UPSTREAM

CHILD WELFARE MAPPING IN MASSACHUSETTS
Mapping Project Development

Pathways Initiative
Administrative Office of the Juvenile Court

Massachusetts Community Justice Project
Executive Office of the Trial Court

UPSTREAM Child Welfare Mapping

National Center for State Courts
Casey Family Programs
Child Welfare Mapping in Massachusetts

**Vision**
- Strong Families
- Safe, stable, and nurturing homes
- Community-based, coordinated, and comprehensive prevention networks

**Mission**
- Support data-driven, evidence-based, and culturally appropriate practices
- Facilitate and enhance collaboration and coordination among partners and across systems
- Reduce risk of child maltreatment, family disruption, and trauma

**Goals**
- Develop a map of the local child welfare landscape
- Identify resources and gaps in practices, protocols, and programs
- Collectively agree on priorities for change
- Develop an action plan to improve system and service-level responses
Mapping Phases

Planning
- Leadership Team
- Local Planning Group
  
  *Hampden County*

Summit
- Two half-day working meetings with local stakeholders

Post-Summit
- Continue efforts locally and statewide

Trial Court Staffing
- Child Welfare Project Manager
- Community Justice Project Manager
- Administrative Coordinator
Leadership Team
*Chaired by Chief Justice*

- Child Welfare Project Manager
- Community Justice Project Manager
- Juvenile Court Clinic Director
- National Center for State Courts
- Casey Family Programs

Local Planning Group
*Convened with local judicial leadership*

- Communication with state-level leadership
- Focus group and summit participant lists
- Resource inventory
- 28 focus groups and key informant interviews
- Data collection and community self-assessment

- Department of Children and Families
- Department of Youth Services
- Bureau of Substance Addiction Services
- Department of Mental Health
- Probation Department
- Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

- Child Welfare Judges
- Probation Staff
- Attorneys
- Social Workers
- Education
- Healthcare
- Family Resource Centers
- Behavioral Health Providers
- Law Enforcement
- Youth Serving Agencies
- Family Serving Agencies
- Community Coalitions

Key Metrics
- Best Practices
- Collaboration Indicators
Two half-day working meetings with 67 local stakeholders

Day 1

Shared values

Review of Risk and Protective Factors

State and local data

Behavioral Health Treatment

Clerks

Probation

Youth and Family Serving Agencies

State Agencies

Healthcare

Judges

Education and Childcare

Attorneys and Justice Partners

Child Welfare

Summit

Children under 5 in Poverty

Children without Health Insurance

Child to Adult Ratio

Single Mother Families

People 65 and Over
Data

Age of Children with Open DCF Cases: Hampden County

As of 12/31/20

Source: Department of Children and Families Quarterly Profile, 12/31/20
Two half-day working meetings with 67 local stakeholders

Shared values

Review of Risk and Protective Factors

State and local data

Child Welfare Landscape

Key Gaps from Focus Groups

Day 1

Behavioral Health Treatment

Clerks

Probation

Behavioral Health Treatment

Youth and Family Serving Agencies

State Agencies

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Child Welfare

Healthcare

Behavioral Health

Youth and Family Serving Agencies

State Agencies

Education and Childcare

Attorneys and Justice Partners
CHILD WELFARE LANDSCAPE
Framework for Resource and Cross-Systems Mapping
Intervention Cross-Systems Collaboration

Primary Prevention
- Universal: Entire population regardless of level of risk

Cross-Systems Collaboration
- Collective Impact

Secondary Prevention
- Selective: At risk due to personal, family, or community factor(s)

Intervention
- Indicated: Displaying detectable signs or symptoms of child maltreatment behavior or are at very high risk

Crisis Intervention

Child Welfare
- Treatment: Perpetrating child maltreatment; halt behavior and advance healing for victims

Court

Aftercare
- Indicated: Detectable signs or at very high risk
Child Welfare Landscape

Secondary Prevention
- Enhanced Primary Care
- Behavioral Parent Training
- Treatment to lessen harms of abuse and neglect exposure
- Treatment to prevent problem behavior and future involvement in violence
- Victim-centered services
- Family-centered treatment for behavioral health needs
- Elevated and in-risk care coordination, services, and supports

Intervention
- Schools and Childcare Providers
- Law Enforcement and Fire
- Emergency Medical Services Hospitals Healthcare Providers
- Social Services
- Behavioral Health Services
- Housing and Homelessness Services
- Parents/Families
- Neighbors/Community Members
- Court: Eviction Civil Commitment Emergency Guardianship

Crisis Intervention

Child Welfare
- Referral
- Screening
- Assessment and Investigation
- Services and Treatment
- Referral to Court

Court
- Petition and Filing
- Pathways Differentiated Case Flow Management
- Adjudication and Disposition
- Aftercare
- Linkages to Community Services
- Reentry Prevention
- Safety Planning

Primary Prevention
- Economic Supports
- Social Norms to Support Parents and Positive Parenting
- Quality Healthcare
- Quality Childcare and Education
- Parenting Skills to Promote Healthy Child Development
- Youth Connections to Caring Adults and Activities

Cross-Systems Collaboration
- Coalitions, Task Forces Coordinating Councils
- Information sharing and care coordination
- Data collection, analysis, and sharing
- Cross-training
- Co-located and integrated services
- Shared funding
Two half-day working meetings with 67 local stakeholders

Day 1
- Shared values
- Review of Risk and Protective Factors
- State and local data
- Child Welfare Landscape
- Key Gaps from Focus Groups

Between Day 1 and Day 2
- Priority Survey

Day 2
- Review and Discuss
- Action Planning

Compiled gaps: Top 5 from survey

Similar gap

Priority

Similar gap

Similar gap
Priorities for Change

- Efficient and coordinated prevention and service network
- Cross-systems care coordination and support for children and parents: pre-filing; after resolution; during and after reunification
- Training and education across sectors: working with vulnerable children and families and related topics
- Programs/processes for cross-sector and collaborative resolution of open DCF cases
- Cross-systems coalition/working group focused on supporting children and families
- Prosocial activities for youth, with opportunities for parent engagement; mentors with lived experience
- Safe, stable, supportive, and affordable housing
- Workforce issues among youth serving and behavioral health providers
- Data system for data collection, analysis, and sharing; including data on race and ethnicity
- Inclusion and integration of people with lived experience
- Social isolation among vulnerable children and parents
- Family-centered/two-generation programming
- Transparency about child welfare practices
- Support for parents in understanding child development and behavior
- Support services and programs for fathers; and other caregivers
## Priorities for Change

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**Summit: Action Planning**

**Priority:** EFFICIENT AND COORDINATED PREVENTION AND SERVICE NETWORK

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<th>Objective</th>
<th>Activities/Tasks</th>
<th>Resources</th>
<th>Timeframe</th>
<th>Barriers</th>
<th>Responsibility</th>
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<td>What do we want to achieve?</td>
<td>What do we have to do to meet the objective?</td>
<td>What resources are necessary to complete the activity? Who should be at the table? Is anyone already engaged in this activity?</td>
<td>How much time is required for the activity? When can action begin on this activity?</td>
<td>Are there any potential barriers to consider?</td>
<td>Who will take the lead?</td>
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Post-Summit and Moving Forward

Locally

Compile report of findings and disseminate

Statewide

Secure resources to staff project

Implement mappings in counties across the state
# Hampden County Child Welfare Map

## Economic Supports for Families
- Financial Support and Food Insecurity:
  - Department of Transitional Assistance: Transitional Aid to Families with Dependent Children: Emergency Aid to the Elderly, Disabled, and Children
  - Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program
- State Supplement Program
- Women, Infants, and Children Nutrition Program
- Statewide Family Resource Centers: Food Bank of Western MA
- Childhood Subsidies:
  - DCF Emergency Childcare Vouchers
- Housing:
  - Holyoke Housing Authority
  - Springfield Housing Authority
- Department of Housing and Community Development
- Warfnders Residential Resource Center, Community Development Corporation, Friends of the Homeless, One Holyoke
- FDA shelters, RAFT, Alaska

## Family and Community Resource Centers
- Enlace de Familias
- Springfield Family Resource Center
- Martin Luther King Jr. Family Services
- New North Citizens Council

## Family Connections
- Youth Hub Grades 4-6

## Family Violence
- Early Childhood Care and Education:
- Holyoke Public Schools
- HCS Head Start

## Parenting Skills to Promote Healthy Child Development

## Behavioral Health Treatment
- Early Childhood Care and Education:
  - Springfield, Family Resource Center: Parenting Journey, Nurturing Fathers, Nurturing Families, virtual learning tools, Grandparents/Raising Grandchildren, peer support
- Holyoke Public Schools
- HCS Head Start

## Parenting Skills to Promote Healthy Child Development

## Family Treatment Courts
- Court Programs
  - Springfield: Holyoke, Family Recovery Council
  - Holyoke: Healing Racial Trauma
  - Hampden County DA
  - Juvenile Court
  - Committee for Public Counsel Services: CAEI Resource Attorney
  - Health Law Advocates: Mental Health Advocacy Program for Kids
  - Defense Counsel: Private Bar

## State Agencies
- Department of Children and Families
- Department of Public Health, Bureau of Substance Addiction Services
- Department of Mental Health
- Office of the OAM Advocate
- Department of Youth Services
- Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative
- Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

## Honeysuckle
- Springfield, Holyoke, Van Wert
- DCF Legal: General Counsel, Regional Counsel, Deputy Regional Counsel
- DCF Fiscal: Regional Substance Abuse Coordinators, Area Clinical Managers, Area Resource Coordinators, Western Regional Intensive Placement Coordinator, Clinicians, Case Managers

## Health Care
- Springfield Family Resource Center:
  - Holyoke Community Health Center
  - Holyoke Health Center
  - Baystate Family Advocacy Center
  - Music Health

## Children’s Residential Center for Human Development
- Holyoke: Family Recovery Council

## Preventive Legal Advocacy
- Holyoke Police: Holyoke Safe Neighborhood Program (Family Resource Guide)
- Springfield Police: Domestic Violence Advocates, Hub Table
- Hampden County Sheriff’s Department: Holyoke Safe Neighborhood Watch, Parent Engagement Coordinator, Youth Leadership Academy Summer Camp

## Law Enforcement
- Holyoke Police
- Holyoke Safe Neighborhood Program (Family Resource Guide)
- Springfield Police: Domestic Violence Advocates, Hub Table
- Hampden County Sheriff’s Department: Holyoke Safe Neighborhood Watch, Parent Engagement Coordinator, Youth Leadership Academy Summer Camp

## Public Support
- Valley Recovery Center: Risk Parenting group, Parenting Portfolio, Family Support Specialist, peer mentors for Moms
- Hope for Holyoke: Family Support Specialist
- Sober Communities
- Allies in Recovery
- Southside: First Steps Together
- Western Mass Training Consortium
- Massachusetts Organization for Addiction Recovery: Recovery
- Bawen Resource Center

## Court Programs
- Springfield: Holyoke, Family Recovery Council
- Holyoke: Healing Racial Trauma
- Hampden County DA
- Juvenile Court
- Committee for Public Counsel Services: CAEI Resource Attorney
- Health Law Advocates: Mental Health Advocacy Program for Kids
- Defense Counsel: Private Bar

## Hotlines/Helplines
- MA Child Trauma Hotline: 1-855.546.5543
- DCF Child-at-Risk Hotline: 800.993.5200
- Look Into: 800.317.3960
- Male2Male: 855.584.0653
- Suicide Prevention Hotline: 1-800-273-TALK
Post-Summit and Moving Forward

Locally

- Compile report and disseminate
- Continue convening regular meetings to maintain momentum from summit and continue planning
- Provide technical assistance
- Secure resources to staff project

Statewide

- Implement mappings in counties across the state
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