 7 project sites (total project involved staff varied)
	Cases referred and with initial assessment (IA) completed: 206			
	Cases referred and with IA complete, and consenting: 188	Cases referred and with IA complete, consenting: 393		
October 1, 2010 to February 28, 2011 (for reporting period through March 2011)	Cases referred this period: 132		7 Kin Navigator sites & 7 Comparison sites	14 Kinship Navigators in 7 project sites; 8 total Kin Navigator FTE as of March 2011
	Cases with initial assessment (IA) complete this period (no referral constraint): 163			
	With IA complete, consenting (no referral constraint): 146	With IA complete, consenting (no referral constraint): 227		
Total to date: February 2010 to February 2011	Cases referred: 388		7 Kin Navigator sites & 7 Comparison sites	14 Kinship Navigators in 7 project sites; 8 total Kin Navigator FTE as of March 2011
	With initial assessment (IA) complete: 369			
	With IA complete, consenting: 334	IA complete, consenting: 549		
	Ongoing Cases: 285	Children in Ongoing Cases: 442		

Reporting Rationale: Case-level data was collected for a total of 388 cases (families) referred between February 2010 and the end of February 2011. However, inclusion in evaluation analysis (all data reported below) requires having provided informed consent for evaluation participation and having a complete initial assessment. Of the 388 cases for which data was collected in KIDS, 334 met these criteria. Data was available for 549 kinship children in these 334 cases. All data reported in this and subsequent semi-annual reports will only include families where the initial assessment was completed and informed consent has been obtained.

We've also added an ongoing total cases and children in this report; this figure gives a good sense of the number of families (and therefore size of the caseloads) of the Kinship Navigator program as of

the end of February 2011. ‘Ongoing’ cases are those that are still open and are not yet considered completed (completed cases are those with complete family follow ups and the KN indicates they are no longer actively working together at the time of follow up). Since the KN programs rarely formally close cases, we expect to see some leveling off of the number of ongoing cases, and overall number of families they’re able to serve, as most of the programs report they are operating ‘at capacity’ with regard to their case management caseloads.

Ongoing Cases



A note about the number of kinship children: There were 227 children in the 163 cases with IA complete during the current period. Because of the lack of referral period constraint, the families and children included in these figures (IA complete) are partly duplicative of the figures for the previous period, who may have been referred during that period but didn’t yet have complete initial assessments so were not included in previous report analyses. Future periods will be reported in this manner as well – only the first reporting period is constrained by the referral date (as all children in KIDS were referred during that period at that time).

It is important to note the reporting timeframe for two reasons:

- 1) The counties involved in this grant began providing services in the months of 2010. For the first semi-annual report (covering September 30, 2009 to March 30, 2010), counties estimated that they served approximately 400 case management families. However, because counties were not entering family level data into the KIDS system prior to February 2010, we cannot ‘match’ those early families to families in KIDS, and therefore cannot provided an unduplicated count to include the first few month of program implementation. From this point forward, the evaluation team will report cumulative figures for future reports from February 2010 forward.
- 2) In order to ensure data download and analysis would be complete in time for this reporting deadline, the evaluation team is using the ‘end data date’ of February 28, 2011 for all child and family level data included in this report. In other words, rather than the data running through March 2011, we are presenting on data through February 2011, adding a five months of activity

on to the last semi-annual report. We will follow this pattern for all future semi-annual reports and so in the future will be adding a full six-month time period to each report.

Finally, it is important to note that all data are preliminary. Because of the way KIDS is structured, the process of downloading and analyzing data takes a significant amount of time. We are mitigating this to a degree by downloading data prior to the end of the reporting period. However, we cannot complete full data cleaning and quality checking for each semi-annual report; data may be updated from report to report and may vary from that found in our final report, for which data will be much more rigorously handled.

3. Demographics

All data from this section was downloaded from the Kinship Informational Data System (KIDS) on March 1, 2011. Caregiver/family and child level data is included only if available in KIDS (families referred to the project sites February or later), if informed consent was provided, and if an initial assessment was complete for the family (n = 334 families, 549 children). All seven project sites contribute cases for this section.

Kinship Caregiver Level:

Information in this section is about the 334 **primary** caregivers in the 334 cases where consent provided and initial assessment complete (i.e., unless otherwise noted, n = 334). Demographic information for additional caregivers in the home is not available.

A. Age: Table 3.1 shows primary kinship caregiver’s age at the time the family’s initial assessment was complete, showing an average of 47 with a very large range. There is only a very small change in these findings since the previous semi-annual report; previously the average kinship caregiver age was 48. Due to missing dates of birth for a few caregivers, 331 records were used to calculate age.

Table 3.1: Primary Kinship Caregiver Age (at Date Initial Assessment Complete)	
	Cumulative Feb 2010 – Feb 2011 (n = 331)
Mean*	47 years
Median	47 years
Min – Max	19 – 79 years

*Standard deviation = 11.78

B. Gender: Table 3.2 shows primary kinship caregiver gender. As demographic data was entered for only one caregiver, it appears that most primary caregivers in these cases are female. There is almost no change in gender proportions of primary kinship caregivers since the previous semi-annual report.

Table 3.2: Primary Kinship Caregiver Gender		
	Cumulative Feb 2010 – Feb 2011	
	Number	Percent
Male	27	8%
Female	307	92%
Total	334	100%

C. Race/ Ethnicity: Table 3.3 shows primary kinship caregiver race. Most primary kinship caregivers are white though some diversity is present. The evaluation team hopes to explore in the future whether this mix reflects the overall populations of the project site counties. There is very little change in race proportions of primary kinship caregivers since the previous semi-annual report.

Table 3.3: Primary Kinship Caregiver Race		
	Cumulative Feb – Sept 2010	
	Number	Percent
White	258	77%
Black	62	19%
Hispanic	12	4%
Asian/Pacific Islander	0	0%
American Indian/ Alaska Native	1	< 1%
Multi-Racial	1	< 1%
Total	191	100%

D. Type of Agency or Individual who Referred Participant(s) to Program: Table 3.4 shows who referred the primary kinship caregiver to the Kinship Navigator program. There is little change in the proportions of referral sources from those provided for the previous semi-annual report. Public Children Service Agencies (Children Services) remains the largest referral source, likely due to the close relationships between the Kinship Navigator and Children Services offices (four of the seven projects are located within the county children services office, two are contracted by Children Services to a community provider and the seventh is at an Area Office on Aging). ‘Others’ included word of mouth, Kinship Navigator promotional materials or advertisements, etc.

Table 3.4: Referral Source		
	Cumulative Feb 2010 – Feb 2011	
	Number	Percent
Children Services	196	59%
Other Kinship Caregiver	26	8%
Other Community Provider	24	7%
DJFS	18	5%
Court System	16	5%
Local 211/I&R Agency	1	< 1%
Other	52	16%
Total	334	100%

E. Income: We are not collecting this information for evaluation.

F. Marital Status: We are not collecting this information for evaluation.

G. Education Level: Table 3.5 shows the educational level of the primary kinship caregiver at the time their initial assessment was complete. Eighty-five percent of the caregivers have at least a high school degree, though a very small number, less than 10%, have either an associate or college degree. These findings present very little change from those figures provided for the last semi-annual report.

Table 3.5: Education Level at Initial Assessment		
	Cumulative Feb 2010 – Feb 2011	
	Number	Percent
Middle School	6	2%
Some High School	40	12%
High School Graduate	187	56%
Technical Training	11	3%
Some College	55	17%
Associate Degree	15	5%
College Degree	17	5%
Unknown	3	1%
Total	334	100%

H. Employment Status: We are not collecting this information for evaluation.

I. Primary Language: We are not collecting this information for evaluation.

J. Relationship to kinship child: See child-level demographics below (Tables 3.14 and 3.15).

K. Primary reason for assuming care: See child-level demographics below (Table 3.16).

L. Type of kinship care arrangement: See child-level demographics below. We did not collect information under the categories outlined in the reporting instructions. In close consultation with the KN staff in developing data collection (and case management) tools, we instead collect information on the child’s legal status with the caregiver (3.18), and on the long-term caregiving plans for the child (Table 3.17).

M. Number of children in the home: At the time of initial assessment, 743 children were reported to be in the 334 kinship families included in this analysis, ranging from zero² and ten children per family. As detailed data is only collected on children who are in the home due to a kinship placement, we will focus on that group here, and in the child-level demographics section below. Table 3.5 provides the total number of kinship children (549), average number per family and range of number of children per home. There has not been any meaningful shift in this data since the last reporting period.

Table 3.6: Number of Kinship Children in Home at Initial Assessment Completion, Consenting Families Only	
	Cumulative Feb 2010 – Sept 2011
Total Number	549
Average per Family	< 2
Range per Family	0 - 6

N. Caregivers legal status in relation to child: See child-level demographics below (Table 3.18).

O. Number currently receiving kinship guardianship assistance payments: We are not collecting this information for evaluation.

Child Level:

Information in this section is about the **kinship** children in cases where consent provided and initial assessment complete (n=549 throughout this section, unless otherwise noted). Demographic information for other children in the home is not available.

A. Age: Table 3.7 provides information on the average, median, and range of ages of **kinship** children in the home, calculated at the date the initial assessment for their family was complete. As

² Families with zero kinship children in the home at the time of initial assessment are likely preparing for a child or children to enter their home.

dates of birth are missing for a small number of children, a total of 539 children were used for this analysis, slightly fewer than the total number used for other data in this section. The typical age of kinship children has shifted very slightly, from a mean of 8 and median of 7 to a mean of 7 and median of 6 since the last reporting period.

Table 3.7: Primary Kinship Children Age at Date Initial Assessment Complete (n=539)	
	Cumulative Feb 2010 – Feb 2011
Mean*	7 years
Median	6 years
Min – Max	< 1 year – 19 years

*Standard deviation = 5.27

B. Gender: Table 3.8 shows the gender mix of kinship children for the current period’s Kinship Navigator case management families – boys and girls each making up almost exactly half the population, very close to the 50/50 split seen in the first reporting period.

Table 3.8: Gender of Kinship Children		
	Cumulative Feb 2010 – Feb 2011	
	Number	Percent
Male	278	51%
Female	271	49%
Total	549	100%

C. Race/Ethnicity: Table 3.9 shows the racial mix of kinship children, showing a slightly lower proportion of white children and slightly higher proportion of non-white children, particularly multi-racial, than seen in the primary caregiver demographics. These figures are very close to those seen in the first reporting period.

Table 3.9: Race of Kinship Children		
	Cumulative Feb 2010 – Feb 2011	
	Number	Percent
White	369	67%
Black	109	20%
Hispanic	25	5%
Asian/Pacific Islander	0	0%
American Indian/ Alaska Native	4	< 1%
Multi-Racial	42	8%
Total	549	100%

D. Number of Siblings: Not collecting this information for evaluation.

E. Length of time in relative’s care: The evaluation team will only be able to provide complete analysis on length of time in relative’s care for those children who were formally involved in the child welfare system during their kinship placement and therefore have consistently identifiable ‘start’ and ‘end’ (or permanency) dates for their kinship placements. This requires use of SACWIS data. Analysis matching children in KIDS and SACWIS will be included only in the final evaluation report, when full outcomes analysis is completed.

However, it is valuable to explore the length of time children have been with their kinship caregivers at the time they come to need Kinship Navigator case management services. The table below provides information on the length of time from when a child first came to live with the kinship caregiver (in many cases only estimates for this are available) to the date an initial assessment was complete. The evaluation team hopes to further explore this in interaction with other data, such as involvement in the child welfare system and/or legal status of the placement, but these preliminary figures shed a bit more light on the characteristics of the kinship placements themselves.

Table 3.10: Length of Time in Days from Kinship Placement Start to Initial Assessment (n = 535)	
	Cumulative Feb 2010 – Feb 2011
Mean	645*
Median	184
Range	-91 to 6814 days

*Standard Deviation: 1082

F. Current Involvement with Child Welfare Agency: KIDS collects information about a child’s known current and previous involvement with child welfare. Table 3.10 shows the number and percent of children involved at the time of initial assessment completion. Table 3.10 shows the number and percent of children involved prior to initial assessment completion. The first reporting period showed slightly less involvement as of initial assessment (45%) as well as prior involvement (57%).

Table 3.11: Involvement of Children with Child Welfare Agency at Initial Assessment		
	Cumulative Feb 2010 – Feb 2011	
	Number	Percent
Involved	247	45%
Not involved	239	44%
Unknown	63	11%
Total	549	100%

Table 3.12: Involvement of Children with Child Welfare Agency Prior to Initial Assessment		
	Cumulative Feb 2010 – Feb 2011	
	Number	Percent
Involved	303	55%
Not involved	133	24%
Unknown	113	21%
Total	549	100%

When involvement is unduplicated, we find that 371 children, or 68% of the 549 kinship children, had some known involvement with child welfare up to the point of initial assessment completion.

A note about SACWIS: Further analysis on the subset of children with prior or current involvement with public child welfare agencies will be included in the outcomes analysis work. In order to complete that analysis, the evaluation team needs SACWIS IDs for these children to be entered into KIDS. SACWIS IDs will allow us to ‘match’ follow up data from KIDS with SACWIS data on placements, custody, permanency, and safety. At this time SACWIS IDs are available for 33% of the children who have documented current or prior involvement with a public child welfare agency as of the follow up period (an unduplicated total of 67 of 205 children with complete follow-up data). Not surprisingly, SACWIS IDs are more often available for the children who are currently involved (59 of 119, or about 50% of cases with complete follow up data). This is a significant improvement from the proportion of children with documented IDs as of November 2010, when we last examined this data closely across all counties. Challenges reported regarding entry of SACWIS IDs include: staff workload limitations, coordination with PCSA staff for those programs not seated within the PCSA,

difficulty of looking up SACWIS IDs with names (many duplicate names, misspellings, etc.), etc. Further, the evaluation team will not be able to check the IDs entered into KIDS against SACWIS until we receive SACWIS data (most likely no earlier than this fall) and per prior experiences with SACWIS data in Ohio, we do not expect all IDs to match or be easily ‘cleanable’ given mismatch. The evaluation team does not expect to reach 100% of SACWIS ID availability in KIDS; however, the evaluation team and project manager are working closely with the counties to improve data entry of this element.

G. Length of time in foster care: The evaluation team cannot provide this information at this time. The evaluation team hopes to analyze time in foster care for the subset of children with public child welfare involvement (as described above), when data on these families is available in KIDS and SACWIS. This will be included, if possible, in outcomes analysis in the final evaluation report.

H. Other: The following items are listed in the reporting outline under kinship caregiver demographics but reported at the child level in our project:

Relationship between Kinship Caregiver and Kinship Child: Table 3.12 & 3.13 provide information about the child/primary kinship caregiver relationship. Table 3.12 shows the proportion of maternal and paternal relationships between the primary kinship caregiver and child. Almost three times as many kinship children have maternal relationships with their kinship caregivers than paternal relationships. Though Table 3.13 shows a large number of grandparent kinship caregivers, these make up only 58% of the diverse mix of caregiver/children relationships represented. Maternal/paternal proportions have not changed much since the prior reporting period, but an increase in the number of aunt/uncle relationships has been seen (from 16% in the first period to 21% cumulatively).

Table 3.13: Relationship of Kinship Children with Primary Kinship Caregiver		
	Cumulative Feb 2010 – Feb 2011	
	Number	Percent
Maternal	370	67%
Paternal	124	23%
Not Applicable	55	10%
Total	549	100%

Table 3.14: Relationship of Kinship Children with Primary Kinship Caregiver		
	Cumulative Feb 2010 – Feb 2011	
	Number	Percent
Aunt/Uncle	115	21%
Cousin	10	2%
Godparent	4	1%
Grandparent	316	58%
Great Aunt/Uncle	13	3%
Great Grandparent	13	3%
Half-Sibling	1	< 1 %
Non-Custodial Parent	1	< 1 %
Sibling	8	2%
Step-Parent	4	1%
Non-related Kin	45	8%
Other	19	4%
Total	549	100%

Primary Reason for Kinship Caregiver Assuming Care of Kinship Child: Table 3.14 shows the wide variety of reasons for kinship placement. Though a number of factors can contribute to the need for kinship placement, Kinship Navigators were asked to provide a single most relevant reason. Abandonment, parent incarceration, and parent substance abuse/treatment, were the three most common primary reasons provided. Each of these remained the same or increased proportionally from the first period figures, if only slightly (for example, abandonment was 18% in the first reporting period and is now 22%). Answers under ‘other’ included domestic violence, death, failure to protect, shared custody, and mother in military deployment, among others.

Table 3.15: Primary Reason for Kinship Caregiver Assuming Care of Kinship Child		
	Cumulative Feb 2010 – Feb 2011	
	Number	Percent
Abandonment	122	22%
Capacity of Adult (MRDD)	5	1%
Child Behavior Problems	8	2%
Child Disability/ Special Needs	0	0%
Child Substance Abuse and/or Tx	2	< 1%
Emotional Abuse	1	< 1%
Housing/ Shelter	29	5%
Neglect	54	10%
Parent(s) Chronic Illness	5	1%
Parent(s) Death	20	4%
Parent(s) Incarcerated	95	17%
Parent(s) Mental Health and/or Tx	25	5%
Parent(s) Substance Abuse and/or Tx	80	15%
Parent(s) Unemployed	5	1%
Physical Abuse	11	2%
Sexual Abuse	4	1%
Relinquishment/ Dependency	30	6%
Unruly/ Delinquency	4	1%
Other	49	9%
Total	549	100%

Type of Kinship Care Arrangement:

Tables 3.15 and 3.16 provide more information about the types of caregiving arrangements that kinship children are involved in while working with the Kinship Navigator program.

Long Term Caregiving Plans: Table 3.15 provides the long-term caregiving plans for kinship children at the time of initial assessment completion. A majority of the kinship children (67%) are either already in the legal custody/guardianship of their kinship caregiver, or plans are underway to pursue legal custody/guardianship. Those categorized as ‘other’ included continued guardianship, maintain POS, and mother to resume care after release from jail, among others. There were only very small changes between the first period and these cumulative figures (the greatest being an increase in the proportion of children remaining with KCGs who have legal custody/guardianship from 27 to 29 percent and the proportion unanswered/unknown increasing from 3% to 7%).

Table 3.16: Type of Kinship Care Arrangement: Long Term Caregiving Plans for Kinship Children		
	Cumulative Feb 2010 – Feb 2011	
	Number	Percent
Working toward reunification	114	21%
Pursuing Legal Custody/ Guardianship	219	40%
Pursuing Adoption	10	2%
Transitioning Youth	2	1%
Another Relative to Assume Custody	1	< 1%
Child remaining w/ KCG who has LC/G	148	27%
Other	16	3%
Unanswered or Unknown	36	7%
Total	549	100%

Legal Status of Kinship Children: Table 3.16 provides information about the legal status of kinship children at the time of initial assessment completion. A number of children, at the time initial assessments were complete, were without custody arrangement (22%), or in temporary custody of kin (21%). Those categorized as ‘other’ included in process of gaining legal custody, military guardianship, POA, and possession, among others. As with the other child level demographics, only very small changes were seen between the first reporting period and the cumulative total reported here.

Table 3.17: Type of Kinship Care Arrangement: Legal Status of Kinship Children at Initial Assessment Completion		
	Cumulative Feb 2010 – Feb 2011	
	Number	Percent
Legal Custodian	115	21%
Legal Guardian	39	7%
Verbal custody from child’s parent(s)	39	7%
Temporary Custody	115	21%
PCSA/Court Custody, placed with kin	36	7%
None	123	22%
Unknown	58	11%
Other	24	4%
Total	549	100%

4. Type of Service by Participant

Table 4.1 lists the services laid out in the Ohio’s KN program profile under key program interventions and activities. This table provides the location of data on each service available in this report attachment, and notes which services will be reported in the future. Please also note that many of the service items listed will be explored qualitatively. We will include analysis of each service listed in the semi-annual report that is due following the completion of that analysis.

Table 4.1: Services	
	Where to find pertinent data in this report:
Services for Kinship Caregivers	
Kinship Navigators respond to calls and referrals from caregivers, provide I& R, and assist in applying for financial supports	See I&R call data in Tables 6.7 – 6.9 See services needs data in Table 6.3
Kinship Navigators conduct periodic assessments of kinship caregivers	See data on initial assessments and follow up in Section 6A (Table 6.1)
Provide training to caregivers to help them care for children with special needs and interact with multiple service systems	Qualitative data will be provided in future reports
Provide case management	See data in sections 2 & 3 for information about case management caregivers and kinship children; other figures are found in the “Number of Participants Served” table and Table 6.1
Kin Navigators serve as ombudspersons taking complaints from caregivers and following up with agencies	See services needs data in Table 6.3
Offer other supportive services including respite care, support groups, and legal assistance	See output data in Section 7A, additional qualitative data will be provided in future reports
Other Key Services	
Map community assets to identify existing resources for caregivers	Qualitative data as well as system network analysis results will be provided in future reports
Train public agency staff to assess and refer caregiving families to the program	See output data in Section 7A, additional qualitative data will be provided in future reports
Coordinate with and train the central I&R provider to establish procedures for screening and referring families to the program and facilitate information sharing	See data in Table 6.10
Outreach to kinship caregivers	See data in Tables 6.4 & 6.5
Outreach to the larger community of organizations on the needs of kinship families, engage them in the local collaborative	See data in Table 6.4 & 6.5

Develop and sustain the collaborative group	Qualitative data as well as system network analysis results will be provided in future reports
Coordinate and collaborate with all county Kinship Navigator programs	Qualitative data as well as system network analysis results will be provided in future reports

5. **Collaborative Evaluation:** Qualitative findings regarding collaborative efforts will be included in later analysis and reported when complete.

6. **Outputs**

Kinship Caregiver Level

A. **Number & Percent of Kinship Caregivers that completed assessments:** Of the 369 kinship caregivers referred to the KN programs between February 2010 and through February 2011, 334, or 91%, had initial assessments complete prior to September 30, 2010. This is a slightly lower proportion than those who had completed initial assessments during the last reporting period (97%) per data downloaded in October of 2010. One explanation for this drop may be that a number of new families were entered into the data system indicated as referred during that first reporting period, likely due to ‘back entry’ of data by at least some programs. Because initial assessment dates are system generated (recorded as the date when data entry is complete for an initial assessment rather than the date the initial assessment was actually completed with the family) those ‘back entered’ families’ initial assessment completions fell largely into the new reporting period (Oct 2010 to Feb 2011). Therefore we have decided to not report proportions of initial assessments for the reporting periods, instead reporting only the cumulative proportion.

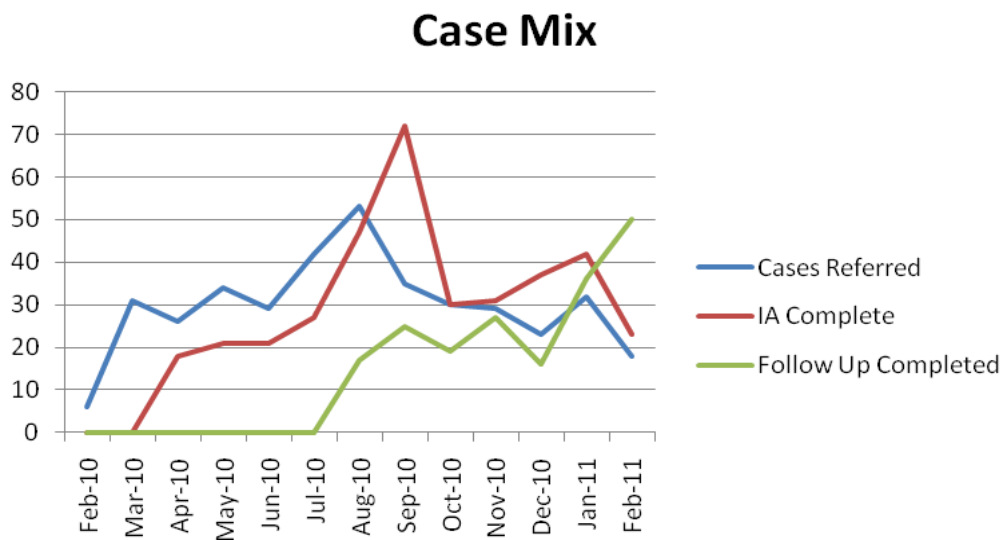
	Feb 2010 – Sept 2010, updated	Oct 2010 – Feb 2011	Cumulative Feb 2010 – Feb 2011	
	Number	Number	Number	Percent
Caregivers/families with initial assessments complete	206	163	334	91%
Caregivers/families referred to the KN programs	256	132	369	100%

More about Initial Assessments: Completion of initial assessment also requires Kinship Navigator staff spending sufficient amount of time working with kinship families to collect basic information, and to complete a service needs checklist and resource scale. It is also important to note that the date of initial assessment completion is system generated; therefore it may be a greater marker of time to data entry completion than actual initial assessment completion in some cases. Given these factors, time required to complete initial assessment following referral

to the KN program varies; ranging from zero to 351 days, with a mean of 46 days (standard deviation of 61 days).

Family Follow Ups: The KN programs began conducting follow ups with eligible families (those who had been working with the KNs for at least six months, had closed cases, or otherwise no longer needed the assistance of the KN, as indicated by a stoppage of contact) in August of 2010. The follow up process is two-fold; the KN staff complete an update on the family’s information in KIDS and families are asked to complete a brief survey that includes questions about their satisfaction, subjective well-being, and the Family Resource Scale utilized at initial assessment. As of the end of February follow ups were complete in KIDS for 190 kinship families, representing 322 kinship children. As of early March the evaluation team had received surveys that matched up to those follow up records 62 families.

We have included a line graph below that helps illustrate the trends we see in caseloads with regard to referral and initial assessment completion as well as follow up work.



B. Number & percent of caregivers completing service/case plans: Ohio Kinship Navigator project is not completing case plans for all families served by the KN program, and we are not collecting information any case plans for our evaluation.

C. Number of kinship caregiver contacts per caregiver: A total of 1532 contacts were recorded for 173 kinship families who had complete follow up records as of the end of February 2011 (the remaining 17 families who had complete follow ups had no recorded contact history). As it was not required that EVERY contact for each family is entered into KIDS we cannot be sure of total number of contacts that actually occurred with each kinship family, though an average of between 8 and 9 contacts per family were recorded. The evaluation team hopes to further explore this data element in conjunction with the length of time between referral to the KN

program, initial assessment, and follow up activities; such data, if found useful, will be included in our final evaluation report.

- D. Length of time kinship caregiver receives services from kinship navigator (i.e, # days, weeks, etc):** Most Kinship Navigator cases do not have a formal closure, therefore lacking an ‘end’ point for contact. Following up with families for evaluation post-testing is driven in part by time, and therefore does not make a good ‘end’ point for this measure. At this time, we cannot measure length of time kinship caregiver receives services. It is possible that we could provide similar data in the future using SACWIS for only those children/families who are formally involved with the child welfare system. The evaluation team will also explore the lengths of time between the major case activities – referral to Kinship Navigator, initial assessment, and case completion and/or family follow up.
- E. Mode of Kinship Navigator Contact with Caregiver:** The evaluation team previously reported on the number and mode of contacts only between referral to the Kinship Navigator program and the point at which the initial assessment is complete. For this report we are able to begin using those cases with complete follow up records to examine contact history. As noted previously, not required that EVERY contact for each family is entered into KIDS we cannot be sure of total number of contacts made, and as the time of involvement for each family varies greatly, we cannot present proportions for these types of contact out of any total, but do present frequencies of types of visits in Table 6.2.

Table 6.2: Number of Types of Contacts between Kinship Navigator and Kinship Caregiver for Families with Follow Up Complete (n = 179)	
Home Visit	342
Office Visit	271
Telephone Contact	687
Advocacy on Behalf of KCG	83
Other	149
Total	1532

- E. Type of service provided by Kinship Navigator to Kinship Caregiver & G. Number & Types of Services/Supports Caregivers are linked to:** We are not planning to analyze data on services provided, linked to, or referred to, but rather on change in need over time. Table 6.3 shows caregiver need at the time of initial assessment. As families can have more than one need, they may be represented in more than one need category. Therefore, the numbers of service needs will not add up to the total number of families. The % of total columns are calculated per service, utilizing the total number of families. It is important to note that families may be ineligible for a service, or the service deemed otherwise not applicable; the figures below do not account for the proportion of families who don’t need a service because it is determined to be (and recorded as) N/A or ineligible. The evaluation team will more closely examine services

needs in relation to this and other factors (including change in need between initial assessment and follow up) in our final evaluation report. Updated proportions for the first reporting period are close to those reported in the October 2010 semi-annual report, most shifts were seen as an increased need for services. For example, Children Services was previously 50%, Short-term Assistance was previously reported as 13%, and Medicare was previously 30%.

Table 6.3: Type of Service NEEDS for Kinship Families at Initial Assessment

	Feb - Sept 2010 (updated)		Oct 2010 – Feb 2011		Cumulative Feb 2010 – Feb 2011	
	Number	% of Total	Number	% of Total	Number	% of Total
Children Services	126	55%	58	55%	184	55%
KPI	75	33%	30	29%	105	31%
Job and Family Services	184	80%	94	90%	278	83%
Financial/ Cash Assistance	164	72%	77	73%	241	72%
Employment Assistance	34	15%	10	10%	44	13%
Food Stamps	127	56%	51	49%	178	54%
Short-term Assistance	44	19%	14	13%	58	17%
Medicaid/ Healthy Start	176	77%	93	87%	269	81%
Medicare	84	37%	22	21%	106	32%
Child Support	45	20%	20	19%	65	20%
Area Agency on Aging	12	5%	6	6%	18	5%
Family and Children First Council	10	4%	3	3%	13	4%
Juvenile Court	48	21%	28	27%	76	23%
Caregiver Behavioral Health (MH/SA)	15	7%	4	4%	19	6%
Child Behavioral Health (MH/SA)	66	29%	28	27%	94	28%
Special Need Services (MR/DD)	17	7%	3	3%	20	6%
Benefit Bank	48	21%	16	15%	64	19%
Clothing	112	49%	46	44%	158	47%
Child Care	34	15%	20	19%	54	16%
Domestic Violence	2	1%	1	1%	3	1%
Early Intervention	14	6%	6	6%	20	6%
Education (MFE, IEP, Tutoring)	42	18%	16	15%	58	17%
Food (Pantry or site)	111	49%	48	46%	159	48%
Help Me Grow	19	8%	9	9%	28	8%
I&R 211 hotline	63	28%	32	31%	95	28%
Medical Care – caregiver	117	51%	68	65%	185	55%
Medical Care - child	142	62%	81	77%	223	67%
Legal Assistance/ Custody	132	58%	77	73%	209	63%

Table 6.3: Type of Service NEEDS for Kinship Families at Initial Assessment cont.						
	Feb - Sept 2010 (updated)		Oct 2010 – Feb 2011		Cumulative Feb 2010 – Feb 2011	
	Ombudsman	2	1%	1	1%	3
Recreation	27	12%	9	9%	36	11%
Respite	12	5%	4	4%	16	5%
Shelter/ Housing	58	25%	26	25%	84	25%
Support Groups	113	49%	49	47%	162	49%
Transportation	20	9%	14	13%	34	10%
Utilities	46	20%	18	17%	64	19%
Veteran Services	1	< 1%	1	1%	2	1%
Other	4	2%	5	5%	9	3%
Number of Kinship Families	229*	100%	105	100%	334	100%

H. Number & Percent of Kinship Caregivers completing applications for kinship guardianship assistance payments: We are not collecting this information for evaluation.

System Level:

The following section provides data on system/ program level activities. The timeframe for this data will vary from that of the case-level data above. Most counties began using the system/ program level sections of KIDS in March of 2010, so we are only able to report from March 2010 forward at this time. It is important to note that as with all other data included in this report, these findings are preliminary.

A. Number of outreach activities conducted: Table 6.4 shows outreach activities by activity type for all seven project sites. The most common activities were meetings and distributing written materials (most likely brochures and newsletters). When possible, the type of meeting was described. Most meetings were with community providers, sharing information about the Kinship Navigator program. Meetings and their result will be explored in further detail in the future. Activities categorized as other include notes providing additional information such as trainings, social events, distribution of fliers, emails, and other informational events. The updated figures provided for the first reporting period show that some additional efforts were entered for this period since the last semi-annual report. These figures also show a marked decrease in the number of press releases and meetings for that first reporting period– this is due primarily to cleaning efforts and correction of an error in the previous semi-annual report.

	Feb - Sept 2010, updated		Oct 2010 – Feb 2011		Cumulative (Feb 2010 – Feb 2011)	
	Number	% of Total	Number	% of Total	Number	% of Total
Phone call	15	7%	5	6%	20	71%
Presentation	26	13%	11	14%	37	13%
Written material distributed (such as newsletter, etc.)	55	27%	13	16%	68	24%
Press release or other advertisement	16	8%	13	16%	29	10%
Meeting	68	33%	20	25%	88	31%
Other	23	11%	18	23%	41	14%
Total	203	100%	80	100%	283	100%

Table 6.5 shows the number of outreach activities conducted by the main result of the activity for each activity (all seven counties are included in this data as well). This table illustrates the focus of the Kinship Navigator programs' outreach activities during the initial period – promotion of the program and a general slowing of outreach activities during the second period (though there are fewer months included in the second period). As the main result of activity was not a required data element in KIDS, we are missing this information for 9 of the activities included in Table 6.4, and therefore do not present proportions of main results. However, the evaluation team does hope to explore the mix of activity type and main result of activity further in the future and if possible will include any findings in future reports. Changes in the first reporting period figures are mostly reflecting addition of activities by the KNs during that period, data clean up, and correction of an error from the previous semi-annual report.

	March - Sept 2010, updated	Oct 2010 – Feb 2011	Cumulative (Feb 2010 – Feb 2011)
	Number	Number	Number
Promotion of KN program	120	45	165
Provision of information/ technical assistance	11	4	15
Advocating for kinship caregiving community	4	4	8
Collaborating with other community partners to develop / enhance services for kinship families	59	21	80
Other	9	6	15
Total outreach activities which this data is available	194	80	274
Total outreach activities	203	80	283

B. Estimated Number of Individuals reached through Outreach Activities: The following table includes the mean number of individuals reached through the outreach activities described above. This data element is not required for every outreach activity, but was available for 196 of the 283 efforts recorded. It is important to note that ranges and standard deviations were very wide for each of these outreach activity types and that total number of individuals reached is not provided because it is not possible to account for possible duplication of individuals reached.

	Mean	Range
Phone Calls (n = 16)	3	1 – 20
Presentation (n = 37)	24	3 – 150
Written Material Distributed (n = 29)	105	1 – 1000
Meeting (n = 84)	14	1 – 200
Other (n =30)	45	1 – 200

C. Number and purpose of incoming calls to kinship caregiver information line: Six of the seven KN programs recorded a total of 370 non-case management I&R calls from March 2010 to January 2011. Increases are seen for the figures from the first reporting period due to inclusion of one county’s data that was not previously included following some clean up and correction efforts.

	First Report Period March 2010 – Sept 2010 (updated)	Current Report Period (Oct 2010 – Feb 2011)	Cumulative (March 2010 – Feb 2011)
Total # of I&R calls fielded by KN programs (non case management families)	215	155	370
Range of # of I&R calls fielded by each county per month	0 – 14	2 – 23	0 – 23
Average # of I&R calls fielded by each county per month	> 5 *	>7 **	> 6

*Standard deviation 3.6

**Standard deviation 4.5

Some Kinship Navigators also were able to record where the kinship caregiver was referred from, and what information was provided to the kinship caregiver during the call, for some calls. This information is provided in Tables 6.8 and 6.9. Because we cannot match this information up at the call level, and information could be missing for some calls while other calls could have multiple

referral sources or types of information provided, we do not present percentages of a total. Data is available from six of the seven counties for these tables (6.8 & 6.9).

Table 6.8: Non Case Management I&R calls handled by Kinship Navigator: Referral Sources			
	First Report Period: March 2010 – Sept 2010 (updated)	Current Report Period: Oct 2010 – Feb 2011	Cumulative: March 2010 – Feb 2011
PCSA	45	52	97
Office on Aging	1	0	1
211/I&R	4	4	8
Court System	3	12	15
DJFS	31	11	42
Other KCG	11	11	22
Family Council/FCFC or equivalent	1	4	5
Church/Faith Based Org.	4	0	4
School/Education Provider	11	4	15
Other Community Provider	17	15	32
Other Word of Mouth	25	5	30
PR/Advertising/Publicity	12	0	12
Other	12	5	17

Table 6.9: Non Case Management I&R calls handled by Kinship Navigator: Information Provided to Caller			
	First Report Period March 2010 – Sept 2010 (updated)	Current Report Period Oct 2010 – Feb 2011	Cumulative March 2010 – Feb 2011
Becoming a Kinship Caregiver	34	33	67
Grandparents Rights	36	21	57
Other Legal Services	51	26	77
Financial Supports (including OWF)	44	17	61
Medical	13	6	19
Shelter/Housing Services	6	3	9
Food/Clothing/Other Basic Need	38	32	70
Utilities Assistance	6	18	24

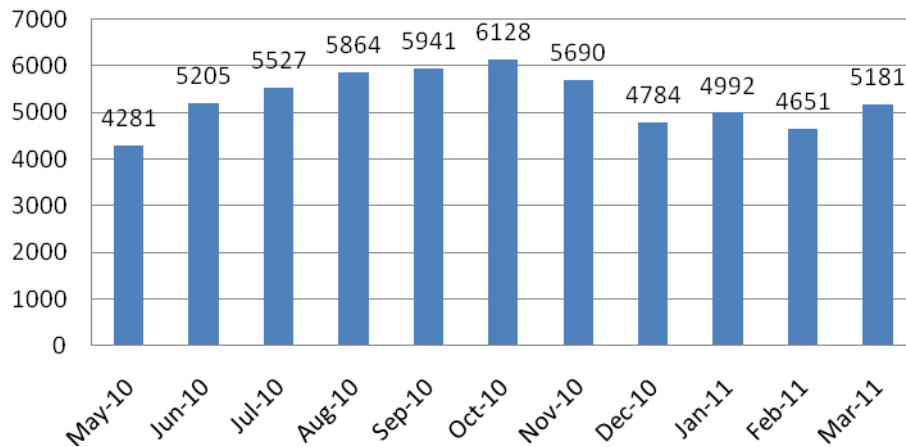
Table 6.9: Non Case Management I&R calls handled by Kinship Navigator: Information Provided to Caller cont.			
	First Report Period March 2010 – Sept 2010 (updated)	Current Report Period Oct 2010 – Feb 2011	Cumulative March 2010 – Feb 2011
Childcare	5	4	9
Respite	1	0	1
Visitation	2	2	4
Support Groups/Counseling	34	17	51
School/Education	10	8	18
Other Community Provider Services/ Contact Info	33	19	52
Other Resources	11	9	20

Additional data collection regarding Information & Referrals: Beginning in May, some of the Kinship Navigator program sites have also been able to collect tallies from their local centralized I&R provider (typically a 211 provider). This data is not entered into KIDS but rather provided monthly by the project sites to the evaluator. The table below provides a summary of the information collected so far:

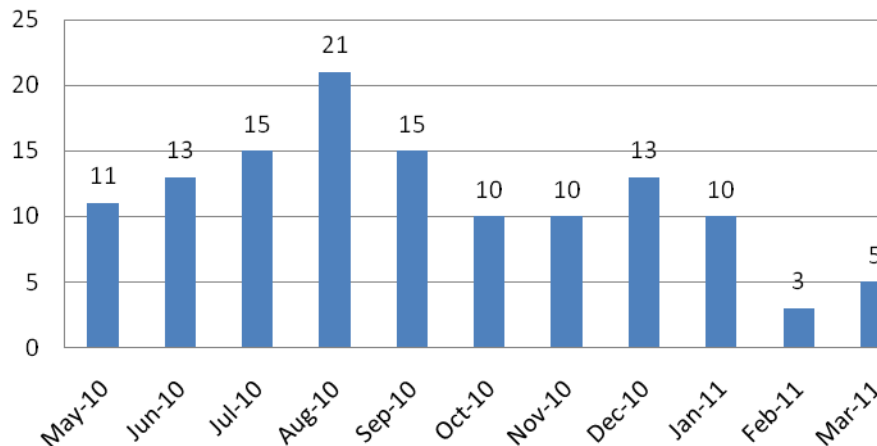
Table 6.10: Local 211 Calls Received & Referrals made to KN Programs						
	May – September 2010		October 2010 – March 2011		Cumulative May 2010 to March 2011	
	Total # of I&R calls	Total # of callers referred to KN per 211	Total # of I&R calls	Total # of callers referred to KN per 211	Total # of I&R calls	Total # of callers referred to KN per 211
Ashtabula	7891	36	9196	25	24978	61
Lorain	5181	7	5071	5	15433	12
Portage	8292	22	11162	9	27746	31
Richland	5454	10	5997	12	16905	22
Total	26818	75	31426	55	85062	130

These four counties state that they been somewhat challenged in working the 211 providers in their counties; a small number of kinship caregivers have been referred from the 211s but not as many as the project sites had anticipated. The Kinship Navigator staff did work to put together a protocol for screening and referral for kinship caregivers to the Kinship Navigator that they shared with their 211s in individual meetings and in some cases informal training sessions, but in some counties this does not seem to have as large an affect as expected. One other county has collected data from their local 211 but updated data was not available for the current period; we hope to include them in the next semi-annual report and will update all figures at that point. Charts follow that illustrate the patterns of calls and referrals over time.

Number of Calls at Local I&R Providers



Local I&R Provider Referrals to KN (211 reported)



- D. Number of visits to kinship caregiver website:** We are not collecting this information for evaluation.
- E. Number of resource directories distributed:** We are not collecting this information for evaluation.
- F. Number of community partners engaged in partnerships:** We hope to include more qualitative information about this in future reports.
- G. Number of trainings/informational sessions conducted with community partners/service providers:** We are not collecting this information for evaluation, but may be able to include qualitative information about this in future reports.

H. Number of individuals attending trainings/ informational sessions conducted with community providers: We are not collecting this information for evaluation.

7. Other Process Results

A. Services for Kinship Caregiving Population: Outputs

The Kinship Navigator project sites also enter data into KIDS regarding non-case-level (or non-case-specific) services they provide directly to the kinship caregiver population such as support groups and social events. The Table below provides an overview of the types and numbers of activities recorded. The meetings category includes some local advisory group activities and Family and Children First Council meeting (a collaborative group of public and private agencies that meet regularly to discuss multi-system human services cases and issues) as well as development meetings regarding support groups. The other category includes gatherings to distribute donated goods, newsletter mailings, and monthly food bank activities.

	Feb – Sept 2010	Oct 2010 – Feb 2011	Cumulative (Feb 2010 – Feb 2011)
	Number	Number	Number
Support Groups	57	30	87
Social Events	4	6	10
Training or Skill Building for KCGs	7	5	12
Legal Services	14	1	15
Meetings	10	3	13
Other	21	19	40
Total Recorded Activities	113	64	177

Support Groups: During the first year of the project, development of new support groups or enhancement of existing support groups was a major system level focus (along with outreach efforts) for all seven Kinship Navigator sites. The 80 support groups held between the beginning of February 2010 and the end of February 2011 had between zero (likely meetings recorded but canceled due to weather, etc) and 64 attendees; the mean number of attendees was 12 across all counties and support groups.

Training and Skill Building for Kinship Caregivers: Four of the seven project sites recorded a total of 12 training and skill building service activities for kinship caregivers between the beginning of February 2010 and the end of February 2011; reaching between 1 and 45 attendees for each such event (mean = 15 attendees).

More information about these activities will be provided in the implementation and outputs analysis underway currently and will be reported in the future (and included in the final evaluation report).

B. Follow Up Data on Children and Kinship Families: The evaluation team is just beginning to explore the follow up data now that it is available for enough cases to warrant analysis; 190 families have complete follow up records in KIDS and we have received 62 family surveys that match up to those complete follow up records as of early March 2011. We anticipate including much more information in our next semi-annual report, and plan to provide some preliminary data to the Kinship Navigator program staff at an in-person meeting in mid-May. This section includes just a few items we've explored so far – each of these will be incorporated into a fuller analysis for our final evaluation report.

Kinship Worker Perspective Regarding Family Needs: Kinship Navigators indicated that as of follow up they were able to meet overall service needs for kinship families in 87% of cases (165 of 190). Kinship Navigators further indicated that they felt able meet families' service needs 'somewhat' in all but one of the remaining cases. Table 7.2 illustrates reasons given for not being able to meet families' by follow-up. Other included loss of contact with the family, severe needs of kinship child, and kinship caregiver conflict with KN staff. This will eventually be analyzed in conjunction with the service needs data gathered at initial assessment (see Table 6.3) and again in follow up.

Table 7.2: Reasons for Difficulty Meeting Kinship Families Needs	
	Number Cases
Community Lacked Resources	1
Eligibility	10
Unable to Engage Families	2
KN Resource Limitations	7
Other	5
Total	25

Kinship Family Survey Results: The Kinship Family Surveys include a series of questions asking about the caregivers' perspective on family well-being, their satisfaction with the KN program and staff, and their feelings about the KN program's impact on their ability to provide long term or permanent care for the kinship children in their home. Most questions are answered with either a 'yes', 'somewhat' or 'no'. Table 7.3 provides the answers to some of these questions so far. The evaluation team will be exploring these in conjunction with other outcomes and process variables and will include those findings in our final report.

Table 7.3: Family Survey Responses (n = 62*)			
	Yes	Somewhat	No
<i>Did you feel better after talking to the Kinship Navigator?</i>	94%	5%	2%
<i>Did the Kinship Navigator help you to get what you needed?</i>	82%	11%	7%
<i>Did the Kinship Navigator make being a kinship caregiver easier?</i>	86%	8%	3%
<i>Did the Kinship Navigator help the child(ren) be able to live with you permanently?</i>	55%	3%	32%
<i>Overall, do you feel better able to care for the child(ren)?</i>	92%	5%	1%
<i>Overall, do you feel your family is healthier now?</i>	82%	11%	3%
<i>Overall, do you feel your family is happier now?</i>	81%	11%	3%
<i>Overall, are you satisfied with the help you got from the Kinship Navigator?</i>	92%	5%	3%

*Answers are missing for some questions on some surveys but answer proportions are calculated out of the total surveys received.

OUTCOME EVALUATION

We are not able to present any formal outcome results at this point. We plan to include preliminary results on outcomes that apply to our program (and our data collection currently in place) for the semi-annual report due October 2011. Some of this data will come from KIDS and some will require merging that data with SACWIS data; the evaluation team expects to receive the first SACWIS file in the fall of 2011.

DISCUSSION

Process Evaluation:

System/Program Activity:

The Kinship Navigator sites continue to show evidence of high levels of activity at the system/program level (non-case-specific). From March 2010 through February 2011, the seven sites documented 283 outreach activities, including distribution of written material, meetings with community providers, and other efforts. In addition to their promotion of the KN programs ('getting the word' out) that was an emphasis in the first reporting period, they have also devoted energy to working with other community providers to build or enhance services available to kinship caregivers.

Six of the seven Kinship Navigator sites have also fielded 370 information & referral phone calls since March of 2010, separate of their case management caseloads. The five counties with active local I&R provider agencies (211s) have been challenged in working with those providers – a small number of kinship caregivers have been referred from the 211s (see Table 6.10) but not as many as the project sites had anticipated; these referrals have tapered off a bit even since the first reporting period, perhaps indicating that this collaboration has not truly developed into a long-lasting relationship.



The KN sites also documented 117 non-case level services provided to kinship caregivers as a whole between February 2010 and February 2011; this includes 80 support group meetings, as well as social events, trainings, etc. Support group development, promotion, and maintenance has been a larger focus of the project sites that originally anticipated; all seven sites are documenting support group activity and it is a regular topic at the quarterly in-person meetings for the project participants. The implementation and outputs analysis will explore the topic of site visits further seeking to understand the details of the support group meetings themselves (how they are facilitated, where they are held, what supports are provided to kin to encourage attendance, such as child care, etc) as well as lessons learned by the KN sites with regard to these activities.

Case Management Activity: When taking into consideration the estimates of case totals provide for the first semi-annual report (400 cases between September 30 and March 30, 2010), and the cases analyzed for this report (334), the project sites have met their goal of serving 500 case management families annually. While it is far too early to draw any conclusions from the data explored thus far, some interesting trends are apparent, most of which have remained very stable since the last reporting period. The following is a summary of some of the cumulative findings on case management families:

- The primary kinship caregivers included in our analysis are on average 47 years old, but range from 19 – 76 years old. They are mostly female (92%), mostly white (77%), and most have a high school education or better (approximately 85%). They have come to the Kinship Navigator program through referrals from a number of referral sources, but most often Children Services (59%).
- The kinship families in the Kinship Navigator caseload have between zero and ten children in the home at the time of initial assessment, including between zero³ and six kinship children. Most have one or two kinship children in the home (83%, mean = < 2).
- Kinship children are on average seven years old, but range from less than 1 year to 19 years of age. They are about half male and half female. They are also mostly White, though represent a more diverse racial mix than do the primary kinship caregivers; 20% of the kinship children are Black, 8% are Multiracial, and 5% Hispanic. Most of the children, 68%, were previously or are currently involved in the child welfare system.
- Most of the kinship children are related to their primary kinship caregiver on the maternal side. Many caregivers are grandparents (58% at child-level), or aunts & uncles (21% at child-level).
- Children most often came into kinship care due to abandonment, parent incarceration, or parent substance abuse/treatment (54% all together).
- As of initial assessment, children had a mix of legal statuses with their kinship caregiver; 28% were in legal custody/guardianship, 21% in temporary custody of kin, and 22% are listed as having 'no' legal status. In most cases, the long-term care giving plans for the kinship children are to stay with the kinship caregiver; the 27% of those in legal custody/guardianship will stay there, and 40% more seek to gain legal custody or guardianship. Twenty-one percent plan to work towards reunification.
- Service needs are varied, but most common are: Job & Family Services (83% of 334 families), Medicaid/ Healthy Start (81%), and Financial/Cash Assistance (72%). There does appear to be

³ Families with zero kinship children in the home are likely preparing for a child or children to enter their home.

fluctuation between the two reporting periods with regards to the types of services needs at the case level; some on the rise and others declining. Four service types saw a rise of 10% or more between the first and second reporting period – Children Services (up 10%), Medicaid/Healthy Start (up 10%), Medical Care for the caregiver(s) and child(ren) (up 14% and 15% respectively), and Legal Assistance (up 15%).

- Caution should be used in drawing conclusions regarding these trends in part because the number of cases included in each period (based on their referral date) is quite different - 229 in the first period and only 105 in the second.
- At the time of follow up, Kinship workers are quite confident that they've been able to meet kinship families' needs regarding services; in 87% of cases they felt fully able to do so and felt 'somewhat' able to do so in all but one remaining case. The evaluation team will explore in service needs in greater detail in future reports, especially with regards to changes in specific documented needs between initial assessment and follow up.
- Data collection regarding follow up with families has greatly increased in this reporting period, in part because this process was implemented late in the first reporting period. Follow up data has been entered in KIDS on 190 families and the evaluation team has been able to match 62 family surveys received with those records. Family survey results regarding kinship caregiver perspectives on family well-being, their satisfaction with the KN program and staff, and similar topics indicate that the respondents think highly of the KN programs and staff. Questions regarding the KN's impact on the kinship caregiver's ability to care for a child for longer or more permanently score the lowest, with many caregivers indicating via comments that they either already considered the placement permanent or that they would have cared for the child regardless of the KN program's supports.

In many ways the evaluation team has only begun to explore the primary data collected thus far; much more exploratory work will be done in the remaining 18 months of the project, and rigorous analysis centered on our research questions and hypotheses will be included in the final evaluation report. Throughout the project period we will discuss preliminary findings with the Kinship Navigator sites to better understand and guide our analysis of the data. Outcomes analysis will be included in our final evaluation report; though we hope to begin exploring outcomes data (collected via SACWIS) in the fall of this year we don't anticipate enough cases or time will have accumulated to complete full analyses at that time.