

**KVC Responses to Questions from  
Senate Judiciary Committee on HB 2021**

**1. Federal and state funding**

- o **As a CMP/CPA funded provider, the scope of services is to serve youth referred to foster care by DCF. We cannot use these funds to serve youth not involved in the foster care system.** DCF could refer families at risk for entering the foster care system to prevention providers such as Family Preservation (FP) or Family First (FFPSA) (if family meets criteria and there is an opening in their area) Family Preservation is often at capacity with a waitlist. FFPSA requires youth to be at imminent risk of OOH placement. Referral must come from DCF only. **KVC is not currently an FP or FFPSA provider.**

**2. DCF funded programming**

- o **Funds are not flowing quickly enough or serving enough families.** Many funds that are awarded remain unspent due to low referrals. Many KDOC grants require referral to come from KDOC (not family or community referrals) and the youth must be involved with the juvenile justice system already. We are missing those at-risk (frequent running, substance use, contact with LE but no arrest, no charges)

**3. Use of Performance Improvement Plans (PIPs) by DCF**

- o CMPs must complete PIP for performance outcomes not currently met. **There is a financial penalty associated with PIPs** and those have been exercised by DCF this FY.

**4. JJOC funds**

- o **CMPs are simply asking that more families be served with KDOC reinvestment funds. No individual agency is requesting money as part of HB2021.** There will be a competitive bidding process and CMPs may/may not even bid on those. What is most important is that more youth receive prevention services while at home to prevent the need for removal from home and placement into detention or foster care. Both of those placements are associated with poor short- and long-term outcomes for youth.
- o **Current JJOC funds are for a restricted population of youth.** Youth and their families must be involved with KDOC already. Youth displaying at-risk behaviors (substance youth, running behavior, aggression at home and community and/or contact with law enforcement without arrest or charges) are falling through the cracks. The state is missing the opportunity to intervention early to prevent involvement with KDOC or DCF and out of home placement.
  - *K.S.A. 75-52.161(c)(7) states that funds from the Evidence-based Programs Fund may be used for Evidence-based practices and programs in the community pursuant to K.S.A. 2016 Supp. 38-2302, and amendments thereto, for use by intake and assessment services, immediate intervention, probation and conditional release; and training on evidence-based practices for juvenile justice system staff, including, but not limited to, training in cognitive behavioral therapies, family-centered therapies, substance abuse, sex offender therapy and other services that address a juvenile's risks and needs.*
- o **Available funds are not being fully spent** due to part to low numbers of referrals and families declining to participate. Referrals must come through KDOC. Expanding referrals source and youth eligibility would ensure more families are served and that services are delivered earlier rather than waiting until youth is already in the KDOC system.