

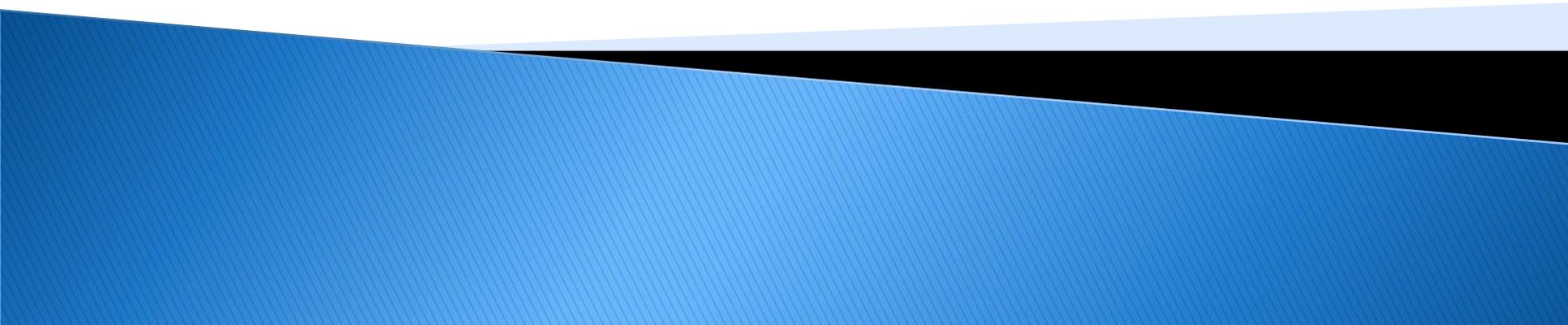
CRB Member Call To Action

**2011 CRB Every Day Counts Conference
Closing Plenary**



2011 JCIP Reassessment

Preliminary Findings: CRB



2,028
Legal File
Documents
Reviewed

Petition
210

Shelter
272

Juris/Dispo
316

Review
532

CRB
137

Perm
525

TPR
36

Baker
4

Jackson
40

Lane
26

Lincoln
9

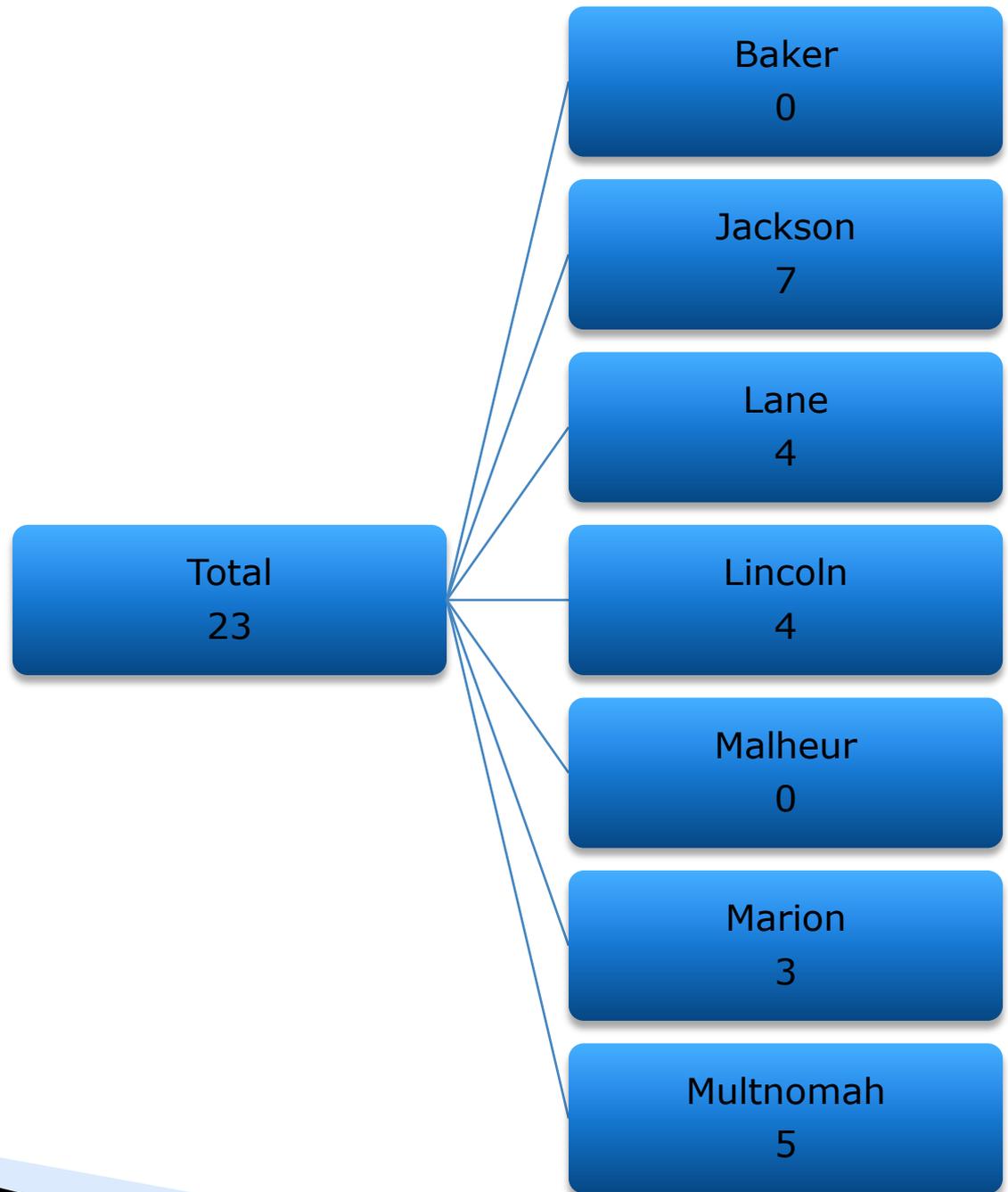
Malheur
2

Marion
51

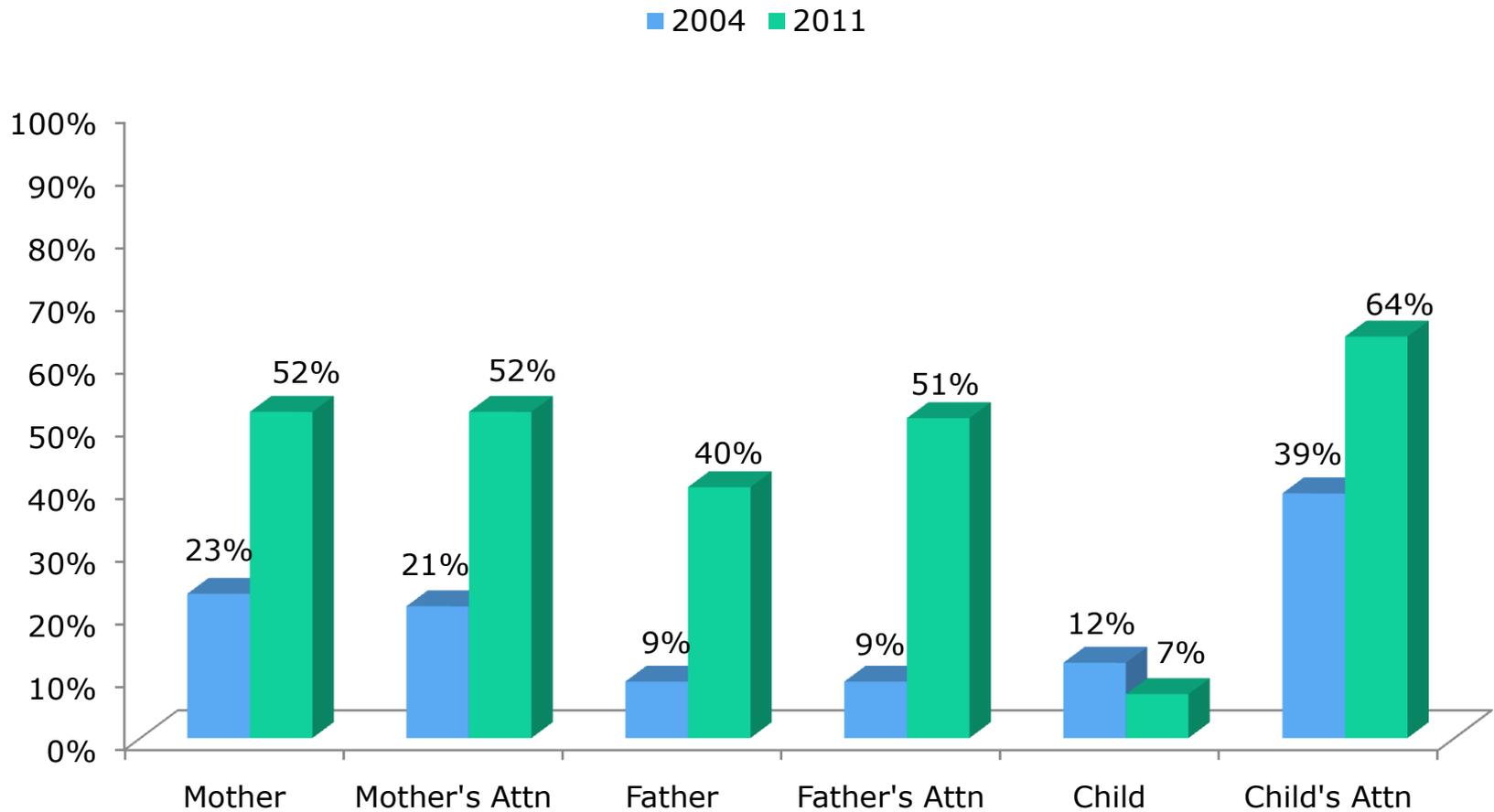
Multnomah
5



CRB Reviews observed

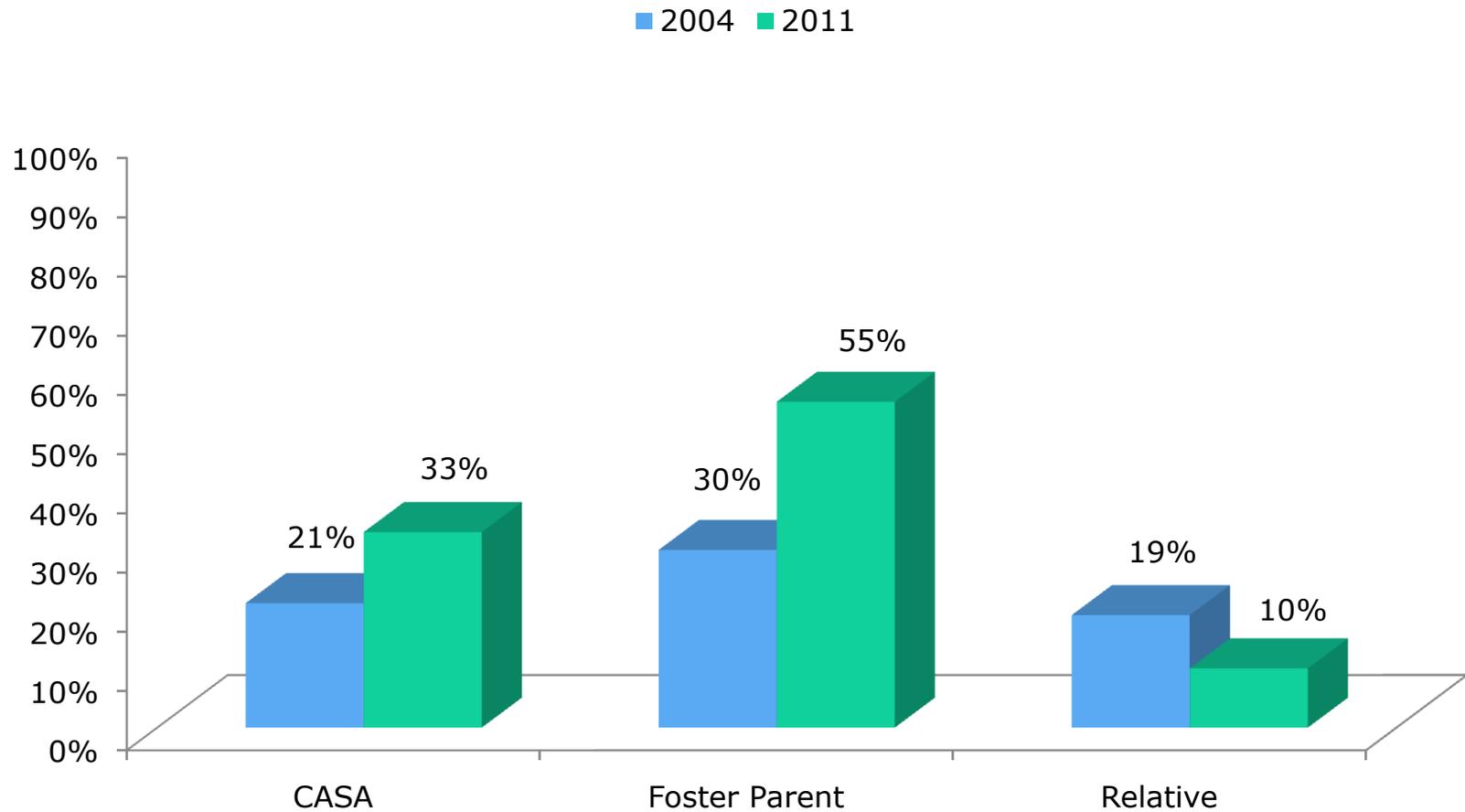


Rate of attendance at CRBs: File Review



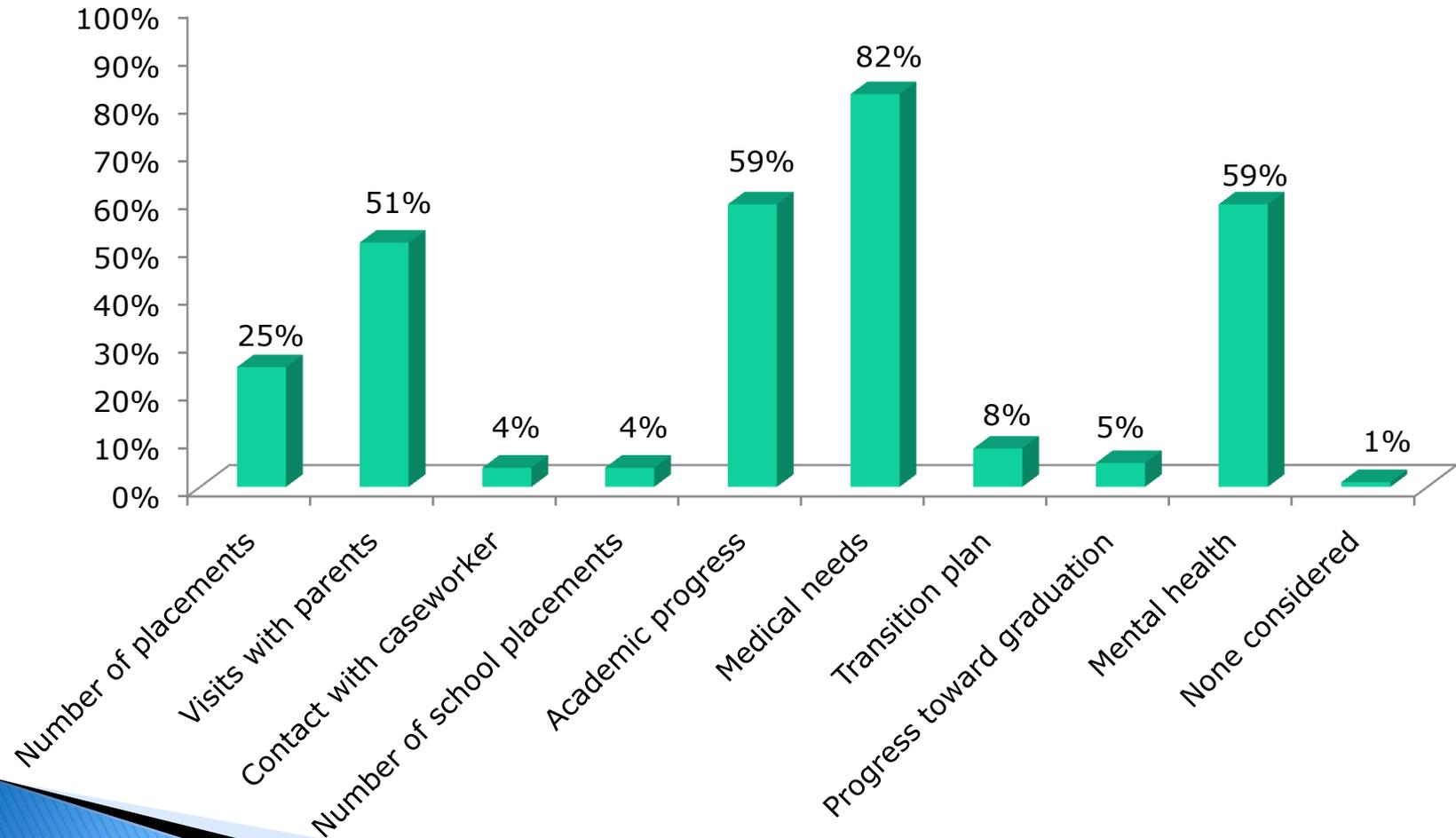
2004 $n=234$
2011 $n=137$

Rate of attendance at CRBs: File Review

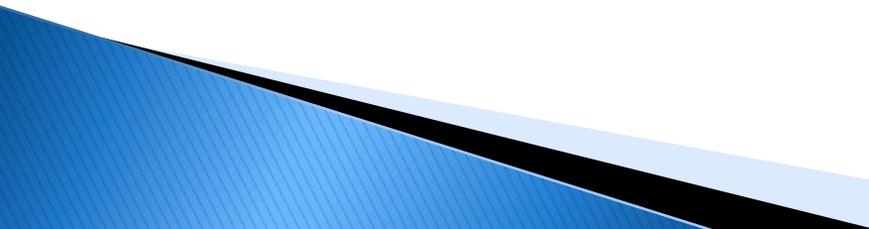


2004 $n=234$
2011 $n=137$

Board considerations documented in the Findings and Recommendation documents



Most often made findings:

- ▶ Efforts to make reunification possible
 - File Reviews 100%; Observations 100%
 - ▶ Services to safeguard child
 - File Reviews 99%; Observations 100%
 - ▶ Efforts to support the concurrent plan
 - File Reviews 98%; Observations 100%
- 

Recent initiatives:

- ▶ Search for, and placement with, relatives
 - File review: 99%
 - Observation: search for 83%; placement with 83%
 - ▶ Sibling placement
 - File review: 92%
 - Observation: 73%
 - ▶ Confirm date of next CRB or court event
 - File review: 27%
 - Observation: 61%
- 

Thank you to all the Board Members who volunteered as Research Assistants. Your help was invaluable.

Karen Bailey
Jodee Barnes
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Wayne Breithaupt
James Castle
Jean Cauthorn
Marlene Fleischman
Sandra Fritz
Sandra Garland
Dorothy Glovka
Elizabeth Huntsman

Anne King
Marlene Krout
Mary LaMotte
LouAnn Martin
MaryAnn Miesner
Elizabeth Moulton
Kimberly O'Neal
Sally Scholz
Barbara Townsend
David Warner
Kathy Warren

2011 CRB Annual Conference



Breakout Session Report
Highlights

Expanding Your Toolbox: Tips to Successfully Engage Participants (Tony Richards)

How does this topic impact the quality and outcome of reviews?

- ▶ *Good communication during CRB reviews produces positive results.*
- ▶ *Strategies to communicate with an "opponent" to gain positive results.*

What are the most important questioning techniques to implement during a review?

- ▶ Focus questions.
- ▶ Understand natural v. strategic questioning strategies.
- ▶ Respond to the meaning; never REACT to the words.

(Dan Garris and Kris Villanueva, Child Welfare Partnership; Robin de Alicante, CRB Field Staff)

Expanding Your Toolbox: Tips to Successfully Engage Participants (continued)

What specific principles are most effective for use by CRB?

- ▶ *Communicating with focus on the topic.*
- ▶ *Be prepared and own your thoughts and commitment to reviews.*
- ▶ *Have others own their accountability.*

What strategies should CRB implement for working with community partners (Court, DHS, Attorneys, CASAs etc) related to this topic?

- ▶ *Let the conversation lead to results, not define the results.*
- ▶ *Use PEACE strategies – build credibility and interest in the case/person*

Stay focused, allowing those involved in reviews to communicate better at reviews to obtain motivated results.

Immigration Law: How Does it Impact Children in Foster Care? (Mary Strobel)

Why is this topic significant for children and/or families involved in the foster care system?

- ▶ A child's immigration status may have a significant impact on the rest of the case.

What are the most important question to ask in reviews related to this topic?

- ▶ What inquiry has DHSs made regarding a child's immigration status?
- ▶ Have required Consular notifications been completed?

(Gloria Anderson, CAF Diversity and International Affairs Manager, DHS; Richard Ginsburg, Attorney at Law; Dave Smith, CRB Field Staff)

Immigration Law: How Does it Impact Children in Foster Care? (continued)

What specific recommendations should boards always consider making related to this topic?

- ▶ Caseworker contact DHS Central Office regarding the child's immigration status
- ▶ CRB send a copy of the F&R Document to Central Office (Gloria Anderson) when a case may have immigration issues.

What strategies should CRB implement for working with community partners (Court, DHS, Attorneys, CASAs etc) related to this topic?

- ▶ Develop key questions for boards to ask when there may be immigration issues ; add to case notes sheet as a reminder; coordinating education for community partners.

CRB can assist DHS by asking appropriate questions and ensuring that immigration issues are addressed for children in care.

What's Next: Transition Planning for APPLA Youth (Lisa Wolpowitz)

Why is this topic significant for children and/or families involved in the foster care system?

- ▶ Permanency for all children is critical and APPLA is the (“suckiest”) least preferred plan.
- ▶ The agency has responsibilities in preparing youth for independence – we need to know the resources and benefits available for youth.

What are the most important question to ask in reviews related to this topic?

- ▶ Can a higher level of permanency be achieved?
- ▶ What has been done to engage relatives or others who will be a support once the teen exits foster care?

(Irvin Minten, Polk County Child Welfare, DHS; Rosemary Iavenditti, Independent Living Program Coordinator, DHS; Jennifer Goff, CRB Field Staff; Youth Panel)

What's Next: Transition Planning for APPLA Youth (continued)

What specific recommendations should boards always consider making related to this topic?

- ▶ *Ensure that youth are receiving ILP services and that transition plans are developed.*
- ▶ *Ensure that relative searches are active and ongoing and that the youth has a lifelong connection with someone who will support them as they leave care.*

What strategies should CRB implement for working with community partners (Court, DHS, Attorneys, CASAs etc) related to this topic?

- ▶ *Encourage youth to attend and participate in CRB & Court hearings.*
- ▶ *Know everyone's responsibilities and **consistently hold people responsible for providing resources to support transitioning youth.***

Domestic Violence Matters: The Impact on Children (Jen Beaman)

Why is this topic significant for children and/or families involved in the foster care system?

- ▶ Significant % of children in care have been exposed to DV.
- ▶ DV is not particular to a victim's race, economic, age, etc.
- ▶ Every situation is unique.

What are the most important question to ask in reviews related to this topic?

- ▶ What efforts were made to avoid placement?
- ▶ Appropriateness and timeliness of services for both parents and children.

*(Rebecca Orf, Staff Counsel, Violence Against Women Act Project, Oregon Judicial Department;
Susan McDaniel, CRB Field Staff)*

Domestic Violence Matters: The Impact on Children (continued)

What specific recommendations should boards always consider making related to this topic?

- ▶ *Appointment of attorney for children.*
- ▶ *Assessments and services for children.*

What strategies should CRB implement for working with community partners (Court, DHS, Attorneys, CASAs etc) related to this topic?

- ▶ *Educate on the impact of DV in local community and know the services available at the local level.*

If all boards ensure attorney or CASA representation for children and know availability of services for both children and families, children are more likely to get timely permanency.

When is Sufficient Enough? Assessing Parental Progress (Karen Walters)

Why is this topic significant for children and/or families involved in the foster care system?

- ▶ Parental Progress determines when children can be returned home.
- ▶ Safety concerns need to be addressed.

What are the most important question to ask in reviews related to this topic?

- ▶ At the parent's current rate of progress is it likely that safety threats can be resolved within a reasonable period of time?
- ▶ What input has DHS received from service providers regarding parental progress?

(Lindsay Soto, Attorney at Law; Linda Lawing, Supervisor, Marion County DHS; Michal Lansdon, Caseworker, Marion County DHS; Rebecca Orf, Senior Judge)

When is Sufficient Enough? Assessing Parental Progress (continued)

What specific recommendations should boards always consider making related to this topic?

- ▶ *Specific recommendations to the parents based on the individual case.*
- ▶ *DHS to identify additional services or treatments that will make it possible for the children to safely return home.*

What strategies should CRB implement for working with community partners (Court, DHS, Attorneys, CASAs etc) related to this topic?

- ▶ *Know the services that are available in your county.*
- ▶ *Encourage case collaboration between DHS, parents, and service providers.*

All boards should consistently address parental progress so children and families have a greater chance at successful reunification.

(Gary Heard, Program Supervisor, Marion County Alcohol and Drug Treatment Services; Sam Tazumal and Suzanne Callahan, CRB Field Staff)

Appellate Decisions that Impact Permanency

(Cynthia McKay)

Why is this topic significant for children and/or families involved in the foster care system?

- ▶ Boards and others involved in reviews need to understand laws and decisions to ensure that services are provided to parents.

What are the most important question to ask in reviews related to this topic?

- ▶ *Reasonable efforts findings – specifically about services.*
- ▶ *Permanency Goal appropriateness - go through the hierarchy.*

(Michael Livingston, Oregon Judicial Department Juvenile Law Staff Counsel; Inge Wells, Senior Assistant Attorney General; Stephanie Slayton and Walt Gullett, CRB Field Staff)

Appellate Decisions that Impact Permanency (continued)

What specific recommendations should boards always consider making related to this topic?

- ▶ *Encourage services and creative ways to provide them for all parents – especially incarcerated and domestic violence*

What strategies should CRB implement for working with community partners (Court, DHS, Attorneys, CASAs etc) related to this topic?

- ▶ *Local training sessions on Appellate decisions and collaborative work with stakeholders to improve case practices.*

We Are Family: DHS New Relative Policy

(LouAnn Martin)

Why is this topic significant for children and/or families involved in the foster care system?

- ▶ Federal and state laws.
- ▶ Family is important to promote stability, permanency, and to keep children out of the system.
- ▶ Family can be life-long connections.

What are the most important question to ask in reviews related to this topic?

- ▶ *What efforts did DHS make to locate family prior to placement?*
- ▶ *What efforts has DHS made to locate and place children with family?*
- ▶ *Has DHS initiated ICPC?*

(AJ Goins, Assistant Manager for Foster Care, DHS;
David Pike, Child Welfare Branch Manager)

We Are Family: DHS New Relative Policy (continued)

What specific recommendations should boards always consider making related to this topic?

- ▶ *DHS to continue the diligent search efforts.*
- ▶ *DHS make efforts to maintain connections and contacts between children and family.*

What strategies should CRB implement for working with community partners (Court, DHS, Attorneys, CASAs etc) related to this topic?

- ▶ *Collaborative, Multidisciplinary trainings at local level.*
- ▶ *Work with court (model court team) to brainstorm ways CRB can help with efforts to search for relatives and connections.*

If all boards recognize the importance of family to a foster child, then children in care will have a better chance for a lifetime of support from their family network.

(Multnomah County DHS; and Rebecca Regello and Erin White, CRB Field Staff)

Helping Children Heal: Intensive Mental Health Treatment Services (Nancy Johnson)

Why is this topic significant for children and/or families involved in the foster care system?

- ▶ *There are effective ways to deliver mental health services which significantly impact safety, education, health, well-being,, and permanency.*

What are the most important question to ask in reviews related to this topic?

- ▶ *Has there been a timely mental health or developmental assessment?*
- ▶ *What are the natural and relative supports for a child?*

(Lacey Andresen, Marion County DHS Supervisor; Cydney Nestor, Clinical Supervisor, New Solutions;)

Helping Children Heal: Intensive Mental Health Treatment Services (continued)

What specific recommendations should boards always consider making related to this topic?

- ▶ *Refer the child for a mental health assessment and follow the recommendations.*
- ▶ *DHS should considered additional supports for the foster child.*

What strategies should CRB implement for working with community partners (Court, DHS, Attorneys, CASAs etc) related to this topic?

- ▶ *Training with local mental health service providers.*
- ▶ *Advocate for system of care and wrap around approach.*

All boards should empower the children and family voice to improve outcomes for children and families.

(Steve Kuhn, Mid Valley Wraparound Supervisor, New Solutions; Steve Lindeman, CRB Field Staff)

Thank you!

