

# **KinGAP Kick-Off**

**The Kinship Guardianship Assistance Program  
The Right Permanency Option for the Right Family**

*Tuesday, March 15, 2011*

**Handout Materials**



**New York State  
Office of  
Children & Family  
Services**

New York State  
Office of Children and Family Services  
and  
PDP Distance Learning Project

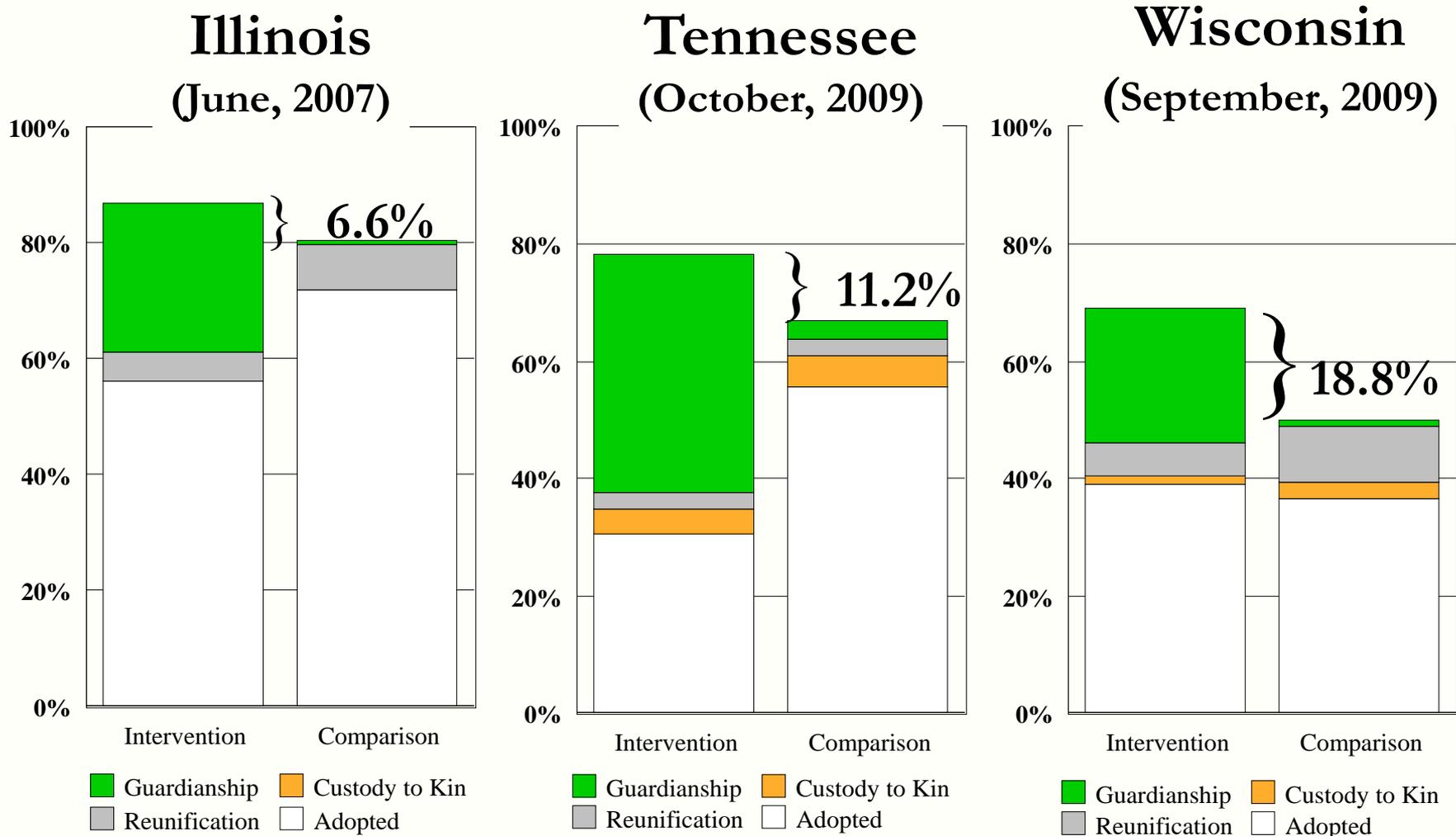
**KinGAP Kick-Off**  
**The Kinship Guardianship Assistance Program**  
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**March 15, 2011**

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# Key Findings



## **KinGAP Resources**

### **Administrative Directive**

- Attachments
  - Relative Notification Letter (Model)
  - Application for KinGAP (Required form)
  - KinGAP Agreement (Required form; local equivalent must be approved by OCFS)
  - KinGAP Agreement – Upgrade / Significant Amendment (Required form)
  - Administrative Hearing Notices
    - Denial
    - Discontinuance
    - Denial of Upgrade
  - Annual Notification Letter (Model)
  - Annual Notification Form (Model)
  - Non-Recurring KINSHIP Guardianship Expenses Reimbursement Form

### **Resources for Caseworkers and Supervisors**

- Kinship Guardianship Assistance Practice Guide
- KinGAP HELP: [ocfs.sm.sppd.KinGap.Help](http://ocfs.sm.sppd.KinGap.Help)

### **Resources for Kinship Caregivers**

- Know Your Permanency Options: The Kinship Guardianship Assistance Program
- NYS Kinship Navigator: <http://www.nysnavigator.org/>  
1-877-454-6463

### **Dr. Mark F. Testa**

Mark Testa is the Sandra Reeves Spears and John B. Turner Distinguished Professor in the School of Social Work at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Previously he was a professor in the School of Social Work at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign where he was also the Director of the Children and Family Research Center, an independent research organization created jointly by the University and Illinois Department of Children and Family Services. From 1994 to 2002, he held a joint appointment as the Research Director for the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services. He was the architect of the Illinois Subsidized Guardianship Demonstration and led the evaluations of similar demonstrations in the states of Wisconsin and Tennessee. He also served as Principal Investigator and Co-Director of *Fostering Results* – a public education campaign funded by The Pew Charitable Trusts to improve federal financing and accountability in foster care. He is currently the Independent Verification Agent under a federal court-approved consent decree that provides for improved services to foster children under the care and custody of the Baltimore child welfare system. He is also the Principal Investigator for designing the evaluation of the federal Permanency Innovations Initiative funded by the Administration on Children, Youth and Families (ACYF).

Professor Testa has received numerous awards for his scholarship and public engagement, including the Angel in Adoption from the Congressional Coalition on Adoption Institute, the University of Illinois' Campus Award for Excellence in Public Engagement, and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Adoption 2002 Excellence Award for Applied Scholarship and Research on kinship care and permanence. His recent publications include "Prevention and Drug Treatment" with Brenda Smith in *The Future of Children* (2009), *Child welfare and child well-being: New perspectives from the National Survey of Child and Adolescent Well-Being* (Oxford University Press, 2009), co-edited with Mary Bruce Webb, Kathryn Dowd, Brenda Jones Harden, and John Landsverk; and *Fostering accountability: Using evidence to guide and improve child welfare policy* (Oxford University Press, 2010), co-edited with John Poertner.

### **Dr. Joseph Crumbley**

Dr. Joseph Crumbley received his master's and doctorate in social work from the University of Pennsylvania. He is in private practice as a family therapist, trainer and consultant. His clinical experience is vast but includes a specialization on kinship care.

Dr. Crumbley has provided training and consultation nationally and internationally. He has co-authored a book with Robert Little entitled Relatives Raising Children: An Overview of Kinship Care. He has also produced a series of DVD and VHS training tapes for parents and professionals on kinship care. He has an on-line course on Kinship Care produced by Northwest Media, Inc.

Dr Crumbley has provided expert testimony and briefings at the United Nations, U. S. House of Representatives, U. S. Senate, Pennsylvania Multi-Ethic Placement Task Force and Philadelphia City Council.

He has been a faculty member of the Adoption Certificate Programs at Portland State Graduate School of Social Work and Rutgers University Graduate School of Social Work.

Dr. Crumbley received the Child Welfare League's Excellence in Kinship Care Practice Award in 2007. He served as board president of NACAC, the North American Council on Adoptable Children, from 2005 to 2009.

### Program Graphics

Learning Objectives:

- Explain KinGAP Program
- Determine when KinGAP may be an appropriate permanency option
- Describe KinGAP's impact on casework practice
- List an LDSS' preparation activities and consider their application at your agency
- Identify OCFS' KinGAP implementation resources

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### Kinship Guardianship Assistance Program (KinGAP)

- April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2011
- Federally supported permanency option
- Financial assistance for foster parents who become legal guardians of related children

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### Legal Guardianship

- Protection
- Education
- Care and control
- Custody
- Decision-making

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## KinGAP

- Monthly subsidy
- Medical assistance or coverage
- Birth parents can be involved in child's life
- Guardian makes decisions for child

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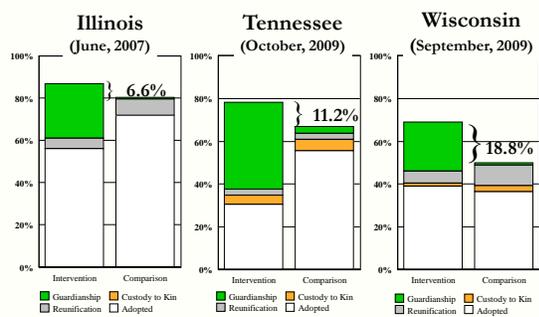
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### Key Findings




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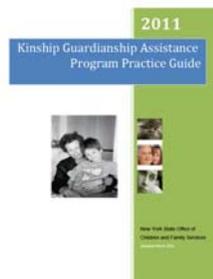
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### Resources for Caseworkers and Supervisors



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### KinGAP HELP

[ocfs.sm.sppd.KinGap.Help](http://ocfs.sm.sppd.KinGap.Help)

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## Resources for Kinship Caregivers



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## NYS Kinship Navigator

<http://www.nysnavigator.org/>

1-877-454-6463

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