



## **Addressing the Use of Caseworker Visit Funds**

Webinar for State Foster Care and PSSF Managers

*Thursday, July 26, 2012, 3:00-4:15 PM EDT*

In preparation for this webinar, in June 2012, State Foster Care and PSSF Managers were asked about how they are currently using caseworker visit funds. This document outlines ways in which States reported that they are currently using (or have used) funds to support and enhance caseworker visits.

### **Providing Training and Supporting Quality Assurance/Improvement**

- *Training staff on new practice developments arising from PIP work and in FFY 2013 on trauma.*
- *Training supervisors, case managers and field program specialists on the curriculum: Promoting Placement Stability and Permanency through Caseworker/Child Visits focused on helping staff understand the importance of having meaningful and purposeful visits with children in care and on helping staff gain skills in planning, preparing, engaging in, and conducting appropriate visits.*
- *Supporting quality assurance/quality improvement work.*

### **Covering Travel Costs**

- *Covering expenses associated with visits to children in and out of state.*
- *Covering expenses to help offset the mileage costs for workers to visit with families.*

### **Paying Overtime**

- *Paying overtime to increase the available time for visitation.*

### **Purchasing Equipment/Technology and Workforce Incentives**

- *Purchasing equipment and mementos such as scanners, computer tablets, cameras, display cases, certificates and lapel pins.*
- *Purchasing devices for caseworkers to make recording contacts easier.*
- *Capacity building for online recording of case notes due to the significant distances and time required for visitation in rural areas of the state.*

### **Collecting, Tracking, and Reporting Data**

- *Supporting the development of reports from the OCFS data warehouse on the status of required visits with individual children, agency-wide and county-wide.*
- *Supporting the development of special reports such as tracking visits (or lack of visits) with AWOL youth and their impact on compliance rates.*
- *Supporting a child welfare performance dashboard that posts performance data on caseworker visits each quarter.*
- *Providing enhancements to the state's SACWIS system and developing "dashboard" lenses to allow for real-time and trend tracking of visit activity.*
- *Supporting enhancements to the SACWIS system to assure efficiency and accuracy in the data collection, tracking and reporting process.*