

# Caregiver Friendly Courtrooms

ALLIANCE  
for CHILDREN'S  
RIGHTS



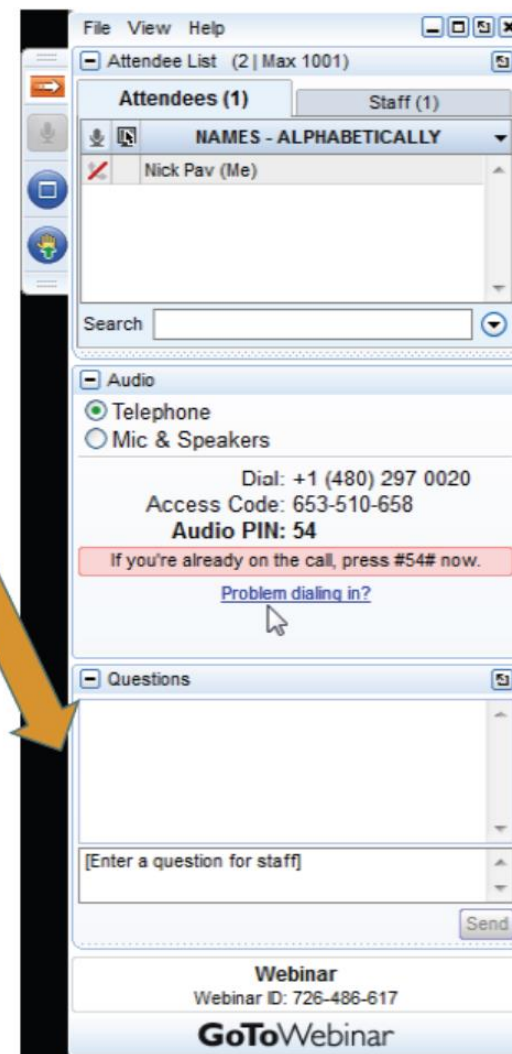
September 2018



Children's Law Center  
of California

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# Today's Presenters

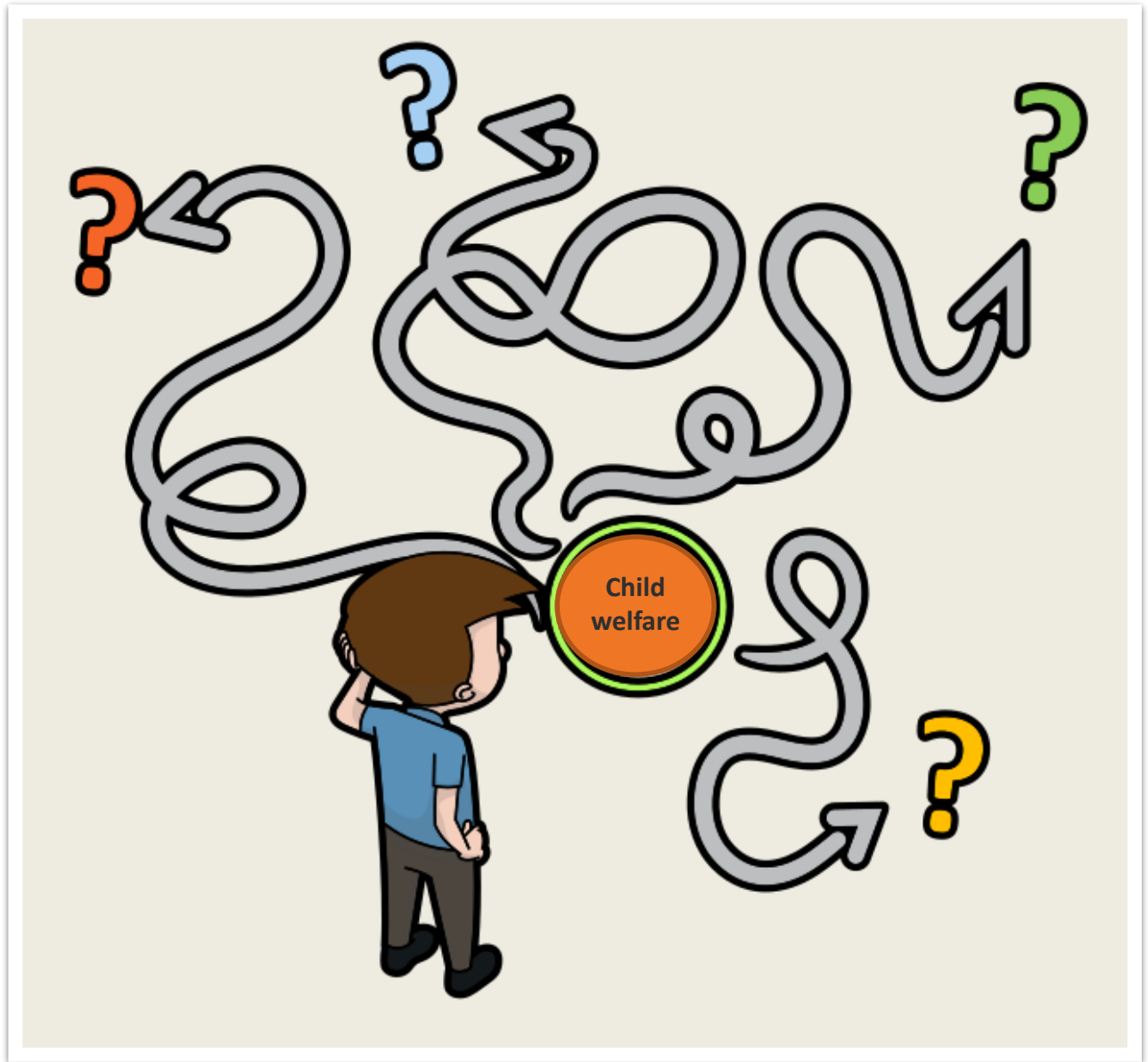
- **Sue Abrams**, Children's Law Center of California
- **Anabel Meldrum**, Resource Family (Kinship)
- **Cherie Schroeder**, CA Foster Youth Initiative and Foster and Kinship Care Education Program, Yolo County
- **Angie Schwartz**, Alliance for Children's Rights
- **Katelyn Woods**, Resource Family

# ANABEL AND DAVID'S STORY

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## 3 main challenges:

- (1) Lack of information
- (2) Out of County placement
- (3) Caregiver voice in court





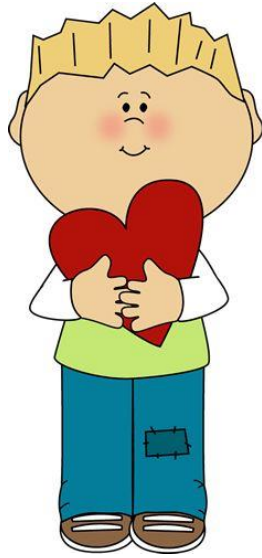


**“The Foster and Kinship Education program did connect us with many valuable resources that helped us care for our nephew and better understand the court process.”**









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# FAMILY FRIENDLY & CHILD-CENTERED SYSTEM

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*Understanding the focus on relatives and extended family members*

# Kinship vs Traditional Foster Care

<b>Kinship Care</b>	<b>Traditional Foster Care</b>
Unplanned, immediate/crisis-oriented	Planned decision to become foster caregiver
Changes existing relationships/family roles	Builds new relationships
Hopes and expectations for reunification	May hope to adopt
Knowledge of family dynamics	Limited knowledge of a family
Mixed feeling about role change	Excitement of a new role of parent
Mixed feelings about loss of parent to child	Celebration of new family
Limited preparation	Prepared and supports in place
Unanticipated requirements to become approved for placement	Anticipated requirements to become approved foster parent
Guilt over the issues of birth parents	No guilt over issues of birth parents
Feelings of betraying birth parents	Displaying loyalty to the child
Feel entitled to be in “driver’s seat” – distrusting of system	Emotional entitlement is more gradual; legal entitlement only after adoption
Hesitation to legalize – doesn’t indicate a lack of commitment to child	Low motivation to legalize triggers concerns about commitment to child

# Relative Defined: California Law

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- An **adult related to the child by blood, adoption, or affinity** within the fifth degree of kinship, including stepparents, stepsiblings, and all relatives whose status is preceded by the words “great,” “great-great,” or “grand,” or the spouse of any of these persons, even if the marriage was terminated by death or dissolution.
- Preferential consideration is no longer limited to grandparent, aunt, uncle, or sibling.
- **“Preferential Consideration”** is a specific legal term, meaning the home shall be the first placement to be considered and investigated.

# NREFM Defined: California Law

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- “NREFM” has an established familial relationship with a relative of the child or a familial or mentoring relationship.
  - May include teachers, medical professionals, clergy, neighbors, family friends.

# Relative Placement Preference: Federal Law

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- Federal law prefers placement with a relative.
- States **must give preference to an adult relative over a non-related caregiver when determining a placement for a child**, provided that the relative caregiver meets all relevant state child protection standards.



# Relative Placement Preference: California Law

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- If a child is removed from the physical custody of their parents, preferential consideration shall be given whenever possible to the placement of the child with the relative.  
Welfare & Institutions Code § 16000(a)
- Placement shall, if possible, be made in the home of a relative, unless the placement would not be in the best interest of the child. Family Code § 7950(a)
- Legislative intent for children to be placed **immediately** with a relative. Welfare & Institutions Code § 361.3(b)



# Other Factors Courts and Placing Agency Must Balance (WIC 361.3)

In determining whether placement with a relative is appropriate, the county and court must consider:

- Best interest of the child
- Wishes of the parent, relative and child
- Placement of siblings and half siblings in the same home
- Good moral character of the relative
- Nature and duration of the relationship
- Ability to provide a safe, secure and stable environment
- Ability to protect the child from his/her parents
- Ability to facilitate visitation
- Ability to provide permanence if reunification fails

# Kin are backbone of child welfare system

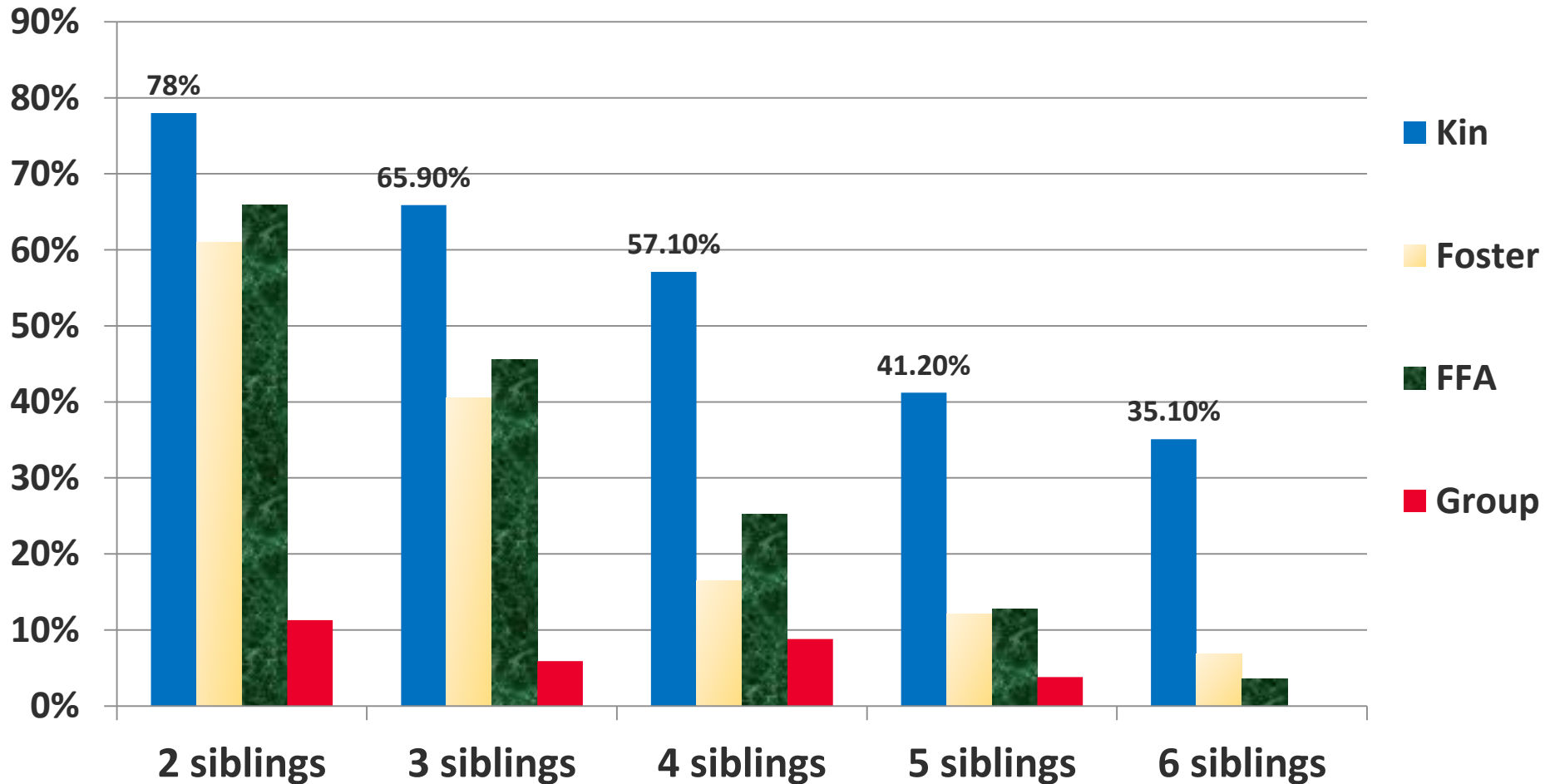
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- Extended family members and close family friends care for more than **2.7 million** children
- Over the past decade **the number of children in kin care grew six times faster** than the number of children in the general population
- **287,996** children in California live in homes with grandparent householders where grandparents are responsible for them - of these children, **80,248** have no parents present in the home
- **In California, 19,635** of our state's 63,000 foster children are in kin placements

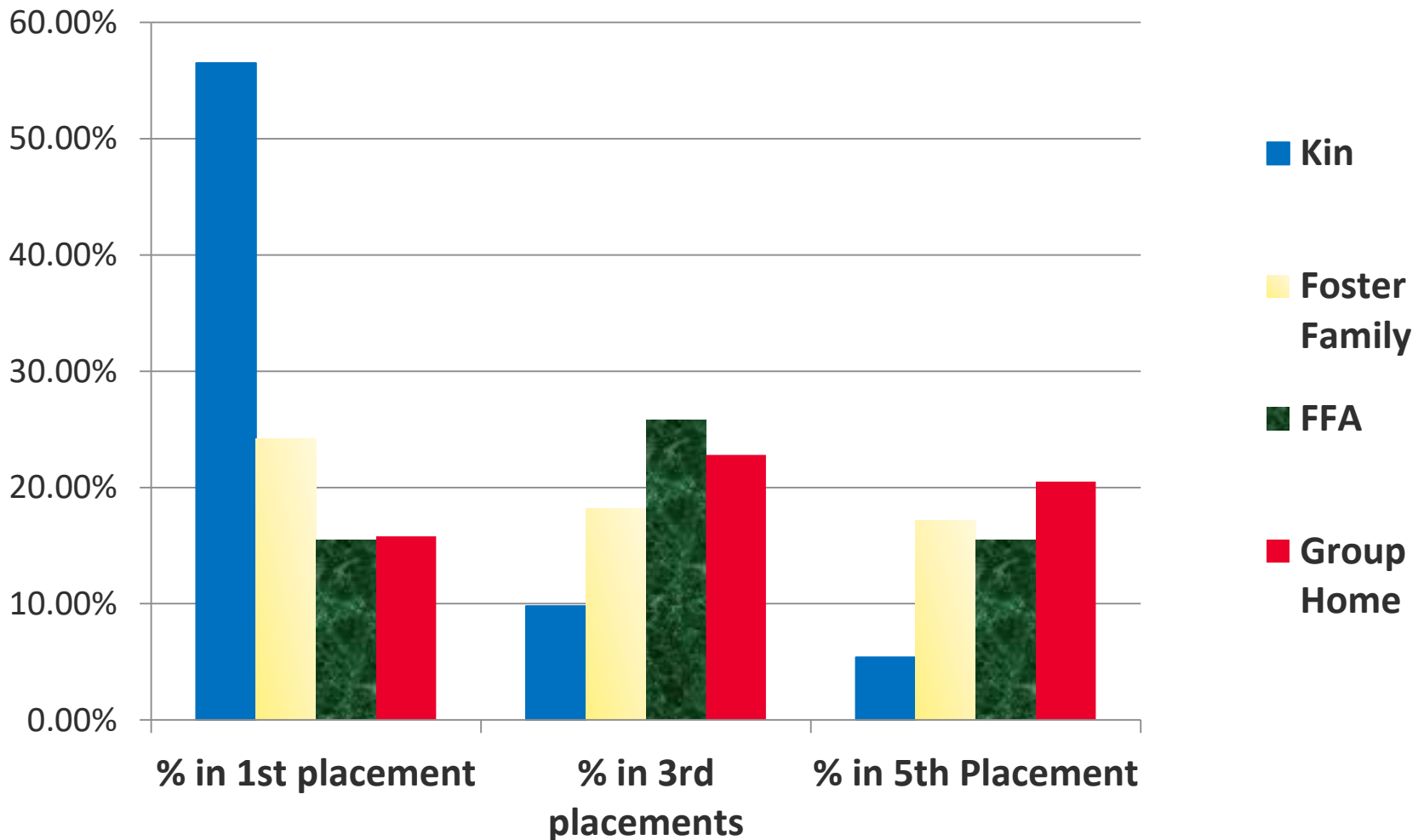
# Kin most likely to support siblings

*% of siblings all placed together*



# Kin provide greater family stability

*Youth ages 14 - 17 still in care at 12 months*

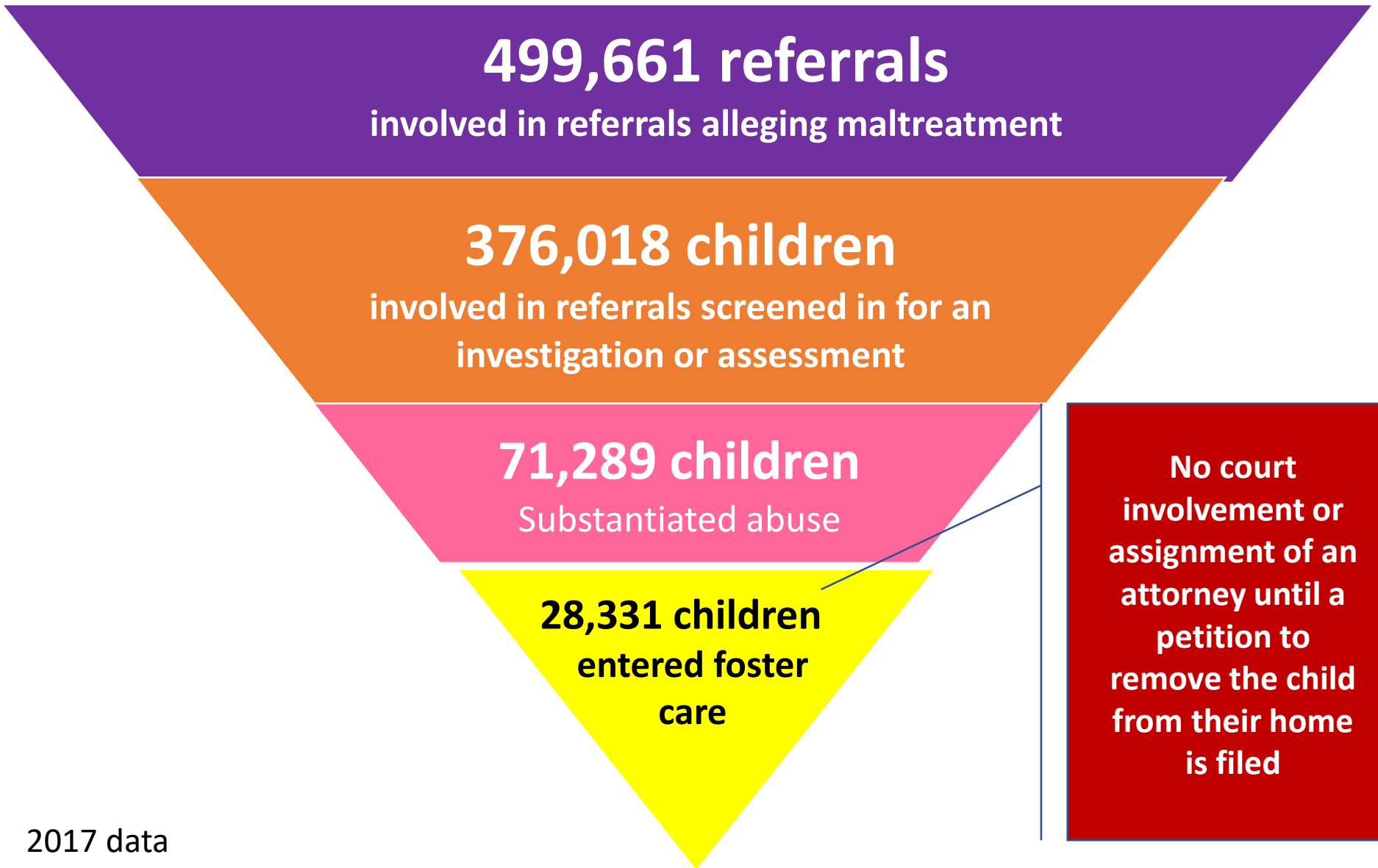


# OVERVIEW OF THE JUVENILE DEPENDENCY SYSTEM

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*Understanding Everyone's Role*

# Many children are involved with the child welfare system that never reach court



# County Human Services Agencies

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- All California counties have an agency/department responsible for protecting and promoting the welfare of children.
- Agencies/departments attempt to prevent, remedy, or assist with problems that may result in:
  - Neglect
  - Abuse
  - Exploitation

# Voluntary Family Maintenance (VFM)

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*In a Voluntary Family Maintenance Agreement, a contract is signed to allow the child to remain at home under certain conditions:*

- VFM should include a **case plan identifying the steps the parents must take and the services** which will be provided to assist them.
- VFM contract is valid for 6 months during which time the CSW should continue to visit the family a minimum of once a month.
- The **child can be removed and a petition filed in court if at anytime during the 6 month period county agency determines that the family has failed to comply** with the case plan.



# Voluntary Placement Agreement (VPA)

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*Parent signs a contract to place child in out of home care (can suggest a family member or friend with county agency approval), and a specific visitation schedule is arranged:*

- Should include a **case plan identifying steps the parents must take for the child to be returned home.**
- Valid for 6 months (and can be extended an additional 6 months) during which time the CSW should continue to visit the family a minimum of once a month.
- A **petition can be filed in court if county agency determines that the family failed to comply** with the case plan.

# Juvenile Courts

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*“The Juvenile Division of the Los Angeles Superior Court deals with cases that involve children under 18 years old. The two types of courts within the Juvenile Division are Dependency Court and Delinquency Court.”*

The juvenile court gets involved in the lives of children when:

- there are concerns that a parent is not able to keep his or her child safe from abuse or neglect (and the court starts a juvenile dependency case), or
- minors are accused of breaking the law.

<http://www.lacourt.org/division/juvenile/juvenile.aspx>

<http://www.courts.ca.gov/selfhelp-childabuse.htm>

<http://www.courts.ca.gov/selfhelp-delinquency.htm>

# In the Courtroom

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## *Court Personnel*

- Judicial officer, judicial staff, and bailiff

## *Attorneys (examples from Los Angeles County)*

- County Counsel representing DCFS
- Children's Law Center (CLC) representing the child
- Los Angeles Dependency Lawyers (LADL) representing the parent/legal guardian (at times, may represent the child if CLC is unavailable)
- Conflict Panel: attorneys available to represent the child or parent if CLC or LADL are unavailable

## *Social worker representative*

# Role of the Minor's Attorney

- Minor's attorney represents the child's interests within the child welfare proceedings.
  - Dual role to represent both the child's stated interest and what we determine to be the child's best interest.
- The attorney must also investigate the child's interests outside of the child welfare proceeding and bring those issues to the court's attention (i.e. educational issues, placement issues, etc.)
- It is important for a caregiver to share information with the minor's attorney.
- In some circumstances the attorney cannot share information back with a caregiver because of duties of confidentiality.

# Role of the Judge

The Judge is charged with:

1. Making the legal findings necessary to have a court case, such as:
  - Was the child abused or neglected?
  - Is the child at imminent risk of abuse or neglect if the child is returned home?
2. What needs to happen for a child to return home
3. Where the child will live
4. Whether it's safe for a child to return home
5. If not, what the permanent plan will be
6. General orders regarding the child's well-being

NOTE: The Judge will consider the social worker's recommendation in making these decisions, but is not obligated to follow the recommendations.

# Social Workers in the Courtroom

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- There will be a child welfare agency representative in the courtroom.
- Who attends varies from county to county:
  - In some counties, the case carrying social worker attends the hearing
  - In bigger counties like Los Angeles, often there is one representative assigned to the courtroom (“the court officer”) who will communicate with the case carrying social worker as needed
  - If there is a trial or other contested hearing, other child welfare agency staff might be ordered in to testify

# Role of the Social Worker

## Dependency Investigators (DI)

- Gather evidence through interviews/documents to prove or disprove allegations of child abuse or neglect.
- Prepare the court report detailing allegations/evidence of abuse
- Develop a case plan identifying issues of concern & necessary services to reunify with child (like drug counseling or parenting classes).
  - Anyone with helpful information can contact the DI to provide suggestions regarding services that might be beneficial to family.

## Family Maintenance/Reunification Workers (FM&R)

- Child's social worker (CSW)
- Provide home visits, referrals for counseling & treatment
- Monitor health & well-being of child
- Provide reports & make recommendations to court

**Also might be other social workers involved in the case depending on status of the case, such as RFA worker, Resource Family Support worker, etc.**

# Others in the Courtroom

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## *Court Appointed Special Advocate*

- CASAs are volunteer advocates appointed by judges to provide information and recommendations.





# Role of the child in court

- All children in foster care have the right to attend court hearings and speak to the judge to voice their opinions
  - They can speak to the Judge directly or through their attorneys
  - After the age of 10, children must be at court unless they clearly tell their lawyer you do not want to go.
  - In certain counties, such as [Los Angeles](#), the local rules of court require case workers to notify children four years or older of their right to appear at court hearings and provide transportation so that they can attend.
- Youth have a right to see their case file and youth 12 and over can review their case plan
- Youth 12 and over can decide they do not want parental rights to be terminated

# Role of the caregiver in court

- Caregivers do not have the right to be in court (although, many courts will allow the caregiver to be in attendance)
- Caregivers do not have the right to speak during the court hearing, although:
  - Many Judges will allow the caregivers to speak
  - There are also ways that caregivers can communicate with ALL parties prior to the hearings
  - Sometimes a caregiver might be ordered into court to testify

# SHARING INFORMATION WITH THE COURT

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*Engaging with Court Personnel*

# Sharing Information with the Court

- Relatives and caregivers are generally **not** represented in the dependency court process
- But it's **critical** they share information with the court and attorneys
- Use form **JV-285** (Relative Information form) to share information with the court
  - File completed form with Clerk of the Court
- Use **JV-287** (Confidential Information form) for confidential information
  - File completed form with Clerk of the Court
- Different courts may prefer information provided in different ways

JV-285

Relative Information

Clerk stamps date here when form is filed.  
\*Notice when going from looking after a removed child at home, please print the Child's Name below the end of the box at the top of this sheet.

As the relative of a child who has been removed from the home, you may give written information to the court about the child at any time on this form or in a letter. After filling out this form, give it to the clerk of the court.

Please note that other people involved in the case, including the parents, will see your answers on this form. If you prefer to keep your contact information private, fill out the *Confidential Information* (form JV-287) and do not write your address or telephone number below.

1 Your name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Your address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Your telephone number: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Check here if contact information is confidential and form JV-287 is attached.

2 Your relation to the child:  maternal  paternal  
 grandparent  brother/sister  aunt/uncle  cousin  
 family friend  
 tribal extended family member  
 other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_

3 Child's name: \_\_\_\_\_

4  I would like to talk to the judge at the next court hearing.

Please fill in as much of the following information as you know. If you need more space to respond to any section on this form, attach additional pages as needed and check the box at item 12.

5 Information about the child's medical, dental, and general physical health:  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

6 Information about the child's emotional and behavioral health:  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

7 Information about the child's education:  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

8 Other information that might be helpful to the court:  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Judicial Council of California, www.courts.ca.gov  
 New January 1, 2011, Optional Form  
 Welfare & Institutions Code, § 209  
 Cal. Rules of Court, rules 5.554(f) and 5.637

Relative Information

JV-285, Page 1 of 2

# Sharing Information with the Court

- Current caregivers or pre-adoptive parents may also provide information to the court
- Use form **JV-290** (Caregiver Information form) to share information with the court
  - File completed form with Clerk of the Court

**JV-290**

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF STREET ADDRESS: MAILING ADDRESS: CITY AND ZIP CODE: BRANCH NAME:	To: Specifier for use when filing with the court. For use in your form, please print the Case Title, Print Name, and all the rest of the form within this block.
CHILD'S NAME: HEARING DATE AND TIME:	CASE NUMBER:
<b>CAREGIVER INFORMATION FORM</b>	

To the current caregiver, preadoptive parent, community care facility, or foster family agency caring for the child: You may submit written information to the court and you may attend review and permanency hearings. You may use this optional form to provide written information to the court. Please type or print clearly in ink and submit the original and eight copies of the form to the court clerk's office at least five calendar days (or seven calendar days if filing by mail) before the hearing. Be aware that other individuals involved in the case have access to this information. See form JV-290-INFO for instructions on how to complete this form and file it with the court.

1. a. Child's name:  
 b. Child's date of birth: c. Child's age:
2. **Caregiver information** (Answer only if you are a caregiver, skip #3):  
 a. Name of caregiver:  
 b. Type of caregiver:  Foster parent  Relative  Legal guardian  Preadoptive parent  
 Nonrelative extended family member  Other (specify):  
 c. The child has been living in my home for (specify):      years      months.
3. **Agency or Facility information** (Answer only if you are an Agency or Facility, skip #2):  
 a. Name of agency or facility:  
 b. Address:  
 c. Telephone number:  
 d. Type of facility:  Foster family agency  Community care agency  Other (specify):  
 e. The child has been placed with our agency/facility for (specify):      years      months, and in the current home for (specify):      years      months.  
 f. Name of person completing form:      Title:  
 g. Hours per week the person completing this form spends with the child (specify):      hours/week.  
 h. The information on this form consists of  
 (1)  the observations and recommendations of the person filling out this form.  
 (2)  the observations and recommendations of a group or team made up of the following individuals (specify):
4. **Current Status of Child's Medical, Dental, and General Physical and Emotional Health**  
 a.  There is no new or additional information since the last court hearing.  
 b.  There is new or additional information since the last court hearing, as follows (do not include the names of doctors):

# Sharing Information with the Court

- Use the form to provide factual information about the child, such as **behavior you have observed and information about the child's needs.**
- Avoid including opinions or information not related to the child.
- Goal is to provide **information to the court that help the judge make informed decisions about the child.**

JV-290

<p><b>SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF</b></p> <p>STREET ADDRESS: MAILING ADDRESS: CITY AND ZIP CODE: BRANCH NAME:</p>	<p><small>To: Beneficial parents from custody of a parent for any year term, please check the "Date This Form Is Due" at the end of the form when it is due.</small></p>
<p>CHILD'S NAME: HEARING DATE AND TIME:</p>	<p>CASE NUMBER:</p>
<p><b>CAREGIVER INFORMATION FORM</b></p>	
<p><small>To the current caregiver, preadoptive parent, community care facility, or foster family agency caring for the child: You may submit written information to the court and you may attend review and permanency hearings. You may use this optional form to provide written information to the court. Please type or print clearly in ink and submit the original and eight copies of the form to the court clerk's office at least five calendar days (or seven calendar days if filing by mail) before the hearing. Be aware that other individuals involved in the case have access to this information. See form JV-290-INFO for instructions on how to complete this form and file it with the court.</small></p>	

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 Nonrelative extended family member  Other (specify):  
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e. The child has been placed with our agency/facility for (specify):      years      months, and in the current home for (specify):      years      months.  
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b.  There is new or additional information since the last court hearing, as follows (do not include the names of doctors):

<http://www.courts.ca.gov/documents/jv290info.pdf>

# THE JUVENILE DEPENDENCY CASE

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*Understanding and Engaging in the Court  
Process*

# Dependency Court Timeline

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**Detention Hearing**  
72 hours from petition

**Adjudication Hearing**  
15 days after Detention (unless  
time waiver)

**Disposition Hearing**  
Up to 10 days after  
Adjudication

**Permanency Review  
Hearings**  
Every 6 months

**Permanent Plan  
Hearing**

**Family Reunification Timeline**  
6-18 months unless 24 month exception applies



# Temporary Custody

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## Consider Relative First

- If a child is taken into temporary custody, social worker shall immediately release the child to the custody of the child's parent, guardian, or **relative**.

## Duty to Assess

- If a relative/NREFM requests temporary placement, the social worker **shall initiate an emergency placement assessment pursuant to WIC 361.4**.

## Required for Placement

- **Child may be placed on an emergency basis upon completion of an assessment pursuant to WIC 361.4**, which includes a CLETs, CACI and walk-through of the home.

## Family Finding Requirements

- Within 30 days, **social worker shall use due diligence to identify and locate relatives**, and shall provide all adult relatives notice that the child has been removed from parents and options to participate in the care and placement.

# Detention Petition

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## Purpose:

- Filed by county to initiate the formal court process Welfare & Institutions Code § 319

## Timing:

- Must be filed within 48 hours of a child being removed, excluding holidays and weekends Welfare & Institutions Code § 313

## Details:

- Includes specific allegations detailing the alleged abuse and/or neglect Welfare & Institutions Code § 300

# Detention Hearing

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## Purpose:

- Court determines whether sufficient basis for court jurisdiction.

## Timing:

- Must be held within 24 hours of petition being filed, excluding holidays and weekend (a maximum of 72 hours from the time the child was removed).

## Details:

- All parties (parents or legal guardians, children and county agency) are entitled to legal representation even if a family cannot afford to hire an attorney.

## What is the judge deciding?

- If everything alleged in the petition is true, does the child come within Section 300?

# Detention Hearing: Consideration of Relatives

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## Consider Relative First

- If child cannot be returned home, court shall determine if there is a relative able and willing to care for child. Relatives shall be given **preferential consideration** for placement.

## Duty to Assess

- Per WIC 309, emergency placement/361.4 assessment should have been done for relatives and report must indicate whether there are relatives able/willing to take temporary custody of the child.

## Required for Placement

- Court shall consider recommendations of the social worker based on an emergency placement/361.4 assessment prior to ordering that the child be placed with a relative or NREFM.

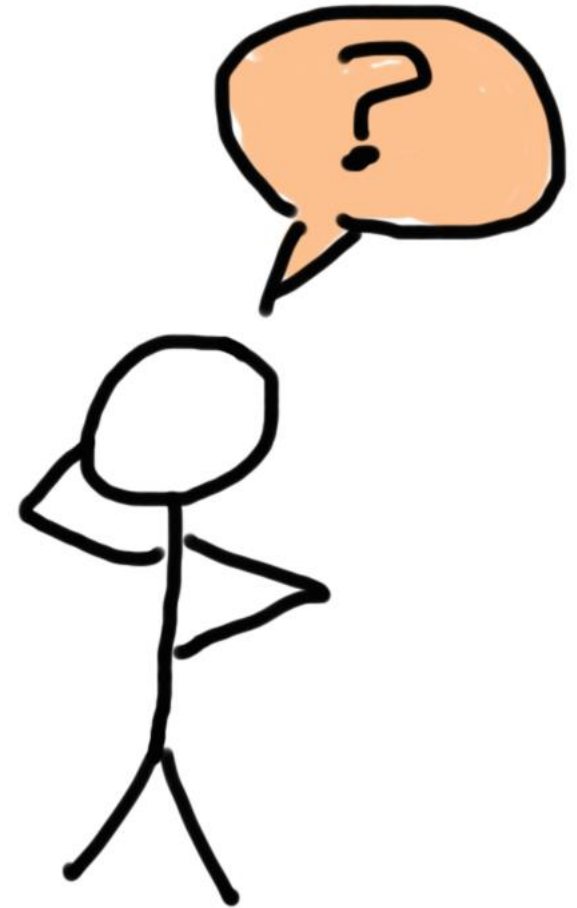
## Family Finding Requirements

- Court shall order parents to disclose to the social worker names, residences and any identifying information of maternal/paternal relatives.

# Caregiver Friendly Courtroom Questions

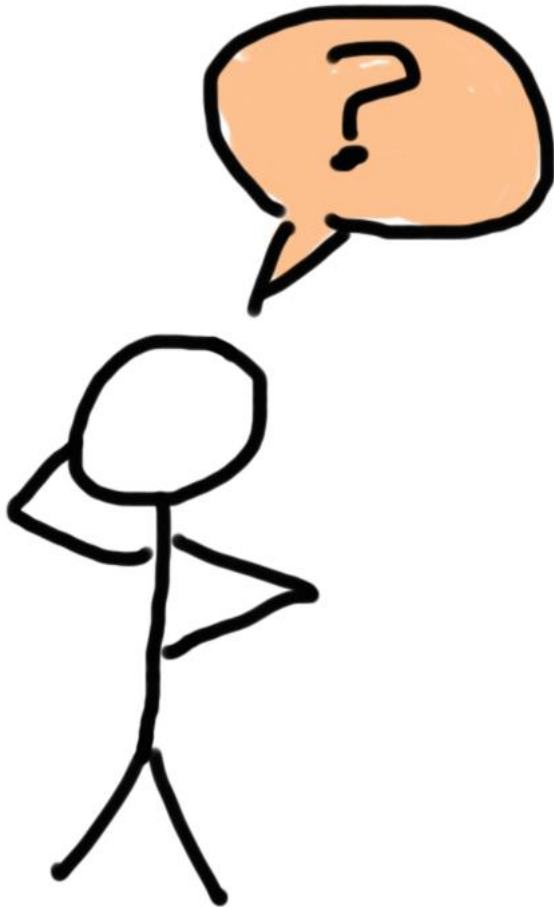
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- *Can the county social worker place a child with a relative before the detention hearing?*
- *Does the county social worker need to wait for a fingerprint clearance before a child can be placed with a relative?*
- *What if the fingerprint clearance indicates the potential caregiver has a criminal history?*



# Caregiver Friendly Courtroom Questions

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- *Can the court still order a child to be placed with a relative if the county completes an assessment pursuant to WIC 361.4 but is not recommending placement with the relative?*

# Family Finding Obligation Continues Between Detention and Disposition Hearing

## Consider Relative First

- Continuing preferential consideration for placement with relatives.

## Duty to Assess

- Continuing obligation to assess a relative or NREFMs. suitability for emergency placement pursuant to WIC 361.4. WIC 309(d)(1).
- In addition, county social worker must initiate a WIC 361.3 assessment of any relative to be considered for continuing placement. WIC 319

## Required for Placement

- WIC 361.4/emergency placement assessment if RFA not yet completed.

## Family Finding Requirements

- Continuing obligation to identify and locate relatives, and to provide notice of the child's removal and information about becoming a caretaker. WIC 309 (e)(1)

# Pre-trial Resolution Conference (PRC)

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## **Purpose:**

- Occurs three to six weeks after Detention Hearing.
- PRCs are held at the discretion of the Court and may not be scheduled.

## **Timing:**

- Parents, child, county, and their attorneys try to settle the case.

## **Details:**

- If the parties cannot come to an agreement, the case is set for adjudication (trial).



# Jurisdiction Hearing/Trial

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*Also called the **Adjudication Hearing***

## **Purpose:**

- Court determines whether child suffered abuse or neglect based on evidence presented.

## **Timing:**

- Same time as PRC or within 15 days of Detention Hearing (depends on complexity of case).

## **Details:**

- Contact the parent's attorney, child's attorney, or CSW if you have information that can benefit the child.

## **What is the judge deciding?**

- whether the allegations in the petition are true and whether the minor is a person described by Section 300

# Disposition Hearing

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## Purpose:

- Court determines whether child can safely be released to the parents and what services are necessary to address family problems.

## Timing:

- Same day as PRC, Adjudication, or within 10 days of Adjudication.

## Details:

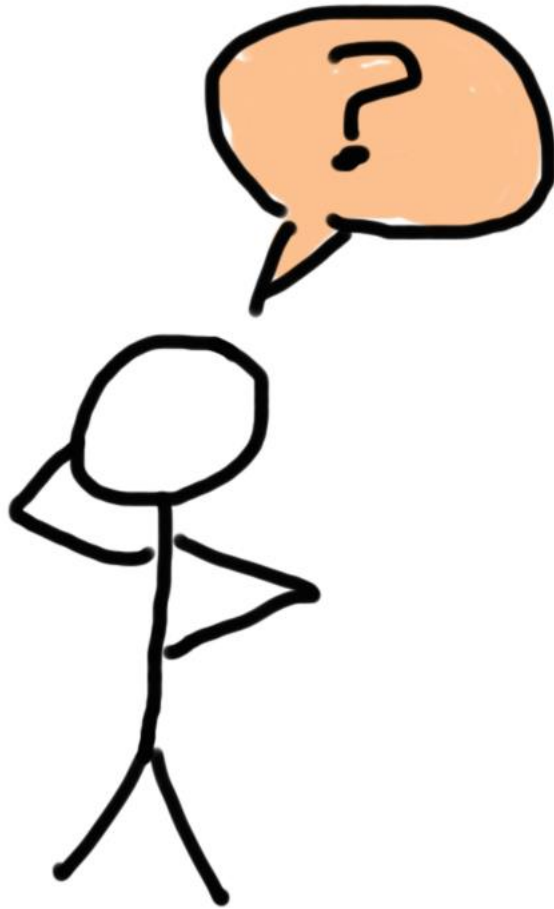
- Specific visitation orders must be made if child is in out of home care (not residing with parents).

## What is the judge deciding?

- Whether the social worker has conducted due diligence in the investigation to identify, locate and notify the child's relatives
- Reasonable efforts to avoid removal
- If reunification services should be provided

# Caregiver Friendly Courtroom Questions

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- *What does a county social worker have to do to exercise “due diligence” in identifying, locating, and notifying relatives?*
- *What if the assessment pursuant to WIC 361.3 is not completed by the dispositional hearing date?*
- *What if there are multiple relatives requesting preferential consideration?*
- *Is resource family approval required for placement with a relative or NREFM post-disposition?*

# Review Hearings

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## **Purpose:**

- Court reviews case to decide whether it is safe for child to be returned to parent.

## **Timing:**

- Every six months after the Disposition order.

## **Details:**

- CSW writes a report for each hearing that details progress of parents, how the child is doing, and other relevant information.

# Final Review Hearing

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## **Purpose:**

- Court decides to return child to home or order permanent placement.

## **Timing:**

- Dependent on case – possibly at 6, 12, or 18 months.

## **Details:**

- Court will then usually schedule a Selection and Implementation Hearing to determine permanent plan.

# Selection & Implementation Hearing

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## **Purpose:**

- Court determines permanent plan.

## **Timing:**

- After Final Review Hearing.

## **Details:**

- Financial assistance to family varies depending on permanent plan established if child to remain in out of home care.

# Other Hearings – 361.3 Hearing

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## **Purpose:**

- The child's attorney may request a 361.3 hearing to address requests for placement with a relative.

## **Timing:**

- Post detention.

## **Details:**

- Preferential consideration must be given to a request by a relative of the child for placement of the child with the relative, regardless of the relative's immigration status.

# Other Hearings – 388 Hearing

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## **Purpose:**

- The parent, relative, NREFM or child through their attorney, may petition the court for a hearing to change, modify, or set aside any order of court previously made or to terminate the jurisdiction of the court following a change in circumstances.

## **Timing:**

- At any time.

## **Details:**

- Once the juvenile court receives a 388 petition, it has four options:
  - summarily deny on specified grounds (i.e. fails to show changed circumstances or best interest);
  - grant the petition without a hearing, if all parties stipulate to the requested modification;
  - order a hearing on the merits; or
  - order a hearing for the parties to argue whether an evidentiary hearing on the merits should be granted or denied.



# Other Hearings – Post Permanency Hearings

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## **Purpose:**

- Once a year, the court must address whether the permanent plan for the child continues to be appropriate.

## **Timing:**

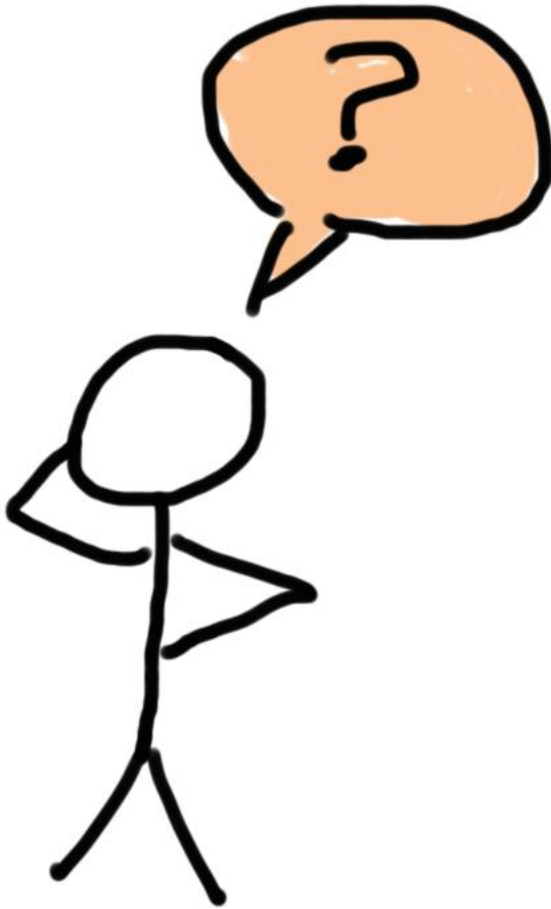
- Annually following the permanent plan until the child is no longer a ward of the court.

## **Details:**

- At a post permanency hearing, the court determines whether the permanency plan has been successful.

# Caregiver Friendly Courtrooms Questions

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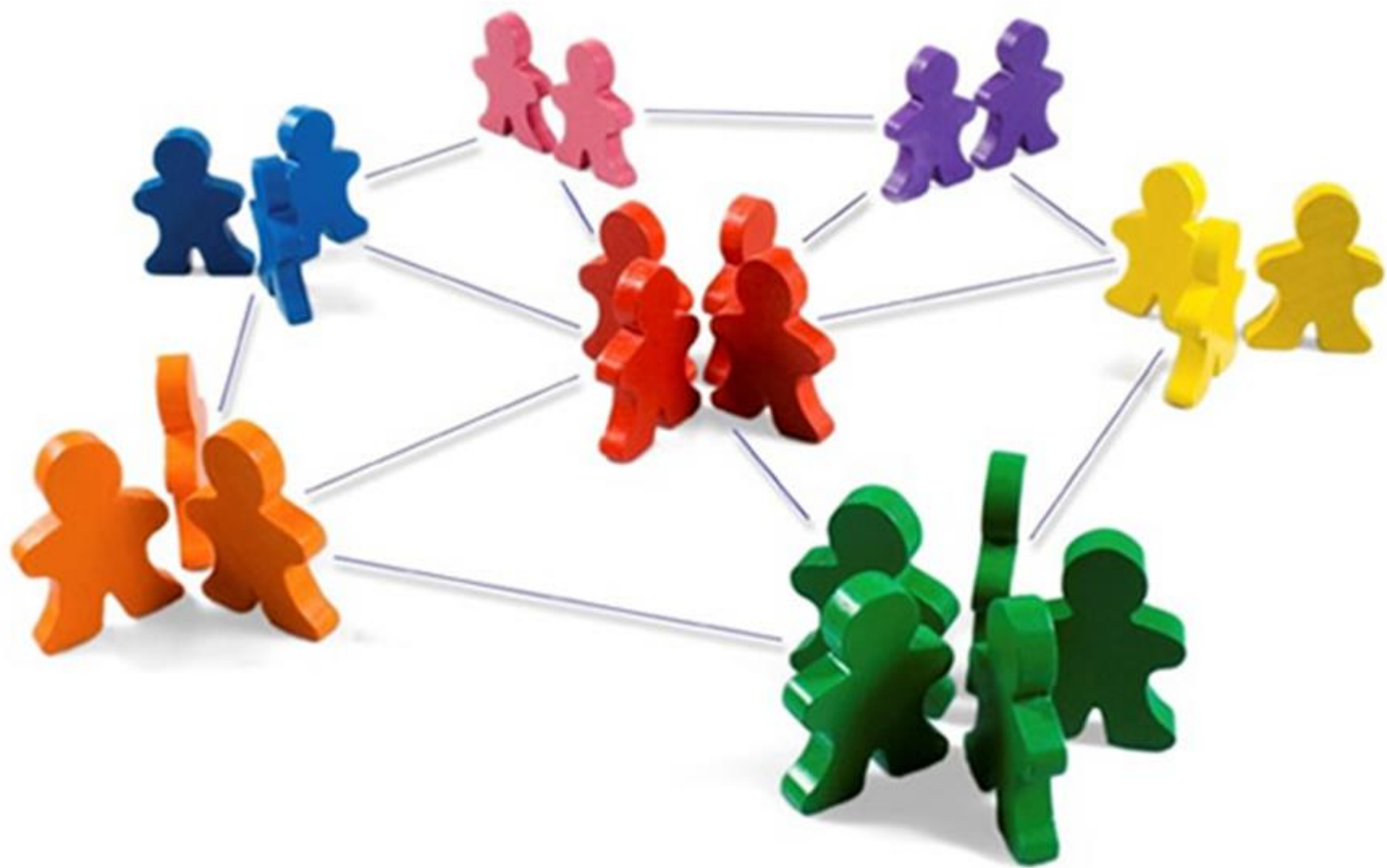


- *Will family members be able to attend court hearings and where should I sit?*
- *Will family members get notice of the hearings?*
- *Who will be in the courtroom?*
- *Are emergency or relative caregivers represented in the court hearings?*
- *How can relatives share information with the court?*
- *What information will be provided to family members?*

# KATELYN'S STORY

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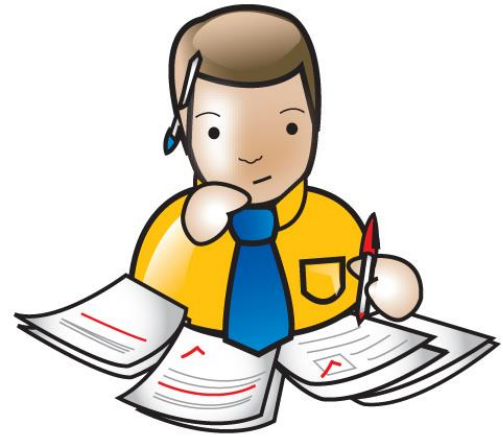




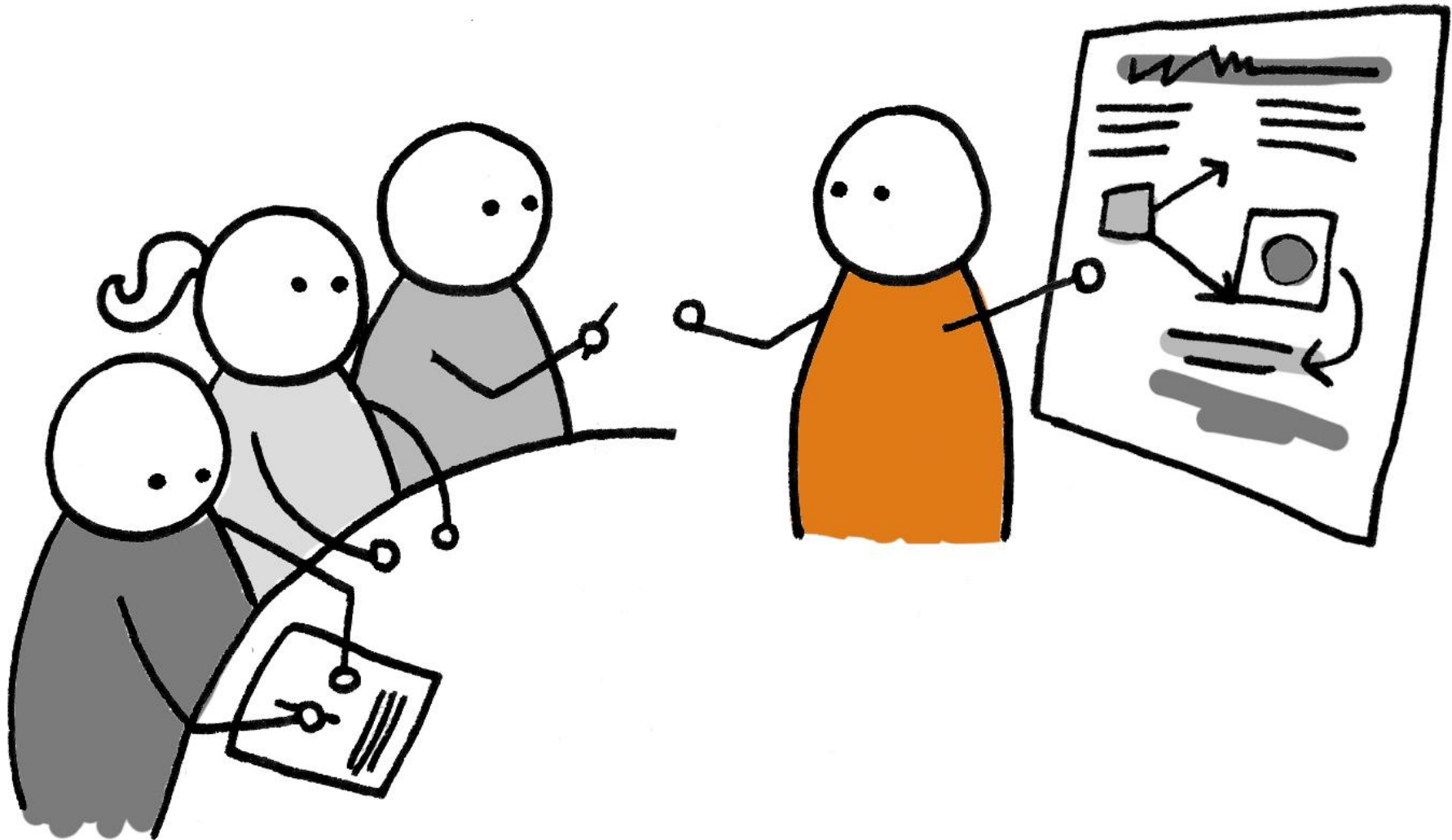
BY THE WAY WHO ARE YOU











# RESOURCES

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*Kin Caregiver Friendly Courtrooms*

# Resources

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## **Los Angeles County Juvenile Court**

<http://www.lacourt.org/division/juvenile/juvenile.aspx>

## **Los Angeles County Petition Chart**

<http://www.lacourt.org/division/juvenile/JV0011.aspx>

## **Los Angeles County DCFS Dependency Notice Requirements**

[http://file.lacounty.gov/SDSInter/dcfs/docs/1022820\\_DCFSReferenceGuideforNoticeRequirements.pdf](http://file.lacounty.gov/SDSInter/dcfs/docs/1022820_DCFSReferenceGuideforNoticeRequirements.pdf)

## **Los Angeles County Dependency Resources**

<http://www.lacourt.org/division/juvenile/JV0090.aspx>

## **Step Up Coalition Resource Family Approval Guide**

<https://kids-alliance.org/programs/system-wide-reform/resource-family-approval-toolkit/>

# Resources

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## **Judicial Council Caregivers and the Courts**

<http://www.courts.ca.gov/documents/caregivers.pdf>

## **Judicial Council The Indian Child Welfare Act for Kin Caregivers & Foster Parents**

<http://www.courts.ca.gov/documents/ICWA-Act-for-Kin-Caregivers.pdf>

## **Judicial Council Guide to Dependency Court – For Caregivers**

<http://www.courts.ca.gov/29206.htm>

## **Judicial Council Guide to Dependency Court – For Children**

<http://www.courts.ca.gov/29205.htm>

## **Judicial Council De Facto Parent Pamphlet**

<http://www.courts.ca.gov/documents/jv299.pdf>

# Resources - Forms

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## **JV-290 Instruction Sheet for Caregiver Information Form**

<http://www.courts.ca.gov/documents/jv290info.pdf>

## **JV-290 Caregiver Information Form** (available in English, Spanish, Chinese, Korean and Vietnamese)

<http://www.courts.ca.gov/documents/jv290.pdf>

## **JV-285 Relative Information Form**

<http://www.courts.ca.gov/documents/jv285.pdf>

## **JV-287 Confidential Information Form**

<http://www.courts.ca.gov/documents/jv287.pdf>

## **JV-295 De Facto Parent Request Form** (available in English and Spanish)

<http://www.courts.ca.gov/documents/jv295.pdf>

## **JV-296 De Facto Parent Statement Form** (available in English and Spanish)

<http://www.courts.ca.gov/documents/jv295.pdf>



***“Without a sense of caring,  
there can be no sense of  
community.”***

- Anthony J. De'Angelo, author

ALLIANCE  
for CHILDREN'S  
RIGHTS 

September 2018



Children's Law Center  
of California