THE FEDERAL CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES REVIEW (CFSR) OF LOUISIANA:

What You Should Know About It and Why It Is Important

APRIL 18, 2024 12 - 1 PM REGISTER: VIRTUAL CLE/CEU https://bit.ly/CIPApril2024

Louisiana is about to undergo a federal review designed to help states enhance child welfare services and improve outcomes for families and children in the areas of safety, permanency, and well-being. The Children's Bureau, part of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), administers the review system, known as the Child and Family Services Reviews (CFSRs) in partnership with the state child welfare agency staff. All 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico undergo these reviews.













The CFSR is not just a review of the Department of Children and Family Services but looks at the state's child and family services systems as a whole, including court-related matters, service provision, and many other areas. Louisiana last underwent this review in 2019. As a result of the review, Louisiana developed the following: Louisiana Child in Need of Care Benchbook for Juvenile Judges; incorporating parent contact information into the Affidavit of Removal in Support of an Instanter Order; creation and implementation of the My Community Cares program and the Child Welfare Assessment and Decision Making model (CWADM); and a workforce development initiative.

We invite you to come learn more from a Children's Bureau expert consultant about the CFSR process and how it affects your work.

Learning Objectives:

- Become familiar with the Child and Family Services Review (CFSR) process.
- Understand how the CFSR and the resulting Program Improvement Plan (PIP) affect the Louisiana child welfare system and organizations involved in the system.

AGENDA & SCHEDULE

12:00-12:20 pm Child & Family Services Review Explained

12:20-12:50 pm 2024-2025 Process in Louisiana

12:50-1:00 pm Questions & Discussion



SPEAKERS



Christine S. Kiesel, Esq., Legal/Judicial Child Welfare Specialist, Children's Bureau Contractor

Christine S. Kiesel is an attorney who has made a career out of improving child welfare outcomes for children and families by focusing on improving the systems that surround those families. Christine works as a Child Welfare Specialist for JBS International where she aids the federal Children's Bureau in supporting legal and judicial integration into the Child and Family Services Review. Previously, Christine was the Coordinator of the New York State Child Welfare Court Improvement Project. Christine came to that position after presiding over a best practice permanency part as a judicial officer in a New York State Family Court. Christine served as a Court Attorney to and as the First Assistant Public Defender for the Oneida County Public Defender's Office - Civil Division. Privately, she represented many children both in best interest and stated interest representation models. Christine provides training on child welfare topics and supports child welfare system change work across the country.



Mark Harris, JD, Executive Director, Pelican Center for Children and Families

Mark Harris is the Executive Director of the Pelican Center for Children and Families. He formerly served the Louisiana Supreme Court as the Project Coordinator for the Louisiana Court Improvement Program for 15 years and has been formally recognized by the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services for outstanding efforts in promoting the safety, permanency, and well-being of Louisiana's at-risk children. Mark Harris previously served as the Adoption Opportunities Grant Coordinator for Orleans Parish. He holds BA degrees in English and History from Tulane University and a JD from Loyola University.



Missed a session? Go to www.clarola.org! Free online learning!