

**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: April 1, 2012 to September 30, 2012<sup>1</sup>**

**EVALUATION PROGRESS AND MODIFICATIONS**

- 1. Evaluation Activities and Planning:** During this reporting period, the evaluation team:
  - a. Conducted site visits to each of the Kinship Navigator (KN) counties in the spring of 2012 and analyzed the findings from these site visits.
  - b. Conducted an electronic survey of the seven comparison counties in the fall of 2012 to explore some topics that had been explored in the seven KN counties during site visits.
  - c. Continued the process of receiving and analyzing the statewide child welfare administrative outcomes data file (SACWIS) for the Final Progress Report.
  - 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. A summary of evaluation findings from the April 2012 semi-annual report was presented in May, and preliminary findings on outcomes of caregivers and children involved in the program were presented in September 2012.

**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.

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<sup>1</sup> Data included in this report was collected through July 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.

<b>Process Questions</b>		
<b>Original</b>	<b>Modification</b>	<b>Explanation</b>
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 comparison 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 comparison counties.
b. Do community organizations that serve KCGs in demonstration counties have stronger relationships than organizations in comparison counties?	Do community organizations that serve KCGs in intervention counties build stronger relationships over the course of the grant period?	Same as above; we will not have parallel information from the comparison counties
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.	
<b>Outcome Questions</b>		
<b>Original</b>	<b>Modification</b>	<b>Explanation</b>
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 kinship placements in intervention counties.
e. Does the KN program make it more likely that current KCGs will remain committed to caring for children?	None.	

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.
g. Do target population children in the intervention counties experience greater well-being during the project period than similar children in the comparison sites?		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?	1. Does involvement in the KN program shorten time from placement to permanency?	We will compare KN counties with comparison counties in the Final Progress Report.
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. those not receiving KN services.
j. What child and family characteristics influence outcomes? (demographics)	None.	This information will be presented in the final progress report.

**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. Given the outcome data that has been received, the comparative analysis will vary by outcomes and will be reported in more detail in the Final Progress Report. The outcomes to be explored include:

1. Well-Being Outcomes:
  - a. KCG increased satisfaction with caregiver role
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)
  - e. Decrease # changes in 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. However, the data received in the administrative data file from the (ODJFS) – the primary source of data on child outcomes, does limit in the populations we will be able to study. We will have two primary approaches to the analysis. 1) an examination of the characteristics and outcomes for children receiving KN services (some of whom have child welfare involvement), and 2) an examination of the characteristics and outcomes of child welfare involved children receiving KN services vs. similar children not receiving KN services: this second analysis will be restricted and will only include children placed with kinship caregivers in ‘formal’ placements, that is when the agency retains custody. The Final Progress Report will compare children served in KN counties, compared to those in comparison counties.

**5. Primary and Secondary Data Sources:**

**Primary Data Sources:**

The following data collection efforts have been completed:

Primary Data Collection Effort	Timeline	Notes
<b>Implementation reports</b>	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.
<b>211 data</b>	Data collection began in five counties beginning in May 2010.	Some counties have had a difficult time getting this data, but the evaluation team has continued to collect it as available. Data from five counties is included in this report, due to missing data from two county. See table 6.13 for preliminary findings regarding 211 data.
<b>Site visits and Telephone Interviews</b>	Completed summer 2010 site visits for KN and comparison sites. Final site visits to KN counties were conducted in Spring 2012.	An electronic survey of all seven comparison counties was completed in Fall 2012.
<b>Kinship Informational Data System (KIDS), including family follow-up</b>	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, 2010.	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.
<b>Time study</b>	Data collected in September/October 2010.	Preliminary findings from 2010 are included in the October 2010 semi-annual report.
<b>System Analysis</b>	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 2011.

**Primary Data Source Updates:**

- **Site Visits** (proposal p. 50): As reported in the first semi-annual report, the evaluation team determined that it was 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 continues to participate in conference calls and

attend the quarterly KN in-person meetings throughout the life of this project. HSRI determined that it was unnecessary to complete full site visits in 2011; rather, a final set of site visits was conducted in Spring 2012, and included focus groups with kinship caregivers and interviews with child welfare staff. A corresponding electronic survey was conducted in Fall 2012 with the seven comparison counties.

- **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 survey did not occur: the evaluation team had 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.

**Secondary Data Sources:** As noted in #4 above, the evaluation team has examined the administrative SACWIS data file from ODJFS – the primary source of data on child outcomes, and began the analysis of this data. A more in-depth analysis of SACWIS data will be included in the Final Progress Report.

6. **Data Collection Procedures:** All data collection procedure changes are noted above. Data collection occurred for all proposed efforts unless otherwise noted above.
7. **Data Analysis:** Our primary focus in recent months has been to conduct the analysis of the administrative data set, as well as continue to examine KIDS data and site visit/survey system-level data from all counties involved in this evaluation.
8. **Reporting and Dissemination:** The evaluation team completed the first five semi-annual reports on time, submitting them in April and October of 2010, 2011, and April of 2012. Ongoing reporting of evaluation findings to the project sites happened 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 finalized the Kinship Navigator Implementation Report on activities that occurred during the implementation period of this grant; this report includes data collected via site visits, implementation reports, and KIDS. We also finalized a Mid-Grant Brief. All reports are included at <http://www.kinshipohio.org>.
9. **Other:** N/A

## **PROCESS EVALUATION**

The evaluation team will provide 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. Some data in this category will be reported per primary caregiver (such as caregiver-level demographic information) and some per family (number kinship children in the home, services in need of). This data is updated at the time of the family follow-up assessment.

**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 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. Approximately 25 individuals work on some aspect of the KN 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. Number of Participants Served

Timeframe	Case Managed Kinship Caregivers/ Families, referred after Feb 1, 2010	Case Management Involved Kinship Children
<b>February 1, 2010 to September 30, 2010, updated</b>	Cases referred this period: 254	Referred: 426 children
	Cases referred and with initial assessment (IA) complete this period: 205	
	Cases referred and with IA complete, and consenting: 187	With IA complete, consenting: 316 children
	Follow-up completed (all cases): 42	
<b>October 1, 2010 to February 28, 2011, updated (for reporting period through March 2011)</b>	Cases referred this period: 140	Referred: 209 children
	Cases with initial assessment (IA) complete this period: 159	
	Cases referred and with IA complete, consenting: 142	With IA complete, consenting: 213 children
	Follow-up completed (all cases): 147	
<b>Mar 1, 2011 to Aug 31, 2011, updated (for reporting period through Sep 2011)</b>	Cases referred this period: 286	Referred: 468 children
	Cases with initial assessment (IA) complete this period: 275	
	Cases referred and with IA complete, and consenting: 252	With IA complete, consenting: 405 children
	Follow-up completed (all cases): 155	
<b>Sept 1, 2011 to Feb 29, 2012 (for reporting period through March 2012)</b>	Cases referred this period: 238	Referred: 382 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	
<b>Mar 1, 2012 to July 31, 2012 (for reporting period through Sep 2012)</b>	Cases referred this period: 137	Referred: 204 children
	Cases with initial assessment (IA) complete this period: 125	
	Cases referred and with IA complete, and consenting: 121	With IA complete, consenting: 194 children
	Follow-up completed (all cases): 203	
<b>Total to date: February 2010 to July 31, 2012</b>	<b>Cases referred: 1,055</b>	<b>Total children referred: 1,689</b>
	<b>With initial assessment (IA) complete: 1,015</b>	
	<b>With IA complete, consenting: 945</b>	<b>IA complete, consenting: 1,516 children</b>
	<b>Follow-up completed (all cases): 768</b>	
	<b>Ongoing Cases (all cases): 498</b>	<b>Kinship Children in Ongoing Cases: 746</b>



### 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 July 31, 2012 for all case-managed child and family-level data included in this report.

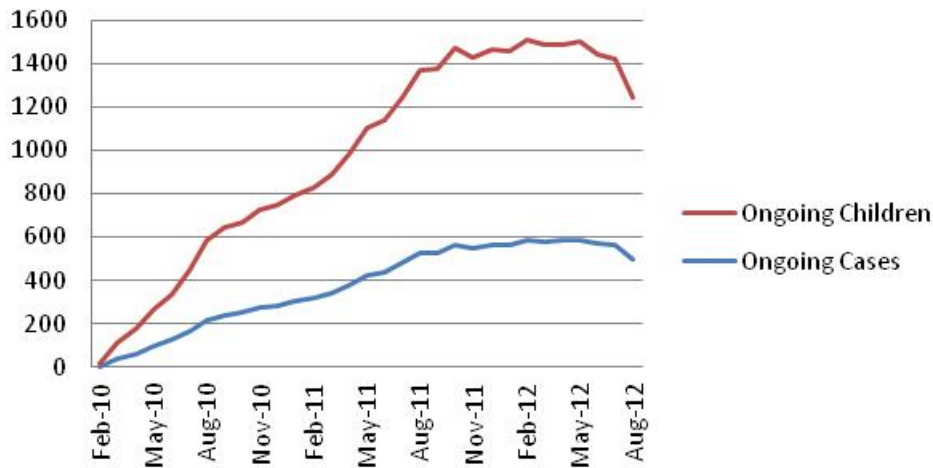
**Reporting Rationale:** KNs have provided case-management services for a total of 1,015 families referred to the programs between February 2010 and July 2012. However, inclusion in case-level evaluation analysis requires having provided informed consent for evaluation participation and having a complete initial assessment. Of the 1,015 cases for which data was collected in KIDS, 945 met these criteria. Data was available for 1,516 kinship children in these 945 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, as is indicated in the chart on the next page, there is a 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.

**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.

**More about 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.

## Ongoing Cases



### 3. Demographics

All data from this section was downloaded from KIDS on Aug 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 = 945 families, 1,516 children). All seven project sites contribute data for this section.

#### Kinship Caregiver Level:

Information in this section is about the **primary** caregivers in the 945 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.

<b>Table 3.1: Primary Kinship Caregiver Age (at Date Initial Assessment Complete)</b>	
	Cumulative Feb 2010 – Jul 2012 n = 941*
<b>Mean*</b>	48 years
<b>Median</b>	49 years
<b>Min – Max</b>	19 – 82 years

\*Due to missing dates of birth for a small number of kinship caregivers, 941 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. However, this does not indicate the family structure of these kinship families.

<b>Table 3.2: Primary Kinship Caregiver Gender</b>		
	Cumulative Feb 2010 – Jul 2012 n = 945	
	Number	Percent
<b>Male</b>	94	10%
<b>Female</b>	851	90%
<b>Total</b>	945	100%

**C. Race/ Ethnicity:** Table 3.3 shows primary kinship caregiver race. Most primary kinship caregivers are white, though some diversity is present. There was no change in race proportions of primary kinship caregivers since the previous semi-annual reports.

<b>Table 3.3: Primary Kinship Caregiver Race</b>		
	Cumulative Feb 2010 – Jul 2012 n = 945	
	Number	Percent
<b>White</b>	736	78%
<b>Black</b>	180	19%
<b>Hispanic</b>	19	2%
<b>Asian/Pacific Islander</b>	1	< 1%
<b>American Indian/ Alaska Native</b>	2	< 1%
<b>Multi-Racial</b>	5	1%
<b>Other</b>	2	< 1%
<b>Total</b>	825	100%

**D. Type of Agency or Individual who Referred Participant(s) to Program:** Table 3.4 shows who referred the 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, with the exception of an increase in proportion of 'Self/KN Advertising'. Public Children Service Agencies (Children Services) remains the largest referral source, likely due to the close relationships between the KN program 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). 'Other' included word of mouth, Facebook, schools, law enforcement, and local attorneys.

<b>Table 3.4: Referral Source</b>		
	Cumulative Feb 2010 – Jul 2012 n = 945	
	Number	Percent
<b>Children Services</b>	539	57%
<b>Other Kinship Caregiver</b>	77	8%
<b>Other Community Provider</b>	82	9%
<b>DJFS</b>	46	5%
<b>Court System</b>	33	4%
<b>Self/KN Advertising</b>	101	11%
<b>Local 211/I&amp;R Agency</b>	10	1%
<b>Faith-based</b>	0	0%
<b>Other</b>	57	6%
<b>Total</b>	945	100%

**E. Income:** We did not collect this information for evaluation.

**F. Marital Status:** We did not collect 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 (84%) have at least a high school degree. These findings present very little change from those figures provided for the last semi-annual report.

<b>Table 3.5: Education Level at Initial Assessment</b>		
	Cumulative Feb 2010 – Jul 2012 n = 945	
	Number	Percent
<b>Grade School</b>	1	<1%
<b>Middle School</b>	32	3%
<b>Some High School</b>	114	12%
<b>High School Graduate</b>	469	50%
<b>Technical Training</b>	33	4%
<b>Some College</b>	169	18%
<b>Associate Degree</b>	47	5%
<b>College Degree</b>	66	7%
<b>Unknown</b>	14	2%
<b>Total</b>	945	100%

**H. Employment Status:** We did not collect this information for evaluation.

**I. Primary Language:** We did not collect 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 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 3.18), 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 2,157 children (including biological or non-kinship children) were reported to be in the 945 kinship families included in this analysis, ranging from zero<sup>2</sup> 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

<sup>2</sup> 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.

group here, and in the child-level demographics section below. Table 3.6 provides the total number of kinship children (1,516), 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.

<b>Table 3.6: Number of Kinship Children in Home at Initial Assessment Completion</b>	
	Cumulative Feb 2010 – Feb 2012 (n = 945 families)
<b>Total Number</b>	1,516
<b>Average per Family</b>	< 2
<b>Range per Family</b>	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 did not collect 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 = 1,516 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.

<b>Table 3.7: Primary Kinship Children Age at Date Initial Assessment Complete</b>	
	Cumulative Feb 2010 – Jul 2012 n = 1,508*
<b>Mean*</b>	7 years
<b>Median</b>	6 years
<b>Min – Max</b>	< 1 year – 20 years

\*Due to missing dates of birth for several children, 1,508 records were used for this analysis.

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

<b>Table 3.8: Gender of Kinship Children</b>		
	Cumulative Feb 2010 – Jul 2012 n = 1,516	
	Number	Percent
<b>Male</b>	740	49%
<b>Female</b>	776	51%
<b>Total</b>	1,516	100%

**C. Race/Ethnicity:** Table 3.9 shows a lower proportion of white children and 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.

<b>Table 3.9: Race of Kinship Children</b>		
	Cumulative Feb 2010 – Jul 2012 n = 1,516	
	Number	Percent
<b>White</b>	1,013	67%
<b>Black</b>	279	18%
<b>Multi-Racial</b>	173	11%
<b>Hispanic</b>	38	3%
<b>American Indian/ Alaska Native</b>	9	1%
<b>Asian/Pacific Islander</b>	2	< 1%
<b>Other</b>	2	< 1%
<b>Total</b>	1,516	100%

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

**E. Length of time in relative’s care:** The evaluation team can only 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. Out of the 1,516 children recorded in KIDS, 1,184 children, or 78% were involved in the child welfare system at some point in time (see F: Current Involvement with Child Welfare Agency); however, only 131 of these children have a formal placement recorded in SACWIS. The low proportion of children who have a placement recorded in SACWIS is likely due to the fact that PCSA caseworkers are not required to record informal placements (when the agency does not hold custody of the child) in SACWIS, which KNs have described as a large proportion of the population of families they work with. Although the number of children involved in Kinship Navigator who also have a formal

placement in SACWIS is small, and not necessarily representative of the Kinship Navigator client population, Table 3.10 describes the length of time children who were involved with the Kinship Navigator program spent in Kinship Care vs. Foster Care.

<b>Table 3.10: Average Number of Placement Days in Relative Care vs. Foster Care</b>		
<b>Feb 2010 – May* 2012</b>		
	<b>Kinship Care</b>	<b>Foster Care</b>
Number of Children Placed	88	81
Mean # of Placement Days	166 days	109 days
Median # of Placement Days	141 days	29 days

\*The evaluation team received the SACWIS data files prior to the final KIDS data download. SACWIS placement data goes through May 15<sup>th</sup> 2012.

It is also 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. It is interesting to note that caregivers are accessing KN services at all different points – from preparing over a year in advance for the arrival of a kinship child, to assistance for a child who’s been in a kinship placement for over 18 years.

<b>Table 3.11: Length of Time in Days from Kinship Placement Start to Referral to KN Date</b>	
	<b>Cumulative Feb 2010 – Jul 2012 n = 1,500*</b>
<b>Mean</b>	588
<b>Median</b>	96
<b>Range</b>	-607 to 6,813 days (18.6 years)

\* Due to missing data for several children, 1,500 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 3.12 shows the number and percent of child welfare involvement at the time of initial assessment completion. Table 3.13 shows the number and percentage of child welfare involvement prior to initial assessment completion.



<b>Table 3.12: Involvement of Children with Child Welfare Agency at Initial Assessment</b>		
	Cumulative Feb 2010 – Jul 2012 n = 1,516	
	Number	Percent
<b>Involved</b>	909	60%
<b>Not involved</b>	511	34%
<b>Unknown</b>	96	6%
<b>Total</b>	1,516	100%

<b>Table 3.13: Involvement of Children with Child Welfare Agency Prior to Initial Assessment</b>		
	Cumulative Feb 2010 – Jul 2012 n = 1,516	
	Number	Percent
<b>Involved</b>	983	65%
<b>Not involved</b>	329	22%
<b>Unknown</b>	204	14%
<b>Total</b>	1,516	100%

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). When involvement is unduplicated, we find that 1,184 children, or 78% of the 1,516 kinship children, had some known involvement with child welfare up to the point of initial assessment completion.

**G. Length of time in foster care:** See Table 3.10.

**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 3.14 & 3.15 provide information about the child/primary kinship caregiver relationship. Table 3.14 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 3.15 demonstrates the mix of caregiver/child relationships.

<b>Table 3.14: Relationship of Kinship Children with Primary Kinship Caregiver</b>		
	Cumulative Feb 2010 – Jul 2012 n = 1,516	
	Number	Percent
<b>Maternal</b>	946	62%
<b>Paternal</b>	420	28%
<b>Not Applicable</b>	150	10%
<b>Total</b>	1,516	100%

<b>Table 3.15: Relationship of Primary Kinship Caregiver with Kinship Children</b>		
	Cumulative Feb 2010 – Jul 2012 n = 1,516	
	Number	Percent
<b>Aunt/Uncle</b>	246	16%
<b>Cousin</b>	43	3%
<b>Godparent</b>	8	1%
<b>Grandparent</b>	930	61%
<b>Great Aunt/Uncle</b>	44	3%
<b>Great Grandparent</b>	61	4%
<b>Half-Sibling</b>	5	< 1 %
<b>Non-Custodial Parent</b>	2	< 1 %
<b>Sibling</b>	12	1%
<b>Step-Parent</b>	8	1%
<b>Non-related Kin</b>	147	10%
<b>Other</b>	10	1%
<b>Total</b>	1,516	100%

**Primary Reason for Kinship Caregiver Assuming Care of Kinship Child:** Table 3.16 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 neglect 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, military deployment, and runaway child, among others.

<b>Table 3.16: Primary Reason for Kinship Caregiver Assuming Care of Kinship Child</b>		
	Cumulative Feb 2010 – Jul 2012 n = 1,516	
	Number	Percent
<b>Abandonment</b>	252	17%
<b>Capacity of Adult (MRDD)</b>	10	1%
<b>Child Behavior Problems</b>	17	1%
<b>Child Disability/ Special Needs</b>	1	< 1%
<b>Child Substance Abuse and/or Tx</b>	5	< 1%
<b>Emotional Abuse</b>	5	< 1%
<b>Housing/ Shelter</b>	69	5%
<b>Neglect</b>	209	14%
<b>Parent(s) Chronic Illness</b>	10	1%
<b>Parent(s) Death</b>	46	3%
<b>Parent(s) Incarcerated</b>	185	12%
<b>Parent(s) Mental Health and/or Tx</b>	58	4%
<b>Parent(s) Substance Abuse and/or Tx</b>	398	26%
<b>Parent(s) Unemployed</b>	15	1%
<b>Physical Abuse</b>	43	3%
<b>Sexual Abuse</b>	13	1%
<b>Relinquishment/ Dependency</b>	58	4%
<b>Unruly/ Delinquency</b>	7	1%
<b>Other</b>	115	8%
<b>Total</b>	1,516	100%

**Type of Kinship Care Arrangement:**

Tables 3.17 and 3.18 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 3.17 provides the long-term caregiving plans for kinship children at the time of initial assessment completion. A majority of the kinship children (61%) 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 guardianship, and pursuing temporary custody among others. There were no significant changes between previous reporting periods and these cumulative figures.

<b>Table 3.17: Type of Kinship Care Arrangement: Long Term Caregiving Plans for Kinship Children</b>		
	Cumulative Feb 2010 – Jul 2012 n = 1,516	
	Number	Percent
<b>Working toward reunification</b>	435	29%
<b>Pursuing Legal Custody/ Guardianship</b>	539	36%
<b>Pursuing Adoption</b>	21	1%
<b>Transitioning Youth</b>	16	1%
<b>Another Relative to Assume Custody</b>	6	< 1%
<b>Child remaining w/ KCG who has LC/G</b>	360	24%
<b>Other</b>	26	2%
<b>Unanswered or Unknown</b>	113	7%
<b>Total</b>	1,516	100%

**Legal Status of Kinship Children:** Table 3.18 provides information about the legal status of kinship children at the time of initial assessment completion. As shown, almost half of them were either in temporary custody of kin (26%) or without custody arrangement (21%). As with the other child-level demographics, only very small changes were observed between previous reporting periods and the cumulative total reported here.

<b>Table 3.18: Type of Kinship Care Arrangement: Legal Status of Kinship Children at Initial Assessment Completion</b>		
	Cumulative Feb 2010 – Jul 2012 n = 1,516	
	Number	Percent
<b>Legal Custodian</b>	256	17%
<b>Legal Guardian</b>	128	8%
<b>Verbal custody from child's parent(s)</b>	168	11%
<b>Temporary Custody</b>	386	26%
<b>PCSA/Court Custody, placed with kin</b>	140	9%
<b>None</b>	316	21%
<b>Unknown</b>	83	6%
<b>Other*</b>	39	3%
<b>Total</b>	1,516	100%

\* Typically included children in the process of gaining legal custody, guardianship, POA, or a caretaker affidavit

When families complete their follow-up assessments they are asked to update the legal status of their kinship children. Of the 1,253 children with complete follow-up assessment, 278 (22%) had a change in legal status from initial assessment to follow-up. The following bullets provide more detailed information about this group of children:

- Of the 27 children who were in PCSA custody at the time of initial assessment, 11 (40%) were in parental custody at the time of follow-up, and 13 (48%) were in kinship caregiver custody. The legal statuses of the remaining three children were unknown at follow-up.
- Of the 145 children who were in parental custody at the time of initial assessment, 83 (57%) were in kinship caregiver custody, and none were in PCSA custody at the time of follow-up. The remaining children were either in a different type of parental custody or their custody situation was unknown at the time of follow-up.
- Of the 92 children who were in some type of kinship caregiver custody at the time of initial assessment, 23 (25%) were in parental custody at follow-up, and 3 (3%) were in PCSA custody at follow-up. The remaining 66 children switched from one type of kinship caregiver arrangement to another. Most of these children (54) switched from the caregiver having temporary custody at the initial assessment to the kinship caregiver holding permanent custody at the time the follow-up assessment.

Overall, most children were in parental or kinship caregiver custody when follow-up assessments were completed (only four children were in PCSA custody at follow-up). In addition, many kinship caregivers took steps to obtain legal custody: 96 of 172 children (56%) changed from the kinship caregiver having no type of legal custody to some type of legal custody.

#### 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.

<b>Table 4.1: Services</b>	
	<b>Where to find pertinent data in this report:</b>
<b>Services for Kinship Caregivers</b>	
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 6.10 – 6.12 See services needs data in Tables 6.4 – 6.5
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.

<b>Services for Kinship Caregivers (continued)</b>	
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 6.4 – 6.5
Offer other supportive services including respite care, support groups, and legal assistance	See ‘Service Activities’ data (Table 6.3), additional qualitative data will be provided in the Final Progress Report.
<b>Other Key Services</b>	
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 6.13
Outreach to kinship caregivers	See data in Tables 6.3, 6.7 – 6.9
Outreach to the larger community of organizations on the needs of kinship families, engage them in the local collaborative	See data in Tables 6.7 – 6.9
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 1,055 total kinship caregivers referred to the KN programs between February 2010 and through Jul 2012, 1,015, or 96%, had completed initial assessments (although we are able to report on the total

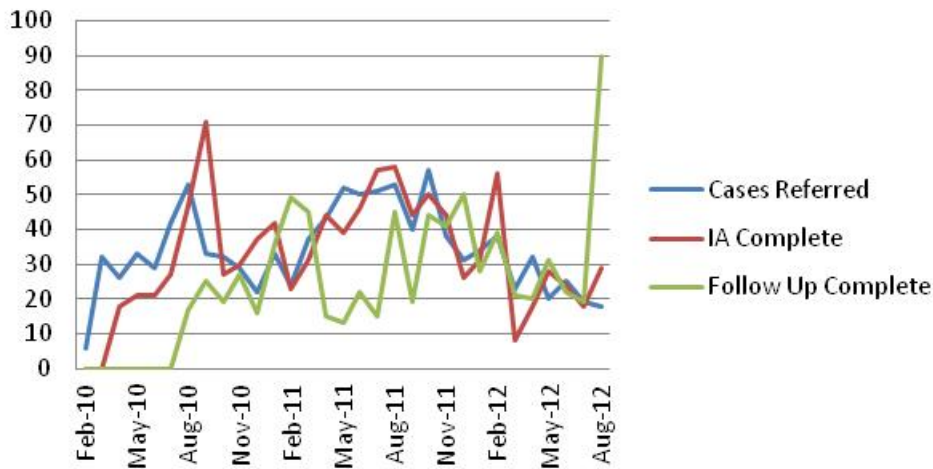
assessments completed, we only collect complete Initial Assessment data for cases which caregivers have provided informed consent – 945 families). It is also important to note that the date of initial assessment completion is system generated; therefore it may be a greater marker of time to data entry 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 630 days, with a mean of 31 days (standard deviation of 53 days).

<b>Table 6.1: Total Initial Assessments Complete</b>							
	Feb 2010 – Sept 2010, updated	Oct 2010 – Feb 2011, updated	Mar 2011 – Aug 2011, updated	Sept 2011 – Feb 2011, updated	Mar 2012 – July 2012	Cumulative Feb 2010 – Jul 2012	
	#	#	#	#	#	#	%
<b>Caregivers/families referred to the KN programs</b>	254	140	286	238	137	1,055	100%
<b>Caregivers/families with initial assessments complete</b>	205	159	275	251	125	1,015	96%

\*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.

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. The spike in Follow-ups Complete leading up to August 2012 likely reflects KNS’ efforts to complete overdue follow-ups prior to the final KIDS data download.

## Case Mix



- 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 did not collect information on any case plans for our evaluation.
- C. Number of kinship caregiver contacts per caregiver:** A total of 6,546 contacts were recorded for 738 kinship families who had complete follow-up records as of the end of February 2012 (the remaining 30 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 in KIDS.
- D. Length of time kinship caregiver receives services from kinship navigator (i.e, # days, weeks, etc):** Most KN cases do not have a formal case 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.
- 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. During the 2012 site visits most counties indicated they do not enter, or enter a limited amount of contact data, thus these numbers represent a minimum number of total contacts that were actually made. There was no contact history recorded for thirty families who had completed a family follow-up; thus the following numbers reflect the information recorded for the other 738 families with follow-up assessments complete.



<b>Table 6.2: Number of Types of Contacts between Kinship Navigator and Kinship Caregiver for Families with Follow-up Complete</b> <b>n = 738 families</b>	
Home Visit	1,704
Office Visit	1,062
Telephone Contact	3,029
Advocacy on Behalf of KCG	320
Other	431
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,546</b>

**F. Type of service provided by Kinship Navigator to Kinship Caregiver:** KNs 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 development meetings regarding support groups, Youth Task Force, and networking. The 'Other' category includes shopping for kinship children, gatherings to distribute donated goods, newsletter mailings, and monthly food bank activities.

<b>Table 6.3: Number of Service Activities</b>						
	Feb 2010 – Sept 2010	Oct 2010 – Feb 2011	Mar 2011 – Aug 2011	Sept 2011 – Feb 2012	Mar 2012 – Jul 2012	Cumulative: Feb 2010 – Jul 2012
	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number
<b>Support Groups</b>	58	41	50	30	30	209
<b>Social Events</b>	5	5	7	5	1	23
<b>Training or Skill Building for KCGs</b>	7	5	9	6	2	29
<b>Legal Services</b>	11	1	1	0	0	13
<b>Meetings</b>	12	1	0	1	1	15
<b>Other</b>	20	19	25	24	7	95
<b>Total Recorded Activities</b>	113	72	92	66	41	384

**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. The 209 support groups that were held between the beginning of February 2010 and the end of July 2012 had between zero

(likely meetings recorded but canceled due to weather, etc) and 64 attendees; the mean number of attendees was 9 across all counties and support groups. During the 2012 site visits, most programs indicated they intend to continue holding support groups after the completion of the grant period.

**Training and Skill Building for Kinship Caregivers:** Six of the seven project sites recorded a total of 29 training and skill building service activities for kinship caregivers between the beginning of February 2010 and the end of July 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.

**G. G. Number & Types of Services/Supports Caregivers are linked to:** Part of the Initial Assessment of families in the KN program includes completing a needs assessment of services and supports that may benefit them, and whether or not they are linked with services that meet their specific needs. Table 6.4 shows the total needs of caregivers at the time of initial assessment, regardless of whether or not they are currently receiving services to meet those needs. 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.

**Table 6.4: Type of Service NEEDS for Kinship Families at Initial Assessment**

	Feb 2010 - Sept 2010		Oct 2010 – Feb 2011		Mar 2011 - Aug 2011		Sept 2011 – Feb 2012		Mar 2012 – Jul 2012		Cumulative Feb 2010 – Jul 2012	
	#	% of Total	#	% of Total	#	% of Total	#	% of Total	#	% of Total	#	% of Total
<b>Children Services</b>	92	49%	89	63%	162	64%	164	68%	93	77%	600	64%
<b>KPI</b>	69	37%	35	25%	60	24%	60	25%	19	16%	243	26%
<b>Job and Family Services</b>	146	78%	129	91%	237	94%	221	91%	119	98%	852	90%
<b>Financial/ Cash Assistance</b>	130	70%	108	76%	204	81%	207	85%	106	88%	755	80%
<b>Employment Assistance</b>	18	10%	26	18%	19	8%	17	7%	9	7%	89	9%
<b>Food Stamps</b>	99	53%	77	54%	162	64%	149	61%	86	71%	573	61%
<b>Short-term Assistance</b>	25	13%	32	23%	32	13%	50	21%	22	18%	161	17%
<b>Medicaid/ Healthy Start</b>	140	75%	126	89%	232	92%	211	87%	113	93%	822	87%
<b>Medicare</b>	54	29%	48	34%	69	27%	65	27%	21	17%	257	27%
<b>Child Support</b>	36	19%	29	20%	58	23%	58	24%	27	22%	208	22%
<b>Area Agency on Aging</b>	8	4%	10	7%	22	9%	23	10%	4	3%	67	7%
<b>Family and Children First Council</b>	7	4%	5	4%	26	10%	48	20%	8	7%	94	10%
<b>Juvenile Court</b>	39	21%	34	24%	48	19%	71	29%	24	20%	216	23%
<b>Caregiver Behavioral Health (MH/SA)</b>	11	6%	7	5%	16	6%	26	11%	8	7%	68	7%
<b>Child Behavioral Health (MH/SA)</b>	58	31%	35	25%	77	31%	79	33%	33	27%	282	30%
<b>Special Need Services (MR/DD)</b>	13	7%	6	4%	11	4%	12	5%	6	5%	48	5%
<b>Benefit Bank</b>	35	19%	28	20%	60	24%	83	34%	26	22%	232	25%



**Table 6.4: Type of Service NEEDS for Kinship Families at Initial Assessment (continued)**

	Feb 2010 - Sept 2010		Oct 2010 – Feb 2011		Mar 2011 - Aug 2011		Sept 2011 – Feb 2012		Mar 2012 – Jul 2012		Cumulative Feb 2010 – Jul 2011	
	#	% of Total	#	% of Total	#	% of Total	#	% of Total	#	% of Total	#	% of Total
<b>Clothing</b>	79	42%	77	54%	145	58%	151	62%	68	56%	520	55%
<b>Child Care</b>	25	13%	29	20%	40	16%	50	21%	19	16%	163	17%
<b>Domestic Violence</b>	0	0%	3	2%	5	2%	3	1%	2	2%	13	1%
<b>Early Intervention</b>	12	6%	8	6%	19	8%	15	6%	13	11%	67	7%
<b>Education (MFE, IEP, Tutoring)</b>	39	21%	19	13%	52	21%	59	24%	24	20%	193	20%
<b>Food (Pantry or site)</b>	86	46%	72	51%	153	61%	160	66%	67	55%	538	57%
<b>Help Me Grow</b>	17	9%	11	8%	42	17%	41	17%	27	22%	138	15%
<b>I&amp;R 211 hotline</b>	52	28%	42	30%	150	60%	139	57%	67	55%	450	48%
<b>Medical Care – caregiver</b>	84	45%	97	69%	160	64%	135	56%	62	51%	538	57%
<b>Medical Care - child</b>	103	55%	117	82%	191	76%	179	74%	86	71%	676	72%
<b>Legal Assistance/ Custody</b>	103	55%	101	71%	127	50%	105	43%	49	41%	485	51%
<b>Ombudsman</b>	2	1%	1	1%	4	2%	0	0%	0	0%	7	1%
<b>Recreation</b>	24	13%	11	8%	39	16%	42	17%	11	9%	127	13%
<b>Respite</b>	12	6%	4	3%	25	10%	25	10%	9	7%	75	8%
<b>Shelter/Housing</b>	32	17%	50	35%	41	16%	50	21%	10	8%	183	19%
<b>Support Groups</b>	76	41%	82	58%	153	61%	159	65%	70	58%	540	57%
<b>Transportation</b>	18	10%	16	11%	32	13%	50	21%	15	12%	131	14%
<b>Utilities</b>	25	13%	37	26%	25	10%	50	21%	18	15%	155	16%
<b>Veteran Services</b>	1	1%	1	1%	8	3%	4	2%	3	3%	17	2%
<b>Other</b>	4	1%	5	2%	11	2%	8	2%	2	1%	30	2%
<b>Number of Kinship Families</b>	187		142		252		243		121		945	



The Services and Supports Needs Assessment is also completed at follow-up. Table 6.5 demonstrates kinship family needs that were *not* currently being met at the time of initial assessment, and whether or not caregivers were linked to services to meet those needs at the time the follow-up assessment was completed. This table shows the wide variety of needs that were met, and also demonstrates the high success rate KNs had with linking caregivers up with services: 24 out of the 34 services listed had a successful ‘link’ rate of 80% or higher. Being unable to link caregivers up with identified services could have to do with eligibility issues, community resource issues, and caregiver engagement, as indicated in the following section.

	Need Service at Initial Assessment		Of Families in Need of Service at IA, Those Linked to Service by Follow Up	
	Number	%	Number	%
Children Services	35 of 768	5%	31 of 35	89%
KPI	128 of 768	17%	96 of 128	75%
ODJFS financial/cash assistance	282 of 768	37%	226 of 282	80%
ODJFS employment assistance	28 of 768	4%	23 of 28	82%
ODJFS food stamps	127 of 768	17%	104 of 127	82%
ODJFS short-term assistance/PRC	76 of 768	10%	67 of 76	88%
ODJFS Medicaid/Healthy Start	149 of 768	20%	125 of 149	84%
Medicare	21 of 768	3%	20 of 21	95%
Child Support	75 of 768	10%	50 of 75	67%
Area Agency on Aging	13 of 768	2%	12 of 13	92%
Family and Children First Council	31 of 768	4%	27 of 31	87%
Juvenile Court	27 of 768	4%	24 of 27	89%
Caregiver Behavioral Health (MH/SA)	18 of 768	2%	16 of 18	89%
Child Behavioral Health (MH/SA)	87 of 768	11%	71 of 87	82%
Special Need Services (DD)	12 of 768	2%	9 of 12	75%
Benefit Bank	84 of 768	11%	61 of 84	73%
Clothing	242 of 768	32%	180 of 242	74%
Child Care	90 of 768	12%	71 of 90	79%
Domestic Violence	1 of 768	<1%	1 of 1	100%
Early Intervention	18 of 768	2%	16 of 18	89%
Education Services	42 of 768	6%	36 of 42	86%
Food (pantry or site)	223 of 768	29%	149 of 223	67%
Help Me Grow	44 of 768	6%	36 of 44	82%
I&R 211 Hotline	262 of 768	34%	133 of 262	51%
Medical Care (Caregiver)	50 of 768	7%	41 of 50	82%
Medical Care (Child)	90 of 768	12%	79 of 90	88%
Legal Assistance/Custody	119 of 768	16%	98 of 119	82%
Ombudsman	2 of 768	<1%	2 of 2	100%
Recreation	66 of 768	9%	58 of 66	88%
Respite	39 of 768	5%	37 of 39	95%
Shelter/Housing	33 of 768	4%	27 of 33	82%
Support Groups	230 of 768	30%	157 of 230	68%
Transportation	33 of 768	4%	25 of 33	76%
Utilities	45 of 768	6%	37 of 45	82%

**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 (637 of 768). For the remaining 131 cases, they partially met (15%) or were unable to meet (3%) service needs. Table 6.6 provides reasons given for not being able to completely meet family needs by follow-up. 'Other' included loss of contact with the family, funding limitations, severe needs of kinship child, and death of caregiver.

	Number of Cases	%
Community Lacked Resources	4	3%
Eligibility Issues	46	35%
Unable to Engage Families	41	31%
KN Resource Limitations	23	18%
Other	17	13%
<b>Total</b>	<b>131</b>	<b>100%</b>

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

**System-level:**

The following section provides data on system/program level activities.

**A. Number of outreach activities conducted:** Table 6.7 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 meetings. 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, web advertisements, and other informational events.

	Feb 2010 – Sept 2010		Oct 2010 – Feb 2011		Mar 2011 – Aug 2011		Sept 2011 – Feb 2012		Mar 2012 – Jul 2012		Cumulative Feb 2010 – Jul 2012	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
<b>Phone call</b>	15	7%	6	6%	13	11%	0	0%	0	0%	34	7%
<b>Presentation</b>	27	13%	12	13%	10	8%	3	7%	0	0%	52	11%
<b>Written material distributed (such as newsletter, etc.)</b>	57	28%	15	16%	32	27%	8	20%	11	55%	123	26%
<b>Press release or other advertisement</b>	16	8%	23	25%	25	21%	5	12%	5	25%	74	15%
<b>Meeting</b>	67	33%	21	22%	26	22%	21	51%	4	20%	139	29%
<b>Other</b>	22	11%	17	18%	14	12%	4	10%	0	0%	57	12%
<b>Total</b>	<b>204</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>479</b>	<b>100%</b>

Table 6.8 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 as the need for outreach has decreased, percentages have remained largely the same.

<b>Table 6.8: Number of Outreach Activities conducted by Main Result of Activity</b>						
	Feb 2010 – Sept 2010	Oct 2010 – Feb 2011	Mar 2011– Aug 2011	Sept 2011 – Feb 2012	Mar 2012 – Jul 2012	Cumulative Feb 2010 – Jul 2012
<b>Promotion of KN program</b>	121 (59%)	56 (60%)	68 (57%)	16 (39%)	17 (85%)	278 (58%)
<b>Provision of information/ technical assistance</b>	12 (6%)	5 (5%)	14 (12%)	1 (2%)	0 (0%)	32 (7%)
<b>Advocating for kinship caregiving community</b>	3 (2%)	4 (4%)	5 (4%)	1 (2%)	0 (0%)	13 (3%)
<b>Collaborating with other community partners to develop / enhance services for kinship families</b>	59 (29%)	22 (23%)	28 (23%)	23 (56%)	3 (15%)	135 (28%)
<b>Other</b>	9 (4%)	7 (7%)	5 (4%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	21 (4%)
<b>Total outreach activities</b>	204 (100%)	94 (100%)	120 (100%)	41 (100%)	20 (100%)	479 (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 307 of the 479 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.

<b>Table 6.9: Number of Individuals Reached through Some Outreach Activities (n =307 activities)</b>		
	Mean # of people	Range of people
<b>Phone Calls (n = 26)</b>	3	1 – 20
<b>Presentation (n = 52)</b>	23	3 – 150
<b>Written Material Distributed (n = 55)</b>	92	1 – 1000
<b>Meeting (n = 128)</b>	12	1 – 200
<b>Other (n =46)</b>	89	1 – 2000

**C. Number and purpose of incoming calls to kinship caregiver information line:** Six<sup>3</sup> of the seven KN programs recorded a total of 1,067 non-case management I&R calls from February 2010 to July 2012. I&R calls are considered brief conversations with caregivers, where there is not an expectation of continued interactions with these families over time.

<sup>3</sup> Data is not available for one county due to data-entry issues

<b>Table 6.10: Non Case Management I&amp;R calls handled by Kinship Navigator</b>						
	Feb 2010 – Sept 2010	Oct 2010 – Feb 2011	Mar 2011 – Aug 2011	Sept 2011 – Feb 2012	Mar 2012 – Jul 2012	Cumulative: Feb 2010 – Jul 2012
<b>Total # of I&amp;R calls fielded by KN programs (non case management families)</b>	216	198	197	296	160	1,067
<b>Range of # of I&amp;R calls fielded by each county per month</b>	0 – 14	2 – 23	1 - 16	3 - 42	0 - 43	0 – 43
<b>Average # of I&amp;R calls fielded by each county per month</b>	5	7	6	11	8	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 6.11 and 6.12. 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 (6.11 & 6.12).

<b>Table 6.11: Non Case Management I&amp;R calls handled by Kinship Navigator: Referral Sources</b>						
	Feb 2010 – Sept 2010	Oct 2010 – Feb 2011	Mar 2011 – Aug 2011	Sept 2011 – Feb 2012	Mar 2012 – Jul 2012	Cumulative: Feb 2010 – Jul 2012
<b>PCSA</b>	45	58	43	31	38	215
<b>Office on Aging</b>	1	0	0	0	0	1
<b>211/I&amp;R</b>	4	4	3	4	6	21
<b>Court System</b>	3	17	9	21	12	62
<b>DJFS</b>	31	15	16	65	32	159
<b>Other KCG</b>	11	13	14	11	4	53
<b>Family Council/FCFC or equivalent</b>	1	5	1	1	0	8
<b>Church/Faith Based Org.</b>	4	0	3	1	3	11
<b>School/Education Provider</b>	11	6	8	7	7	39
<b>Other Community Provider</b>	17	18	19	7	5	66
<b>Other Word of Mouth</b>	25	9	8	16	5	63
<b>PR/Advertising/Publicity</b>	13	1	2	8	2	26
<b>Other</b>	12	6	5	10	2	35



<b>Table 6.12: Non Case Management I&amp;R calls handled by Kinship Navigator: Information Provided to Caller</b>						
	Feb 2010 – Sept 2010	Oct 2010 – Feb 2011	Mar 2011 – Aug 2011	Sept 2011 – Feb 2012	Mar 2012- Jul 2012	Cumulative: Feb 2010 – Jul 2012
<b>Becoming a Kinship Caregiver</b>	34	41	46	23	16	160
<b>Grandparents Rights</b>	36	26	12	2	1	77
<b>Other Legal Services</b>	51	37	41	58	45	232
<b>Financial Supports (including OWF)</b>	45	25	35	39	28	172
<b>Medical</b>	13	6	8	1	1	29
<b>Shelter/Housing Services</b>	6	3	1	10	3	23
<b>Food/Clothing/Other Basic Need</b>	38	40	49	48	30	205
<b>Utilities Assistance</b>	6	22	6	17	5	56
<b>Childcare</b>	5	5	4	1	8	23
<b>Respite</b>	1	0	2	0	3	4
<b>Visitation</b>	2	2	0	1	0	5
<b>Support Groups/Counseling</b>	34	32	51	16	1	134
<b>School/Education</b>	10	9	6	2	0	27
<b>Other Community Provider Services/ Contact Info</b>	33	22	26	4	1	86
<b>Other Resources</b>	11	14	15	15	2	57

**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 shows the total number of calls to 211 and the total number of people who were referred the KN program for each county:

<b>Table 6.13: Local 211 Calls Received &amp; Referred to KN Program</b>		
	Total # of calls	Total # referred to KN
<b>Ashtabula</b>	48,133	94
<b>Clark</b>	N/A*	57
<b>Lorain</b>	20,124	14
<b>Portage</b>	38,910	84
<b>Richland</b>	23,502	66
<b>Total</b>	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 did not collect this information for evaluation.
- E. Number of resource directories distributed:** We did not collect this information for evaluation.
- F. Number of community partners engaged in partnerships:** Information is available in the Implementation Report (see page 6 for information on where to access this report).
- G. Number of trainings/informational sessions conducted with community partners/service providers:** See Tables 6.7: Number of Outreach Activities conducted by Activity Type and 6.8: Number of Outreach Activities conducted by Main Result of Activity.
- H. Number of individuals attending trainings/ informational sessions conducted with community providers:** See Table 6.9: Number of Individuals Reached through Some Outreach Activities.

**7. Other Process Results:**

- A. 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 7.1 provides the answers to a few of these questions. More responses to the Family Survey are found in the Outcomes Section of this report.

<b>Table 7.1: Family Survey Responses (n = 254*)</b>			
	Yes	Somewhat	No
<b>Was the Kinship Navigator easy to reach when you needed him or her?</b>	93%	6%	1%
<b>Was the Kinship Navigator sensitive to your family’s values and culture?</b>	96%	2%	1%
<b>Did the Kinship Navigator help you to care for the children longer than you would have?</b>	58%	6%	26%
<b>Did the Kinship Navigator help the child(ren) be able to live with you permanently?</b>	52%	6%	29%

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

## 8. OUTCOME EVALUATION

The following section provides data on outcomes for kinship caregivers and children using both KIDS and SACWIS data. The caregiver-level outcomes include analyses on caregivers who received KN services, primarily comparing initial and follow-up assessment data from KIDS, as well data from family follow-up surveys the evaluation team received from caregivers. The child-level outcomes were analyzed primarily using SACWIS data, comparing children who were served by the KN program to all other children who were in kinship placements in demonstration counties.

### Kinship Navigator: Caregiver-Level

- A. Number and percent of caregivers who are connected to more services and supports:** See Kinship Caregiver-Level Outputs, Table 6.5: Number of Caregivers Linked to Services while Working with Kinship Navigators.
- B. Number and percent of caregivers who report increased utilization of services and supports.** See Kinship Caregiver-Level Outputs, Table 6.5: Number of Caregivers Linked to Services while Working with Kinship Navigators.
- C. Number and percent of caregivers who report increased income or additional financial resources.** See Kinship Caregiver-Level Outputs, Table 6.5: Number of Caregivers Linked to Services while Working with Kinship Navigators for information on the number of caregivers linked to financial/cash assistance, food stamps, short-term assistance, and other financial resources.
- D. Number and percent of caregivers who report a decrease in barriers to receiving services.** We did not collect information on this subject for this evaluation; however, several caregivers left comments on the family surveys completed at the time of the follow-up assessments related to this subject. One caregiver noted, “Thanks to this program we were able to have our granddaughter attend day care which she needed, we were able to get her a winter coat, boots, clothes, and shoes.” Another caregiver commented, “There were so many things I did not know that I could do or receive until I came to kinship. I want to thank you all so much!”
- E. Number and percent of caregivers who report a decrease in family needs.** Of the 232 caregivers who completed a Family Resource Scale at both the initial assessment and at follow-up, 62% (141) reported a decrease need of basic resources, such as food, clothing, and enough money to pay utilities.
- F. Number and percent of caregivers who report and improved ability /confidence in their ability to provide for their family’s needs.** Out of the 254 caregivers who completed a family follow up survey, 96% reported they felt that the Kinship Navigator helped them to get what they needed, 79% indicated they would ask the Kinship Navigator for help in the future if needed, and 92% reported they felt overall better able to care for their children.
- G. Number and percent of caregivers who obtain/take concrete steps to obtain legal guardianship for kinship children.** This information is reported at the child-level. See Child-Level Demographics Section H: Legal Status of Kinship Children.

- H. Number and percent of caregivers who report an increase in social support.** The family follow-up survey results showed that 79% of caregivers felt that the Kinship Navigator helped them to reach out to family and/or friends for more help. Also, during the 2012 site visits, evaluators held focus groups for caregivers who participated in the program. Many caregivers voiced their appreciation for the Kinship Navigator support groups that each county developed and held over the course of the grant; one caregiver noted, “The support group is really helpful. We all exchanged phone numbers after the first session and we can call each other for support. I just don’t feel as alone anymore.” Another caregiver expressed a similar outlook, “The support group and our Navigator have absolutely made it possible to take our grandchildren. Without the support of the group, I don’t think we would have made it this far...There have been times when we have just felt like giving up, but the support of the group keeps us going.”
- I. Number and percent of caregivers who report improved parenting skills/attitudes/decreases in parenting stress.** Caregivers who completed the family follow up survey indicated that they felt better after talking with their Kinship Navigator (97%), that their Kinship Navigator made being a kinship caregiver easier (94%), and that their families are overall happier now (86%). Caregivers who participated in focus groups held supported this sentiment; one caregiver noted, “The help I got was invaluable, mainly in terms of support. It was a very stressful process and having the program for support and to more or less hold my hand and mentor me is the reason why he is still living with us and about to graduate high school.” Another caregiver commented, “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.”
- J. Number and percent of caregivers who report improved health.** Ninety-two percent of caregivers who completed the family follow-up survey reported that their families are healthier now.
- K. Number and percent of caregivers who report increased satisfaction with caregiver role.** We did not collect information on this specific topic; however, 95% of caregivers who completed the family follow-up survey indicated they were satisfied with the help they got from their KN.
- L. Number and percent of caregivers who report improved/strengthened family relationships.** Seventy-nine percent of caregivers who completed the family follow-up survey indicated that relationships in their families have improved.

### **Kinship Navigator – Child-Level:**

In order to meet our obligations for the semi-annual report, in this section we provide some preliminary findings of outcomes at the child level. However before we present these findings, it is very important to explain the limitations of these analyses.

**SACWIS only has formal kinship placements:** While conducting the preliminary outcomes analyses, we have realized the limitations of the data recorded in SACWIS. When a child is placed with a kinship caregiver, this placement is only recorded in SACWIS if the agency has custody of that child- we refer to these placements as ‘formal kinship placements’. If the child is living with a kinship caregiver, but the birth parent or the caregiver has custody, this is referred to as an informal placement and is not recorded in SACWIS. Representatives from KN counties expressed that their child welfare agencies try hard to avoid taking custody on kinship placements, and

thus, the number of children who are placed formally with kin are very small. The table below supports this belief, indicating that very few of the cases served by KN were ever placed in any formal placement settings.

<b>Table 8.1: Number of Children Served by KN in a Formal Kinship Placement in SACWIS</b>			
	# children served by KN with a formal placement in SACWIS	# of children served by KN	% children with a formal placement in SACWIS involved in KN
Ashtabula	24	100	24%
Clark	19	189	10%
Crawford	7	15	47%
Hardin	0	16	0%
Lorain	5	283	2%
Portage	45	229	20%
Richland	27	684	4%
Total	127	1,516	8%

Thus, using SACWIS to examine kinship placements means that we’re only examining 8% of the population of children served by KN. We are reluctant to rely on the findings of the analysis included below.

**Difficulty in Identifying Comparison Group:** While we have considered several options for outcome comparisons, it is still unclear the best option for our analysis:

- **KN Counties vs. Comparison Counties:** Given the above issue, the only comparison that can be made between KN counties and comparison counties is with formal kinship placements; as just explained, this does not accurately represent the depth of county’s work with kinship caregivers.
- **In Demonstration Counties, Families Served by KN vs. Those Not Served by KN in a Kinship Placement:** There are two issues here: 1) as noted above, we only have data on children placed formally with kin, which does not represent the **majority** of kinship placements in these counties and 2) it is unclear who the population is that doesn’t received KN services. Indications are that these families are those who decline services, creating a bias for families who are less willing or in need of becoming involved because of natural support systems, higher income, or other reasons.
- **In Demonstration Counties Only, All Cases Served by KN vs. All Cases with a Foster Care or Kinship Placement (not group home or residential) but Not Receiving KN Services:** If you assume that having been placed means that these families are in similar situation in their birth homes, from the county’s perspective, this is the best comparison.

At this point, we are planning on taking the last approach, so it should be understood that the analysis included below probably aren’t not the best reflection of the outcomes of this initiative and a different approach will be used for the final progress report.

- A. **Number and percent of children who demonstrate improved behavior.** We did not collect this information for evaluation.
- B. **Number and percent of children who demonstrate improved health.** This information is collected at the caregiver-level. See Caregiver-Level Outcome J: Number and percent of caregivers who report improved health.
- C. **Number and percent of children who demonstrate an increase in well-being.** We did not collect this information for evaluation.
- D. **Number of family connections maintained per child.** We did not collect this information for this evaluation.
- E. **Number and percent of children who experience placement stability.** Placement stability was similar for those children served by the KN program and those not served the program, but who still had a kinship placement. Of the 130 children in the KN program who had an out of home placement, 60% (78) had no placement changes. And, of the 292 children *not* in the KN program, but who had a kinship placement, 58% (169) had no placement changes. In addition, 5% (6) of the KN children had three or more placement setting changes compared to 7% (21) of the children not in the program.
- F. **Number and percent of children who do not experience maltreatment or repeat maltreatment.** A greater proportion of children served by the KN had a substantiated or indicated report after being placed out of home than those not served by the program, but who were in a kinship placement at some point. Specifically, 45% (59) of those children served by the program had a re-report compared to 25% (73) not served by the program, but who had a kinship placement at some point during the evaluation period.
- G. **Number and percent of children maintained in caregivers' home.** The proportion of children who were maintained in caregivers' home was very similar for those in the KN program and those not in the program. Of the 130 children who were served by the program and had an out of placement, 29% (38) were discharged to kin and, of the 292 children who not served, but who had a kinship placement at some point, 32% (93) were discharged to kin.
- H. **Number and percent of children who do not enter or re-enter foster care.** This data will be presented in the final report.
- I. **Number and percent of children who exit foster care to: 1) reunification, 2) legal guardianship/legal custody, and 3) adoption.** This data will be presented in the final report.
- J. **Other**

### **Outcome Evaluation Conclusions:**

Caregivers who participated in the KN program were linked up with a wide variety of needed services by the time follow-up assessments were completed. Caregivers also reported maintaining or increasing the adequacy of

essential resources by follow-up. Most caregivers felt the KN program helped to get them what they needed, that the program made being a kinship caregiver easier, and that they felt overall better able to care for their kinship children after being involved in the program.

We are not presenting conclusions on child-level outcomes at this time due to the limitations of SACWIS data noted above. More detailed child-level outcomes will be presented in the final progress 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 86%). They have come to the KN program through referrals from a number of referral sources, but most often Children Services (57%).
- The kinship families in the KN caseload have between zero and eleven children in the home at the time of initial assessment, including between zero<sup>4</sup> 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, 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, 78%, 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 (61% at child-level), or aunts & uncles (16% at child-level).
- Children most often came into kinship care due parent substance abuse and/or treatment (26%) or abandonment (17%), and neglect (14%).
- As of initial assessment, children had a mix of legal statuses with their kinship caregiver; 25% were in legal custody/guardianship, 26% in temporary custody of kin, and 21% 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; 24% of children will remain with a KCG who already has legal custody or guardianship, and 36% more seek to gain legal custody or guardianship. Twenty-nine percent plan to work towards reunification. Most children were in parental or kinship caregiver custody when follow-up assessments were complete.
- Service needs at the time of initial assessment are varied, but most common are: Job & Family Services (90%), Medicaid/ Healthy Start (87%), and Financial/Cash Assistance (80%).
  - KNs were successful at linking families up with needed services; at the time of follow-up 80% or more of families were successfully linked with 24 of 34 service needs identified at initial assessment.
  - Also at the time of follow-up, KNs were quite confident that they’ve been able to meet kinship family 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).

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<sup>4</sup> Families with zero kinship children in the home are likely preparing for a child or children to enter their home.

- Follow-up data has been entered into KIDS on 768 families representing 1,516 kinship children, and the evaluation team has been able to match 238 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 July 2012, six of the seven sites recorded a total of 1,067 non-case management I&R calls and have documented a total of 384 service activities (including support groups, social events, and other services for kinship caregivers). In addition, all seven counties have documented 479 outreach activities, including collaborating with community partners to develop or enhance services for kinship caregivers, and promoting the KN programs.