



# Advocates for Ohio's Future

**Budget Webinar: MSY, OhioRISE & Children's Services**

February 26, 2021



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**COMMUNITY SOLUTIONS**  
RESEARCH • ANALYSIS • ACTION

# Multi-System Youth (MSY)

## State Budget and OhioRISE

February 26, 2021

# Who are Multi-System Youth?

- Children and teenagers with complex needs that cannot be met by a single state department. These children have two or more significant challenges, including physical or mental illness, drug or alcohol addiction, developmental disabilities or severe trauma.
- They are involved, or at risk of becoming involved, with either or both the child protection or juvenile justice systems. Services for these children are often not coordinated across state systems.
- The complex needs of multi-system youth exhaust the resources of their families and their communities, and there are large gaps in funding and access to care across the state.



# Forced Custody Relinquishment

- One particular group of MSY are children and young people who come into state custody, not because they need protection from neglect or abuse, but because their caring and engaged families cannot find or afford the treatment they need. These families are faced with the horrible choice to relinquish custody of their child as the only way to get services.



# Laying the Groundwork

- Joint Legislative Committee (JLC) on Multi-System Youth and Multi-System Youth Action Plan focused on:
  - data, peer supports, safety-net funding, high-fidelity wraparound, local Family and Children First councils, congregate care and custody relinquishment
- Funding through HB166 (2020-2021 State Budget)
  - Medicaid
  - Developmental Disabilities
  - Job and Family Services
- Ohio RISE (Resilience through Integrated Systems and Excellence) in development



# OhioRISE

- OhioRISE is a specialized Medicaid managed care plan for children and youth with complex health, behavioral and developmental needs that is expected to serve between 50,000 and 60,000 children. It will provide the following broad services:
  - Intensive care coordination services,
  - New and enhanced critical services, and
  - Assist families, state and local child-serving agencies, and other health providers with locating and using services.
- Eligibility
  - Enrolled in Medicaid
  - Under age 21
  - Meet a functional needs threshold for behavioral health care
- Timeline
  - RFA issued in fall 2020
  - Announcement of plans expected any day
  - Program planned to launch January 2022



# MSY in House Bill 110

- Department of Developmental Disabilities
  - \$2.5M/yr in 2022 and 2023, an increase from \$1M in Multi-System Youth (Line Item 322422)
- Department of Medicaid
  - \$16M/yr in 2022 and 2023, an increase from \$12M/yr in Multi-System Youth Innovation and Support line item (Line Item 651690)
- Department of Job and Family Services
  - MSY earmark in the Family and Children Services (Line Item 600523) remains



# Questions?



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# Executive Budget Overview 2021





ODJFS Line item 523

SFY 20 As Passed	SFY 20 Actual	SFY 21 As Passed	SFY 21 Est.	SFY 22 As Introd.	SFY 23 As Introd.
\$186.1M	\$145.6M	\$186.4M	\$134.2M	\$212.2M	\$207.7M

ODJFS –  
Line 523,  
Family &  
Children  
Services

- **14% increase in Line 523** when comparing HB 166 (SFY20-21 budget bill) to SFY22-23
    - NOT a 58% increase in “new” children services funding
  - SFY 20-21 reductions due to pandemic/economy
    - No reductions to county allocations\*
    - Used other funding sources to maintain other programs and some non-county areas may have been reduced
- \*(exception of \$5M cut to best practices allocation in SFY21)

**ODJFS –  
Line 523,  
Family &  
Children  
Services**



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**The good news.....**

**MAINTAINED:**

- State Child Protection Allocation \$110.04M / year
- Multi-System Youth \$25.0M / year
- Ohio START \$4M / year
- OhioKAN \$8.5M / year
- 30 Days to Family \$400K / year
- Bridges \$8.7M / year
- EDMS (all programs) \$11.8M / year
- ESSA & Chafee Match \$3.2M / year



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**ODJFS –  
Line 523:  
The good  
news**

**The good news.....**

**New Investments:**

- Kinship Support Program (state)    \$34.5M / \$30.0M
- Chafee Young Adults                    \$800K / year
- Ohio Youth Advisory Board            \$65K / year

**The “need to confirm” news.....**

- Kinship Permanency Incentive Program (KPIP)
  - \$1M in GRF/ year maintained
  - Need to confirm total amount (balance is TANF)



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ODJFS –  
Line 523: The  
not-so-good  
news

The not-so-good news.....

Investment Changes:

- Foster Parent Recruitment \$5.0M / year
- Best Practices \$5.0M / year

\*No longer tied to the State Child Protection Allocation formula

\*\*Rules will be amended to define how the funds will be used



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ODJFS –  
Line 450,  
Program  
Operations

**New investments with some defined policy changes:**

- Ombudsman Program \$500K / year
- WWK Expansion \$5.2M / year
- Kinship Guardianship Assistance \$2.5M / year\*
- Prevention Services \$5.0M / year
- OCST Recommendations \$5.0M / \$6.7M
- Regional Work \$3.0M / year

**ODJFS –  
TANF  
Children  
Services**



**Department of  
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**The good news...**

**MAINTAINED:**

- Independent Living Initiative      \$2M / year
- Children's Trust Fund      \$1M / year
- Fatherhood Commission      \$2.2M / year

**The bad news...**

**ELIMINATED:**

- Kinship Caregiver Program      \$0 (TANF earmark)



## Department of Job and Family Services

# ODJFS – Children Services Funding Summary

	SFY 21	SFY 22	SFY 23	Change (SFY21/23)
County GRF Allocations	\$148.2M	\$138.2M	\$138.2M	-\$10M ↓
TANF earmark for Kinship Caregiver Prgm	\$15.0M	\$0	\$0	-\$15M ↓
Statewide Programming	\$31.7M	\$95.2	\$90.7M	\$59.0M ↑
Initiatives	\$4.7M	\$18.8M	\$20.5M	\$15.8M ↑





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# Children Services Policy Changes

## Major policy proposals that WERE included

Issue	OCST recommendation?
Establish Kinship Guardianship Assistance Program (KGAP)	Yes
Foster youth bill of rights	Yes
Resource family bill of rights	Yes
Concurrent planning	Yes
Intensive family finding	Yes
PASSS	Yes



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## Children Services Policy Changes

### Kinship Guardianship Assistance Program (KGAP)

- Requires ODJFS to submit a state plan amendment—no later than 9 months after budget bill’s effective date—to establish a KGAP program for:
  - Children (up to age 18) and
  - “Kinship guardianship youth” (who meet eligibility requirements aligned with Bridges and Adoption Assistance Connections)
- Requires ODJFS to begin implementation of KGAP within 15 months after budget bill’s effective date
- Need to confirm who pays for non-IV-E portion of the KGAP program, i.e., state or PCSAs



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# Children Service Policy Changes: Foster Youth Bill of Rights

## Foster Youth Bill of Rights:

- ODJFS shall adopt rules to establish and enforce
- Applies to TC, PC and PPLA
- If rights conflict with resource family, then youth rights shall preempt rights of resource family
- Shall not create grounds for a civil action against ODJFS, custodial agency or recommending agency



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# Children Services Policy Changes: Resource Family Bill of Rights

## Resource Family\* Bill of Rights:

- ODJFS shall adopt rules to establish and enforce
- If rights conflict with foster youth, then youth rights shall preempt rights of resource family
- Shall not create grounds for a civil action against ODJFS, custodial agency or recommending agency

\* New language in 5101.02 defines resource family as a foster home or the kinship caregiver family.



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# Children Service Policy Changes: Concurrent Planning

## Concurrent Planning:

- On and after Jan. 1, 2023, a case plan for a child in TC shall include a permanency plan unless not in child's best interest
- Plan will describe the services the agency shall provide to achieve permanency if reunification or maintaining in the home fails
- Services shall be provided concurrently with reasonable efforts to return the child home or eliminate the child's continued removal from the home
- ODJFS shall adopt rules



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# Children Service Policy Changes: Family Finding

## Intensive Family Finding:

- SAR to include summary of intensive efforts to secure a kinship placement and any **search technology** used
- Defines search technology
- Requires PCSA or PCPA to make intensive efforts to identify and engage an appropriate and willing kinship caregiver
- At every court hearing, court shall determine if continued intensive efforts have been pursued & if such efforts should continue



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# Children Service Policy Changes: Family Finding

## Intensive Family Finding:

- Court may issue an order that determines continuation of the child's current placement is in the best interest of child and that intensive efforts to identify willing kinship caregiver are unnecessary for that child, if:
  - **Child has been in living in stable caregiver's home for 12 consecutive months**
  - Current caregivers have expressed interest in providing permanency for the child
  - The removal of the child from the current caregivers would be detrimental to child's emotional well-being



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## Children Service Policy Changes: Family Finding

### Intensive Family Finding:

- The court and PCSA or PCPA may consider the child's current caregiver as having a 'kin' relationship with the child and **at an equal standing to other kin in regards to permanency**
- **If a relative fails within 6 months** from the date of notice to demonstrate an interest to provide permanent home for a child, court may excuse PCSA or PCPA from considering such relative
- Nothing in these court sections shall be construed to prevent a PCSA or PCPA from continuing to search or consider kinship caregivers.





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# Children Services Policy Changes: PASSS

## Post Adoption Special Services Subsidy:

- Transfers responsibility for administering this program from PCSAs to state
- Program policy essentially unchanged (eligibility, services provided, amount available per family per year)
- Permits ODJFS to contract out these duties
- ODJFS shall adopt rules by July 1, 2022, including method to transition program from PCSA to state
- Implementation shall be no later than July 1, 2022



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## Children Services Policy Changes

### Other Policy Changes:

- Provide FTE or PTE that becomes a foster caregiver or kinship caregiver with a maximum of 5 days of leave with full pay; begins day child is placed with prospective caregiver.
- Permits IV-E Court to participate in prevention services
- Removes “family service plans” from in-home and AR; will use “case plan”
- Bridges adjustments
- Broaden qualifications for assessors
- Legally married couple may adopt (strikes husband and wife)



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## Children Services Policy Changes

### Other Policy Changes:

- Legal parents of an adopted person may be notified that a sibling of the adopted person has been placed into out-of-home care
- Background checks required prior to engaging a subcontractor, intern, or volunteer (not just employing a person)

Questions?

## Contact Us

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# Questions?

Next Webinar: Friday March 12, 10:30am-Executive Budget Review

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