

Why So Many Kentucky Children and Families Are Hurting



And How You Can Help People Through the Nonprofit **KVC Kentucky**

Challenges

Family Struggles & Childhood Adversity

- Poverty
- Incarcerated relative
- Domestic violence
- Lack of support network

- Divorce
- Educational attainment
- Unemployment
- Childcare needs
- Transportation needs
- Housing needs

17.2% of Kentuckians are in poverty, the 5th poorest state in the U.S.

14.7% of households have hunger or food insecurity

These family challenges make it more difficult to meet children's basic needs.

Child Abuse & Neglect

- Physical abuse
- Emotional abuse
- Sexual abuse
- Physical or emotional neglect

100,000 reports of abuse each year

Nearly 9,800 children are in out of home care. The number recently reached a record high.

Kentucky has highest rate of child abuse in the nation

Abuse and neglect are types of trauma that often have long-term impacts on a child's brain development and health.

Mental Health Needs & Increased Suicide

- Depression
- Anxiety
- Suicidal thoughts
- Self-harm
- Trauma
- Other mental health disorders and crises

168,000 Kentuckians have severe mental illness

More than half go untreated

Adolescent suicide increased 70% between 2006 and 2016

Kentucky residents struggle with mental health issues at a higher rate than the national average. When untreated, illnesses like depression and anxiety can lead to substance use, suicidal thoughts and other health concerns.

Addiction & Substance Abuse

- Alcoholism
- Opioids (heroin and prescription painkillers)
- Other illegal drugs such as methamphetamines and cocaine
- Other substance abuse

5th highest rate of drug overdose in the country

Among Top 10 states for opioid-related death

Substance use is a public health concern that affects communities throughout the state. Over half of those who experience substance use issues also have a co-occurring mental health disorder.

How KVC Kentucky is Helping

Family Strengthening Programs

KVC serves 12,000 children and families each year

KVC provides in-home support to 7,041 children in 3,100+ families

KVC helps safely maintain or reunite 96% of children with their families

KVC provides in-home support to families experiencing mental health distress and trauma to help them safely stay together or reunite.

Prevention & Foster Care Programs

KVC foster families cared for nearly 50 children and teens in foster care each year

KVC Kentucky assists in finding forever families for children & youth

KVC provides a safe place for a child while his/her family learns new skills and overcomes challenges to bring their child safely home. When that's not possible, adoption may be explored.

In-Home Behavioral Health Treatment

KVC helps 1,200+ children and adults each year with community-based behavioral health treatment

KVC provides substance use and behavioral health treatment utilizing a wraparound approach to best meet each individual's unique needs. We work in families' homes, schools, and communities to support them in making healthy and positive changes.

Youth Substance Use Treatment

KVC provides substance use treatment to nearly 90 youth each year

KVC provides evidence-based substance abuse assessments and treatment to youth in need. Our walk-in clinic provides immediate assistance to youth and directs them to the treatment that will best meet their needs.

How You Can Help Make a Difference

Donate or Volunteer

Donate
We welcome financial donations, in-kind giving and much more. We are a 501c3 nonprofit, so your donation is tax deductible.

Volunteer
Join us in achieving our mission by becoming a volunteer. We are always looking for caring, talented volunteers who can enhance our work with children and families across Kentucky.

Become a Foster Parent!

Nearly 9,800 children are in out of home care, and you can change a child's life by becoming a foster parent! Fostering provides a child who has experienced abuse or neglect with a safe, loving environment. On top of this, it gives you the opportunity to show a child the love and care they deserve while growing emotionally, mentally and spiritually as you teach life skills and give support.

Join Our Team

Do you have a passion for helping others? Are you a problem solver and a team player? If so, we're looking for smart, caring individuals like you to **join our team!**

Advocate for Children and Families

Spread the word about our mission to enrich and enhance the lives of children and families by sharing our social media posts, subscribing to our blog, and joining our mailing list.