



2022 State Roundtable Report

Kinship Care



Taskforce Chairperson

Honorable Chief Justice Max Baer
Supreme Court of Pennsylvania

Kinship Care Taskforce Members

Chairperson:

Honorable Max Baer, Chief Justice

Pennsylvania Supreme Court

Kimberly Ali, Commissioner
Philadelphia Department of Human Services

Kerry Browning, Director
Lackawanna County Children and Youth Services

Honorable Kim Berkeley Clark, President Judge
Court of Common Pleas of Allegheny County

Honorable Garrett Page
Court of Common Pleas of Montgomery County

Honorable Richard Lowe
Court of Common Pleas of Delaware County

Marisa McClellan, Administrator
Dauphin County Social Services for Children and Youth

Honorable Walter Olszewski, Supervising Judge
Court of Common Pleas of Philadelphia County

Jon Rubin, Deputy Secretary
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Background

In October 2020, the State Roundtable (SRT) convened the Kinship Care Taskforce, under the leadership and direction of Pennsylvania Supreme Court Chief Justice Max Baer, to thoroughly examine the use of kinship care in Pennsylvania's Child Dependency System and make recommendations for improvement. Taskforce membership includes Judges, Child Welfare Administrators, and Legal Advocates from counties with high and low kinship care usage, representation from Pennsylvania's two largest counties, and the Department of Human Services' Office of Children, Youth and Families' Deputy Secretary. The Taskforce is supported by staff from the Administrative Office of Pennsylvania Courts' Office of Children and Families in the Courts.

Removing a child from their home can be a traumatic experience for children and their parents, but one that can be lessened by enlisting the support of relatives and kin. Research shows when children are placed with relatives or kin; outcomes are better in the following areas (*Kinship Care in Pennsylvania: Creating an Equitable System for Families*):

- Placement stability;
- School stability and positive educational outcomes;
- Reduced re-entry into the child welfare system;
- Permanency through reunification, adoption, or guardianship;
- Better physical, behavioral, and mental health outcomes
- Increased likelihood of living with or staying connected to siblings; and
- Greater preservation of race and cultural identity, including community connections.

The SRT's focus on kinship care connected well to the SRT Mission and Guiding Principles. The focus also aligned with other SRT priorities, including Family Finding (FF) and Family Group Decision Making (FGDM).

The First Year (2020 – 2021)

At its first meeting, the Taskforce outlined its mission to:

- 1. Define and understand kinship care use in Pennsylvania**
- 2. Examine strengths and barriers to kinship care use**
- 3. Develop solutions and strategies to increase kinship care use**

The Taskforce focused on several areas to accomplish this mission. Documentation and products related to each area can be found in the 2021 SRT Kinship Care Report. This Report can be accessed using the following link: <https://ocfcpacourts.us/childrens-roundtable-initiative/state-roundtable-workgroupscommittees/kinship-care-taskforce/>.

I. Survey

During preliminary meetings, the Taskforce identified barriers to kinship care use, as experienced through their practice and observations. Barriers identified included things such as:

- Behaviors of the parent or child;
- Implicit bias;
- Easier to place in non-kin;
- Insufficient advocacy by Attorneys;
- Lack of family finding effort;
- Lack of child welfare knowledge;
- Unrealistic expectations of the family or kin; and
- Restricting regulations and laws.

Two surveys were then administered. The first survey was given to Taskforce members. The second survey was distributed to Leadership Roundtable Judges and Child Welfare Administrators. Participants were asked to select barriers they believed impacted kinship care use. With all Taskforce members and the majority of counties (49 of 67) responding, the following barriers were rated as the highest contributing factors:

- Behaviors of the parent or child
- Insufficient advocacy by Attorneys
- Lack of family finding effort
- Restricting regulations and laws
- Easier to place in non-kin

II. Data

Taskforce members also examined three separate Common Pleas Case Management System (CPCMS) kinship care data sets during the first year. These data sets included the following:

1. Non-kinship versus kinship placements at *initial removal* during 2019 and 2020
2. Non-kinship versus kinship placement as of December 1, 2019, and December 1, 2020
3. Non-kinship versus kinship placement as of April 14, 2021, broken down by age, race, and gender

Counties were categorized individually by Leadership Roundtable (LRT) and Family Engagement Initiative (FEI) status in all data sets. These data sets allowed Taskforce members to compare like-size counties and those participating in more rigorous family finding and family engagement work.

While a full review of all three data sets can be found at the end of the 2021 SRT report, some highlights from each of these three data sets include:

- 6,052 (44%) of children in out-of-home care were placed in kinship care
- 20 counties in Pennsylvania were at or above the state average of 44%
- Younger children were more likely to be placed in kinship care (51%)
- Older youth were less likely to be placed in kinship care (34%)
- LRT 1, comprised of the five largest Pennsylvania counties, had the highest use of kinship care at 51%

III. Laws/Rules and Case Law

The Taskforce identified 39 legal citations that prioritized the emphasis, identification, and/or use of kinship caretakers as the primary persons to care for a child when they cannot reside with their parents. The Taskforce created and widely distributed a resource identifying these legal citations.

IV. Kinship Care Myths

As the Taskforce examined barriers, it discovered misinformation (i.e., “myths”) about kinship care use. To clarify this misinformation, the Taskforce created a list of Kinship Care Myths. The list was widely distributed and used to ignite conversation and clarification. For example, it can take less than an hour to approve someone as an emergency kinship caretaker, instead of the “myth” that it takes weeks or months.

V. Education

On July 29, 2021, an educational session was held at the Pennsylvania Conference of State Trial Judges (PCSTJ) dependency luncheon. “Kinship Care: A Glimpse of What’s to Come” provided a packed audience with an interactive and thought-provoking glimpse of the Taskforce’s work.

Faculty for the session included:

Honorable Max Baer, Chief Justice

Pennsylvania Supreme Court

Sandra Moore, Director

Office of Children and Families in the Courts

Christy Stanek, Judicial Analyst

Office of Children and Families in the Courts

The session agenda included a kinship care presentation by the panel, a review of the 39 legal citations, a small group discussion of county-specific data, and an application to practice bringing awareness to kinship care myths.

The session concluded with Chief Justice Max Baer encouraging Judges to stand in their authority and challenge any recommendation for placement other than safe kinship care. Promoting kin is not only about the child’s best interest today but the best interest of the child years down the road. Chief Justice reminded Judges that the Child Welfare Agency and others make recommendations, but it is the Judge who executes and signs the order.

VI. Kinship Care Analysis

Towards the end of its first year, the Taskforce created a Kinship Care Analysis process to more closely examine the use of kinship care in three volunteer counties: Dauphin, Delaware, and Montgomery. Using the Kinship Care Analysis process, examiners were able

to look at what happens systemically before, during, and after the removal and placement of a child. Before beginning the analysis, the Taskforce created two tools: *Kinship Care Analysis Tool – County Specific* and *Kinship Care Analysis Tool – Youth Specific*. Both of these tools were provided in the 2021 SRT report. The analysis process included the following:

- Court hearing observations of youth placed with non-kin, utilizing the *Kinship Care Analysis Tool – Youth Specific*
- Debriefing of court observations with the Dependency Judge or Juvenile Court Hearing Officer presiding over the observed case
- Interviews with the assigned child welfare caseworker and supervisor of the observed court cases, utilizing the *Kinship Care Analysis Tool – Youth Specific*, which also examined case file documentation
- Completion of the *Kinship Care Analysis Tool – County Specific* by the Court and Child Welfare Agency Administrator

At the conclusion of the first year, Montgomery and Delaware counties had completed their analysis. Dauphin County was scheduled. The Kinship Care Taskforce asked the 2021 SRT for additional time to finish the Dauphin County analysis and provide a complete Kinship Care Analysis report, of all three, to the 2022 SRT. This request was approved, along with the other recommendations submitted to the 2021 SRT. All 2021 SRT Recommendations are listed in the box below.

2021 Recommendations

The Kinship Care Task Force respectfully submits to the Pennsylvania State Roundtable the following recommendations:

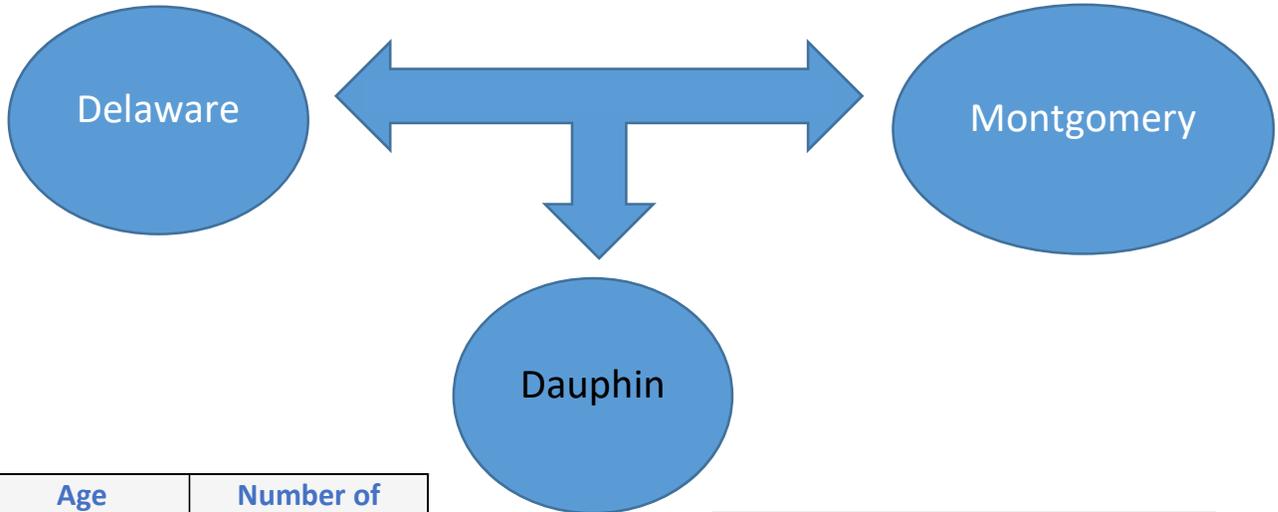
1. Completion of the Kinship Care Analysis;
2. Create and deliver a Kinship Care Judicial Education Session for Dependency Judges and Juvenile Court Hearing Officers;
3. Create and deliver a Kinship Care Education Session for Attorneys practicing in dependency court; and
4. Continue to assess and identify barriers and strategies to increasing the use of kinship care in Pennsylvania.

Progress

Since the 2021 SRT, the Taskforce has spent most of its time completing the Kinship Care Analysis, compiling and examining its data, and forming kinship care conclusions based on the analysis. The Kinship Care Analysis occurred in three volunteer counties: Dauphin, Delaware, and Montgomery. One county (Dauphin) is a Family Engagement Initiative (FEI) county, and two counties are non-FEI counties. In FEI counties, the court and the child welfare agency are given extensive training and support on family finding, family

engagement, and Crisis Rapid Response Family Meetings. In this analysis, the FEI county had better kinship care use, family finding, and family/kin inclusion outcomes.

Demographic data included the following:



Age	Number of Children
0 – 3	6
4 – 6	5
7 – 11	3
12 – 15	10
16 – 18	8
19	1

42%	African American
36%	White
15%	Other (Biracial Most Noted)
6%	Hispanic

33 Adjudicated Dependent Children in Non-Kin Placement
4 Dependency Judges
3 Child Welfare Administrators
6 Juvenile Court Hearing Officers
33 Caseworkers/Supervisors

52% of children removed through Emergency Custody Order
52% of children were receiving Voluntary services

Summary of analysis data (a complete review of the Kinship Care Analysis data can be found at the end of this Report (Appendix I: Kinship Care Analysis Data Report):

FAMILY FINDING COMPLETED:

	Prior to removal	At removal	During Placement
Maternal Family	48% (16)	42% (14)	85% (28)
Paternal Family	42% (14)	36% (12)	70% (23)

	Provided Information to the Court about family/kin	Asked Questions about family/kin
Solicitor	79% (26)	73% (24)
Guardian ad Litem	30% (10)	33% (11)
Parent Attorney	15% (5)	12% (4)
No Information Provided	12% (4)	24% (8)

Reasons Kinship Care Deemed Inappropriate	
Prior Child Welfare	11% (3)
Criminal Background	29% (8)
Child Abuse Background	18% (5)
Unapproved Home Evaluation	29% (16)
No Kinship Considered	32% (9)

First Placement at Removal

45% (15) = Foster Care

27% (9) = Kinship Care

84% (27) have
a goal of
reunification

After carefully reviewing the Analysis, the Taskforce drew preliminary conclusions on the use of kinship care (*Appendix II: Kinship Care: What Have We Learned*).

- Leadership matters in the Court and Agency
- Judges, not the Agency, place children in non-kinship homes
- Family finding early in the case and ongoing thereafter makes a difference

- Placing a child with safe family/kin needs to be the easiest process for approval
- Placing a child in non-kinship homes should be the more difficult process for approval, such as requirements of a higher-level authority of approval
- Attorneys need to be more involved in family finding and family engagement
- A crisis family meeting before placement increases kinship care use
- Kinship care support services should be explored and implemented when needed

Taskforce members concluded that the current child dependency system is well designed to get the outcomes it is currently getting. If the goal is to increase the use of safe kinship care, the system needs to be designed to make placing children with safe family/kin the easiest process when a child is unsafe in their home. It should be noted that the Analysis identified the barriers identified by LRT Judges and Child Welfare Administrators a year earlier.

In addition to completing the Kinship Care Analysis, the Taskforce presented “Kinship Care: A Call to Action” at the 2022 Children’s Summit. Faculty for this presentation included:

Honorable Max Baer, Chief Justice

Pennsylvania Supreme Court

Honorable Walter Olszewski, Supervising Judge

Court of Common Pleas of Philadelphia County

Marisa McClellan, Administrator

Dauphin County Social Services for Children and Youth

Sandra Moore, Director

Office of Children and Families in the Courts

Christy Stanek, Judicial Analyst

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Faculty called upon Judges, Juvenile Court Hearing Officers, Child Welfare Administrators, Attorneys, and State Partners to elevate the urgency for Kinship Care use in Pennsylvania. Children’s Summit attendees were asked, “If not now, then when? If not us, then who?” To accompany the content of this presentation, the Taskforce once again pulled two sets of statewide data: First Placement Data in 2021 and Point in Time Data as of March 1, 2022. Summit attendees were provided a statewide summary of the data and data specific to their county. As of March 1, 2022, there were 6,099 dependent children in kinship care, which is a 44% statewide average. Sixteen counties have at least half of out-of-home children living with kin. Pennsylvania has also increased the number of counties at or above the state average for kinship care use. In April 2021, there were 20 counties at or above the state average. In March 2022, there were 25 counties. A presentation summary of charges to each professional mentioned above, along with the complete data packet provided during the

presentation can be found at the end of this Report, *Appendix III Kinship Care: A Call to Action and Appendix IV Kinship Care: A Call to Action Data Packet.*

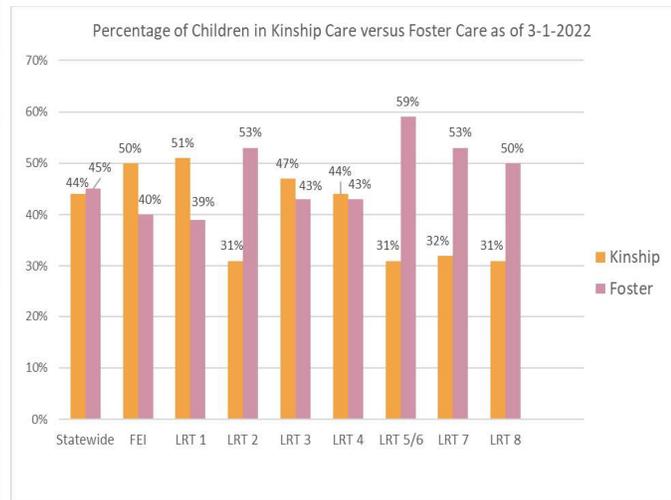
Counties with at least half of the children placed with someone they know and love

County	Percentage of Children in Kinship Care	Number of Children in Kinship Care
Snyder	100%	1
Cameron	67%	6
Venango	62%	49
Allegheny	61%	936
Union	60%	3
Fayette	59%	85
Susquehanna	58%	22
Butler	57%	53
Potter	57%	4
Lackawanna	56%	93
Washington	56%	113
Adams	53%	20
Philadelphia	52%	2424
Carbon	51%	56
Bucks	50%	118
Crawford	50%	40

Ranking of Leadership Roundtables in Kinship Care

1. LRT 1	51%
2. LRT 3	47%
3. LRT 4	44%
4. LRT 7	32%
5. LRT 2	31%
6. LRT 5/6	31%
7. LRT 8	31%

Percent of Children in Kinship Care vs. Foster



Conclusion:

Kinship Care has become a statewide topic of interest and activity. Taskforce members believe the tools developed and distributed can significantly improve local discussions and activities to increase safe kinship care usage. Data shows a growing increase in the use of Kinship Care. Taskforce members believe the continued focus on this issue is critical to continue the growth in safe Kinship Care usage and the reduction of system-induced trauma for children and families.

As such, over the next year, the Taskforce would like to continue assessing and monitoring the use of kinship care across Pennsylvania. More specifically, the Office of Children and Families in the Courts would like to work more closely with counties to support and guide their efforts to increase the use of safe kinship care. Ongoing data tracking will be done to assist counties in monitoring their efforts. Data updates will be provided to the Taskforce for further analysis.

2022 Recommendations

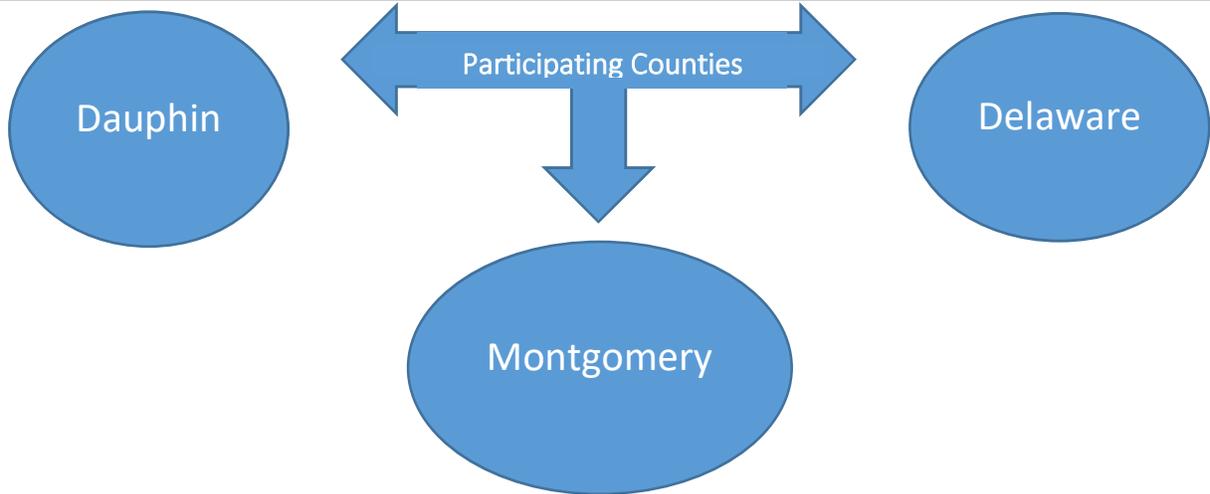
The Kinship Care Task Force respectfully submits to the Pennsylvania State Roundtable the following recommendations:

1. Office of Children and Families in the Courts to frequently track County's Kinship Care data over the next year and provide updates to Counties, Kinship Care Taskforce members, State Roundtable members, and Leadership Roundtable members; and
2. Office of Children and Families in the Courts to request that the Child Welfare Resource Center internally review and update any child welfare training on Kinship Care to include the work of the Kinship Care Taskforce.

COMPLETED TO DATE:

- **Data Analysis: 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022**
- **Barriers and Strategies Survey**
- **Rules, Laws, and Case Law Document**
- **Kinship Care Myths Document**
- **Education to Hearing Officers 6-3-21**
- **Education to Judges 7-29-21**
- **Education to LRTs (September 2021 and March 2022)**
- **Education to the SRT September 2021**
- **Education to Child Welfare Administrators 10-13-21**
- **Kinship Care Analysis**
- **Children's Summit Presentation April 26, 2022**

**Kinship Care Analysis
August 2021 – December 2021**



33 Adjudicated Dependent Children in Non-Kin Placement
 4 Dependency Judges
 3 Child Welfare Administrators
 6 Juvenile Court Hearing Officers
 33 Caseworkers/Supervisors Interviewed

45% (15) Male and 55% (18) Female

42%	African American
36%	White
15%	Other (Biracial Most Noted)
6%	Hispanic

Age	Number of Children
0 – 3	6
4 – 6	5
7 – 11	3
12 – 15	10
16 – 18	8
19	1

42% (14) Judge

58% (19) Hearing Officer

79% (26) Children Present in Court

85% (28) 3 Month Reviews

100% Permanency Reviews

79% had 1 – 3 Caseworkers

Court Specific Data

84% Judicial Officers had 4 – 7 Years' Experience

In **36% (12)** of cases, the Judicial Officer challenged the availability of family/kin

In **45% (15)** of cases, the Judicial Officer asked several questions about Kinship options

In **39% (13)** of cases, no questions were asked about Kinship options

In **36% (12)** of cases, the Judicial Officer asked the parents and/or child if there were any available family/kin

In **55% (18)** of cases, the mother attended the hearing and in **30% (10)** of cases the father attended the hearing

In **51% (17)** of cases additional family (grandparents, other relatives and kin) attended the hearing

ATTORNEYS: In what percentage of the cases did an Attorney provide information to the Court or ask questions regarding family/kin (check all that apply)?

	Provided Information to the Court about family/kin	Asked Questions about family/kin
Solicitor	79% (26)	73% (24)
Guardian ad Litem	30% (10)	33% (11)
Parent Attorney	15% (5)	12% (4)
No Information Provided	12% (4)	24% (8)

Child Welfare Agency Specific Data

Family Finding

A family finding report to the court was provided in **67%** (22) of the cases

FAMILY FINDING COMPLETED:

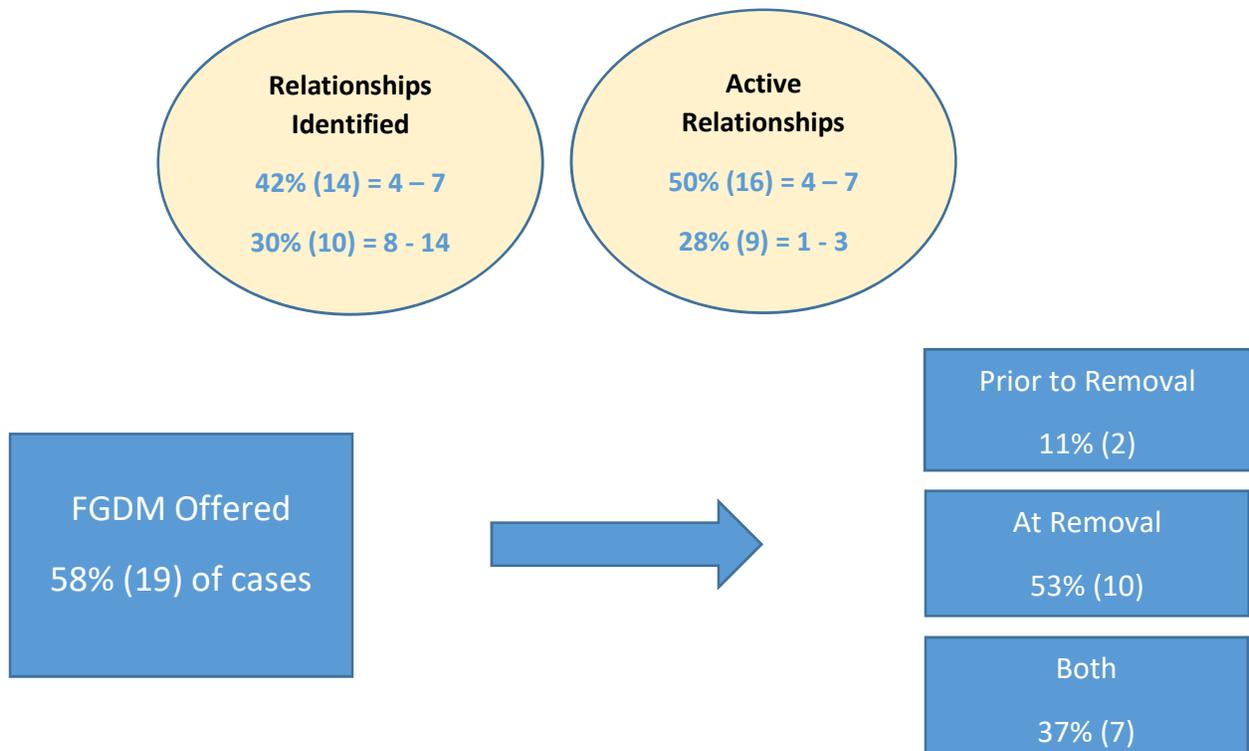
	Prior to removal	At removal	During Placement
Maternal Family	48% (16)	42% (14)	85% (28)
Paternal Family	42% (14)	36% (12)	70% (23)

In **70% (23)** of the cases, the family finding information was provided to the court

In **65% (21)** of the cases, all known family/kin were provided to the court regardless of whether they were a placement resource

In **33% (11)** of the cases, Family/kin were included in service planning and delivery

In **56% (18)** of the cases, family/kin were actively involved in the child's life through letters, phone calls, visits, etc.



FEI and Non-FEI Comparisons

Attorneys provided information on family/kin

	Non-FEI	FEI
Solicitor	65%	100%
GAL	35%	23%
Parent Attorneys	25%	0
Nothing provided by an Attorney	20%	0

Attorneys asked questions about family/kin

	Non-FEI	FEI
Solicitor	55%	100%
GAL	20%	54%
Parent Attorneys	15%	8%
Child's Counsel	5%	0
No questions asked by any Attorney	40%	0

Family finding report provided to the Court

	Non-FEI	FEI
Yes	45%	100%
No	55%	

Family finding done PRIOR to removal

	Non-FEI	FEI
Maternal Family - Yes	45%	54%
Maternal Family - No	55%	46%
Paternal Family - Yes	40%	46%
Paternal Family - No	60%	46%
*One N/A on Paternal (F unknown)		

Family finding done AT removal

	Non-FEI	FEI
Maternal Family - Yes	35%	54%
Maternal Family - No	65%	46%
Paternal Family - Yes	30%	46%
Paternal Family - No	70%	46%
	*One N/A on Paternal (F unknown)	

FEI and Non-FEI Comparisons

Family finding CONTINUOUSLY explored throughout placement

	Non-FEI	FEI
Maternal Family - Yes	75%	100%
Maternal Family - No	20%	0
Paternal Family - Yes	55%	92%
Paternal Family - No	40%	46%
		*One N/A on Paternal (F unknown)

When done, family finding was:

	Non-FEI	FEI
Extensive	25%	50%
Minimal	75%	50%

When done, were the results of family finding provided to the Court?

	Non-FEI	FEI
Yes	60%	85%
No	40%	15%

Are 3 month reviews occurring?

	Non-FEI	FEI
Yes	75%	100%
No	25%	0

Were all names of family/kin provided to the Court regardless of placement option?

	Non-FEI	FEI
Yes	53%	85%
No	47%	15%

Were family/kin included in service planning and delivery?

	Non-FEI	FEI
Yes	30%	38%
No	70%	15%

FEI and Non-FEI Comparisons

Were family/kin actively involved in the child's life through collateral contacts?

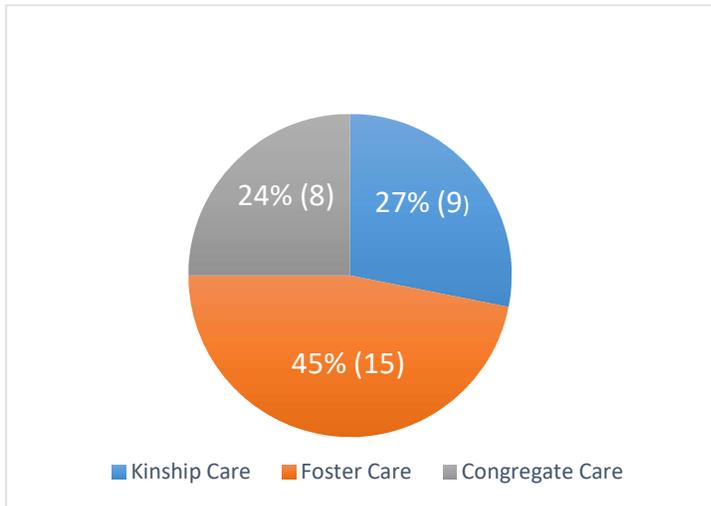
	Non-FEI	FEI
Yes	50%	67%
No	50%	33%

Family/kin considered inappropriate

	Non-FEI	FEI
Family/kin not considered	40%	23%

Consideration of Placement Decision

First Placement at Removal



52% of children removed through Emergency Custody Order

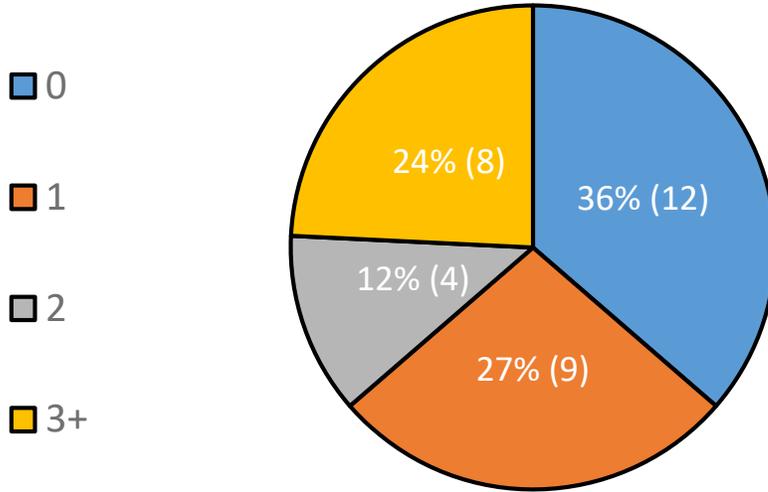
52% of children were receiving Voluntary services

Reasons Kinship Care Deemed Inappropriate	
Prior Child Welfare	11% (3)
Criminal Background	29% (8)
Child Abuse Background	18% (5)
Unapproved Home Evaluation	29% (16)
No Kinship Considered	32% (9)

45% (14) of Children have been in care longer than 12 months

84% (27) have a goal of reunification

Number of Placment Changes



Challenges for the Child

45% = Emotional (no diagnosis)

39% = Behavioral (other than age appropriate)

33% = Mental Health (diagnosis)

42% (14) = No challenges

Kinship Care Use: What We Have Learned

- ❖ Leadership Matters in the Court and at the Agency.
- ❖ Leadership expectations should not be flexible or focused on the professionals' best interest but rather on the child's best interest.
- ❖ Leadership oversight should occur regularly and consistently when the child is not in kinship care.
- ❖ Judges place children, not the agency. Own your order.
- ❖ Judicial Officer needs to be asking questions about the continued **level** of care being recommended at every hearing. We should not get comfortable with non-kinship care placement settings.
- ❖ Traditional foster care is easier to use with fewer steps. We need to make it easier to place with kin.
- ❖ A less rigid regulatory approval process could impact kinship care use.
- ❖ The highest level of approval required for placement decisions is inconsistent but matters.
- ❖ Judicial Officers should inquire as to family/kin alternatives.
- ❖ Attorney involvement in providing for and asking questions about family/kin needs to be improved.
- ❖ Family finding needs to be done before or at removal – absent an emergency placement. Foster care and then family/kin can still cause trauma.
- ❖ Improving family finding at the intake level is essential and may require additional support.
- ❖ There should be an urgency for children to go with family/kin at the **FIRST** placement.
- ❖ Implementing a Crisis Rapid Response Family Meeting or expedited FGDM meeting before or at removal may impact kinship care use. Data from the analysis shows a spike in family finding **after** a child has been placed.
- ❖ Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children (ICPC) poses kinship care use challenges.

Kinship Care: A Call To Action

5 Things You Can Do To Increase The Use of Safe Kinship Care

JUDGES AND HEARING OFFICERS

- ◆ Set expectations without flexibility
- ◆ Own your orders/recommendations
- ◆ Insist on urgency from first removal and thereafter
- ◆ Ask the parents and child more questions about kin
- ◆ Ask open ended questions to all parties regarding **how** kinship options were exhausted

ATTORNEYS

- ◆ Ask open ended questions to your client about family and kin supports early on in the case
- ◆ Ask open ended questions to your client about Kinship options
- ◆ Ask open ended questions to the agency about **how** they have exhausted Kin, both initially and ongoing
- ◆ Stop routinely stipulating to traditional foster care

ADMINISTRATORS

- ◆ Set expectations without flexibility
- ◆ Make placement with safe kin the easiest approval and non-kin placements the hardest approval
- ◆ Strengthen family finding early on and throughout the case
- ◆ Develop an internal Kinship Care Policy
- ◆ Increase Kinship Care support programs

LRT 1



Kinship Care: A Call To Action

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Supreme Court of Pennsylvania

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Court of Common Pleas of Philadelphia County

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Office of Children and Families in the Courts

Kerry Browning, LSW, Deputy Director

Lackawanna County Office of Youth and Family Services

Pennsylvania Kinship Care Use: Leadership Roundtable 1

Dependent Children are in Kinship Care

6,099



Dependent Children are placed with someone they know

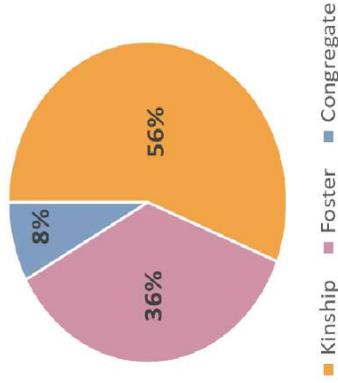
44%

2,531 (50%)

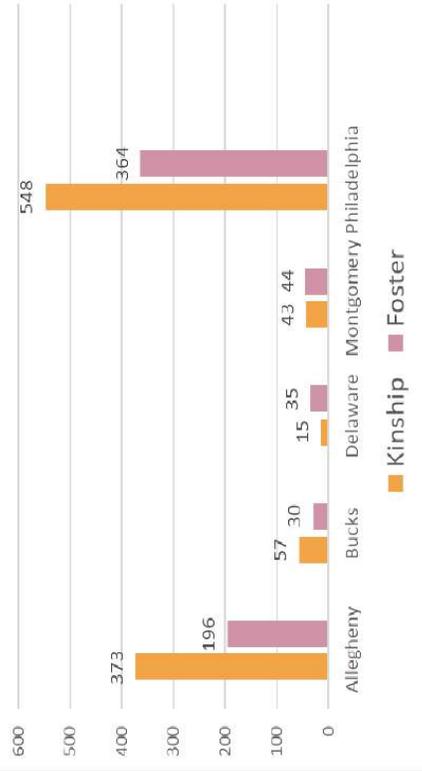
Children were placed in Kinship Care at their first removal in 2021

1st PLACEMENT DATA

LRT 1 First Placement Data 2021

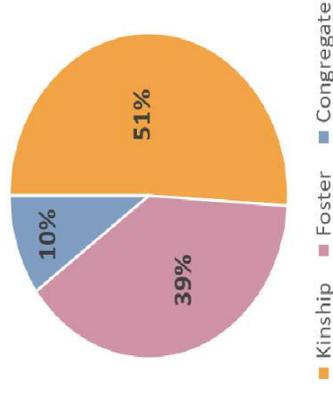


LRT 1 First Placement by Numbers 2021

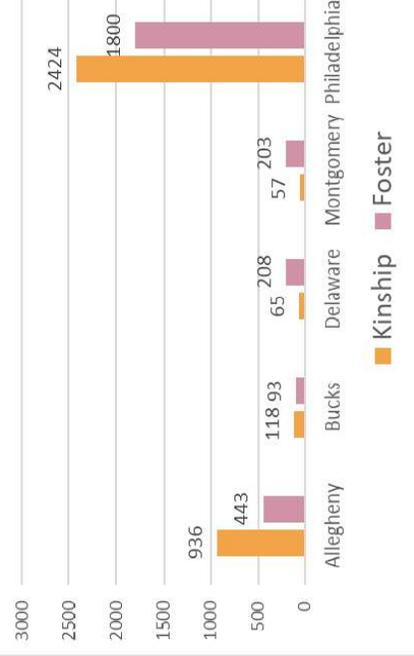


POINT IN TIME DATA

LRT 1 Point in Time Data as of 3-1-2022



LRT 1 Point in Time Data by Number as of 3-1-2022





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Pennsylvania Kinship Care Use: Leadership Roundtable 2

6,099

Dependent Children are in Kinship Care



Dependent Children are placed with someone they know

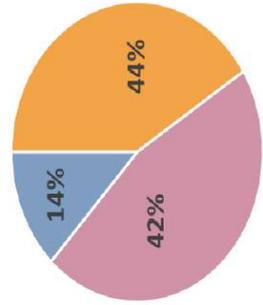
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2,531 (50%)

Children were placed in Kinship Care at their first removal in 2021

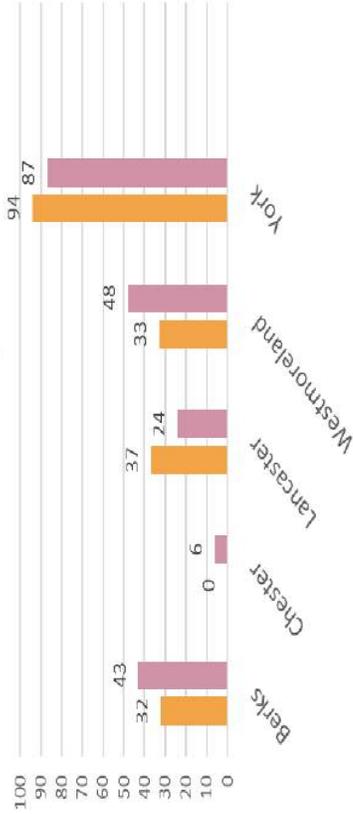
1st PLACEMENT DATA

LRT 2 First Placement Data 2021



■ Kinship ■ Foster ■ Congregate

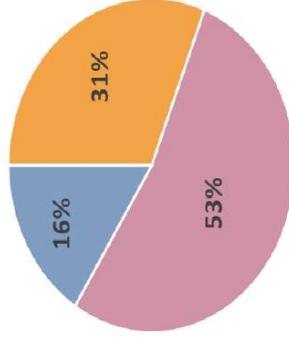
LRT 2 First Placement by Numbers 2021



■ Kinship ■ Foster

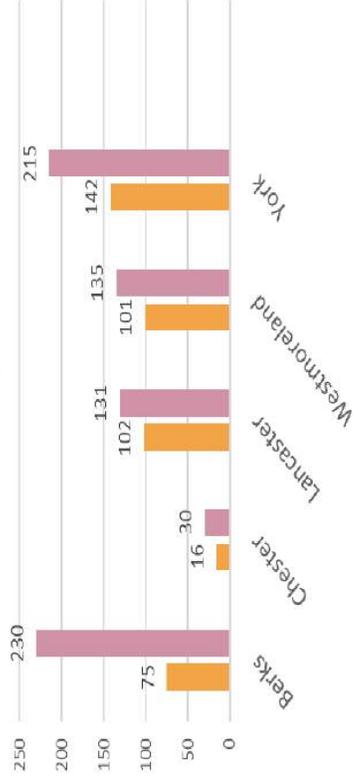
POINT IN TIME DATA

LRT 2 Point in Time Data as of 3-1-2022



■ Kinship ■ Foster ■ Congregate

LRT 2 Point in Time Data by Numbers as of 3-1-2022



■ Kinship ■ Foster



LRT 3

Kinship Care: A Call To Action

Max Baer, Chief Justice

Supreme Court of Pennsylvania

Sandra Moore, MSW, Director

Office of Children and Families in the Courts

Walter J. Olszewski, Supervising Judge

Court of Common Pleas of Philadelphia County

Christy Stanek, MSW, Judicial Analyst

Office of Children and Families in the Courts

Kerry Browning, LSW, Deputy Director

Lackawanna County Office of Youth and Family Services

Pennsylvania Kinship Care Use: Leadership Roundtable 3

Dependent Children are in Kinship Care

6,099



Dependent Children are placed with someone they know

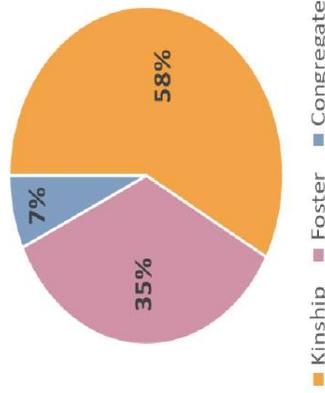
44%

2,531 (50%)

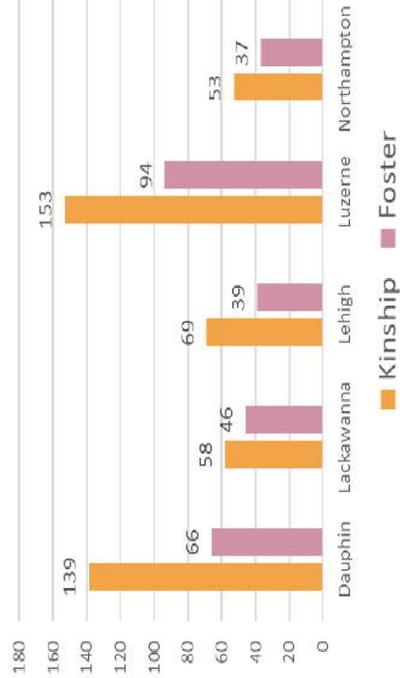
Children were placed in Kinship Care at their first removal in 2021

1st PLACEMENT DATA

LRT 3 First Placement Data 2021

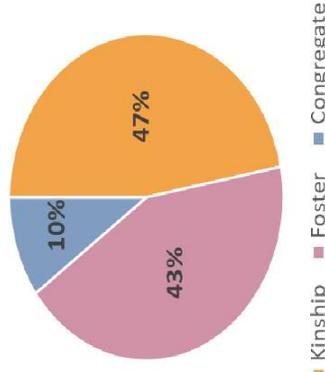


LRT 3 First Placement by Numbers 2021

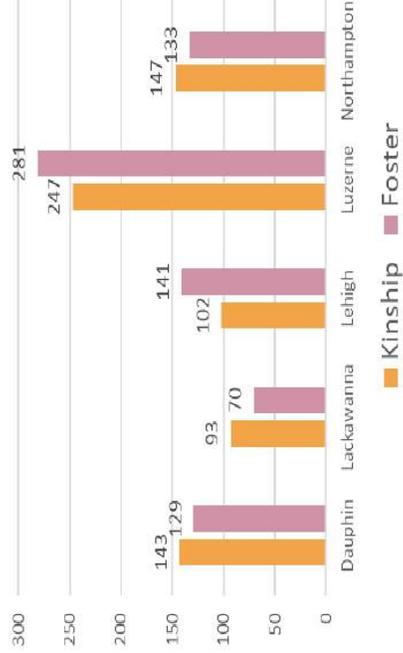


POINT IN TIME DATA

LRT 3 Point in Time Data as of 3-1-2022



LRT 3 Point in Time Data by Numbers as of 3-1-2022





Kinship Care: A Call To Action

Max Baer, Chief Justice

Supreme Court of Pennsylvania

Sandra Moore, MSW, Director

Office of Children and Families in the Courts

Walter J. Olszewski, Supervising Judge

Court of Common Pleas of Philadelphia County

Christy Stanek, MSW, Judicial Analyst

Office of Children and Families in the Courts

Kerry Browning, LSW, Deputy Director

Lackawanna County Office of Youth and Family Services

Pennsylvania Kinship Care Use: Leadership Roundtable 4

Dependent Children are in Kinship Care

6,099



Dependent Children are placed with someone they know

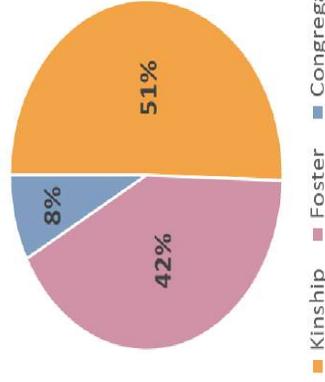
44%

2,531 (50%)

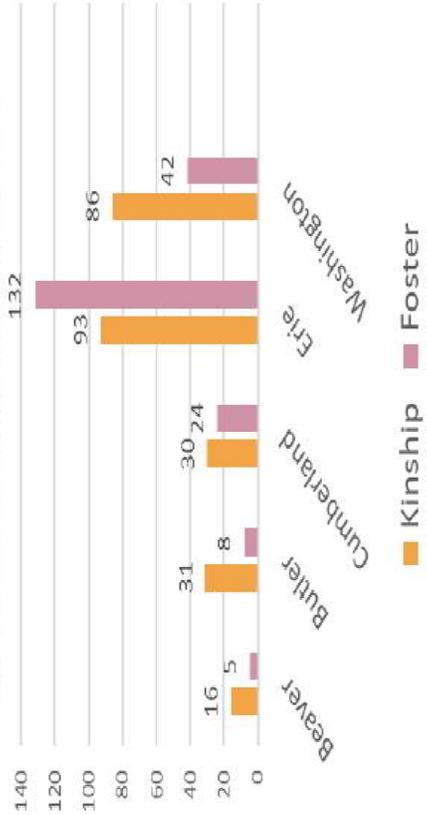
Children were placed in Kinship Care at their first removal in 2021

1st PLACEMENT DATA

LRT 4 First Placement Data 2021

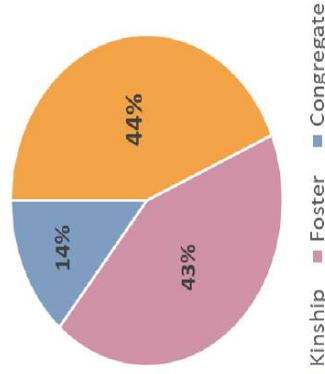


LRT 4 First Placement by Numbers 2021

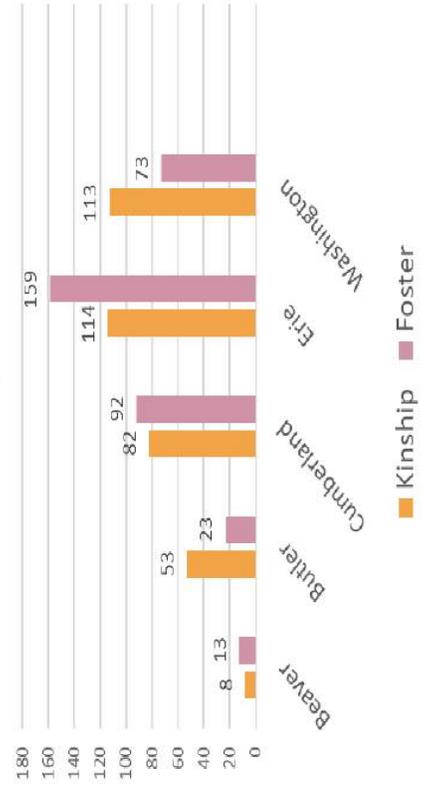


POINT IN TIME DATA

LRT 4 Point in Time Data as of 3-1-2022



LRT 4 Point in Time Data by Numbers as of 3-1-2022





Kinship Care:

A Call To Action

Max Baer, Chief Justice

Supreme Court of Pennsylvania

Sandra Moore, MSW, Director

Office of Children and Families in the Courts

Walter J. Olszewski, Supervising Judge

Court of Common Pleas of Philadelphia County

Christy Stanek, MSW, Judicial Analyst

Office of Children and Families in the Courts

Kerry Browning, LSW, Deputy Director

Lackawanna County Office of Youth and Family Services

Pennsylvania Kinship Care Use: Leadership Roundtable 5/6

6,099

Dependent Children are in Kinship Care



Dependent Children are placed with someone they know

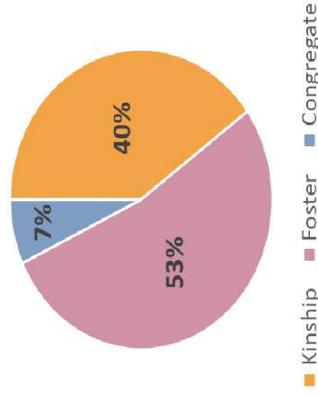
44%

2,531 (50%)

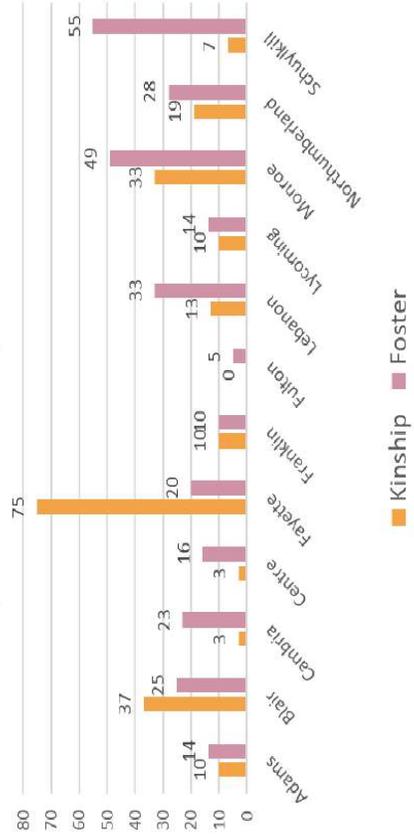
Children were placed in Kinship Care at their first removal in 2021

1st PLACEMENT DATA

LRT 5/6 First Placement Data 2021

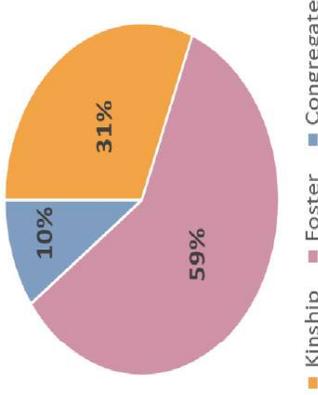


LRT 5/6 First Placement by Numbers 2021

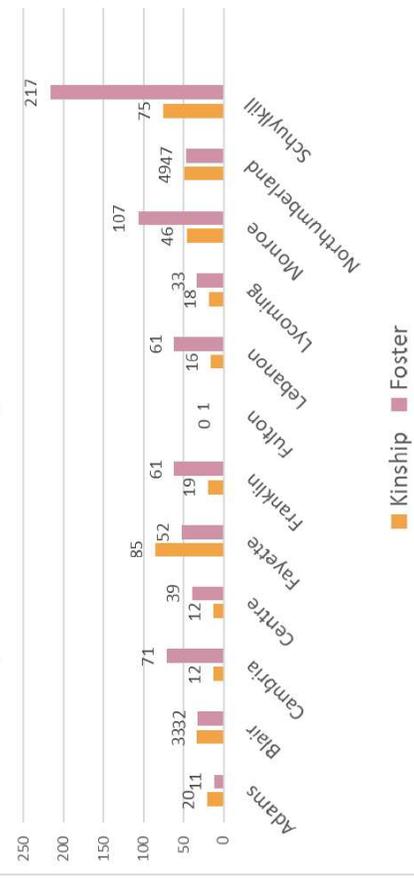


POINT IN TIME DATA

LRT 5/6 Point in Time Data as of 3-1-2022



LRT 5/6 Point in Time Data by Numbers as of 3-1-2022





LRT 7

Kinship Care: A Call To Action

Max Baer, Chief Justice

Supreme Court of Pennsylvania

Sandra Moore, MSW, Director

Office of Children and Families in the Courts

Walter J. Olszewski, Supervising Judge

Court of Common Pleas of Philadelphia County

Christy Stanek, MSW, Judicial Analyst

Office of Children and Families in the Courts

Kerry Browning, LSW, Deputy Director

Lackawanna County Office of Youth and Family Services

Pennsylvania Kinship Care Use: Leadership Roundtable 7

6,099

Dependent Children are in Kinship Care



44%

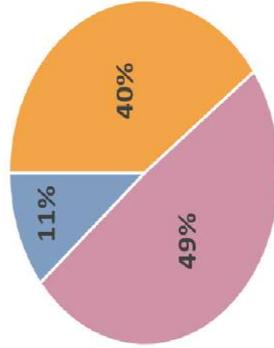
Dependent Children are placed with someone they know

2,531 (50%)

Children were placed in Kinship Care at their first removal in 2021

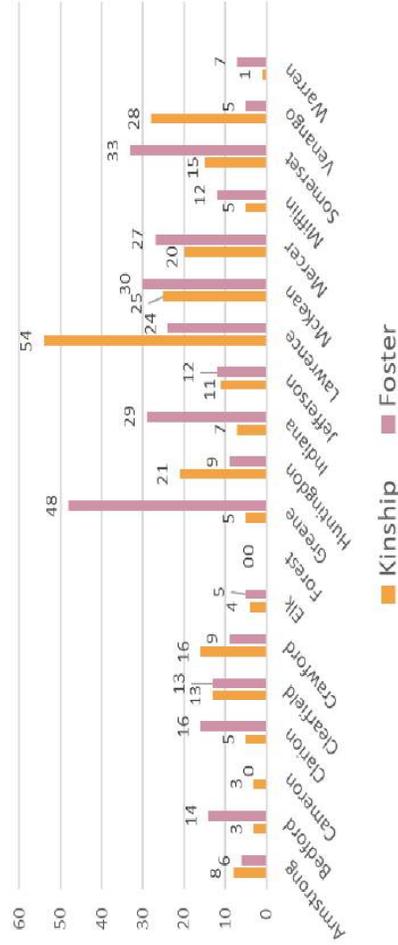
1st PLACEMENT DATA

LRT 7 First Placement Data 2021



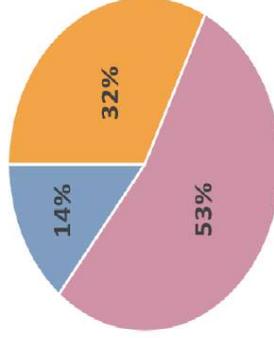
Legend: Kinship (orange), Foster (blue), Congregate (purple)

LRT 7 First Placement Data by Numbers 2021



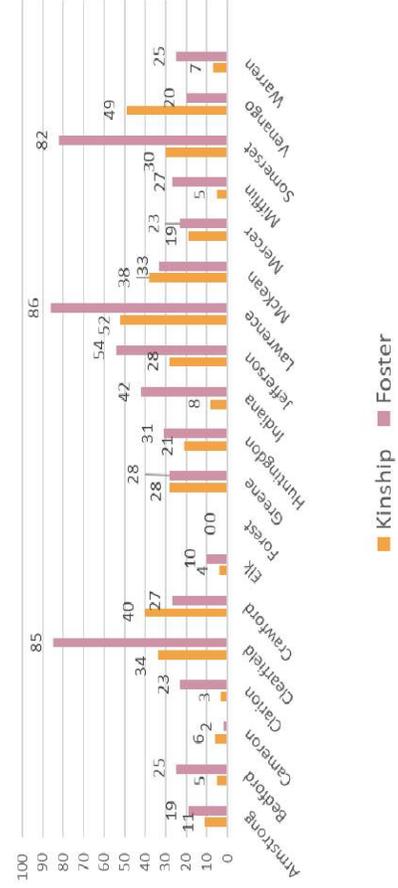
POINT IN TIME DATA

LRT 7 Point in Time Data as of 3-1-2022



Legend: Kinship (orange), Foster (blue), Congregate (purple)

LRT 7 Point in Time Data by Numbers as of 3-1-2022





LRT 8

Kinship Care: A Call To Action

Max Baer, Chief Justice

Supreme Court of Pennsylvania

Sandra Moore, MSW, Director

Office of Children and Families in the Courts

Walter J. Olszewski, Supervising Judge

Court of Common Pleas of Philadelphia County

Christy Stanek, MSW, Judicial Analyst

Office of Children and Families in the Courts

Kerry Browning, LSW, Deputy Director

Lackawanna County Office of Youth and Family Services

Pennsylvania Kinship Care Use: Leadership Roundtable 8

6,099

Dependent Children are in Kinship Care



44%

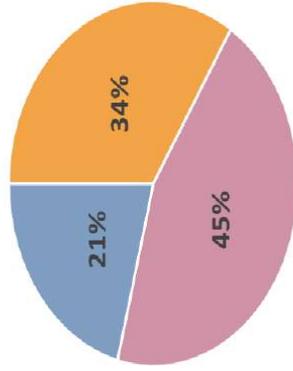
Dependent Children are placed with someone they know

2,531 (50%)

Children were placed in Kinship Care at their first removal in 2021

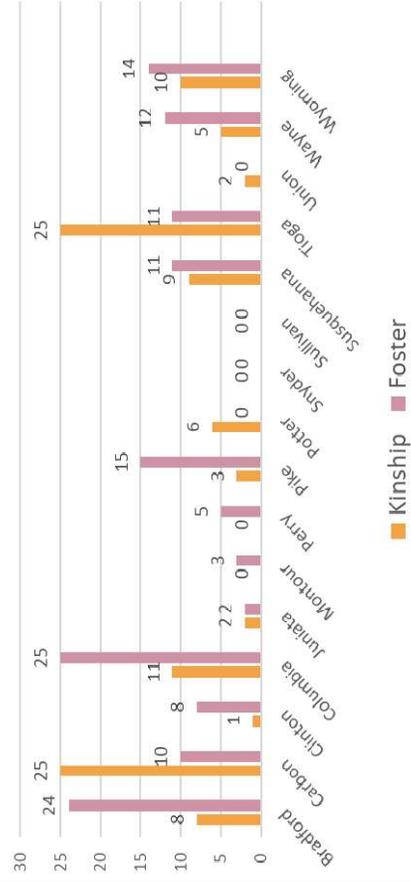
1st PLACEMENT DATA

LRT 8 First Placement Data 2021



Legend: Kinship (orange), Foster (purple), Congregate (blue)

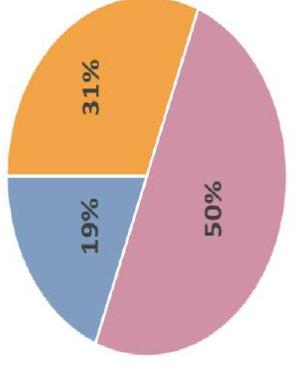
LRT 8 First Placement by Numbers 2021



Legend: Kinship (orange), Foster (purple)

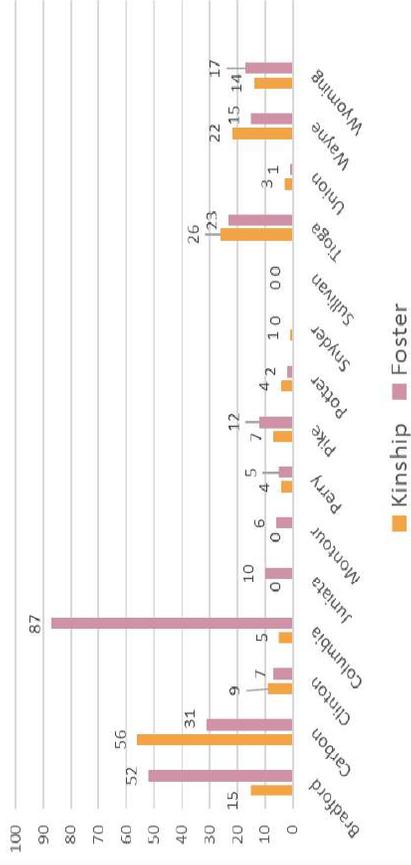
POINT IN TIME DATA

LRT 8 Point in Time Data as of 3-1-2022



Legend: Kinship (orange), Foster (purple), Congregate (blue)

LRT 8 Point in Time Data by Numbers as of 3-1-2022



Legend: Kinship (orange), Foster (purple)

Statewide



Kinship Care: A Call To Action

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Supreme Court of Pennsylvania

Sandra Moore, MSW, Director

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Christy Stanek, MSW, Judicial Analyst

Office of Children and Families in the Courts

Kerry Browning, LSW, Deputy Director

Lackawanna County Office of Youth and Family Services

Pennsylvania Kinship Care Use: All Leadership Roundtables

6,099

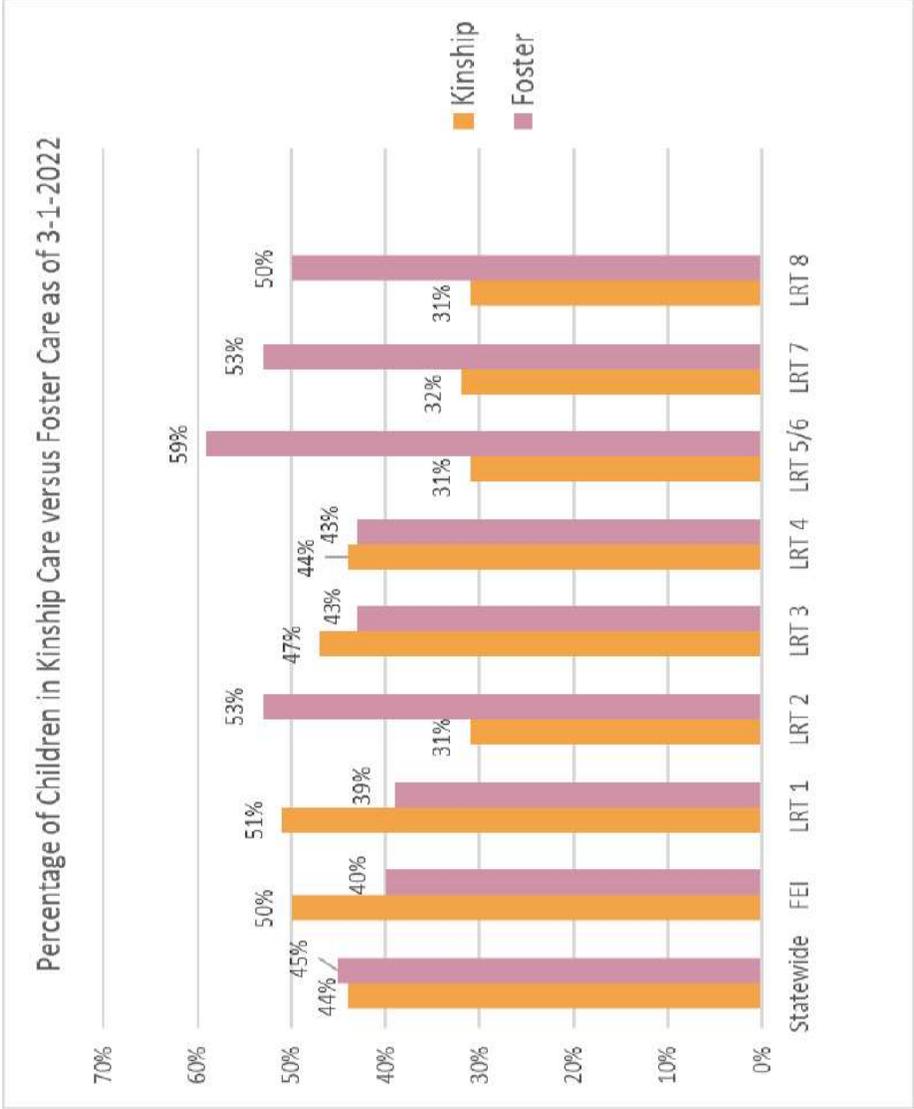
Dependent Children are in Kinship Care

Statewide

44%

Dependent Children are placed with someone they know

Percent of Children in Kinship Care vs. Foster Care



LRT 4 and LRT 5/6 show an increase in use from the previous year

1. LRT 1	51%
2. LRT 3	47%
3. LRT 4	44%
4. LRT 7	32%
5. LRT 2	31%
6. LRT 5/6	31%
7. LRT 8	31%

Pennsylvania Kinship Care Use: Kinship Care, Foster Care and Congregate Care

47% State Average First Placement

44% Overall State Average

15 Highest Kinship Care Use Counties for the First Placement

County	Percentage
1 Cameron	100%
2 Potter	100%
3 Union	100%
4 Beaver	76%
5 Fayette	76%
6 Venango	70%
7 Butler	69%
8 Huntingdon	67%
9 Washington	66%
10 Lawrence	66%
11 Bucks	63%
12 Tioga	63%
13 Crawford	62%
14 Dauphin	62%
15 Allegheny	61%

FEI County

In April 2021, **20** Counties were at or above state average

In March 2022, **25** Counties were at or above state average

Counties with at least half of out-of-home children living with Kin

County	Percentage of Children in Kinship Care	Number of Children in Kinship Care
Snyder	100%	1
Cameron	67%	6
Venango	62%	49
Allegheny	61%	936
Union	60%	3
Fayette	59%	85
Susquehanna	58%	22
Butler	57%	53
Potter	57%	4
Lackawanna	56%	93
Washington	56%	113
Adams	53%	20
Philadelphia	52%	2424
Carbon	51%	56
Bucks	50%	118
Crawford	50%	40

FEI County