Kansas Workforce Initiative
www.kwi.ku.edu

The Kansas Workforce Initiative’s (KWI) purpose is to create a stable, prepared and supported workforce to improve the safety, permanency, and well-being of children and families in Kansas. Efforts are focused on strengthening the workforce of private and tribal child welfare agencies. KWI is funded through a five year cooperative agreement with U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Children’s Bureau.

Partners
Kansas’ Child Welfare Community-Based Service providers (DCCCA, KVC Behavioral Health Care, Inc., St. Francis Community Services, TFI, and Youthville); Kansas tribal social service providers (Ioway Tribe of Kansas and Nebraska, Kickapoo Nation, Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation, and Sac and Fox Nation); Kansas Department for Children and Families; Children’s Alliance of Kansas and the Kansas Council on Social Work Education.

Accomplishments
• Kansas Child Welfare Scholars Program (59 graduates, 23 future graduates)
• Agency and Tribal Workforce Teams for Training and Technical Assistance (6 teams)
• “Voices from the Field” Child Welfare Day at 7 Kansas Social Work Programs (433 participants)
• Child Welfare Agency/Social Work Educator Dialogue (30 participants)
• Kansas Workforce Kickoff Conference (90 attendees)

Products
• Research Brief: What Influences Child Welfare Worker Retention in Kansas?
• Evidence Reviews: Recruitment; Selection; Work/Family Conflict; Secondary Trauma; How Supervision Relates to Workforce Outcomes; How Supervision Relates to Consumer Outcomes
• Manuscripts: Tailoring Stress Reduction Interventions to Specific Sources of Child Welfare Worker Stress; Using Behavior Modeling Training for Child Welfare Supervisor Skill Development: The Challenge of Transfer of Learning
• Videos: Realistic Job Preview: Child Welfare in Kansas – Where You Can Make a Difference; Worker Weekly Agenda Blogs; Supervisor Skill Development Videos
• Tools: Child Welfare Worker Stress Inventory; Reducing Child Welfare Worker Stress: Inventory and Intervention Implementation Guide; Welcome Home (rural retention)
• Master Syllabus: Child Welfare Skills, Values and Knowledge for Practice
• Training Facilitator Guides: Enhancing Supervisor Skills to Support Worker Retention; Secondary Traumatic Stress in Child Welfare
• Secondary Education Curricula Resource: Social Work: Where You Can Make a Difference

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