

KEY FUNDING STREAMS TO KEEP FAMILIES SUPPORTED, CONNECTED AND SAFE

The Family First Prevention Services Act (Family First) provides an important opportunity for child welfare leaders to support families with Title IV-E funding. However, Family First is just one piece of the puzzle. Developing an array of services to meet family needs requires child welfare leaders to understand funding that is administered by other agencies and to work across sectors to support a broad range of services.

This brief highlights federal funding streams that can support a continuum of services to prevent children from entering the child welfare system and foster care and provides examples of how communities are leveraging them. The funding streams are organized using a framework that builds on family strengths and ensures families are supported, connected and safe. Child welfare leaders can then identify potential partners working toward the same outcomes and administer funding streams and services aligned with those outcomes.

Key Funding Streams	 <p><i>Table 1</i> FAMILIES ARE SUPPORTED Families are supported to meet basic housing, nutrition, medical and behavioral needs.</p>	
WHAT THE FUNDING STREAM SUPPORTS	FUNDING STREAM	ADMINISTERING AGENCY
Flexible funds to address crisis needs	Promoting Safe and Stable Families (PSSF) (Title IV-B)	Child welfare
Cash payments, child care	Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)	Social services
Cash payments child care, flexible funds to address crises	Social Services Block Grant (SSBG)	
Child care	Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG)	
Health coverage for physical and mental health services	Medicaid	Medicaid
Health insurance	Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)	
School-based social and emotional support, academic support	Title I Grants to Local Educational Agencies	School districts
A range of public services including support for multi-service agencies and housing development projects	Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)	County and city housing and community development departments
Housing, rental and supportive services to assist homeless young people age 24 and younger and their children to obtain and maintain housing	Youth Homelessness Demonstration Project (YHDP)	Federal Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Office of Community Planning and Development
Assistance and resources to help youth in and formerly in foster care to achieve self-sufficiency	John H. Chafee Foster Care Independence Program (Chafee)	Child welfare

*Note: The links in the table are to the SAM.GOV database of federal assistance, which provides much more detail on funding amounts and requirements.

FAMILIES ARE SUPPORTED IN ACTION

Nebraska has developed Bring Up Nebraska, a network of community-based collaboratives supported by coordinated funding from the state departments of Children and Family Services, Public Health, Behavioral Health, Probation and Education, along with private foundations. As the statewide intermediary, the Nebraska Children and Families Foundation (NCF) brings together multiple funding streams, including PSSE, TANE, SSBG, CBCAP, Chafee, YHDP, VOCA, federal COVID relief funds and state general revenue funds. The local partnerships prioritize meeting family needs, including housing stabilization and financial case management, and NCF determines how to reimburse against the different funding sources monthly.

Key Funding Streams	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Table 2</i></p>  <p style="text-align: center;">FAMILIES ARE CONNECTED Families are connected to networks of extended family, friends and community that nurture children and promote healthy development.</p>	
WHAT THE FUNDING STREAM SUPPORTS	FUNDING STREAM	ADMINISTERING AGENCY
Evidence-based home visiting and parent and family support	Title IV-E Prevention	Child welfare
Range of family support and community-based support services	Promoting Safe and Stable Families (Title IV B)	
Range of family support and community-based support services	Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention (CBCAP)	
Improving collaboration with families, and other public agencies including public health and education to prevent child abuse.	Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA)	
Evidence-based home visiting programs and supporting infrastructure	Maternal, Infant and Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECHV)	Public health
Home visiting programs and case management for pregnant women and parents of young children	Title V Maternal and Child Health Block Grant	
Flexible funding that can support home visiting as well as navigator and other types of family resource center support	Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)	Social services
Services connected to schools that help to engage and educate parents	Title I Grants to Local Educational Agencies	Education

*Note: The links in the table are to the SAM.GOV database of federal assistance, which provides much more detail on funding amounts and requirements.

FAMILIES ARE CONNECTED IN ACTION

Colorado has recently passed legislation to leverage Family First funding to support its statewide prevention infrastructure and local prevention services. The legislation requires that reimbursements from Title IV-E claiming on Family First Prevention Services be pooled in a new subaccount of the Colorado Child Abuse Prevention Trust Fund. The Trust Fund will make grants to further build out the state and local capacity to implement evidence-based programs such as Parents as Teachers, SafeCare® and Nurse-Family Partnership. This approach will help to ensure equitable access to services across the state.

Washington State created a home visiting services account to bring together multiple funding streams, which include state and federal funds such as TANF and federal MIECHV, to support coordinated statewide home visiting programs and infrastructure. The programs focus on teenage parents, families that are homeless and families with multiple young children age 5 or under who are not connected to early learning resources.

Key Funding Streams	 <p><i>Table 3</i> FAMILIES ARE SAFE Families are safe and protect children from harm.</p>	
WHAT THE FUNDING STREAM SUPPORTS	FUNDING STREAM	ADMINISTERING AGENCY
Evidence-based substance abuse and mental health services	Title IV-E Prevention	Child welfare
Plans to protect infants with prenatal substance exposure and mental health services for parents and young children that fill gaps in support provided by other systems	Title V Maternal and Child Health Block Grant	Public health
Payment for mental health services and substance abuse treatment	Medicaid	Medicaid
Substance abuse services for parents and youth	Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant (SABG)	Substance abuse
Mental health services for parents and youth	Community Mental Health Services Block Grant (MHBG)	Mental health
Behavioral and mental health support for young people involved with the juvenile justice system	Juvenile Justice Formula Grants	Juvenile justice and courts
Flexible support for services for children who are victims of abuse and neglect	Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) formula and discretionary funds	Justice

*Note: The links in the table are to the SAM.GOV database of federal assistance, which provides much more detail on funding amounts and requirements.

FAMILIES ARE SAFE IN ACTION

The **Massachusetts** Department of Children and Families (DCF) employs state and regional level coordinators for substance abuse, with joint funding from the Department of Public Health's Bureau of Substance Addiction Services (BSAS). Through an interagency agreement, the Department of Public Health provides funding for the director of the Substance Use Unit at DCF while DCF funds the regional coordinators. Regional substance abuse coordinators train and support child welfare staff so they can appropriately assess the strengths and risks within families dealing with substance use and create a bridge from child welfare to substance use services including two substance use prevention programs: the Family Recovery Project, funded by a federal Children's Bureau Regional Partnership Grant, and the Family Engagement Program, funded by DCF.

North Carolina has expanded Triple P, an evidence-based parenting and family support program that is designed to prevent and address behavioral and emotional problems in children and teenagers. The statewide expansion is funded through a public-private partnership between Department of Social Services, Department of Public Health and the Duke Endowment. Triple P will be included in the state's Family First plan, which will allow for additional support from IV-E prevention funding.

Read about more examples and tools for successful funding strategies at www.aecf.org/series/funding-strategies-to-support-families.