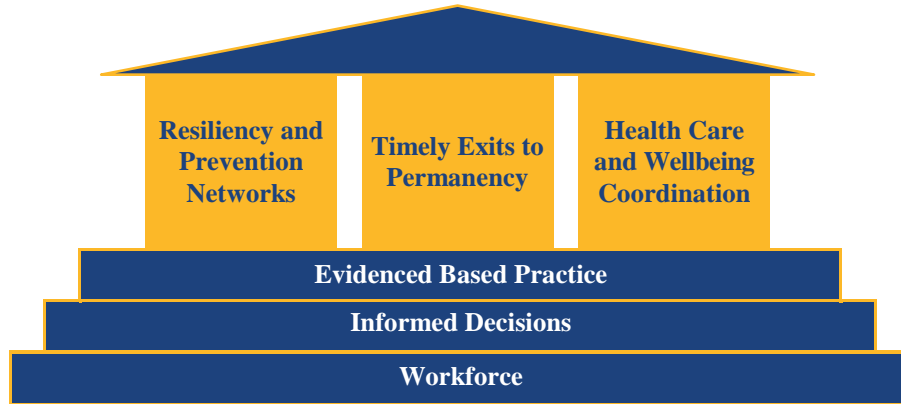


# Child Welfare Practice Model



## Background

Kansas Department for Children and Families (DCF) strategies create a foundation of resiliency and prevention networks, timely exits to permanency, and health care and wellbeing coordination. Strategies are supported by a practice model with principles and approaches linked to better outcomes, engagement, equity and inclusivity alongside families in communities.



## Principles and Approach

	<h3>Family Finding</h3>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Family and youth engagement</li> <li>•Healing and Development</li> <li>•Sustained Placement Stability</li> <li>•Create Lifetime Networks</li> </ul>
	<h3>Team Decision Making™</h3>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Facilitated meeting model</li> <li>• Families alongside support network and DCF</li> <li>• Inclusivity</li> <li>• Decision transparency</li> </ul>
	<h3>Child Protection Framework</h3>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Caregiver and safety network engagement in assessments</li> <li>•KPRC Intake Structured Decision Making®</li> <li>•Safety and Risk Structured Decision Making®</li> <li>•Signs of Safety®</li> <li>•Reliability, Equity</li> </ul>



### Family Finding: DCF, Grantees, CASA and Juvenile Svcs.

- Engagement and family meeting (model) when there is a barrier to stability or legal permanency for a child.
- Includes youth and family in tracing/search and planning.
- Statement of need, concerns & goals are co created.
- Creates lifetime networks for sustained stability.



### Team Decision Making™: DCF Statewide in 2020

- Facilitated family meeting (model) before a child is moved to determine if a child needs to be separated from their parent(s)/primary caregiver due to the parent(s)/primary caregiver behavior threatening a child's safety.
- Families invite their support network.
- Decision creates and results in strongest plan for safety.
- Now in CK,CR, JO, WY. South central counties Spring 2020



### Signs of Safety® Southcentral implemented. Statewide in 2020

- Set of tools for response to assigned reports alleging Abuse, Neglect or Family In Need of Assessment.
- Alongside families and safety network create a balanced assessment of strengths and existing safety.
- Asks what are we worried about, what's going well and what needs to happen?
- Children's tools gain child and youth's voice.
- Includes system of meaningful measures, supervisor coaching and QA.



### Structured Decision Making®

- Tools for response to reports alleging abuse or neglect.
- Focused on a sequence of key decision points to be intentional about decisions.
- Structured scoring for Abuse and Neglect indices.
- Initial implementation in Kansas Protection Report Center and counties of CR,CK, JO and WY.
- Evaluation with Team Decision Making planned by National Council on Crime and Delinquency.