



The APPLA World

Another Planned Permanent
Living Arrangement

The APPLA World

- ▶ August 13, 2013
 - ▶ Salem, Oregon
 - ▶ Presented by Judge Edward “Ned” Gordon
- 

New Hampshire

- ▶ Population: 1.4 million
- ▶ “First in the Nation”
 - Presidential Primary
 - Casey Foundation rating
- ▶ “Live Free or Die”



Mark



Permanency Outcomes

- ▶ Reunification
- ▶ Adoption
- ▶ Guardianship
- ▶ APPLA



Historical View

- ▶ Long term foster care
 - ▶ Infrequent hearings
 - ▶ No participation by minors
 - ▶ Pro forma orders
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Change in Perspective

- ▶ Focus on permanency
- ▶ Focus on timely permanency
- ▶ Focus on well-being



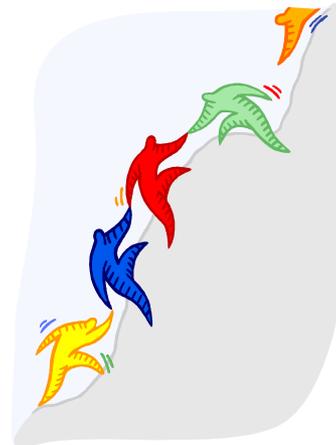
Multifaceted Approach

- ▶ Child Protective Services
- ▶ Legislature
- ▶ Courts
- ▶ Third parties
- ▶ CASA



Child Protective Services

- ▶ Specialized CPSWs
- ▶ Permanency planning teams
- ▶ “Finding Connections”
- ▶ Accelerated reunification
- ▶ Data systems



Legislature

- ▶ Mediated adoptions
- ▶ Statutory time standards
- ▶ Non-adjudicatory services



Courts

- ▶ Model Court Project
- ▶ Court Protocols
- ▶ Collaboration
- ▶ Specialized Judges



Third Parties

- ▶ Agencies identifying and recruiting foster and adoptive families
 - ▶ Residential care providers
 - ▶ Community service agencies
 - ▶ Schools
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CASA

- ▶ Advocacy for children



Results

- ▶ From children in placement in 2005 – **1441** to 2013 – **658**
- ▶ Adoptions increased by almost 300% between 1998 and 2008
- ▶ Children in relative care increased from **17%** in 2009 to **33%** in 2011

Results

▶ APPLA children

2013

12-1/2%



Judicial Mindset

- ▶ Resistant to change
 - “I didn’t get appointed to be a child psychologist.”
- ▶ Professional conflict
 - Ethical standards versus collaboration



The Second 12 Months

- ▶ Deciding a permanency plan versus reaching permanency.

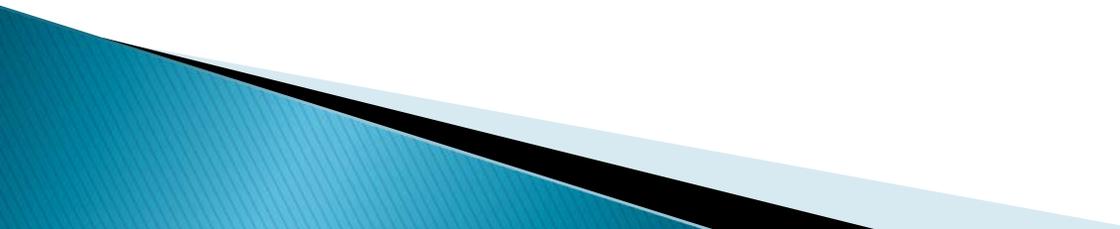


NH APPLA Protocols

- ▶ APPLA is the least favored plan
- ▶ APPLA is not a failure
- ▶ Intended primarily for older youth
- ▶ Occasionally appropriate for younger children with special circumstances



Four Parts of APPLA

1. Identifying a primary caring adult
 2. Developing important relationships with family and other supportive adults
 3. Preparing the youth for adulthood
 4. Continuing to explore other permanency plans
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Preparing the Youth for Adulthood

- ▶ Areas of focus
 - Education
 - Healthcare
 - Employment
 - Living arrangement



Post-permanency hearings

- ▶ First post-permanency hearing within 45 days of permanency hearing
 - ▶ Youth to attend
 - ▶ Establish APPLA goals
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Post-permanency hearings

- ▶ Every three months
- ▶ Within 30 days of youth becoming 18
- ▶ Reports from DCYF and CASA/GAL



Court Input

- ▶ DCYF
- ▶ CASA
- ▶ Foster parents or relative caregivers
- ▶ Youth
- ▶ Parents



General Considerations

1. Youth participation
2. Roundtable atmosphere
3. Collaborative effort



Subject Matter

- ▶ Assess the four APPLA goals
 - ▶ Ensure reasonable efforts
 - ▶ Consider extended jurisdiction
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The APPLA World

- ▶ APPLA may not be the best of all worlds, but APPLA can make a world of difference.



THANK YOU

- ▶ Questions?