

Persistence Pays Off for Choateville

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Our state tourism branch touts, “Kentucky is a place where spirits are free to soar and big dreams can be fulfilled. We relish competition and cherish our champions for their willingness to push beyond conventional boundaries to reach new heights of success.” Our experiences in communities scattered across the Commonwealth confirm the boast.

Even with the monumental decrease of grant funds, our communities are devoted in their efforts to providing potable drinking water and sanitary waste disposal to their residents. One such example is that of Choateville in Franklin County. The community is located mere minutes from the Capital. For fifteen years the local health department documented raw sewage flowing from the ground and pooling due to inadequate soils. The failing septic systems were contaminating the ground water and drinking water sources.

Upon conducting a site visit and documenting the number of children in the community, the Franklin County government responded by submitting a request for funding to their U.S. Representative. Based upon the dire need, not to mention persistence, the fiscal court received an Environmental Protection Agency Special Appropriation Grant to provide services to the residents of Choateville. Although still under construction, the project is near completion. After all connections are made, the county is donating the entire collection system to the Frankfort Sewer Department.

Community Action Kentucky’s RCAP program staff assisted the Franklin County Fiscal Court by conducting property research and going door-to-door to obtain rights of way and authorization forms.

Deputy Judge Executive Fred Goins stated, “We would not hesitate to recommend Kim Padgett and her staff to other communities. The assistance they provided to us was not only efficient by timely.”

As a direct result of perseverance from all entities involved in the project, seventy households will no longer have to worry about the public health risks associated with raw sewage.

