

The Children's Bureau

Training and Technical Assistance Network 2010 Directory



U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Administration for Children and Families
Administration on Children, Youth and Families
Children's Bureau



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Introduction

This booklet summarizes information on the Children's Bureau Training and Technical Assistance (T&TA) Network, within the Administration for Children and Families (ACF), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

The purpose of the T&TA Network is to build the capacity of State, local, Tribal, and other publicly administered or publicly supported child welfare agencies and family and juvenile courts through the provision of training, technical assistance, research, and consultation on the full array of Federal requirements administered by the Children's Bureau.

T&TA Network members provide assistance to States and Tribes in improving child welfare systems and conformity with the outcomes and systemic factors defined in the Child and Family Services Reviews (CFSRs) and the results of other monitoring reviews conducted by the Children's Bureau to ensure the safety, permanency, and well-being of children and families. This booklet is designed to communicate to States and Tribes the specific focus of each T&TA Network member.

Many State and Tribal requests for training and technical assistance are made to Regional ACF offices. For a listing of Regional ACF offices and the States they serve, visit the ACF website:

www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/oro

This booklet is available on the Children's Bureau website:

www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/tta/index.htm

National Child Welfare Resource Center for Organizational Improvement (NRCOI)

www.nrcoi.org

The NRCOI strengthens and supports State and Tribal agencies committed to the welfare of children, youth, and families through training, technical assistance, research, and evaluation. Its aim is to improve management and operations, bolster organizational capacity, promote service integration, and develop supervisory and management systems that result in improved outcomes for children and families.

GOAL

Help child welfare agencies refine their management and operations, expand organizational capacity, and foster effective and consistent practice, all with the explicit purpose of improving outcomes for children, youth, and families

HOW WE HELP

- Hone technical assistance requests to focus on developing systemic changes that will improve agency functioning, practice, and outcomes
- Prepare and plan for Child and Family Services Reviews (CFSRs) and Program Improvement Plans (PIPs) to achieve agency goals and improve outcomes
- Develop quality assurance and quality improvement systems
- Engage leadership and stakeholders in creating and using integrated strategic plans
- Involve stakeholders in collaborative systemic change strategies and ongoing agency initiatives
- Assess and improve training systems
- Implement workforce improvement strategies, including strengthening child welfare supervision
- Host three national peer networks
- Present an annual teleconference and webinar series, the *Child Welfare Matters* newsletter, research, and other publications

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Address: University of Southern Maine
Muskie School of Public Service
P.O. Box 9300, 34 Bedford Street
Portland, ME 04104

Phone: 800.HELP.KID (435.7543) or
207.780.5878

Email: helpkids@usm.maine.edu

Contact: Peter Watson, Director

National Resource Center for Child Protective Services (NRCCPS)

www.nrccps.org

The NRCCPS provides expert consultation, technical assistance, and training in all areas of child protective services, including intake, assessment, case planning, ongoing safety management, removal and reunification decision making, ongoing services and case closure.

The NRCCPS helps to build the capacity of State, local, Tribal, and other publicly administered or supported child welfare agencies to achieve safety, permanency, and well-being for children and families.

GOAL

Assist jurisdictions with system and practice issues that help improve the prevention, reporting, assessment, and treatment of child abuse and neglect

HOW WE HELP

- Plan and implement systemic changes for States' Program Improvement Plans
- Provide technical assistance and consultation onsite and technology-based methods
- Develop and deliver resource materials, guidelines, and protocols to increase capacity to ensure staff and supervisory competence
- Identify and disseminate evidence-based practices
- Provide expertise for practice and decision-making when child maltreatment is accompanied by substance abuse, domestic violence, and mental health issues
- Provide expertise on requirements of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act, Adoption and Safe Families Act, and Indian Child Welfare Act
- Support peer-to-peer networking for State liaison officers, Children's Justice Act grantees, and Citizen Review Panels

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Address: 925 #4 Sixth Street NW
Albuquerque, NM 87102

Phone: 505.345.2444

Email: tcostello@earthlink.net

Contact: Theresa Costello, Director

National Resource Center on Legal and Judicial Issues (NRCLJI)

www.abanet.org/child/rcjlji

The NRCLJI provides expertise to State and Tribal agencies and courts on legal and judicial aspects of child welfare.

Areas of focus include permanency decision-making, adherence to the Adoption and Safe Families Act and other Federal laws, the court's role in the Child and Family Services Reviews (CFSRs) and child welfare reform, high quality legal representation for all parties, performance measurement for courts, data exchange between child welfare agencies and courts, judicial leadership, education needs of children in foster care, and legal ethics.

GOAL

Achieve safety, permanence, and well-being for abused and neglected children through improved laws and judicial decision-making

HOW WE HELP

- Assist with agency-court collaborations
- Collect and analyze agency and court data
- Identify legal barriers to best practice and recommend strategies to overcome barriers
- Promote legal system stakeholder involvement
- Help develop specific legal and judicial strategies to address issues identified in a State's CFSR and technical assistance package
- Provide tailored training and technical help as determined by a State's Program Improvement Plan and Court Improvement Project strategic plan

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Address: 740 15th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005

Phone: 202.662.1747

Email: rennej@staff.abanet.org

Contact: Jennifer Renne, Director
Scott Trowbridge, Program Specialist,
trowbris@staff.abanet.org
Nancy Miller, NCJFCJ
Gene Flango, NCSC

National Resource Center for In-Home Services (NRCIHS)

<http://nrcinhome.socialwork.uiowa.edu>

The NRCIHS serves as a national center of expertise regarding child welfare practice related to ensuring the safety of children and youth in their homes and making reasonable efforts to preserve families in which maltreatment has occurred.

The NRCIHS is responsible for providing T&TA to build the capacities of State and Tribal child welfare systems to safely maintain children in their homes; prevent children's initial placement or reentry into foster care; preserve, support, and stabilize families; and promote the well-being of children, youth, and families. The NRCIHS helps facilitate systemic changes to improve the administration, delivery, and effectiveness of child welfare practices and services that are sometimes described as family preservation, family support, placement prevention, tertiary prevention, and post-reunification.

GOAL

Provide T&TA for effective and promising alternatives to out-of-home care and build the capacity of State, local, and Tribal systems to provide services that will ensure the safety and well-being of children and youth in their homes while preserving, supporting, and stabilizing families

HOW WE HELP

- Provide TA to States and Tribes on alternatives to out-of-home placement
- Conduct a national assessment of current practices in in-home services delivery
- Sponsor an annual meeting for State Promoting Safe and Stable Families program administrators
- Develop and disseminate resources on in-home services
- Establish an in-home services advisory board

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Address: University of Iowa Research Park
W206 Oakdale Hall
Iowa City, IA 52242

Phone: 319.335.4932

Email: lisa-daunno@uiowa.edu

Contact: Lisa D'Aunno, Project Director

National Resource Center for Permanency and Family Connections (NRC-PFC)

www.nrcpfc.org

The NRC-PFC customizes an array of services for each request to support States, territories, and Tribes in sustainable, systemic change efforts producing greater safety, permanency, and well-being for children, youth, and families.

The NRC-PFC offers onsite technical assistance and in-depth information services in collaboration with family partners to assist in the implementation of new strategies, expand knowledge, increase competencies, and expand commitment to family-centered practice by child welfare professionals at all levels.

GOAL

Build capacity in child welfare systems to enhance child and family outcomes pertinent to permanency achievement, placement stability, and a wide range of other foster care and well-being issues

HOW WE HELP

- Support practice to engage youth and families at all levels of the system
- Build partnerships with courts, legal personnel, and community partners
- Promote visiting between workers and family members and among families
- Support Fostering Connections implementation and grantees
- Promote effective concurrent planning
- Support competent practice with all families including lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender families
- Involve fathers and paternal resources

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Address: Hunter College School of Social Work
129 East 79th Street, Ste. 801
New York, NY 10075

Phone: 212.452.7043

Email: gmallon@hunter.cuny.edu

Contact: Gerald P. Mallon, Executive Director

National Resource Center for Child Welfare Data and Technology (NRC-CWDT)

www.nrcwdt.org

The NRC-CWDT provides a range of T&TA for data and information systems issues to improve the quality of data that is collected, build the capacity to use the information for decision-making in daily practice, and develop or improve case management and data collection systems.

The technical assistance provided by the NRC-CWDT focuses on information systems, technology, and the use of data. The NRC-CWDT works to improve the quality of data reported to the Federal Government in the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) and the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS).

Technical assistance also is provided for the Child and Family Services Review (CFSR) data profile and other Federal legislative requirements, policies, and initiatives.

The NRC-CWDT coordinates the Children's Bureau's annual data and technology conference.

GOAL

Assist State and Tribal child welfare agencies and courts in improving outcomes for children and families in the child welfare system through the use of data and information technology

HOW WE HELP

- Assist with building the capacity to analyze and use data throughout an organization
- Provide tailored assistance with AFCARS and court-agency data exchanges
- Improve data quality
- Coordinate peer consultations among States, Tribes, and/or courts that have similar issues
- Support States in the CFSR process

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Address: 2345 Crystal Drive, Ste. 250
Arlington, VA 22202

Phone: 703.263.2024

Email: nrcwdt@cwla.org

Contact: Lynda Arnold, Director, larnold@cwla.org

**National Resource Center
for Adoption (NRCA)**

www.nrcadoption.org

The NRCA works with States, Tribes, and agencies to increase States' capacity in adoption. The center works to improve the effectiveness and quality of adoption and postadoption services provided to children and their families.

GOAL

Assist States, Tribes, and other federally funded child welfare agencies in building their capacity to ensure the safety, well-being, and permanency of abused and neglected children through adoption and postadoption program planning, policy development, and practice

HOW WE HELP

- Provide technical assistance, tools, onsite support, and systems to ensure timely permanent family connections for children
- Help build culturally competent systems
- Provide guidance on the Multi-Ethnic Placement Act, as amended
- Promote stakeholder involvement
- Provide T&TA during Child and Family Services Reviews to improve adoption program planning and timely outcomes
- Develop and sustain adoption support and preservation services such as the Adoption Certificate Programs
- Negotiate IV-E adoption assistance agreements
- Collaborate with communities of faith to help support and sustain adoptive families
- Promote workforce development in the Minority Adoption Leadership Institute
- Provide the Adoption Competency Curriculum
- Facilitate the National Association of State Adoption Programs to provide a forum for State adoption program managers

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Address: Spaulding for Children
16250 Northland Drive, Ste. 120
Southfield, MI 48075

Phone: 248.443.0306

Email: nlyons@nrcadoption.org

Contact: Natalie Lyons, Director
John Levesque, Technical Assistance,
jlevesq7@maine.rr.com

**National Resource Center
for Youth Development (NRCYD)**

www.nrcys.ou.edu/yd

The NRCYD helps States incorporate youth into all areas of programs and services, implement services that address legislative requirements, and prepare for Child and Family Services Review (CFSR) and Program Improvement Plan (PIP) development and implementation. The NRCYD bases its technical assistance and training around four core principles: youth development, collaboration, cultural competence, and permanent connections.

GOAL

Increase the capacity and resources of States and Tribes to provide high-quality services to youth in out-of-home placements, former foster youth, and other youth in at-risk situations

HOW WE HELP

- Implement the Foster Care Independence Act of 1999, including the National Youth in Transition Database and other relevant State and Federal legislation
- Develop and maintain a culturally competent workforce that understands the developmental and service needs of diverse youth aged 14 to 26
- Provide strengths-based and youth-driven transition planning services
- Engage youth in all aspects of program planning, delivery, and evaluation
- Self-assess and evaluate youth services and programs
- Develop and maintain collaborations focused on helping youth transition to adulthood and strengthen permanent connections

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Address: 4502 East 41st Street, Bldg. 4W
Tulsa, OK 74135

Phone: 918.660.3700

Email: dansell@ou.edu

Contact: Dorothy I. Ansell, Program Director

National Resource Center for Tribes (NRC4Tribes)

www.nrc4tribes.org

The National Resource Center for Tribes engages Tribes to increase their access to and use of the T&TA Network, brokers T&TA, assists in the provision of T&TA as needed, facilitates peer-to-peer consultation between Tribes regarding child welfare issues, and increases cultural competence and sensitivity to Tribal voices in the T&TA Network and in State child welfare systems.

The NRC4Tribes addresses child welfare needs identified by Tribes, supports efforts for improved Tribal child welfare practice, and works with Tribal child welfare staff to achieve greater safety, permanency, and well-being for children and families. The NRC4Tribes also promotes the delivery of culturally appropriate services to American Indian and Alaska Native children, youth, and families.

GOAL

Enhance the capacities of Tribal agencies, courts, and organizations to support successful child welfare programs and provide effective child welfare services

HOW WE HELP

- Conduct national needs assessments of Tribal child welfare systems
- Support family-centered and community-based practices
- Broker T&TA for Tribes via the T&TA Network
- Function as a case manager in providing T&TA to Tribes
- Convene a national advisory board
- Arrange activities to engage Tribes
- Support peer-to-peer mentoring and networking among Tribal agencies
- Assess cultural competence of T&TA activities of T&TA Network members
- Develop and disseminate toolkits, resource manuals, and other products

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Address: NRC4Tribes
8235 Santa Monica Blvd., Ste. 211
West Hollywood, CA 90046
Phone: 323.650.5467
Email: info@NRC4Tribes.org
Contact: Jerry Gardner, Interim Director

National Resource Center for Recruitment and Retention of Foster and Adoptive Parents at AdoptUsKids (NRCRRFAP)

www.adoptuskids.org

AdoptUsKids is operated by the Adoption Exchange Association. NRCRRFAP provides T&TA to States, Tribes, and territories for the development and implementation of high-quality services to recruit and retain foster and adoptive families. T&TA is supplied for customer service, diligent recruitment, interjurisdictional placement, and photolistings of children waiting for adoption.

The NRCRRFAP also assists States with elements of Child and Family Services Reviews including Program Improvement Plans, 5-year Child and Family Services Plans, and Annual Progress and Services Reports.

GOAL

Assist States, Tribes, and territories in adoptive and foster family recruitment and retention and serve as lead national resource center to deliver interjurisdictional placement services to States

HOW WE HELP

- Support States, Tribes, and territories in developing a pool of waiting families that reflects the diverse characteristics of children and youth awaiting foster and adoptive families
- Increase the effective use of cross-jurisdictional resources to facilitate timely permanency options for waiting children
- Promote the role of resource parents in recruitment and retention planning
- Enhance worker capacity and satisfaction with their work in recruitment and retention
- Assist States, Tribes, and territories in ensuring their recruitment and retention efforts are driven by promising practices and achieve desired outcomes for families and children

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Address: 8015 Corporate Drive, Ste. C
Baltimore, MD 21236
Phone: 888.200.4005 or 410.933.5700
Email: info@adoptuskids.org
Contact: Sharri Black, NRC Director
Kathy Ledesma, **AdoptUsKids** Project Director

Child Welfare Information Gateway

www.childwelfare.gov

Child Welfare Information Gateway provides information services to child welfare professionals and the public as the clearinghouse for the Children's Bureau, compiling, synthesizing, and disseminating resources on the safety, permanency, and well-being of children and families.

Child welfare and related professionals can rely on Information Gateway for quick access to publications, websites, and online databases covering a range of topics, including child welfare, child abuse and neglect, foster care, adoption, and the content areas for which the T&TA Network members provide technical assistance.

GOAL

Promote the safety, permanency, and well-being of children and families by supplying child welfare, adoption, and other professionals—as well as the general public—with timely, essential information

HOW WE HELP

- Connect users to information and resources about topics that include:
 - Family-centered practice
 - Preventing and responding to child abuse and neglect
 - Supporting and preserving families
 - Achieving and maintaining permanency
 - Adoption
- Supply web-based information on all aspects of child welfare for professionals
- Offer print and electronic publications, including many in Spanish
- Maintain a comprehensive library of child welfare documents and other media
- Provide online access to subscription services
- Host specialized databases: National Foster Care & Adoption Directory and State Statutes

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Address: Children's Bureau/ACYF
1250 Maryland Avenue, SW, Eighth Floor
Washington, DC 20024

Phone: 800.394.3366

Email: info@childwelfare.gov

Contact: Pamela Day, Co-Director
Mike Torpy, Co-Director

National Data Archive on Child Abuse and Neglect (NDACAN)

www.ndacan.cornell.edu

The NDACAN, a project of the Family Life Development Center in the College of Human Ecology at Cornell University in Ithaca, NY, serves as a repository for high-quality datasets relevant to the study and prevention of child maltreatment.

The NDACAN conducts an annual Summer Research Institute to provide training in secondary data analysis to child maltreatment researchers. It combines classroom instruction with hands-on experience. Participants are selected on a competitive basis from disciplines such as psychology, social work, and medicine.

The NDACAN also moderates an online Child Maltreatment Research discussion group in which researchers from all areas of child abuse and neglect contribute.

GOAL

Support the research of child maltreatment scholars and promote secondary data analysis as a tool to advance scientific understanding

HOW WE HELP

- Acquire and process child maltreatment data for dissemination
- Provide technical assistance to data users
- Distribute several free publications
- Moderate a listserv to facilitate information exchange and networking among researchers in child abuse and neglect

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Address: Family Life Development Center
Cornell University
Beebe Hall
Ithaca, NY 14853

Phone: 607.255.7799

Email: ndacan@cornell.edu

Contact: John J. Eckenrode, Director
Elliott G. Smith, Associate Director

National Technical Assistance and Evaluation Center for Child Welfare Systems of Care Grantees

www.childwelfare.gov/management/reform/soc/communicate/initiative/ntaec.cfm

The center produces information and develops resources on the development, implementation, and effectiveness of the Children's Bureau Improving Child Welfare Outcomes Through Systems of Care initiative.

Systems of care is based on the principles of interagency collaboration; individualized, strengths-based care practices; cultural competence; community-based services; accountability; and full participation of families at all levels of the system. Systems of care serves as a framework for guiding processes and activities designed to meet the needs of children, youth, and families.

GOAL

Promote systems of care as a service delivery approach that builds partnerships to create a broad, integrated process for meeting families' multiple needs

HOW WE HELP

- Identify needs and support the development, implementation, and sustainability of systems of care efforts
- Create and distribute products to help implement the systems of care framework
- Develop products to support understanding of systems of care
- Conduct a national cross-site evaluation of the implementation of systems of care in the demonstration sites
- Develop products that integrate evaluation findings and other information to support wide understanding and implementation of systems of care

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Address: ICF International
9300 Lee Highway
Fairfax, VA 22031
Phone: 703.934.3000
Email: AGray@icfi.com
Contact: Aracelis Gray, Director

Training and Technical Assistance to State Legislators on the Child and Family Services Reviews

www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/tta/state_legs.htm

The Training and Technical Assistance to State Legislators on the Child and Family Services Reviews (CFSRs) initiative identifies and shares with State child welfare agencies strategies for engaging State legislators in child welfare reform efforts and the CFSR and Program Improvement Plan (PIP) processes. It promotes links between State legislators and child welfare agencies through onsite T&TA events in States, T&TA reports, and presentations at national conferences.

T&TA is provided by JBS International, Inc. (JBS), and its subcontractor, the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL), as a component of the JBS contract to support the Children's Bureau in carrying out the CFSRs.

GOAL

Engage State legislators in the CFSRs and PIPs, and support State agencies in obtaining legislative collaboration on key agency initiatives

HOW WE HELP

- Assist State agencies in developing long-term strategies for building positive relationships with State legislatures
- Make presentations to legislators at critical points in the CFSR process: Statewide Assessments, onsite reviews, Final Report release, and/or PIP development
- Provide a national context for State CFSR results to promote collaboration and legislative engagement in PIPs
- Train legislators and their staffs on the review process when States seek to involve legislators and staff directly in the reviews
- Deliver presentations to new legislators on the functioning of child welfare systems and the CFSRs ("Child Welfare 101")

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Phone: 301.495.1080
Email: legta@jbsinternational.com
Contact: Randi Walters (JBS)

**National Child Welfare
Workforce Institute (NCWWI)**
www.ncwwi.org

The NCWWI conducts a range of activities to support leadership development, skill-building, and professional growth. These include development and delivery of child welfare leadership training curricula to middle managers and supervisors; facilitation of national peer networks of child welfare trainees, students, and leaders; strategic dissemination of effective and promising leadership and workforce practices; implementation of B.S.W. and M.S.W. traineeship programs in partnership with 12 universities; and an extensive project evaluation.

The NCWWI advances Federal priorities while supporting training systems and workforce initiatives at State and national levels.

GOAL

Build the capacity of the nation's child welfare workforce and improve outcomes for children, youth, and families through activities that support the development of skilled child welfare leaders

HOW WE HELP

- Convene an NCWWI Advisory Committee
- Identify best practices in workforce development, leadership, and cultural responsiveness and developing training curricula
- Provide national leadership training for middle managers and distance learning opportunities for supervisors
- Implement M.S.W. and B.S.W. traineeships in child welfare in partnership with 12 universities
- Coordinate peer networks around workforce and leadership issues
- Serve as a resource on workforce issues
- Disseminate evidence-based, effective, and promising workforce practices

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Address: School of Social Work
University at Albany
114 Richardson Hall
135 Western Avenue
Albany, NY 12222

Phone: 410.706.3740

Email: ndickinson@ssw.umaryland.edu

Contact: Nancy Dickinson, Project Director

**National Quality Improvement Center
on Non-Resident Fathers and the
Child Welfare System (QIC-NRF)**
www.fatherhoodqic.org

The Children's Bureau funded the American Humane Association and its partners, the American Bar Association Center on Children and the Law and the National Fatherhood Initiative, to create the QIC-NRF in 2006. The project came as a result of the Child and Family Services Reviews (CFSRs) and the report "What About the Dads?" The finding that little meaningful engagement occurs between the child welfare system and fathers or other paternal relatives is consistent with recent findings across most States.

After conducting a national needs assessment on issues contributing to the lack of involvement of nonresident fathers with child welfare, along with activities toward identification, location, contact, and engagement of fathers, and on the barriers to interagency coordination, the QIC-NRF funded four demonstration projects in Colorado, Indiana, Texas, and Washington to answer the question, "How is overall child safety, permanency, and well-being affected as a result of increased father engagement?"

GOAL

Determine the impact of nonresident father involvement on child welfare outcomes

HOW WE HELP

- Promote a research-based and outcome-focused approach of best practices to engage nonresident fathers and the paternal family
- Determine the impact of father involvement on child safety, permanency, and well-being outcomes
- Facilitate problem-solving networks that include subgrantees, the Children's Bureau, public child welfare agencies, private service providers, child support enforcement, the courts and legal systems, and other stakeholders

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Address: American Humane Association
63 Inverness Drive East
Englewood, CO 80112

Phone: 303.925.9454

Email: soniav@americanhumane.org

Contact: Sonia Velazquez, Principal Investigator

**National Quality Improvement
Center on the Privatization of Child
Welfare Services (QIC-PCW)**
www.uky.edu/SocialWork/qicpcw

The QIC-PCW funds and conducts research to build and disseminate knowledge about privatized child welfare services.

After conducting a national needs assessment and knowledge gaps analysis, the QIC-PCW is now funding and assisting child welfare privatization projects in three States, conducting a cross-site analysis of their progress and outcomes, and disseminating knowledge and lessons learned.

GOAL

Build knowledge and inform decision-making about public/private partnerships in child welfare service delivery

HOW WE HELP

- Promote and support an evidence-based and outcome-focused approach to child welfare system development and organizational improvement
- Build consensus on models of reform and the roles of public and private agencies, and recommend focus areas for child welfare policy and evaluation fields
- Facilitate a data-sharing and problem-solving network among subgrantees, the Children's Bureau's T&TA Network, public child welfare agencies, private service providers, and other stakeholders
- Disseminate resources from research projects on public/private child welfare partnerships

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Address: University of Kentucky
College of Social Work
1 Quality Street, Ste. 700
Lexington, KY 40507

Phone: 502.852.3174

Email: crystal.collinscamargo@louisville.edu

Contact: Crystal Collins-Camargo, Project Director

**National Quality Improvement Center
on Differential Response in Child
Protective Services (QIC-DR)**
www.differentialresponseqic.org

The QIC-DR supports knowledge development on the effectiveness of differential response in child welfare services. After identifying knowledge gaps and research priorities, the QIC-DR now supports three research and demonstration sites that address differential response across systems that promote family strengths and keep children safe: neighborhood and community organizations, prevention programs, child protection, child welfare, health, education, housing, and financial and family support.

The QIC-DR also supports dissertation research and the development of a dissemination process that will provide the latest data to practitioners, policymakers, administrators, and researchers.

GOAL

Generate knowledge on effective differential response practice models in child protective systems (CPS) and support the infrastructure needed at State and local levels to improve child welfare outcomes for children and families referred for suspected maltreatment

HOW WE HELP

- Develop knowledge about improving outcomes for children and families in the child welfare system by implementing differential response CPS models
- Promote collaborative problem-solving among selected projects and doctoral students receiving dissertation support
- Develop and implement CPS differential response research and demonstration projects
- Establish a national data-sharing network to share information on promising practices
- Evaluate differential response models on outcomes for children and families who are referred for suspected child maltreatment

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Address: American Humane Association
63 Inverness Drive
East Englewood, CO 80112

Phone: 303-925-9421

Email: lisa@americanhumane.org

Contact: Lisa Merkel-Holguin, Project Director

National Quality Improvement Center on Early Childhood (QIC-EC)

www.qic-ec.org/index.php

The QIC-EC supports collaborative research and demonstration projects across child abuse prevention, child welfare, early childhood, and other health, education, and social service systems. The QIC-EC engages in knowledge development activities to identify characteristics, challenges, and knowledge gaps about models that have been shown to reduce the incidence of child abuse and neglect.

Additionally the QIC-EC supports projects that focus on gathering evidence of child abuse and neglect prevention, effective collaborations and systems, and how these efforts can result in better outcomes for the children and families who are at greatest risk for child maltreatment.

GOAL

Promote the development, dissemination, and integration of new knowledge about maltreatment prevention among children aged 0 to 5 and their families who are at risk of abuse and neglect, including those affected by substance abuse and/or HIV/AIDS

HOW WE HELP

- Develop evidence-based and evidence-informed maltreatment prevention strategies aimed at increasing protective factors and decreasing risk factors
- Evaluate the impact of evidence-based and evidence-informed maltreatment prevention strategies on optimal child development, increased family strengths, and reduced likelihood of child abuse and neglect
- Establish a national data network for sharing information on promising practices
- Support dissertation research in the prevention of child abuse and neglect and the promotion of child and family well-being

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Address: National QIC on Early Childhood
Center for the Study of Social Policy
1575 Eye Street, NW, Ste. 500
Washington, DC 20005

Phone: 202.371.1565

Email: charlyn.harperbrowne@cssp.org

Contact: Charlyn Harper Browne, Project Director

National Quality Improvement Center on the Representation of Children in the Child Welfare System (QIC-ChildRep)

www.ImproveChildRep.org

The QIC-ChildRep works to improve both the quality and quantity of competent legal representation for children and youth in child welfare cases. Not only does this benefit case management and access to services for children, but ultimately it will improve child safety, permanency, and well-being.

GOAL

Gather, develop, and communicate knowledge on child representation that presents the strengths and weaknesses of varying methods of representing children, promotes consensus on the role of the child's legal representative, and provides an empirically based analysis of how legal representation for the child might best be delivered

HOW WE HELP

- Compile a national assessment of the state of representation of children in the child welfare system as of 2010
- Identify representation models that seem the most promising in delivering good results for children and for achieving overall systemic goals of safety, permanency, and child well-being
- Prepare to fund demonstration projects on legal representation of children
- Promote certification of lawyers as specialists in child welfare law
- Participate in knowledge development and dissemination

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Address: 312 Legal Research Building
University of Michigan Law School
625 S. State Street
Ann Arbor, MI 48109

Phone: 734.764.4000

Email: duquette@umich.edu

Contact: Donald N. Duquette, Project Director
Clinical Professor of Law

**National Abandoned Infants
Assistance (AIA) Resource Center**
<http://aia.berkeley.edu>

AIA service programs receive discretionary grant funding from the Children's Bureau to prevent child abandonment and to address the permanency, safety, and well-being of infants, young children, and their families who are affected by HIV/AIDS and/or substance abuse. The AIA Resource Center provides training, information, consultation and resources to AIA service providers, as well as other public and community-based agencies, that assist these children and their families.

GOAL

Enhance the quality of social and health services delivered to abandoned children, and those at risk of abandonment due to the presence of drugs and/or HIV in the family

HOW WE HELP

- Provide training to professionals via conferences, skills-building seminars, webcasts, teleconferences, and online tutorials
- Conduct individualized information and referral searches in response to requests
- Produce and disseminate a biannual magazine, factsheets, issue briefs, monographs, and reports
- Maintain an interactive website with information, resources, and archived training
- Examine emerging practice and policy issues by conducting research, including focus groups and groups of technical experts
- Provide dedicated training and education services to AIA projects
- Assist Federal grantees in disseminating their expertise, findings, and lessons learned
- Collaborate with the University of Missouri Kansas City Institute on Human Development to produce and disseminate annual cross-site evaluations of AIA projects

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Address: University of California, Berkeley
1950 Addison Street, Ste. 104
Berkeley, CA 94720
Phone: 510.643.8390
Email: aia@berkeley.edu
Contact: Jeanne Pietrzak, Director

**National Resource Center
for Community-Based Child
Abuse Prevention (FRIENDS)**
www.friendsnrc.org

FRIENDS (Family Resource, Information, Education, and Network Development Services) provides training, technical assistance, and information to Federal grantee agencies implementing the grants for Community-Based Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention (CBCAP), under the Keeping Children and Families Safe Act of 2003. FRIENDS helps CBCAP State Lead Agencies build capacity in the full array of CBCAP program requirements, including outcome accountability, parent leadership, evidence-based and evidence-informed practices, peer review logic, models collaboration, and systems change.

GOAL

Build the capacity of State CBCAP Lead Agencies and communities to prevent child abuse and neglect and strengthen and support families

HOW WE HELP

- Foster an understanding and appreciation of diverse populations to prevent and treat child abuse and neglect
- Facilitate efforts in planning and developing a network of community-based programs and activities designed to strengthen and support families and prevent child abuse and neglect
- Conduct needs assessments to identify unmet needs and incorporate findings from other statewide needs assessment processes
- Promote parent leadership, especially for parents of children with disabilities, racial and ethnic minorities, and other groups
- Maximize funds for financing, planning, and operating child abuse prevention programs
- Support States in Program Improvement Plans resulting from Child and Family Services Reviews

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Address: 800 Eastowne Drive, Ste. 105
Chapel Hill, NC 27514
Phone: 919.490.5577 x222
Email: lbaker3@nc.rr.com
Contact: Linda Baker, Program Director

Atlantic Coast Child Welfare Implementation Center (ACCWIC)

www.accwic.org

The five regional Implementation Centers expand the T&TA Network's ability to provide indepth and long-term consultation and support to States and Tribes. In addition to working with the T&TA Network, each center has formal partnerships with States and Tribes in its region to execute programs that use strategies to achieve sustainable, systemic change for greater safety, permanency, and well-being for families.

SERVING

- Region III (Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and West Virginia)
- Region IV (Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee; *Tribes*: Catawba, Cherokee, Choctaw, Miccosukee, Poarch Band of Creek Indians, and Seminole)

HOW WE HELP

- Host regional forums, such as Navigating Change in Child Welfare, which included presentations on the T&TA Network, systems change, promising child welfare reforms and practices, and how to apply for implementation projects
- Establish the ACCWIC Learning Community, a peer-to-peer information exchange for effective implementation and achieving sustainable systems change
- Provide intensive, coordinated, and individualized technical assistance to Round 1 implementation projects to publicly funded child welfare agencies in Federal Regions III and IV

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Address: University of Maryland, Baltimore
School of Social Work
525 West Redwood Street
Baltimore, MD 21201

Phone: 410.706.1442

Email: info@accwic.org

Contact: Diane DePanfilis, Principal Investigator
Cathy Fisher, Project Director

Midwest Child Welfare Implementation Center (MCWIC)

www.mcwic.org

The five regional Implementation Centers expand the T&TA Network's ability to provide indepth and long-term consultation and support to States and Tribes. In addition to working with the T&TA Network, each center has formal partnerships with States and Tribes in its region to execute programs that use strategies to achieve sustainable, systemic change for greater safety, permanency, and well-being for families.

SERVING

- Region V (Ohio, Indiana, Michigan, Wisconsin, Illinois, and Minnesota; *Tribes*: see full list of 25 Tribes at www.mcwic.org/who-we-serve)
- Region VII (Nebraska, Iowa, Missouri, and Kansas; *Tribes*: Omaha Tribe, Ponca Tribe of Nebraska, Santee Sioux Nation, Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska, Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation)

HOW WE HELP

- Support implementation projects, including the Centralized Intake Unit for Indiana for the Department of Child Services, Partnering With Parents for System Change for the Iowa Department of Human Services, and Best Outcomes for Indian Children for the Wisconsin Department of Children and Families
- Improve the quality and performance of child welfare services, based on needs identified by the child welfare agency
- Provide expertise and resources needed to enhance agency capacity to implement and sustain systemic change
- Facilitate communication and peer-to-peer networking across State and Tribal systems
- Build and disseminate knowledge about effective implementation in child welfare

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Address: Midwest Child Welfare
Implementation Center
206 S. 13th Street, Ste. 1000
Lincoln, NE 68588

Phone: 1.888.523.8055

Email: mells@ccfl.unl.edu

Contact: Mark Ells, Project Director
Michelle Graef, Project Director

**Mountains and Plains Child Welfare
Implementation Center (MPCWIC)**

www.mpcwic.org

The five regional Implementation Centers expand the T&TA Network's ability to provide indepth and long-term consultation and support to States and Tribes. In addition to working with the T&TA Network, each center has formal partnerships with States and Tribes in its region to execute programs that use strategies to achieve sustainable, systemic change for greater safety, permanency, and well-being for families.

SERVING

- Region VI (Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas; see full listing of Tribes at www.mpcwic.org/region-6-full-listing)
- Region VIII (Colorado, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, and Wyoming; see full listing of Tribes at www.mpcwic.org/region-8-full-listing)

HOW WE HELP

- Support implementation projects in States and Tribes such as Colorado, New Mexico, Osage Nation, Three Affiliated Tribes, and Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa
- Provide implementation expertise through intensive, long-term technical assistance
- Execute projects intended to achieve sustainable, systemic practice change
- Implement strategies that result in greater safety, permanency, and well-being for children, youth, and families
- Facilitate peer-to-peer learning and networking across State and Tribal child welfare agencies

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Address: University of Texas at Arlington
School of Social Work
211 South Cooper Street
Arlington, TX 76019

Phone: 817.272.9190

Contact: Donna Cleveland, Administrative Assistant, dcleveland@uta.edu
Susan Ferrari, Project Coordinator, sferrari@uta.edu
Dr. Maria Scannapieco, Principal Investigator, msscannapieco@uta.edu

**Northeast and Caribbean Child Welfare
Implementation Center (NCIC)**

<http://muskie.usm.maine.edu/ncic>

The five regional Implementation Centers expand the T&TA Network's ability to provide indepth and long-term consultation and support to States and Tribes. In addition to working with the T&TA Network, each center has formal partnerships with States and Tribes in its region to execute programs that use strategies to achieve sustainable, systemic change for greater safety, permanency, and well-being for families.

SERVING

- Region I (Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont; *Tribes:* Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians, Narragansett Indian Tribe, Passamaquoddy Tribe at Pleasant Point, Penobscot Nation, Wampanoag Tribe of Gay Head [Aquinnah])
- Region II (New Jersey, New York, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands)

HOW WE HELP

- Hold regional forums and gatherings for agency and Tribal leaders, managers, and social service directors from each State, territory, and Tribe receiving Title IV-B funding
- Provide formal and informal peer networking opportunities to share implementation-related experience, support, and problem-solving
- Support intensive implementation projects offering resources, technical assistance, and long-term support
- Provide T&TA to States, territories, and Tribes to enhance their implementation activities and knowledge

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Address: University of Southern Maine
Muskie School of Public Service
P.O. Box 9300, 34 Bedford Street
Portland, ME 04104

Phone: 207.780.5840

Email: mlocke@usm.maine.edu

Contact: Susan Kanak, Project Director
Susan Maciolek, Co-Principal Investigator
Kris Sahonchik, Co-Principal Investigator

Western and Pacific Child Welfare Implementation Center (WPIC)

www.wpicenter.org

The five regional Implementation Centers expand the T&TA Network's ability to provide indepth and long-term consultation and support to States and Tribes. In addition to working with the T&TA Network, each center has formal partnerships with States and Tribes in its region to execute programs that use strategies to achieve sustainable, systemic change for greater safety, permanency, and well-being for families.

SERVING

- Region IX (Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada, American Samoa, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Guam, Marshall Islands, and Republic of Palau)
- Region X (Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, and Washington)

HOW WE HELP

- Support efforts to implement systems change in projects with the Central Council of Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska, Los Angeles County, and the Navajo Nation
- Facilitate peer networking via webinars and conference calls, a listserv, a regional forum, and training opportunities
- Develop and disseminate resources and best practices for the process of implementing systems change
- Promote organizational readiness for change
- Improve cross-system collaboration and promote shared accountability for child welfare outcomes
- Engage families and youth in achieving systems change
- Integrate cultural and linguistic competence

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Address: American Institutes for Research
1000 Thomas Jefferson Street, NW
Washington, DC 20007

Phone: 202.403.5000

Email: mgautreau@air.org

Contact: Marketa Gautreau, Project Director
Regenia Hicks, Co-Principal Investigator
Terry Cross, Co-Principal Investigator

National Center on Substance Abuse and Child Welfare (NCSACW)

www.ncsacw.samhsa.gov

The NCSACW works to develop knowledge and provide technical assistance to Federal, State, and local agencies and Tribes to improve outcomes for families with substance use disorders who are involved in the child welfare and family court systems. The NCSACW develops cross-system partnerships and practice changes to alleviate the consequences of substance use disorders among families in the child welfare system. Assistance is provided at no charge.

GOAL

Improve systems and practice for families with substance use disorders who are involved in the child welfare and family judicial systems by assisting local, State, and Tribal agencies

HOW WE HELP

- Supply resources such as publications, journal articles, research, and statistics
- Advise on screening and assessment for family engagement, retention, and recovery
- Present at conferences
- Facilitate clinical and policy workgroups of substance abuse and child welfare staff and judicial officers and attorneys
- Assist States in Child and Family Services Review responses and Program Improvement Plans
- Provide information on data analysis and cross-system data links
- Answer questions and make referrals to other experts in the field
- Provide indepth technical assistance for sites selected through a solicitation process
- Provide accredited tutorials and training modules
- Maintain an extensive library of resources on substance abuse, child welfare and Tribal child welfare, and family court systems

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Address: 4940 Irvine Boulevard, Ste. 202
Irvine, CA 92620

Phone: 714.505.3525

Email: ncsacw@cffutures.org

Contact: Nancy K. Young, Director
Cathleen Otero, Deputy Director
Larisa Owen, TA Services Director

National Technical Assistance Center for Children's Mental Health (TA Center)

<http://gucchdtacenter.georgetown.edu>

The TA Center provides assistance to States, Tribes, territories, and communities to build systems of care that enhance access to quality care and improve outcomes for children, youth and families with, or at-risk of, emotional disorders. The center provides information, technical assistance, and training on systems of care and to cross system audiences.

GOAL

Promote service delivery that is community-based; comprehensive, coordinated, and collaborative across systems; in partnership with families and youth; culturally and linguistically competent; strengths-based; and individualized to meet the mental health needs of children, youth, and families, including those at risk or involved in the child welfare system

HOW WE HELP

- Offer training institutes, leadership development, policy academies, and conference call series that infuse child welfare perspectives into the center's work
- Identify and disseminate approaches for improving mental health outcomes for children, youth, and families in the child welfare system
- Supply individualized technical assistance for States including consultation, facilitation, presentations, and workshops
- Serve as a mental health system of care resource for the Federal T&TA Network
- Assist child welfare agencies to help families and youth understand their rights and responsibilities and to advocate for themselves
- Promote child welfare engagement in the Building Bridges and Healthy Transitions initiatives

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Address: 3300 Whitehaven Street, NW, Ste. 3300
Washington, DC 20057

Phone: 202.687.8855

Email: childrensmh@georgetown.edu

Contact: Jim Wotring, Director
Debra Cady, Director of Child Welfare Policy

Technical Assistance Partnership for Child and Family Mental Health (TA Partnership)

www.tapartnership.org

The TA Partnership provides technical assistance to system of care (SOC) communities funded by the Comprehensive Community Mental Health Services for Children and Their Families program.

The TA Partnership helps communities transform the way services are delivered to children and families by emphasizing the SOC philosophy of delivering services that are community-based, family-driven, youth-guided, and culturally competent.

GOAL

Help communities build systems of care to meet the mental health needs of children, youth, and families, including those at risk or involved in the child welfare system

HOW WE HELP

- Promote SOC principles and values
- Implement technical assistance strategies that promote family-professional partnerships
- Promote the use of effective evidence-based clinical interventions
- Facilitate collaboration within and among multiple systems in SOC communities in addressing the mental health needs of children and families
- Offer technical assistance through resource specialists, technical assistance coordinators, peer networking, conferences and meetings, webinars, and communities of practice
- Produce and disseminate information and resources through a newsletter, a website, and multiple listservs

FOR MORE INFORMATION

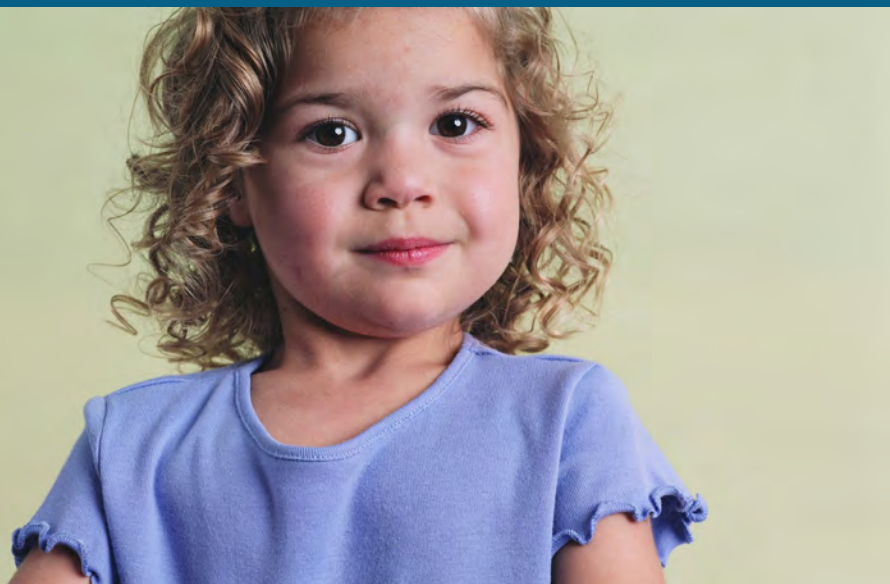
Address: American Institutes for Research
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Contact: Regenia Hicks, Project Director
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The Children's Bureau



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