

# PARENT ORIENTATION

Working with  
Child Protective Services

# AGENDA 2.5 HOURS

Housekeeping 15 minutes

Legal Time Frames 45 minutes

Break 15 minutes

Treatment Plan 60 minutes

Questions and Answers 15 minutes

# LEARNING OBJECTIVES

At the end of the session the participant will:

- ◉ Have knowledge of the legal timeframes for children in Department custody
- ◉ Know the role of the PPW.
- ◉ Understand how PS assesses safety and risk.
- ◉ Understand their role in working the court ordered treatment plan.
- ◉ Understand the rules of visitation.
- ◉ Know how to obtain a drug test.
- ◉ Have a basic understanding of concurrent planning.

# LEGAL TIMELINES

Permanency Planning

# LEGAL TIMELINES

Custody hearing

Mediation

Adjudication

Disposition

Initial Judicial Review

First Permanency Hearing

Subsequent Permanency Hearing

Ongoing Permanency Hearings

Termination of Parental Rights Trial

FCMs and other Meetings

# CUSTODY HEARING

- ◉ Occurs at 10 days in custody
- ◉ Probable Cause Hearing
- ◉ Beginning of Parent and Child Assessment Period
- ◉ Initial Plan: Reunification
- ◉ Possible Concurrent plan

# MEDIATION

- ◉ Can occur prior to Adjudication, plea discussion
- ◉ Occurs in most cases, but not all
- ◉ Participants
- ◉ Treatment Plan proposed
- ◉ Court Ordered
- ◉ Can occur at other points during a case

# ADJUDICATION

- ◉ Contest or Plea
- ◉ Held within 60 days of custody hearing
- ◉ PPW will prepare finding of facts
- ◉ Testimony regarding the abuse and or neglect
- ◉ Investigator usually testifies
- ◉ May be additional witnesses



# DISPOSITION

- ◉ Within 30 days of Adjudication
- ◉ Usually at the close of the Adjudication hearing
- ◉ Results of assessments are incorporated into the treatment plan
- ◉ Treatment plan is ordered by the court

# INITIAL JUDICIAL REVIEW

- ⦿ Held within 60 days of the Disposition
- ⦿ Check in with the court, assess parent progress
- ⦿ All parties have an opportunity to speak

# FIRST PERMANENCY HEARING

- ◉ Held within 6 months of the Initial Judicial Review
- ◉ Return home plan presented to the court
- ◉ Trial Home Visit starting within 90 days
- ◉ If no Trial Home Visit plan the Department is required to change the Permanency Plan
- ◉ PPW submits a court report with provider feedback

# SUBSEQUENT PERMANENCY HEARING

- ◉ Held 90 days after the First Permanency Hearing
- ◉ Children must be at home or the Department must change the Permanency Plan
- ◉ Court report with feedback from providers

# PERMANENCY HEARINGS

- Ongoing hearings every 6 months until the case is closed
- PPW submits a report to the court

# TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS TRIAL

- ◉ Held if the plan is adoption
- ◉ Witnesses
- ◉ Rules of evidence apply
- ◉ Decision may be appealed
- ◉ Relinquishment is an option

# FAMILY CENTER MEETINGS

- ◉ Held at various points in the case
- ◉ Held prior to a Trial Home Visit
- ◉ Held prior to change of Permanency Plan
- ◉ Held prior to change in child's placement
  
- ◉ Sometimes held in conjunction with court ordered meetings such as the Pre-Permanency Conference

# TRIAL HOME VISITS

- ◉ The Department continues to have legal custody of the child
- ◉ Duration: 3 to 6 months
- ◉ Parents still follow the court ordered treatment plan
- ◉ Parents responsible for meeting the well being needs of the child
- ◉ PPW will continue to make home visits both scheduled and unscheduled



# TREATMENT PLAN

Court Ordered

# TREATMENT PLAN

- ⦿ Your Input
- ⦿ Safety Threats and Protective Capacities
- ⦿ Risk Assessments
- ⦿ Family strengths and supports

# PPW ROLE IN THE TREATMENT PLAN

- ◉ Assess safety threats and ability to address safety threats
- ◉ Make referrals to appropriate resources
- ◉ Meet with parents monthly to assist you in assessing their progress
- ◉ Follow up with providers to assess parent progress
- ◉ Provide parent with feedback - compliance versus change
- ◉ Report parent progress to the court
- ◉ Assess child safety in foster home
- ◉ Report on child's progress to the court

# PARENT ROLE IN THE TREATMENT PLAN

- ◉ Assess your needs to safely parent the child
- ◉ Make appointments and attend services
- ◉ Actively engage in the change process
- ◉ Attend visitation with the child
- ◉ Participate in all court ordered items including drug testing
- ◉ Attend monthly meetings with the PPW
- ◉ Resist the urge to make excuses or fight with the Department
- ◉ Make the changes necessary to safely parent the child!!!

# PARENT INFORMATION

- ◉ Who's who in the Child Welfare System
- ◉ CYFD acronyms
- ◉ Drug testing procedure
- ◉ Visitation guidelines
- ◉ Family visitation
- ◉ Transportation
- ◉ Accessing services
- ◉ Compliance versus change

# CONCURRENT PLANNING

- ◉ Definition and Goals
- ◉ Identified cases
- ◉ Expectations
- ◉ Relatives - Search and visitation
- ◉ Monthly meetings
- ◉ Foster Parent role

# QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS