

CHILD WELFARE PERMANENCY HEARING ACTIVITY AND CRITICAL THINKING QUESTIONS

Please indicate the extent to which you agree with each statement:	Strongly Agree	Agree Somewhat	I don't Agree
Every youth deserves a safe, stable permanent home and life-long connections.			
Preparation for adulthood and permanency planning are integrated efforts.			
A collaborative, individualized process valuing the worth and dignity of all participants will allow youth to achieve permanency, connections, and youth goals.			
Youth should be involved in the planning process. They know themselves best.			
Permanency planning should begin with a youth's hopes and dreams rather than the ideas of the professionals and volunteers working with them.			
Youth who are a part of the decision-making process are more likely to actively participate in their service plan.			
Timely responses to youth needs and wishes are paramount to maintaining a youth's investment in his/her plan.			
Children deserve positive relationships that persevere over time.			
Birth families should be valued and are a critical part of the child's identity.			
Volunteers bring life experiences and motivation to the work that's different from other adults involved.			
A youth's understanding of his or her cultural heritage is important in enhancing feelings of self-worth and pride.			
A volunteer's understanding of racial and ethnic differences and how that impacts work with youth is critical to success.			
Successful volunteers understand the importance of being "future-focused" when working with teens, placing an emphasis on planning for a successful future even in the midst of current turmoil.			
Beliefs and attitudes of optimism, resilience, and hope will result in support, empowerment, connections and options for youth.			



CHILD WELFARE PERMANENCY HEARINGS CRITICAL THINKING QUESTIONS

1. Permanency planning places the youth and family in the center of the process and ensures participation. How does your agency engage and ensure participation of the youth and family?

2. Racial, ethnic, sexual orientation and gender identity support and connections are essential components of permanency planning for youth. Please identify two (2) ways that your agency integrates racial, ethnic, sexual orientation, gender identity support and connections during permanency planning.

3. Some youth will be unwilling to participate in permanency planning however; this does not mean that the youth should no longer be aware of what's going on around them. In this case, how would you engage this youth in permanency planning?

4. Youth deserve to be placed in the least restrictive and most family like setting where relationships are maintained, nourished and protected. What is the process your agency uses during permanency planning and individualized service planning meetings to routinely asses the appropriateness of the current placement and potential for step downs?

Verification of Completion	
Participants Signature:	Date:
Supervisor's Signature:	Date: