

# DCCCA FAMILY PRESERVATION

## Community Referrals



### FAMILY PRESERVATION

DCCCA provides voluntary services alongside families. We build on family strengths, promote safety and well-being, and reduce the risk of children being placed in foster care.

Current contracts started in January 2000, serving two regions and 15 counties. The Kansas City region includes Douglas, Wyandotte, Johnson, Leavenworth, and Atchison counties.



### SERVICES

- Voluntary in-home supports are provided to families with children at risk of entering out-of-home placement.
- The goal is to keep families together.
- Evidence-based assessments and case planning are strengths-based and family-centered.

### TIER 1 SERVICES

- 6 weeks in duration
- Master-level, licensed therapists
- 3-5 hours minimum of weekly in-home services
- Focus is on mitigating immediate child safety concerns, stabilizing crisis situations and assessing needs



### TIER 2 SERVICES

- 3-6 months in duration
- Both a case manager and a therapist work with the family
- 1-3 hours minimum of weekly in-home services
- Existing risk and emergency safety issues are assessed and services initiated to stabilize and support the family.
- Sobriety Treatment and Recovery Teams (START), an evidence-based practice, is used with families in which substance use is a primary factor in the child welfare concern.



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## Frequently Asked Questions

### **Q. What are some of the similarities between Family Preservation and Family Preservation Community Referrals?**

A. Both services use the same model, staff, resources, evidence-based practices, and intensity for visits and length of services.

### **Q. What are some of the differences between Family Preservation and Family Preservation Community Referrals?**

A. Community Referrals do not have open cases, and the families are not added to the Department for Children and Families records systems, such as FACTS and KIDS.

### **Q. What types of families would do best with Community Referral services?**

A. A wide variety of families would benefit from Community Referral services. The most successful are those families that are willing to engage in services to reduce the risk of children entering the foster care system. Examples include:

- Families that are in immediate crisis and need temporary support
- Families that have been in long-term crisis and need supports to move out of behaviors or patterns that are causing chronic complications
- Parents with substance abuse needs, who may be referred before, during, or after treatment
- Families that have had previous experiences with the child welfare system
- Young mothers who are pregnant
- Families that are experiencing potential truancy concerns

### **Q. What should I share with families about Community Referral services to assist in engagement?**

A. Community Referral services provide a unique opportunity for free, in-home, family-specific support services.

- Services are timely, often started within 48 hours from referral, and transportation isn't an issue.
- Tier 1 services utilize a therapist who will provide in-home supports for the family's desired areas of change, need and growth.
- In-home assessments are completed to assist the family in identifying areas of focus.
- DCCCA collaborates with many other agencies to assist the family with resources. These resource areas are broad, including obtaining needed identification; accessing DCF benefits; food and housing needs; parenting resources; and substance abuse treatment.