

Partners In Child Protection Reform October/November 2009 Resource Digest

Greetings Partners in Child Protection Reform!

There are several events coming up in the next few weeks that may be of interest to you or your organization. A number of reports and resources you may find useful have been published in the past month as well. Below are descriptions of each and links to follow for more detailed information. And, as always, do not hesitate to pass along to me any materials you would like to share with Partners in future digests.

Next Partners Meeting

The next Partners in Child Protection Reform meeting will be held

Wednesday, November 11th, 1-3pm

Texas Capitol, Room 3E.4, Austin, TX

Teleconferencing information will be sent with the agenda the week prior.

Upcoming Events

November 16

A **Stakeholder Forum about the Fostering Connections Initiative** will be held by the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS)

Monday, November 16, 2009

2 – 4 p.m.

Department of Family and Protective Services

Winters Building

Public Meeting Room, 1st Floor

701 West 51st Street

Austin, TX

For more information, visit the DFPS web site: [Stakeholder Forum to be held November 16, 2009](#)

November 17

Appellate issues in the termination of parental rights

The next free monthly Brown Bag Lunchtime Child Welfare Continuing Legal Education (CLE) session will discuss appellate issues in termination of parental rights. Two appellate attorneys from the DFPS State Office, Duke Hooten and Trevor Woodruff, will present a review of Section 263.405 of the Texas Family Code and the relevant appellate timelines and other requirements related to appeal of an order terminating parental rights.

Tuesday, November 17, 2009

12 - 1:00pm

Travis County Courthouse

1000 Guadalupe, Austin, TX

Judge Byrne's Courtroom (the 126th District Court)

4th Floor

For more information, contact [Katy Gallagher-Parker](#)

November 19

Improving Urban Services Systems for Children and Families [Webinar –\(Nov. 19\)](#)

This Urban Institute/Chapin Hall webcast on November 19th will address the challenges to improving services for vulnerable families and the necessary steps, partnerships, and strategies to foster success.

December 8

2007 National Survey of Adoptive Parents Webinar

Child Trends will be conducting a free webinar on how to use data from the [2007 National Survey of Adoptive Parents \(NSAP\)](#) on December 8, 2009 at 11am CST. NSAP is the first large, nationally representative survey of adoptive families across adoption types and contains information on the characteristics, adoption experiences, and well-being of adopted children and their families in the U.S. For more information about the webinar, please contact [Sharon Vandivere](#) or [Karin Malm](#) or go to <http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/slait/nsap.htm>.

Reports and Resources

Home Visitation

[Home Visitation: Improving the Lives of Poor Families](#)

In the United States, 42 percent of children under 6, a total of 10.2 million children, live in poverty. This Society for Research in Child Development report says home visitation - sending individuals into homes to match needs with services - is a good way to reach these families. Policymakers' renewed interest in home visitation could signal a new era for this approach to early intervention.

Prevention

[Future of Children: Preventing Child Maltreatment](#)

The field of child maltreatment has increasingly shifted its focus to prevention, driven by investments in families and children. The latest issue of the Future of Children looks at the field, and at programs with evidence of effectiveness. It also examines the role of the child protection system and how it too may be changing. It's a good read!

Sharing program evaluation results

[Writing Reports and Telling Success Stories](#) discusses strategies for sharing the results of an evaluation of a program to build greater public understanding and support for family support/child abuse prevention services. Components of an outcome report are described, as well as strategies for presenting findings to stakeholders, funders, and community members. Available from FRIENDS National Resource Center For Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention <http://www.friendsnrc.org>.

Costs of extending foster care

[Extending Foster Care to Age 21: Weighing the Costs to Government against the Benefits to Youth.](#)

This issue brief provides preliminary estimates of what the potential costs to government and the benefits to young people would be if states extend foster care to age 21. The analysis focuses on the increase in postsecondary educational attainment associated with allowing foster youth to remain in care until they are 21 years old and the resulting increase in lifetime earnings associated with postsecondary education.

A National Study of Male Involvement Among Families in Contact With the Child Welfare System

This study employed data from a sample of 3,978 families in contact with the U.S. child welfare system. The nature of male involvement in these families and its relationship to (a) caseworkers' perception of children's risk for maltreatment rereport and (b) entry into out-of-home care were explored. Results indicate that most caregivers report male involvement, distinct types of male involvement are related to the likelihood of out-of-home care, and households that include nonparental adult males are perceived by caseworkers as relatively risky. No male involvement indicator tested, however, was related to maltreatment rereport. Available from: Sage Publications <http://www.sagepub.com>.