

# VALERIE FROST

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Lived-Experience Systems Leader | Policy & Governance Advisor | Keynote Speaker on Child Welfare, Family Wellbeing, and Democratic Accountability

## POLICY & ADVOCACY EXPERIENCE

### **Thriving Families, Safer Children** — *Co-Lead, KY Site Team and In-Site Podcast Host* **2020 - PRESENT**

- Plan, host, and market Community In-Site podcast to bring awareness to upstream prevention strategies across sites, including managing relationships with interviewees, drafting episode descriptions and questions, and social media
- Organize and facilitate KY Site Team, including consulting on lived experience, writing blog posts about TFSC initiatives, organizing special events, and coordinating with the liaison to national TFSC team
- Serve as public spokesperson for leadership audiences, including the Boards of national child welfare philanthropic organizations and a White House convening on child welfare

### **Sunlight** — *Head of Training, Community, & Impact* **2025 - PRESENT**

- Train and onboard managers to support new users of Your Case Plan, including social workers, attorneys, peer mentors and clients, youth and parents
- Provide product feedback on all aspects of Your Case Plan, bringing a lived expertise lens to the team
- Support technology adoption and customer success by obtaining feedback from customers and clients to ensure continuous quality improvement; consolidate and translate feedback to developers to incorporate into the app

### **Prevent Child Abuse Kentucky (PCAK)** — *Resilient Connections Coordinator* **2024 - 2025**

- Engaged target audiences, including Community Collaborations for Children and adults with lived expertise, to support families in further strengthening resiliency
- Served as a liaison between community members and child welfare agency staff to strengthen connections, advocacy, awareness, and trainings, including representing PCAK on Statewide collaboratives
- Developed, facilitated and executed inaugural parent engagement summit at The Kids Are Worth It Annual Conference, bringing together service providers, CW agency staff, and impacted parents

### **Kentucky Youth Advocates (KYA)** — *Strategic Initiatives Associate* **2022 - 2024**

- Founded KY's first statewide birth parents advisory council, Kentucky System Experience at the Table (KY SEAT), growing it from 8 to over 20 members
- Formalized and facilitated the Department for Community Based Services' Trusted Advisor Council, a child welfare-involved stakeholder group to advise KY's Health and Human Services Commissioner, bringing together foster parents and youth, birth parents, relative and fictive kin
- Convened all 9 Kentucky child welfare service regions to develop a primary prevention action plan; supported implementation across regions

### **Kentucky Center for Economic Policy** — *Policy Fellow* **2021 - 2022**

- Executed outreach, advocacy, and communications to support policy changes on issues of economic security in Kentucky
- Supported the participation of people directly affected by economic insecurity in voicing their concerns and perspectives to decision makers and served as their advocate in leadership discussions
- Collaborated with KyPolicy analysts and communications staff to translate policy positions into clear and compelling issue briefs for community stakeholders

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## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

<b>The Learning Center at First Baptist (KY)</b> — <i>Lead Preschool Teacher</i>	<b>2020 - 2021</b>
<b>Model Laboratory School (KY)</b> — <i>Para-educator</i>	<b>2019 - 2020</b>
<b>Olney Elementary; Wheaton Woods Elementary (MD)</b> — <i>Kindergarten Teacher</i>	<b>2015 - 2017</b>
<b>Community Action Council Headstart &amp; Early Headstart (KY)</b> — <i>Classroom Teacher (KY)</i>	<b>2012 - 2015</b>

## COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

• <b>Children's Justice Task Force</b> – <i>Appointed Member</i>	<b>2025–present</b>
• <b>University of Kentucky College of Public Health</b> – <i>Subject Matter Expert &amp; Facilitator</i>	<b>2025–present</b>
• <b>Casey Family Programs, Elevating Voices of Community Collaborative</b> – <i>Member</i>	<b>2024–2025</b>
• <b>Kentucky Chamber Foundation Collaborative on Child Care</b> – <i>Member</i>	<b>2024</b>
• <b>Child Care For Every Family Network Parent Leadership Group</b> – <i>Member</i>	<b>2021–2022</b>
• <b>Kentucky Food Action Network</b> – <i>Steering Committee Member</i>	<b>2020–2022</b>

## SELECT PUBLIC SPEAKING EXPERIENCE

• <b>NACC 48th National Child Welfare Law Conference Plenary Session</b> <i>November 2025</i>
• <b>National Family Support Network Family Support Summit- Keynote</b> <i>October 2025</i>
• <b>Montana Prevent Child Abuse &amp; Neglect Conference Keynote</b> <i>April 2025</i>
• <b>Kempe International Conference: A Call to Action to Change Child Welfare</b> <i>October 2024 and 2025</i>
• <b>White House Convening on Child Welfare Transformation</b> <i>July 2024</i>
• <b>Kids Are Worth It Conference: Proximate Engagement: About Us, With Us</b> <i>September 2024</i>
• <b>Family &amp; Juvenile Services Conference: Collaborative Navigation</b> <i>August 2024</i>
• <b>System of Care Virtual Summit: Upstream – A Court and Community-Based Approach</b> <i>May 2024</i>

## EDUCATION & CERTIFICATIONS

<b>Ashford University (CA)</b> — <i>Master of Arts in Education-Reading Literacy</i>	<b>2018</b>
<b>Ashford University (CA)</b> — <i>Bachelor of Arts in Early Childhood Education</i>	<b>2011</b>
<b>Kentucky Professional Educator Certificate: Interdisciplinary Early Childhood Education, Rank II</b>	<b>2019</b>
<b>Kentucky Care and Education Trainer's Credential: Level 5</b>	<b>2025</b>