Forum on Aging: "A Framework for Understanding How to Effectively Engage Kin Caregivers"

March 13th, 2019

Today's Presenters

Kinship Peer Support Program Manager	*Bill Hobstetter*
Kinship Educator	*Lynn Payne*
Director, Early Childhood	*Jennifer Wikette*
Senior Parenting and Engagement Specialist	*Dave Brewer*

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Workshop Objectives:

- Understand the prevalence of the opioid epidemic and the impact of the number of children coming into placement. Understand the system responses to preserve family connections and the importance of kin caregiving.
- Understand a model of practice to effectively engage kin caregivers and the critical role of trauma-informed practices to meet the holistic needs of families
- Gain a clear of understanding of the definition of success in supporting kin caregivers and how each provider role is essential to best meet the needs of the child and caregiver.

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Beech Acres Parenting Center

OUR MISSION

Inspiring and equipping today's parents, families, and communities to raise capable, caring, contributing children

OUR VISION

A world where all children are nurtured to discover, cultivate and apply their natural gifts

OUR WHY

We believe intentional parenting is essential to helping all children achieve their full potential in life.

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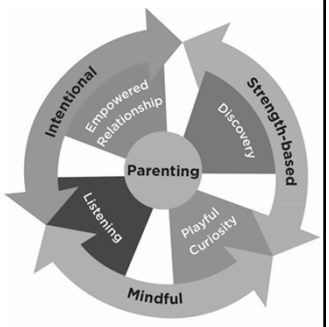
NATURAL STRENGTH PARENTING™

Intentional
Discern your unique purpose, create the life you envision and clarify the values you will teach your children.

Strength-Based
Discover and develop one's natural gifts to create a sense of mastery, empowerment and connection with one's passion.

Mindful
Be present, fully engaged and accepting in the moment.



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Vision & Strategy

The Vision:

With an estimated 19,000 Kin Caregivers in SW Ohio caring for over 36,000 kids, we envision a system in which any kin caregiver can get the resources, supports and guidance s/he needs to manage their stress, overcome barriers and raise capable, caring, contributing children. Beech Acres Parenting Center and its network of evidence-based and innovative partners & practices is the go-to resource for these families.

The Strategy:

1. Build, strengthen and improve a network of partners to ensure the right resources are available, for the right family needs, at the right time.
2. Design, deliver & continuously improve a continuum of services for caregivers & children in need.
3. Develop and implement a broad communications campaign to ensure caregiver awareness, engage prevention practices, and attract targeted families to needed services.

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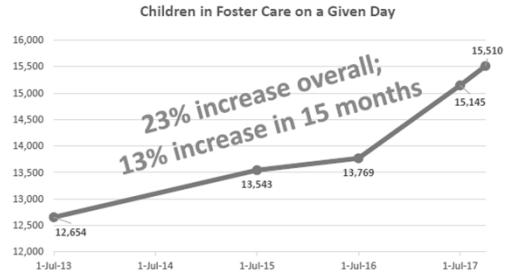
Ohio children entering foster care at ALARMINGLY high pace



Source: ODJFS SACWIS special data run, received Nov. 2017.
Point in Time Data for July 1, 2013, 2015, 2016, 2017 and Oct. 1, 2017

Source: Public Children Services Association of Ohio.

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IF THE OPIOID EPIDEMIC CONTINUES AT ITS CURRENT PACE, OHIO WILL HAVE MORE THAN

20,000

CHILDREN IN CUSTODY BY 2020

DOUBLE 2013 LEVELS

Source: Dec 2017 Public Children Services Association of Ohio study.

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Tsunami of Need, Trickle of Resources

- 3,000 more kids in foster care in Ohio since 2013
  - 20,000 by 2020 at this rate
  - Cost could be double 2013 up to $550MM
- Hamilton County >20,204 children served in 2017 is highest in recorded history (20yrs.+)
  - Dramatic decrease in revenue
- Lengths of stay up 20%
- High staff turnover reduces rates of reunification
- Foster parents adopting is great for kids, but putting pressure on the system to recruit more

Source: Dec 2017 Public Children Services Association of Ohio study,
Hamilton County Job & Family Services

Enormous Economic Burden to Society

- CDC estimates **aggregate lifetime costs** for all **new cases** of child maltreatment **in One Year (2008)** is **$124 billion** (***PRIOR*** *to Heroin Epidemic*)
- CDC Conclusion: Compared with other health problems, the burden of child maltreatment is substantial, indicating the importance of prevention efforts.

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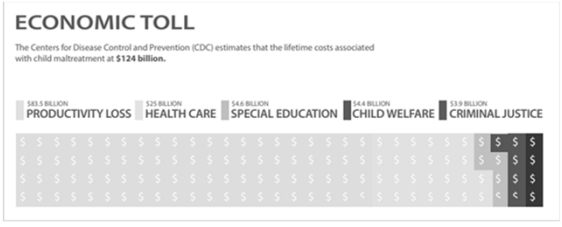
CDC Graph of Economic Toll



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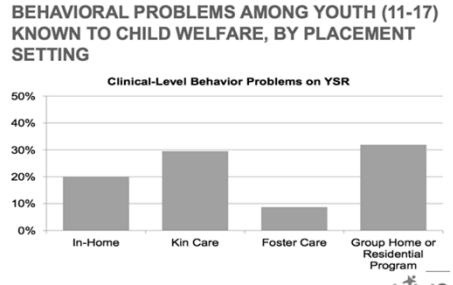
Youth in Kinship Care Have Needs that are Almost as High as Youth in Group Care



* YSR = Youth Self Report

Source: Bryan Samuels/US Administration for Children, Youth and Families, April 2013

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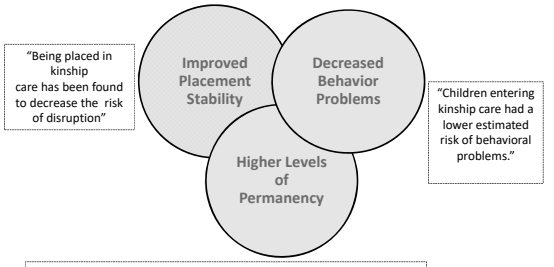
Kinship Care has Positive Benefits for Children



"Being placed in kinship care has been found to decrease the risk of disruption"

"Children entering kinship care had a lower estimated risk of behavioral problems."

"Children initially placed in kinship care as compared to family foster care were more likely to reunify or exit to guardianship."

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Children's Experiences in Kinship are Affected by the Well-being of Their Caregivers

"All too often we place maltreated children with kin, assuming that family connectedness will be enough to promote child well-being. But, what happens when the caregivers' mental health is compromised, and given little, if any, services? This study reveals the children are likely to suffer too." – Dr. Antonio Garcia

Maternal and Child Health Journal June 2014.

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Children in Kinship Care Do Not Access to a Range of Services

- Chapin Hall (2014): **28.4%** of children in kinship care needed mental health services, but **only 14.2% actually received those services**
- Carsey Institute (2013): Informal kinship caregivers have **less access to training, respite care and peer support** than unrelated foster parents
- Literature consistently shows that **kin caregivers do not access the benefits to which they are entitled**

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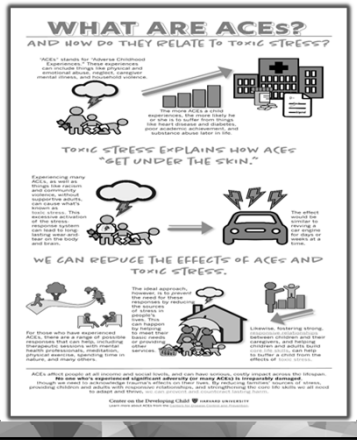

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The Impact on Kin Caregivers

- Increased stress to make ends meet
- Parenting in a new age
- Health-related concerns
- Finding the right resources
- Trauma related behaviors
- Limited support system

KINSHIP CARE
Grandparents & Other Caregivers Raising Children

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Service Delivery Strategy

Built upon current model for kinship navigation to include the following components:

- Open group sessions for all kin caregivers
- Individual kinship peer support services in the community and home
- Service navigation for complex systems

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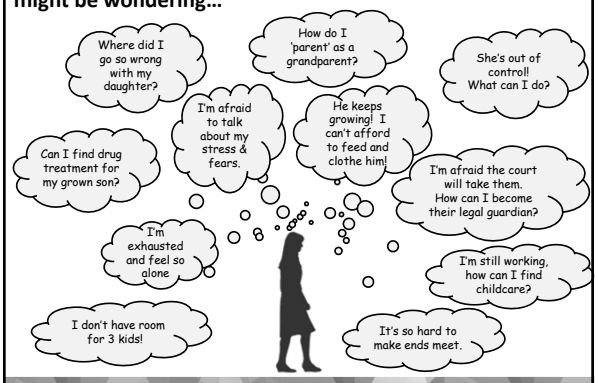
When grandchildren suddenly come into your care, you might be wondering…



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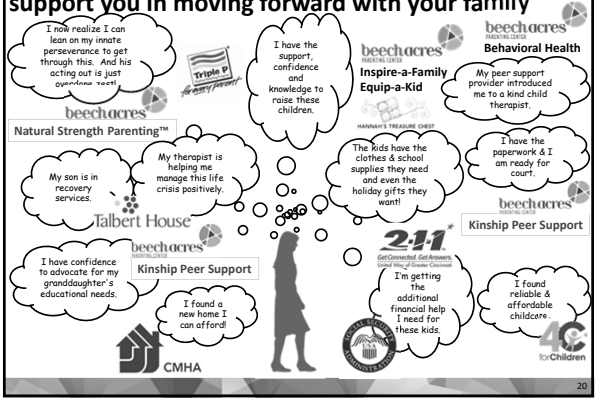
Our network of partners will understand and support you in moving forward with your family



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More Examples:

1.) Natural Strength Parenting ™ Activity

2.) Positive Parenting Program (Triple P) Activity

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Panel Discussion

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Thank you!

For more information regarding our Kinship Connection Program or more about Beech Acres Parenting Center, please call 513-231-6630 or visit our website at: www.beechacres.org.

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