Submitted by Jill Duerr Berrick, Professor & Co-Director, Center for Child and Youth Policy, University of California, Berkeley

Concurrent Planning: Ideals and Realities

If children of color are more likely than other groups to remain in long-term foster care, better strategies can and should be developed to increase opportunities for permanence. Concurrent planning has the potential to change the odds that children will experience stability of care, and permanence. Credible data on outcomes associated with concurrent planning practice are sparse; as such, renewed efforts to better capture the effects of the model are vital. Meanwhile, child welfare staff now have at their disposal data to help target concurrent planning services for children unlikely to return home and agency administrators have guideposts to implement practices that adhere to model fidelity.