



**There are more than 140,000 families in Ohio right now navigating kinship and post-adoption life — its joys, its challenges, and its opportunities.**

## **MISSION**

**OhioKAN is a statewide flexible and responsive kinship and adoption navigator program designed to assist children, caregivers, and families.**

## **VISION**

**We believe that families are inherently capable of finding solutions to the circumstances and challenges they face.**

## **VALUES**

**C**

**Children:** We value Ohio's children and are determined to keep the safety, permanency, and well-being of our children as our primary driver.

**A**

**Accountability:** We value integrity and transparency. We do what we say and say what we do.

**R**

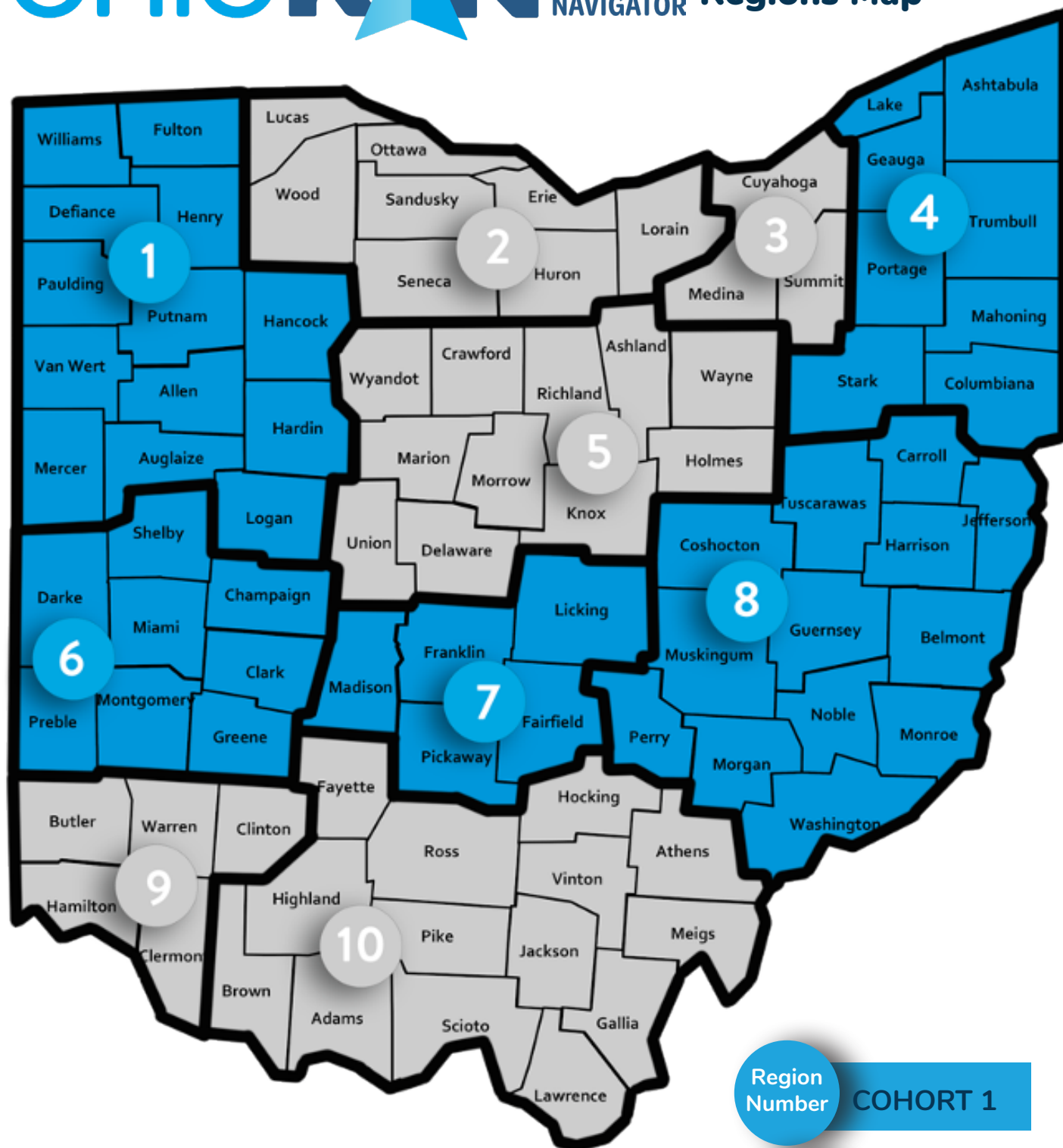
**Respect:** We value the diversity of our families and hold the belief that everyone deserves to be treated with dignity and respect.

**E**

**Engagement:** We value the voices of all kinship and adoptive families and will engage them knowing their perspective is the foundation on which we will build.

**S**

**Strengths:** We value every family's strengths and believe everyone can contribute to the solution.



Region  
Number

Region  
Number





## Roadmap to Support for Communities & Families

### THE PROBLEM

- Kinship and Adoptive (K&A) families are adapting to new roles and expectations while coping with trauma and complex family dynamics
- K&A caregivers have insufficient knowledge about existing resources their family could benefit from and programs they may be eligible for
- Perceived stigma creates barriers to engaging with social safety net programs
- Communities and systems don't have the knowledge and capacity to appropriately serve K&A caregivers
- There are insufficient human services and material resources to meet the needs of K&A caregivers

OhioKAN Partners with systems like education, health, mental health, housing, legal, and judicial to identify and develop collaborative strategies to address knowledge and capacity gaps

### Communities and Systems Build Capacity



Develop awareness of K&A families' experiences and build strategies and capacity to better support them  
Become interconnected networks with the knowledge and material resources to serve K&A families  
Increase their service array and develop sustainable solution to support K&A families

Promote community knowledge of OhioKAN and reduce stigma for seeking support

Local human service systems are more knowledgeable and better equipped to serve K&A families

Build community level awareness connections with places families already are

OhioKAN effectively reaches eligible families

A robust, tailored, and continuously improving service array is available across Ohio

K&A caregivers get what they need to care for themselves and the children in their homes

## ROADMAP FOR COMMUNITIES

## ROADMAP FOR FAMILIES

K&A Families are aware of OhioKAN

Eligible K&A families are engaged in OhioKAN services

A right-sized, tailored, trauma-informed support strategy is developed for each K&A family

K&A Families access services and supports in alignment with their needs

K&A Families unique needs are met

K&A caregivers feel supported, connected, confident, and capable of caring for their children

OhioKAN

Provides

Families...

Information and referrals to meet K&A family's individual needs

Trauma-informed navigation services to address complex challenges

Access to material resource to care for the child

### Families Build Confidence and Connections



Gain knowledge and access to the human services and resources they need to achieve positive health and wellbeing outcomes  
Understand all their options and are confident, capable, and committed to providing a stable permanent home  
Connect and build community with other K&A families, and they have the continuous support they need



# Roadmap to Support for Communities & Families



Launch a statewide public awareness campaign with targeted regional/county level campaigns

Educate public system partners about the unique needs of K&A families and how they can best be served and supported

Assess and monitor the extent to which the available services and supports meet K&A families' needs

Purposeful connection with child welfare agencies and county-level groups to strengthen practice Partnerships with local family-serving organizations

Participate in local community events, fairs, festivals and other places where families will be

Best practices in serving K&A families are shared across the state and continuously improved

Advocate for and otherwise support the development and increased accessibility of needed supports and services

Promote community knowledge of OhioKAN and reduce stigma for seeking support

Local human service systems are more knowledgeable and better equipped to serve K&A families

Build community level awareness connections with places families already are

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K&A Families unique needs are met

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K&A Families are aware of OhioKAN

Eligible K&A families are engaged in OhioKAN services

K&A families are educated about the supports and services that are available and their eligibility for those supports and services

Concrete supports are provided as needed

K&A Caregivers' capacities are built and protective factors strengthened

K&A Families demonstrate greater resilience and family functioning

Outreach to eligible K&A families

K&A family needs are assessed

K&A Families are connected with formal and informal services and peer support in their communities

K&A Families receive support in navigating complex family dynamics

Trust is built between K&A families and OhioKAN staff so that families feel comfortable seeking help when needed

Children and youth experience decreased migration into the formal CW system Children and youth experience increased stability and permanency in their living situations Children and youth experience positive well-being outcomes