NEXT STEPS

This paper calls for a dialogue to begin regarding the importance of CWI, which has direct implications for future curriculum development in this important area in social work education. A definition for the subspecialty of CWI will undoubtedly continue to evolve.

Future endeavors toward redefining CWI should include: the role of research in knowledge building and the critical role that informatics can play in understanding practice effectiveness; and that a definition for CWI is useful to other disciplines, as they define informatics practices within their own subspecialties. This is needed to help others within and outside child welfare understand the legitimacy of the practice of social workers who specialize in CWI.

TAKE HOME MESSAGE

- NEED A SOCIAL WORK SUBSPECIALTY FOCUSING ON CHILD WELFARE INFORMATICS
- HIGHLY EVOLVED DATABASE TECHNOLOGIES COULD BE LEVERAGED
- BENEFITS TO CHILD WELFARE RECIPIENTS BECOME TRANSPARENT AND SHARED BETWEEN ALL
- COSTS OF CHILD PROTECTION COULD BE LOWER WITHOUT EXCESSIVE INTERVENTION BY COURTS
- MUST ESTABLISH HIGHLY INTERACTIVE SECURE INTERFACES

thank you

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