

### Issues/Programs List

Date Filed: January 8, 2016

Quarter Date: 4th Quarter, 2015

Title of Program: Info Track

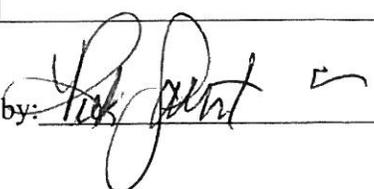
Time of Airing: See Below

Duration Program: 25 minutes

Stations & Airtime: WREZ - 5:00A; WZZL - 5:00A; WGKY - 5:00A

### Program Information

Date	Guest/Topic	Issue
10/4	John Baker, Lennard Davis, Michael Fischer	Citizenship; Civil Rights; Health
10/11	Michelle Garcia, John Izzo, Ron Shelvin	Crime; Community Involvement; Technology
10/18	Phil Gaddis, Lance LoRusso, Jonathan Jefferson	Employment; Violence; Education
10/25	Cary Funk Julie Lythcott-Haims, Karina Davidson	Science; Parenting; Mental Health
11/1	Denise Pope, Brooks Palmer, Kevin Haley	Education; Workplace Matters; Privacy
11/8	Barry Schwartz, William MacAskill, Katie Liljenquist	Mental Health; Career; Health
11/15	Dara Feldman, Sheldon Krantz, Brenda Shields	Parenting; Poverty; Children
11/22	Yasmin Hurd, Chris Malone, Janet Larson	Substance Abuse; Education; Consumer Issues
11/29	Karl Pillemer, Scott Bittle, John Haynes	Career; Economy; Personal Health
12/6	Lisa Servon, Dan McCue, Debbie Magids	Poverty; Affordable Housing; Women's Issues
12/13	Alvin Roth, Joel Kahn, Paul Tough	Education; Personal Health; Minority Concerns
12/20	Russell Johnson, Daniel Siegel, Kenneth Dautrich	Workplace Matters; Parenting; Citizenship
12/27	John Levanthal, Erin Botsford, Aaron Smith	Child Abuse; Retirement Planning; Economy

Filed by: 

Date: 1/10/16

\* See attached for more information



Weekly Public Affairs Program

Call Letters: \_\_\_\_\_

**QUARTERLY ISSUES REPORT, OCTOBER-DECEMBER, 2015**

Show # 2015-27

Date aired: 10/4 Time Aired: 5:00 am

**John R. Baker, PhD**, Professor of Political Science at Wittenberg University, author of "Government in the Twilight Zone: Volunteers to Small-City Boards and Commissions"

97 percent of all American cities have a population fewer than 50,000 and Dr. Baker studies the workings of these smaller local governments. He discussed how local board systems operate, who the board members are and what motivates them to serve. He explained why it is important for citizens to understand how government functions, even in small towns.

**Issues covered:**

**Citizenship  
Government Policies**

**Length: 6:54**

**Lennard J. Davis, PhD**, Professor in the English Department in the School of Arts and Sciences at the University of Illinois at Chicago, Professor of Disability and Human Development in the School of Applied Health Sciences of the University of Illinois at Chicago, Professor of Medical Education in the College of Medicine, author of "Enabling Acts: The Hidden Story of How the Americans with Disabilities Act Gave the Largest US Minority Its Rights"

Disabled Americans are the largest minority group in the country. Dr. Davis believes the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is the widest-ranging and most comprehensive piece of civil rights legislation in history. He explained the unusual path the law took to passage, some of the challenges in implementing it and the enormous impact of the ADA, 25 years after its adoption. He also outlined several potential reforms which he believes could improve it.

**Issues covered:**

**Disabilities  
Civil Rights  
Government Policies**

**Length: 10:21**

**Michael A. Fischer, MD, MS**, Instructor in Medicine at Harvard Medical School, Associate Physician at the Division of Pharmacoepidemiology and Pharmacoeconomics at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston

Dr. Fischer led a study that found that many people whose doctors start them on medications for conditions like diabetes and high blood pressure may never fill those prescriptions. He explained the reasons behind this problem and how doctors and patients can improve communication.

**Issues covered:**

**Personal Health  
Medical Issues**

**Length: 5:00**

Show # 2015-41

Date aired: 10/11 Time Aired: 5:00am

Michelle Garcia, Director of the Stalking Resource Center at the National Center for Victims of Crime

Nearly 3.5 million people over the age of 18 are stalked each year in the United States. Ms. Garcia talked about the most common stalker scenarios, and why the crime is so difficult to define. She also explained why new developments such as GPS and social networking sites have made it much easier for stalkers to target their victims.

Issues covered:

Length: 9:43

Stalking

Crime

Women's Issues

John Izzo, PhD, business consultant, author of "Stepping Up: How Taking Responsibility Changes Everything"

Mr. Izzo said that almost every problem, from personal and business challenges to social issues, can be solved if Americans looked to themselves to create change rather than expecting others to do it. He offered advice to employees who are afraid to speak up at work and how to encourage children to step up and improve problems they see in their community.

Issues covered:

Length: 7:33

Workplace Matters

Community Involvement

Parenting

Ron Shevlin, Senior Analyst with Aite Group, an independent research and advisory firm serving the financial services industry

Social media sites like Twitter and Facebook have empowered consumers in many new ways. Mr. Shevlin explained how these new tools have made it much easier to complain about a problem or to influence corporate policies. He offered advice for the best ways for consumers to use social media to interact with companies.

Issues covered:

Length: 4:55

Consumer Matters

Technology

Show # 2015-42

Date aired: 10/18 Time Aired: 5:00am

Phil Gaddis, President, Executive Search at the Addison Group, a Chicago-based provider of professional staffing and search services

Recent statistics show that the average American changes careers seven times. Mr. Gaddis explained why the turnover has increased so rapidly in recent decades, and offered advice for people who are considering a career change.

Issues covered:

Length: 8:04

Employment

**Lance LoRusso**, Atlanta-based attorney, former law enforcement officer, author of *"When Cops Kill: The Aftermath of a Critical Incident"*

Mr. LoRusso said police officers are well-trained on when and how to use their weapons, but are ill-prepared for what to do in the aftermath. He explained how the investigation of a police shooting differs significantly from one involving a civilian. He estimated that 75% of officers involved in a deadly force incident are the target of a civil lawsuit, whether the shooting was justified or not.

Issues covered:  
Police & Crime  
Violence  
Legal Matters

Length: 9:10

**Jonathan T. Jefferson, PhD**, school administrator, author of *"Mugamore: Succeeding without Labels—Lessons for Educators"*

Dr. Jefferson said he believes that today's education system needs to change the way it handles problem students. He said zero tolerance policies and the application of labels to students who have behavioral or learning disorders causes many of them to be left behind. He believes that schools personnel need to exercise more patience with immature students to give them time to grow into productive students.

Issues covered:  
Education  
Youth at Risk

Length: 5:07

Show # 2015-43

Date aired: 10/25 Time Aired: 5:00am

**Cary Funk**, Associate Director of Research at Pew Research Center

A recent survey by the Pew Research Center found that Americans' grasp of common science topics could be better. She outlined the results of the survey, including differences between genders, ages and education levels. She explained why a basic understanding of scientific principles is important for Americans to understand many of today's civic issues.

Issues covered:  
Education  
Science  
Citizenship

Length: 7:07

**Julie Lythcott-Haims**, former Dean of Freshmen and Undergraduate Advising at Stanford University, author of *"How to Raise an Adult: Break Free of the Overparenting Trap and Prepare Your Kid for Success"*

Ms. Lythcott-Haims believes that overparenting is out of control in America, and that it harms children, their stressed-out parents, and society at large. She explained how parents can allow children to make their own mistakes and develop the resilience, resourcefulness, and inner determination necessary for success.

Issues covered:  
Parenting

Length: 10:11

**Karina Davidson, PhD**, researcher and clinical psychologist at Columbia University Medical Center in New York

Dr. Davidson recently led a 10-year study that found that happiness may prevent a heart attack. She explained the science behind this finding and suggested ways that people can improve their outlook to improve their health.

Issues covered:  
Personal Health  
Mental Health

Length: 4:30

Show # 2015-44

Date aired: 11/1 Time Aired: 5:00 a.m.

**Denise Pope**, Senior Lecturer, Co-Founder, Challenge Success at Stanford University Graduate, co-author of "Overloaded and Underprepared"

Dr. Pope explained why parents and teachers should be concerned that many America's students are stressed out or have given up. She outlined steps that schools can take to provide kids with academic, social and emotional skills needed to succeed in school now and as adults later. She talked about the Challenge Success program at Stanford and how the program is customized for each school in which it is applied.

Issues covered:  
Education  
Parenting

Length: 9:53

**Brooks Palmer**, professional organizer, author of "*Clutter Busting: Letting Go of What's Holding You Back*" and "*Clutter Busting Your Life: Clearing Physical and Emotional Clutter to Reconnect with Yourself and Others*"

Most Americans struggle with clutter and disorganization. Mr. Palmer talked about the emotionally suffocating effects of clutter and why people have problems letting go of items they no longer need or use. He offered suggestions for how to get started and how to look at items in a different way to assess whether they are worth keeping.

Issues covered:  
Personal Productivity  
Workplace Matters  
Mental Health

Length: 7:27

**Kevin Haley**, Director of Product Management for Symantec Security Response

Today's smartphones hold a wealth of personal, financial and work-related data that thieves would love to get their hands on. So what happens when a phone is lost or stolen? Mr. Haley led a research project that intentionally lost 50 phones to see what data was accessed by the finder and whether the phones would be returned to their owners. The results were Showncerting. Mr. Haley offered advice for phone owners to protect their data.

Issues covered:  
Crime  
Privacy  
Workplace Matters

Length: 5:04

Show # 2015-45

Date aired: 11/8 Time Aired: 5:00am

Barry Schwartz, PhD, Professor of Psychology at Swarthmore College, author of "*Why We Work*"

Dr. Schwartz discussed his research that examined why Americans work. He said the reasons are surprising and complex, but that the need for a paycheck is not the primary factor. He discussed the most common trends and patterns that lead to happiness in the workplace, and how employers can try to improve productivity and employee satisfaction.

Issues covered:  
Workplace Matters  
Mental Health

Length: 9:27

William MacAskill, PhD, Associate Professor in Philosophy at Oxford University, cofounder of the nonprofit organizations Giving What We Can and 80,000 Hours, author of "*Doing Good Better: How Effective Altruism Can Help You Make a Difference*"

Dr. MacAskill said Americans often base their decisions on where to donate money and what career to pursue on emotions and false assumptions. He outlined five key questions that may help consumers make wiser altruistic decisions. He explained how to use evidence and careful reasoning to chart the best course to help others.

Issues covered:  
Charitable Giving  
Consumer Matters  
Career

Length: 7:58

Katie Liljenquist, Assistant Professor of Organizational Leadership and Strategy at Brigham Young University's Marriott School of Management, expert in behavior and decision making

Prof. Liljenquist led a study that found that the smell of cleaning products can make people act more virtuous. She explained the reasons behind the behavioral changes. She also talked about potential ways to smells could be used to reduce societal problems such as crime or vandalism.

Issues covered:  
Health  
Parenting Issues

Length: 4:57

Show # 2015-46

Date aired: 11/15 Time Aired: 5:00am

Dara Feldman, award-winning teacher, Director of Educational Initiatives for The Virtues Project, author of "*The Heart of Education*"

Ms. Feldman noted that 50 percent of new teachers get burned out in their first five years on the job and end up leaving the profession. She explained why this is such a costly problem and how it damages our nation's education system. She offered suggestions for concerned parents who would like to help and encourage stressed-out teachers.

Issues covered:  
Education  
Parenting

Length: 8:57

**Sheldon Krantz**, Distinguished Visiting Professor of Law at the University of Maryland Carey School of Law, former dean of the University of San Diego Law School, former law professor at the Boston University Law School, former federal prosecutor, author of *"The Legal Profession: What Is Wrong and How to Fix It"*

Mr. Krantz said legal services should be available to every American, whether they can afford it or not. He said attorneys do not provide nearly enough pro bono services. He said many of today's law students would be willing to work in the public interest, but are often mired down in student debt. He would like to see loan forgiveness programs or other new initiatives that would enable young lawyers to help lower-income litigants.

**Issues covered:**

Legal Matters  
Poverty  
Government Policies

**Length: 8:09**

**Brenda Shields, M.S.**, research coordinator, Center for Injury Research and Policy, Columbus Children's Hospital in Ohio

Ms. Shields discussed a recent study into the increasing dangers for young people involved in cheerleading. Her research found that emergency room visits are becoming much more common as cheerleading routines have added complex gymnastic moves. She outlined the questions that parents should ask, to be sure coaches are properly qualified.

**Issues covered:**

Personal Health  
Children  
Parenting

**Length: 4:45**

Show # 2015-47

Date aired: 11/22 Time Aired: 5:00am

**Yasmin Hurd, PhD**, Professor of Psychiatry and Neuroscience at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai Hospital in New York

Dr. Hurd's research found that teenagers who smoke marijuana may make their future offspring more vulnerable to substance abuse problems. She believes that marijuana use causes structural changes in DNA that may last for generations. Dr. Hurd said much more research into the health effects of marijuana is needed. She also explained how parents can deal with the mixed messages society is conveying to young people about marijuana.

**Issues covered:**

Substance Abuse  
Government Regulations  
Parenting

**Length: 9:22**

**Chris Malone**, Managing Partner of Fidelum Partners, a research-based consulting and professional services firm, author of *"THE HUMAN BRAND: How We Relate to People, Products and Companies"*

Mr. Malone explained why upstart businesses have surged in popularity while many traditionally dominant companies and brands have been falling behind. He outlined the reasons that social media has become such a valuable tool for both consumers and the companies they do business with. He said business schools fail to teach students how to nurture relationships with customers, causing much less loyalty to brands and products.

Issues covered:  
Consumer Issues  
Education

Length: 7:52

Janet Larson, Director of Research, the Earth Policy Institute

The US is the world's largest consumer of bottled water. Ms. Larson talked about the huge environmental impact of bottled water, both in its manufacture and disposal. She also explained how consumers can wisely decide whether to use bottled water.

Issues covered:  
Environmental Issues  
Consumer Issues

Length: 4:54

Show # 2015-48

Date aired: 11/20 Time Aired: 5:00am

Karl Pillemer, PhD, Hazel E. Reed Professor in the Department of Human Development and Professor of Gerontology in Medicine at the Weill Cornell Medical College, Founder and Director of the Cornell Institute for Translational Research on Aging, author of "30 Lessons On Living: Tried and True Advice from the Wisest Americans"

Dr. Pillemer interviewed more than 1,000 Americans over the age of 65 to seek their counsel on all of life's big issues: children, marriage, money, career and aging. He explained why younger people should take advantage of this rich resource of older Americans' wisdom. He recommends that young people talk to older members of their own family before it is too late.

Issues covered:  
Senior Citizens  
Personal Health  
Career

Length: 9:17

Scott Bittle, policy analyst, Senior Fellow and Founding Editor of PublicAgenda.org, a non-partisan public opinion research organization, author of "Where Did the Jobs Go And How Do We Get Them Back?"

The subject of unemployment remains the public's top concern in polls and is continually marked as the most damaging result of the Great Recession. Mr. Bittle explained why the issue is so complex and why the nation needs to take a long-term approach to resolving it. He also analyzed various solutions proposed by each side of the political spectrum.

Issues covered:  
Unemployment  
Government Policies  
Economy

Length: 7:57

John Hayes, PhD, Assistant Professor of Food Science and Director of the Sensory Evaluation Center at Penn State University

Nine out of 10 Americans get too much sodium in their diets. Dr. Hayes discussed a recent government report that found that just 10 foods are responsible for 44 percent of the sodium in the average diet. He outlined steps to cut sodium intake and the reasons why everyone should do it.

Issues covered:  
Personal Health

Length: 4:54

Show # 2015-49

Date aired: 12/6 Time Aired: 5:00 am

Lisa J. Servon, PhD, Professor and former dean at the Milano School of International Affairs, Management, and Urban Policy at The New School in New York

Alternative financial providers such as check cashers and payday lenders are often accused of preying on the poor, with high fees and interest rates. Dr. Servon conducted a study that examined why many lower income residents make the conscious decision to use these services, rather than traditional banks. She was surprised to find that the choice actually makes sense for many people who live paycheck to paycheck.

Issues covered:

Length: 11:05

Poverty  
Government Regulations  
Personal Finance

Dan McCue, Research Manager, Joint Center for Housing Studies of Harvard University

The cost of renting an apartment or house has jumped in the past decade, according to a study led by Mr. McCue. A rise in prices, combined with the drop in renter incomes, has made affordability a major concern. Much of the jump in prices is because of increased demand for rental homes as a result of the mortgage crisis. He said a quarter of all U.S. households are paying more than half of their income for housing, which is dangerously high.

Issues covered:

Length: 6:07

Affordable Housing  
Poverty  
Consumer Issues

Debbie Magids, PhD, psychologist, author of "All the Good Ones Aren't Taken"

Dr. Magids discussed the trend of serial dating and why dating is so difficult for women in particular. She explained the most common dating errors and suggested ways that a person can analyze their own patterns of behavior, to clear the way for more fulfilling relationships.

Issues covered:

Length: 4:48

Mental Health  
Women's Issues

Show # 2015-50

Date aired: 12/13 Time Aired: 5:00 am

Alvin E. Roth, PhD, Craig and Susan McCaw Professor of Economics at Stanford University, Gund Professor of Economics and Business Administration Emeritus at Harvard University, author of "Who Gets What — and Why: The New Economics of Matchmaking and Market Design"

Dr. Roth is one of the world's leading experts on matching markets, where "sellers" and "buyers" must choose each other, and price isn't the only factor that determines who gets what. He explained how market designs affect many less obvious aspects of life, such as the chances of getting a job or whether a university accepts a prospective student.

Issues covered:

Length: 9:17

Economics  
Career  
Education

**Joel Kahn, MD**, Clinical Professor of Medicine at Wayne State University School of Medicine and Director of Cardiac Wellness, Michigan Healthcare Professionals PC, author of "The Whole Heart Solution"

According to Dr. Kahn, more than 75 percent of cases of heart attacks, strokes and other cardiovascular disease events are preventable. He explained how lifestyle choices can make a huge difference in the development of heart disease and he said changes in diet and exercise can often reverse the disease.

**Issues covered:**  
Personal Health

**Length: 8:01**

**Paul Tough**, former editor at the New York Times Magazine, nationally recognized writer on poverty, education and the achievement gap

Mr. Tough discussed a groundbreaking anti-poverty initiative called the Harlem Children's Zone. The creator of the program theorized that in order for poor kids to compete with their middle-class peers, everything in their lives—their schools, neighborhoods, parenting practices—all must be changed at once.

**Issues covered:**  
Poverty  
Education  
Minority Concerns  
Parenting

**Length: 5:00**

Show # 2015-51

Date aired: 12/10 Time Aired: 5:00am

**Russell E. Johnson, PhD**, Assistant Professor of Management in the Eli Broad College of Business at Michigan State University.

Dr. Johnson's research has found that that people who check their work emails on smartphones at night could end up hurting their ability to work the following day. He found that smartphones appeared to have a greater effect on people's energy levels and sleeping abilities in comparison to other electronic screens. He offered several suggestions on how to control smartphone use at night.

**Issues covered:**  
Personal Health  
Workplace Matters  
Career

**Length: 7:24**

**Daniel J. Siegel, MD**, neuropsychiatrist, Clinical Professor of Psychiatry at the UCLA School of Medicine, Executive Director of the Mindsight Institute, author of "*Brainstorm: The Power and Purpose of the Teenage Brain*"

Dr. Siegel said that between the ages of 12 and 24, the brain changes in dramatic and important ways. He believes this brain development is the explanation for sometimes erratic, unusual and creative behavior in teens. He said that if parents understand the science behind these changes, they can better help their teenagers navigate this challenging phase of life.

**Issues covered:**  
Parenting  
Personal Health

**Length: 9:36**

Kenneth Dautrich, PhD, Associate Professor of Public Policy, University of Connecticut

Dr. Dautrich recently conducted a survey of students to learn their attitudes toward the First Amendment. He found that schools are spending more class time on the First Amendment, but a sizeable number of students either do not view the First Amendment favorably or take its protections for granted.

Issues covered:  
Citizenship  
Education

Length: 4:52

Show # 2015-52

Date aired: 12/27 Time Aired: 5:00am

**John M. Leventhal, MD**, Professor of Pediatrics and Medical Director of the Child Abuse and Child Abuse Prevention Program at Yale Medical School, expert in child abuse prevention

Dr. Leventhal has dedicated his career to the prevention of child abuse. He recently conducted a study that found that the first year of life is the most dangerous for children. He said that parents from any income, educational or social level can be the perpetrators of abuse, largely because they are unprepared to deal with infants' crying. He believes that educational programs for new parents could help reverse the trend.

Issues covered:  
Child Abuse  
Parenting

Length: 8:31

**Erin Botsford**, financial planning expert, author of "*The Big Retirement Risk: Running out of Money Before You Run Out of Time*"

For many baby boomers, the recession didn't wipe out their nests egg completely, but it did shrink it considerably. Ms. Botsford discussed the turbulence in today's economy and how it has changed retirement planning. She explained how people approaching their golden years can assess their financial needs and take steps to ensure a sound retirement.

Issues covered:  
Retirement Planning  
Senior Citizens  
Personal Finance

Length: 8:41

**Aaron W. Smith**, Senior Research Specialist with Pew Research Center's Internet & American Life Project

Mr. Smith surveyed 1,000 US adults and found that more half of consumers used cell phones in stores during the holidays. He outlined the most common ways that consumers use their phones as shopping tools. He also explained how brick-and-mortar stores may react to the trend by changing policies, products and prices.

Issues covered:  
Economy  
Consumer Matters

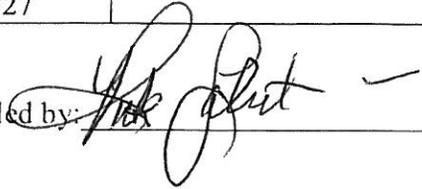
Length: 5:01

### Issues/Programs List

Date Filed: January 8, 2016  
Quarter Date: 4th Quarter, 2015  
Title of Program: Community News Break  
Time of Airing: See Below  
Duration Program: 5 minutes  
Stations & Airtimes: WZZL-5:30a, WREZ-5:30a, WGKY-5:30a

### Program Information

Date	Guest/Topic	Issue
10/4	Tony Iton-Building Healthy Places	Health Policy
10/11	Sytisha Claycomb-Youyh Detention	Juvenile Justice
10/18	Jane Brashear-Housing	Domestic Violence
10/25	Miranda Brown-Energy Future	Clean Energy
11/1	Susan Zepeda-Health of Residents	Healthcare
11/8	Carrie Banahan-Kynect	Health
11/15	Susan Zepeda-Healthy Kentucky	Health
11/22	Kristen Arnold-Income Security	Social Security
11/29	Kathy Ledesma-Fewer Adoptions	Adoption
12/6	Terry Brooks-Child Advocacy	Foster Kids
12/13	Terry Brooks-Smoking Law	Smoke Free Law
12/20	Michael Leachman-Finding Budget	School Funding
12/27	Randy Haveson-Underage Parties	Underage Drinking

Filed by: 

Date: 1/10/16

\*See attached for more information

### Issues/Programs List

Date Filed: June 8, 2014

Quarter Date: 4<sup>th</sup> Qtr 2015

Title of Program: InfoTrack News Break

Time of Airing: See Below

Duration Program: 25 minutes approx 7 mins

Stations & Airtime: ~~KGMO - 5:00a; KREZ - 5:00a; WKIB - 5:00a; KVRX - 5:20a; KJXX - 5:00a; KPHW - 5:30a; KBXB - 5:30a; KBH - 5:30a~~

WZZL  
WPEZ  
WGBF

### Program Information

Date	Guest/Topic	Issue
10/1	Tony Hu - Busy Healthy Counties	Health Policy
10/11	Sylvia Orsini - Youth Center	juvenile justice
11/19	Tom Roberts - Housing	Domestic Violence
10/25	Melinda Brown - Energy Future	Clean energy
11/1	Susan Zepeda - Health of Patients	Healthcare
11/8	Cornie Brantson - <del>Robert</del> Kinect	Health
11/15	Susan Zepeda - Health, Kentucky	Health
11/22	Kathy Arnold - income security	Social Security
11/29	Heather Ledford - foster adoption	Adoption
12/6	Terry Brooks - child advocacy	Foster kids
12/10/13	Terry Brooks - smoke law	Smoke free law
12/20	Michael Leachman - budget	Education
12/21	Randy Haversa - Underage parties	Underage Drinking

Filed by: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Kentucky News Connection

Aired

10-4-15

*A statewide news service for Kentucky*

Producer: Greg Stotelmyer, 1309 US 127 South Ste. B #359, Frankfort, KY, 40601 Ph: 800-931-1861 Fax: 208-247-1830  
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**MEDIA PRODUCTS ONLINE:** [www.newsservice.org](http://www.newsservice.org) **Your Web Account ID is: KNC-250**  
**Sound Files on the Phone: (888) 600-9800, ID Code: 37**  
**Direct login:** [www.newsservice.org/story](http://www.newsservice.org/story)

September 29, 2015

Available files: mp3 wav jpg

## Conference Centers on Building Healthy Places

Bowling Green, Ky - "Building Healthy Places" was the topic of an annual health policy forum (Howard L. Bost Memorial Health Policy Forum) for Kentucky's community leaders. Monday's conference focused on how education, transportation, housing, food and business impact a city. Comments from the forum's keynote speaker, Dr. Tony Iton (EYET-un), a physician and senior vice president, Healthy Communities at The California Endowment.

**Intro:** A nationally-known public health expert on Monday told community leaders from across Kentucky that education provides the biggest opportunity to make their towns healthier places to live. Dr. Tony Iton, a physician who oversees a ten-year, multimillion-dollar effort to build healthy communities in California, delivered the keynote address at a health policy forum in Bowling Green. Iton said when a community improves the quality of its public schools it translates into more jobs and higher incomes.

*Cut 24250 :08 "It also improves property values, it attracts business and it improves peoples' perception of the quality of their life. "*

**Tag:** Iton told the community leaders there are "no silver bullets" that make a community healthier. Instead, he said multiple things have to be addressed simultaneously and community leaders have to work across disciplines.

**Second Cut:** Iton, who is senior vice president for Healthy Communities at The California Endowment, said he works off this observation: your zip code is more important than your genetic code in predicting your health status. Iton said going to the doctor and taking medication is a very small part of what shapes health in a community.

*Cut 25250 :12 "What's more important is really how the neighborhoods are laid out. Whether they're walkable. Whether there are things to walk to, like grocery stores and parks. How people get along together and whether there are jobs. "*

**Tag 1:** Iton said there are different parts of the U-S where people spend a lot less on health care. but are much healthier because their communities are investing in the things that matter - including transportation, housing, food and business.

**OPTIONAL REPORTER WRAP: uses first soundbite(s)**

**LEAD:** A nationally-known public health expert told community leaders from across

Kentucky that education provides the biggest opportunity to make their town a healthier place to live. Greg Stotemyer has more.

Cut 26250 :40 *Outcue...Greg Stotemyer reporting.*

Note to Editors: Reach Iton through Angela Koch at [akoch@healthyky-org](mailto:akoch@healthyky-org).

# Kentucky News Connection

Aired  
10-11-15

*A statewide news service for Kentucky*

Producer: Greg Stotelmyer, 1309 US 127 South Ste. B #359, Frankfort, KY, 40601 Ph: 800-931-1861 Fax: 208-247-1830  
E-mail: [knc@newsservice.org](mailto:knc@newsservice.org)

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Sound Files on the Phone: (888) 600-9800, ID Code: 37  
Direct login: [www.newsservice.org/story](http://www.newsservice.org/story)

October 6, 2015

Available files: mp3 wav jpg

## Locking Up Fewer Kids

Louisville, KY – The Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative, with its goal of keeping kids out of the juvenile justice system, has spread to 40 states. Jefferson, Fayette and Campbell counties were the pilot sites in Kentucky. Comments from Nate Balis (BAY-liss), director of the Juvenile Justice Strategy Group at the Annie E. Casey Foundation; and Sytisha (suh-TIH-shuh) Claycomb, JDAI coordinator, Louisville Metro Youth Detention Services.

**Intro:** You don't have to lock kids up to reduce juvenile crime. It's a change in thinking that's spread across the country with the Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative, referred to as J-D-A-I. As one of three pilot sites in Kentucky, Louisville Metro Youth Detention Services implemented the initiative in 2013. Sytisha Claycomb is coordinator of the program in Jefferson County.

*Cut 31250 :05 "JDAI has really been making sure you put the right kids in the right place at the right time."*

The initiative got its start in the early 1990s, and is now operating in nearly 300 counties across the country. Nate Balis of the Annie E. Casey Foundation says it came about after decades of documented abuse in juvenile detention centers and disparities regarding which kids were being locked up.

*Cut 32250 :14 "Ensuring that it's done equitably in terms of gender, and particularly race and ethnicity, and making sure that young people who are in detention are in environments that are safe and that they're there for the shortest amount of time."*

**Tag:** Balis says J-D-A-I sites have seen reductions in daily juvenile detention populations and detention sentences - both by at least 40 percent, without any harm to public safety. In fact, Balis says it's cut juvenile crime by almost half.

**Third Cut:** When J-D-A-I leaders gathered for their annual conference last week, the focus was on reducing solitary confinement, which is also called "isolation," "segregation," or "seclusion." Research has shown it is damaging to young people – and teens have even died in such situations. Claycomb says in Louisville they attempt to reduce confinement by using alternative solutions.

*Cut 33250 :09 "It definitely should not be punitive or a retaliatory nature. It's really to be used to defuse a situation and a behavior."*

**Tag:** The initiative was started by the Annie E. Casey Foundation.

**OPTIONAL REPORTER WRAP: uses first soundbite(s)**

**LEAD:** You don't have to lock kids up to reduce juvenile crime. It's a change in thinking that's spread across the country with the Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative, referred to as J-D-A-I. Greg Stotemyer has more on how it's working in one Kentucky city.

Cut 34250 :38 *Outcue...Greg Stotemyer reporting.*

**Note to Editors:** Reach Balis via Carol Abrams: [abrams.carol.l@gmail.com](mailto:abrams.carol.l@gmail.com); Claycomb at 502-574-6335.

# Kentucky News Connection

Aired  
10-18-15

*A statewide news service for Kentucky*

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October 14, 2015

Available files: mp3 wav jpg

## Building Safe Lives for Victims of Domestic Violence

Lexington, KY - Kentucky First Lady Jane Beshear says construction of 24 units of supportive housing will help victims of domestic violence move toward safe, productive lives. Beshear made the announcement Tuesday at GreenHouse17, the shelter that serves 17 counties in central Kentucky. Comments from Beshear; and Darlene Thomas, executive director, GreenHouse17.

**Intro:** In her eight years as Kentucky's First Lady, Jane Beshear has become known as a tireless supporter of ways to help victims of domestic violence. Tuesday at GreenHouse17, the shelter that provides emergency housing and services to victims in central Kentucky, Beshear announced a four and a half million dollar building project. She says construction of 24 units of supportive housing will help victims of intimate partner violence move toward safe, productive lives.

*Cut 44250 :13 "They come with nothing, so they have to start all over again and they go through the process here in the shelter. But then, you can't just send them back. You've got to be able to give them a way to change their lives to become independent."*

**Tag:** A dozen cottage-style duplexes will be built on the grounds of the GreenHouse17 shelter. The other 12 apartments, at two Lexington locations, will be rehabbed. Darlene Thomas, the shelter's executive director, says the project relies on low-income housing tax credits and low-interest loans, along with government and private investor support.

**Second Cut:** Thomas explains that for victims who have been living in a shelter, the two biggest obstacles they face are finances and housing.

*Cut 45250 :08 "So when you've come out of crisis and you're learning to stabilize all that support that's wrapped around you this is the natural next step."*

**Third Cut:** Thomas says the beauty of the new transitional housing is it will still provide support, but with a lot of independence.

*Cut 46250 :14 "Eventually, within two years, because that's how long people can stay in our units, for up to two years, they'll be able, ideally, to be able to move from that supportive housing into their own independent housing and, you know, go on with their lives."*

**Tag 2:** GreenHouse17 is one of 15 shelters across the state. Combined they will help about 25-thousand

survivors of domestic violence this year.

**OPTIONAL REPORTER WRAP: uses first soundbite(s)**

**LEAD:** A missing piece of the puzzle is being put in place for domestic violence victims in Kentucky who are working toward returning to an independent life. Greg Stotelmyer has more.

*Cut 47250 :52 Outcue...Greg Stotelmyer reporting.*

**Note to Editors: Reach Beshear at 502-564-2611; Thomas at 859-233-0657.**

Aired  
10-25-15

## Kentucky News Connection

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October 21, 2015

Available files: mp3 wav jpg

### People's Plan Calls for Clean Energy in Kentucky

Frankfort, KY - Kentuckians For The Commonwealth says it will have a people's plan for a clean energy system in place by next June. The grassroots organization unveiled its Empower Kentucky project yesterday (Tuesday) to find ways to transition away from the state's heavy reliance on coal. Comments from KFTC members Miranda Brown, Fayette County; Carl Shoupe, Harlan County; Steve Wilkins, Madison County; and Mary Love, Oldham County.

**Intro:** A grassroots organization, which has long championed energy diversification in Kentucky, says it will have a people's plan for clean energy in place by next June. Kentuckians For The Commonwealth has launched Empower Kentucky, an effort to develop solutions for transitioning away from coal, which currently supplies 93 percent of the state's power. Miranda Brown is one of the K-F-T-C members working on the project.

*Cut 55250 :09 "Very important questions. What is your vision for a bright energy future in Kentucky and what do you think it will take to move in that direction. "*

**Tag:** The E-P-A has given states until next September to come up with preliminary plans for meeting the country's first-ever limits on carbon pollution from existing power plants. But, many of Kentucky's political leaders oppose the state writing its own plan.

**Second Cut:** Carl Shoupe, a third generation coal-miner from Harlan County, says that makes him "angry and tremendously upset." He wants a pro-active approach to the Clean Energy Plan.

*Cut 56250 :11 "What's the benefit of staying on the sidelines while the rest of the world moves forward? We can do better than that. We have to do better than that. "*

**Third Cut:** Between now and next summer, K-F-T-C will use listening sessions, surveys and other ways to develop what it calls a "homegrown, common sense" clean energy plan - a plan that member Steve Wilkins hopes will work for all Kentuckians.

*Cut 57250 :09 "Our people breathe cleaner air, our carbon footprint shrinks, climate impacts reverse and our economy moves. "*

**Tag 2:** Wilkins' dream, as he calls it, faces roadblocks. Last year Kentucky lawmakers passed a bill

**Fourth Cut:** K-F-T-C member Mary Love says that is one of many reasons why creating a people's plan is important.

*Cut 58250 :13 "The more citizen voices are involved in this process the more pressure that puts on the legislators to pay attention to their constituents to do, what we believe, is the right thing."*

**Tag 3:** People can submit their thoughts at Empower Kentucky dot org.

**OPTIONAL REPORTER WRAP: uses second soundbite(s)**

**LEAD:** A grassroots organization, which has long championed energy diversification in Kentucky, says it will have a peoples' plan for clean energy in place by next June. Greg Stotelmyer reports.

*Cut 59250 1:00 Outcue...Greg Stotelmyer reporting.*

**Note to Editors:** Reach KFTC members through Jerry Hardt at [jhardt@kftc.org](mailto:jhardt@kftc.org).

# Kentucky News Connection

Aired

11-1-15

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October 29, 2015

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## Health and Healthcare Costs Remain Top Concerns

Louisville, Ky - Reducing healthcare costs and improving their health remain among Kentuckians' top five concerns. A new Kentucky Health Issues Poll finds those two issues are just behind the economy, jobs and education in importance. Comments from Susan Zepeda (zuh-PAY-duh), president/CEO, Foundation for a Healthy Kentucky.

**Intro:** Improving their health and reducing the cost of their healthcare remain top priorities for Kentuckians, just as they were in 2011, the last time Kentucky was electing a governor. The new Kentucky Health Issues Poll finds the two health-related concerns rank closely behind the economy, jobs and education as the state's top issues. The poll was commissioned by the Foundation for a Healthy Kentucky. The Foundation's Susan Zepeda says the 2015 survey discovered a wider gap among those polled on the issue of improving the health of residents.

*Cut 70250 :15 "Nine in ten Democrats said that that was extremely or very important and about seven in ten Republicans said it was very important or extremely important. Still up there, definitely, but about a 20-point gap there between party alignments."*

**Tag:** On the question of reducing healthcare costs, about nine in ten people who identified themselves as Democrats (88%) said it was extremely or very important compared to about eight in ten Republicans (78%).

\*\*\*

**Second Cut:** Zepeda says with more people now getting access to health care, the Foundation is encouraging providers to continue to find ways to innovate.

*Cut 71250 :18 "To harness technology, to look at skill alignment with the work to be done and maybe bring on line more capacity of nurse practitioners and physician assistants and even community health workers. So, doing care differently will bring those costs down without harming access."*

**Tag 1:** The 16-hundred Kentuckians surveyed in the Kentucky Health Issues Poll made the economy their top priority, with 91 percent saying it was extremely or very important. K-through-12 education was a close second at 90-percent. Kentuckians go to the polls to choose a new governor November third.

\*\*\*



**OPTIONAL REPORTER WRAP: uses first soundbite(s)**

**LEAD:** Improving their health and reducing the cost of their healthcare remain top priorities for Kentuckians, just as they were in 2011, the last time Kentucky was electing a governor. Greg Stotelmyer has more.

*Cut 72250 :50 Outcue...Greg Stotelmyer reporting.*

**Note to Editors:** Reach Zepeda at 502-326-2583. Link to poll:

<http://files.ctctcdn.com/1b4946a6001/24940004-18e6-404c-9789-09dab40cae72.pdf>

# Kentucky News Connection

Aired  
11-8-15

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November 6, 2015

Available files: mp3 wav jpg

## Kynect Enrollment Under Way

Frankfort, KY – While kynect's future will be hotly debated as Kentucky switches administrations next month, open enrollment is under way for the state's health insurance exchange. Comments from Carrie Banahan, executive director, Kentucky Office of Health Benefit and Information Exchange (kynect); and Emily Beauregard, executive director, Kentucky Voices for Health.

**Intro:** The window is now open for enrollment in year three of "kynect," the state-run health insurance marketplace. In addition to those who qualify for Medicaid, the state exchange offers – depending on where you live – up to seven health plans from insurance companies. The enrollment period runs through January 31st, says Carrie Banahan, who oversees kynect.

*Cut 77250 :17 "We've improved our pre-screening tool where individuals can enter their income, some basic information about their household, and there's a preliminary determination of whether you're Medicaid, KCHIP, or eligible for a qualified health plan, with or without subsidy."*

**Tag:** With Tuesday's election of Republican Matt Bevin as Kentucky's next governor, debate over reshaping or dismantling the state's health benefit exchange is expected to intensify.

\*\*\*

**Second Cut:** Bevin has been critical of Medicaid expansion, which has added more than 400-thousand Kentuckians to the government's insurance program for low-income people. Emily Beauregard with Kentucky Voices for Health says it's created an uptick in preventive care.

*Cut 78250 :12 "They are being proactive about their health. They're making sure that they're getting these screenings. They're going for annual exams and for other services. They're not just going to the emergency room, like some people suspected they might."*

**Tag:** According to federal census data, Kentucky's uninsured rate has dropped to eight-and-a-half percent, the biggest decrease in the country, from 2013 to 2014.

\*\*\*

**OPTIONAL REPORTER WRAP:** uses second soundbite(s)

**LEAD:** The window is now open for enrollment in year three of "kynect," the state-run

health insurance marketplace. Greg Stotelmyer has more.

*Cut 79250 :59 Outcue...Stotelmyer reporting.*

Note to Editors: Reach Banahan through Jill Midkiff at 502-564-7042, ext. 3465; Beauregard at 502-882-0584. Link: <https://kynect.ky.gov/>

Aired  
11-15-15

## Kentucky News Connection

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November 12, 2015

Available files: mp3 wav jpg

### Lung Cancer Costing KY in Many Ways

Louisville, KY – Lung cancer kills almost twice as many women as any other cancer, yet experts believe people are largely unaware of that fact. Screening and quitting smoking are being urged during Lung Cancer Awareness Month. Comments from Susan Zepeda (zeh-PAY-duh), president/CEO, Foundation for a Healthy Kentucky; and Dr. Elizabeth Gore, Medical Director, Department of Radiation Oncology, Medical College of Wisconsin.

**Intro:** Anyone can get lung cancer, even people who have never smoked. But tobacco-growing Kentucky has among the highest percentage of smokers in the country, as well as the highest rate of lung cancer cases and deaths. Susan Zepeda is with the Foundation for a Healthy Kentucky.

Cut 92250 :08 *"Well, to be very blunt, if you've ever seen someone you love struggling with lung cancer, it's a horrible way to die."*

**Tag:** Lung cancer is the top cancer killer of both women and men, taking the lives of almost twice as many women as any other cancer. According to the American Lung Association, diagnoses have nearly doubled among women in the past 37 years, yet only one percent of women cite lung cancer as a top-of-mind concern.

**Second Cut:** Doctor Elizabeth Gore, a radiation oncologist, believes people are largely unaware of how deadly the disease can be.

Cut 93250 :12 *"There's so much interest and publicity surrounding the concerns regarding breast cancer and I think it really overshadows which is the more concerning statistic: that lung cancer is the leading cause of cancer death in women."*

**Tag 1:** Doctor Gore says a screening is a potential lifesaver, because it can detect lung cancer before there are symptoms, when it is easier to treat.

**Third Cut:** Health experts say preventing tobacco use continues to be the biggest need. Zepeda says tobacco has inflicted huge health, emotional and economic costs on Kentucky, where more than one out of every four people still smokes.

Cut 94250 :18 *"The health issues: the pain, the suffering, are one dimension of it. Another dimension of it is the lost productivity, it's the costs to the state of Kentucky for Medicaid treatment of people who are dealing with the effects of having gotten addicted to tobacco when they were very young."*

**Tag 2:** To help raise awareness about lung cancer, the American Lung Association has launched Lung Force (at lung force dot org) to help women in the fight against the disease.

**OPTIONAL REPORTER WRAP: uses second soundbite(s)**

**LEAD:** Anyone can get lung cancer, even people who have never smoked. But tobacco-growing Kentucky has among the highest percentage of smokers in the country, as well as the highest rate of lung cancer cases and deaths. This is Lung Cancer Awareness Month. With more, here's Greg Stotelmyer.

*Cut 95250 :51 Outcue...Greg Stotelmyer reporting.*

**Note to Editors:** Reach Zepeda at 502-326-2583; Gore at 414-719-8623

# Kentucky News Connection

Aired  
11-22-15

*A statewide news service for Kentucky*

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November 16, 2015

Available files: mp3 wav jpg

## When to Take Your Social Security: 62 or Wait?

Frankfort, Ky - Even though you become eligible for Social Security at 62, the National Academy of Social Insurance warns of the dangers of taking the federal insurance too early. Comments from Kristen Arnold, income security policy analyst, National Academy of Social Insurance.

**Intro:** Social Security has been around since 1935, making it 80 years old. How old do you think you will be when you begin taking the federal insurance you've been paying into? You're eligible at 62, but the National Academy of Social Insurance says if you can afford to wait, do it, because you stand to gain more in the long run. Kristen Arnold is an income security policy analyst with the Academy.

*Cut 11250 :13 "The benefits are there to make sure you're not in poverty in old age. But if you have some flexibility, if you have other sources of income, if you're still working, if you're still healthy, you might consider waiting to take benefits."*

**Tag:** According to the Social Security Administration, 72-percent of those eligible in Kentucky take their monthly benefit early. You have to be 66 to receive full benefits, and if you wait until you're 70 you take in 132-percent of your monthly benefit for the rest of your life.

**Second Cut:** But, Arnold acknowledges, not everyone can wait.

*Cut 12250 :16 "If you have poor health, if you need to stop working to care for a sick family member, if you lose your job or if you have a physically demanding job and you need to quit working and take benefits to make ends meet, Social Security is there for you. You should take the benefits."*

**Tag 1:** The National Academy of Social Insurance has a toolkit on its website at [n-a-s-i dot org](http://n-a-s-i.org) ([www.nasi.org](http://www.nasi.org)) which can help you decide when to start getting a Social Security check.

**Third Cut:** With America heading into a presidential election year, the future look of Social Security is sure to be one of the hot topics. Arnold says the federal insurance program's finances are much stronger than many people think.

*Cut 13250 :14 "Lawmakers have many options to fix the Social Security funding shortfall, and Social Security is fully financed for the next 15 to 20 years, and about 75 percent fully financed after that."*

**OPTIONAL REPORTER WRAP: uses first soundbite(s)**

LEAD: Social Security has been around since 1935, making it 80 years old. How old do you think you will be when you begin taking the federal insurance you've been paying into? Greg Stotelmyer has more on that decision of whether to take it quickly or wait.

*Cut 14250 :45 Outcue...Greg Stotelmyer reporting.*

**Note to Editors:** Reach Arnold at 202-243-7289. Link to Social Security toolkit:  
<https://www.nasi.org/research/2015/infographic-can-you-wait-receive-social-security-benefits>

Aired 11-29-15

# Kentucky News Connection

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November 24, 2015

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## Report: Fewer Adoptions of Older Youth Make Transition Tough

Frankfort, KY - Adoption advocates are encouraging families to consider adopting older youths in foster care who could age out of the system and face more grim life outcomes as adults. Comments from Kathy Ledesma (luh-DEZ-muh), principal investigator, national project director, AdoptUSKids. (Chapin Hall pronounced CHAPE-in)

**Intro:** Transitioning into adulthood can be difficult for many teens, especially for those who age out of foster care without ever being adopted. Experts say those teens lack the family support system to help them become independent. Researchers at the Chapin Hall policy research center at the University of Chicago find that, as adults, they're more likely to be unemployed, rely on public assistance and become involved with the criminal justice system – and women are more likely to have a child out of wedlock. That's why Kathy Ledesma and colleagues at Adopt-U-S-Kids are using November – National Adoption Month – to urge families to adopt older youth from the foster-care system.

*Cut 22250 :13 "Eighteen percent of the children and youths who are waiting for adoption are between the ages of 15 and 18 years old. And if you take that down even further, a third are age 13 or older. So the need is greatest for this group."*

**Tag:** According to the Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services 24 percent of the children currently in the state's foster care system first entered when they were 12 years of age or older.

\*\*\*

**Second Cut:** Adoption statistics show that people are less willing to adopt children between the ages of 15 and 18. Ledesma says teens in foster care often are stereotyped.

*Cut 23250 :10 "The biggest one is that teens are in foster care because they did something wrong – and they didn't. Something went wrong in their family. So they're in foster care through no fault of their own."*

\*\*\*

**OPTIONAL REPORTER WRAP: uses first soundbite(s)**

**LEAD:** Transitioning into adulthood can be difficult for many teens, especially for those who age out of foster care without ever being adopted. As Greg Stotelmyer reports, experts say

those teens lack the family support system to help them become independent.

*Cut 24250 :53 Outcue...Greg Stotelmyer reporting.*

**Note to Editors:** Reach Ledesma at 410-636-7032. More information can be found at:  
<http://bit.ly/1KZcyk9>.

# Kentucky News Connection

Aired

12-6-15

*A statewide news service for Kentucky*

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December 3, 2015

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## KYA: Family "Best Medicine" for Foster Kids

Jeffersontown, KY - A new issue brief from Kentucky Youth Advocates, "Every Kentucky Kid Needs a Family," calls on the state to expand its Kinship Care Program. That's one of several recommendations aimed at maintaining a continuum of care for children who can not stay with their parents. Comments from Terry Brooks, executive director, Kentucky Youth Advocates; Chelsea Hoover, former foster youth.

**Intro:** A leading child advocacy group in Kentucky wants the state to lift its moratorium on new enrollments in its Kinship Care Program so more financial support can go to relatives caring for children who have been removed from their parents. That is one of the recommendations in a new issue brief from Kentucky Youth Advocates. K-Y-A Executive Director Terry Brooks says it's vital that children at risk of being removed from their homes continue to receive care in a family-type setting, if at all possible.

*Cut 33250 :11 "It's a continuum. We want to do everything we can to keep the family together. The next best step, in most cases, is to try to place them with a relative. Family is often the best medicine."*

**Tag:** According to the KIDS COUNT data center the number of Kentucky children removed from their parents' care due to abuse or neglect has grown by 19 percent over the last five years. Even though the state has been moving towards using family settings more, nearly one out of every five kids in foster care is still placed in a group home or institution.

**Second Cut:** Chelsea Hoover was in both foster and kinship care from infancy until she was four. In her late teens she was in residential treatment. Now 23 and in college, Hoover says foster youth need mentors because their social workers are overworked, underpaid and often unavailable.

*Cut 34250 :12 "Someone who is sort of neutral, outside of the environment that could provide support. Just be someone to listen to, someone to be able to call."*

**Tag 1:** Hoover is part of a youth advisory team for TRUE UP, a state-based initiative to help foster youth age out of care successfully.

**Third Cut:** Brooks says more than 10-thousand children who are being raised by grandparents or other relatives were placed there by the state due to abuse or neglect, which he says is the wisest use of our tax dollars.

Cut 35250 :06 *"It's not just best practice, but it's a pragmatic reason to look at kinship care. "*

**Tag 2:** Brooks says when kinship care is not an option, a family-based home with foster parents is the next best option.

**OPTIONAL REPORTER WRAP: uses first soundbite(s)**

**LEAD:** A leading child advocacy group in Kentucky wants the state to lift its moratorium on new enrollments in its Kinship Care Program, so more financial support can go to relatives caring for children who have been removed from their parents. As Greg Stotelmyer reports, that's a key recommendation in a new issue brief from Kentucky Youth Advocates.

Cut 36250 :43 *Outcue...Greg Stotelmyer reporting.*

**Note to Editors:** Reach Brooks at 502-895-8167; Hoover at 502 440 2556. Link to issue brief: [kyyouth.org](http://kyyouth.org).

Aired  
12-13-15

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*A statewide news service for Kentucky*

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December 10, 2015

Available files: mp3 wav jpg

## Children's Advocates: A Statewide Smoke-free Law Would Be Win for Kids

Frankfort, KY – With lawmakers set to return to the state Capitol for their 2016 legislative session in early January, child advocates are sending them a message - a statewide smoke-free law would be a "win" for Kentucky's kids. The reasons why are detailed in an issue brief, "Clearing the Air for All Kentucky Children," released today (Thursday). Comments from Terry Brooks, executive director, Kentucky Youth Advocates.

**Intro:** About a third of Kentucky is covered by local smoke-free laws, prohibiting smoking indoors in public places. But what about the rest of the state? Child advocates are pushing for a statewide smoke-free law, claiming in a new issue brief it would be a "win" for children, including the unborn. Terry Brooks, executive director of Kentucky Youth Advocates, says it's time to "hit the pause button on political rhetoric."

*Cut 48250 :15 "In another aspect, it's actually a budget argument. Just like in so many areas, we need to be smart about return on investment. In an unexpected way, smoke-free laws actually create wins for the Kentucky state budget."*

**Tag:** More than one out of every four Kentucky adults smoke, the second highest rate in the nation, and advocates say that has a myriad of negative impacts on kids. During the 2015 legislative session a statewide bill passed the House, but died in a Senate committee.

**Second Cut:** According to Brooks, more than 28-thousand babies were born in 2013 to mothers living in Kentucky communities without protections from secondhand smoke. He says that's a danger to the mom and her unborn child.

*Cut 49250 :11 "Whether that is low birth weight, whether that is pre-term births, those kind of issues really impact the health of babies when they're born."*

**Third Cut:** The issue brief, "Clearing the Air for All Kentucky Children," also notes that many of the 77-thousand Kentucky teens who work are doing so in counties without smoke-free laws. Brooks says protecting all children from secondhand smoke would reduce health problems and improve academic achievement.

*Cut 50250 :06 "Better for their health, it protects kids from illnesses, it reduces hospitalization."*

**Tag 2:** Currently, 24 states have comprehensive statewide smoke-free laws, but some Kentucky lawmakers want the decision left at the local level.

**OPTIONAL REPORTER WRAP: uses first soundbite(s)**

**LEAD:** With lawmakers set to return to the state Capitol for their 2016 legislative session in early January, child advocates are sending them a message - a statewide smokefree law would be a "win" for Kentucky's kids. Greg Stotemyer has more.

*Cut 51250 :51 Outcue...Stotemyer reporting.*

**Note to Editors:** Reach Brooks through Andrea Bennett at 502-381-1176. Link to issue brief: <http://kyyouth.org/download/clearing-the-air-for-all-kentucky-children-updated-december-2015/>.

Aired  
12-20-15

# Kentucky News Connection

*A statewide news service for Kentucky*

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December 17, 2015

Available files: mp3 wav jpg

## Report: Kentucky's School Funding Struggling to Keep Up

Frankfort, KY - The head of the school superintendents organization in Kentucky says with the erosion of base funding for education the greatest impact is on students with the most needs. A recent national report from the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities found that Kentucky is among the ten worst states for K through 12 funding cuts. Comments from Tom Shelton, executive director, Kentucky Association of School Superintendents; Michael Leachman, Director, State Fiscal Research, Center on Budget and Policy Priorities.

**Intro:** Since the recession hit in 2008, Kentucky has been one of the worst states in terms of cuts to elementary and secondary education funding. According to a new report from the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, Kentucky ranks 10th worst in overall funding cuts - more than 12-percent when inflation is taken into account. It's sixth-worst in cuts to its core funding formula, known as SEEK. Tom Shelton is Executive Director of the Kentucky Association of School Superintendents.

*Cut 59250 :07 "With the base level of funding eroding, we're hurting the most, our students who have the highest level of need."*

**Tag:** Shelton says those are students in poverty, those with special needs and English language learners.

**Second Cut:** He says while the legislature has been able to keep total funding dollars relatively flat since 2008, rising costs and more students have led to the reduction in per-pupil spending. Shelton hopes when lawmakers return to Frankfort in January they will grasp the "clear needs" of Kentucky's schools.

*Cut 60250 :15 "Maybe our General Assembly can see now that we have an antiquated system for revenues and we're too dependent on sales and use taxes and on personal income taxes. And, we have to have a more effective system so we don't leave so much money behind."*

**Third Cut:** One of the co-authors of the report, Michael Leachman, says 31 states provided less state funding per student in the 2014 school year, compared to 2008.

*Cut 61250 :09 "It means layoffs, shorter school years, bigger classes sizes, for example. Those sorts of cuts are damaging, not only to the experiences of students, but also to the national economy."*

**Fourth Cut:** To make matters worse in Kentucky, Shelton says the unfunded liability in the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System, estimated to be anywhere from 12 to 18 billion dollars, has a direct impact on school funding.

Cut 62250 :06 *"Truly the cost of the pension is part of the cost of education. It comes off the top at the state level. "*

**Tag 3:** Shelton says coming up with a long-range plan to meet that obligation is at the top of the Kentucky Association of School Superintendents' 2016 legislative priorities.

**OPTIONAL REPORTER WRAP: uses first soundbite(s)**

**LEAD:** Since the recession hit in 2008, Kentucky has been one of the worst states in terms of cuts to elementary and secondary education funding. Greg Stotelmyer has more.

Cut 63250 :41 *Outcue...Greg Stotelmyer reporting.*

**Note to Editors:** Reach Shelton at 859-568-2140; Leachman at 202-408-1080. Link to report: <http://www.cbpp.org/>

# Kentucky News Connection

Aired  
12-27-15

*A statewide news service for Kentucky*

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December 23, 2015

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## Underage Drinking Spikes Around the Holidays

Frankfort, KY – Research indicates you should think twice before letting your 'tween or teen take a sip of your alcoholic drink over the holidays. Experts say the fight against underage drinking starts at home with how parents handle the situation. Comments from Randy Haveson (HAVE-uh-sun), addiction expert and author of "Party with a Plan."

**Intro:** The holidays are prime time for youth experimenting with alcohol according to the National Survey on Drug Use and Health. Randy Haveson, an addiction expert and author of the book "Party with a Plan," says reducing use among youth starts at home.

*Cut 78250 :14 "I find that a lot of parents still have the idea that 'oh, they're just teenagers, of course they're going to experiment.' and it really takes the parents toeing the line more and not allowing their kids to get away with this."*

**Tag:** According to the report, more than 11-thousand youths a day will drink alcohol for the first time in December, June and July – the peak months for the first time use.

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**Second Cut:** Research shows that alcohol can have a long-term impact on a teen's brain, preventing the parts of the brain that make good judgment and encourage impulse control from fully developing. Haveson says the brain isn't fully developed until age 25.

*Cut 79250 :08 "Study after study shows that the earlier someone begins to drink or do other drugs, the more chance they have of developing a problem."*

**Tag:** Haveson suggests talking early and often with your children about alcohol use, explaining why they should abstain, and being careful not to glorify your own adolescent years if you partook.

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**OPTIONAL REPORTER WRAP:** uses first soundbite(s)

**LEAD:** December is one of the prime months when youth experiment with alcohol, according to the National Survey on Drug Use and Health. Greg Stotelmyer has more on why teens should wait until legal drinking age.

*Cut 80250 :35 Outcue...Greg Stotelmyer reporting.*

**Note to Editors:** Haveson through Kevin Jones at (404) 380-1079. Link to research:

<http://www.samhsa.gov/data/sites/default/files/NSDUH080/NSDUH080/SR080InitiationSubstanceUse2012.htm>