Resource Toolkit for Child Advocates

Terrence Wilson
Barton Child Law & Policy Center
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Case Scenario

• You are appointed to a case involving three children: Michael (14), Eva (8) and Devon (3)

• How do you begin your independent assessment of the case? How will you determine what recommendations advance the child(ren)'s best interests? What are available sources of information?
Independent Investigation & Advocacy

- Agency responsibilities
- Education
- Placement resources
- Relative connections
- Physical, mental, emotional health needs
- Others?
  - Immigration
  - Youth engagement
DFCS Policy & Forms

• DFCS Policy:
  – odis.dhs.ga.gov

• DFCS Forms:
  – http://dfcs.dhs.georgia.gov/dfcs-forms-online
  – Or just Google “DFCS forms”
Education Resources

• DFCS Educational Programming, Assessment and Consultation (EPAC): http://dfcs.dhs.georgia.gov/educational-programming-assessment-and-consultation-epac

  – Tribunals

• District Resources: http://www.doe.k12.ga.us/School-Improvement/Federal-Programs/Pages/District-Resources.aspx
  – McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance
  – Title I, Part A services
Placement and Child Care Resources

- Georgia Dep't of Early Care and Learning (DECAL):
  [http://decal.ga.gov/ChildCareServices/ChildCareServicesMain.aspx](http://decal.ga.gov/ChildCareServices/ChildCareServicesMain.aspx) or 1-877-ALL-GA-KIDS
- Out-of-Home Care: [https://www.gascore.com/](https://www.gascore.com/)
- Facility Location and Information Guide: [www.ors.dhr.state.ga.us](http://www.ors.dhr.state.ga.us)
Absent Parents

- Putative Father Registry: https://dph.georgia.gov/putative-father-registry
- “Accurint” database – accessible by DFCS
- Georgia Corrections Prisoners: http://www.dcor.state.ga.us/GDC/OffenderQuery/jsp/OffQryForm.jsp
- To find any person: www.switchboard.com
- “Family Finding” and similar services
Caregiver Support

- Georgia Center for Resources and Support: [www.gaadoptionresources.org](http://www.gaadoptionresources.org)
- Foster Care Support Foundation: [http://www.fostercares.org/](http://www.fostercares.org/)
- Project Healthy Grandparents: [http://nursing.gsu.edu/phg/](http://nursing.gsu.edu/phg/)
Mental & Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities

• Marcus Autism Center: www.marcus.org
• Atlanta Alliance on Developmental Disabilities: www.aadd.org
• Georgia Crisis & Access Line: http://www.mygcal.com/ / 800-715-GCAL (4225)
Immigration

- Catholic Charities Atlanta, Inc.: www.catholiccharitiesatlanta.org > “Services” → “immigration legal services”
- Latin American Association: http://www.thelaa.org/
- Dep't of State: www.state.gov
- U.S. Embassies, Consulates, and Diplomatic Missions: www.usembassy.state.gov
- Mexican Consulate in Atlanta: www.consulmexatlanta.org / ph: 404-266-2233
- Google “consulates, atlanta” ...
Youth Engagement

• Youth Advocacy:
  – Georgia EmpowerMEnt Group
  – Multi-Agency Alliance for Children (MAAC):
  – VOX Teen Communications:
    http://www.voxatl.com/

• LGBTQ Youth:
  – Lost-n-Found Youth: https://lnfy.org/
  – Georgia Equality:
    http://www.georgiaequality.org
  – JUSTUsATL: http://www.justusatl.org
Advocacy

• Georgia General Assembly: http://www.legis.state.ga.us/
• JUSTGeorgia: www.justga.org
• VOICES for Georgia's Children: www.georgiavoices.org
• Barton Center listserv – sign up @ www.bartoncenter.net
Q&A

Terrence Wilson
twils29@emory.edu
404.712.1233