

# Family Preservation Accomplishments 2022

**Family Preservation has been putting the Vision for Transformation into action** by refocusing on and prioritizing serving families in their homes and communities. This approach is part of a larger, ODHS-wide culture shift away from regulation-centered, one-size-fits-all services and toward a community-based safety and support model that puts families and communities at the center of service design and delivery decisions.

**Providing earlier, less-intrusive support** for parents and families means more children can remain safe and healthy. Self-Sufficiency and Child Welfare partnering on efforts to preserve families is key to supporting family engagement, economic and concrete needs, and change services that will positively impact families and ultimately prevent child welfare involvement.

Thank you all for the continued partnership! Collaboration makes it possible to move with urgency toward an anti-racist, family centered, trauma-responsive continuum of support for families **when they need it, where they need it, who they need it from and how they want it delivered.**

As we head into 2023, ODHS Self-Sufficiency and Child Welfare programs have high hopes for prevention and preservation work across Oregon's child and family-serving system. 2022 has been an amazing year for collaboration across agencies, programs, and communities.

## Overall successes

- Implementation of the Family Preservation approach on March 28, 2022, in three demonstration sites: Multnomah (Alberta Branch), Douglas, and Klamath Counties.
- As part of their prevention plans:
  - Grand Ronde, Klamath, Cow Creek, and CTCLUSI Tribes are implementing Motivational Interviewing.
  - Siletz tribal programs and Yellowhawk behavioral health center are utilizing Family Spirit.
- The number of child welfare involved families being served in-home, rather than in foster care, is increasing.
- TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families) redesign changed how Self-Sufficiency implements TANF by assigning 75% of the monthly cash grant to the dependent child/children, preventing sanctions from being applied to that amount, an increase in clothing allowances, and expansion of the Family Support and Connections program.
- TANF resource limit for new applicants was increased from \$2,500 to \$10,000.

## Practice accomplishments

- In the Klamath site, more families are being served in-home than families that are separated with children in foster care.
- Intentional work to understand and address bias around working in-home with families of color to directly address our efforts to decrease disproportionality.
- Development of policy and procedure to support in-home work with families.
- The relationship between Self-Sufficiency and Child Welfare is becoming stronger with structures in place to support sustainability of the partnership.

## Community partnership accomplishments

- Community forums with over 90 community partners were held in demonstration sites.
- Community Partner Forum: bringing community-based organizations, statewide agencies, and individuals together to move prevention and preservation forward across the state.
- Work across Oregon Health Authority, Early Learning Division, and ODHS that focuses on prevention and preservation opportunities including policy and legislative collaboration.
- ODHS, housing, transportation, and medical providers are collaborating to support families.

## Expanding community-based prevention services

- The Family Support and Connections program expanded ability to fund culturally-specific supports for families.
- As part of the Title IV-E Prevention Services Plan, ODHS is supporting providers in becoming certified in specific evidence-based practices.
- The KEEP Program expanded services to Self-Sufficiency to support relatives caring for their family.

## 2023 and beyond: We're all in this together!

Child Welfare, Self-Sufficiency, and our community partners will continue to work on preserving families and preventing child abuse through the following efforts:

- ODHS Family Preservation expansion to five more demonstration sites.
- ODHS will submit an amendment to the Family First Prevention Services Plan.
- ODHS nurses will begin to engage with families in demonstration sites.
- Relief Nurseries are working on a 48% expansion of relief nurseries statewide serving a total of 840 families.
- Catholic Community Services have 13 certified community health workers to help families with reducing parental stress.

- The Contingent: Thriving Families Safer Children are working towards creating and enhancing networks of community-based services and programs and aligning government resources to strengthen communities and parents.
- Prevent Child Abuse Oregon and CAPC (Child Abuse Prevention Collaborative) aim to create a snapshot of what prevention could look like and develop a comprehensive child abuse prevention plan informed by those with lived experience.
- Children's Public Private Partnership (CP3) are discussing a family preservation multigeneration housing opportunity.

**We look forward to continued partnership, collaboration and innovation in 2023!**