KEEP Outcomes

Keeping Foster and Kinship Parents Supported and Trained





For Children & Adolescents:

- Lower rates of emotional and behavioral problems
- Shorter lengths of stay in care
- Lower rates of placement disruptions for youth with multiple previous placements
- More frequent reunification with family
- Less substance use (for adolescents)
- Lower rates of health-risking sexual behavior (for adolescents)

For Foster and Kinship Parents:

- Higher rates of positive parenting
- Lower rates of discipline
- Lower rates of turnover
- Spillover of positive effects to other children in the home

For the Child Welfare System/Workforce:

- Longer tenure for foster parents providing care
- Fewer days in care

See reverse for a list of the key studies demonstrating these outcomes.



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Background of KEEP Studies

- KEEP started with a small experiment in three Oregon counties funded by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. KEEP was effective in decreasing placement instability, children's levels of emotional and behavioral problems, and foster parent turnover.
- In a large randomized effectiveness trial (N=703) funded by the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) in San Diego County, these effects were replicated. Since the trial ended in 2005, the San Diego Health and Human Services have continued to implement KEEP as part of its regular services to foster and kinship parents. In 2007 the National Association of Counties named San Diego County an Achievement Award Winner for its work on KEEP "...in recognition of an effective and innovative program which contributes to and enhances county government in the United States."
- Recent evaluations in England, Denmark, Maryland, New York, and Tennessee have shown positive results on decreasing placement disruption rates and child behavioral and emotional problems.

See below for references to peer-reviewed publications about these studies and other KEEP implementations.

Key Publications

Chamberlain, P., Price, J., Leve, L. D., Laurent, H., Landsverk, J. A., & Reid, J. B. (2008). Prevention of behavior problems for children in foster care: Outcomes and mediation effects. *Prevention Science*, *9*, 17-27.

Price, J. M., Chamberlain, P., Landsverk, J., Reid, J., Leve, L., & Laurent, H. (2008). Effects of a foster parent training intervention on placement changes of children in foster care. *Child Maltreatment*, *13*, 64-75.

Price, J., Chamberlain, P., Landsverk, J., & Reid, J. (2009). KEEP foster parent training intervention: Model description and effectiveness. *Child & Family Social Work, 14*, 233-242.

Kim, H. K., & Leve, L. D. (2011). Substance use and delinquency among middle school girls in foster care: A three-year follow-up of a randomized controlled trial. *Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology*, 79, 740-750.

Goldhaber-Fiebert, J. D., Bailey, S. L., Hurlburt, M. S., Zhang, J., Snowden, L. R., Wulczyn, F., Landsverk, J., & Horwitz, S. M. (2012). Evaluating Child Welfare policies with decision-analytic simulation models. *Administration & Policy in Mental Health*, *39*, 466-477.

Price, J. M., Roesch, S., Walsh, N. E. & Landsverk, J. (2015). Effects of the KEEP foster parent intervention on child and sibling behavior problems and parental stress during a randomized implementation trial. *Prevention Science*, *16*, 685-695.

Chamberlain, P., Feldman, S. W., Wulczyn, F., Saldana, L., & Forgatch, M. (2016). Implementation and evaluation of linked parenting models in a large urban child welfare system. *Child Abuse & Neglect*, *53*, 27-39.

Independent Evaluations of KEEP

Greeno, E.J., Uretsky, M.C., Lee, B.R., Moore, J.E., Barth, R.P., & Shaw, T.V. (2016). Replication of the KEEP Foster and Kinship Parent Training program for youth with externalizing behaviors. *Children and Youth Services Review 61*, 75-82. (Podcast discussion available at http://www.insocialwork.org/episode.asp?ep=187.)

Roberts, R., Glynn, G., & Waterman, C. (2016). 'We know it works but does it last?' The implementation of the KEEP foster and kinship carer training programme in England. *Adoption and Fostering*, 40(3), 247-263.

Greeno, E.J., Lee, B.R., Uretsky, M.C., Moore, J.E., Barth, R.P., & Shaw, T.V. (2016). Effects of a foster parent training intervention on child behavior, caregiver stress, and parenting style. *Journal of Child and Family Studies*, 25, 1991-2000.

Contact KEEP@oslc.org for more information about bringing KEEP to your agency or organization.