

STRONG FAMILIES/SAFE CHILDREN REALLOCATIONS

Background

The Kent County Family and Children's Coordinating Council is responsible for the allocation of Strong Families/Safe Children (SF/SC) funds. The Council and local FIA have joint fiscal oversight of SF/SC expenditures. In case of unallocated or unspent funds, the Council is required to submit any amendments to the SF/SC plan to the local FIA by the beginning of June, and to the State FIA no later than July 1. FIA must approve any revisions or amendments before the money can be expended. Due to the compressed timeline between identifying under-expenditures, obtaining FIA approval for reallocation, and the end of the fiscal year, first priority for unexpended funds should be given to current SF/SC contractors.

Process

1. No later than one month prior to SF/SC program office deadline for amendments and revisions, the Executive Committee shall assess current expenditure patterns to determine if there will be any unspent funds.
2. If there are available funds, the Executive Committee shall request proposals from current SF/SC contractors to identify how they would use a one-time allocation to enhance their current efforts. All proposals must be consistent with SF/SC requirements and address one or more SF/SC outcomes:
 - a. Reduce out of home placements
 - b. Reduce number of repeat placements
 - c. Reduce length of stay in out of home placements
 - d. Increase adoptions
 - e. Improve the immunization rate
 - f. Increase services to relative caregivers
3. The Executive Committee shall consider the proposals based on 1) Consistency with SF/SC requirements and outcomes, 2) Consistency with the Council's funding priorities (see inset), and 3) Emergent funding issues (e.g., funding shortfall within program).
4. The Executive Committee shall present any recommendation(s) to the Council for approval.

KCFCCC Funding Principles*

Due to the need to place limited resources strategically, a key consideration for funding by the Council is to provide resources for programs that have been established as a result of significant community collaboration. As a representative community coalition, it is the Council's responsibility to ensure that funding is provided or redirected for these large-scale community priorities. The ability to achieve measurable outcomes is also a key factor. The Council gives funding priority to programs which:

- Involve two or more partners in which each participating organization contributes financial resources
- Involve key stakeholder groups (i.e., families) in program design and implementation
- Focus on system integration or reform
- Are consistent with the Kent County Family, Youth, and Children's Services Plan
- Involve a comprehensive evaluation component
- Focus on prevention
- Offer culturally appropriate and sensitive services for people of color

*From the SF/SC FY2000-2002 Plan