

# CHILD PROTECTION BEST PRACTICES BULLETIN

## Innovative Strategies to Achieve Safety, Permanence, and Well-Being

### WHAT IS A BEST PRACTICE?

Best Practices in the world of child protection include a wide range of services and activities that have demonstrated positive outcomes for children and families. Best Practices are child-focused and family-centered and intended to promote the safety, permanency, and well-being of children in our care. Best Practices assure quality and effective oversight and service to children and families.

Some Best Practices primarily involve courts and legal procedures. Others are the focus of child welfare professionals and clinical providers. These practices, however, can and do involve a role for all participants in the child welfare system from the courts and CYFD, to attorneys, advocates, and others. Overall, they provide a recipe for success for all of us.

A number of national organizations conduct research, develop practice, and provide training in child welfare best practices. In addition, many courts and child welfare professionals in New Mexico have implemented their own innovative practices which are proving to be effective in moving children toward safety, permanency, and well-being in a timely, efficient, and cost effective manner.

The Best Practices described in these Bulletins include some that rise to the highest level of scientific rigor in terms of their research base. Others might be better understood as “evidence-informed” or “promising practices” where the research may not have been experimentally based or the practice sufficiently replicated. In all instances, these practices are based on the best evidence available and grounded in widely accepted child and family values.

#### BEST PRACTICE BULLETINS

- ADVANCE CALENDARING
- BENCHMARK REVIEWS
- CONNECTING CHILDREN WITH INCARCERATED PARENTS
- EDUCATION ADVOCACY
- FAMILY ENGAGEMENT
- FOSTER PARENT INVOLVEMENT
- MAXIMIZING THE INVOLVEMENT OF YOUNG PEOPLE
- OPEN ADOPTION AND MEDIATED CONTACT AGREEMENTS
- PACING PERMANENCY
- PARENT-CHILD VISITATION
- PRESERVING CULTURAL CONNECTIONS
- SPECIAL CALENDARING
- TRANSITION HOME PLANS
- WELL-BEING CHECKLISTS
- WORKING WITH UNDOCUMENTED & MIXED STATUS CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

FIND ALL OF THE BEST PRACTICES AT [HTTP://WWW.NMCOURTS.COM/COURTIMPROVEMENT/](http://www.nmcourts.com/courtimprovement/)

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