

Families

for Life:

Addressing the Needs of Older Children and Youth in Foster Care



Selected Web-Based Resources: Achieving Permanence for Older Children and Youth

September 2006

The following is a developing list of selected web-based resources related to achieving family permanence for older children and youth in foster care. Additional resources related to youth permanency pathways are welcome. Please send website information with a description to info@caseyfamilyservices.org.

The 2006 National Convening on Youth Permanence

September 12 - 15, 2006

Renaissance Washington, D.C. Hotel

Washington, D.C.

American Bar Association

Center on Children and the Law

www.abanet.org/child/catalog/books.html

Find ordering information for:

- *Making It Permanent: Reasonable Efforts to Finalize Permanency Plans for Foster Children* (2002) by Cecilia Fiermonte and Jennifer L. Renne;
- *Achieving Permanency for Adolescents* (2006) by Andrea Khoury et al; and
- The journal, *Child Law Practice*, at www.abanet.org/child/clp. In particular, see the article “Cultural Context in Permanency Planning for Adolescents” by Karen Aileen Howze, 24(5) July 2006.

Annie E. Casey Foundation

Family to Family Initiative

www.aecf.org/initiatives/familytofamily/

- For specific Family to Family tools aimed at strengthening permanence efforts, see www.aecf.org/initiatives/familytofamily/tools.htm.
- Family to Family’s California website includes information and tools related to team decision making, finding and training resource families, and more. See it at www.f2f.ca.gov/default.htm.
- A list of permanence-related videos on team decision making, supporting youth in foster care, and developing resource families is available at the following website (*scroll to the bottom of the page*): www.aecf.org/initiatives/familytofamily/tools.htm.

KIDS COUNT

www.aecf.org/kidscount

- For a discussion of issues related to disconnected youth, see “Moving Youth from Risk to Opportunity: Essay from the 2004 KIDS COUNT Data Book.”

California Evidence-based Clearinghouse for Child Welfare

www.cachildwelfareclearinghouse.org/search/topical-area

Provides research on interventions related to reunification, parent training and trauma treatment for children. Will soon add information about youth transitioning to adulthood and other topics.

California Permanency for Youth Project

www.cpyy.org/

Includes resources related to helping youth exit the foster care system with a permanent lifelong connection to a caring adult. Provides links to:

- *Telling It Like It Is: Foster Youth and Their Struggle for Permanency*. Two sections of this 10-part video are available online. To order full video, see www.cpyy.org/digitalstories.htm.
- *Model Programs for Youth Permanency* (2005).
- *Youth Perspectives on Permanency* (2005), developed in collaboration with the California Youth Connection.

Casey Family Services

Casey Center for Effective Child Welfare Practice

www.caseyfamilyservices.org

Includes links to several permanence-related publications, including:

- “A Call to Action: An Integrated Approach to Youth Permanency and Preparation for Adulthood” (2005), developed in collaboration with Casey Family Programs, the Jim Casey Youth Opportunities Initiative, and the California Permanency for Youth Project.
- “Permanence for Young People: Framework and Measures” (2004), written in collaboration with the National Resource Center for Family-Centered Practice and Permanency Planning.
- “Annotated Lifebooks Bibliography” (2006).

Casey Family Programs

www.casey.org/resources/

Tools and resources page highlights publications aimed at improving the foster care experience and well-being of young people.

Chapin Hall Center for Children

www.chapinhall.org

See research-rich sections on child welfare and maltreatment prevention, child well-being indicators, and data systems for policy research that support youth permanency planning and policy development.

Children's Bureau, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

Child Welfare Information Gateway

www.childwelfare.gov

This newly redesigned site includes links to:

- The 11 National Resource Centers, which provide training and technical assistance with states and tribes along with a variety of newsletters, bibliographies and other materials.
- *Achieving and Maintaining Permanency* topic area.
- State statute search. Look here to see how other states approach issues such as permanency planning, parental rights, "reasonable efforts" and more.

Children and Family Research Center, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Best practice activities

cfcwww.social.uiuc.edu/resources/resources.htm

Includes links to information that supports effective youth permanency program planning and development:

- Bibliographies and literature reviews (for example, see 2002 "Permanency Bibliography").
- The Outcome-based Child Welfare Practice Website.
- The Integrating Research and Practice Web.
- CARA, a learning site covering child safety and risk issues.
- The Center's publications, reports and research briefs.

Child Welfare League of America

www.cwla.org

Among their many resources, see:

- *Research to Practice (R2P) Initiative* at www.cwla.org/programs/r2p/ for research on child, youth, and family well being. Site includes annotated bibliographies on family reunification, post-adoption services, kinship care, treatment foster care and other subjects. Researchers and evaluators should see the R & E toolkit series.
- *Toolkit series* at www.cwla.org/pubs/default.htm offers descriptions and ordering information for CWLA's toolkit series, including *Toolbox #1: Using Visitation to Support Permanency* (2001) by Lois Wright; *Toolbox #2: Expanding the Role of Foster Parents in Achieving Permanency* (2001) by Susan Dougherty; and *Toolbox #3: Facilitating Permanency for Youth* (2005) by Gerald Mallon.

Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption

www.davethomasfoundationforadoption.org

See resources for adoption and foster care workers, families and teachers.

In particular, find ordering information for *Pathways to Permanency*, an educational video related to effective permanency planning techniques of successful mediation programs.

EMQ Children and Family Services

Family Finding

www.emq.org/press/familyfinding.html

Provides description and benefits of family finding as part of youth permanency practice.

Foster Club

www.fosterclub.com

A national network for young people in foster care, the Foster Club site includes a wealth of general information for youth and grownups that care about them.

- See www.fy13.com. Developed by Foster Club and the Jim Casey Youth Opportunities Initiative, this site has content important to youth transitioning out of the system, such as information on birth families, adoption, education, relationships, and more.

In particular, see the youth advocacy section at

www.fy13.com/fy13/involved/advocacy/index.cfm.

- See description of *Prepping Youth for Permanency: Getting Solid and the Permanency Pact*. A tool that helps youth understand what permanence is, if they have it and why they would want it. Assists youth in becoming central players in their own permanence planning.

Go to www.fosterclub.com/grownups/training.cfm

Jim Casey Youth Opportunities Initiative

www.jimcaseyyouth.org

Offers links to many sources related to preparing older youth for adulthood, including:

- *On Their Own: What Happens to Kids When they Age Out of the Foster Care System* (2004) by Martha Shirk and Gary Stangler.

- The 2005 documentary film, *Aging Out*, by Roger Weisberg and Vanessa Roth, which follows young people as they exit foster care. For supplemental material and information on how to order the film,

go to www.pbs.org/wnet/agingout/index-hi.html.

- Youth engagement information and materials.

Juvenile Law Center (Philadelphia, PA)

www.jlc.org

Two publications related to the needs of youth in foster care are available:

- “Dependent Youth Aging Out of Foster Care: A Guide for Judges” (2003) by Jennifer Pokempner and Lourdes M. Rosado may be downloaded from

www.jlc.org/file/publications/agingoutjudgesguide.pdf.

- “Know your Rights: A Guide for Youth in Substitute Care” (2006) by the Juvenile Law Center and KidsVoice with special thanks to the Pennsylvania Youth Advisory Board.

Based on Pennsylvania law, this publication may be downloaded from

www.jlc.org/file/publications/knowyourrights.pdf.

National Child Welfare Resource Center for Adoption

www.nrcadoption.org

Includes access to a wide variety of resources, links, and ordering information, among them:

- Descriptions of and ordering information for curricula such as *Parents as Tender Healers*, *Special Needs Adoption* and *The Right to be the Grown-Up: Helping Parents be Parents to their Difficult Teens*. See pages 13 and 14 of online catalog at www.nrcadoption.org/resources/source/cs%20-%20june%202005.pdf
- *Hot Topics* and *View our Resources* website sections.

National Child Welfare Resource Center for Youth Development

www.nrcys.ou.edu/nrcyd/

Offers links to reports, legal information, promising practices, and strategies and research. For instance, see:

- *Improving Outcomes for Older Youth: What Judges and Attorneys Need to Know* (2004) by Kathleen McNaught and Lauren Onkeles of the ABA Center on Children and the Law.
- *Partnering with Youth: Involving Youth in Child Welfare Training and Curriculum Development* (2003) by Joan Morse, Nancy Markowitz, Marty Zanghi, and Penthea Burns.

National Resource Center for Family-Centered Practice and Permanency Planning

www.hunter.cuny.edu/socwork/nrcfcpp/

Offers many resources, including:

- A permanency planning newsletter, a youth permanency bibliography, and materials in web cast and teleconference formats.
- Information about consultation related to family finding strategies.

North American Council on Adoptable Children

www.nacac.org

For information about finding permanent families for children and youth in foster care, see:

- *Permanency Toolkit* series at www.nacac.org/resources_videos.html.
- *A Family for Every Child: Strategies to Achieve Permanency for Older Foster Children and Youth* (2005) by Mary Ford and Mary Boo. Developed with support of the Annie E. Casey Foundation.

TheToolkit.org – Permanency for Teens Resources

www.rglewis.com/new_page_2.htm and www.thetoolkit.org

Descriptions of and links to ordering information for Robert Lewis and Maureen Heffernan's 2004 toolkit series, including:

- *Adolescents and Families for Life: A Toolkit for Supervisors*;
- *The Family Bound Program: A Toolkit for Preparing Teenagers for Permanent Family Connections* by Thea Stovell, Susan Landers, and Robin Warsh; and
- *Families for Teens: A Toolkit for Focusing, Educating and Motivating Staff*.

University of South Carolina, The Center for Child and Family Studies

Permanency brochures

www.sc.edu/ccfs/research/adoladoptions.html

Includes links to two colorful, downloadable brochures on permanence, one for youth, one for potential adoptive parents.