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KIDS IN CARE: THE CHILD SUPPORT CONNECTION

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WHO ARE THE CHILDREN?



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- Drug addicted parents, opioid epidemic, now #1 reason
- Poverty- neglect, homelessness, inadequate supervision
- Single parent households
- Incarcerated parents
- The neighborhood connection- high crime and unemployment, deteriorating housing, inadequate health care facilities, no safe places to play
- Parenting skills

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- Minnesota study-
 - 47% of parents had no recorded earnings
 - 32% of parents had income less than \$10,000
 - Only 20% had income above \$10,000
- Wisconsin study, in the year prior to placement-
 - 59% of mothers has no recorded earnings
 - 26% of mothers had earnings below \$10,000
 - Only 15% has earnings above \$10,000

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Race	General population	In out of home placement	Living in poverty
African American	13%	23%	34%
Native American	1%	2%	34%
Hispanic	18%	21%	28%
Asian	6%	1%	12%
Two or more	3%	7%	20%
White	61%	44%	12%
Total population	n/a	n/a	19%

Sources, AFCARS Report 2016 and US Census 2017 Estimates

HOW CHILD SUPPORT PARTNERS WORK WITH CHILD WELFARE

- Provide locate services to find parents or relatives of children in title IV-B and IV-E caseloads
- Provide full child support services, as appropriate, when children are in foster care



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LEGAL AUTHORITY FOR DATA SHARING

- Foster Care Independence Act of 1999
- Fostering Connections to Success and Increasing Adoptions Act of 2008
- Social Security Act - 453(c)(4), 453(j)(3), 454(8)
- Safeguarding Child Support Information Final Rule
- [OCSE- IM-12-02: Requests for Locate Services Referrals and Electronic Interface](#)

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WHO DO WE LOCATE?

- Parents
- Siblings
- Children aging out of the child welfare caseload
- Other relatives



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TWO WAYS TO ACCESS LOCATE INFORMATION

- Submit a request to the local child support agency.
- Enter into an agreement with OCSE for direct access to the Federal Parent Locator Service via the Child Support Portal (CSP).

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IV-E REFERRALS

In order for a State to be eligible for payments under this part, it shall have a plan approved by the Secretary which...provides that, **where appropriate**, all steps will be taken, including cooperative efforts with the State agencies administering the program funded under part A and plan approved under part D, to secure an assignment to the State of any rights to support on behalf of each child receiving foster care maintenance payments under this part;

- 45 CFR 471(a)(17)

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CHILD SUPPORT- CHILD WELFARE CASE MANAGEMENT



- Use good referral policies
 - Reintegration cases?
- Use child support services to support the child welfare case goal

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COST-EFFECTIVENESS- MINNESOTA

Estimated expenditures	Expenditures	Cost-per-case	Cost of collections	Expenditure per dollar collected	Cost effectiveness ratio
Total expenditures	\$138,301,873	\$632	\$6,830,024	\$2.70	\$0.36
Salary & fringe, attorney	\$91,298,249	\$417	\$4,506,519	\$1.80	\$0.55
One-half salary & fringe, no attorney	\$38,857,294	\$177	\$1,912,839	\$0.76	\$1.31

MAKING PARENTS PAY

- Some perspectives from families
 - Long term debt
 - I'll lose my home
 - If I had known...
 - I can't afford to visit, participate in the family program
 - What if she had been receiving child support?

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MAKING FAMILIES PAY?

- AFDC reimbursement program in 1975
- Today 96% of collections are paid out to custodial families
- Child Support Goals-
 - To encourage responsible parenting, family self-sufficiency and child well-being

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MAKING FAMILIES PAY?

- Child Welfare Goals-
 - To support at-risk families through service which allow children, where appropriate, to remain with their families, or return to their families in a timely manner
- Is government reimbursement aligned with these goals?

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GET CREATIVE

In small groups

Draft a policy!

Design a brochure for child welfare
about child support services

Report out



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QUESTIONS & DISCUSSION

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