



Pennsylvania's CFSR and Child Welfare Work with Fathers

Some findings related to the Engaging Fathers Curriculum:

1. Item 9. Adoption (Permanency 1)

“According to some stakeholders, the agency-related barriers pertained to unnecessary delays in (1) changing goals from reunification to adoption (2) filing for TPR (3) **searching for absent parents**, and, (4) conducting home studies.” (page 36)

2. Item 13. Visiting with parents and siblings in foster care. (Permanency 2)

“Fathers were far more likely than mothers to be identified as not applicable for this assessment because they could not be located or because the visits between children and fathers were deemed to be not in the child’s best interests.” (page 41)

3. Item 16. Relationship of child in care with parents. (Permanency 2)

“Cases were rated as Area Needing Improvement when reviewers determined that the agency did not promote visitation or provide services to strengthen the parent-child relationship, or did not make efforts to contact absent fathers to encourage their involvement with their children.” (page 45)

“A particular concern pertained to a lack of consistent efforts to locate and involve absent fathers.” (page 45)

4. Item 17. Needs and services of child, parents, and foster parents. (Well-Being 1)

“A rating of Area Needing Improvement was assigned when reviewers determined one or more of the following:

- “Fathers were not contacted to determine their needs.” (page 47)

5. Item 20. Worker visits with parents. (Well-Being 1)

“A primary concern identified with lack of caseworker contacts with fathers, even in cases in which fathers had been caretakers and/or maintained connections with their children.” (page 53)