

Lean on Me Kentucky

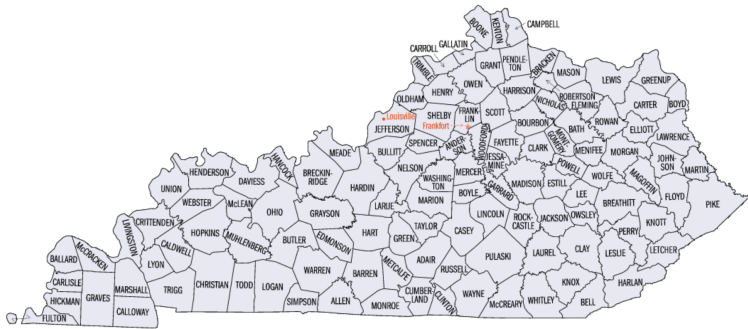
Focus Group Summary Report

Statewide Report

The Lean on Me Kentucky focus groups were held statewide, in each of the nine DCBS regions from May 26, 2022, to July 7, 2022. Participants were recruited to participate in the focus groups by PCAK Partners in Prevention across the state.

- Cumberland Region- Harlan Family Resource Youth Service Center (FRYSC)
- Eastern Mountain Region- Prevent Child Abuse Kentucky
- Jefferson Region- Prevent Child Abuse Kentucky
- Northeastern Region- Hope's Center Child Advocacy Center
- Northern Bluegrass Region- Family Nurturing Center
- Salt River Trail Region- Children's Alliance
- Southern Bluegrass Region- The Nest
- The Lakes Region- Lotus Children's Advocacy & Sexual Violence Resource Center
- Two Rivers Region- Family Enrichment Center

110 participants in total attended the focus group, representing community members, program participants, Parent Education program participants, and staff members of our partner agencies. Participants represented diverse experiences, cultures, and backgrounds. Many participants engaged throughout the focus group and 55 individuals completed the Survey Monkey after the focus group, resulting in 165 individuals' feedback reflected in this summary report.



For questions regarding Lean on Me Kentucky or the data included in this summary report, contact Amanda Royer (aroyer@pcaky.org) or Sara Early Jenkins (searlyjenkins@pcaky.org).

Focus group participants were asked to respond to the following 6 questions:

- ✓ 1. What does community mean to you?
- ✓ 2. What can members of this community do to value, strengthen, and support parents and families?
- ✓ 3. What can members of this community do to respond when they see a family having a tough time?
- ✓ 4. What can members of this community do to help families make healthy and supportive connections?
- ✓ 5. It is important for children to interact in a positive way with others, understand and communicate their feelings, and regulate their behavior. How can members of this community help children develop these social and emotional skills?
- ✓ 6. What can members of this community do to connect families to available resources?

Themes

Themes emerged throughout the narratives shared during our focus group questions and the Survey Monkey responses.

1. Reduce stigmas associated with needing support (ex: services, mental health supports, parent education classes, etc.)
2. Decrease barriers to access services and programs provided to community members
3. Ask if help is needed and be specific in your offering of assistance to families having a tough time
4. Ensure services are inclusive and accessible to all families in need of support, regardless of language spoken, background, abilities, income level, or employment status
5. Support families in your community through modeling behaviors, mentoring, volunteering, and donating (physical goods or monetary gifts)
6. Advocate for additional safe, happy, healthy, and low-cost community centers, childcare facilities, grocery stores, medical facilities, and community supports in your neighborhoods



The Lean on Me Kentucky initiative was informed by comments we received from ten focus groups held throughout the state in 2022. Scan to read responses to these questions received from each focus group,



This summary report is just the first step for the Lean On Me Kentucky movement!

Following this summary report, Prevent Child Abuse Kentucky, in collaboration with partners throughout the state, will be releasing an interactive toolkit. Stay tuned for the plethora of resources soon to be released in the toolkit!

* Each of the responses recorded to each of the focus group questions have been attached. Any spelling or grammatical errors are that of the original respondent and are left to keep the integrity of the responses, as submitted by focus group participants.