# 1. Welcome and Attendees

**Goal of the Grant:** to improve behavioral health outcomes for children and youth (birth through age 21) who meet criteria for SED and their families and who have child welfare involvement. For this project, child welfare-involved families are those for whom a child abuse and/or neglect investigation results in a substantiation or services-needed finding and for whom DCBS does not have custody. The population of focus also includes children and youth who have a planned reunification date within 60 days, as well as post adoptive families who are seeking behavioral health services for youth they have adopted.

**Purpose of the GMIT:** interagency team responsible for management of the grant, oversight of state and local implementation activities, and ongoing communication with the system of care governing bodies.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Amanda Metcalf |  | Jenny Thornhill |  | Mary Carpenter |  | Jess Clouser |
|  | Barb Greene |  | Jessica Ware |  | Michelle Niehaus |  | Felicity Krueger |
|  | Chris Cordell |  | John Broadus |  | Maxine Reid |  | Ashley Peercy |
|  | Beth Jordan |  | Josh Swetnam |  | Melinda Vise |  | Natasha Ulrich |
|  | Carmilla Ratliff |  | Kenneth Fletcher |  | Micah Blevins |  | Ayanna Coates-Hendricks |
|  | Carol Cecil |  | Katie Kirkland |  | Michelle Sawyers |  | Jamie Tipton |
|  | Clarissa Allen |  | Katy Mullins |  | Randa Bush |  | Mallory Bateman |
|  | Dakota Simmons |  | Kelli Root |  | Sherri Staley |  | Amanda Body |
|  | David Lohr |  | Kelly Bradshaw |  | Tammi Taylor |  | Danielle Khoury |
|  | Dee Dee Ward |  | Kelly Dorman |  | Tracy DeSimone |  | Ruthie Sizemore |
|  | Dyzz Cooper |  | Leslie Hughes Burgess |  | Tevis Duncan |  |  |
|  | Jennifer Warren |  | Lizzie Minton |  | Vestena Robbins |  |  |

= Present  = Absent

# Strengthening Families through Protective Factors, Partner Funding Grantee, Ruthie Sizemore

Ruthie Sizemore is a retired Family Resource Coordinator and serves as a board member for Grace Covenant Ministries. Grace Covenant Ministries is a faith based non-profit serving Jackson County located in Anvil, Kentucky. The county has a very high poverty rate and prevalence of substance abuse. The ministry serves as the hub for the community. On campus is a residential treatment center/therapeutic ministry for boys aged 12-18. The ministry used funds for outreach to include the boys on campus as well as children in the community who have child welfare involvement. The ministry promotes the Strengthening Families Model, focusing primarily on two protective factors: social connections and concrete support in times of need.

Received $4,750 in SOC FIVE Partner Funding

**Activities**

* Community events based on the 6 protective factors as outlined by the Strengthening Families Model Some examples include: a Fall festival, a Christmas tree lighting, and the creation of a mural & cookouts
* Dinner table project used in community outreach; the idea is to reduce risk factors through encouraging families to share a meal and engage in conversation
* Offering Family Thrive Training in March
* Efforts were also made to help community members become trained adult mentors
* Advertising through social media/flyers

Will serve more than 800 people (youth, and families) through trainings, events, and ministry

**Discussion**

The last round of partner funding has been released.

* Application due date **March 31, 2023, please share this opportunity with others in your community**
* RIACs can apply for funds since they are not receiving funding directly this year and applications are not limited geographically

## Action Items

Task Description Person Responsible Deadline

Please share the information SGMIT ongoing

With others

# DCBS Updates

Mary Carpenter presented on the DCBS initiatives to address the historic challenges DCBS faces including unmanageable caseloads for workers, disproportionality, disparate outcomes, and mandatory reporting (shifting from an agency of surveillance to supporting families differently by ensuring DCBS only investigates true issues) and reconciling the differences between poverty and neglect. DCBS prevention includes getting families resources sooner to prevent CPS referral. Statewide, the number of children in the custody of or committed to the Cabinet is going down as a result of prevention investments. Family and youth-driven partnerships are changing the way we partner with families and how they access services. Thinking about why families are coming to the agency helps form strategies for prevention.

**Race, Socioeconomic Status, and Child Welfare**

* Family income is the greatest predictor of entry into care.
* Nationally, more than 70% of children living in poverty are children of color.

**Child Protective Services (CPS) Intakes (SFY 2020–SFY 2022)**

* CPS received over 100,000 calls for child protective services; only 40% of calls actually met criteria.
* How can the community support those families who were referred but did not meet criteria?

**Primary Prevention**

Going upstream, we should consider alternative ways to support families and how to give them tangible aid for necessities like rent. Not everyone requires an EBP; some only require assistance getting around town.

**Thriving Families, Safer Children: Kentucky**

* We have a core team of community partners working to build infrastructure to support primary and secondary prevention supports, and a statewide prevention collaborative that meets quarterly.

**Prevention Collaborative & Community Action Plans for Prevention**

* Starting last year, the collaborative held visioning sessions in nine service regions. The Prevention Collaborative shared data from DCBS and courts and talked about strengths and challenges. Resources for community work planning, including a toolkit to help each region track progress, are provided. Most are getting ready to implement their action plan.

**Community Response**

Most CPS referrals do not meet criteria, so the **Community Response pilot program** is looking at how to connect families with resources to address poverty related issues, home environment needs, parenting skills, access to medical, dental, and behavioral health care, barriers to school attendance and childcare assistance.

* Referrals are sent via email, indicating the family's need [agencies do not have access to the DCBS allegation].
* Started in four counties; expanded to Rowan, Powell, and Bath; and, in January, in northern Kentucky as part of a primary prevention grant.
* The hope is that by agencies reaching out, it will prevent future maltreatment. There's a history where referrals don’t meet criteria, but stressors build up to the point where the family does meet criteria, so we hope this program will help prevent families from entering the child welfare system.

**Discussion**

*What happens after a family is referred for Community Response?*

Phone calls are the best way to reach out, but referrals are voluntary. The dynamics are different and can be challenging for FRYSC, as many know the families through the school system however families with children 0–5 are generally unknown by those who work within the school system.

**New Division, Amanda Body**

The new Prevention Division includes three branches: primary, secondary, and tertiary (Tertiary branch is currently the largest)

Looking to hire assistant directors and managers for each branch

* There are some areas that have more need, like gaps in services in Eastern KY. The division needs people to help build partnerships and fill gaps.
* want to truly engage with communities aside from geographically, so these hires will be carefully selected to be able to engage locally

The division is also focused on creating equity and addressing disproportionality in regard to cultural and linguistic groups

**Discussion**

* The Cabinet will continue work on racial equity/ data transparency (understanding the data as it relates to our clients)
* Dr. Brandy Kelly Pryor will help with this . She is also looking at the GARE tool applied to programing—the strategic plan [she was assisting with] is finished and will be rolling out.
* The Cabinet is also looking at family involvement/equitable representation of parents and families that they work with
* AOC appreciates the work of the cabinet as they are getting ready to partner to implement the Upstream Model to strengthening children and families—shifting to a community approach utilizing local mapping. The Division and the Cabinet plan to align work with Upstream Implementation.

## Action Items

Task Description Person Responsible Deadline

Please share the information SGMIT ongoing

With others

# 4. Agency Updates

DBHDID

* The application for the next SOC grant will focus on addressing marginalized, minorized and BIPOC youth, collaborating with community partners, continuing UK HDI and Dr. Brandy Kelly Pryor's work, and moving SOC FIVE efforts into juvenile justice areas. Dr. Kniffley's work will also be included, as will efforts to address secondary trauma for caseworkers and the expansion of screening, assessments, and referrals.

DCBS

* New contract with Dr. Brandy Kelly Pryor focuses on data trainings and Racial equity impact tool to look at DCBS processes/facilitated discussions for DCBS data trainings
* Implemented SDM tools in the Fall of last year, implementing tool for risk reassessment/ongoing cases so the tools apply to both intake and reassessment of cases

UK HDI

* In February, Jessica, Dee Dee, and KPFC staff gave presentation/status update to SIAC.
* We are in process of analyzing Community Need Survey through RIAC – plan to present those findings March 30, looking at statewide and regional data.
* Still in process of providing some training on new NOMs and part in provider Touch Base calls and discussing the Disparity Dashboard.
* Will present Disparity Dashboard to Children’s Branch March 21.

KPFC

* 17th Annual Parent Youth Leadership Conference will be held in Lexington this June 16-18th it costs just $25 for families and if needed KPFC has scholarships
* Just finished virtual parent leadership academy, another coming up in April and in May on the calendar; this training will be focused on learning how to use your voice for advocacy
* Prevent child abuse/DCBS will be offering training to support staff on co designing treatment plans with families
* SMART recovery support meetings occur weekly
  + <https://kypartnership.org/events/smart-recovery/>
  + <https://kypartnership.org/events/smart-recovery-family-and-friends/>
* Parent Support Group [PAUSE](../Desktop/pARENTS,%20ASSISTING,%20UNDERSTANDING,,%20SUPPORTING%20THOUGH%20EXPERIENCE%20(1).pdf) is on the 2nd Friday of each month
* Statewide Nurturing parenting program 12 weeks, 12 sessions for free, register on the KPFC website <https://kypartnership.org/events/nurturing-parenting-program-statewide-virtual-sessions/>
* RIAC Parent/Youth peer group starting back up
* Informational Webinars are held on the first Friday of the month
* Through Core Competency Trainings, 9 parents and 6 youth will be certified family and youth PSS
* KY SEAT and peer support center staff went to the capital for children’s advocacy day
* **Children's Mental Health Acceptance Day** is May 11; we will be celebrating from 10 - 2 ET.

AOC

* [Upstream](https://www.ncsc.org/__data/assets/pdf_file/0024/66417/Upstream_Interim_Report.pdf) work moving forward
* Mental health summit is in full swing with 60 breakout sessions and including various tracks from guardianship to juvenile justice. State agency and community partners will be presenting during the sessions.
* Diversion case plans have been implemented
* Partnering with Jefferson County to create a legal toolkit
* DNA (Dependency Abuse, Neglect) training upcoming

Parent Representative

Ayanna shared resources in Louisville available through Metro United Way/Health Start aimed at reducing infant mortality rates

* [Granny’s Doula Initiative](https://www.gbiky.org/privacy-policy) offers grants and scholarships to support people who want to become trained doulas; there is also a program called ‘Doula Dash’ that functions as an uber for pregnant women or women with children and a Maternity closet which offers free clothes.
* [Play Cousins Collective](https://playcousinscollective.wildapricot.org/) holds different events
* Louisville also has a local library program through Metro United Way called [Neighborhood Nest](https://volunteer.metrounitedway.org/agency/detail/?agency_id=145665) for new moms offering resources for health, childcare, and baby needs.

## Action Items

Task Description Person Responsible Deadline

n/a

**Next Meeting: April 14, 2023**, 10:00am – 12:00pmvia Zoom: [State GMIT Meeting](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82154195143?pwd=anYrVjlJRXQ4ejgxaDRYeDFCQ0IrUT09)

**Reminder:** You can find notes for all GMIT meetings as well as the CQI Dashboards and Interactive Map on the SOC FIVE Website**:** [**https://socv.hdiuky.net/**](https://socv.hdiuky.net/)

Family & Youth Reps complete for meeting time reimbursement: [**https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Attend\_Meeting**](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Attend_Meeting)