



National Clearinghouse on Child Abuse and Neglect Information National Adoption Information Clearinghouse



Gateways to Information: Protecting Children and Strengthening Families

Children's Bureau Training and Technical Assistance Network National Resource Centers, Clearinghouses, and Technical Assistance Support Systems

The Children's Bureau provides an array of training and technical assistance (T/TA) support resources through grants, contracts, and cooperative agreements. Currently, the Children's Bureau operates nine National Resource Centers (NRCs), two Clearinghouses, and five technical support projects.

National Resource Centers

The overarching goal of the nine NRCs described below is to help States, Tribes, and public child welfare agencies implement Federal legislation intended to ensure the safety, well-being, and permanent placement of children who enter the child welfare system. These Centers conduct needs assessments, provide on-site technical assistance, identify and disseminate best practices, and coordinate and collaborate with other NRCs and agencies.

Program: National Child Welfare Resource Center for Family-Centered Practice
Organization: Learning Systems Group
Address: 1150 Connecticut Avenue, NW Suite 1100 Washington, DC 20036
Phone: (202) 638-7922
Fax: (202) 628-3812
E-Mail: info@cwresource.org
Web Site: www.cwresource.org
Contact: Elena Cohen, Director

The Center works with State and Tribal child welfare staff to translate the tenets of the Adoption and Safe Families Act into family-centered practices that support the safety, permanency, and well-being of children while meeting the needs of families. The Center provides T/TA that meets the unique needs of each State to institutionalize a safety-focused, family-centered, and community-based approach as the cornerstone of service delivery. This improves both practice and the organizational environment needed to achieve positive system outcomes. For example, the Center helps States develop family preservation and family support approaches; family conferencing and family decision-making models; and family-centered practice supervision. The Center also provides T/TA around developing resources and services, involving community stakeholders, and building and sustaining community collaboratives for child protection.

Program: National Child Welfare Resource Center for Organizational Improvement
Organization: Edmund S. Muskie School of Public Service University of Southern Maine
Address: P.O. Box 15010 400 Congress Street Portland, ME 04112-5010
Phone: (800) HELP KID or (207) 780-5810
Fax: (207) 780-5817
E-Mail: clearing@usm.maine.edu
Web Site: www.muskie.usm.maine.edu/helpkids
Contact: Kris Sahonchik, Director

The Center strengthens and supports State and Tribal agencies committed to the welfare of children, youth, and families through T/TA and evaluation. The aim is to improve management and operations, bolster organizational capacity, and promote service integration, resulting in improved outcomes for children and families. The Center can help States and Tribes develop targeted outcomes for children and families; quality assurance systems to monitor agency performance; and collaborative strategies among agencies, especially in the areas of domestic violence and substance abuse services, court and legal systems, and community programs. Center services include phone consultation, T/TA, a yearly teleconference training program, *Managing Care* newsletter, and a clearinghouse of print, video, and audio materials.



Program: National Child Welfare Resource Center on Legal and Judicial Issues
Organization: ABA Center on Children and the Law
Address: 740 15th Street, NW
 Washington, DC 20005-1019
Phone: (800) 285-2221
Fax: (202) 662-1755
E-Mail: mark.hardin@staff.abanet.org
Web site: www.abanet.org/child/rcjji
Contact: Mark Hardin, Director
 Mimi Laver for technical assistance requests
 (202) 662-1736

The Center provides expertise to State and Tribal agencies and courts on legal and judicial aspects of child welfare, including court improvement; agency and court collaboration; timely decisions on termination of parental rights; non-adversarial case resolution; reasonable efforts requirements; legal representation of children, parents, and child welfare agencies; permanent guardianship; confidentiality; legal ethics for child welfare attorneys; action planning for courts and agency representatives; the interplay of domestic violence and child welfare; and other emerging child welfare issues related to requirements of the Adoption and Safe Families Act, the Multi-Ethnic Placement Act, the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act, and the Indian Child Welfare Act. In addition, the Center works with State agencies and courts to integrate courts into the Child and Family Services Review (CFSR) process.

Program: National Resource Center for Foster Care and Permanency Planning
Organization: Hunter College School of Social Work
Address: 129 East 79th Street
 8th Floor
 New York, NY 10021
Phone: (212) 452-7043
Fax: (212) 452-7051
E-Mail: mrengmal@aol.com
Web site: www.hunter.cuny.edu/socwork/nrcfcpp
Contact: Gerald P. Mallon, DSW,
 Executive Director

The Center focuses on increasing the capacity and resources of State, Tribal, and other publicly supported child welfare agencies to achieve permanency for youth and children in out-of-home care. In particular, the Center helps States and Tribes respond to policy and systemic changes in child welfare brought about by implementation of the Adoption and Safe Families Act, the Safe and Stable Families Act, the John H. Chaffee Foster Care Independence Act, the Multi-Ethnic Placement Act, and the Indian Child Welfare Act. These changes encompass such issues as concurrent permanency planning, recruitment and retention of resource families, post-permanency services, ensuring appropriate child assessments and placement stability, family group conferencing, kinship care, and health and mental health care issues for children in foster care. The Center is specifically focused on assisting States in response to the CFSR process by providing T/TA and information services in the area of permanency.

Program: National Resource Center for Information Technology in Child Welfare
Organization: Child Welfare League of America
Address: 50 F Street, NW
 6th Floor
 Washington, DC 20001-2085
Phone: (877) 672-4829 or (202) 662-4285
Fax: (202) 737-3687
E-Mail: nrcitcw@cwla.org
Web site: www.nrcitcw.org
Contact: Tom Hay, Project Manager
 Don Perry, Director

The Center helps State, local, and Tribal child welfare agencies and family and juvenile courts use automated information systems to improve outcomes in the child welfare system. The Center provides technical assistance in the collection of data (as required by Federal law) for the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System and disseminates information on best practices related to Statewide Automated Child Welfare Information Systems. The Center also helps its clients use data to improve services to children, youth, and families; evaluate results; and make informed decisions about policies, programs, and practices.

Program: National Resource Center for Special Needs Adoption
Organization: Spaulding for Children
Address: Crossroad Office Center
 16250 Northland Drive
 Suite 120
 Southfield, MI 48075
Phone: (248) 443-7080
Fax: (248) 443-7099
E-Mail: nrc@nrcadoption.org
Web site: www.nrcadoption.org
Contact: Drenda Lakin, Director

The Center works with States, Tribes, and agencies to increase States' capacity in special needs adoption and to improve the effectiveness and quality of adoption and post-adoption services provided to children and their families. The Center will review CFSR statewide assessments, final reports, and Program Improvement Plans (PIPs) and provide feedback on how it might provide T/TA, tools, and materials to help States and Tribes plan and implement changes in practice, programs, policies, and systems to ensure timely adoption or other permanent family connections for children and youth. The Center will also assist States and Tribes in exploring how all seven systemic factors and all performance outcomes affect timely permanency, especially adoption.

Program: National Resource Center for Youth Development
Organization: University of Oklahoma—Tulsa
Address: College of Continuing Education
4502 East 41st Street
Building 4W
Tulsa, OK 74135-2512
Phone: (918) 660-3700
Fax: (918) 660-3737
E-Mail: pcorreia@ou.edu
Web site: www.nrcys.ou.edu/nrcyd.htm
Contact: Peter R. Correia III, Director

The Center strives to build capacity within States and Tribes to help them effectively develop permanent connections for all youth in their care and help youth achieve a successful transition to adulthood. The Center helps States and Tribes incorporate positive youth development and youth involvement approaches into all areas of programs and services, implement services that address legislative requirements, prepare for CFSRs and PIP development, and meet the increased call for accountability and outcomes in child welfare services.

Program: National Resource Center on Child Maltreatment
Organization: Child Welfare Institute
ACTION for Child Protection
Address: P.O. Box 441470
Aurora, CO 80044-1470
Phone: (303) 369-8008 or (518) 767-0182
Fax: (303) 369-8009
E-Mail: nrccm@gocwi.org
Web site: www.gocwi.org/nrccm
Contact: Barry Salovitz or Reed Holder

The Center provides expert consultation, technical assistance, training, and knowledge assimilation and development activities in the area of child protective services. The goal of the Center is to assist States, Tribes and local child protective services agencies in building their capacity to effectively reduce child abuse and neglect and improve their assessment of and response to maltreated children and their families. The Center's objectives are to identify, develop and promote the application of effective practice strategies and models; to identify and facilitate essential connections that promote a coordinated response to child maltreatment; and to bolster the capabilities of managers, supervisors, and caseworkers. Jointly operated by the Child Welfare Institute and ACTION for Child Protection, the Center plays a central role in building capacity as needs are identified via the CFSRs, implementation of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act, and the Adoption and Safe Families Act.

Program: AdoptUSKids
Organization: Adoption Exchange Association
Address: 8015 Corporate Drive
Suite C
Baltimore, MD 21236
Phone: (888) 200-4005 or (410) 933-5700
Fax: (410) 933-5716
E-Mail: info@adoptuskids.org
Web site: www.adoptuskids.org
Contact: Barbara Holtan, Project Director
Melody Roe, T/TA Coordinator

AdoptUSKids is a collaborative initiative to encourage more families to adopt children in the foster care system. **AdoptUSKids** provides T/TA to States and Tribes in connection with the CFSRs on issues that pertain to the development and implementation of quality recruitment and retention services for children in care. **AdoptUSKids** works in collaboration with the Administration for Children and Families Federal Regional Offices and the Children's Bureau to provide individualized assessments of needs, explore established initiatives, and work strategically with child welfare agencies to tailor T/TA services that result in needed changes. Current areas of specific training expertise include recruitment of families (general or child specific), placing children across inter-jurisdictional boundaries, utilization of the national Web listing for waiting children, writing child profiles, and developing and sustaining community-based partnerships. The partnership also maintains the **AdoptUSKids** Web site (www.adoptuskids.org), the first Federal online photolisting; supports critical research on barriers to adoption; establishes joint trainings and meetings with adoption and foster care managers; and consults with adoptive parent organizations to develop culturally appropriate recruiting strategies.

The following two NRCs were established to support statutorily mandated programs and provide services primarily to grantees.

Program: National Abandoned Infants Assistance Resource Center
Organization: University of California at Berkeley
Address: Family Welfare Research Group
1950 Addison Street
Suite 104, #7402
Berkeley, CA 94720-7402
Phone: (510) 643-8390
Fax: (510) 643-7019
E-Mail: aia@uclink4.berkeley.edu
Web site: <http://socrates.berkeley.edu/~aiarc>
Contact: Jeanne Pietrzak, Director

The Center provides training, technical assistance, research, and information to professionals to enhance the quality of social and health services offered to families and their children who are abandoned or at risk of abandonment due to prenatal substance abuse and/or HIV. The Center generates and disseminates training and information on a wide range of child welfare, HIV, and drug issues, particularly as they relate to the safety, well-being, and permanency of children.

Program: National Resource Center for Community-Based Family Resource and Support Programs (FRIENDS)
Organization: Family Support America
Address: 20 North Wacker Drive
Suite 1100
Chicago, IL 60606
Phone: (312) 338-0900
Fax: (312) 338-1522
E-Mail: svelazquez@familysupportamerica.org
Web site: www.chtop.com/friends
Contact: Sonia Velazquez, Project Director

FRIENDS is a partnership of 10 organizations that provide staffing services to the NRC, develop specialized resources, and provide workshops and limited technical assistance in specific areas of Community Based Family Resource and Support (CBFRS) work. Requests for FRIENDS services are initiated by CBFRS State and lead agencies.

National Clearinghouses

The Children's Bureau operates two related Clearinghouses to meet the cross-disciplinary needs of professionals working in child abuse and neglect, child welfare, and adoption. The Clearinghouses serve as central gateways to government and other resources related to these fields. Both Clearinghouses maintain extensive document collections and provide information and referrals, technical assistance, and other products and services.

Program: National Adoption Information Clearinghouse
Organization: Caliber Associates, Inc.
Address: 330 C Street, SW
Washington, DC 20447
Phone: (888) 251-0075
Fax: (703) 385-3206
E-Mail: naic@calib.com
Web site: www.calib.com/naic
Contact: Phyllis Charles, Adoption Program Manager
Mary Sullivan, Project Director

Established by Congress in 1987, the Clearinghouse offers free, easily accessible information on all aspects of adoption including infant, intercountry, foster care adoption, and the adoption of children with special needs. The Clearinghouse develops and maintains a computerized database of books, journal articles, and other materials on adoption and related topics; conducts database searches; publishes materials on adoption; links and scans for the latest adoption research; and gives referrals to related services and experts in the field. The Clearinghouse also maintains the National Adoption Directory, which provides ready access to State Adoption Specialists and other State officials related to adoption, public and private agencies, and adoptive parent and search support groups in each State. The Clearinghouse's primary audiences are adoption professionals, adoptive families, adopted persons, and birth relatives.

Program: National Clearinghouse on Child Abuse and Neglect Information
Organization: Caliber Associates, Inc.
Address: 330 C Street, SW
Washington, DC 20447
Phone: (800) 394-3366
Fax: (703) 385-3206
E-Mail: nccanch@calib.com
Web site: www.calib.com/nccanch
Contact: Kim Helfgott, Deputy Director
Mary Sullivan, Project Director

The Clearinghouse was first established in 1974 by the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act to collect, organize, and disseminate information on all aspects of child maltreatment from prevention to permanency. The Clearinghouse collects and distributes relevant materials on research, statistics, State and Federal legislation, and programs through its Web sites, electronic newsletter, and print products.

Technical Assistance Support Systems

The Children's Bureau has funded five technical assistance support projects to further enhance specific research and program areas.

Program: National Data Archive on Child Abuse and Neglect
Organization: Cornell University
Address: Family Life Development Center
MVR Hall
Ithaca, NY 14853-4401
Phone: (607) 255-7799
Fax: (607) 255-8562
E-Mail: ndacan@cornell.edu
Web site: www.ndacan.cornell.edu
Contact: Elliott Smith, Project Manager
(607) 255-8104

The Archive facilitates secondary analysis of research data relevant to the study of child abuse and neglect. The Archive maintains numerous databases including the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System and Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System.

Program: National Center on Substance Abuse and Child Welfare
Organization: Center for Children and Family Futures
Address: 4940 Irvine Boulevard
Suite 202
Irvine, CA 92612
Phone: (714) 505-3525
Fax: (714) 505-3626
E-Mail: ldaly@effutures.com, soon to be ncsacw@samhsa.gov
Web site: www.effutures.com, soon to be ncsacw.samhsa.gov
Contact: Lani Daly

The Center is an initiative of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and jointly funded by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's Center for Substance Abuse Treatment and the Administration for Children, Youth and Families, Children's Bureau's Office on Child Abuse and Neglect. The Center's goals are to develop and implement a comprehensive program of information gathering and dissemination, to provide technical assistance and to develop knowledge and its application that promotes effective practice, organizational, and system changes at the local, State, and national levels. The Center's activities include creating widely recognized expertise on the connections between substance abuse, child welfare, and Tribal and family judicial systems; gathering and developing specialized knowledge to improve collaboration among these systems; developing Web-based and other technological means of collecting and disseminating current knowledge; assisting communities, policy-makers, and other professionals to improve practice, procedures, and policies.

Program: Interstate Compact for the Placement of Children
Organization: Association of Administrators of the Interstate Compact for the Placement of Children
American Public Human Services Association
Address: 810 First Street, NE
Suite 500
Washington, DC 20002-4267
Phone: (202) 682-0100
Fax: (202) 289-6555
E-Mail: icpcinbox@aphsa.org
Web site: http://icpc.aphsa.org
Contact: Dennis Eshman, Secretariat for AAICPC
Manager, ICPC

The Compact establishes a contract among party States to ensure that children placed across State lines receive adequate protection and services. The primary function of the Compact is to protect the interests of children and of States by requiring that certain procedures are followed in making and maintaining the interstate placement of children going into adoption, residential care or foster family homes, or being placed with relatives.

Program: Interstate Compact on Adoption and Medical Assistance
Organization: Association of Administrators of the Interstate Compact on Adoption and Medical Assistance
American Public Human Services Association
Address: 810 First Street, NE
Suite 500
Washington, DC 20002
Phone: (202) 682-0100
Fax: (202) 289-6555
E-Mail: loppenheim@aphsa.org
Web site: http://aaicama.aphsa.org/
Contact: Liz Oppenheim, Program Director

The Association facilitates the administration of, and advocates for State participation in, the Interstate Compact on Adoption and Medical Assistance. The Compact is the legal mechanism by which member States regulate and coordinate the interstate delivery of services to children with special needs adopted pursuant to adoption assistance agreements. The Association provides technical and legal assistance, education and training, and materials on practice and policy issues.

Program: Technical Assistance and Training Coordinating Contract
Organization: Gallup Organization
Government Division
Address: 901 F Street, NW
Washington, DC 20004
Phone: (202) 715-3030 or (402) 486-6504
Fax: (202) 715-3042 or (402) 486-6300
E-Mail: helen_raikes@gallup.com
Contact: Helen Raikes

This T/TA contract was established to work with the NRCs and to coordinate T/TA for Federal Central and Regional Office staff.