



## BUILDING STRONG FAMILIES IN HOPKINS COUNTY



**Katherine Jury** County Extension Agent, Family and Consumer Sciences Education

#### **OUR FOCUS**

Family and Consumer Sciences (FCS) Extension is committed to improving the health and well-being of individuals and families throughout Kentucky. Our educational programs focus on making healthy lifestyle choices, nurturing families, embracing life as we age, securing financial stability, promoting healthy homes and communities, accessing nutritious food, and empowering community leaders.

#### **OUR SUCCESS**

In 2017-2018, Family and Consumer Sciences Extension made

**11,218** contacts with individuals and families in Hopkins County.<sup>1</sup>

### A HEALTHIER KENTUCKY Parenting skills for family success



of counties in Kentucky implemented programs to teach effective parenting skills.<sup>1</sup>



of counties in Kentucky reported that parents and/or caregivers used community resources.<sup>1</sup>

y using effective parenting skills, parents help 2017 estimated children become responsible, caring adults population under 18 years old<sup>2</sup> and productive members of society. However, 453 to 2,326 limited resources can make it hard for parents to get 2.330 to 3.512 formal parenting training. In Kentucky, Family and 3,556 to 5,422 Consumer Sciences (FCS) Extension through the 5,668 to 10,320 University of Kentucky provides parenting skills 10,347 to 171,882 programs. As these programs strengthen families, they also empower our communities. Our goal is to provide educational opportunities to help every family succeed.

Cooperative Extension Service | Agriculture and Natural Resources | Family and Consumer Sciences | 4-H Youth Development | Community and Economic Development

# FCS Extension makes a difference

amilies face many challenges, including poverty, readying children for their school careers, and supporting children who are being harassed or bullied. Some parents also are unable to raise their children and must turn to relatives for help. No matter the challenge, FCS helps families succeed.

#### > It takes a village

A growing number of children are being raised by other relatives, especially grandparents. The American Community Survey (ACS) estimates that between 2012 and 2016 in Hopkins County, **546** (+/- 151) grandparents lived with and were responsible for their grandchildren, and **451** (+/-140) grandchildren were being raised by their grandparents. For **278** (+/-112) of those grandchildren, there was no parent present.<sup>2</sup> Of all children living in all households, **449** (+/- 192) were stepchildren, **462** (+/- 173) were adopted children, and **298** (+/- 154) children were living with other relatives.<sup>2</sup>

#### > The safety of our children

For families, child safety is a priority that can be jeopardized in many ways. In Hopkins County in 2017, **22.2%** (16.7%-27.7%) of all families with school-aged children lived below poverty<sup>3</sup>, and there were **120** child victims of substantiated



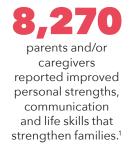
abuse or neglect in 2016.<sup>4</sup> In the schools, there were **216** reported incidences of harassment, which included bullying, in the 2016-2017 school year for all school districts in Hopkins County.<sup>5</sup>

#### > Kindergarten readiness

The first five years of life are vital in a child's development and success in life. In 2017, Hopkins County had an estimated **2,766** children ages 5 and under.<sup>6</sup> Of those children, **244** were enrolled as preschoolers.<sup>7</sup>

In Hopkins County, **59.4%** of students entered kindergarten ready to engage in and benefit from early learning experiences in the 2016-2017 school year.<sup>7</sup>

#### In Kentucky, as a result of FCS Extension...





**5,690** individuals reported behaviors that fostered the optimal development of children and youth.<sup>1</sup>



**5,623** parents and/or caregivers reported practicing parental leadership skills.<sup>1</sup>

#### SOURCES:

- <sup>1</sup> Kentucky Cooperative Extension Reporting, FY2018 <sup>2</sup> American Community Survey
- 5-Year Estimates (factfinder.census.gov)
- <sup>3</sup> Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates, U.S. Census Bureau
- (census.gov/programs-surveys/saipe.html) <sup>4</sup> Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services, Kids Count Data Center. (datacenter.kidscount.org)

 <sup>5</sup> 2016-2017 Kentucky School Report Card, Kentucky Dept. of Education.
(Data from school districts were combined to make county total.)
(applications.education.ky.gov/src)
<sup>2</sup> 2017 Population Estimates.
U.S. Census Bureau. American FactFinder, (factfinder.census.gov)
<sup>2</sup> 2017 Early Childhood Profile, Kentucky Center for Statistics.

(kystats.ky.gov/Reports/Reports)

For more information and to download this and other county profiles, visit **hes.uky.edu/StrongFamilies** 



Educational programs of Kentucky Cooperative Extension serve all people regardless of economic or social status and will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, ethnic origin, national origin, creed, religion, political belief, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, pregnancy, marital status, genetic information, age, veteran status, or physical or mental disability.