The Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Children’s Bureau, has contracted with James Bell Associates (JBA) to provide evaluation technical assistance (TA) to title IV-E waiver demonstrations. The contract’s primary purpose is to provide TA to title IV-E agencies (including state and tribal child welfare agencies and the District of Columbia) in support of their efforts to evaluate child welfare demonstrations implemented under waivers of certain provisions of title IV-E of the Social Security Act. Title IV-E agencies may access TA either by working directly with JBA or by participating in a range of peer learning and networking activities.

**Individualized Technical Assistance:** JBA provides direct assistance to title IV-E agencies through email correspondence, telephone consultation, and site visits. The TA facilitates the implementation of rigorous evaluations that produce useful information regarding the impact of the waiver demonstrations. JBA provides TA both proactively—to address issues identified by JBA during its assessment of each title IV-E agency’s evaluation plan and other key deliverables—or in response to a request from an agency for assistance. TA activities encompass a variety of topics that include the following:

- Selecting rigorous evaluation methodologies, including designs for any sub-studies on the impact of specific interventions
- Developing theories of change
- Creating logic models
- Defining target populations
- Selecting appropriate process and outcome measures
- Conducting cost analyses

**Peer Networking and Learning:** JBA facilitates peer networking and learning across title IV-E agencies on a range of topics and shared evaluation challenges. Examples of these activities include the following:

- Identifying common outcome measures across all title IV-E agencies in the domains of child safety, permanency, and well-being.
- Planning and facilitating peer networking and learning opportunities through conference calls, Webinars, and in-person discussions at annual meetings of title IV-E agencies in the Washington, DC, area. These events provide a forum for title IV-E agencies to hear from outside experts on a range of research and evaluation topics and to share their collective knowledge and expertise. A series of regularly scheduled Webinars and related peer learning opportunities will be offered on topics that include cost analysis, propensity score matching, and measuring well-being.
- Maintaining and hosting electronic forums, including the Child Welfare Waiver Listserv, that promote interagency information sharing and knowledge dissemination.

**Resource Development and Information Dissemination:** JBA develops written and multimedia TA resources that provide information to title IV-E agencies across a variety of research and evaluation topics.

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