



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

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 (CQI) 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 CQI processes and contribute to building evidence in child welfare. Case managers, social workers, supervisors, and attorneys are experts on families they work with and provide critical information about what does 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.

### Session Resources

#### [Continuous Quality Improvement in Child Welfare Services](#)

The series is a hybrid learning experience comprised of several interactive workbooks and video-based modules that focus on a number of topics relating to the development of the CQI process.

#### [Continuous Quality Improvement Toolkit: A Resource for Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program Awardees](#)

This toolkit will help Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECHV) awardees and others work with local agencies to build capacity in CQI. It features examples from home visiting but may also be helpful for audiences from other early childhood and human service programs. The toolkit contains nine modules, which may be delivered individually by CQI staff or as part of a multiday training activity.

#### [Principles, Language, and Shared Meaning: Toward a Common Understanding of CQI in Child Welfare](#)

This publication will propose a fundamental vocabulary for describing what CQI is, the core principles on which it rests, and the critical role that evidence plays throughout the CQI process.