



Achieving Permanency Through Roundtables



casey family programs

fostering families. fostering change®

What is Permanency?

“I knew even before I was adopted that [my foster parents] were my parents because of our bond.... That is what permanency is for me, the feeling I get knowing that no matter what I do, I will always be able to get a hug.”

– Aaron

Former Youth in Care

From: “Time for Reform: Aging Out and On their Own,” KidsAreWaiting.org

What is Permanency?

- Parenting
- Life-Long Intent
- Belonging
- Status (legal and social)
- Unconditional Commitment (by the adult)

Outcomes for Youth in Care

	Former Foster Youth	General Population
Currently Employed	48%	76%
Median Earnings	\$8,000	\$18,300
Have a Bank Account	<50%	85%
Have Health Insurance	57%	78%
Been Pregnant (women)	>75%	40%
Impregnated a Partner (men)	61%	28%
High School Diploma or GED		3X more likely
Have been Homeless or Couch-Surfed	37%	1%

Youth Characteristics

- National and State Data
- They Look the Same
- Why is this good NEWS

Why is Permanency So Important

- Permanency VS Life Skills
- Independence VS Interdependence

If we understand the importance of permanence – why can't we achieve it for all of our children and youth?

“FAMILIES ARE NOWHERE”

What is a Permanency Roundtable?

A professional case consultation that is:

- Structured
- In-depth
- Non-blaming
- Relentless



Roundtable Goals

- Expedite **legal permanency** for the child
- Stimulate thinking and **learning** about ways to accelerate permanency
- Identify and address **systemic barriers** to timely permanency



A Multi-Level Strategy

<p>Micro Level</p>	<p>PROFESSIONAL CASE CONSULTATION</p>
<p>“Real-Time” Learning Lab</p>	<p>PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT</p>
<p>Macro Level</p>	<p>SYSTEMS IMPROVEMENT</p>

Roundtable Values

URGENCY

- **Relentless insistence on permanency — no excuses**

TEAMING

- **Team supports the worker to expedite permanency**
- **Solution-focused and NON-BLAMING**
- **Concrete assistance with implementing action plan**

OUTCOMES

- **Learning and accountability leads to positive outcomes**

OPTIMISM

- **Developing creative strategies leads to increased hope and energy**

Roundtable Team Members

- **Facilitator**
- **Permanency Consultants**
 - Internal and external
- **Transcriber**
- **Caseworkers**
- **Supervisors**
- **Others**



Roundtable Phases

I. Welcome and Overview

II. Present the Case

III. Clarify and Explore

IV. Brainstorm

V. Create Permanency Action Plan

VI. Debrief Roundtable

Resources and References

Books, Articles, and Reports

- Lewis, R. G., & Heffernan, M. S. (2000). *Adolescents & Families for Life: A Toolkit for Supervisors*
- Mallon, G. P. (2005). *Toolbox No. 3: Facilitating Permanency for Youth*
- Malm, K., Zielewski, E., & Chen, H. (2008). *More About Dads: Exploring Associations between Nonresident Father Involvement and Child Welfare Case Outcomes*
- Raichel, J. (2009). Engaging and Involving Fathers in a Child's Life and in the Child Welfare Case