Becoming a Workforce of Everyday Scientists: Frontline Staff in the Legal Community

Legal professionals play an important role as contributors to critical thinking, knowledge building, research and evaluation, and ways to improve outcomes for children and families. This session explores how lawyers and judges can change practice and culture and support improved outcomes by being innovative in altering and testing how they do their work outside of waiting for an evidence-based practice to be developed, tried, and tested. Participants also will explore a method for making those changes and learn how to become more effective “scientists” by gathering, using, and applying data in a systematic and practical way to make a positive difference.

Session Resources

Being an Everyday Scientist: How to Make Personal and Policy Decisions About What Works for Peace, Productivity, Health, and Happiness
This report puts the power of observation in the hands of people of all ages and backgrounds to evaluate whether strategies work for them. Every day, people personally or professionally choose mechanisms of behavioral influence to change their lives and change the lives of people they love, their places of learning, their health, their workplaces, or their communities.

A Guide to Integrating Continuous Quality Improvements Into the Work of the Community Improvement Councils
This guide offers practical suggestions for steps to fully integrate continuous quality improvement into planning and action within a Community Improvement Council. Along with these steps, the guide also includes helpful questions for practitioners to ask themselves about current practice.

Timely Permanency Through Reunification
This report describes the Timely Permanency Through Reunification Breakthrough series collaborative process. It highlights promising practices and outcomes.