

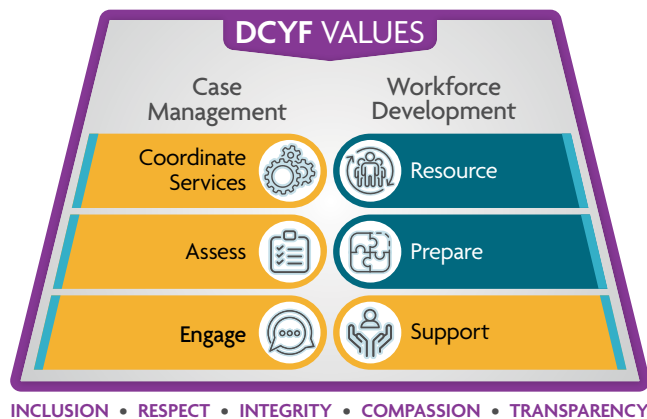
Thriving Families: Kinship

Strengthening Kinship Care and Supports

This project builds and promotes a “Kin First” culture in out-of-home placement. This requires the agency to improve how we identify kin, promote the decision to place with kin, and ensure we support children and kin post-placement. The Kinship Project supports the workforce and case management components of DCYF’s Family Practice Model.



FAMILY PRACTICE MODEL FRAMEWORK



How do we demonstrate we are prioritizing prevention?

We are building a strong community network to support a kin-first culture by engaging extended family members and the child’s kin-related support systems, which will support equity, stability, relational permanency, wellbeing, and better outcomes for children and youth.

How are we reducing disparities?

Using the latest research, we are developing systems and processes to help children and youth maintain connections to their family, their community, and their cultural roots.

How will families be supported?

Kin families will be actively involved in developing a system that serves them, and will provide them greater flexibility in accessing resources and supports that are tuned to the child and kin family’s needs.

How will staff be supported?

DCYF staff will be directly involved in defining a kin-first culture and aligning the work process by reinforcing it. Staff will also be supported through increased capacity, capability enhancements, training, and professional development.

*This project is part of the **Thriving Families** campaign, which is made up of multiple ongoing projects in the child welfare space.*

***Thriving Families** will allow DCYF to strengthen its work with children and families, and support staff.*

The campaign will improve outcomes for families by safely reducing the number of children in out-of-home placements, supporting families so children remain safely at home, placing children with kin if they cannot remain safely at home, and ensuring placements are safe, stable, and support permanency.

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