

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, Clark, Crawford, Hardin, Lorain, Portage, & Richland

Reporting Period: October 1, 2011 to March 31, 2012¹

EVALUATION PROGRESS AND MODIFICATIONS

- 1. Evaluation Activities and Planning:** During this reporting period, the evaluation team:
 - a. Finalized “Ohio’s Fostering Connections Grant: Enhanced Kinship Navigator Project Implementation Report”, highlighting activities that occurred during the implementation period of this grant; this report includes data collected via site visits, implementation reports, and the Kinship Informational Data System (KIDS). A copy of this report is available upon request and is available at <http://www.kinshipohio.org/Resources/2012/KinshipNavImplmntReportJan2012.pdf>.
 - b. Developed a site visit guide for visits to each of the Kinship Navigator (KN) counties in the Spring of 2012. The first set of site visits were scheduled and coordinated during this reporting period, and are to be conducted in May 2012.
 - c. Began the process of receiving the administrative outcomes data file and will continue to analyze this data during the next six months.
 - d. Attended two in-person quarterly meetings with each county’s KN Project leaders and the Executive Director of the Public Children Services Association of Ohio.

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 section 3.1 of the project proposal (p 48).

Evaluation Questions:

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

¹ Data included in this report was collected through February 2012.

NOTE: Text in bold shade indicates modifications that have been made in this semi-annual report.
Other modifications/explanations were included in previously submitted semi-annual reports.

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?	Does the KN program help to increase both the amount and accessibility of resources available to kinship caregivers (KCGs) in intervention counties?	While we will be able to explore changes in the availability of resources for kinship caregivers, through analysis of case-level data on services provided to caregivers and change in perception of family need; we will not have parallel information from the control counties.
b. Do community organizations that serve KCGs in demonstration counties have stronger relationships than organizations in control counties?	Do community organizations that serve KCGs in intervention counties build stronger relationships over the course of the grant period?	Same as above; control counties will only be possible using qualitative data gathered through telephone and site visit interviews.
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 the original question. Therefore, we will examine rates of formal placements in intervention counties v. control counties.
e. Does the KN program make it more likely that current KCGs will remain committed to caring for children?	None at this time.	

Outcome Questions (continued)		
Original	Modification	Explanation
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 the State Automated Child Welfare Information System (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 control 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 vs. 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 out-of-home 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 KCGs 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 used in the exploration of the 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 section 3.1 of the project proposal (p 48) for more information about the evaluation design.

4. Evaluation Participants: There have been no major changes in the participants the project proposes to measure. While we do not anticipate any major changes in the population to be explored in the outcomes analysis, the evaluation team is currently in the initial stages of analyzing the administrative data file from the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) – the primary source of data on child outcomes. Further exploration of this file 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	Analyzed in conjunction with 2010 site visit data, this information was shared with project sites in February 2011 and is included in the finalized Kinship Navigator Implementation Report.
211 data	Data collection began in five counties beginning in May 2010.	Some counties have had a difficult time getting this data, but the evaluation team is continuing to collect it as available. Data from four counties is included in this report, due to missing data from one county. The evaluation team hopes to be able to include all five counties' data in the final KN evaluation report. See table 6.10 for preliminary findings regarding 211 data.
Site visits and Telephone Interviews	Completed summer 2010 site visits for KN and control sites; telephone interview with project managers in late 2010; planning for final site visits/telephone interviews in spring/summer of 2012.	The evaluation team is finalizing the site visit guide and scheduling site visits in KN counties in the upcoming month, with telephone interviews planned in the seven control counties.
Kinship Informational Data System (KIDS), including family follow-up	Began using in March 2010, data from families referred in February 2010 forward. Family follow-up began in August 2010. The first family survey was received by the evaluation team on September 1.	The evaluation team has continued to provide training and technical assistance to KN programs that have experienced staff turnover and address questions regarding KIDS as they arise.
Time study	Collected in September/October 2010; will next collect in mid-2012	Preliminary findings from 2010 are included in the October 2010 semi-annual report.
System Analysis	Completed data collection in April 2011. Data was collected via surveys with KNs, Local Advisory Group members, and community providers in each project county	Findings were shared with project sites in the summer of 2012.

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 determined that it is unnecessary to complete full site visits in 2011; rather, a final set of site visits will be conducted in 2012, and will include focus groups or interviews with kinship caregivers, and as well as interviews with child welfare staff. Corresponding telephone interviews will be conducted in the spring and summer of 2012 to all seven control sites.
- **System Analysis:** Surveys were completed by KNs, Local Advisory Group members, and community providers (identified during the 2010 site visits) in the KN counties. These surveys included 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 KN programs. The purpose of this effort was to explore relationships between the KN programs and other community organizations with regard to support for kinship families. Survey data was used to complete a social network analysis for each of the project sites. While the intent was to conduct a second round of system network surveys, this activity is under current consideration: we have concerns about the level of effort required to administer this survey, and the ability to obtain responses from individuals who responded to the first round of the survey. At this point it is uncertain if a second round of the system-level survey will be completed.

Secondary Data Sources: As noted in #4 above, the evaluation team has now received the administrative SACWIS data file from ODJFS – the primary source of data on child outcomes; we are in the beginning stages of the analysis of this data. Upon further review of this file, the evaluation team may need to modify the proposed plan regarding our target population, as well as outcomes of interest.

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:** Our primary focus for the upcoming months will be to begin the analysis of the administrative data set, as well as continue to examine KIDS data and conduct site visits and telephone interviews in all counties involved in this evaluation.
8. **Reporting and Dissemination:** The evaluation team completed the first four semi-annual reports on time, submitting them in April and October of 2010 and 2011. 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; additional county-level findings have been 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). The evaluation team has finalized the Kinship Navigator Implementation Report² on activities that occurred during the implementation period of this grant; this report includes data collected via site visits, implementation reports, and KIDS. We have also finalized a Mid-Grant Brief; this document is available at <http://www.kinshipohio.org/Resources/2011/KinshipMidGrant15Nov2011.pdf>.

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 KIDS are defined by a family unit, with a primary kinship caregiver designated to provide demographic information on caregivers and children, as well as 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. It 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 qualitative data. Project sites are as follows; Ashtabula Children Services, Clark Department of Job & Family Services, Crawford Children Services, Hardin Department of Job & Family Services, Lorain Office on Aging, Portage Family and Community Services (contracted by Children Services), and Richland Department of Regional Community Advancement (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 KNs themselves. At this time, approximately 25 individuals work on some aspect of the Kinship Navigator project in the seven project sites, including managers, supervisors, KNs, and data entry staff. Of these 25, approximately 15 are KNs. KN staff time and roles vary – some staff are dedicated to specific functions while others take on all tasks and some are full time while others are part time.

² This report is available on PCSAO website- link is included above.

2. Number of Participants Served

Timeframe	Case Managed Kinship Caregivers/ Families, referred after Feb 1, 2010	Case Management Involved Kinship Children
February 1 2010 to September 30, 2010, updated	Cases referred this period: 254	Referred this period: 424 children
	Cases referred and with initial assessment (IA) complete this period: 206	
	Cases referred and with IA complete, and consenting: 188	With IA complete, consenting: 322 children
	Follow-up completed (all cases): 42	
October 1, 2010 to February 28, 2011, updated (for reporting period through March 2011)	Cases referred this period: 141	Referred this period: 210 children
	Cases with initial assessment (IA) complete this period: 160	
	Cases referred and with IA complete, consenting: 142	With IA complete, consenting: 219 children
	Follow-up completed (all cases): 148	
Mar 1, 2011 to Aug 31, 2011, updated (for reporting period through Sep 2011)	Cases referred this period: 286	Referred this period: 463 children
	Cases with initial assessment (IA) complete this period: 275	
	Cases referred and with IA complete, and consenting: 252	With IA complete, consenting: 407 children
	Follow-up completed (all cases): 155	
Sept 1, 2011 to Feb 29, 2012 (for reporting period through March 20112)	Cases referred this period: 232	Referred this period: 367 children
	Cases with initial assessment (IA) complete this period: 251	
	Cases referred and with IA complete, and consenting: 243	With IA complete, consenting: 388 children
	Follow-up completed (all cases): 221	
Total to date: February 2010 to February 29, 2012	Cases referred: 913	Total children referred: 1,464
	With initial assessment (IA) complete: 892	
	With IA complete, consenting: 825	IA complete, consenting: 1,336 children
	Follow-up completed (all cases): 566	
	Ongoing Cases (all cases): 541	Kinship Children in Ongoing Cases: 853

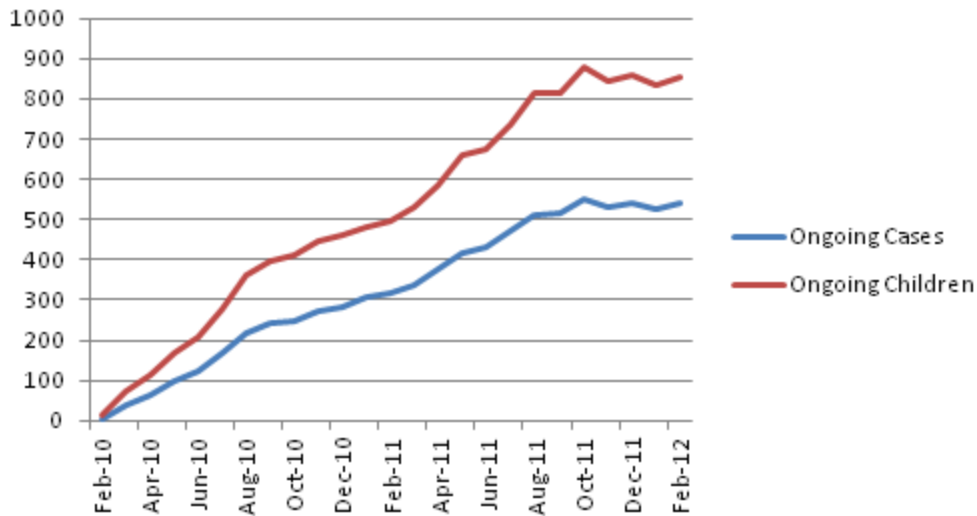
Notes regarding Participants Served & Timeline of Data:

1. The counties involved in this grant began providing services in the early 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 provide an unduplicated count to include the first few month of program implementation. All data in this report reflects the information collected in KIDS from February 1, 2010 forward.
2. In order to ensure the data download and analysis would be complete in time for this reporting deadline, the evaluation team is using the 'end data date' of February 29, 2012 for all child and family-level data included in this report.

Reporting Rationale: KNs have provided case-management services for a total of 913 families referred to the programs between February 2010 and February 2012. However, inclusion in case-level evaluation analysis requires having provided informed consent for evaluation participation and having a complete initial assessment. Of the 913 cases for which data was collected in KIDS, 825 met these criteria. Data was available for 1,336 kinship children in these 825 cases. All case-level data will only include families where the initial assessment was completed and informed consent has been obtained.

We've also added figures which demonstrate the total number of ongoing cases (families) and children that Ohio KNs are working with (although we don't report case-level data for families which have not provided consent, we are able to report the total number of cases being served). '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, or cases that closed before a follow-up was completed). 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



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 guarantee complete data cleaning; 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 KIDS on March 1, 2012. Caregiver/family and child-level data is included only if available in KIDS, if informed consent was provided, and if an initial assessment was complete for the family (n = 825 families, 1,336 children). All seven project sites contribute cases for this section.

Kinship Caregiver Level:

Information in this section is about the **primary** caregivers in the 825 cases where consent was provided and the initial assessment had been completed. 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 48 with a very large range. There were no changes in these findings since the previous semi-annual report.

Table 3.1: Primary Kinship Caregiver Age (at Date Initial Assessment Complete)	
	Cumulative Feb 2010 – Feb 2012 n = 819*
Mean*	48 years
Median	49 years
Min – Max	19 – 82 years

*Due to missing dates of birth for a small number of kinship caregivers, 819 records were used to calculate age.

B. Gender: Table 3.2 shows primary kinship caregiver gender. As demographic data was entered into KIDS for only one caregiver per case, 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 reports.

Table 3.2: Primary Kinship Caregiver Gender		
	Cumulative Feb 2010 – Feb 2012 n = 825	
	Number	Percent
Male	79	10%
Female	746	90%
Total	825	100%

C. Race/ Ethnicity: Table 3.3 shows primary kinship caregiver race. Most primary kinship caregivers are white, though some diversity is present. There is very little change in race proportions of primary kinship caregivers since the previous semi-annual reports.

	Cumulative Feb 2010 – Feb 2012 n = 825	
	Number	Percent
White	644	78%
Black	153	19%
Hispanic	19	2%
Asian/Pacific Islander	1	< 1%
American Indian/ Alaska Native	2	< 1%
Multi-Racial	5	1%
Other	1	< 1%
Total	825	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 KN program. There is little overall change in the proportions of referral sources from those provided for the previous semi-annual reports. Public Children Service Agencies (Children Services) remains the largest referral source, likely due to the close relationships between the KN and Children Services offices (four of the seven programs 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, internet searches, newspaper articles, schools, law enforcement, billboards, church, facebook, friends, etc.

	Cumulative Feb 2010 – Feb 2012 n = 825	
	Number	Percent
Children Services	464	56%
Other Kinship Caregiver	64	8%
Other Community Provider	58	7%
DJFS	40	5%
Court System	31	4%
Self/KN Advertising	61	7%
Local 211/I&R Agency	9	1%
Faith-based	0	0%
Other	98	12%
Total	825	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. The majority of caregivers (83%) have at least a high school degree. These findings present very little change from those figures provided for the last semi-annual report.

	Cumulative Feb 2010 – Feb 2012 n = 825	
	Number	Percent
Grade School	1	<1%
Middle School	30	4%
Some High School	101	12%
High School Graduate	409	50%
Technical Training	27	3%
Some College	149	18%
Associate Degree	43	5%
College Degree	57	7%
Unknown	8	1%
Total	825	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 3.13 and 3.14).

K. Primary reason for assuming care: See child-level demographics below (Table 3.15).

L. Type of kinship care arrangement: See child-level demographics below. We do 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 (Table 3.17), and on the long-term caregiving plans for the child (Table 3.16).

M. Number of children in the home: At the time of initial assessment 1,844 children (including biological or non-kinship children) were reported to be in the 825 kinship families included in this

analysis, ranging from zero³ to eleven children per family. As detailed data is only collected on children who are in the home due to a kinship placement- ‘kinship children’, we will focus on that group here, and in the child-level demographics section below. Table 3.6 provides the total number of kinship children (1,336), 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	
	Cumulative Feb 2010 – Feb 2012 (n = 825 families)
Total Number	1,336
Average per Family	< 2
Range per Family	0 - 6

N. Caregivers legal status in relation to child: See child-level demographics below (Table 3.17).

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 was provided and initial assessment has been completed (n = 1,336 children 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. There is little overall change in this data since the previous reporting periods.

Table 3.7: Primary Kinship Children Age at Date Initial Assessment Complete	
	Cumulative Feb 2010 – Feb 2012 n = 1,325*
Mean*	7 years
Median	6 years
Min – Max	< 1 year – 20 years

*Due to missing dates of birth for several children, 1,325 records were used for this analysis.

³ Families with zero children in the home at the time of initial assessment are likely preparing for a child or children to enter their home.

B. Gender: Table 3.8 shows the gender mix of kinship children – boys and girls each making up exactly half the population, matching the approximate 50/50 split seen in previous reporting periods.

Table 3.8: Gender of Kinship Children		
	Cumulative Feb 2010 – Feb 2012 n = 1,336	
	Number	Percent
Male	667	50%
Female	669	50%
Total	1,336	100%

C. Race/Ethnicity: Table 3.9 shows 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 previous reporting periods.

Table 3.9: Race of Kinship Children		
	Cumulative Feb 2010 – Feb 2012 n = 1,336	
	Number	Percent
White	902	68%
Black	235	18%
Multi-Racial	148	11%
Hispanic	38	3%
American Indian/ Alaska Native	9	1%
Asian/Pacific Islander	2	< 1%
Other	2	< 1%
Total	1,336	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 analyses 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. Analyses matching children in KIDS and SACWIS will be included only in the final evaluation report, when full outcomes analyses will be 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 KN 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 a referral to the KN program was made. Negative numbers likely indicate cases in which a kinship caregiver is preparing for the arrival of a kinship child. This data will be explored in further detail and presented in the final report.

	Cumulative Feb 2010 – Feb 2012 n = 1,319*
Mean	610
Median	109
Range	-299 to 6,813 days (18.6 years)

* Due to missing data for several children, 1,319 records were used to calculate time between kinship placement start to referral date.

F. Current Involvement with Child Welfare Agency: KIDS collects information about children’s current and previous involvement with child welfare. Table 3.11 shows the number and percent of child welfare involvement at the time of initial assessment completion. Table 3.12 shows the number and percentage of child welfare involvement prior to initial assessment completion. The percentage of child-welfare involved children (both current and previous) has steadily increased over each reporting period (in Oct. 2010 41% of children were recorded as having ‘current’ involvement and 57% of children were recorded as having ‘prior’ child-welfare involvement).

	Cumulative Feb 2010 – Feb 2012 n = 1,336	
	Number	Percent
Involved	763	57%
Not involved	476	36%
Unknown	97	7%
Total	1,336	100%

Table 3.12: Involvement of Children with Child Welfare Agency Prior to Initial Assessment		
	Cumulative Feb 2010 – Feb 2012 n = 1,336	
	Number	Percent
Involved	853	64%
Not involved	290	22%
Unknown	193	14%
Total	1,336	100%

When involvement is unduplicated, we find that 1,025 children, or 77% of the 1,336 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 have been provided for 97% of the children who have documented current or prior involvement with a public child welfare agency as of the follow-up period. The evaluation team has just received the SACWIS files which will be used for the outcomes analysis work and presented in the final evaluation report.

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 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: Tables 3.13 & 3.14 provide information about the child/primary kinship caregiver relationship. Table 3.13 shows the proportion of maternal and paternal relationships between the primary kinship caregiver and child (‘Not applicable’ includes non-relative placements, particularly with family friends) and Table 3.14 demonstrates the mix of caregiver/children relationships.

Table 3.13: Relationship of Kinship Children with Primary Kinship Caregiver		
	Cumulative Feb 2010 – Feb 2012 n = 1,336	
	Number	Percent
Maternal	832	62%
Paternal	380	28%
Not Applicable	124	9%
Total	1,336	100%

Table 3.14: Relationship of Primary Kinship Caregiver with Kinship Children		
	Cumulative Feb 2010 – Feb 2012 n = 1,336	
	Number	Percent
Aunt/Uncle	211	16%
Cousin	40	3%
Godparent	8	1%
Grandparent	822	62%
Great Aunt/Uncle	42	3%
Great Grandparent	52	4%
Half-Sibling	5	< 1 %
Non-Custodial Parent	2	< 1 %
Sibling	12	1%
Step-Parent	6	<1%
Non-related Kin	106	8%
Other	30	2%
Total	1,336	100%

Primary Reason for Kinship Caregiver Assuming Care of Kinship Child: Table 3.15 shows the wide variety of reasons for kinship placement. Though a number of factors can contribute to the need for kinship placement, KNs were asked to provide a single most relevant reason. Parent substance abuse/treatment, abandonment, and ‘other’ were the three most common primary reasons provided. Answers under ‘other’ include domestic violence, death of caregiver, failure to protect, age of parent, unfit or unstable living conditions, and mother in military deployment, and runaway child, among others.

Table 3.15: Primary Reason for Kinship Caregiver Assuming Care of Kinship Child		
	Cumulative Feb 2010 – Aug 2012 n = 1,336	
	Number	Percent
Abandonment	231	17%
Capacity of Adult (MRDD)	10	1%
Child Behavior Problems	17	1%
Child Disability/ Special Needs	1	< 1%
Child Substance Abuse and/or Tx	4	< 1%
Emotional Abuse	3	< 1%
Housing/ Shelter	63	5%
Neglect	174	13%
Parent(s) Chronic Illness	6	< 1%
Parent(s) Death	39	3%
Parent(s) Incarcerated	157	12%
Parent(s) Mental Health and/or Tx	43	3%
Parent(s) Substance Abuse and/or Tx	282	21%
Parent(s) Unemployed	10	1%
Physical Abuse	37	3%
Sexual Abuse	13	1%
Relinquishment/ Dependency	53	4%
Unruly/ Delinquency	7	1%
Other	186	14%
Total	1,336	100%

Type of Kinship Care Arrangement:

Tables 3.16 and 3.17 provide more information about the types of caregiving arrangements that kinship children are involved in while working with the KN program.

Long Term Caregiving Plans: Table 3.16 provides the long-term caregiving plans for kinship children at the time of initial assessment completion. A majority of the kinship children (64%) are either already in the legal custody/guardianship of their kinship caregiver, or plans are underway to pursue legal custody/guardianship or adoption. Those categorized as ‘other’ included power of attorney (POA), caretaker affidavit, maintain placement, and child will ‘age out’ among others. There were no significant changes between previous reporting periods and these cumulative figures.

Table 3.16: Type of Kinship Care Arrangement: Long Term Caregiving Plans for Kinship Children		
	Cumulative Feb 2010 – Feb 2012 n = 1,336	
	Number	Percent
Working toward reunification	343	26%
Pursuing Legal Custody/ Guardianship	490	37%
Pursuing Adoption	21	2%
Transitioning Youth	10	1%
Another Relative to Assume Custody	6	< 1%
Child remaining w/ KCG who has LC/G	333	25%
Other	36	3%
Unanswered or Unknown	97	7%
Total	1,336	100%

Legal Status of Kinship Children: Table 3.17 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 in temporary custody of kin (24%), or without custody arrangement (22%). 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 previous reporting periods 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 2012 n = 1,336	
	Number	Percent
Legal Custodian	233	17%
Legal Guardian	117	9%
Verbal custody from child’s parent(s)	139	10%
Temporary Custody	323	24%
PCSA/Court Custody, placed with kin	116	9%
None	287	22%
Unknown	80	6%
Other	41	3%
Total	1,336	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 final evaluation report. Please also note that many of the service items listed will be explored qualitatively.

Table 4.1: Services	
	Where to find pertinent data in this report:
Services for Kinship Caregivers	
KNs 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
KNs conduct periodic assessments of kinship caregivers	See data on initial assessments and follow-up in Section 6A.
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 the final report.
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 ‘Service Activities’ data (Table 7.1), additional qualitative data will be provided in the final report.
Other Key Services	
Map community assets to identify existing resources for caregivers	Information on community mapping and system network analysis is available in the implementation report (see page 1 for information on where to access this report).
Train public agency staff to assess and refer caregiving families to the program	See data in Table 3.4
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 - 6.6, 7.1
Outreach to the larger community of organizations on the needs of kinship families, engage them in the local collaborative	See data in Tables 6.4 & 6.5

Other Key Services Continued	
Develop and sustain the collaborative group	Information is provided in the implementation report (see page 1 for information on where to access this report).
Coordinate and collaborate with all county KN programs	Information is provided in the implementation report (see page 1 for information on where to access this report).

5. Collaborative Evaluation: Information is provided in the implementation report (see page 1 for information on where to access this report).

6. Outputs

Kinship Caregiver Level

A. Number & Percent of Kinship Caregivers that completed assessments: Of the 913 total kinship caregivers referred to the KN programs between February 2010 and through February 2012, 892, or 98%, had completed initial assessments (for evaluation purposes, we only collect Initial Assessment data for cases which caregivers have provided informed consent – 825 families).

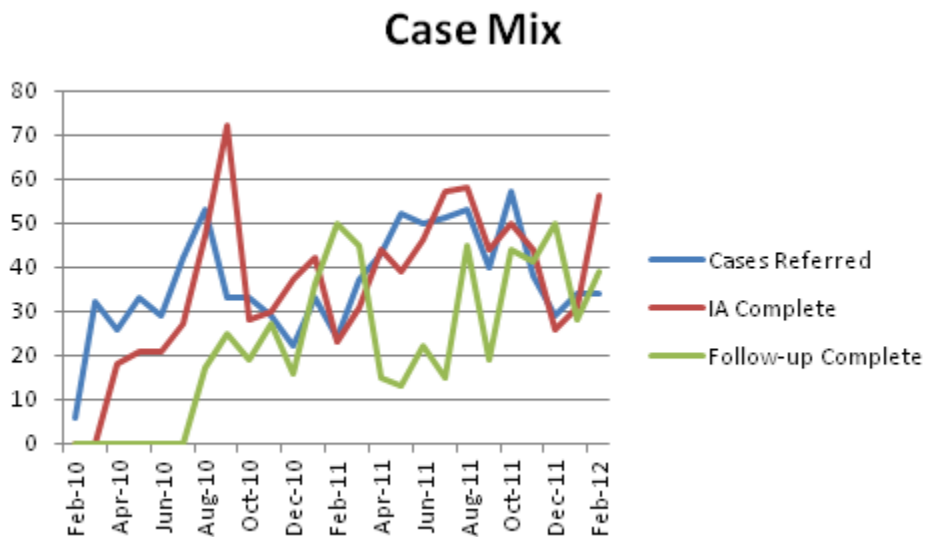
Table 6.1: Initial Assessments Complete						
	Feb 2010 – Sept 2010, updated	Oct 2010 – Feb 2011, updated	Mar 2011 – Aug 2011, updated	Sept 2011 – Feb 2011	Cumulative Feb 2010 – Feb 2012	
	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number	Percent
Caregivers/families with initial assessments complete	206	160	275	251	892	98%
Caregivers/families referred to the KN programs	254	141	286	232	913	100%

*Note: The total number of assessments complete could be higher than the total number of cases referred for a given time period, as assessments are not necessarily completed in the same time period as they are referred.

More about Initial Assessments: Completion of initial assessment requires KN staff to spend a 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 447 days, with a mean of 31 days (standard deviation of 50 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 2012, follow-ups were complete in KIDS for 566 kinship families, representing 933 kinship children. As of the end of February 2012 the evaluation team had received 200 family surveys, 186 of those surveys matched up to follow-up records in KIDS; the remaining 14 surveys did not have follow-up information available in KIDS.

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 by month.



- B. Number & percent of caregivers completing service/case plans:** Ohio's KN project is not completing case plans for all families served by the KN program, and we are not collecting information on any case plans for our evaluation.
- C. Number of kinship caregiver contacts per caregiver:** A total of 4,911 contacts were recorded for 557 kinship families who had complete follow-up records as of the end of February 2012 (the remaining 9 families who had complete follow-ups had no recorded contact history). As it was not required that EVERY contact for each family be entered into KIDS we cannot be sure of the total number of contacts that actually occurred with each kinship family, though an average of between eight and nine 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 KN cases do not have a formal closure, therefore it is difficult to identify 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 the length of time kinship caregivers receive 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 KN, initial assessment, and case completion and/or family follow-up.
- E. Mode of Kinship Navigator Contact with Caregiver:** As noted previously, it is not required that EVERY contact for each family to be entered into KIDS; thus 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 contacts in Table 6.2. There was no contact history recorded for nine families who had completed a family follow-up; thus the following numbers reflect the information recorded for the other 557 families with follow-up assessments complete.

Table 6.2: Number of Types of Contacts between Kinship Navigator and Kinship Caregiver for Families with Follow-up Complete n = 557 families	
Home Visit	1,203
Office Visit	854
Telephone Contact	2,284
Advocacy on Behalf of KCG	236
Other	334
Total	4,911

- F. 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.

Table 6.3: Type of Service NEEDS for Kinship Families at Initial Assessment										
	Feb - Sept 2010		Oct 2010 – Feb 2011		Mar 2011 - Aug 2011		Sept 2011 – Feb 2012		Cumulative Feb 2010 – Feb 2012	
	Number	% of Total	Number	% of Total	Number	% of Total	Number	% of Total	Number	% of Total
Children Services	92	49%	91	63%	164	64%	164	68%	507	61%
KPI	69	37%	36	25%	60	24%	60	25%	224	27%
Job and Family Services	147	78%	130	90%	240	94%	221	91%	734	89%
Financial/ Cash Assistance	131	70%	109	75%	207	81%	207	85%	650	79%
Employment Assistance	18	10%	26	18%	19	8%	17	7%	80	10%
Food Stamps	100	53%	77	53%	162	64%	149	61%	488	59%
Short-term Assistance	25	13%	32	22%	31	12%	50	21%	139	17%
Medicaid/ Healthy Start	141	75%	127	88%	235	92%	211	87%	710	86%
Medicare	55	29%	50	35%	68	27%	65	27%	238	29%
Child Support	36	19%	29	20%	58	23%	58	24%	181	22%
Area Agency on Aging	8	4%	10	7%	24	9%	23	10%	63	7%
Family and Children First Council	7	4%	5	3%	26	10%	48	20%	86	10%
Juvenile Court	39	21%	36	25%	48	19%	71	29%	193	23%
Caregiver Behavioral Health (MH/SA)	11	6%	7	5%	16	6%	26	11%	60	7%
Child Behavioral Health (MH/SA)	58	31%	35	24%	78	31%	79	33%	249	30%
Special Need Services (MR/DD)	13	7%	6	4%	11	4%	12	5%	42	5%
Benefit Bank	35	19%	28	19%	60	24%	83	34%	206	25%



Table 6.3: Type of Service NEEDS for Kinship Families at Initial Assessment (continued)										
	Feb - Sept 2010		Oct 2010 – Feb 2011		Mar 2011 - Aug 2011				Cumulative Feb 2010 – Feb 2011	
	Number	% of Total	Number	% of Total	Number	% of Total	Number	% of Total	Number	% of Total
Clothing	79	42%	78	54%	149	58%	151	62%	452	55%
Child Care	25	13%	29	20%	41	16%	50	21%	144	17%
Domestic Violence	0	0%	3	2%	5	2%	3	1%	11	1%
Early Intervention	12	6%	8	6%	19	8%	15	6%	54	7%
Education (MFE, IEP, Tutoring)	39	21%	19	13%	52	20%	59	24%	169	21%
Food (Pantry or site)	86	46%	72	50%	156	61%	160	66%	471	57%
Help Me Grow	17	9%	11	8%	44	17%	41	17%	111	13%
I&R 211 hotline	52	28%	42	29%	150	59%	139	57%	383	46%
Medical Care – caregiver	84	45%	100	69%	160	63%	135	56%	477	58%
Medical Care - child	103	55%	119	82%	191	75%	179	74%	590	71%
Legal Assistance/ Custody	104	55%	104	72%	128	50%	105	43%	438	53%
Ombudsman	2	1%	1	1%	4	2%	0	0%	7	1%
Recreation	24	13%	12	8%	38	15%	42	17%	116	14%
Respite	12	6%	4	3%	25	10%	25	10%	66	8%
Shelter/Housing	32	17%	51	35%	41	16%	50	21%	173	21%
Support Groups	76	40%	85	59%	156	61%	159	65%	471	57%
Transportation	18	10%	16	11%	32	13%	50	21%	116	14%
Utilities	25	13%	38	26%	25	10%	50	21%	137	17%
Veteran Services	1	<1%	1	1%	8	3%	4	2%	14	2%
Other	4	1%	5	2%	11	2%	8	2%	28	2%
Number of Kinship Families	188	100%	145	100%	255	100%	825	100%	826	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.

- A. Number of outreach activities conducted:** Table 6.4 shows outreach activities by activity type for all seven project sites. The most common activities overall have been meetings, distributing written materials (most likely brochures and newsletters), and press releases. When meetings were recorded, the type of meeting was sometimes described. Most meetings which were described were with community providers, sharing information about the KN program. Activities categorized as ‘other’ include trainings, social events, distribution of fliers, web advertisements, and other informational events.

Table 6.4: Number of Outreach Activities conducted by Activity Type										
	Feb 2010 – Sept 2010		Oct 2010 – Feb 2011		Mar 2011 – Aug 2011		Sept 2011 – Feb 2012		Cumulative Feb 2010 – Feb 2011	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Phone call	15	7%	6	6%	13	11%	0	0%	34	7%
Presentation	27	13%	12	13%	10	8%	3	8%	52	11%
Written material distributed (such as newsletter, etc.)	57	28%	14	15%	32	26%	7	18%	110	24%
Press release or other advertisement	16	8%	23	25%	25	21%	4	10%	68	15%
Meeting	68	33%	21	22%	27	22%	22	55%	138	30%
Other	23	11%	18	19%	14	12%	4	10%	59	13%
Total	206	100%	94	100%	121	100%	40	100%	461	100%

Table 6.5 shows the number of outreach activities conducted by the main result of the activity for each activity. Although total numbers have steadily dropped since the first report period, percentages have remained largely the same with the exception of ‘Collaborating with Other Community Partners’ replacing ‘Promotion of KN Program’ as the most commonly reported Main Result of Activity in the most recent report period.

	Table 6.5: Number of Outreach Activities conducted by <u>Main Result of Activity</u>				
	Feb 2010 – Sept 2010	Oct 2010 – Feb 2011	Mar 2011– Aug 2011	Sept 2011 – Feb 2012	Cumulative (Feb 2010 – Feb 2012)
Promotion of KN program	122 (59%)	56 (60%)	68 (56%)	14 (35%)	260 (56%)
Provision of information/ technical assistance	12 (6%)	5 (5%)	14 (12%)	1 (3%)	32 (7%)
Advocating for kinship caregiving community	4 (2%)	4 (4%)	5 (4%)	1 (3%)	14 (3%)
Collaborating with other community partners to develop / enhance services for kinship families	59 (29%)	22 (23%)	28 (23%)	22 (55%)	131 (28%)
Other	9 (4%)	7 (7%)	6 (5%)	2 (5%)	24 (5%)
Total outreach activities	206 (100%)	94 (100%)	121 (100%)	40 (100%)	461 (100%)

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 305 of the 461 efforts recorded. It is important to note that ranges 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.

Table 6.6: Number of Individuals Reached through Some Outreach Activities (n = 305 activities)		
	Mean # of people	Range of people
Phone Calls (n = 26)	3	1 – 20
Presentation (n = 52)	23	3 – 150
Written Material Distributed (n = 52)	95	1 – 1000
Meeting (n = 127)	13	1 – 200
Other (n =48)	95	1 – 2000

C. Number and purpose of incoming calls to kinship caregiver information line: Six⁴ of the seven KN programs recorded a total of 846 non-case management I&R calls from February 2010 to February 2012. I&R calls are considered brief conversations with caregivers, where there is not an expectation of continued interactions with these families over time.

⁴ Data is not available for one county due to data-entry issues

	Table 6.7: Non Case Management I&R calls handled by Kinship Navigator				
	Feb 2010 – Sept 2010	Oct 2010 – Feb 2011	Mar 2011 – Aug 2011	Sept 2011 – Feb 2012	Cumulative: Feb 2010 – Feb 2012
Total # of I&R calls fielded by KN programs (non case management families)	221	183	212	230	846
Range of # of I&R calls fielded by each county per month	0 – 14	2 – 23	1 - 16	3 - 42	0 – 42
Average # of I&R calls fielded by each county per month	> 5	>7	>6	>12	> 7

Some KNs 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				
	Feb 2010 – Sept 2010	Oct 2010 – Feb 2011	Mar 2011 – Aug 2011	Sept 2011 – Feb 2012	Cumulative: Feb 2010 – Feb 2012
PCSA	45	58	43	25	171
Office on Aging	1	0	0	0	1
211/I&R	4	4	3	4	15
Court System	3	17	9	15	44
DJFS	31	15	16	31	93
Other KCG	11	13	14	4	42
Family Council/FCFC or equivalent	1	5	1	1	8
Church/Faith Based Org.	4	0	3	0	7
School/Education Provider	11	6	8	4	29
Other Community Provider	17	18	19	7	61
Other Word of Mouth	25	9	8	13	55
PR/Advertising/Publicity	18	1	2	6	27
Other	12	6	5	9	32

Table 6.9: Non Case Management I&R calls handled by Kinship Navigator: Information Provided to Caller					
	Feb 2010 – Sept 2010	Oct 2010 – Feb 2011	Mar 2011 – Aug 2011	Sept 2011 – Feb 2012	Cumulative: Feb 2010 – Feb 2012
Becoming a Kinship Caregiver	34	41	46	16	137
Grandparents Rights	36	26	12	0	74
Other Legal Services	54	37	41	42	174
Financial Supports (including OWF)	48	25	35	18	126
Medical	13	6	8	0	27
Shelter/Housing Services	6	3	1	9	19
Food/Clothing/Other Basic Need	39	40	49	36	164
Utilities Assistance	6	22	6	13	47
Childcare	5	5	4	1	15
Respite	1	0	2	0	3
Visitation	2	2	0	1	5
Support Groups/Counseling	34	32	51	9	126
School/Education	10	9	6	2	27
Other Community Provider Services/Contact Info	34	22	26	2	84
Other Resources	11	14	15	8	48

Additional data collection regarding Information & Referrals: Beginning in May 2010, some of the KN 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 2010-Sept 2010		Oct 2010-Mar 2011		Apr 2011-Sept 2011		Oct 2011-Mar 2012		Cumulative: May 2010-Sept 2011	
	Total # of calls	Total # referred to KN	Total # of calls	Total # referred to KN	Total # of calls	Total # referred to KN	Total # of calls	Total # referred to KN	Total # of calls	Total # referred to KN
Ashtabula	7,891	36	9,196	25	11,394	26	19,652	7	48,133	94
Clark	N/A*	17	N/A*	11	N/A*	12	N/A*	17	N/A*	57
Lorain	5,181	7	5,071	5	5,246	2	4,626	0	20,124	14
Portage	8,292	22	11,162	9	9,665	28	9,791	25	38,910	84
Richland	5,454	10	5,997	12	5,152	26	6,899	18	23,502	66
Total	26,818	92	31,426	62	31,457	94	40,968	67	130,669	315

*Clark County does not track the total # of calls received.



The 211 providers have produced fewer referrals than anticipated and the five counties have found it challenging to work with them. As one KN stated in a quarterly in-person meeting, “211 has failed in our county.” The KN staff did develop a protocol for screening kinship caregivers and referring them to the Navigator program. They shared this protocol with their 211s in individual meetings and, in some cases, informal training sessions. This has not, however, seemed to have as large an effect as expected.

- 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:** Information is available in the Implementation Report (see page 1 for information on where to access this report).
- 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 the final evaluation report.
- 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 KN 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 shopping for kinship children, gatherings to distribute donated goods, newsletter mailings, and monthly food bank activities.

Table 7.1: Number of Service Activities					
	Feb 2010 – Sept 2010	Oct 2010 – Feb 2011	Mar 2011 – Aug 2011	Sept 2011 – Feb 2012	Cumulative: Feb 2010 – Feb 2012
	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number
Support Groups	59	42	49	28	178
Social Events	4	4	7	1	16
Training or Skill Building for KCGs	7	5	9	6	27
Legal Services	13	1	1	0	15
Meetings	12	3	1	1	17
Other	21	19	25	23	88
Total Recorded Activities	116	74	92	59	341

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 KN sites, and has remained a steady focus, although the total number of support groups held during the current report period has dropped quite a bit since the previous one. The evaluation team will explore possible reasons for the drop in number of support groups during the final round of site visits scheduled for May of 2012. The 178 support groups that were held between the beginning of February 2010 and the end of February 2012 had between zero (likely meetings recorded but canceled due to weather, etc) and 64 attendees; the mean number of attendees was 10 across all counties and support groups.

Training and Skill Building for Kinship Caregivers: Five of the seven project sites recorded a total of 27 training and skill building service activities for kinship caregivers between the beginning of February 2010 and the end of February 2012; reaching between 1 and 45 attendees for each such event (mean = 11 attendees). Trainings included presentations by KNs and local community providers (subjects included: non-violent crisis intervention skills, making positive choices among peers, bullying, immigration, and filing taxes with kinship children in the home, among others), distributing written materials, and webinars.

- B. Follow-up Data on Children and Kinship Families:** The evaluation team is beginning to explore the follow-up data now that it is available for enough cases to warrant analysis; 566 families have complete follow-up records in KIDS and we have received 186 family surveys that match up to those complete follow-up records as of the end of February 2012 (out of a total of 200 Family Surveys received). 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: KNs indicated that as of follow-up they were able to meet overall service needs for kinship families in 83% of cases (472 of 566).

Navigators indicated that, for the remaining 94 cases, they partially met (14%) or were unable to meet (3%) kinship families' service needs. Table 7.2 illustrates reasons given for not being able to completely meet families' needs by follow-up. 'Other' included loss of contact with the family, severe needs of kinship child, and death of caregiver. 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		
n = 94		
	Number of Cases	%
Community Lacked Resources	4	4%
Eligibility Issues	30	32%
Unable to Engage Families	34	36%
KN Resource Limitations	13	14%
Other	13	14%
Total	94	100%

Kinship Family Survey Results: The Kinship Family Survey is the second part of the follow-up process (part one of the follow-up process includes the KN updating the family's information in KIDS), and includes a series of questions asking about the caregivers' perspective on family well-being, their satisfaction with the KN program, and their feelings about the program's impact on their ability to provide long term care for their kinship children. Most questions are answered with either a 'yes', 'somewhat' or 'no'. Table 7.3 provides the answers to some of these questions so far. Families are also asked to complete an updated version of the Family Resource Scale (families complete an initial Family Resource scale when they first come to work with their KN) which the evaluation team uses to compare families' perceptions of their adequacy of resources before and after their involvement with the KN program. Finally, at the end of the survey, caregivers are provided with the opportunity to note any additional comments they may have about the program. Overall, the results of the family surveys have been overwhelmingly positive. See Appendix A: Family Survey Results for findings on the changes between 'pre' and 'post' Family Resource Scales, as well as a collection of comments families noted on the Family Surveys.

Table 7.3: Family Survey Responses (n = 200*)			
	Yes	Somewhat	No
Did you feel better after talking to the Kinship Navigator?	92%	4%	3%
Did the Kinship Navigator help you to get what you needed?	92%	4%	3%
Did the Kinship Navigator make being a kinship caregiver easier?	86%	7%	4%
Did the Kinship Navigator help the child(ren) be able to live with you permanently?	52%	6%	28%
Overall, do you feel better able to care for the child(ren)?	83%	9%	4%
Overall, do you feel your family is healthier now?	77%	15%	3%
Overall, do you feel your family is happier now?	74%	16%	5%
Overall, are you satisfied with the help you got from the Kinship Navigator?	91%	4%	3%

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

OUTCOME EVALUATION

We are not able to present any formal outcome results at this point. The evaluation team has just recently received the SACWIS files which we will use, along with KIDS data, to present child and family-level outcomes in the final evaluation report.

DISCUSSION

Process Evaluation:

Case Management Activity: Some interesting trends emerged early on in the project and have remained relatively stable through each report 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 48 years old, but range from 19 – 82 years old. They are mostly female (90%), mostly white (78%), and most have a high school education or better (approximately 84%). They have come to the KN program through referrals from a number of referral sources, but most often Children Services (56%).
- The kinship families in the KN caseload have between zero and eleven children in the home at the time of initial assessment, including between zero⁵ and six kinship children. Over half of kinship families have one kinship child.
- Kinship children are on average seven years old, but range from less than 1 year to 20 years of age. Males and females each make up half of the population. They are also mostly White,

⁵ Families with zero kinship children in the home are likely preparing for a child or children to enter their home.

though represent a more diverse racial mix than do the primary kinship caregivers; 18% of the kinship children are Black, 11% are Multiracial, and 3% Hispanic. Most of the children, 77%, 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 (62% at child-level), or aunts & uncles (16% at child-level).
- Children most often came into kinship care due parent substance abuse and/or treatment (21%) or abandonment (17%), although 'Other' reasons (which included domestic violence, age of parent, unstable living conditions, among others) accounted for another 14% of the children who came into kinship care.
- As of initial assessment, children had a mix of legal statuses with their kinship caregiver; 26% were in legal custody/guardianship, 24% 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; 25% of children will remain with a KCG who already has legal custody or guardianship, and 37% more seek to gain legal custody or guardianship. Twenty-six percent plan to work towards reunification.
- Service needs at the time of initial assessment are varied, but most common are: Job & Family Services (89%), Medicaid/ Healthy Start (86%), and Financial/Cash Assistance (79%).
 - At the time of follow-up, KNs are quite confident that they've been able to meet kinship families' needs regarding services; in 83% of cases they felt fully able to do so while only in 3% of cases did they note they were not able to fully meet families needs (KNs noted they felt they were 'somewhat able' to meet kinship families needs for the 14% of the remaining families).
- Follow-up data has been entered into KIDS on 566 families representing 933 kinship children, and the evaluation team has been able to match 186 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.

System/Program Activity:

The KN sites continue to show evidence of high levels of activity at the system/program level (non-case-specific). From February 2010 through February 2011, six of the seven sites recorded a total of 846 non-case management I&R calls and have documented a total of 341 service activities (including support groups, social events, and other services for kinship caregivers). In addition, all seven counties have documented 461 outreach activities, including collaborating with community partners to develop or enhance services for kinship caregivers, and promoting the KN programs.

As mentioned previously, the evaluation team is just beginning to analyze the SACWIS files needed to present formal outcomes for families involved in a child welfare serving agency. In the coming months much more rigorous analysis centered on our research questions and hypotheses will be done and included in the final evaluation report.



Appendix A: Family Survey Results
Family Resource Scale Results through September, 2011

Findings

- 163 families completed the Family Resource Scale twice: once at the initial assessment and once after the follow-up.
- The resources are arranged by the developers from the most to least essential for quality of life.¹
- Effect sizes from the initial assessment to the follow-up were calculated to determine whether the KN program increased the adequacy of each resource:
 - green = increase in adequacy
 - white = no change in adequacy
 - red = decrease in adequacy

Conclusions

- Resources that increased in adequacy or remained the same are generally higher in the hierarchy than those resources that decreased in adequacy. Therefore, you are increasing or maintaining the adequacy of the most essential quality of life resources!
- The resources that decreased in adequacy may be due primarily to having an additional child in the household.

Resource
1. House or apartment (stable housing)
2. Food for 2 meals a day
3. Money to buy necessities
4. Heat for house or apartment
5. Money to pay utility bills
6. Money to pay monthly bills
7. Enough clothes for your family
8. Good job for self or spouse/partner
9. Money to buy supplies for your child(ren)
10. Public Assistance (SSI, TANF, Medicaid, etc.)
11. Medical insurance for your child(ren)
12. Medical insurance for yourself and spouse/partner
13. Dental care for self or spouse/partner
14. Dental care for your child(ren)
15. Dependable transportation
16. Furniture for your home or apartment
17. Time to get enough sleep/rest
18. Time to be alone
19. Time for family to be together
20. Time to be with your child(ren)
21. Time to be with your spouse/partner
22. Access to a telephone
23. Babysitting for your child(ren)
24. Child care for your child(ren) while at work or school
25. Someone to talk to
26. Time to socialize with friends
27. Time to keep in shape or looking the way you want
28. Toys for your child(ren)
29. Money to buy things for yourself
30. Money to save
31. Travel/vacation

¹Dunst, C.J. & Leet, H.E. (1987). Measuring the adequacy of resources in households with young children. *Child: Care, Health, and Development*, 13, 111-125.

Appendix A: Family Survey Results

Family Survey Responses through February 15, 2012 (n = 200)

	Question	Number of responses	Percentage of each response		
			Yes	Somewhat	No
Relationship Building	1. <i>Was the Kinship Navigator sensitive to your family's values and culture?</i>	198	98.0%	1.0%	1.0%
	2. <i>Was the Kinship Navigator easy to reach when you needed her or him?</i>	200	93.0%	6.5%	0.5%
	3. <i>Did you feel better after talking to the Kinship Navigator?</i>	199	93.0%	4.0%	3.0%
	4. <i>Will you ask the Kinship Navigator for more help in the future, if you need it?</i>	198	93.0%	4.5%	2.5%
	5. <i>Overall, are you satisfied with the help you got from the Kinship Navigator?</i>	198	92.0%	4.5%	3.5%
Current Situation Improvement	6. <i>Did the Kinship Navigator make being a kinship caregiver easier?</i>	195	88.2%	7.7%	4.1%
	7. <i>Overall, do you feel better able to care for the child(ren)?</i>	192	86.5%	9.4%	4.2%
	8. <i>Did the Kinship Navigator help you to get what you needed?</i>	198	86.4%	10.1%	3.5%
	9. <i>Overall, do you feel your family is healthier now?</i>	191	80.6%	15.7%	3.7%
	10. <i>Overall, do you feel your family is happier now?</i>	190	77.4%	16.8%	5.8%
Long-term Caring	11. <i>Did the Kinship Navigator help you reach out to family and/or friends for more help?</i>	191	77.0%	6.8%	16.2%
	12. <i>Overall, have relationships in your family improved?</i>	189	65.6%	21.7%	12.7%
	13. <i>Did the Kinship Navigator help you to care for the children longer than you would have?</i>	181	64.1%	7.2%	28.7%
	14. <i>Did the Kinship Navigator help the child(ren) be able to live with you permanently?</i>	174	60.9%	6.9%	32.2%

Findings

- The survey questions are in descending order according to the percentage who responded yes.
- Questions 1 through 5 address relationship building.
- Questions 6 through 12 address whether the Navigator improved the current situations of families.
- Questions 13 and 14 address whether the Navigator services will help the caregiver to care for their children over the long-term.

Appendix A: Family Survey Results Conclusions

- Almost all of the kinship caregivers surveyed believed that the Kinship Navigator successfully built a good relationship with them.
- A large majority of caregivers surveyed believed that the Kinship Navigator helped them to improve their current situations.
- Although still a majority, fewer caregivers believed that the Navigator services will help the caregiver to care for their children over the long-term. Approximately one-third of them indicated that the Navigator did *not* help them to care for the children longer than they would have or live with them permanently (see caregivers comments on those two questions below).

Sample Kinship Caregiver Comments (arranged by topic area)

Relationship Building

- *From the start she has been there for our family. She even called to make sure things were all right and she still is there. We are really glad.*
- *I really appreciate everything they have done. I felt troubled at times then I would call our Navigator and all would be better again. Thank you! She was my angel!*
- *I walked into my Navigator's office without hope or any clue what to do. She listened carefully. Then, she gently explained all of my options.*
- *They are always there along the way to guide me in the right direction. Our Navigator made us feel like a family!*
- *It felt so good talking to someone who cares like our Navigator did. She even called to check on us and ask if she could do anything else.*
- *Being a mother and raising a grandchild, it was comforting for our Navigator to take the worry off my shoulders and make things easier for my daughters. I highly recommend this program!*
- *My Navigator has made a lot of effort to help us through this transition. She has also worked later than she needed to in order to work around my work schedule. Janine has been great!*
- *My caseworker is a gem. She is ALWAYS on top of things. If I leave a message, she ALWAYS calls me right back. If she says she'll look into something for me, I get a call back the very next day. She's become a friend to us.*
- *Our Kinship Navigator was really nice and understood what I was going through. She was very understanding. I felt like I could lean on her.*
- *It's nice to have the caring support that doesn't seem like a program but more like friends. Thank you. It's also nice to know you'll be there should we need you again.*
- *The relationship with our Navigator was wonderful. She made us feel very comfortable and that we could trust her.*
- *There are a lot of us in this boat. It's helpful to have someone to talk to. I look at our Navigator as a friend, as well as a worker. She helped make it easier because she is a kinship caregiver too; she could empathize. She can open up doors and make sure you don't feel alone.*
- *The Kinship program is a wonderful program! Shawna is very caring and makes herself available to us.*

Navigator improved their current situation

- *I am so happy our Navigator provided her knowledge of available resources to help me obtain guardianship of my niece. Without her help, my niece was at risk of being placed in foster care. Thank you :-).*
- *I was able to get food when needed, as well as clothing and shoes.*

Appendix A: Family Survey Results

- *Our Navigator helped us out a lot with the food vouchers and the clothing voucher for my nephew. Thank you for all your help!*
- *My Navigator was great. She answered all of my questions and referred me to other resources to improve my situation.*
- *The kinship program really helped us this past year. Times are really hard and they find ways to make it seem easier. We are very appreciative for kids clothing and Christmas food.*
- *Our Navigator was wonderful to us. When we had issues transferring our granddaughter to the new school, she came to our aid immediately.*
- *Without the help from this program we would have not been able to get the kids before Child Services did.*
- *Most helpful in determining my rights, if any, and how human resources and courts view things differently. Thanks for everything!*
- *My Navigator makes care giving much easier. I am very satisfied with the help that she gives me.*
- *Our Navigator got us started on the programs needed. We are now beginning to seek legal custody. Wish we were still in your county.*
- *Our Navigator made us feel easy about getting help for our 4 and 5 year olds. She suggested other ways we could apply for help. She was helpful when called on the phone. Our children liked her very much.*
- *Our Navigator went out of her way to help us. We were in need of daycare and she helped us get it. She also helped us with paperwork and made sure it got to the proper place. We really appreciate all the help we have received :-).*
- *The Kinship Navigator Program is wonderful. I don't know if I could have gotten through this without it. My Navigator is wonderful and we thank God for the privilege of knowing her. She is our guardian angel.*
- *They have helped my grand kids have a Christmas every year since we have had them and with school supplies. They have meetings to attend where you can find out places to get the help you need. You can communicate with other people who are going through the same thing you are.*
- *They came along at the right time when there was not enough money or food to carry on. Thank you :-=).*
- *We felt such support from our Navigator. I was feeling very alone and helpless but having her to guide me gave me confidence. We are better now.*
- *I would like to thank my Navigator. Without you, there is no telling where my grandkids would have ended up. My hat is off to you! Again, I thank you!*
- *I wouldn't have been able to be where I am now without the support I got from my Kinship Navigator.*
- *They helped get an attorney for us. We could not afford one and we greatly appreciated their help and I have recommended them to other grandparents who thought they had no rights.*

Navigator helped the caregiver to care for their children over the long-term

- *This resource prevented further joblessness and homelessness in my family and empowered me - the only one willing to save my grandchildren. Thank you, thank you!! :)*
- *We were so thankful when we found out where to look for help. We didn't know of such a place and I am very happy that we are able to better care for our grandchildren. Thank you!*
- *I think this is a great program. Without this program, I would not have even known where to start, but with her help I was granted with permanent custody.*
- *This is a great program. I had no idea about this program until they helped us get custody of our granddaughter. If I become rich, I will donate to this program and pass the word on.*

Appendix A: Family Survey Results

Reasons cited if the caregiver indicated that the Navigator did NOT help them care for their children over the long-term or live with them permanently

- *I already have custody.*
- *I already got custody on my own.*
- *I was already granted temp custody.*
- *He is already with me permanently.*
- *The kids were staying regardless. Child Service out of Ashland County gave us the kids permanently.*
- *I took the child permanently before the kinship program. I already had an attorney.*
- *I answered no because I would have found a way to have the children with us, no matter what. But she did help.*
- *I just needed someone to talk to. I want to get the child permanently, but it is too expensive to adopt. There just isn't the money. But my Navigator certainly has tried to help with this.*
- *She could have been with me permanently, but the child's mother got her life together.*
- *I was unable to receive any needed assistance due to income guidelines and she had no suggestions for any other programs. I asked the courts to place the children elsewhere because there is no assistance to meet any of my needs through any agency.*

Areas for program/navigator improvement

- *My only real complaint/feedback is that sometimes it was really hard to get someone on the phone. I did call once and left a message, and though usually someone got back to me in a timely fashion, this time they did not.*
- *The funds for Kinship were reduced 50% and it just isn't a whole lot of money to make a real difference. It amounts to approximately \$50 a month per child. While I am appreciative, it would be easier to receive the full amount of child support owed, food stamps, and help with child care or even a gas card.*
- *The program should have more advertisement.*
- *I am a grandmother taking care of three children. We live on a fixed income and we don't have gas to run to these meetings in Mansfield.*
- *I think our Navigators should send papers out to let grandparents know what is going on.*
- *I wish they could help a little more with legal issues.*
- *Don't give the Navigators more than they should handle. Please don't get me wrong, our Navigator is a good friend of the family. But, she has a little too much to do with everything she is involved in. She really did try to help.*
- *Making connections w/ kinship has become more difficult. Newsletters would be of great assistance so we know of changes and programs.*
- *Our Kinship Navigator was wonderful, but the agency puts many restraints on her that make her job very difficult. We had a very unique situation, so I recommend that in the future the Navigators have the flexibility to assist the families individually based upon their circumstances.*