

# The Vision

Marta Miranda-Straub, Commissioner



### From the Commissioner

## Coming together to prevent child abuse

s we come to the end of Child Abuse Prevention Month, I want to share my gratitude with all of you for your dedication to protecting all of Kentucky's children from abuse, neglect and exploitation. It's not just our child welfare team – it's all of us and all or our partners. Everyone plays a part in prevention.



### Family Children and Youth

## Primary and secondary prevention: An ounce is worth a pound of cure

The Benjamin Franklin axiom where he famously advised fire-threatened Philadelphians in 1736 that "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure" is as true today as it was back in 1736. Although Franklin actually was addressing fire safety, the same could be applied to the work and efforts of DCBS each and every day as we all know and agree that it is better to intervene early than to wait until the house is on fire. Whenever possible, it is better to connect families to services and resources when they first face challenges rather than have the trauma of a child's removal from the home once challenges have escalated to the point of creating threats to safety.

Read the story here



CQI Specialists wear blue for child abuse prevention.

You work to elevate child abuse prevention every day of the year by making safety a priority. We know that child abuse is not specific to certain zip codes, demographics or cultures.

Read the story here

## **CQI** regional forums get positive feedback

The CQI Redesign Forums have presented an opportunity for all staff to engage and see their regional highlights of the CQI work that they do every day! The feedback during the forums has been amazing and powerful - staff have shared their struggles, barriers to engagement and successes in working with families. Participants particularly enjoyed the presentation of Dyzz Cooper and Amanda Metcalf of the Kentucky Partnership for Families and Children.

Read the story here

In a word, what does CQI mean to you?

Mentimeter



Participants in The Lakes CQI Forum responded to a survey on what CQI means to them, and here is their word collage.



### **Legislative Session Review**

The 2021 Regular Session of the General Assembly adjourned their "short-session" of 30 legislative days on March 30, 2021. The Department for Community Based Services reviewed and tracked over 50 pieces of legislation directly affecting the department and those we serve. Bills passed this year include provisions to greater assist the establishment of family child care homes, individuals recently released from incarceration, and fictive kin caregivers.

Read the story here

### Self-Care: Improve physical activity level step by step

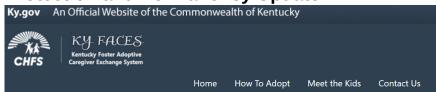
Including physical activity in your daily schedule is an important part of self-care and wellness. Here are some tips for staff to add more



activity into each day, and some specific tips for staff who have joined the LivingWell Steps Invitational Challenge!

- Take the stairs instead of the elevator or escalator
- Park farther away from your destination
- Take walking breaks throughout the day and during lunch. Join a colleague or family member, or listen to music to make it more enjoyable

### **Protection and Permanency Update**





#### Meet Kentucky's Waiting Children

There are many Kentucky children waiting to be part of a family. Thank you for visiting Kentucky's photolisti learn more about the waiting children. Some of the children have special educational, emotional or medical information is confidential and does not appear in the children's descriptions. More detailed information abord as they are completing the adoption preparation process.

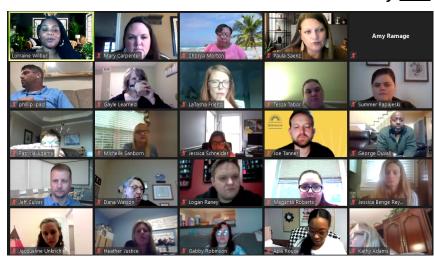
#### Browse To Meet The

- There are two ways to view Kentucky's waiting children. You may <u>Browse</u> through a list of all Kentuck
  children or create a <u>Search</u> to define the profile of children you would like to adopt.
- . Write down the name and identifying number of the child(ren) about whom you would like more inform
- Visit the <u>Adoption</u> section of our website to learn about adoption in Kentucky.
- Click the Contact Lie button at the top of this page to inquire by email

### **Kentucky Adoption Profile Exchange (KAPE)**

The Division of Protection and Permanency (DPP) and Office of Application Technology Services (OATS) staff collaborated with AdoptUSKids.org national adoption site to create a partner site that will only show Kentucky children. The new site launched on 4/17/21. The partner site will replace the KAPE photo listing website. It can be accessed through Kentucky FACES website at kyfaces.ky.gov or visit Kentucky Adoption Photolisting (adoptuskids.org). Prospective adoptive families will be able to view and make an inquiry children or youth who are available for adoption from the partner site. Inquiries will be easily viewed and tracked to help streamline the adoption process.

#### Read the story here



### PCC summit for providers a success

The Division of Protection and Permanency's Transitional Services Branch hosted a PCC Summit earlier this month with more than 100 participants. This was an opportunity for private agency partners to learn about new opportunities as a result of federal funding and how we can best support transition-age young people during the pandemic.

Read the story <u>here</u>

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