



GROWIN' UP!

www.adrianmcmore.com

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Yo' Adrian

- NATIONAL CONSULTANT
- PROGRAM OFFICER
- KINSHIP CARE PROVIDER
- LIVED EXPERIENCE IN FOSTER CARE
- DENZEL WASHINGTON LOOK-ALIKE
- IN A BROMANCE W/ SPRINGSTEEN





Today's **Goals**:

- ▶ **CHALLENGE** you in the right way.
- ▶ Add a **NEW** perspective(s) to your existing narrative.
- ▶ Answer **YOUR** question(s).

My grandparents....

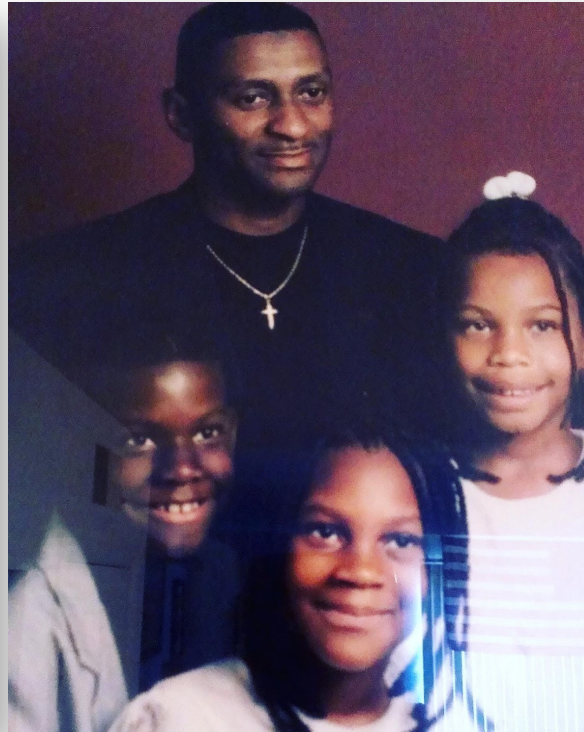




Greetings from Asbury Road

The greater a child's terror, and the earlier it is experienced, the harder it becomes to develop a strong and healthy sense of self.

- Nathaniel Branden



- 1 Challenging Behaviors
- 2 Parental Engagement
- 3 Lack of Placement Options

“Greetings from Asbury Road”

Grandma Essie, ELI & DORA LUKE, Ernest McLemore



- 1 Challenging Behaviors
- 2 Parental Engagement
- 3 Lack of Placement Options

Return to Foster Care | "INDEPENDENCE DAY"

"Teens are experience rich but language poor."

- Dr. Bob McCarthy



Kinship Care Provider | How it started....



- 1 Child Safety
- 2 Plans for reunification
- 3 Minimal Supports



Kinship Care Provider | How it started....



Asset-Framing

HOW ARE WE DEFINING OUR FAMILIES?

HOW ARE WE ASSESSING "KIN"?



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The principle that defines **'families'** by their **aspirations** and **contributions**, rather than their challenges and deficits

Asset-Framing | What is it?



The notion that we 'as professionals' are **adding value** to families, or that we are **not recognizing** challenges exist

Asset-Framing | What it is NOT.



Kinship Care | ***“LIVING PROOF”***

- Financial
- Legal/Emotional Stress
- Isolation *(before, during, after)*
- Stability
- Well-being
- Permanency



3 Strategies for Kincaire Focus

FAMILY, YOUTH, & ENGAGEMENT (FYE)

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3 Strategies for Kincaire Focus

1. JUST **do it.**



2. Do it **well.**



3. Do it **often.**





JUST *do it.*



3 Strategies for KinCare Focus

- ▶ Family-centered, **strength-based** approach in establishing and maintaining relationships w/ families and accomplishing **change** together.
- ▶ Setting goals, making joint decisions w/ the **inclusion** of children & youth, as well as adult family/kin members



Do it *well*. ★★ ★

3 Strategies for KinCare Focus

- ▶ Family Empowerment – engaging, involving and lifting up the **voice** of families throughout the practice/system
- ▶ Parents/families are **MORE** motivated to make needed changes
- ▶ When family buy-in is achieved, reunification rates and overall family outcomes **improve**

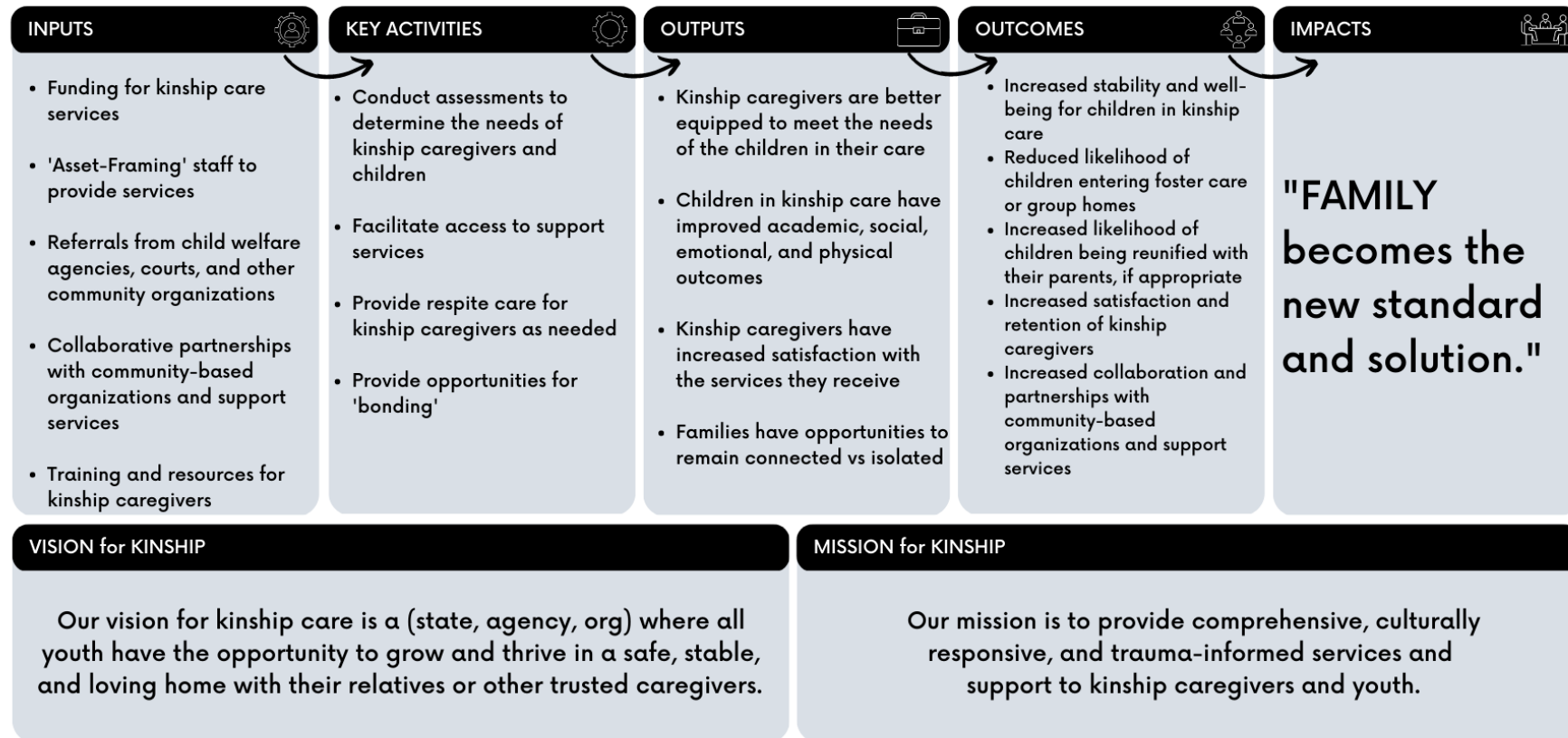


Do it *often*. 

3 Strategies for KinCare Focus

- ▶ Include family/kin as **KEY** stakeholders/advisors in:
- ▶ ***Policy Development***
- ▶ ***Service Design***
- ▶ ***Program & Service Evaluation***

KINSHIP CARE LOGIC MODEL



LAND of HOPE & DREAMS



Kinship Care Provider | How it's going...

“BADLANDS”
*Talk about a dream, try to
make it real.*





Thank YOU! | Questions

ADRIANMCLEMORE@GMAIL.COM | ADRIANMCLEMORE.COM

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