

PRIMARY PREVENTION CENTRALIZATION PROJECT



The Problem



Inconsistencies in prevention efforts hinder effective monitoring of outcomes, affecting growth and sustainability. Missouri plans to use primary prevention program to assess the needs of children and families, aiming to prevent further advancement into the child welfare system.

Green Belt Candidate

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Children's Division



Solutions

In April 2025, the Children's Division implemented a Lean/Six Sigma Green Belt approach to centralize the Primary Prevention Program. Key highlights include:

- Announcing centralization efforts and restructuring plans to community partners and team members
- Hiring an Assistant Unit Manager for the Primary Prevention Team
- Gathering the Primary Prevention Team
- Creating criteria and policy for Primary Prevention Program
- Utilizing FACES as the formal record system

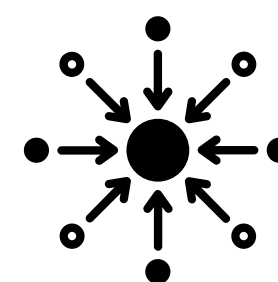
Establishing ongoing monitoring and outcome reports for future improvement and sustainability.

Insights

Supportive agency leadership and expert coaching from the state's Op-Ex community were crucial for the green belt project's success.



They facilitated learning and growth



They helped establish a centralized primary prevention program for Missouri's children and families

Successes & Recommendations



Prevention reporting processes through the Child Abuse and Neglect Hotline are soon to launch



Primary Prevention Referrals will now be offered to some previously documented hotline calls



The 50 frontline Primary Prevention workers will engage with families through Primary Prevention Referrals to assess needs and connect to community resources



Primary Prevention Workers will attend monthly community meetings and System of Care meetings to connect with community partners to identify existing and needed resources within the community and to develop strategies to address the service gaps and needs identified

