

Common Issues in Dependency Cases – Questions To Consider & Resources

Permanency

No child should be raised by the foster care system. It is critical to develop a case plan that addresses the reasons for the child's entry into care and explicitly details the services needed by the family. If reunification is not possible, all other options for permanency should be explored and cases should be monitored to ensure that statutory deadlines are being complied with to the extent consistent with the child's position.

Questions to consider:

1. What is the permanency plan goal? How long has the goal been in place?
2. What does the child want as his permanency goal? Why?
3. Should a concurrent plan be implemented?
4. Were the parents' and child's needs thoroughly assessed?
5. Did the parents have an opportunity to participate in the development of the case plan?
6. Did the child have an opportunity to participate in the development of the case plan?
7. Were specific services identified to achieve case goals? Are they being provided? Are they working? If not, why not?
8. Are there any barriers to achieving the goals? Are those barriers addressed in the case plan? Should they be?
9. Are there indications that case goals are being met? Does the plan make sense?
10. Is the case in compliance with statutory time frames? If not, why not? What is in place to prevent foster care drift?
11. Have relative resources been explored? Have all relative resources been given notice of the proceedings?
12. What services would enable any relatives to become a placement resource?
13. Is there any other supportive adult involved with the youth?
14. If yes, is this adult a placement resource for the youth? What services would enable this adult to become a placement resource?
15. Has adoption been explored or re-explored with the youth?
16. Have any individuals been ruled out? Why? Can they be reconsidered?
17. Is the youth in a placement that allows her to participate in normal activities and learn practical life skills?
18. If the child is nearing permanency, is there a concrete plan to continue needed services for the child and family? Will the child be safe in the parent's home?
19. Is the child bonded to the parents and siblings? Is the child bonded to the caregiver?
20. Is it likely that the child will remain connected to the caregiver after age 18?
21. Where will the child be living at age 18 and one day?

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Placement

When children are placed in an out-of-home placement, their safety and well-being is the primary consideration. The placement should be the most family-like, least restrictive setting appropriate for the child. Placements should allow the child to maintain important connections to their family and community and should facilitate reunification.

Questions to consider:

1. Where does the child want to live? Why?
2. If the child is not living in his preferred placement, why not?
3. How does the child feel about his current placement? His current caregiver?
4. How long has the child lived with the caregiver?
5. Has living this caregiver been a positive experience for this child?
6. What has been the child's placement history in care?
7. What harm will the child experience if the child is moved from the current home?
8. Who is important to the child? Does the child want contact? What type?
9. Will the child be able to maintain contact with his parent, siblings, relatives or others?
10. Does the child visit regularly with his/her parents and siblings?
11. What efforts are being made to preserve the child's connections to the child's community?
12. Is the child going to be with people the child considers family?
13. Is the child placed in the same neighborhood?
14. Will the child be able to attend the same school?
15. Is the child placed with a family of the same culture or practices?
16. Does the caregiver have the information and authority needed to help preserve connections? Does the caregiver support the child's connections?
17. Does the child have any special needs? Is the child able to receive needed services in the placement?
18. Is the child LGBTQ? Is the child parenting or pregnant?
19. Are the caregivers aware of the needs of children who are involved with the child welfare system?
20. Is the child placed with knowledgeable, skilled and experienced caregivers?
21. Do the caregivers have access to information and support related to the child's unique needs?
22. Are the caregivers able to identify problem behaviors and respond appropriately?
23. Is the child receiving high quality care?
24. Is the child's placement stable? Will the child remain in the placement should reunification not occur?

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Education

When children are removed from their homes or moved from one foster care placement to another, their school setting may change. Multiple studies have found that when children in foster care change schools, they can have difficulty obtaining their school records or enrolling in a new school. Furthermore, multiple changes in schools can lead to academic problems, grade retention, and increased dropout rates. Research has shown each move can set students back as many as six months academically and that foster youth persistently score lower than their peers in all educational measures.¹

Questions to consider

1. Is the child enrolled in school or an early childhood education program? Is the child subject to the Riyla Wilson Act?
2. How many schools has the child been enrolled in and how many schools has the child attended?
3. Is the child currently attending school? Attendance record?
4. Has the child missed any period of school for any reason?
5. Is the child attending a good school or program?
6. Is the school responsive to challenges facing children in foster care?
7. How will any proposed changes in placement impact the child's school placement?
8. How is the child doing in school?
9. Is the child on grade level? Developmentally on target? On track to graduate? How is the child scoring on standardized tests?
10. Does the child have any medical, physical, developmental, social or emotional needs that impact his or her ability to do well in school?
11. Does the child need any education supports to be successful in school?
12. Does the child need any special education services? Has the child been evaluated for the services? Is the child getting the services?
13. Does the child need any accommodations? Is the child getting the accommodations?
14. Who is the child's educational decision-maker?
15. Who is responsible for ensuring the child's educational needs are being met? Does this person have the child's records?
16. Does the child's caregiver have the ability to meet the child's needs?
17. Does the child's caregiver have the child's current educational information?
18. Does the child like school?
19. Does the child participate in any extra-curricular activities? Does she want to? Is she able to?
20. Does the child want to go to college? Does the child have the academic credentials?
21. Does the child have any concerns about his or her education?

¹ <http://ccainstitute.wordpress.com/2010/09/24/press-release-new-study-shows-foster-children-struggle-in-education/>

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Healthcare

“Children and adolescents in foster care have a higher prevalence of physical, developmental, dental, and behavioral health conditions than any other group of children. Typically these health conditions are chronic, under-identified, and undertreated and have an ongoing impact on all aspects of their lives, even long after these children and adolescents have left the foster care system.”²

These issues require that children and youth involved in the child welfare system “receive more frequent and detailed health monitoring than other children and teens.” However, the foster care system creates “inherent barriers resulting in health care that is fragmented and often crisis-oriented.”³

Questions to consider

1. Does the child have a medical home?
2. Does the child have medical insurance?
3. Will the child be able to continue to receive health care from known providers?
4. Did the child receive a comprehensive behavioral health assessment (or similar assessment) upon entry into foster care? Any recommendations or follow up needed?
5. When were the child’s last physical, dental, hearing and vision exams? Any recommendations or follow up needed?
6. When was the child’s last mental health assessment? Any recommendations or follow up needed?
7. Are the child’s immunizations up to date?
8. Has the child been lead tested?
9. Has the child been screened for communicable diseases?
10. Does the child have access to family planning services and education?
11. Does the child need substance abuse evaluation or treatment?
12. Does the child’s family have a history of illness or disease?
13. Does the child have any known or reported diagnoses?
14. Does the child have any known or reported disabilities?
15. Is the child developmentally on target?
16. Is the child prescribed any medications? Any psychotropic medications?
17. Does the child take any medications?
18. Does the child’s medical condition place the child at higher risk of abuse or neglect?
19. Who is responsible for ensuring the child’s medical needs are being met? Does this person have the child’s medical records?
20. Does the child’s caregiver have the ability to meet the child’s needs?
21. Does the child’s caregiver have the child’s current health information?
22. Does the child have any concerns about his or her health?

² <http://www.aap.org/fostercare/PDFs/FosteringHealth/FosteringHealthBook.pdf>

³ http://www.aap.org/fostercare/addressing_barriers.html

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Income & Financial Resources

Some children in foster care have a source of income because of disability, a parent's disability, a parent's death, inheritance or private income. Any use of this income should be carefully assessed to ensure that the child is protected.

Questions to consider:

1. Is the child receiving any SSI or SSDI benefits?
2. Who is the designated payee?
3. Should the child be receiving any benefits? Has the department applied? Does an appeal need to be taken?
4. Does the child have any other financial resources?
5. Does the child have a guardian of the property? Does the child need a guardian of the property?
6. Is there a Master Trust account for the child?
7. Does the child have a spending plan?
8. What is the child's personal allowance?
9. Does the child have an asset limit? How is the money being spent to comply with any asset limitations?
10. Has the accounting been reviewed?
11. Is the child getting notice of any expenditures being made?
12. Can and should the child's income be used to pay for the cost of care? How is the amount of payment being calculated? Should a fee waiver be requested?
13. Can and should the child's income be used to pay for specific services for the child? How is the amount of payment being calculated?
14. Will the child be able to manage any income at age 18? If not, to whom will the funds be distributed?
15. Does the child have a bank account? Is the child able to manage money?

Resources:

DCF's repository of information & training materials is: centerforchildwelfare.fmhi.usf.edu/
Florida's Children First website: floridaschildrenfirst.org – click on Resources

For information on the trauma of removal:

- UPenn Collaborative on Community Integration, Removal from the Home: Resulting Trauma
http://www.tucollaborative.org/pdfs/Toolkits_Monographs_Guidebooks/parenting/Factsheet_4_Resulting_Trauma.pdf
- American Academy of Pediatrics, Healthy Foster Care America, Mental and Behavioral Health page http://www.aap.org/fostercare/mental_behavioral_health.html

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For information on health care issues for children in foster care:

- American Academy of Pediatrics, Healthy Foster Care America is devoted to improving health care for children and teens in foster care, has a resource library searchable by topic area. <http://www.aap.org/fostercare/>.
- The AAP also publishes *Fostering Health, Health Care for Children and Adolescents in Foster Care* which is available as a PDF on the site at <http://www.aap.org/fostercare/PDFs/FosteringHealth/FosteringHealthBook.pdf>

For information on health care issues for *little* children in foster care:

- ABA Healthy Beginnings, Healthy Futures, A Guide for Judges available at http://www.americanbar.org/content/dam/aba/migrated/child/PublicDocuments/healthy_beginnings.authcheckdam.pdf
- American Academy of Pediatrics, Health Care of Young Children in Foster Care, Pediatrics Vol. 109 No. 3 March 2002 available at <http://aappolicy.aappublications.org/cgi/reprint/pediatrics;109/3/536.pdf>
- ABA Child Law Practice, Mental Health Assessments for Infants and Toddlers http://www.americanbar.org/content/dam/aba/migrated/child/PublicDocuments/Hill_Solchany_Infant_Mental_Health_Assessments_for_court.authcheckdam.pdf
- ABA Child Law Practice, Healthy Attachment for Very Young Children in Foster Care http://www.americanbar.org/content/dam/aba/migrated/child/PublicDocuments/healthy_attachment_08.authcheckdam.pdf

For information about developmental stages:

- Healthy children, a resource for parents & caregivers, addresses health issues by ages & stages and covers a number of general children's health topics as well. <http://www.healthychildren.org>
- Center for Disease Control has milestone checklists as well as other health related topics available at: <http://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/actearly/milestones/>
- Zero to Three has a variety of resources for parents, including age specific handouts <http://www.zerotothree.org/about-us/areas-of-expertise/free-parent-brochures-and-guides/>

For information about immunizations:

- Florida Department of Health has immunizations schedules and other health topics <http://www.doh.state.fl.us/>

For information about Residential Treatment Centers:

- Texas CASA, Advocating for Children and Youth in Residential Treatment Centers http://www.casadenton.org/resources/1/RTC_Participant_Manual.pdf
- Bazelon Center, Resources on Residential Treatment Centers <http://www.bazelon.org/Where-We-Stand/Strengthening-Families/Mental-Health-Services-for-Children/Residential-Treatment-Centers/Resources-on-RTCs.aspx>

For information about psychotropic medications:

- National Institute of Mental Health, Mental Health Medications. A guide describing the types of medications, side effects, directions for taking medications, and any FDA warnings.

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- <http://www.nimh.nih.gov/health/publications/mental-health-medications/complete-index.shtml#pub1>
- American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry (AACAP), Psychiatric Medication for Children and Adolescents includes information on what questions to ask before a child is prescribed medication.
<http://aacap.org/page.wv?name=Psychiatric+Medication+For+Children+And+Adolescents+Part+I-How+Medications+Are+Used§ion=Facts+for+Families>
 - American Academy of Pediatrics, Healthy Foster Care America, Mental and Behavioral Health page http://www.aap.org/fostercare/mental_behavioral_health.html
 - Psychotropic Medication Reference for Judges, Attorneys, Guardian ad Litem & Other Legal Professionals Addressing the Use of Psychotropic Medications with Children in state Custody in Florida, Dr. Daniel Castellanos, MD. (Copy available in Legal Aid office)
 - Video trainings on USF website: Psychotropic Medications Four Years Later: Law, Ethics, and Best Practices for Non-medical Professionals in 2 Parts; Overview of Psychotropic Medications for Children and Adolescents - Part 2: Types of Psychotropic Medications

For information about representing little children:

- Candice L. Maze, Advocating for Very Young Children in Dependency Proceedings: The Hallmarks of Effective, Ethical Representation, October 2010 available at http://www.americanbar.org/content/dam/aba/migrated/child/PublicDocuments/ethicalrep_final_10_10.authcheckdam.pdf
- ABA Child Law Practice Visitation with Infants and Toddlers in Foster Care: What Judges and Attorneys Need to Know.
http://www.americanbar.org/content/dam/aba/migrated/child/PublicDocuments/Visitation_CLP_Oct07.authcheckdam.pdf

For information on educational stability:

- National Working Group on Foster Care and Education, Educational Outcomes for Children and Youth in Foster and Out-of-Home Care, Fact Sheet (Dec. 2008)
<http://www.casey.org/Resources/Publications/pdf/EducationalOutcomesFactSheet.pdf>
- Asking the Right Questions II: Judicial Checklists to Meet the Educational Needs of Children and Youth in Foster Care
<http://centerforchildwelfare.fmhi.usf.edu/kb/LglStFedStat/JudicialChecklistsforFosterChildren-Education.pdf>
- ABA Center on Children and the Law, Legal Center for Foster Care and Education
http://www.americanbar.org/groups/child_law/projects_initiatives/education.html

For information on IDEA and special education rights:

- U.S. Department of Education, Building the Legacy -IDEA 2004 at <http://idea.ed.gov/>
- ABA Center on Children and the Law, Legal Center for Foster Care and Education
http://www.americanbar.org/groups/child_law/projects_initiatives/education/special_education_decisionmaking.html

For information on McKinney-Vento:

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- Scott Joftus , Ed.D., Cross & Joftus , LLC, Educating Children in Foster Care, The McKinney-Vento and No Child Left Behind Acts, White Paper http://www.casey.org/Resources/Publications/pdf/McKinneyVento_FR.pdf
- Patricia Julianelle, Building Futures Through Education, The McKinney-Vento Act and Children and Youth Awaiting Foster Care Placement, Strategies for Improving Educational Outcomes Through School Stability, National Association for the Education of Homeless Children and Youth, Casey Family Programs http://www.naehcy.org/dl/mv_afcp.pdf

For information on the ICPC:

- Association of Administrators of the Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children (AAICPC) http://icpc.aphsa.org/Home/home_news.asp
- ABA Child Law Practice, How Attorneys Can Improve Interstate Placements: Lessons Learned from State CIP Assessments <http://apps.americanbar.org/child/clp/archives/vol28/oct09.pdf>

For information on ICWA:

- National Indian Child Welfare Association at http://www.nicwa.org/Indian_Child_Welfare_Act/
- Children's Bureau, Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services ICWA page at <http://www.childwelfare.gov/systemwide/courts/icwa.cfm>

For information on SIJS and other immigration issues facing children in foster care:

- Immigrant Legal Resource Center (ILRC) Remedies for immigrant children and youth <http://www.ilrc.org/info-on-immigration-law/remedies-for-immigrant-children-and-youth>
- U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops / Migration and Refugee Services, Special Immigrant Juvenile Status (SIJS) Caseworker's Toolkit for Children in Federal Custody at <http://www.brycs.org/sijs/>
- Special Immigrant Juvenile Status in Florida: Guide for Lawyers Judges and Advocates by Wendi J. Adelson in collaboration with the Immigrant Children's Legal Services Partnership and the Children and Youth Law Clinic of the University of Miami School of Law. June 2007. (available on FCF website)

For information on safety and child well-being:

- Lund, Therese Roe & Jennifer Renne, Child safety : a guide for judges and attorneys (2009) http://www.nrcps.org/documents/2009/pdf/The_Guide.pdf

For information on reporting child abuse:

- Department of Children and Families, Florida Abuse Hotline <http://www.dcf.state.fl.us/programs/abuse/>
<http://www.dcf.state.fl.us/programs/abuse/publications/mandatedreporters.pdf>

For more information about foster care:

- ABA Center on Children and the Law http://www.americanbar.org/groups/child_law.html
- Casey Family Programs <http://www.casey.org/>

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- Children's Bureau, Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Child Welfare Gateway <http://www.childwelfare.gov/>
- Foster Club <http://www.fosterclub.com/>
- National Association of Counsel for Children <http://www.naccchildlaw.org/>
- National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges <http://www.ncjfcj.org/>
- National Resource Center for Permanency and Family Connections at the Hunter College School of Social Work <http://www.nrcpfc.org/index.html>
- National Resource Center for Youth Development <http://www.nrcyd.ou.edu/>

FCF Publications

Adult Adoption: Creating Life Long Family Bonds and Legal Connections (And Appendix of Forms)

CBHA: Comprehensive Behavioral Health Assessments for Children In State Care

Children's Mental Health Overview and Recommendations

Frequently Asked Questions for Foster Youth Transitioning to Adulthood

Hearing Your Voice: A Guide to Your Dependency Court Case

How to Get Your Child Welfare Records

On Your Own But Not Alone

Transition: A Guide for Foster Youth with Disabilities Transitioning to Adulthood

Selected Trainings on DCF Website:

centerforchildwelfare.fmhi.usf.edu/

Administration & Management; Funding

[Public Benefits and Educational Issues for Children in Foster Care](#)

Adoption

[Creating Success in Adoption \(3 parts\)](#)

[Keys to Success in Expediting Adoptions](#)

Assessment

["Ages and Stages" Social Emotional Tool](#)

[Misdiagnosis of Children in Foster Care: Treatment Implications and Recommendations](#)

[Screening and The "Ages and Stages" Tool](#)

Child Development

[Addressing the Attachment Bond](#)

[Attachment and Behavioral Catch-Up: An Intervention for Young Children in the Child Welfare System](#)

[Attachment Is The Issue: Understanding Children's Needs in the "Shelter to Permanency" Process](#)

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[Child Development and Risk for Abused and Neglected Children](#)

[Coordinating Services for Children & Youth with Developmental Disabilities](#)

[Substance Abuse and Child Development](#)

[The Impact of Trauma and Violence on Child Development](#)

[The Science of Attachment: Implications for Foster Care in Early Childhood](#)

[Understanding Adolescent Brain Development](#)

[Young Children in Foster Care](#)

Children's Legal Services

[Attorney Training: Legal Ethics in Dependency and TPR Practice](#)

[Demonstration on Evidentiary Foundations](#)

[Developing \(or Redeveloping\) Direct and Cross Examination Skills](#)

[Statutes, Rules, Case Law Updates; Psychotropic Meds; Ludwig Implementation Procedures](#)

[Statutory Overview in Dependency Cases and New Developments in Case Law](#)

[Witness Preparation](#)

Dependency Court

[A Family Guide to Dependency Court \(FL Office of Court Improvement\)](#)

[Court Orders](#)

[Keys to Making Youths' Court Experiences Successful for Everyone](#)

[Managing the Child Witness](#)

[Preparing Youth for Court](#)

[Trial Practice: Hearsay](#)

Family entered Practice

[Child and Family Engagement](#)

[Introduction to Family Centered Practice](#)

[Key Strategies for Family Engagement and Kinship Care Teamwork](#)

[Let's Get Engaged: Family Centered Practice in Child Welfare](#)

[Meaningful Family Engagement \(National Resource Center for Permanency and Family Connections\)](#)

Human Trafficking

[Protections for Child Victims of Human Trafficking](#)

[Summit on Human Trafficking in Florida \(four videos\)](#)

Independent Living; Transition Issues

[Continuity of Educational Services for Youth in Transition](#)

[Independent Living: Requirements, Plans and Services for Youth Ages 13-18](#)

[Transition Needs of Youth with Disabilities](#)

[When One Size Doesn't Fit All: Practice and Policy Implications for Subgroups of Transitioning Foster Youth](#)

Legislation

[Stability in School Placement: What Federal Law Requires and How to Get There](#)

[The Indian Child Welfare Act \(ICWA\): Implications for Policy and Practice in Florida](#)

[Understanding the Indian Child Welfare Act \(ICWA\): A Guide to Policy and Practice in Florida](#)

[What's New with the Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children in Florida?](#)

Medical Aspects of Child Abuse (Series by Dr. Randell Alexander CPT)

[Appropriate Diagnosis, Treatment, and Recommendations](#)

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[Child Neglect](#)

[Drug Abuse](#)

[Health Consequences of Child Abuse](#)

[Medical Aspects of Child Abuse Training: Physical Abuse](#)

[Sexual Abuse](#)

Medication

[Case Management for Foster Children on Psychotropic Medications](#)

[Psychotherapeutic Medications and Legislative Updates](#)

[Psychotropic Medications Four Years Later: Law, Ethics and Best Practices](#)

[Psychotropic Medications Institute](#)

[Use of Pharmaceutical Drugs for Non-Medical Purposes](#)

Mental Health, Substance Abuse and Co-Occurring Disorders

[Accessing Mental Health Services: An Overview of Florida's Mental Health System for Children and Adults](#)

[The Baker and Marchman Acts](#)

[Child and Family Operating Procedure 155-10 Webinar](#)

[Children at Risk: Understanding Substance Abuse and Facilitating Recovery - A Guide for Child Welfare Workers](#)

[Drug Endangered Children: A Multidisciplinary Approach](#)

[Drug Endangered Children: Assessing for Substance Abuse](#)

[Meet Your New Drug Dealer](#)

[Mental Health Needs of Children in the Florida Child Welfare System](#)

[Serving Adolescents with Co-Occurring Disorders](#)

[Trauma and Mental Health](#)

[Trauma and the Brain](#)

Out-of-Home Care

[Child Welfare and Child Outcomes: Measuring the Effects of Foster Care](#)

[Foster Care Redesign 2007-2009](#)

[Normalcy for Children in Licensed Care](#)

[Partnership Plan for Children in Out of Home Care](#)

[Placement Stability Through Foster Parent Retention](#)

[Voices of Youth: Supporting Adolescents in Foster Care](#)

Permanency

[Another Planned Permanent Living Arrangement \(APPLA\) As a Permanency Goal: What Does it Mean?](#)

[Are You My Family? Creating Lifetime Networks](#)

[Promoting Permanency Planning](#)

Prevention

[Addressing Suicide Issues for Children and Youth in Foster Care](#)

[Coping With Crying: Shaken Baby Syndrome Prevention](#)

[Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder \(FASD\)](#)

[Florida Red Tide and the Health Care Provider](#)

[Introduction to Poison Control Centers and Common Pediatric Poisonings](#)

[Pediatric Traumatic Brain Injury: Helping Families Prevent, Understand and Deal with TBI](#)

[Recognizing the Signs and Managing Bullying](#)

[Self Injury: Testimony, Insight and Critical Issues](#)

[Safety Planning](#)

[Youth Suicide Prevention: The Basics](#)

Sexual Abuse

[Juveniles Who Sexually Offend: Policy and Practice Research \(in 4 parts\)](#)

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[Medical Aspects of Child Abuse Training: Sexual Abuse](#)

[The Missing Piece in Sexual Abuse Treatment](#)

[Traumagenic Issues and Needs of Sexually Abused Foster Children](#)

Trauma Informed Care

[Florida's Implementation of Trauma Informed Care in Residential Settings for Youth](#)

[Responding to Traumatized Children: A Collaborative](#)

[Approach](#)

[Trauma Informed Care](#)

[Trauma-Informed Care DJJ Training](#)

[Trauma Informed Care - Technical Assistance](#)

[Trauma Informed Paradigm for Healing](#)

[There Is No Margin of Error: A Calm Approach to Child Welfare](#)

Training available on GAL Website:

http://www.gal.fl.gov/att_conf_train.asp

Conference Title: DISABILITY RIGHTS, Edie Sheeks, Senior Attorney, Disability Rights Florida

Conference Title: CHILD HEARSAY, Charles W. Ehrhardt, Ladd Professor of Evidence, Florida State University College of Law

Conference Title: EFFECTIVE DEPOSITIONS: LAYING THE LANDMINES, Chris Andriacchi, Florida Guardian ad Litem Program

Conference Title: ETHICS IN DEPENDENCY COURT, David Silverstein, Office of the Attorney General, Children's Legal Services Hillsborough County Florida

Conference Title: TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS AND THE DEVELOPMENTALLY DELAYED PARENT, Hillary Kambour, Director of Training, Florida Guardian ad Litem Program

Conference Title: ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS, Bernard Perlmutter, Associate

Professor of Clinical Legal Education, Children & Youth Law Clinic, University of Miami School of Law - Presented by Caitlin

Conference Title: PARENTAGE IN DEPENDENCY, Alicia Guerra, Deputy General Counsel, Florida Guardian ad Litem Program

Conference Title: SHELTER HEARINGS, Judge Sue Robbins, Circuit Judge, Fifth Circuit, Marion County

Conference Title: OVERVIEW OF PSYCHOTROPIC MEDICATIONS FOR CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS

Part 1 Robin Rosenberg, Deputy Director, Florida's Children First Inc. (review of new rule and results of Gabriel Myers workgroup)

Part 2 Dr. Daniel Castellanos, Child Psychiatrist, FIU (review of mental health diagnosis, types of medications, questions to ask)

Part 3. Professor. Bernie Perlmutter, University of Miami Children & Youth

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Law Clinic (role of advocate in process)

Conference Title: SEXUAL ABUSE & THE KEEPING CHILDREN SAFE ACT, Karen Oehme, J. D., Institute Director, Clearinghouse on Supervised Visitation & Sonia Crockett, J.D.

Conference Title: BEST INTEREST, Alicia L. Guerra, Deputy General Counsel, Statewide Guardian ad Litem Office

Conference Title: THE EFFECTS OF AN APPEAL ON YOUR CASE, Wendie Cooper, Appellate Counsel, Florida Guardian ad Litem Program

Conference Title: CASE LAW UPDATE, Hillary Kambour, Director of Training, Florida Guardian ad Litem Program

Conference Title: DELINQUENCY ISSUES FOR DEPENDENT CHILDREN, Carrie Lee, Director of the Juvenile Justice Center, Dwayne O. Andreas School of Law, Barry University

Conference Title: SPECIAL EDUCATION ISSUES FOR CHILDREN IN THE DEPENDENCY SYSTEM, Gerry Glynn, Associate Professor of Law, Director of Clinical Programs, Dwayne O. Andreas School of Law, Barry University

Conference Title: CONTEMPT, Judge Robert N. Scola, Jr., of the 11th Judicial Circuit of Florida

Conference Title: REPRESENTING OLDER CHILDREN, Andrea Khoury, American Bar Association and Amy LaMere, Senior Program Attorney, Florida Guardian ad Litem

Conference Title: IN THE TRENCHES: JUVENILE DEPENDENCY CASES FROM SHELTER TO ADOPTION, The Honorable Tracy Sheehan, Circuit Court Judge and Jon Johnson, General Magistrate, Thirteenth Judicial Circuit

Conference Date: Thursday, December 10,

Conference Title: INTERSTATE COMPACT ON THE PLACEMENT OF CHILDREN (ICPC), Steve Pennypacker Esq., Compact Administrator, Florida Department of Children and Families

Conference Title: MASTER TRUSTS, Deborah A. Schroth, CLS Counsel for Independent Living, Master Trust and Education.

Conference Title: LEGAL ETHICS IN DEPENDENCY PRACTICE, David Silverstein, Office of the Attorney General, Children's Legal Services Hillsborough County Florida .

Conference Title: VIEW FROM THE BENCH, Judge Altenbernd, Second District Court of Appeals, and Judge Seals, Twentieth Circuit Court.

Conference Title: 2009 LEGISLATIVE UPDATE, Deborah Lacombe, Deputy General Counsel, Legislative Affairs, Statewide Guardian ad Litem Office.

Conference Title: GUARDIANSHIP 101 FOR CHILD ADVOCATES, Shannon M. Miller, MILLER & BRASINGTON, P.L.

Conference Title: EDUCATION: THE FOSTERING CONNECTIONS TO SUCCESS AND INCREASING ADOPTIONS ACT OF 2008, Kristin Kelly and Kathleen M. McNaught,

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Center on Children and the Law, American Bar Association

Conference Title: INDEPENDENT LIVING, Bill Booth, Esq., Juvenile Advocacy Project, Legal Aid Society of Palm Beach County

Conference Title: SEXUAL ABUSE ISSUES & THE KEEPING CHILDREN SAFE ACT, Karen Oehme, J. D., Institute Director, Clearinghouse on Supervised Visitation & Sonia Crockett, J.D.

[Several Additional Trainings are listed on the website.](#)