



Reflection Worksheet

How Do We Know What Works? Challenges and Opportunities for Building Evidence for Practitioners

This year's Child Welfare Virtual Expo is designed to be an interactive virtual learning experience where you can hear from experts, identify successful strategies to incorporate into your work, and make connections with others in the child welfare community.

This session focuses on the role of frontline staff as important (and discerning) consumers of evidence, critical data, and information from children, youth, and families to inform their practice. This session also addresses the role of frontline staff in continuous quality improvement processes and as contributors to building evidence in child welfare. Professionals routinely apply evidence to case practice and gather and interpret data that can inform continuous quality improvement processes and contribute to building evidence in child welfare. Case managers, social workers, supervisors, attorneys are experts on families they work with and provide critical information about what works and doesn't work to improve outcomes. Thus, in this session, panelists discuss evidence-based practice (and practice based-evidence) from the point of view of professionals working directly with children, youth, and families, focusing on their role both as critical decision-makers at the case level and important sources of data and information about children, youth, and families.

Participants attending this session will:

- Increase understanding of the limitations and implications of defining efficacy
- Increase understanding of what constitutes evidence, evidence building, and evidence-based practice as a pathway to more effective service delivery with children and families
- Increase understanding of the relationship between evidence-based practices and ethical/cultural considerations
- Relate evidence building to better assessments and decision-making as a pathway to more effective service delivery
- Identify opportunities in everyday work with children, youth, and families to contribute to the body of evidence related to effective practice

Linking what you hear and see in this session to your everyday work will help you identify where you want to realize change in your agency and the techniques that can help you along the way. Use the table below to keep track of your thoughts during the virtual reflection session.





Virtual Reflection Questions

1. As frontline staff, how can you be a more informed consumer of data and evidence about what works?	
2. What role do you play as frontline staff in collecting good quality data?	
3. What role do you play as frontline staff in saying something is effective?	
4. What available evidence do we have to help us make better decisions?	
5. How do we involve families to help us understand what works?	
Additional thoughts:	

