



# Perspectives on the Power of Inclusive Practice and Teaming to Achieve and Sustain Permanence

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# Children First: Protected and Connected!

The Child Protective Services (CPS) program of DFPS is designated to receive reports of alleged child maltreatment and to investigate reports of suspected abuse and neglect.

The total child population for the state of Texas is 6,376,086 (FY2007)

# The Goal of CPS

To ensure child safety and to provide services that promote the integrity and stability of the family

# CPS Values

- Respect for culture
- Inclusiveness of families, youth and community
- Integrity in decision making
- Compassion for all
- Commitment to reducing disproportionality

# Our CPS Work

- Working with youth and families
- Impacting and improving outcomes
- Importance of collaboration with CFP
- Building relationships with the courts
- The voice of youth, parents and community
- The use of data
- Getting to “here”

# Casey Family Programs

- Systems Improvement Partnership: Casey & CPS
- Development & Support of Family Centered Practice Model: Strategies & Methodologies
- How We do our Work: The Framework Defining our Approach
- Kinds of Work Efforts: Including Partners, Families, Youth & Communities

# Implementation of New Practice Models

- Family Group Decision Making
  - Collaboration with AHA and Casey Family Programs
- FGC – Focus on “back end” of system
- FTM – Focus on “front end” of system
- Recruitment strategies and focus – increase in adoptions and kinship

# Parent Voice

## Role of the parent specialist

- Policy review from the “parent perspective”
- Advocacy
- Parents helping parents
- Parent Collaboration Group

# Youth Voice

- Role of the Youth Specialist
- “Nothing about us without us”
- Youth Leadership
- Circles of Support
- “Knowing Who You Are”
- Transitional Living Services

# Judicial Commission

- History of the Commission
- Membership & Collaborative Council
- Commission goals that support a commitment to systemic change:
  - Promoting judicial leadership in CPS cases
  - Identifying and promoting best practices for judges and attorneys
    - Moving children and youth to permanency
  - Awareness about strengthening our courts
  - Improving the quality of legal representation
  - Increasing accountability for improvement in courts

Questions?