

# VIRGINIA'S FAMILY ENGAGEMENT IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY for CHILD WELFARE

## Purpose of Statewide Implementation of Virginia's Family Engagement Model (VA-FEM)

- To establish a consistent method of deliberately and meaningfully involving families in decision-making
- To empower families to take an active role in decision-making
- To create a process for local departments to partner with families to make decisions for themselves
- To establish criteria for structured sharing and family involvement

### COLLABORATION & INTEGRATION

#### Family Engagement Work group (FEW) and Family Engagement Advisory Committee (FEAC)

- State and local reps provide ongoing consultation on the development and assist with the identification of resources to support family partnership

#### CSA

- OCS will have a workgroup to make recommendations about changes or clarifications needed to increase the utilization of family engagement practices by FAPT

### INFORMATION SHARING

#### Online Overview

- Available through the Knowledge Center
- September 2009

#### Speakers Bureau

- Presentations to stakeholders including LDSS staff and other child serving partners upon request

#### Children's Services Transformation Website

[vafamilyconnections.com](http://vafamilyconnections.com)

### LOCAL READINESS ASSESSMENT ANALYSIS

#### Evaluation

- Disseminate readiness assessment tool to LDSS
- September- October 2009

#### Review & Analysis

- November 2009

#### Follow- Up

- Training phase identification for LDSS
- December 2009

### DFS GUIDANCE & OASIS RELEASE

#### Review Existing Child Welfare Guidance

- July – Sept 2009

#### Develop & Finalize Family Engagement Guidance

- Sept – Nov 2009

#### Guidance Broadcast and Training Phase Identification

- December 2009

#### OASIS Documentation Available for Family Engagement

- November 2009

### TRAINING and SUPPORT

#### Phase One

- State & Local Staff
- Fall 2009

#### Phase Two

- Local staff
- February 2010

#### Phase Three

- Local staff
- June 2010

#### Phase Four

- Local staff
- September 2010

#### TA to Locals

Regional Specialists and OCS will provide technical assistance