

# Florida Safe Families Network (FSFN) CR-607 Adoption Incentives Training Support Materials

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*IBM services for the Florida Safe Families Network (FSFN) CR-607 Train-the-Trainer*



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# 1 TRAINING SCENARIO

On July 23, 2012, the Florida Abuse Hotline received a report alleging that Kelly Smith, age 6, was struck in the face by her father, David Smith, while trying to stop a physical altercation between her parents. Investigations revealed the following information: Kelly had suffered a broken bone a month earlier while being disciplined by her father; there was a second child in the home, 15 year-old David Smith, Jr.; David Jr. who was born with Down Syndrome and both parents were illegally selling and using prescription drugs.

The home was determined unsafe. The two children were removed that same day and placed in shelter with Allison and Kevin Walker, their maternal aunt and uncle. Parents David and Amanda Smith were arrested and incarcerated. After their release, the parents were unwilling to complete the drug counseling program and other case plan tasks ordered by the court. As a result of the continued diminishment of the parents' protective capacities, the children's permanency goal was changed from reunification to adoption.

At the following judicial review, the court ordered the Department to initiate Termination of Parental Rights proceedings. A petition was filed and TPR granted on June 25, 2015. The Walkers asked to adopt both Kelly and David Jr.

However, James and Lisa Smith, the paternal uncle and aunt contacted the assigned Adoption Staff and expressed a desire to adopt. The paternal uncle and aunt shared that they previously provided care to their niece and nephew when they lived in their area but had lost contact with the children once their parents' moved. The Adoption Staff made an OCS request so that agency in the area the paternal uncle and aunt resided would complete an adoption home study as to the family.

Because both the Walkers and Smiths family expressed an interest in adopting, their application to adopt had to review by the AARC Committee. On August 1, 2015, the AARC Committee provided a recommendation to the Department to approve the application of Allison and Kevin Walker to adopt Kelly and David Jr. which was the decision supported by the Department. The Smiths established a relationship with the Walkers and decided that they would not appeal the decision of the Department for the Walkers to adopt. The Adoption assistance agreements were executed for the two children on September 6, 2015. The adoptions were finalized on September 19, 2015.

On November 5, 2015, Ms. Walker contact Courtney Drake, the Post Adoption Specialist and advised them that the family had moved from Tallahassee, Florida to Orlando, Florida and needed assistance setting up counseling services for Kelly in Orlando. The Post Adoption Specialist, Courtney Drake made a request to the CBC in their new area to assist in establishing services in Orlando, Florida for the family. Valerie Brown, the Courtesy Post Adoption Specialist, contacted Ms. Walker and was able to

link her to a provider in Orlando, Florida who would offer services to Kelly. The Courtesy Post Adoption Specialist advised Ms. Walker of the Post Adoption Support group in their area and that there were other families who attended who are parents to a child with Downs Syndrome and this may be beneficial for them as they continue to parent David Jr. Ms. Walker declined participation in the Post Adoption Support Group but did state that she would keep an open mind regarding the group once they had the opportunity to get David Jr. in a routine. Ms. Brown shared that they would add the Walkers to their mailing list for notifications of future support groups.

On September 19 2016, Courtney Drake, the Post Adoption Specialist in Tallahassee, Florida called the Walkers for their one year Post Adoption Communication Contact. The number in file for the Walkers was disconnected so Ms. Drake was unable to leave a message for the Walkers. However, Ms. Drake was able to locate an email address for Ms. Walker and sent her an email requesting that she contact their office. Ms. Drake received a call from Ms. Walker the following day and she provided the family's updated phone numbers. The Post Adoption Specialist inquired of Ms. Walker as to how the family was doing and if there were any additional services that the family might be in need of at this time. Ms. Walker shared that her husband recently lost his job and that this has caused stress in the home. She believed that the family would benefit from family counseling. Ms. Drake shared that they would complete a Post Adoption Service Referral to Orlando, Florida so that the Post Adoption Specialist there would be able to refer the family to services. Ms. Walker stated that she would wait to hear from her local worker to initiate the new services.

## 2 Overview of Changes

PAGE	ENHANCEMENT
Create Case Work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ Adoption drop down now includes Post Adoption Services value</li> <li>→ Meetings drop down displays new Meeting Types</li> <li>→ Narrative drop down displays Post Adoption Services value</li> </ul>
Case Book	→ Provides access to existing Post Adoption Services page(s)
Person Book	→ Provides access to existing Post Adoption Services page
Desktop Navigation	→ Provides access to existing Post Adoption Services page(s)
Post Adoption Services	→ New page in FSFN
Services	→ Post Adoption Services ID link displays when a Service is created from a Post Adoption Services page
Maintain Service Type & Rate	→ New Post Adoption Services Types added by those with applicable Security
Meetings	→ New Meeting Types when accessing Meeting page through the Actions hyperlink located next to the FSFN Case Name hyperlink
Create Provider Work	→ New AARC value in Administrative drop down (Meeting Type)
Case Notes	→ New Add Non Face-to-Face Contact hyperlink and repeating group box to document contact details
Case Note Search Criteria	→ Page modified to include the new Category and Types added to the Case Notes page
Case Note Search Results	→ Page modified to include the new Category and Types added to the Case Notes page
Adoption Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ General tab- Expressed Intent to Adopt group box</li> <li>→ Removal/Placement tab- removed Current Caregiver plans on Adopting checkbox</li> </ul>
Recruitment Event	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ New functionality captures overall Category of Event, Type of Event, and individual expenditures associated with the recruitment event</li> <li>→ Total Cost field removed</li> </ul>
Recruitment Activity	→ Page modified to display the Category
Provider Search	→ Provider/Organization tab provides the ability to search for Providers based on their Unified Home Studies and whether the UHS is approved and active or expired
Case Merge	→ Special background processing when a Post Adoption Services page exists
Person Merge	→ Special background processing when a Post Adoption Services page exists
Case Split	→ Special background processing when a Post Adoption Services page exists
Create New Case after Finalization	→ Special background processing when a Post Adoption Services page exists