Our Vision for Family First Readiness Consultation

The Family First Prevention Services Act Opportunity

• Help reorient our child welfare system toward prevention and family stabilization
• Expand the use of licensed kinship and family foster homes when foster care is necessary

Readiness Support

• Provide individualized consultation to 20 new districts, for a total of 29 New York districts, to help them decrease their use of congregate care and increase their use of licensed kinship care and family foster care

Implementation of Family First Requirements

• Support the state and its districts in complying with not only the letter, but the family-centered and prevention-focused spirit of Family First by helping districts plan to meet new congregate care requirements, increase kin and foster family support and enhance their prevention service arrays
Our Theory of Change

Because we believe that

Reform must happen on a district level

Districts want to do what is best for the children and families they serve

Districts benefit from support to break through barriers to drive positive change

We are providing 29 districts with

Six months’ of individualized, expert consultation focused on:

- Data and fiscal analysis
- Outcomes-driven strategic planning and project management
- Leadership for change management

and

Field-tested tools designed to clarify a district’s baseline and system drivers for change

- An action-oriented planning process for practice and policy improvements
- Opportunities for peer-to-peer learning and support

That will enable districts to move toward

Family First Readiness

Child and family outcomes:
- A maximum of 12% of children in foster care placed in congregate care
- A minimum of 30% of children in foster care are in approved relative homes

Support to implement needed changes and manage toward outcomes
Our Guiding Questions: A logical framework

**Goals**
What do our data tell us about what needs to change and our readiness for change?

**Purpose**
What do we want to accomplish?
Where do we need to focus?

**Outputs**
What changes will we make by building on our strengths and addressing gaps?
What supportive systems, tools, structures and processes do we need?

**Activities**
What are our key activities?
How will we drive toward results through the implementation of our work plan?
Our Proposed Timeline, Phases of Work and Tools

**July**
- Consultant one-day co-design and training
- Kick-Off Convening with LDSSs

**August**
- Site visit #1

**September**
- Site visit #2

**October**
- Site visit #3

**November**
- Site visit #4
- LDSS consultation ends (no-cost extension up to two months)

### Assessment/Analysis
- What do our data tell us about what needs to change and our readiness for change?
- What do we want to accomplish?
- Where do we need to focus?
- OCFS data packets
- Foster family utilization review
- Placement Savings Forecaster
- Foster home pool analysis
- Policy review and analysis
- Business process mapping

### Planning
- What changes will we make by building on our strengths and addressing gaps?
- What supportive systems, tools, structures and processes do we need?
- Smartsheet work plan template
- Strategy roadmap template
- Kinship process mapping

### Implementation
- What are our key activities?
- How will we drive toward results through the implementation of our work plan?
- Work plan management and execution
- Data collection
- Firewall policy examples
- Contract amendment language

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