

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

**Funding Recipient: Public Children Services Association of Ohio**

**Grant #: 90-CF-0024**

**Program Name: Ohio Enhanced Kinship Navigator Project**

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

**Reporting Period: September 30, 2009 to September 29, 2010**

**EVALUATION PROGRESS AND MODIFICATIONS**

**1. Evaluation Planning:** The evaluation team is in the process of analyzing data from a number of primary data collection sources, including; qualitative interview data from site visits to both Kinship Navigator project sites and comparison sites, time study data, and data provided by centralized I&R systems (211s). The evaluation team is also planning for continued data collection via the Kinship Informational Data System (KIDS), system analysis, and the receipt of administrative SACWIS data . More information about these efforts is found throughout this attachment.

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

Evaluation Goals:

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

Evaluation Questions:

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

<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 control counties?	None at this time	

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

g. Do target population children in the intervention counties experience greater well-being during the project period than similar children in the comparison sites?	DROP	We do not expect to have access to child level information on well-being for children in the comparison counties.
h. Does the KN program make it more likely that children will reach permanency sooner?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Does involvement in the KN program increase rates of permanency (i.e. reunification, legal custody to kin, and adoption)?</li> <li>2. Does involvement in the KN program shorten time from placement to permanency?</li> </ol>	We will compare KN counties with comparison counties.
i. Does the KN program increase child safety?	Does the KN program maintain or increase child safety?	Children should be <u>as safe</u> or safer in kin placement under KN program as in kin placement in comparison counties. We will utilize post-placement occurrence of substantiated/ indicated abuse/neglect – children with formal child welfare involvement in KN v. comparison counties
j. What child and family characteristics influence outcomes? (demographics)	None at this time.	

Evaluation Outcomes of Interest:

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

1. Well-Being Outcomes:

- a. KCG increased satisfaction with caregiver role
- b. Diversion from PCSA

2. Safety Outcomes:

- a. Decrease in number of re-reports: CFSR Safety Outcome 1.2
- b. Decrease re-entry to ooh care: CFSR Safety Outcome 2.3

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

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

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

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

**Primary Data Sources:**

The following primary data collection efforts are underway or planned:

Primary Data Collection Effort	Timeline	Notes
<b>Implementation reports</b>	Collected on period Oct 2009 – Mar 2010	Currently analyzing, plan to provide feedback to project sites this fall/winter
<b>211 data</b>	Collected in four counties from June – present, adding 1 additional county’s data in August	Plan to analyze and report back in late winter (at least 6 months of data)
<b>Site visits</b>	Completed summer 2010 for KN and Comparison sites	Currently analyzing, plan to provide preliminary analysis to project sites at November in-person meeting

Primary Data Collection Effort	Timeline	Notes
<b>Kinship Informational Data System (KIDS), including family follow-up</b>	Began using in March, data from families referred in February forward. Family follow up began in August 2010. The first family survey was received by the evaluation team on September 1.	
<b>Time study</b>	Collected in September/October	Plan to analyze and report back to project sites this fall/winter
<b>System Analysis</b>	Planning to conduct winter 2010	More information below.

**Primary Data Source Updates:**

- **Addition of Implementation Reports:** As reported in the first semi-annual report, HSRI designed and utilized a form that each KN program completed regularly during the initial implementation phase of the project (covering approximately October 2009 to March 2010). These reports collected information regarding program and system level activities, accomplishments, and challenges for each of the project sites.
- **Local/State Advisory Group review of evaluation tools** (proposal p 48): As reported in the first semi-annual report, the local and state advisory groups were not immediately in place, and therefore were not able to be fully involved in early data collection decision making. However, KN program managers and staff have participated in the development of, or review of, each of the data collection tools put to use to date. Additionally, several kinship caregivers who were part of local advisory groups helped the evaluation team to test the family follow up survey tool, with great success.
- **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. In terms of site visits, HSRI will complete one site visit to each KN program and comparison site annually, and conduct telephone interviews with KN staff in each county as needed.
- **Use of CATS tool to measure cultural competency** (proposal p 30): Since the last semi-annual report the evaluation team has discussed cultural competency with the project team and included questions about the topic during our site visits over the summer. At this time cultural competency efforts are not a major focus of the Kinship Navigator project sites; they feel there is not much they can do outside of what is already engrained in their practice. The evaluation team has included a question about sensitivity to culture and values in the family follow up survey, and will ask similar questions seeking caregiver experiences

of cultural competency during our focus groups, but will not employ a separate tool or measure specific to this topic.

- **Collection of family data** (proposal pp 51 & 52): As reported in the first semi-annual report, the evaluation team determined that the most effective method to gather information regarding the family perspective is through a 9 month family follow up survey and during focus groups with kinship caregivers. HSRI will conduct focus groups with families in both KN and comparison counties during site visits in Year 2 and Year 3, as well as explore caregiver needs, satisfaction, and well-being at the case level at 9-month follow up; this information will be gathered using paper surveys primarily, though an online and phone survey version are available to caregivers as well.
- **Advocacy and outreach activities collected at case level** (proposal p. 53): As reported in the first semi-annual report, the evaluation team determined that the focus of data collection and analysis on advocacy and outreach efforts should be at the program/system level, rather than the caregiver/case level. This data is being captured through Implementation Reports as well as via structured interviews during site visits and by telephone throughout this project, as well as via the Kinship Informational Data System (KIDS).
- **System Analysis:** the evaluation team is currently planning for primary data collection regarding system analysis for the KN programs. The evaluation team is exploring the feasibility of surveys of community providers, as well as other methods of collecting this information such as via future interviews or focus groups. The effort required to complete this semi-annual report necessitates delaying this effort until the winter of 2010/2011. The purpose of this effort remains to explore relationships between the KN programs and other community organizations with regard to support for kinship families, with a goal of collecting this information to enable exploration of change in community networks during the grant period, as well as across project and comparison counties to explore differences between these communities.

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

6. **Data Collection Procedures:** All data collection procedure changes are noted above. Data collection is underway or planned for all proposed efforts unless otherwise noted above.
7. **Data Analysis:** The evaluation team is currently working on analysis or planning for analysis of a number of primary data collection efforts including: qualitative interview data from site visits to Kinship Navigator project sites and comparison sites, time study data, data from the Kinship Informational Data System (KIDS), and data provided by centralized I&R systems (211s).
8. **Reporting and Dissemination:** The evaluation team completed the first semi-annual report on time, submitting it in March of 2010. Ongoing reporting back to the project sites happens

primarily via monthly teleconferences and quarterly in-person meetings. To date the evaluation team has focused on supporting implementation and providing training and TA regarding data collection efforts during these meetings. The first semi-annual report was provided to the project sites in April of 2010, and various preliminary data points of interest have been shared with the sites informally. The evaluation team plans to report back to the project sites regarding the implementation reports and site visits during the fall of 2010 and regarding the 211 data collection and time studies during the winter of 2010/2011. Additional regular 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 does not have direct access to each county's data due to confidentiality measures built into the system design. The evaluation team did not plan to download and report data from KIDS back to the sites as regularly as these semi-annual reports are due because the sites have access to these canned reports. However, now that these reports are required, the evaluation team plans to present the data included in these reports to the project sites at the team meetings following the report deadlines.

**9. Other: N/A**

**PROCESS EVALUATION**

At this stage, the evaluation team anticipates providing data on the following participant groups. The evaluation team also hopes to provide information regarding community providers and children who are both involved in the Kinship Navigator program and public child welfare (i.e. appear in SACWIS)- details on these analysis will be provided in subsequent semi-annual reports.

**1. Participant Unit of Analysis**

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

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

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

sites are the public children services agencies in Allen, Brown, Butler, Columbiana, Fairfield, Greene, and Jackson counties.

**Kinship Navigator Staff:** Key to implementation and operation of this project are the Kinship Navigators themselves. At this time 26 staff work on some aspect of the Kinship Navigator project in the seven project sites, including managers, supervisors, Kinship Navigators, and data entry staff. Of these 26, 14 are Kinship Navigators. Kinship Navigator staff time and roles vary – some staff are dedicated to specific functions while others take on all tasks, some are full time, some part time. The evaluation team plans to use staffing as a unit of analysis primarily for time study analysis (see below

## 2. Number of Participants Served

Timeframe	Case Managed Kinship Caregivers/ Families, referred after Feb 1	Case Management Involved Kinship Children	Counties/ Project Sites	Project Staff
February to September 2010	New cases: 216		7 Kin Navigator sites & 7 Comparison sites	14 Kinship Navigators in 7 project sites (25 total staff)
	With initial assessment (IA) complete: 209			
	With IA complete, consenting: 191	IA complete, consenting: 327		
Sept 30, 2010 to Mar 31, 2011				
Apr 1, 2011 to Sept 29, 2011				
Sept 30, 2011 to Mar 31, 2012				
Apr 1, 2010 to Sept 29, 2012				
Total to date: Feb 2010 – Sept 2010	New cases: 216		7 Kin Navigator sites & 7 Comparison sites	14 Kinship Navigators in 7 project sites (25 total staff)
	With initial assessment (IA) complete: 209			
	With IA complete, consenting: 191	IA complete, consenting: 327		

**Reporting Rationale:** A total of 216 cases were referred between February and September 2010 and documented in KIDS. However, inclusion in evaluation analysis (all data reported below) requires having provided informed consent for evaluation participation and having a complete initial assessments. Of the 216 cases, 191 met these criteria. All data reported in this and subsequent semi-annual reports will only include families where the initial assessment was completed and informed consent has been obtained.



It is important to note the reporting timeframe. The counties involved in this grant began providing services in the months of 2010. For the first semi-annual report (covering September 30, 2009 to March 30, 2010), counties estimated that they served approximately 400 case management families. However, because counties were not entering family level data into the KIDS system prior to February 2010, we cannot ‘match’ those early families to families in KIDS, and therefore cannot provide an unduplicated count to include the first few months of program implementation. From this point forward, the evaluation team will report cumulative figures for future reports from February 2010 forward.

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. Because the evaluation team was required to report on data through September 30, 2010 and the report was due October 31, there was very little time to clean or otherwise check the quality of the data. For future reports the evaluation team requests that we report on data up until two months prior to the due date of the semi-annual report (i.e. data through February 31, for the report due April 31) to give the evaluation team sufficient time to verify and analyze the data.

### 3. Demographics

All data from this section was downloaded from the Kinship Informational Data System (KIDS) on October 1, 2010. Caregiver/family and child level data is included only if available in KIDS (families referred to the project sites February or later), if informed consent was provided, and if an initial assessment was complete for the family (n = 191 families, 327 children). All seven project sites contribute cases for this section.

#### Kinship Caregiver Level:

Information in this section is about the 191 primary caregivers in the 191 cases where consent was provided and initial assessment complete. 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.

<b>Table 3.1: Primary Kinship Caregiver Age (at Date Initial Assessment Complete)</b>		
	Current Report Period Feb – Sept 2010	Cumulative Feb – Sept 2010
<b>Average*</b>	48 years	48 years
<b>Median</b>	48 years	48 years
<b>Min – Max</b>	19 – 76 years	19 – 76 years

\*Standard deviation = 12.00

**B. Gender:** Table 3.2 shows primary kinship caregiver gender. As demographic data was entered for only one caregiver, it appears that most primary caregivers in these cases are female.

<b>Table 3.2: Primary Kinship Caregiver Gender</b>				
	Current Report Period Feb – Sept 2010		Cumulative Feb – Sept 2010	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
<b>Male</b>	16	8%	16	8%
<b>Female</b>	175	91.6%	175	91.6%
<b>Total</b>	191	100%	191	100%

**C. Race/ Ethnicity:** Table 3.3 shows primary kinship caregiver race. Most primary kinship caregivers are white though some diversity is present. The evaluation team hopes to explore in the future whether this mix reflects the overall populations of the project site counties.

<b>Table 3.3: Primary Kinship Caregiver Race</b>				
	Current Report Period Feb – Sept 2010		Cumulative Feb – Sept 2010	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
<b>White</b>	150	79%	150	79%
<b>Black</b>	34	18%	34	18%
<b>Hispanic</b>	5	3%	5	3%
<b>Asian/Pacific Islander</b>	0	0%	0	0%
<b>American Indian/ Alaska Native</b>	1	< 1%	1	< 1%
<b>Multi-Racial</b>	1	< 1%	1	< 1%
<b>Total</b>	191	100%	191	100%

**D. Type of Agency or Individual who Referred Participant(s) to Program:** Table 3.4 shows who referred the primary kinship caregiver to the Kinship Navigator program. Children services is the largest referral source, likely due to the close relationships between the Kinship Navigator and Children Services offices (four of the seven projects are located within the county children services office, two are contracted by Children Services to a community provider and the seventh is at an Office on Aging). ‘Others’ included word of mouth, Kinship Navigator promotional materials or advertisements, etc. The evaluation team hopes to work on recoding of the ‘other’ entries for more accuracy in future reports.

<b>Table 3.4: Referral Source</b>				
	Current Report Period Feb – Sept 2010		Cumulative Feb – Sept 2010	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
<b>Children Services</b>	103	54%	103	54%
<b>Other Kinship Caregiver</b>	15	8%	15	8%
<b>Other Community Provider</b>	14	7%	14	7%
<b>DJFS</b>	14	7%	14	7%
<b>Court System</b>	8	4%	8	4%
<b>Local 211/I&amp;R Agency</b>	1	<1%	1	<1%
<b>Other</b>	36	19%	36	19%
<b>Total</b>	191	100%	191	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. Only 17% of the primary kinship caregivers are known to have less than a high school education, though a very small number, only 8% have either an associate or college degree.

<b>Table 3.5: Education Level at Initial Assessment</b>				
	Current Report Period Feb – Sept 2010		Cumulative Feb – Sept 2010	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
<b>Middle School</b>	4	2%	4	2%
<b>Some High School</b>	29	15%	29	15%
<b>High School Graduate</b>	100	52%	100	52%
<b>Technical Training</b>	9	5%	9	5%
<b>Some College</b>	34	18%	34	18%
<b>Associate Degree</b>	9	5%	9	5%
<b>College Degree</b>	5	3%	5	3%
<b>Unknown</b>	1	< 1%	1	< 1%
<b>Total</b>	191	100%	191	100%

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

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

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

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

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

**M. Number of children in the home:** For the 191 kinship families we are using for this analysis, a total of 415 children were reported to be in those homes at the time of initial assessment completion, between zero<sup>1</sup> and six per family. As detailed data is only collected on children who are in the home due to a kinship placement, we will focus on that group here, and in the child-level section below. Table 3.5 provides the total number of kinship children (327), average number per family and range of number of children per home.

<b>Table 3.6: Number of Kinship Children in Home at Initial Assessment Completion, Consenting Families Only</b>		
	<b>Current Report Period Feb – Sept 2010</b>	<b>Cumulative Feb – Sept 2010</b>
<b>Total Number</b>	327	327
<b>Average per Family</b>	< 2 (1.71)	< 2 (1.71)
<b>Range per Family</b>	0 – 5 children	0 – 5 children

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

**O. Number currently receiving kinship guardianship assistance payments:** Not collecting this information for evaluation.

**Child Level:**

Information in this section is about the **kinship** children in cases where consent provided and initial assessment complete (n=327). Demographic information for other children in the home is not available.

**A. Age:** Table 3.7 provides information on the average, median, and range of ages of **kinship** children in the home, calculated at the date the initial assessment for their family was complete. As dates of birth are missing for a small number of children, the n for this data will vary from that of the other data provided in this section.

<sup>1</sup> Families with zero kinship children in the home at the time of initial assessment are likely preparing for a child or children to enter their home.

<b>Table 3.7: Primary Age of Kinship Children at Date Initial Assessment Complete (n = 321)</b>		
	Current Report Period Feb – Sept 2010	Cumulative Feb – Sept 2010
<b>Average*</b>	8 years	8 years
<b>Median</b>	7 years	7 years
<b>Min – Max</b>	< 1 year – 19 years	< 1 year – 19 years

\*Standard Deviation = 5.2

**B. Gender:** Table 3.8 shows the gender mix of kinship children for the current period’s Kinship Navigator case management families – boys and girls each making up almost exactly half the population.

<b>Table 3.8: Gender of Kinship Children</b>				
	Current Report Period Feb – Sept 2010		Cumulative Feb – Sept 2010	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
<b>Male</b>	162	50%	162	50%
<b>Female</b>	165	50%	165	50%
<b>Total</b>	327	100%	327	100%

**C. Race/Ethnicity:** Table 3.9 shows the racial mix of kinship children, showing a slightly lower proportion of white children and slightly higher proportion of non-white children, particularly multi-racial, than seen in the primary caregiver demographics. It will be interesting to explore the combination of primary caregiver and child race demographics to better describe kinship families in future reports.

<b>Table 3.9: Race of Kinship Children</b>				
	Current Report Period Feb – Sept 2010		Cumulative Feb – Sept 2010	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
<b>White</b>	218	67%	218	67%
<b>Black</b>	67	21%	67	21%
<b>Hispanic</b>	14	4%	14	4%
<b>Asian/Pacific Islander</b>	0	0%	0	0%
<b>American Indian/Alaska Native</b>	4	1%	4	1%
<b>Multi-racial</b>	24	7%	24	7%
<b>Total</b>	327	100%	327	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 analysis on length of time in relative’s care for those children who were formally involved in the child welfare system during their kinship placement. This requires use of SACWIS data. Analysis matching children in KIDS and SACWIS will be included only in the final evaluation report, when full outcomes analysis is completed.

**F. Current Involvement with Child Welfare Agency:** KIDS collects information about a child’s known current and previous involvement with child welfare. Table 3.10 shows the number and percent of children involved at the time of initial assessment completion. Table 3.10 shows the number and percent of children involved prior to initial assessment completion.

<b>Table 3.10: Involvement of Children with Child Welfare Agency at Initial Assessment</b>				
	Current Report Period Feb – Sept 2010		Cumulative Feb – Sept 2010	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
<b>Involved as of Initial Assessment</b>	134	41%	134	41%
<b>Total</b>	327	100%	327	100%

<b>Table 3.11: Prior Involvement of Children with Child Welfare Agency (as of Initial Assessment Date)</b>				
	Current Report Period Feb – Sept 2010		Cumulative Feb – Sept 2010	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
<b>Involved Prior to Initial Assessment</b>	186	57%	186	57%
<b>Total</b>	327	100%	327	100%

When involvement is unduplicated, we find that 225 children, or 69% of the 327 kinship children, had some known involvement with child welfare up to the point of initial assessment completion. The evaluation team hopes that SACWIS IDs will be available for many of these children, allowing us to ‘match’ KIDS information with SACWIS data in order to complete outcomes analysis.

**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 a subset of families in KIDS, when data on these families is available in KIDS and SACWIS. This will be included, if possible, in outcomes analysis in the final evaluation report.

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



**Relationship between Kinship Caregiver and Kinship Child:** Table 3.12 & 3.13 provide information about the child/primary kinship caregiver relationship. Table 3.12 shows the proportion of maternal and paternal relationships between the primary kinship caregiver and child. Almost three times as many kinship children have maternal relationships with their kinship caregivers than paternal relationships. Though Table 3.13 shows a large number of grandparent kinship caregivers, these make up only 61% of the diverse mix of caregiver/children relationships represented. The evaluation team hopes to work on coding of ‘other’ relationship types for increased accuracy in future reports.

	Current Report Period Feb – Sept 2010		Cumulative Feb – Sept 2010	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
<b>Maternal</b>	219	67%	219	67%
<b>Paternal</b>	80	25%	80	25%
<b>Not Applicable</b>	28	9%	28	9%
<b>Total</b>	327	100%	327	100%

	Current Report Period Feb – Sept 2010		Cumulative Feb – Sept 2010	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
<b>Aunt/Uncle</b>	51	16%	51	16%
<b>Cousin</b>	6	2%	6	2%
<b>Godparent</b>	2	< 1%	2	< 1%
<b>Grandparent</b>	199	61%	199	61%
<b>Great Aunt/Uncle</b>	11	3%	11	3%
<b>Great Grandparent</b>	11	3%	11	3%
<b>Half-Sibling</b>	1	< 1%	1	< 1%
<b>Non-Custodial Parent</b>	0	0%	0	0%
<b>Sibling</b>	5	2%	5	2%
<b>Step-Parent</b>	4	1%	4	1%
<b>Non-related Kin</b>	22	7%	22	7%
<b>Other</b>	15	5%	15	5%
<b>Total</b>	327	100%	327	100%

**Primary Reason for Kinship Caregiver Assuming Care of Kinship Child:** Table 3.14 shows the wide variety of reasons for kinship placement. Though often a number of factors necessitate kinship placement, Kinship Navigators were asked to provide a primary, most relevant reason. Abandonment, parent incarceration, and parent substance abuse/treatment, were the three most

common primary reasons provided. Answers under ‘other’ included death, failure to protect, shared custody, and mother in military deployment, among others. The evaluation team hopes to work to improve accuracy with regard to the ‘other’ category in future reports.

	Current Report Period Feb – Sept 2010		Cumulative Feb – Sept 2010	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
<b>Abandonment</b>	58	18%	58	18%
<b>Capacity of Adult (MRDD)</b>	2	< 1%	2	< 1%
<b>Child Behavior Problems</b>	3	1%	3	1%
<b>Child Disability/ Special Needs</b>	0	0%	0	0%
<b>Child Substance Abuse and/or Tx</b>	1	< 1%	1	< 1%
<b>Emotional Abuse</b>	1	< 1%	1	< 1%
<b>Housing/ Shelter</b>	21	6%	21	6%
<b>Neglect</b>	29	9%	29	9%
<b>Parent(s) Chronic Illness</b>	4	1%	4	1%
<b>Parent(s) Death</b>	12	4%	12	4%
<b>Parent(s) Incarcerated</b>	56	17%	56	17%
<b>Parent(s) Mental Health and/or Tx</b>	18	6%	18	6%
<b>Parent(s) Substance Abuse and/or Tx</b>	52	16%	52	16%
<b>Parent(s) Unemployed</b>	4	1%	4	1%
<b>Physical Abuse</b>	6	2%	6	2%
<b>Sexual Abuse</b>	4	1%	4	1%
<b>Relinquishment/ Dependency</b>	24	7%	24	7%
<b>Unruly/ Delinquency</b>	4	1%	4	1%
<b>Other</b>	28	9%	28	9%
<b>Total</b>	327	100%	327	100%

**Type of Kinship Care Arrangement:**

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

**Long Term Caregiving Plans:** Table 3.15 provides the long-term caregiving plans for kinship children at the time of initial assessment completion. A majority of the kinship children (70%) are either already in the legal custody/guardianship of their kinship caregiver, or plans are underway to pursue legal custody/guardianship. Those categorized as ‘other’ included continued guardianship, maintain POS, and mother to resume care after release from jail, among others. The evaluation team plans to work on recoding this for more accuracy in future reports.



<b>Table 3.15: Type of Kinship Care Arrangement: Long Term Caregiving Plans for Kinship Children</b>				
	Current Report Period Feb – Sept 2010		Cumulative Feb – Sept 2010	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
<b>Working toward reunification</b>	67	21%	67	21%
<b>Pursuing Legal Custody/ Guardianship</b>	131	41%	131	41%
<b>Pursuing Adoption</b>	5	1.5%	5	1.5%
<b>Pursuing other Permanency</b>	2	< 1%	2	< 1%
<b>Another Relative to Assume Custody</b>	1	< 1%	1	< 1%
<b>Child remaining w/ KCG who has LC/G</b>	94	29%	94	29%
<b>Other</b>	16	5%	16	5%
<b>Unanswered (0) or Unknown (1)</b>	11	3%	11	3%
<b>Total</b>	327	100%	327	100%

Legal Status of Kinship Children: Table 3.16 provides information about the legal status of kinship children at the time of initial assessment completion. A number of children, at the time initial assessments were complete, were without custody arrangement (21%), or in temporary custody of kin (25%). Those categorized as ‘other’ included in process of gaining legal custody, military guardianship, POA, and possession, among others. The evaluation team plans to recode data under ‘other’ wherever possible to improve accuracy in future reports.

<b>Table 3.16: Type of Kinship Care Arrangement: Legal Status of Kinship Children at Initial Assessment Completion</b>				
	Current Report Period Feb – Sept 2010		Cumulative Feb – Sept 2010	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
<b>Legal Custodian</b>	75	23%	75	23%
<b>Legal Guardian</b>	19	6%	19	6%
<b>Verbal custody from child’s parent(s)</b>	26	8%	26	8%
<b>Temporary Custody</b>	82	25%	82	25%
<b>PCSA/Court Custody, placed with kin</b>	20	6%	20	6%
<b>None</b>	69	21%	69	21%
<b>Unknown</b>	18	6%	18	6%
<b>Other</b>	18	6%	18	6%
<b>Total</b>	327	100%	327	100%

#### 4. Type of Service by Participant

Table 4.1 lists the services laid out in the Ohio’s KN program profile under key program interventions and activities. This table provides the location of data on each service available in this report

attachment, and notes which services will be reported in the future. Please also note that many of the service items listed will be explored qualitatively. We will include analysis of each service listed in the report that is due following the completion of that analysis.

<b>Table 4.1: Services</b>	
	<b>Where to find data on # participants receiving service</b>
<b>Services for Kinship Caregivers</b>	
Kinship Navigators respond to calls and referrals from caregivers, provide I& R, and assist in applying for financial supports	See I&R call data in Tables 6.7 – 6.9 See services needs data in Table 6.3
Kinship Navigators conduct periodic assessments of kinship caregivers	See data on initial assessments complete in Table 6.1
Provide training to caregivers to help them care for children with special needs and interact with multiple service systems	Data to be provided in future reports
Provide case management	See data in sections 2 & 3 for information about case management caregivers and kinship children
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	Data to be provided in future reports
<b>Other Key Services</b>	
Map community assets to identify existing resources for caregivers	Data to be provided in future reports
Train public agency staff to assess and refer caregiving families to the program	Data to be provided in future reports
Coordinate with and train the central I&R provider to establish procedures for screening and referring families to the program and facilitate information sharing	See data in Table 6.10
Outreach to kinship caregivers	See data in Tables 6.4 & 6.5
Outreach to the larger community of organizations on the needs of kinship families, engage them in the local collaborative	See data in Table 6.4 & 6.5
Develop and sustain the collaborative group	Data to be provided in future reports
Coordinate and collaborate with all county Kinship Navigator programs	Data to be provided in future reports

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

6. **Outputs**

**Kinship Caregiver Level**

A. **Number & Percent of Kinship Caregivers that completed assessments:** Of the 216 kinship caregivers referred to the KN programs since February of 2010, 209, or 97%, had initial assessments complete prior to September 30, 2010. Completion of initial assessment requires Kinship Navigator staff spending sufficient amount of time working with kinship families to collect basic information, and to complete a service needs checklist and resource scale. Time required to complete initial assessment following referral to the KN program varies.

	Current Report Period Feb – Sept 2010		Cumulative (Feb – Sept 2010)	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
<b>Caregivers/families with initial assessments complete</b>	209	97%	209	97%
<b>Caregivers/families referred to the KN programs</b>	216	100%	216	100%

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

C. **Number of kinship caregiver contacts per caregiver & D. Length of time kinship caregiver receives services from kinship navigator (i.e, # days, weeks, etc):** Most Kinship Navigator cases do not have a formal closure, therefore lacking an ‘end’ point for contact. Following up with families for evaluation post-testing is driven in part by time, and therefore does not make a good ‘end’ point for this measure. At this time, we cannot measure length of time kinship caregiver receives services and subsequently, cannot measure the number of contacts per caregiver. 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.

E. **Mode of Kinship Navigator Contact with Caregiver:** At this time the evaluation team is able to report on the number and mode of contacts only between referral to the Kinship Navigator program and the point at which the initial assessment is complete. In the future, once enough families have reached the family follow up stage, the evaluation team will provide analysis on the number and mode of contacts between referral and family follow up.

A total of 325 contacts were recorded between referral and initial assessment for the 191 kinship families referred between February and September 2010. As it was not required that EVERY contact for each family is entered into KIDS we cannot be sure of total number of



contacts made, and as the time of involvement for each family varies greatly, we cannot present proportions for these types of contact out of any total, but do present frequencies of types of visits in Table 6.2.

	Current Report Period Feb – Sept 2010	Cumulative (Feb – Sept 2010)
	Number	Number
<b>Home Visit</b>	59	59
<b>Office Visit</b>	94	94
<b>Telephone Contact</b>	112	112
<b>Advocacy on Behalf of KCG</b>	5	5
<b>Other</b>	55	55
<b>Total</b>	325	325

**F. Type of service provided by Kinship Navigator to Kinship Caregiver & G. Number & Types of Services/Supports Caregivers are linked to:** We are not collecting information 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.

	Current Report Period Feb - Sept 2010		Cumulative (Feb – Sept 2010)	
	Number	% of Total	Number	% of Total
<b>Children Services</b>	95	50%	95	50%
<b>KPI</b>	70	37%	70	37%
<b>Job and Family Services</b>	150	79%	150	79%
<b>Financial/ Cash Assistance</b>	134	70%	134	70%
<b>Employment Assistance</b>	18	9%	18	9%
<b>Food Stamps</b>	102	53%	102	53%
<b>Short-term Assistance</b>	25	13%	25	13%
<b>Medicaid/ Healthy Start</b>	142	74%	142	74%
<b>Medicare</b>	57	30%	57	30%
<b>Child Support</b>	36	19%	36	19%
<b>Area Agency on Aging</b>	8	4%	8	4%
<b>Family and Children First Council</b>	7	4%	7	4%
<b>Juvenile Court</b>	39	20%	39	20%
<b>Caregiver Behavioral Health (MH/SA)</b>	11	6%	11	6%

<b>Child Behavioral Health (MH/SA)</b>	58	30%	58	30%
<b>Table 6.3: Type of Service NEEDS for Kinship Families at Initial Assessment cont.</b>				
	<b>Current Report Period Feb - Sept 2010</b>		<b>Cumulative (Feb – Sept 2010)</b>	
<b>Special Need Services (MR/DD)</b>	13	7%	13	7%
<b>Benefit Bank</b>	35	18%	35	18%
<b>Clothing</b>	81	42%	81	42%
<b>Child Care</b>	25	13%	25	13%
<b>Domestic Violence</b>	0	0	0	0
<b>Early Intervention</b>	12	6%	12	6%
<b>Education (MFE, IEP, Tutoring)</b>	39	20%	39	20%
<b>Food (Pantry or site)</b>	86	45%	86	45%
<b>Help Me Grow</b>	17	9%	17	9%
<b>I&amp;R 211 hotline</b>	52	27%	52	27%
<b>Medical Care – caregiver</b>	84	44%	84	44%
<b>Medical Care - child</b>	103	54%	103	54%
<b>Legal Assistance/ Custody</b>	107	56%	107	56%
<b>Ombudsman</b>	2	1%	2	1%
<b>Recreation</b>	24	13%	24	13%
<b>Respite</b>	12	6%	12	6%
<b>Shelter/ Housing</b>	32	17%	32	17%
<b>Support Groups</b>	77	40%	77	40%
<b>Transportation</b>	18	9%	18	9%
<b>Utilities</b>	25	13%	25	13%
<b>Veteran Services</b>	1	< 1%	1	< 1%
<b>Other</b>	4	2%	4	2%
<b>Number of Kinship Families</b>	191*	100%	191*	100%

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

**System Level:**

The following section provides data on system/ program level activities. The timeframe for this data will vary from that of the case-level data above. Most counties began using the system/ program level sections of KIDS in March of 2010, so we are only able to report from March, 2010 forward at this time. We are currently missing some data from up to two project sites due to data entry issues, but hope to reincorporate that data into the next report.

**A. Number of outreach activities conducted:** Table 6.4 shows outreach activities by activity type for six of seven project sites. The most common activities were meetings and distributing written materials (most likely brochures and newsletters). When possible, the type of meeting

was described. Most meetings were with community providers, sharing information about the Kinship Navigator program. Meetings and their result will be explored in further detail in the future.

	Current Report Period March - Sept 2010		Cumulative (March – Sept 2010)	
	Number	% of Total	Number	% of Total
<b>Phone call</b>	15	7%	15	7%
<b>Presentation</b>	25	12%	25	12%
<b>Written material distributed (such as newsletter, etc.)</b>	52	24%	52	24%
<b>Press release or other advertisement</b>	51	10%	51	10%
<b>Meeting</b>	77	36%	77	36%
<b>Other</b>	27	12%	27	12%
<b>Total</b>	217	100%	217	100%

Table 6.5 shows the number of outreach activities conducted by the main result of the activity for six of the seven project sites. This table illustrates the focus of the Kinship Navigator programs’ outreach activities during this period – promotion of the program. A number of collaborative efforts are also noted –this is likely to overlap with the meeting category in Table 6.4. As the main result of activity was not a required data element in KIDS, we are missing this information for 45 of the activities included in Table 6.4, and therefore do not present proportions of main results. However, the evaluation team does hope to explore the mix of activity type and main result of activity further in the future and if possible will include any findings in future reports.

	Current Report Period March - Sept 2010	Cumulative (March – Sept 2010)
	Number	Number
<b>Promotion of KN program</b>	106	106
<b>Provision of information/ technical assistance</b>	8	8
<b>Advocating for kinship caregiving community</b>	3	3
<b>Collaborating with other community partners to develop / enhance services for kinship families</b>	46	46
<b>Other</b>	9	9
<b>Total outreach activities</b>	172	172



- B. Estimated Number of Individuals reached through Outreach Activities:** We cannot include this due to time constraints. We may be able to present estimates of the number of attendees for the various types of outreach activities in future reports.
- C. Number and purpose of incoming calls to kinship caregiver information line:** Five of the seven KN programs recorded a total of 196 non-case management I&R calls between March and September, 2010.

<b>Table 6.7: Non Case Management I&amp;R calls handled by Kinship Navigator</b>		
	Current Report Period March – Sept 2010	Cumulative (March – Sept 2010)
<b>Total # of I&amp;R calls fielded by KN programs (non case management families)</b>	196	196
<b>Range of # of I&amp;R calls fielded by each county per month</b>	0 – 14	0 – 14
<b>Average # of I&amp;R calls fielded by each county per month</b>	> 6 (6.53)*	> 6

\*Standard deviation 3.4

Some Kinship Navigators also were able to record where the kinship caregiver was referred from, and what information was provided to the kinship caregiver during the call, for some calls. This information is provided in Tables 6.8 and 6.9. Because we cannot match this information up at the call level, and information could be missing for some calls while other calls could have multiple referral sources or types of information provided, we do not present percentages of a total. Data is available from four of the seven counties for these tables (6.8 & 6.9).

<b>Table 6.8: Non Case Management I&amp;R calls handled by Kinship Navigator: Referral Sources</b>		
	<b>Current Report Period March – Sept 2010</b>	<b>Cumulative March – Sept 2010</b>
<b>PCSA</b>	40	40
<b>Office on Aging</b>	0	0
<b>211/I&amp;R</b>	4	4
<b>Court System</b>	3	3
<b>DJFS</b>	28	28
<b>Other KCG</b>	10	10
<b>Family Council/FCFC or equivalent</b>	1	1
<b>Church/Faith Based Org.</b>	3	3
<b>School/Education Provider</b>	12	12
<b>Other Community Provider</b>	15	15
<b>Other Word of Mouth</b>	24	24
<b>PR/Advertising/Publicity</b>	18	18
<b>Other</b>	12	12

<b>Table 6.9: Non Case Management I&amp;R calls handled by Kinship Navigator: Information Provided to Caller</b>		
	<b>Current Report Period March – Sept 2010</b>	<b>Cumulative March – Sept 2010</b>
<b>Becoming a Kinship Caregiver</b>	27	27
<b>Grandparents Rights</b>	33	33
<b>Other Legal Services</b>	52	52
<b>Financial Supports (including OWF)</b>	47	47
<b>Medical</b>	13	13
<b>Shelter/Housing Services</b>	6	6
<b>Food/Clothing/Other Basic Need</b>	35	35
<b>Utilities Assistance</b>	4	4
<b>Childcare</b>	4	4
<b>Respite</b>	1	1
<b>Visitation</b>	2	2
<b>Support Groups/Counseling</b>	32	32
<b>School/Education</b>	7	7
<b>Other Community Provider Services/ Contact Info</b>	31	31
<b>Other Resources</b>	11	11



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

<b>Table 6.10: Local 211 Calls Received &amp; Referrals made to KN Programs</b>				
	Current Report Period May – August 2010		Cumulative May – August 2010	
	Total # of I&R calls	Total # of callers referred to KN per 211	Total # of I&R calls	Total # of callers referred to KN per 211
<b>Ashtabula</b>	6185	26	6185	26
<b>Clark</b>		17		17
<b>Lorain</b>	3920	7	3920	7
<b>Portage</b>	6545	17	6545	17
<b>Richland</b>	4227	11	4227	11
<b>Total</b>	20877*	78	20877*	78

\*not including Clark

These five counties state that they been somewhat challenged in working with those providers – a small number of kinship caregivers have been referred from the 211s but not as many as the project sites had anticipated. The Kinship Navigator staff did work to put together a protocol for screening and referral for kinship caregivers to the Kinship Navigator that they shared with their 211s in individual meetings and in some cases informal training sessions, but in some counties this does not seem to have as large an affect as expected.

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

## 7. Other Process Results

As noted under the evaluation progress section above, the evaluation team is currently working on analysis or planning for analysis of a number of primary data collection efforts including: qualitative interview data from site visits to Kinship Navigator project sites and comparison sites, time study data, data from the Kinship Informational Data System (KIDS), and data provided by centralized I&R systems (211s). Below are preliminary results from the 2010 time study.

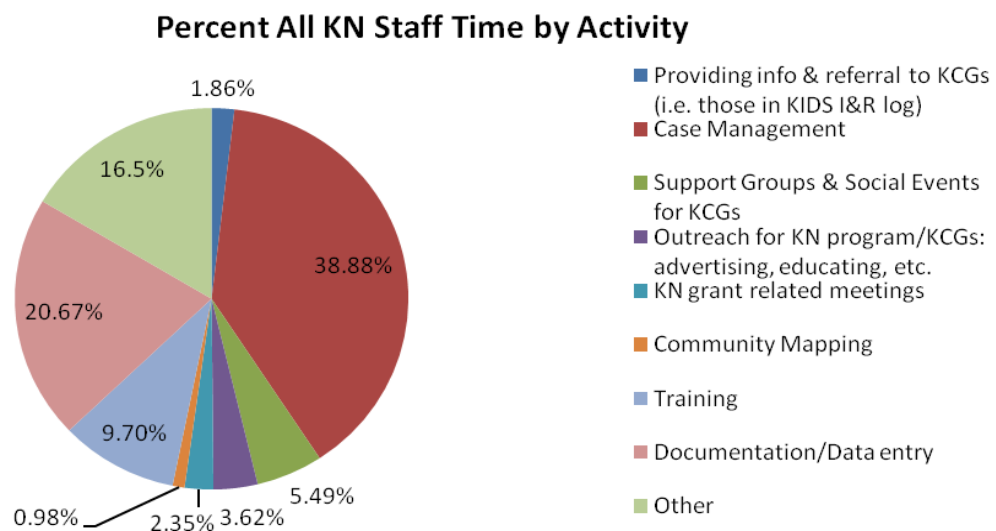
### PRELIMINARY 2010 TIME STUDY RESULTS

#### **All Staff Time Related to Kinship Navigator Tasks:**

In an effort to learn more about how staff working on this project spend their time, HSRI is conducting a time study to document types of activities performed by KN and other project staff, and amount of time spent on each activity. The evaluation team worked with the KN staff to develop the list of activities used, and to choose a set of dates that would allow staff to document a 'typical' week. This effort will be repeated in each year of the project. The goal of the time study is to better understand the amount and proportions of time spent on various KN activities, and how that might shift during the project period. This understanding is expected to help KN sites manage their programs, as well as to contribute to the implementation analysis and program description sections of the program evaluation.

Twenty five staff from all seven project sites documented a total of 510.5 hours of time spent on Kinship Navigator tasks<sup>2</sup> over the period of one week<sup>3</sup> in the fall of 2010, an average of 73 hours per county<sup>4</sup>.

The largest allotment of time was spent on case management related tasks, almost 39%, or 198.5 hours. Staff spent just over 20% of their Kinship Navigator time on documentation & data entry. The chart below shows the distribution of time spent on the various activities for all staff:



<sup>2</sup> Excluding time spent on non-KN related tasks.

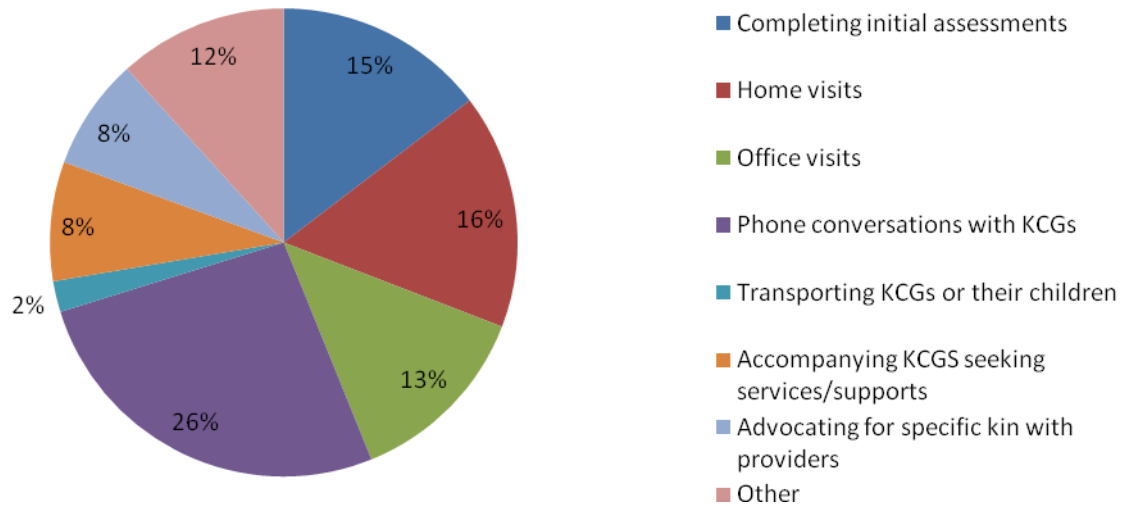
<sup>3</sup> Staff chose one of three possible weeks in which to complete their time study – they were instructed to choose the most 'typical' week whenever possible.

<sup>4</sup> Program size and staffing level vary greatly by county.

**Kinship Navigator Time:**

The seven project sites' current Kinship Navigators (n = 14) documented 395 of the 510.5 hours spend on Kinship Navigator tasks. Kinship Navigators spent almost 48% (188 hours) of their time on case management tasks, and 20% (79 hours) on documentation & data entry. To learn more about the time spent on case management tasks, we examined the amount of time Kinship Navigators spent on the case management subtasks, illustrated in the chart below:

**Proportion of KN Time by Case Management Activity**



Because many Kinship Navigator project staff are not dedicated to Kinship navigator task full time, the evaluation team has not drawn any conclusions about proportion of Kinship Navigator time out of total work time spent for either all staff or the Kinship Navigator group.

**OUTCOME EVALUATION**

We are not able to present any outcome results at this point. We plan to include preliminary results on outcomes that apply to our program (and our data collection currently in place) for the semi-annual report due October 2011. Some of this data will come from KIDS and some will require merging that data with SACWIS data, which we expect to receive mid-2011.

## **DISCUSSION**

### **Process Evaluation:**

**System/Program Activity:** The Kinship Navigator sites have been busy over the last year; six of the seven sites have provided data to document over 200 outreach activities between March and September of 2010, including distribution of written material, meetings with community providers, and other efforts. Their focus thus far has been on promotion of the Kinship Navigator program, ‘getting the word out’, but they have also devoted energy to working with other community providers to build or enhance services available to kinship caregivers. Five of the seven Kinship Navigator sites have also fielded almost 200 information & referral phone calls, separate of their case management caseloads. The five counties with active local I&R provider agencies (211s) have been challenged in working with those providers – a small number of kinship caregivers have been referred from the 211s (see Table 6.10) but not as many as the project sites had anticipated.

The time study illustrates the way in which the Kinship Navigator staff have dedicated their time for the project. Though this is a snapshot in time (a ‘typical’ week), it provides insight into the proportions of time dedicated to various tasks. Not surprisingly, case management takes the largest portion of staff time (approximately 39%) with documentation/data entry making up a meaningful portion as well (just over 20%). Within the time spent by Kinship Navigators themselves on case management, a large portion is spent in visiting or talking with the kinship caregivers (home visits, office visits, and telephone contact together make up 55% of that time).

**Case Management Activity:** When taking into consideration the estimates of case totals provide for the first semi-annual report (400 cases between September 30 and March 30, 2010), and the cases analyzed for this report (191), it appears that the project sites are close to, if not exceeding, their goal of serving 500 case management families annually. It is also notable that most of the case management families referred during this reporting period also consented to evaluation and had initial assessments complete during this period – allowing the evaluation team to include over 88% of the cases from this time period in our analysis.

While it is far too early to draw any conclusions from the data explored thus far, some interesting trends are apparent, particularly in the demographic data presented in Section 3:

- The primary kinship caregivers included in our analysis are on average 48 years old, but range from 19 – 76 years old. They are mostly female (almost 92%), mostly white (79%), and most have a high school education or better (approximately 82%). They have come to the Kinship Navigator program through referrals from a number of referral sources, but most often Children Services (54%).
- The kinship families in the Kinship Navigator case load have between zero and six children in the home total, including between zero and five kinship children. Most have one or two kinship children in the home (79%).
- Kinship children are on average eight years old, but range from less than 1 year to 19 years of age. They are about half male and half female. They are also mostly White, though represent a more diverse racial mix than do the primary kinship caregivers; 21% of the kinship children are Black, 7% are Multiracial, and 4% Hispanic. Most of the children, 69%, 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 to abandonment, parent incarceration, or parent substance abuse/treatment (51% all together).
- As of initial assessment, children had a mix of legal statuses with their kinship caregiver; 29% were in legal custody/guardianship, 25% in temporary custody of kin, and 21% are listed as having 'no' legal status. In most cases, the long term caregiving plans for the kinship children are to stay with the kinship caregiver; the 29% in legal custody/guardianship will stay there, and 41% more seek to gain legal custody or guardianship. Twenty-one percent plan to work towards reunification.
- Service needs are varied, but most common are: Job & Family Services (79% of 191 families), Medicaid/ Healthy Start (74%), and Financial/Cash Assistance (74%).