

# #10

**COMPLETE**

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## Q1 Presentation Title

A Call to Action: Setting up a System to Serve Families Moving Toward or Already Achieved Adoption or Guardianship

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## Q2 Topic Area

**Adoption Professional Track - best practices, evidence-based post-adopt programs, trends, recruitment strategies, technical skill-building, supervision.**

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## Q3 75-Word Description of Workshop

The QIC-AG developed six messages designed to inspire those who work with families moving toward adoption/guardianship as well as those who have already achieved permanence. The messages highlight the urgency of needed changes in perceptions and actions on behalf of these families. This presentation will highlight six messages that will be illustrated with examples from the eight QIC-AG pilot sites. Discussion will pursue on how these messages play out in participant's sites.

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## Q4 Format

**Open Discussion,**  
Other (please specify):  
we will be sharing the messages and providing some examples but then really having open discussion about how the messages relate to their sites.

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**Q5** AEA will not provide LCD projectors or computers. However, we will provide a hook-up. Will you need hook-up for your computer and projector?

**Yes**

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**Q6 Lead Presenter Information**

|                      |                                        |
|----------------------|----------------------------------------|
| Name                 | <b>Melinda Lis</b>                     |
| Title                | <b>Vice President, Academy</b>         |
| Affiliation          | <b>Spaulding for Children</b>          |
| Street               | <b>16250 Northland Drive Suite 120</b> |
| City                 | <b>Southfield</b>                      |
| State                | <b>Michigan</b>                        |
| Zip                  | <b>48075</b>                           |
| Daytime Phone Number | <b>773-848-6880</b>                    |
| Email Address        | <b>mlis@spaulding.org</b>              |

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**Q7 Brief Biography of Lead Presenter**

Melinda Lis is the Vice President of the Academy for Family Support and Preservation at Spaulding for Children. She has led several national adoption/foster care initiatives including the National Quality Improvement Center for Adoption/Guardianship Support and Preservation and the National Training and Development Curriculum for Foster/Adoptive Parents. Ms. Lis has over 20 years of child welfare experience including extensive training experience and curriculum development. Prior to her role as Vice President of the Academy, Melinda was the Director for National Resource Center for Adoption located at Spaulding for Children. Prior to this she spent 15 years working in the Illinois child welfare system working on redesigning the specialized foster care policy for the state, developing and implementing training on statewide reforms, and assisting with statewide adoption programs.

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**Q8 Second Presenter Information**

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|----------------------|----------------------------------------|
| Name                 | <b>Leslie Cohen</b>                    |
| Title                | <b>Project Director</b>                |
| Affiliation          | <b>Spaulding for Children</b>          |
| Street               | <b>16250 Northland Drive Suite 120</b> |
| City                 | <b>Southfield</b>                      |
| State                | <b>Michigan</b>                        |
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| Email Address        | <b>lcohen@spaulding.org</b>            |

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**Q9** Brief Biography of Second Presenter

Leslie Cohen has 24 years of experience in the field of child welfare. Her work has focused primarily on program development, implementation, and evaluation for children residing in relative foster care and those who have obtained permanence. Ms. Cohen was a Research Specialist at the Children and Family Research Center at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign from 2000-2010 where her work focused on the implementation and evaluation of Subsidized Guardianship Waiver Demonstrations in Illinois, Wisconsin, and Tennessee, as well as on post-permanency issues in Illinois. In addition, Ms. Cohen worked for James Bell and Associates where she evaluated federally supported child welfare programming. Ms. Cohen also served as a consultant to the State of Wisconsin on the implementation of rate regulation and a state-wide subsidized guardianship program. Most recently, Ms. Cohen served as a consultant for the National Resource Center on Adoption providing technical assistance to state that were working to improve systems and practice related to adoption. She is currently works for Spaulding for Children as the Project Director for the Quality Improvement Center for Adoption and Guardianship Support and Preservation.

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