

# The Children's Bureau

## Training & Technical Assistance Network

### 2014 Directory



U.S. Department of Health and Human Services  
Administration for Children and Families  
Administration on Children, Youth and Families  
Children's Bureau





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# The Children's Bureau Training & Technical Assistance Network

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## Introduction

This booklet summarizes information on the Children's Bureau Training and Technical Assistance (T&TA) Network, within the Administration for Children and Families (ACF), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. This directory offers information on the specific focus of each of the 23 T&TA Network members.

The mission of the T&TA Network is to provide a seamless array of services that build the capacity of States, Tribes, territories, and courts to achieve sustainable, systemic changes that will result in improved outcomes for children, youth, and families. To do so, the Network members provide training, TA, research, information and referral, and consultation on the full array of Federal requirements administered by the Children's Bureau.

T&TA Network members also assist State, local, Tribal, and other publicly administered or publicly supported child welfare agencies and family and juvenile courts to achieve conformity with the outcomes and systemic factors defined in the monitoring reviews conducted by the Children's Bureau.

The T&TA Network provides both on-site and off-site T&TA. On-site assistance might cover several weeks or months and comprise multiple visits; off-site assistance might consist, for example, of conducting a policy review or responding to a request for materials in a specific practice area. The Network has an open-door policy for making T&TA requests. Requesters may do any of the following to seek assistance:

- Contact the Training and Technical Assistance Coordination Center (TTACC), which coordinates the Network's T&TA requests (see the contact information on page 9)
- Talk directly with one of the T&TA Network members
- Contact an ACF Regional Office (for a list of ACF Regional Offices and the States they serve, visit the ACF Web site: <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/oro>)
- Complete the On-Site T&TA Standard Request Initiation Form, which appears on the TTACC Information Portal at <https://www.ttaccportal.org>

This directory is also available on the Children's Bureau Web site: <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/tta/index.htm>.

**National Child Welfare Resource Center for  
Organizational Improvement (NRCOI)**

<http://www.nrcoi.org>

The NRCOI strengthens and supports State and Tribal agencies committed to the welfare of children, youth, and families through T&TA, research, and evaluation. Its aim is to improve management and operations, bolster organizational capacity, promote service integration, and develop supervisory and management systems that result in improved outcomes for children and families.

**GOAL**

Help child welfare agencies refine their management and operations, expand organizational capacity, and foster effective and consistent practice, all with the explicit purpose of improving outcomes for children, youth, and families

**HOW WE HELP**

- Provide coaching on the leadership of systemic change initiatives
- Develop continuous quality improvement (CQI) systems
- Engage leadership and stakeholders in creating and using integrated strategic plans
- Involve stakeholders in collaborative systemic change strategies and ongoing agency initiatives
- Assess and improve training systems
- Implement workforce improvement strategies
- Host four national peer networks
- Present an annual Webinar series, and produce the *Child Welfare Matters* newsletter, research, and other publications

**FOR MORE INFORMATION**

**Address:** Muskie School of Public Service University  
of Southern Maine

P.O. Box 9300, 34 Bedford Street

Portland, ME 04104

**Phone:** 800.HELP.KID (435.7543) or 207.780.5878

**E-mail:** [helpkids@usm.maine.edu](mailto:helpkids@usm.maine.edu)

**Contact:** Peter Watson, Director

**National Resource Center for Child Protective  
Services (NRCCPS)**

<http://www.nrccps.org>

The NRCCPS provides expert consultation, TA, and training in all areas of child protective services, including intake, safety assessment, case planning, ongoing safety management, removal and reunification decision-making, ongoing services, and case closure. The NRCCPS helps to build the capacity of State, local, Tribal, and other publicly administered or supported child welfare agencies to achieve safety, permanency, and well-being for children and families.

**GOAL**

Assist jurisdictions with system and practice issues that help improve the prevention, reporting, assessment, and treatment of child abuse and neglect

**HOW WE HELP**

- Plan and implement systemic changes built upon implementation science principles
- Provide TA and on-site and off-site consultation
- Develop and deliver resource materials, guidelines, practice models, decision-making tools, and protocols to increase capacity to ensure staff and supervisory competence
- Identify and disseminate evidence-based practices
- Provide expertise for practice and decision-making when child maltreatment is accompanied by substance abuse, domestic violence, and mental health issues
- Provide expertise on requirements of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act, Adoption and Safe Families Act, and Indian Child Welfare Act
- Support peer-to-peer networking for State liaison officers, Children's Justice Act grantees, and Citizen Review Panels

**FOR MORE INFORMATION**

**Address:** 925 #4 Sixth Street NW  
Albuquerque, NM 87102

**Phone:** 505.301.3105

**E-mail:** [theresacostello@me.com](mailto:theresacostello@me.com)

**Contact:** Theresa Costello, Director

# The Children's Bureau Training & Technical Assistance Network

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## National Resource Center on Legal and Judicial Issues (NRCLJI)

<http://ambar.org/nrclji>

The NRCLJI provides expertise to courts, attorneys, Court Improvement Projects, and State and Tribal agencies on legal and judicial aspects of child welfare. Areas of focus include permanency decision-making; adherence to the Adoption and Safe Families Act, the Fostering Connections to Success and Increasing Adoptions Act, and other Federal laws; the court's role in the Child and Family Services Reviews (CFSRs) and child welfare reform; high-quality legal representation for all parties; performance measurement for courts; data exchange between child welfare agencies and courts; judicial leadership; education needs of children in foster care; training evaluation; legal ethics; concurrent planning; involvement and empowerment of youth in the court process; and safety decision-making for judges and attorneys.

### GOAL

Achieve safety, permanency, and well-being for abused and neglected children through improved laws and judicial decision-making

### HOW WE HELP

- Assist with agency-court collaborations
- Identify legal barriers to best practice and recommend strategies to overcome barriers
- Promote legal system stakeholder involvement
- Help develop specific legal and judicial strategies to address issues identified in a State's CFSR and TA package
- Provide tailored training and technical help as determined by a State's Program Improvement Plan and Court Improvement Project strategic plan on a variety of topic areas

### FOR MORE INFORMATION

**Address:** 1050 Connecticut Ave, NW, Suite 400  
Washington, DC 20036

**Phone:** 202.662.1746

**E-mail:** [Shante.bullock@americanbar.org](mailto:Shante.bullock@americanbar.org)  
[Jennifer.renne@americanbar.org](mailto:Jennifer.renne@americanbar.org)  
[Scott.trowbridge@americanbar.org](mailto:Scott.trowbridge@americanbar.org)

**Contact:** Jennifer Renne, Director  
Scott Trowbridge, Program Specialist  
Crystal Duarte, National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges  
Alicia Davis, National Center for State Courts

## National Resource Center for In-Home Services (NRC In-Home)

<http://nrcinhome.socialwork.uiowa.edu>

NRC In-Home works with States, Tribes, and territories to increase their capacity to provide effective alternatives to out-of-home care.

### GOAL

Provide T&TA to build the capacity of State, local, and Tribal systems to provide services that will ensure the safety and well-being of children and youth in their homes while preserving, supporting, and stabilizing families

### HOW WE HELP

- Provide TA to States and Tribes to improve systems of in-home services to support and stabilize families while keeping children safe, well, and at home
- Provide tailored responses to information requests
- Disseminate information on best practices for in-home services delivery through our Web site, Webinars, and print products
- Support State and Tribal "Promoting Safe and Stable Families" program administrators through peer-to-peer events
- Develop and disseminate resources on in-home services

### FOR MORE INFORMATION

**Address:** University of Iowa School of Social Work  
100 MTP4, Room 162  
Iowa City, IA 52242-5000

**Phone:** 319.335.4932

**E-mail:** [lisa-daunno@uiowa.edu](mailto:lisa-daunno@uiowa.edu)

**Contact:** Lisa D'Aunno, Project Director

**National Resource Center for Permanency and Family Connections (NRC-PFC)**

<http://www.nrcpfc.org>

The NRC-PFC customizes an array of services for each request to support States, territories, and Tribes in sustainable, systemic change efforts producing greater safety, permanency, and well-being for children, youth, and families.

The NRC-PFC offers on-site TA and in-depth information services in collaboration with family partners to assist in the implementation of new strategies, expand knowledge, increase competencies, and expand commitment to family-centered practice by child welfare professionals at all levels. The NRC-PFC is also focused on TA regarding the provisions of the Fostering Connections to Success and Increasing Adoptions Act (Fostering Connections).

**GOAL**

Build capacity in child welfare systems to enhance child and family outcomes pertinent to permanency achievement, placement stability, and a wide range of other foster care and well-being issues

**HOW WE HELP**

- Support practice to engage youth and families at all levels of the system
- Build partnerships with courts, legal personnel, and community partners
- Promote visiting between workers and family members and among families
- Support Fostering Connections implementation and grantees
- Promote effective concurrent planning
- Support competent practice with all families, including lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender families
- Involve fathers and paternal resources

**FOR MORE INFORMATION**

**Address:** Silberman School of Social Work at Hunter College  
2180 Third Avenue, Suite 702  
New York, NY 10035

**Phone:** 212.396.7562

**E-mail:** [gmallon@hunter.cuny.edu](mailto:gmallon@hunter.cuny.edu)

**Contact:** Gerald P. Mallon, DSW  
Julia Lanthrop, Professor of Child Welfare and NRC-PFC Executive Director

**National Resource Center for Child Welfare Data and Technology (NRC-CWDT)**

<http://www.nrcpwdt.org>

The NRC-CWDT provides a range of TA on data and information systems issues to improve the quality of collected data, build the capacity to use the information for decision-making in daily practice, and develop or improve case management and data collection systems.

NRC-CWDT TA focuses on information systems, technology, and the use of data. The NRC-CWDT works to improve the quality of data reported to the Federal Government in the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS), the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS), and the National Youth in Transition Database (NYTD). TA also is provided for the CFSR data profile and other Federal legislative requirements, policies, and initiatives.

**GOAL**

Assist State and Tribal child welfare agencies and courts in improving outcomes for children and families in the child welfare system through the use of data and information technology

**HOW WE HELP**

- Assist with building the capacity to analyze and use data throughout the organization
- Provide tailored assistance with AFCARS, NCANDS, and the NYTD
- Provide information and TA on court/agency data exchanges
- Assist in improving data quality
- Coordinate peer consultations among States, Tribes, and/or courts that have similar issues
- Support States in the CFSR process

**FOR MORE INFORMATION**

**Address:** 1726 M Street, NW, Suite 500  
Washington, DC 20036

**Phone:** 202.590.8771

**E-mail:** [nrcpwdt@cwla.org](mailto:nrcpwdt@cwla.org)  
[dmilner@cwla.org](mailto:dmilner@cwla.org)

**Contact:** Debbie Milner, Director

# The Children's Bureau Training & Technical Assistance Network

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## National Resource Center for Adoption (NRCA)

<http://www.nrcadoption.org>

The NRCA is charged by the Children's Bureau with the task of building the capacity of States, Tribes, and territories (STTs) to improve adoption systems, integrate policy and practice and develop, expand, strengthen and improve the quality and effectiveness of adoption services provided to children/youth in the child welfare system. The NRCA also helps jurisdictions improve the effectiveness and quality of permanency support and preservation services. This assistance is provided through proactive outreach, tailored TA, and the development of tools that can be used by STTs to improve components of their child welfare systems related to adoptions.

### GOAL

Assist States, Tribes, territories, courts, and other agencies in building and sustaining their capacity through systemic change that results in the successful adoption of waiting, abused, and neglected children and youth from the child welfare system and ensures their safety, permanency, and well-being

### HOW WE HELP

- Build capacity related to adoption programs
- Develop, expand, strengthen, and improve the quality and effectiveness of permanency support and preservation services
- Promote public-private coordination of adoption programs
- Help build culturally competent child welfare services
- Develop a system for full disclosure
- Provide guidance on the Multi-Ethnic Placement Act/Interethnic Adoption Provision (MEPA/IEP) and Title VI of the Civil Rights Act
- Promote workforce development through the Minority Adoption Leadership Institute (MALDI)
- Provide TA regarding Federal title IV-E adoption assistance agreements
- Develop an evaluation framework for permanency support and preservation services
- Provide evidence-based and promising practices information
- Support the National Association of State Adoption Programs (NASAP)

### FOR MORE INFORMATION

**Address:** 16250 Northland Drive, Suite 120  
Southfield, MI 48075

**Phone:** 248.443.0306/773.848.6880

**E-mail:** [mlis@spaulding.org](mailto:mlis@spaulding.org)  
[awilliams@spaulding.org](mailto:awilliams@spaulding.org)

**Contact:** Addie Williams, President/CEO  
Melinda Lis, Director

## National Resource Center for Youth Development (NRCYD)

<http://www.nrcyd.ou.edu>

The NRCYD helps States, Tribes, and territories incorporate youth into all areas of programs and services, implement services that address legislative requirements, and prepare for CFSR and Program Improvement Plan development and implementation.

The NRCYD bases its TA and training around four core principles: youth development, collaboration, cultural competence, and permanent connections.

### GOAL

Increase the capacity and resources of States and Tribes to provide high-quality services to youth in out-of-home placements, former foster youth, and other youth in at-risk situations

### HOW WE HELP

- Implement the Foster Care Independence Act of 1999, including the National Youth in Transition Database, the older youth provisions of the Fostering Connections to Success and Increasing Adoptions Act, and other relevant State and Federal legislation
- Develop and maintain a culturally competent workforce that understands the developmental and service needs of diverse youth ages 14 to 26
- Provide strengths-based and youth-driven transition planning services
- Engage youth in all aspects of program planning, delivery, and evaluation
- Self-assess and evaluate youth services and programs
- Develop and maintain collaborations focused on helping youth transition to adulthood and strengthen permanent connections

### FOR MORE INFORMATION

**Address:** 4502 East 41st Street, Building 4W  
Tulsa, OK 74135-2512

**Phone:** 918.660.3700

**E-mail:** [cfinck@ou.edu](mailto:cfinck@ou.edu)

**Contact:** Clay L. Finck, Program Director

**National Resource Center for Tribes (NRC4Tribes)**

<http://www.nrc4tribes.org>

The NRC4Tribes engages Tribes to increase their access to and use of the T&TA Network, brokers T&TA, assists in the provision of T&TA as needed, facilitates peer-to-peer consultation between Tribes regarding child welfare issues, and increases cultural competence and sensitivity to Tribal voices in the T&TA Network and in State child welfare systems.

The NRC4Tribes addresses child welfare needs identified by Tribes, supports efforts for improved Tribal child welfare practice, and works with Tribal child welfare staff to achieve greater safety, permanency, and well-being for children and families. The NRC4Tribes also promotes the delivery of culturally appropriate services to American Indian and Alaska Native children, youth, and families.

**GOAL**

Enhance the capacities of Tribal agencies, courts, and organizations to support successful child welfare programs and provide effective child welfare services

**HOW WE HELP**

- Broker T&TA for Tribes through the T&TA Network
- Arrange activities to engage Tribes
- Provide direct T&TA to Tribes
- Support peer-to-peer mentoring and networking among Tribal agencies
- Support family-centered and community-based practices
- Develop and disseminate toolkits, resource manuals, and other products
- Offer training Webinars, conference calls, and other opportunities for information dissemination
- Facilitate Tribal/State problem-solving
- Produce a Web site featuring user-friendly navigation and additional resources ([www.NRC4Tribes.org](http://www.NRC4Tribes.org))

**FOR MORE INFORMATION**

**Address:** 8235 Santa Monica Boulevard, Suite 211  
West Hollywood, CA 90046

**Phone:** 323.650.5467

**E-mail:** [Kathy@NRC4Tribes.org](mailto:Kathy@NRC4Tribes.org)  
[Joe@NRC4Tribes.org](mailto:Joe@NRC4Tribes.org)

**Contact:** Kathy Deserly, Director  
Joe Walker, Tribal Child Welfare Specialist

**National Resource Center  
for Diligent Recruitment at AdoptUSKids (NRCDR)**

<http://www.nrcdr.org>

NRCDR at AdoptUSKids provides T&TA to States, Tribes, territories, and courts (STTCs) to increase their capacity to recruit and retain foster, adoptive, and kinship families.

**GOALS**

Assist STTCs in building capacity to recruit and retain foster, adoptive, and kinship families and in creating sustainable, systemic changes that support effective diligent recruitment and retention efforts

**HOW WE HELP**

- Supporting STTCs in their efforts to develop a sufficient, diverse pool of prospective families that reflect the diverse characteristics of children who need foster and adoptive homes
- Supporting STTCs in the development and implementation of comprehensive diligent recruitment plans
- Increasing the effective use of cross-jurisdictional resources to facilitate timely permanence options for children who are waiting to be adopted
- Ensuring that recruitment, response processes, and retention are driven by promising practices and achieve desired outcomes for families and children

**FOR MORE INFORMATION**

**Address:** 605 Global Way, Suite 100  
Linthicum, MD 21090

**Phone:** 303.726.0198

**E-mail:** [jillmay@adoptex.org](mailto:jillmay@adoptex.org)

**Contact:** Jill May, Director

# The Children's Bureau Training & Technical Assistance Network

## AdoptUSKids

<http://www.adoptuskids.org>

AdoptUSKids' core T&TA services are provided by the National Resource Center for Diligent Recruitment (NRCDR) at AdoptUSKids.

### GOAL

Our goal is to operate a multi-faceted national project designed to assist States, territories, and Tribes in the recruitment and retention of foster and adoptive parents for children and youth in public foster care

### HOW WE HELP

- Assist in building the capacity of States, territories, and Tribal child welfare systems through the provision of T&TA, information, and consultation related to the diligent recruitment and retention of foster and adoptive families
- Operate the National Adoption Internet Photolisting site (<http://www.adoptuskids.org>)
- Support the National Adoption Recruitment Campaign by planning, carrying out, and assisting States, territories, and Tribes in carrying out fulfillment activities in response to a national multimedia adoptive and foster parent recruitment campaign
- Operate the National Adoption and Foster Care Information Exchange System, which provides information to prospective and current foster and adoptive families, facilitates their engagement with and support from appropriate services in their local communities, and assists States, territories, and Tribes in the recruitment of prospective foster parents and adoptive parents for children and youth in public foster care
- Develop and disseminate information, tools, strategies, and effective or evidence-based models for the implementation of adoptive and foster family support activities for States, territories, and Tribes

### FOR MORE INFORMATION

**Address:** 605 Global Way, Suite 100  
Linthicum, MD 21090  
**Phone:** 888.200.4005 or 410.636.7030  
**E-mail:** [info@adoptuskids.org](mailto:info@adoptuskids.org)  
**Contact:** Kathy Ledesma, National Project Director

## Child Welfare Information Gateway

<https://www.childwelfare.gov>

Child Welfare Information Gateway provides information services to child welfare and related professionals and the public as the clearinghouse for the Children's Bureau, compiling, synthesizing, and disseminating resources to promote the safety, permanency, and well-being of children and families. The Information Gateway is a reliable source for quick access to publications, Web sites, and online databases covering a range of topics, including child welfare, child abuse and neglect, foster care, adoption, and the content areas for which the T&TA Network members provide TA.

### GOAL

Promote the safety, permanency, and well-being of children and families by providing child welfare, adoption, and related professionals—as well as the general public—with timely, essential information

### HOW WE HELP

- Connect users to information and resources on a range of topics that include:
  - Family-centered practice
  - Preventing and responding to child abuse and neglect
  - Supporting and preserving families
  - Achieving and maintaining permanency
  - Adoption
  - Management and supervision
  - Systemwide issues, including assessment, service array, and the courts
- Supply Web-based information on all aspects of child welfare for professionals
- Offer print and electronic publications, including Spanish-language resources
- Publish *Children's Bureau Express*
- Publish *Child Welfare in the News*
- Maintain a comprehensive library of child welfare documents and other media
- Provide online access to subscription services
- Host the National Foster Care & Adoption Directory, State Guides and Manuals search, and State Statutes databases
- Support the Office of Data Analysis, Research, and Evaluation on child welfare outcomes

### FOR MORE INFORMATION

**Address:** Children's Bureau/ACYF  
1250 Maryland Avenue SW, Eighth Floor  
Washington, DC 20024  
**Phone:** 800.394.3366  
**E-mail:** [info@childwelfare.gov](mailto:info@childwelfare.gov)  
**Contact:** Christine Tappan, Deputy Director  
Mike Torpy, Director

**National Data Archive on Child Abuse and Neglect  
(NDACAN)**

<http://www.ndacan.cornell.edu>

NDACAN, a project of the Bronfenbrenner Center for Translational Research, resides within the College of Human Ecology at Cornell University. The Archive serves as a repository for high-quality datasets relevant to the study and prevention of child maltreatment. Examples include NCANDS, AFCARS, the National Survey of Child and Adolescent Well-Being (NSCAW), and Longitudinal Studies of Child Abuse and Neglect (LONGSCAN).

NDACAN conducts an annual Summer Research Institute to provide support in secondary data analysis to child maltreatment researchers. Participants are given hands-on experience in completing their research projects, with support and instruction from NDACAN staff and other experts. Applicants are selected on a competitive basis from disciplines such as psychology, social work, and medicine. NDACAN moderates an online Child Maltreatment Research discussion group, to which researchers from all areas of child abuse and neglect contribute, and maintains a Web-based database of publications and measures based on Archive data.

**GOAL**

Support the research of child maltreatment scholars and promote secondary data analysis as a tool to advance scientific understanding

**HOW WE HELP**

- Acquire and process child maltreatment data for dissemination
- Provide TA to data users
- Respond to special data requests
- Moderate a listserv to facilitate information exchange and networking among researchers in child abuse and neglect

**FOR MORE INFORMATION**

**Address:** Bronfenbrenner Center for Translational Research  
Beebe Hall, Cornell University  
Ithaca, NY 14853

**Phone:** 607.255.7799

**E-mail:** ndacan@cornell.edu

**Contact:** John J. Eckenrode, Director  
Elliott G. Smith, Associate Director

**National Child Welfare Workforce Institute  
(NCWWI)**

<http://www.ncwwi.org>

NCWWI integrates and applies multiple interventions designed to sustain comprehensive improvements in child welfare workforce practices, including building evidence of best practices in workforce development; providing leadership development to child welfare agency staff and to deans/directors/chairs at schools of social work; supporting organizational interventions to improve agency culture, climate, and staff retention; implementing university-agency partnerships to build the capacity of the child welfare workforce; modeling and promoting the principles and behaviors of a learning organization; and advancing knowledge through dissemination and evaluation.

**GOAL**

Increase child welfare practice effectiveness through diverse partnerships that focus on workforce systems development, organizational interventions, and change leadership, using data-driven capacity building, education, and professional development.

**HOW WE HELP**

- Leadership forum for State, county, or Tribal directors/commissioners and deans/directors/chairs of social work programs
- Preparation of social work graduates for employment in local child welfare systems
- Training for middle managers and supervisors in developing leadership and change management skills
- Support for transfer of learning through coaching and field education
- Intensive organizational interventions in selected sites
- Web-enhanced platforms and technology to support communities of practice and peer coaching
- Resource development and dissemination.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION**

**Address:** School of Social Welfare, University at Albany, SUNY  
135 Western Avenue  
Albany, NY 12222

**Phone:** 410.706.3740

**E-mail:** ndickinson@ssw.umaryland.edu

**Contact:** Nancy Dickinson, Project Director

# The Children's Bureau Training & Technical Assistance Network

## Training and Technical Assistance Coordination Center (TTACC)

<https://www.ttaccportal.org>

The Training and Technical Assistance Coordination Center (TTACC) supports the Children's Bureau (CB) in coordinating intensive, individualized, on-site training and TA services provided to States, Tribes, territories, and courts through the T&TA Network. TTACC facilitates conversations to gain a better understanding of the identified needs; coordinates T&TA Network responses to these needs; improves assessment of the readiness and capacity of the requesting jurisdiction to engage in the work; and facilitates discussions intended to support integration and collaboration. In addition, TTACC ensures that assistance is provided in response to findings from Federal reviews, previous T&TA recommendations, and other major initiatives that may be occurring. This coordination encourages those requesting assistance and those providing it to access and use appropriate and coordinated T&TA approaches that will promote and sustain long-term systemic change while building the capacity of the jurisdiction to maintain that change.

### GOAL

Provide a single point of coordination for intensive, individualized, on-site T&TA services provided through the T&TA Network

### HOW WE HELP

- Coordinate T&TA by receiving and tracking T&TA requests, facilitating assessment and planning calls, developing T&TA workplans, and monitoring the progress of assistance delivered by Network members
- Develop and manage an online Information Portal containing State, Tribal, and Network provider profiles; T&TA activities for each jurisdiction receiving services; a calendar of general T&TA Network events and Children's Bureau events that might affect the delivery of T&TA; and a repository of T&TA information and resources
- Plan and facilitate T&TA Network meetings
- Create, carry out, and evaluate the Network's marketing and communications strategies
- Produce reports pertaining to T&TA delivered by Network members

### FOR MORE INFORMATION

**Address:** TTACC  
JBS International, Inc.  
5515 Security Lane, Suite 800  
North Bethesda, MD 20852-5007

**Phone:** 301.495.1080

**E-mail:** [ttacc@jbsinternational.com](mailto:ttacc@jbsinternational.com)

**Contact:** Sonja Ulrich, Project Director

## National Quality Improvement Center on Differential Response in Child Protective Services (QIC-DR)

<http://www.differentialresponseqic.org>

The QIC-DR supports knowledge development on the effectiveness of differential response (DR) in child welfare. After identifying knowledge gaps and research priorities, the QIC-DR supported three research and demonstration sites that have implemented and are evaluating differential response in Colorado, Illinois, and Ohio. The QIC-DR also supported dissertation research. Finally, the QIC-DR develops and disseminates information through various publications and Webinars, providing the latest data to practitioners, policymakers, administrators, and researchers.

### GOAL

Generate knowledge on differential response in child protective services (CPS) systems by supporting rigorous research in three research and demonstration sites implementing and evaluating this system reform

### HOW WE HELP

- Develop knowledge about improving outcomes for children and families in the child welfare system by implementing a DR-organized CPS system
- Promote collaborative problem-solving among the research and demonstration sites as well as doctoral students receiving dissertation support
- Design and support the implementation of DR research and evaluation in the three sites and through a cross-site evaluation that analyzes implementation, outcomes, and costs
- Establish a national network to share information on promising practices and lessons learned

### FOR MORE INFORMATION

**Address:** The Kempe Center for the Prevention and Treatment of Child Abuse and Neglect,  
University of Colorado School of Medicine,  
Department of Pediatrics  
The Gary Pavilion at Children's Hospital  
Colorado, Anschutz Medical Campus  
13123 East 16th Avenue, B390  
Aurora, CO 80045

**Phone:** 303.864.5211

**E-mail:** [lisa.merkel-holguin@childrenscolorado.org](mailto:lisa.merkel-holguin@childrenscolorado.org)

**Contact:** Lisa Merkel-Holguin, Principal Investigator

### National Quality Improvement Center on Early Childhood (QIC-EC)

<http://www.qic-ec.org>

The QIC-EC supports collaborative research and demonstration projects across child abuse prevention; child welfare; early childhood; and other health, education, and social service systems. QIC-EC projects focus on implementing and rigorously evaluating strategies that contribute to the prevention of child abuse and neglect and to the promotion of increased family strengths and optimal development among children (ages 0–5) and families that are at greatest risk for child maltreatment.

#### GOAL

Promote the development, dissemination, and integration of new knowledge about how collaborative interventions increase protective factors and decrease risk factors to achieve optimal child development, increased family strengths, and decreased likelihood of child maltreatment within families of young children at high risk for child maltreatment

#### HOW WE HELP

- Develop evidence-based and evidence-informed maltreatment prevention strategies aimed at increasing protective factors and decreasing risk factors
- Evaluate the impact of evidence-based and evidence-informed maltreatment prevention strategies on optimal child development, increased family strengths, and reduced likelihood of child abuse and neglect
- Establish a national network for sharing information on promising practices
- Support dissertation research on the prevention of child abuse and neglect and the promotion of child and family well-being

#### FOR MORE INFORMATION

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**Contact:** Charlyn Harper Browne, Project Director

### National Quality Improvement Center on the Representation of Children in the Child Welfare System (QIC-ChildRep)

<http://www.ImproveChildRep.org>

The QIC-ChildRep's role is to gather, develop, and communicate knowledge on child representation; promote consensus on the role of the child's legal representative; and provide one of the first empirically based analyses of how legal representation for the child might best be delivered. Its hypothesis is that improved child representation will benefit case management and access to services for children and ultimately improve child safety, permanency, and well-being.

#### GOAL

Gather, develop, and communicate knowledge on child representation that presents the strengths and weaknesses of varying methods of representing children, promotes consensus on the role of the child's legal representative, and provides an empirically based analysis of how legal representation for the child might best be delivered

#### HOW WE HELP

- Compiled a national assessment of the state of representation of children in the child welfare system as of 2010
- Identified a best-practice representation model for delivering good results for children and achieving overall systemic goals of safety, permanency, and child well-being
- Developed the first-ever random assignment experimental design research project on the legal representation of children, now being implemented in Georgia and Washington State
- Promote certification of lawyers as specialists in child welfare law
- Implement and evaluate a multi-disciplinary lawyer/social worker model of child representation
- Engage in knowledge development and dissemination
- Compile on the QIC-ChildRep Web site, in a consistent, searchable format, the State laws in all U.S. jurisdictions regarding child representation in child welfare cases; also make available in searchable format on the Web site all academic literature on lawyer representation of children and all empirical studies

#### FOR MORE INFORMATION

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Ann Arbor, MI 48109-1215

**Phone:** 734.763.5000

**E-mail:** [QIC-ChildRep@umich.edu](mailto:QIC-ChildRep@umich.edu)

**Contact:** Donald N. Duquette, Clinical Professor of Law, Project Director

# The Children's Bureau Training & Technical Assistance Network

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## **National Abandoned Infants Assistance (AIA) Resource Center** <http://aia.berkeley.edu>

AIA service programs nationwide receive discretionary grant funding from the Children's Bureau to prevent the abandonment and out-of-home placement of infants and young children from families affected by HIV/AIDS and/or substance abuse, and to monitor their safety, permanency, and well-being. The Resource Center provides training, information, consultation, and resources to AIA service providers and other public and community-based agencies that assist these children and their families.

### **GOAL**

Enhance the quality of social and health services delivered to children at risk of entering out-of-home care, specifically those children at risk of abandonment due to the presence of drugs and/or HIV/AIDS in the family

### **HOW WE HELP**

- Provide training to professionals via conferences, skills-building seminars, Webcasts, Webinars, and online tutorials
- Conduct individualized information and referral searches in response to requests
- Produce and disseminate research-to-practice briefs, fact sheets, issue briefs, monographs, and reports
- Maintain an interactive Web site with information, resources, blog posts, a conference calendar, a directory of AIA projects, and archived training
- Examine emerging practice and policy issues by conducting research, including focus and technical expert groups
- Provide dedicated training and education services and Web site to AIA projects
- Assist Federal grantees in disseminating their expertise, findings, and lessons learned
- Collaborate with the University of Missouri, Institute on Human Development, to produce and disseminate annual cross-site evaluation reports on AIA projects

### **FOR MORE INFORMATION**

**Address:** University of California, Berkeley  
1950 Addison Street, Suite 104  
Berkeley, CA 94720-7402

**Phone:** 510.643.8390

**E-mail:** [aiarc@berkeley.edu](mailto:aiarc@berkeley.edu)

**Contact:** Jeanne Pietrzak, Director

## **National Resource Center for Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention (FRIENDS)** <http://www.friendsnrc.org> <http://www.friendsnrcelearning.org>

FRIENDS (Family Resource, Information, Education, and Network Development Services) provides training, TA, and information to Federal grantee agencies implementing the grants for Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention (CBCAP), under the CAPTA Reauthorization Act of 2010. FRIENDS helps CBCAP State Lead Agencies build capacity in the full array of CBCAP program requirements, including outcome accountability, parent leadership, evidence-based and evidence-informed programs and practices, logic models, collaboration, and systems change.

### **GOAL**

Build the capacity of CBCAP State Lead Agencies and communities to prevent child abuse and neglect and to strengthen and support child and family well-being

### **HOW WE HELP**

- Online Learning Center:  
<http://friendsnrcelearning.org>
- Foster an understanding, appreciation, and knowledge of diverse populations to prevent child abuse and neglect
- Facilitate efforts in planning and developing a network of community-based programs and activities designed to promote family well-being and prevent child abuse and neglect
- Develop and disseminate resources to support evidence-informed and evidence-based programming, continuous quality improvement, and evaluation activities
- Promote parental leadership, especially for parents of children with disabilities, racial and ethnic minorities, and other underrepresented groups
- Build capacity to maximize funding for financing, planning, and operating child abuse prevention and family-strengthening programs
- Support States in their systems reform and improvement efforts

### **FOR MORE INFORMATION**

**Address:** 800 Eastowne Drive, Suite 105  
Chapel Hill, NC 27514

**Phone:** 919.490.5577, x. 222

**E-mail:** [FRIENDS@friendsnrc.org](mailto:FRIENDS@friendsnrc.org)

**Contact:** Linda Baker, Director

### National Center on Substance Abuse and Child Welfare (NCSACW)

<http://www.ncsacw.samhsa.gov>

NCSACW provides information, expert consultation, and in-depth T&TA to child welfare, dependency court, and substance abuse treatment professionals working with families affected by substance use and co-occurring mental health disorders and child abuse or neglect.

#### GOAL

NCSACW advances cross-system collaboration to improve the safety, permanency, well-being, and recovery outcomes for children, parents, and families. NCSACW works to enhance policy and practice to support information sharing and coordination among organizations that engage families in timely, appropriate, and effective services.

#### HOW WE HELP

- Use a Collaborative Practice Model to provide professionals with practices, policies, and procedures that lead to improved outcomes for families
- Provide in-depth TA to a limited number of sites to facilitate policy and practice changes, strengthen partnerships, achieve measurable outcomes, and sustain successful collaborative projects and innovations
- Offer free Web-based training resources, including a series of accredited tutorials, support to adapt and implement the Child Welfare Training Toolkit in jurisdictions, and presentations on current issues
- Provide a continuum of T&TA to professional audiences, including:
  - Supplying written resources such as policy manuals; practice guidelines; child welfare, substance abuse treatment, and court data; and published articles
  - Assisting States with their CFSR responses and System Improvement Plans
  - Facilitating policy and practice improvement workgroups
- Maintain an extensive library of resources on the NCSACW Web site

#### FOR MORE INFORMATION

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Lake Forest, CA 92630

**Phone:** 714.505.3525

**E-mail:** [ncsacw@cffutures.org](mailto:ncsacw@cffutures.org)

**Contact:** Nancy K. Young, Director  
Cathleen Otero, Deputy Director

### National Technical Assistance Center for Children's Mental Health (TA Center)

<http://gucchdtacenter.georgetown.edu>

The TA Center provides assistance to States, Tribes, territories, and communities to build systems of care that enhance access to quality care and improve outcomes for children, youth, and families with, or at risk of, emotional disorders. The center provides information, TA, and training on systems of care and to cross-system audiences.

#### GOAL

Promote service delivery that is community based; comprehensive, coordinated, and collaborative across systems; in partnership with families and youth; culturally and linguistically competent; strengths based; and individualized to meet the mental health needs of children, youth, and families, including those at risk or involved in the child welfare system

#### HOW WE HELP

- Offer training institutes, leadership development, policy academies, Webinars, and strategic consulting to infuse child welfare perspective into systems of care and cross-systems initiatives
- Identify and disseminate approaches for improving mental health outcomes for children, youth, and families in the child welfare system
- Supply individualized TA for States and stakeholders such as the courts and advocacy groups. TA includes consulting, training, facilitating, presentations, and workshops
- Serve as a mental health system of care resource for the Federal T&TA Network
- Assist child welfare agencies in helping families and youth understand their rights and responsibilities and in advocating for themselves
- Promote child welfare engagement in the center's activities and programs
- Promote trauma-informed practices

#### FOR MORE INFORMATION

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**Contact:** Kathyne O'Grady, J.D.

# The Children's Bureau Training & Technical Assistance Network

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## Technical Assistance Network for Children's Behavioral Health (TA Network)

<http://www.soctanetwork.org>

The TA Network provides TA to systems-of-care (SOC) jurisdictions funded by the Comprehensive Community Mental Health Services for Children and Their Families program. TA is guided by SOC values and principles and tailored to the needs of States/communities within a rapidly changing and increasingly sophisticated climate, driven by health reform, technology, and other major shifts affecting children, youth, and families.

### GOAL

We support the development of effective service systems and a skilled and well-prepared workforce to expand and sustain community-based SOC to benefit all children and youth with behavioral health needs and their families, including those with child welfare involvement

### HOW WE HELP

- Facilitate partnerships across systems in SOC jurisdictions to address the needs of families involved with child welfare and align with broader State reform agendas
- Produce and disseminate resources on topics that include opportunities available through IV-E Demonstration Waivers, Medicaid, and other financing options
- Promote family-professional partnerships, family-driven care, youth leadership, and cultural and linguistic competence
- Promote trauma-informed care and other evidence-based practices, including use of screening and assessment tools and psychotropic medication monitoring
- Host a Web-based resource center that includes timely information related to State and Federal health reform efforts that affect children's behavioral health, financing, program redesign, and clinical practice

### FOR MORE INFORMATION

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**Contact:** Michelle Zabel, Director







# The Children's Bureau

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