

VALERIE FROST

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 (PCA) — 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

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

COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

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

SELECT PUBLIC SPEAKING EXPERIENCE

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

EDUCATION & CERTIFICATIONS

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