

Continuum of Care Coalition for Child & Family Well-being

Dee E. Nighswonger, Wichita Regional Director, Department for Children & Families

- Project Focus Area: Strengthen child and family well-being by honoring connection and belonging while leveraging diverse expertise and collective impact.
 - Funding identified by DCF for SFY 2025 & 2026 with an option to extend through SFY 2027
 - RFP released & proposals due May 2024
 - Grantee selected June 2024

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Jae Hedrick, Executive Director, Gathered Strong

To create a successful continuum of care in our community, we will foster collaboration and integrate high-quality services. This approach empowers families to develop new skills and practice self-advocacy, ultimately reducing the number of children removed from their homes. By supporting family systems and enhancing interactions among service providers, we aim for better assessments, earlier interventions, and crisis prevention.

“Building bridges
not walls”



GATHERED

Our Strategy

VISION



Help transform our community by training and supporting those who care for vulnerable children. The aim is to assist in creating an environment where collective impact can be achieved at both the state and local levels.

ACTION



We hope to equip local agencies, churches, and businesses to advocate for the needs of vulnerable families, to help navigate the barriers they feel are impossible to overcome.

CONNECTION



We want to increase the connection and collaboration of child and family well-being providers in Sedgwick County with the purpose of decreasing the number of children being placed into foster care. We believe the gaps in services can be bridged through education, service provider relationships, and connections.

Our Strategy

IMPACT



We believe that collective impact via a network of community members, organizations, and institutions will advance equity by learning together, aligning, and integrating their actions to achieve ongoing change in our community.

OPTIMIZE



We are dedicated to comprehensively understanding the weaknesses in the current systems that support our most vulnerable children and families. This work focuses on bridging these gaps to provide comprehensive care.