

# Kinship & Foster Care

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**Family First**

**Services Exploration**

**February 28, 2020**

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# Agenda

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- **Welcome & Introductions**
- **Recap Last Meeting**
- **Goal & Desired Outcome for Today**
- **Group Breakout**
- **Summary & Report Outs**
- **Next Steps**

# Workgroup Goals & Key Deliverables

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**For children living with relatives or kin  
(Informal family arrangements or formal and legal  
arrangements)**

**Identify service opportunities that will address and  
mitigate the previously identified policy barriers to  
better support relatives and kin**

# Kinship Services- Current State

**In the Community**  
**(Non-DCF)**

- Local Human Services Department
- 211 Referral & Information
- Department of Aging
- Probate Court
- Support Groups
- Office of Early Childhood (OEC)
- Department of Social Services (TANF-Medicaid)
- Family Initiated Arrangements

**In Formal Foster Care**  
**(DCF)**

- Caregiver Support Team (CST)
  - Attachment, Regulation & Competency (ARC Grow)
- DCF Service Array
- CPS/ Foster Care/Therapeutic Foster Care/ Family Community Ties
- Connecticut Alliance of Foster & Adoptive Families (CAFAF)
- State Department of Education
- Quality Parent Initiative (QPI) *on the horizon*

**After Achieving Permanency**  
**(After)**

- Subsidy (PTOG-STOG-Adoption)
- Adoption Assistance Program (APP)
- All Services Listed in "Non-DCF"

During Careline Engagement & Voluntary Services

# Kinship Navigation- FAMILY FIRST

## **Federal Law Defines as**

- *Programs that assist kinship caregivers in learning about, finding, and using services and programs to meet the needs of children they are raising and their own needs and promote effective partnerships among public and private agencies*

## **Requirements to Receive Federal Reimbursement**

- Must meet all requirements of the Navigation Program
- Must meet any of three evidence based standards: promising, supported or well supported

## **Connection to Family First Prevention Services Plan**

- Navigator programs are treated separately from other programs in Family First
- IV-E funding; different stream

## **Funding**

- IV-E agencies are eligible to develop, enhance or evaluate kinship navigator programs

# Kinship... We Know



# Kinship Navigation Program Service Elements

- **PROVIDE INFO ON AVAILABLE SERVICES**
- **PROMOTE EFFECTIVE PUBLIC & PRIVATE COLLABORATION**
- **ASSIST TO IDENTIFY & ACCESS SERVICES**
- **COORDINATE THE PROVISION OF SERVICES**
- **ESTABLISH A TOLL FREE INFORMATION & REFERRAL SYSTEM**
- **CREATE LINKAGE OF CAREGIVERS, SUPPORT GROUP FACILITATORS & SERVICE PROVIDERS**
- **OFFER RELEVANT GUIDANCE OBTAINING LEGAL ASSISTANCE**
- **ESTABLISH A KINSHIP CARE OMBUDSMAN**

# Next Steps

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**Family First Kinship and Foster Care Workgroup**

**Next Meeting: 3/13/2020**

**Location: CHR Manchester**

**Focus: Practice Exploration**

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# Thank You

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**Family First**

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