

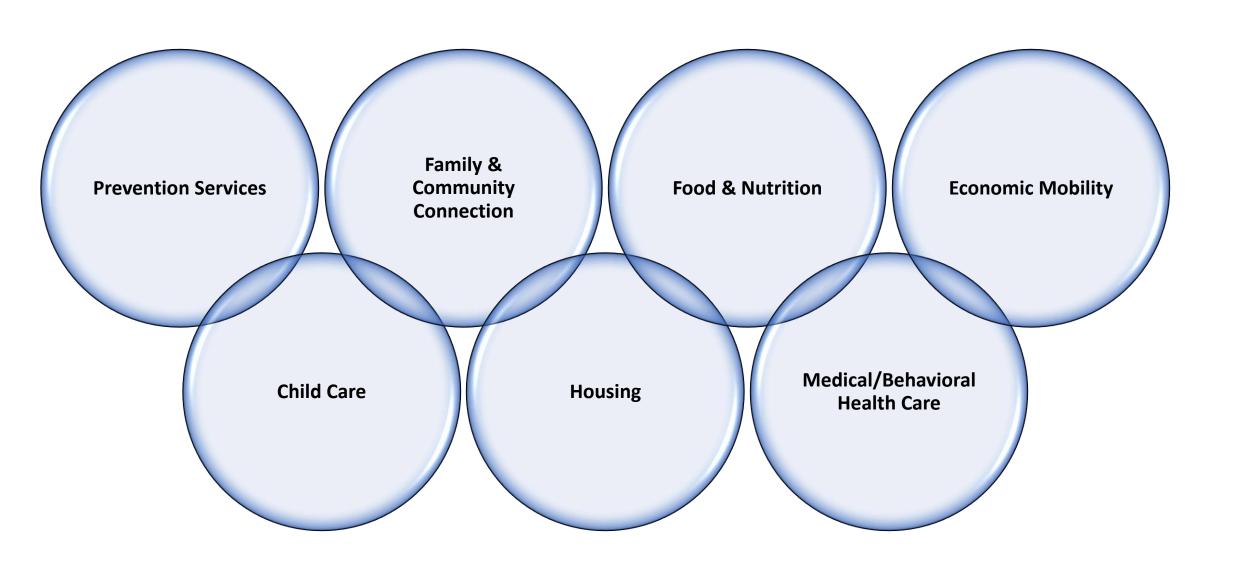
# CABINET FOR HEALTH AND FAMILY SERVICES

Department for Community Based Services

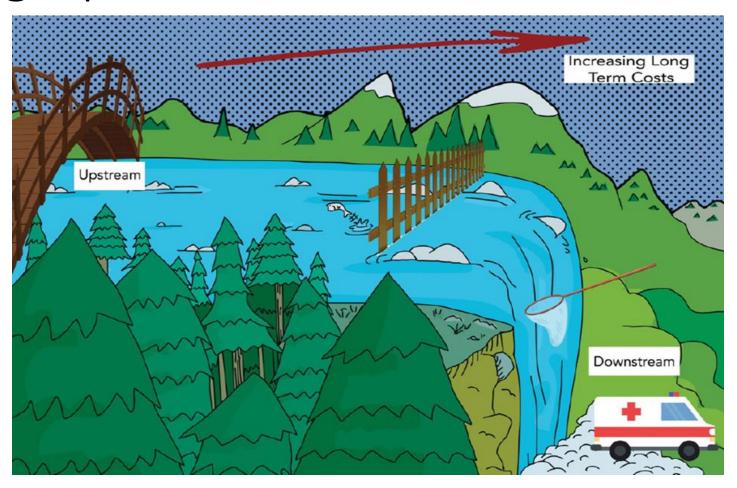
Promoting Health and Well-Being Across

Kentucky





### Moving Upstream



**Credit: Tribal Epidemiology Centers** 

## Meeting Family Needs: A Multi-System Policy Framework for Child and Family Wellbeing

#### ENHANCE ACCESSIBILITY

Promote accessibility of services for families in need of support and reduce administrative barriers and red tape.

#### FAMILY-CENTERED PRACTICE

Build workforce skills to use practices that center the family and that result in higher engagement in voluntary supports.

#### COMMUNITY-CENTRIC DELIVERY

Shift service delivery to providers grounded in communities that will be served, establishing culturally responsive service arrays with staff that have lived experience.

#### **ELIGIBILITY EXPANSION**

Expand eligibility for services and supports to shift to prevention to increase the number of families receiving supports they need before a crisis occurs.

#### STRATEGIC SERVICE EXPANSION

Expand services and supports to meet families' basic needs and address primary drivers of child welfare involvement.



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#### NARROW CHILD PROTECTIVE RESPONSE

Narrow the child protective response to ensure that the child welfare agency intervenes only when there is a safety risk.

SHARED LEADERSHIP WITH COMMUNITIES AND LIVED EXPERIENCE

COLLABORATION, SYNERGY, SHARED OWNERSHIP & ACCOUNTABILITY

Foundational conditions for system change

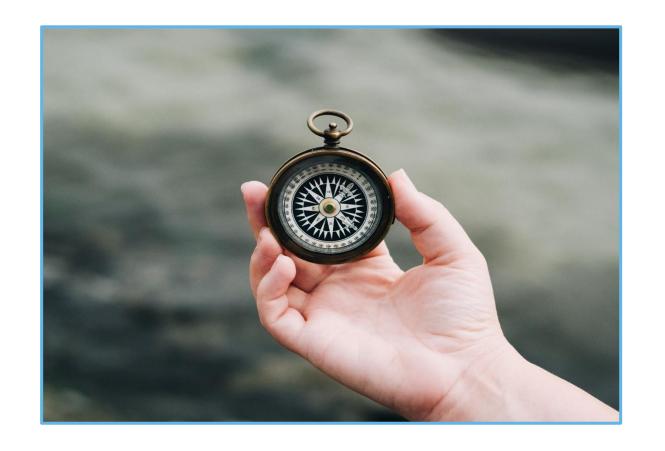
# Types of Prevention Efforts

Primary prevention activities are directed at the general population and attempt to stop maltreatment before it occurs. All members of the community have access to and may benefit from these services.

Secondary prevention activities with a high-risk focus are offered to populations that have one or more risk factors associated with child maltreatment.

Tertiary prevention activities focus on families where maltreatment has already occurred and seek to reduce the negative consequences of the maltreatment and to prevent its recurrence.





# FAMILY FIRST PREVENTION SERVICES ACT: OUR PREVENTION JOURNEY BEGINS



# Cross-System Collaboration to Enhance Service Expansion

- More than doubled prevention funding since 2019
- Additional legislative appropriations for prevention
- Partnership with Medicaid for pilot prevention & private child care rates
- Funding primary and secondary prevention efforts
- Demonstration site/grant funding for community response, library partnerships, and community hubs



### Engaging Individuals with Lived Experience







- Thriving Families team and DCBS partnered with Kentucky Youth Advocates to launch a statewide birth parent advisory council
- Trusted Advisors
- Peer Support
- Voices of the Commonwealth
- Opportunity for feedback, co-design, voice in policy making



# Economic and Concrete Supports

- Helping families meet their basic needs, stabilize, reduce stress, and promote well-being
- Housing, household goods, utility payments, food assistance, transportation

State level child welfare efforts to increase accessibility to concrete supports:

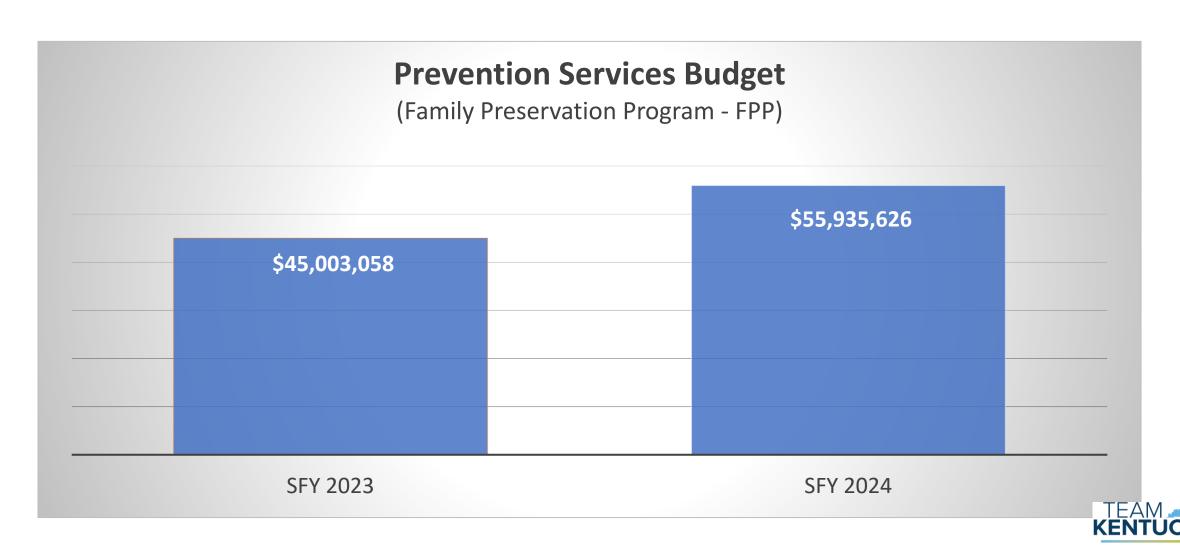
- Availability to any family with an open child welfare case
- Concrete supports doubled in tertiary prevention services
- Concrete supports added to prevention services without ongoing child welfare involvement





#### **Investment in Prevention Services**

93% kids remained home safely

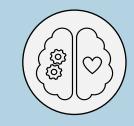


AND FAMILY SERVICES

#### **Benefits of Kinship Care**

When placed with kin, children experience more stability, less trauma, and stronger connections to family, community, and culture.



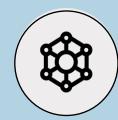


Placement with kin is associated with:

Reduced trauma and improved child well-being

Better behavioral and mental health outcomes





Higher placement stability and improved permanency

Preservation of family, culture, and community

# Overview of Subsidized Permanent Custody (SPC)

New permanency option/goal for children who have been placed in an approved relative and fictive kin foster home for 6 months (non-familiar foster parents are not eligible).

Return to parent and adoption must <u>not</u> be an appropriate permanency option.

Primary difference between SPC and Adoption, is that SPC does <u>not</u> require termination of parental rights.

SPC contract must be approved (signed) by the Cabinet, prior to the relative/fictive foster parent receiving custody in court

### Benefits for a Caregiver

Caregiver's ability to maintain their identity as a grandmother / aunt/ Sibling

Monthly subsidy that mirrors adoption after permanent custody is granted till the child is 18

Medical card

Possible childcare reimbursement (family needs to be employed to qualify)

Care Plus and medically complex respite may be included

Reunification with parents

### Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)



SNAP increases access to food and nutrition for households across Kentucky



13.4 % of Kentuckians participated in SNAP in April 2024

Approximately 219,000 children under age 18

Approximately 60,000 older adults



\$1.2 Billion in SNAP benefits was spent at KY retailers in SFY 2024

# Housing Supports

Kentucky Transitional Assistance Program (KTAP) is a cash assistance program currently supporting more than 33,000 families with dependent children. (TANF). Financial assistance is used to support the cost of housing, food, and other basic supports

Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) is a federally funded grant supporting anti-poverty services, including rent, mortgage, and utility assistance in all 120 counties (through Community Action). 201,644 individuals and 100,549 households received CSBG assistance last year.

Low-Income Household Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) provides a supplemental payment for home heating and cooling costs. It also offers energy crisis supports.

#### **Economic Mobility Supports**



Kentucky Works Program (KWP) supports parents with employment and education support, including removing barriers to work and education with transportation, child care, and training



SNAP Education and Training (E&T) supports households with education and training support



Community Services Block Grant also supports employment and training, skill building initiatives in families

Child Care Assistance Program supports working families to afford child care and improve the quality of child care services, including the training of child care providers and development of early learning guidelines. 201,644 individuals and 100,549 households received assistance in SFY 2023.

Employee Child Care Assistance Program supports participating employers in offering child care support for employees, where the state will provide a matching amount to the employer contribution (up to 50%).

KTAP and CSBG also provide child care support for working families.



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# MAKING SURE OUR JOURNEY GETS US TO THE RIGHT DESTINATION: A Multi System Framework

### Discussion

