
Coordinating Services for TANF and Child Welfare Families

April 24, 2018

1:00 – 2:30 PM EST



ADMINISTRATION FOR
CHILDREN & FAMILIES

Welcome

- James Butler, Family Assistance Program Specialist, Office of Family Assistance (OFA), Administration for Children and Families (ACF)



ADMINISTRATION FOR
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Learning Objectives



- ❑ Understand the intersections between current and eligible TANF and Child Welfare families
- ❑ Consider value of partnership between TANF and Child Welfare programs to improve outcomes for families
- ❑ Explore various approaches for creating partnerships between TANF and Child Welfare programs



Presenters

- ❑ *Liliana Hernandez, M.S.W/M.P.P.*, Child Welfare Program Specialist, Administration for Children and Families
- ❑ *Gerard Wallace, Esq.*, Director, New York State (NYS) Kinship Navigator
- ❑ *Holly Morales, B.O.M.*, Director, Cook Inlet Tribal Council (CITC), Employment & Training Department
- ❑ *Deborah Northburg, M.A.*, Director, CITC, Child & Family Services Department



Meeting Adobe Help

OFFICE OF FAMILY ASSISTANCE
An Office of the Administration for Children & Families

OFA Peer TA
Strengthening Self-sufficiency Pathways

Thank you for joining us today!

Please take a few minutes and complete the evaluation by clicking on the link below.

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<https://>

Use the **Q&A pod**, at the top right, to send a question for the presenters. Type your text in the box and press ENTER.

Q & A

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Closed Captioning (2)
18 pt White (B) No Captions

Waiting for Captions

Everyone



CHILD WELFARE/TANF COLLABORATION

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Children's Bureau
April 24, 2018



Overlap in Families Served

- Strong correlation between poverty and child maltreatment
- Many child welfare families:
 - Have received TANF, or
 - Are eligible to receive TANF
- Coordination of services is important for improving family outcomes

Promoting TANF/CW Collaboration

The Children's Bureau has funded 20 Family Connection Grantees that had a kinship navigator component and 7 were focused on improving coordination between Child Welfare and TANF to assist kinship children who might be at risk of entering the child welfare system.

Grantees increased awareness of the TANF child only grants as one public benefit available to kinship families. Kinship Navigators assisted kinship caregivers in applying for and receiving TANF.

The cross site evaluation report of the Kinship Navigator grantees is available. <https://www.jbassoc.com/resource/family-connection-discretionary-grants-2009-funded-grantees-cross-site-evaluation-report/>

Examples of TANF Collaboration

Children's Home Inc, Tampa, FL -

- Program Components: Peer to Peer Navigators, Home Visit with laptops to assist caregiver with the online application for TANF grant
- Peer-to-Peer navigators had the highest TANF application rate (75%) and enrollment rates (53%). (n=49)
Usual care child welfare services had the lowest TANF application (19%) and enrollment rates (6%). (n=21)

Supporting Kinship Caregivers Podcast

<https://www.acf.hhs.gov/cb/resource/child-welfare-podcast-supporting-kinship-caregivers-part2>

Kinship Navigator Program Resources

National Foster Care Month 2018 Website: It's All Relative: Supporting Kinship Connections

<https://www.childwelfare.gov/fostercaremonth/>

Kinship care Resources - Supporting Kinship Caregivers
Podcast Series

<https://www.childwelfare.gov/topics/outofhome/kinship/>

Guides and Handbooks for Kinship Care Caseworkers.

<https://www.childwelfare.gov/topics/outofhome/kinship/kinshipcaseworkers/guides/>

Polling Question #1

- Does your TANF program currently partner with the Child Welfare Program to coordinate services and benefits?





NEW YORK STATE

Kinship

NAVIGATOR

Information, Referral and Advocacy for Kinship Caregivers

Presenter

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National Kinship Statistics

- 2.7 million kinship children
- Grandparents make up 65% of all caregivers:
 - 46% White
 - 29.4% Black
 - 27.7% Latino
- 19% of caregivers – disabled
- Average age of caregiver is 56 years



Causes of Kinship Care

- Abuse, neglect or abandonment
- Parental alcohol and/or substance abusers
- Parents are deceased, mentally ill or unable or unwilling to parent
- Military deployment
- Mathematics (2-1-1=0)
- NYS Sample Of 449 Kinship Children:
 - 86% had CPS Investigations
 - 100% were Informal Kinship Care

Adverse Family Experiences

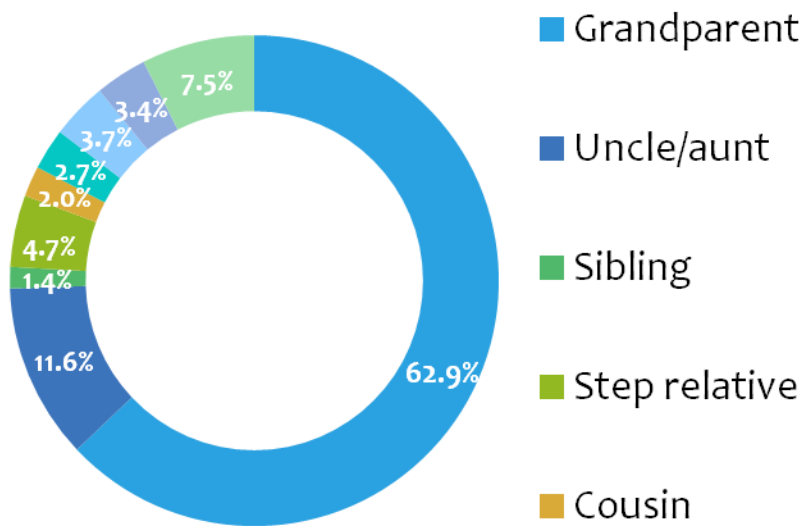
Study conducted by Office of Human Services Policy

“Compared with children living with two biological parents, children in non-parental care were:

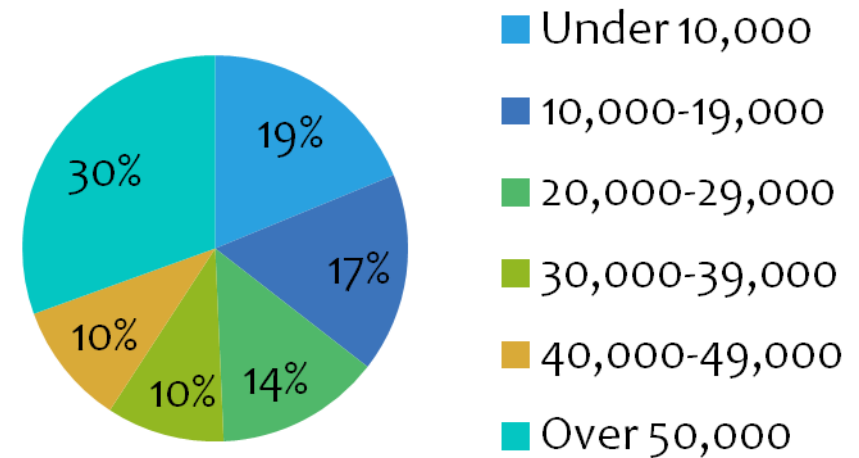
- 1.5 times as likely to be living in a household in which it was often difficult to afford basics,
- five times as likely to have ever lived with a mentally ill caregiver or parent,
- six times as likely to have witnessed neighborhood violence,
- 15 times as likely to have witnessed caregiver or parent violence,
- 11 times as likely to have lived with a caregiver or parent with an alcohol or drug problem,
- and 17 times as likely to have experienced caregiver or parent incarceration”

NYS Participant Characteristics: Relationship of CG to Child and Income

Relationship (N=295)



Income of Kinship Family (N=282)



Better Outcomes

- Research shows that children who live with kin experience better outcomes
- Kin are well-equipped to provide
 - Emotional support
 - Placement stability
 - Maintenance of family identity
 - Placement of sibling groups

Kinship Families Face Barriers to Core Needs

- Access to TANF
- Access to Child Welfare
- Access to:
 - Legal Assistance
 - Supportive Services
(i.e., respite, parenting skills, trauma care, support groups)



TANF Assistance

- TANF Child-Only Grant (Kinship Care Subsidy Program)
Chapin Hall 2012 – 12% receiving grant
- Child-Only (Non-Parent) Grant
Barriers to eligibility include:
 - Application Process
 - Terms Used to Describe Grant
 - No Dedicated Agency Staff
 - Eligibility Requirements (i.e., support obligations, exemptions)

Child Welfare Assistance

Fostering Connections to Success and Increasing Adoptions Act (2008)

- Preference for kin
- Search for kin - due diligence
- Obligation to notify and inform
- Kinship Guardianship



- **Information**

- Legal fact sheets
- County resources
- Helpline

- **Referral**

- Case management programs
- Support groups
- Legal referral network

- **Education**

- Local and statewide presentations
- Online video archive
- Legislative education

- **Advocacy**

- Case by case advocacy
- Statewide advocacy
- Local collaborations

Kinship Navigator Federal Demonstration Project

Key Element - Local Departments of Social Services Collaboration:

- Center for Human Services Research Evaluation (CHSR) (Data Access)
- Permission to Contact Procedure
- Identify Dept. of Social Services Challenges



Collaborations with TANF & CW

- Permission to Contact (PTC) Procedure
- Increase from 49 to 428 referrals in 2014
- Trainings for staff
- Community outreach



Memorandum of Agreement

- Kinship Navigator and Local Human Services Agencies
 - Kinship Navigator and State Agencies
- Agreement Process – meetings, negotiations
- Agreed to:
 - Data sharing with research foundation
 - Access to staff
 - Implementation of PTC
 - Trainings on kinship issues
 - Assistance in outreach

Permission to Contact Form

- Makes it easier for kinship families to have contact and receive services from kinship programs
- Allows client to indicate when it is preferred to contact them
- Takes the “onus” off of families in crisis/struggling

PERMISSION FOR KINSHIP NAVIGATOR TO CONTACT CAREGIVER

Please check, sign and complete permission and contact information below, and then return to your staff person

Permission for Kinship Navigator to call you: Yes No (If No, Stop here)

Signature: _____ Date _____

1. Name of Primary Caregiver _____
2. Mailing Address: _____ Apt Number: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
3. Home Phone: Area code: _____ phone _____ - _____
4. Cell Phone: Area code: _____ phone: _____ - _____
5. Other Phone: Area code: _____ phone: _____ - _____
6. Email Address: _____
7. What language do you prefer? English Spanish
8. Preferences for contact (check all that apply)
Time of day: Morning (9-12) Lunchtime (12-1) Afternoon (1-4) Evening (4-6)
By Email Mail Home Phone Cell Phone

Instructions for Staff: Please complete the information below, and fax this form to 585-456-1676 or email to navigator@nysnavigator.org. Please store all completed forms for pick up by Kinship Navigator project coordinator.

County _____ Staff Person _____

Child Welfare Staff Only: Types of Placement:

"Temporary" (No Article Ten); Article Ten "direct"; Article Ten into Article Six;

KinGAP; Other _____

Organization/Agency _____ Unit/Supervisor _____

Does the client have a Safety Plan in place? Yes No

Date fax/email sent ___/___/___

If caregiver declined to be contacted, please check box.

(Please fax the form even if caregiver declined to be contacted; this is important for our records).

PTC Implementation

- SUNY Research Foundation focus groups
 - Identified resistance
 - Identified gaps in knowledge
- Senior and mid-level meetings with KN
- Trainings on kinship issues
- Trainings on PTC
- Incentives
- Ongoing monitoring

Trainings

- CW - initial resistance
 - CW Staff – “arm’s length”
 - CPS isolation
- TANF – more receptive
- Trainings got “buy in”
 - CW recognized value

Outreach

- Local interagency convenings
 - Meetings
 - Established task force
 - Planned summit

How TANF & CW Can Help Connect Kinship Families to Services

- Promote Child Only Grant
- Internal referrals from CW to TA
- Referrals from CW and TA to Kinship Navigators
- Kinship trainings for staff
- Inter-Agency collaborations
- Community forums/summits
- Coordinate actions in yearly service plan

Outreach to Kinship Families

- Use Permission to Contact form
- View film: “The Face of Kinship Care”
- Promote September as Kinship Care Month
 - U. S. Senate and House of Representatives
 - Nine states have passed resolutions
 - Local events each year



Poll Question #2

- What types of additional support can your TANF families receive as a result of a strong collaboration with your Child Welfare program? (Check all that apply)
 - Enhanced parenting supports
 - Coordinated care
 - More supportive services and resources
 - Decreased risk of formal child welfare case



COOK INLET TRIBAL COUNCIL

Holly Morales

Employment & Training
Director

Deborah Northburg

Child & Family Services
Director



COOK INLET TRIBAL COUNCIL (CITC)



TRIBAL
NONPROFIT
ORGANIZATION

Serving Alaska Native and
American Indian people

CITC'S SERVICE AREA



Our Values

- We are interdependent.
- We are resilient.
- We are accountable.
- We are respectful.



Our Vision

"We envision a future in which all Our People—especially our youth, the stewards of our future—have access to vast opportunities, and have the ability, confidence, and courage to advance and achieve their goals, infused with an unshakeable belief in Our endless potential."

What We Do

Connect Alaska Native people to their potential through:

- educational services
- employment and training services
- child and family services
- recovery and re-entry services



Serving Our People



- 50+ programs
- 275+ employees
- 11,500+ individuals served in 2017

Impact: Education



- 93% graduation rate among CITC in-school programs in 2017 (*ASD rate: 57%*)
- Increased STEM class capacity to 580 students
- Nearly 2,000+ students served last year
- 1,000+ student athletes served through NYO Games in 2017

Impact: Recovery Services

- 1,400+ individuals served through outpatient, residential, peer, and re-entry services in 2017
- 62% indicating access to stable housing six months after treatment
- 79% of detox participants reported no use after 12 months
- *Chanlyut* served 22 new individuals in 2017



Impact: Self-sufficiency

- 700+ participants employed last year
- \$9.41 per hour avg. wage increase
- 400+ participants moved from welfare to work
- 1,776 children received support through Child Care Assistance
- 53 graduates connected to Healthcare careers



Impact: Children and Families



- 400+ families engaged through reunification services last year
- 100+ individuals participated in parenting /relationship groups
- 56 families enrolled in family preservation programs
- 49 children enrolled in Early Head Start center in 2017

Why Collaboration?

What does data say about our population served?

Factors for Involvement with Child Protection (Jared et. al., 2016)

- The study asks: *by how much does each of these factors increase the risk of a family being involved with child protection?*
- Population level study using Alaska SCAN data to identify factors and associated Odds Ratios

Why Collaboration?

Factors for Involvement with Child Protection

Demographic Factor	Odds Ratio
Public aid as a source of family income	5.48
Maternal age <20 and education <12 yrs.	4.11
Unmarried maternal marital status	4.02
Breastfed less than 8 weeks	2.14
Life stress during past 12 months	Odds Ratio
My husband, partner or I went to jail	5.46
Homeless	5.48
I was in a physical fight	4.02

Why Collaboration?

Factors for Involvement with Child Protection (Cont.)

Substance use factors

Odds Ratio

Maternal tobacco use (any) during pregnancy

4.21

Illicit drug use during pregnancy

3.04

Maternal alcohol use (any) during pregnancy

2.83

Physical / sexual violence

Odds Ratio

Maternal physical abuse

4.96

Unwanted pregnancy

3.09

Path to Collaboration

Agency Without Walls (2006)

- Matching data - participants across three service areas (TTANF, CFS, RS)
- Describing outcomes – participants involved in 3 programs did better on post-NCFAS Parental Capability and Child Well-Being ratings
- Rethinking Leadership structure - President's Council and CITC Leadership Council
- Developing Common Intake to all programs – no wrong door to organization services

Path to Collaboration

Luqu Kenu –Everyone is Family (2011)

- Creating cross-department engagement and ownership - leadership to staff level
- Adopting screening for TTANF participants - internal and external referrals
- Dedicating a Liaison between departments - intensive case management
- Implementing cross-department shared training - child protection practice model

Path to Collaboration

Luqu Kenu Enhancement (2015)

- Expanding shared child protection cross-training to recovery services and education
- Expanding services within the region – urban center and local rural area
- Developing data and evaluation plan – engage external evaluator
- Aligning data systems – immediate and long range planning

Moving through Stages of Collaboration

- **Networking** – siloed services driven by funding with little overlap
- **Cooperation** – organizational Continuous Quality Improvement Team to begin looking at data
- **Coordination** – leadership structure and sustainability planning as a values-driven organization
- **Coalition** – initiative-focused and anchored to a data philosophy and common intake
- **Collaboration** – at the system level through the functions of the leadership councils

Lessons Learned

- Collaboration is a journey not a destination – it must accommodate contextual shifts
- Everyone is a leader across all levels of the organization – leaders and direct service staff must be involved in the systemic and programmatic change planning
- Champions of change must be identified to sustain engagement and motivation
- The process of collaboration must be documented and evaluated to sustain progress
- Articulation of values creates the foundation to align goals, outcomes and data
- Building collaboration creates a mind-set and translatable skills to apply to external partnerships and collective impact efforts

Where Do We Go From Here?

- Sustainability of grant-driven efforts
- Strategic agency initiatives to develop a common assessment and outcome tool
- Development of a Family Information System



Thank You

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Poll Question #3



As a result of this webinar, what is one thing you will do differently to strengthen coordination with your child welfare program?



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Poll Question #4



What topics would you like to see in future webinars?



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Additional Information

- ❑ OFA PeerTA website (<http://peerta.acf.hhs.gov>)
- ❑ Webinar transcript and recording
- ❑ Future webinar topics (peerta@icf.com)



Webinar Feedback



- Please remember to provide your feedback using the brief survey that will launch when the webinar ends.

