



REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP GRANTS - EXTENSION
FAMILIES IN SAFE HOMES NETWORK (FISHN)/FISHN INITIATIVE (FISHN-I)

LEAD AGENCY: Kentucky River Community Care, Inc.

LOCATION: Hindman, KY

PROGRAM OPTION: Two-Year Extension

GEOGRAPHIC AREA AND CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT SERVED: Rural; 5th Congressional District

NUMBER SERVED: Children: 561 | Adults: 1100

PROJECT ABSTRACT

Kentucky River Community Care, Inc. (KRCC), a multi-site behavioral health center located in the Appalachian Mountains of rural southeast Kentucky, was the lead agency for the RPG I grant awarded in 2007. The Families in Safe Homes Network (FISHN) focused on developing a system of care for families living in four isolated counties in the Kentucky River Region, a region with the poorest health indicators in the nation and the highest risk indicators for child well-being in the state. This region comprised less than 2% of the State's population, yet accounted for 15% of the State's children in out-of-home care. A primary goal of the project was improved collaboration and communication across agencies serving children and families in this region. Partners sought to reverse the trend of child removals and improve child well-being, safety, and permanency by altering interventions for Department for Community Based Services (DCBS) involved families who also were involved with substance abuse. The FISHN project solidified a core group of committed agencies who promoted and adopted systems improvements. The benefits for DCBS families included expanded community supports, a referral process for behavioral health services, substitution of evidence-based practices for "traditional" counseling and parenting skills training, strengthened agency interaction, and increased availability of treatment programs for parents, children, and family members. Along with changes in collaborative practice, NIATx Process Improvement strategies were used to identify and address barriers to services in multiple systems.

In 2012, KRCC was awarded a Two-Year Extension for Families in Safe Homes Network-Initiative (FISHN-I). The grantee requested the two years of funding to expand and sustain the project by 1) serving the remaining four counties in the region, 2) developing NIATx change

teams in other counties to address systems barriers and issues, and 3) integrating behavioral and physical health care in clinics throughout the region. The grantee and partners also focused on sustaining critical elements of their program.

TARGET POPULATION

The FISHN program served children and families at-risk of or involved with the DCBS/child welfare due to parental substance use disorders in Breathitt, Knott, Perry, and Leslie counties. RPG extension funding enabled the grantee and partners to expand services to Lee, Letcher, Owsley, and Wolfe counties, essentially serving the entire southeast Kentucky River Region.

MAJOR PROGRAM SERVICES

Case Management and In-Home Services

Intensive/Coordinated Case Management
Family Group Decision Making/Family Case Conferencing
Wraparound/Intensive In-Home Comprehensive Services

Parenting/Family Strengthening

Evidence-Based Parenting or Family Strengthening Program – Nurturing Parenting

Engagement/Involvement of Fathers

Specialized Program or Services for Fathers

Mental Health and Trauma Services for Adults

Mental Health Services
Trauma-Informed Services
Trauma-Specific Services – Seeking Safety

Substance Abuse Treatment for Adults

Intensive Outpatient

Specialized Outreach, Engagement, and Retention

Cognitive Behavioral Strategies – Motivational Interviewing/Motivational Enhancement Therapy
Organizational and Other Strategies – Co-location of Staff, NIATx Process Improvement Teams, Immediate Access

Family-Centered Substance Abuse Treatment or Family-Based Substance Abuse Services Screening and Assessment – Child Welfare and Other Children’s Issues

Screening and Assessment for Child Welfare Issues
Screening and Assessment for Trauma
Other Specialized Child Screening and Assessment – Developmental, Behavioral/Socio-Emotional, Mental Health/Psychological

Screening and Assessment – Substance Use and Other Adult Issues

Screening and Assessment for Substance Use Disorders

Other Specialized Adult Screening and Assessment – Psycho-social

Children’s Services

Other Therapeutic Services for Children

Trauma Services for Children – Trauma Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy

Housing Services

Housing Support Services

Cross-Systems Collaboration

Clinical and Program Training

Cross-systems Policies and Procedures

Regular Joint Case Staffing Meetings

Co-location of Staff

Cross-systems information Sharing and Data Analysis

Partner Meetings – Regional Partnership and Program Management

Other

Coordinated Case Planning with Child Welfare and Courts

Integrated Behavioral and Physical Health Care Coordination Teams

Specialized Program or Services for Grandparents and other Family

MAJOR PROGRAM GOALS

Goal 1: Sustain the Regional Partnership Function by diversifying the mission

Goal 2: Enrich the competency of staff by cross training multiple agency staff in trauma informed approaches for family, early childhood, and adult treatment methodologies and best practices

Goal 3: Use the NIATx approach to spread the system of care established in the four original Kentucky River counties into the remaining four counties

Goal 4: Integrate primary care into the adapted Chronic Care system of care established by FISHN partners

KEY PARTNER AGENCIES

The RPG encouraged service providers to develop and/or strengthen cross-system linkages between substance abuse treatment, child welfare, dependency court, and other service systems. The FISHN-I project included the following partners:

Child Welfare

DCBS/Child Welfare Agency

Substance Abuse

Kentucky River Community Care

Cabinet for Health and Family Services Community Based Services

University of Kentucky targeted Assessment Program

Operation UNITE

Courts

Dependency/Juvenile Courts in four counties

Criminal Justice, Law Enforcement, Legal and Related Organizations

Other Community and Child and Family Services

Housing

Kentucky River Community Care

Kentucky River Foothills Community Action Partnership

Housing Authority of Hazard

Mental Health

Health Services

Kentucky River District Health Department

Kentucky Mountain Health Alliance

Little Flower Free Clinic and Kentucky River Health Department

Education

LKLP Community Action Council, INC

Employment

LKLP Community Action Council, INC

Other Evaluation and Training

University of Kentucky, Lexington

EVALUATION

This project proposed a quasi-experimental design. The treatment group consisted of clients receiving FISHN-I services. The comparison group consisted of clients receiving typical child welfare and substance abuse services during the RPG grant period but not the RPG enhanced services.

Grantees measured performance indicators in the following domains: safety, permanency, child and adult well-being, and adult recovery. For additional information regarding program outcomes, please contact key personnel.

SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGIES AND ACTIVITIES

KRCC was successful in securing resources to sustain completely their RPG efforts and services beyond the Federal grant period. The creation and implementation of the RPG Learning Collaborative facilitated numerous systems changes that resulted in new ways of doing business for the RPG partners and these continued beyond grant funding. Additionally, services were sustained in part through the creation of a new billable position in Kentucky titled Community Support Associate, which supports the role of the RPG Care Coordinators.

KEY PERSONNEL INFORMATION

CLINICAL DIRECTOR

Bridget Turner, Ph.D.

FISHN Project
Kentucky River Community Care, Inc.

178 Community Way
PO Box 794
Jackson, KY 41339-0794

Phone: (606) 666-7591 ext. 1003
Fax: (606) 666-5840

bridget@krccnet.com

PROJECT DIRECTOR

Rebecca Smith

3770 Highway 15 South
Jackson, KY 41339

Phone: (606) 666-7591 ext. 1305
Fax: (606) 666-8610

rebecca.smith@krccnet.com

LEAD EVALUATOR

Theodore Godlaski,

University of Kentucky
College of Social Work

1 Quality St., Suite 700
Lexington, Kentucky 40507

Phone: (859) 257-5938

tmgodl1@uky.edu

Allison Scrivner

333 Waller Ave, Suite 480
Lexington, KY 40504

Phone: (859) 257-3218

almate00@uky.edu

This grantee profile is supported by the Administration on Children, Youth, and Families Children's Bureau, under contract HHSP23320072911YC. This content represents the work of The Center for Children and Family Futures, and does not reflect the opinions of the Administration on Children, Youth, and Families.