GROUP EXERCISE: Create a Permanency Plan

Instructions:

Read and discuss your group's assigned scenario. As if participating in an actual Permanency Roundtable, create a plan for how your group would pursue permanency for this youth. Address the following questions:

- *What would you do?*

- *In what order?*

- *What would you do <u>concurrently</u>?*

- *Who would you ask for help?*

- *What <u>tools and resources</u> would you use?*

- *How would you partner with <u>family and identified resources</u>?*

- *How would you partner with <u>youth</u>?*

Case Scenario #1: SUSAN

Susan, age 14, entered care four years ago, due to allegations of sexual abuse by her stepfather. Her two younger half-brothers remain in the home with their mother and stepfather, Greg and Andrea Oakmont. Her father, James Turner, is deceased. He was Canadian, an itinerant who had come to Kentucky as part of the road crew for a band. He married Susan's mother, but left the family before she was born. Little is known about his family. Andrea is angry with Susan for reporting her stepfather's sexual advances to her teacher, and has consistently said that she does not believe her daughter. She sees Susan as a threat to her marriage and the well-being of her sons. A criminal investigation of the sexual abuse was initiated, but no charges were ever filed.

Susan is now in a residential treatment facility, which is her third placement. She struggles in school and has difficulty managing her anger. She has been in counseling with several different therapists, but her behavior has only worsened. She was moved from a group home to her current treatment facility this spring, when she was expelled from public school for leaving campus without permission for the third time. She also was cited for bringing a small pocket knife to school, although she had not attempted to harm anyone with it.

Case Scenario #2: MARVA, JANET and ROBERT

Marva Brady (16), Janet Quinn (10), and Robert Quinn (8), entered foster care three years ago when their mother and Janet and Robert's father were arrested for producing methamphetamines, and charged with possession of marijuana and stolen firearms. Mr. Quinn, who has a prior criminal history, remains in jail and will not be eligible for parole for six more years. Mrs. Quinn is out of jail, but has no means of support, and refuses to enter treatment for her alcoholism. She currently lives with a woman she met in jail, but will have to move soon because the terms of the friend's lease do not allow anyone other than immediate family to live in the residence.

Initially, all three youngsters were placed with their maternal great aunt; however, that placement was disrupted after the aunt said that she could not afford to take care of them on the minimal TANF payment she received. She was not interested in undergoing the home study process to become a foster parent. The children were then moved to a foster home, but Marva's removal was requested after six months because she refused to adhere to any limits set by the foster parents. She insisted that she could come and go as she pleased, just as she had done when living with her mother. She is currently in her second group home placement. Marva attends school, but is not engaged in her studies, and will be repeating the 10th grade. Her father, Anthony Brady, lives in Frankfort, where he works for a construction company. He has no criminal record other than an arrest for marijuana possession 20 years ago. He currently owns his home, where he lives alone. He regularly paid child support to Mrs. Quinn and now pays support to DCBS. Marva wants to live with her father, but he is reluctant, as he does not believe he can manage her behavior.

Janet and Robert have adjusted well to living with their foster family and want to remain there unless they can be with their mother and father. They continue to hope that when their father is released from prison, he and their mother will get a place where they can all live together. They also want to maintain contact with their foster parents, and be able to visit them often.