Effective Photolisting: Best Practices for Developing Strengths-Based Narratives

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

This workshop will present ways to implement AdoptUSKids' guidance on best practices for writing high-quality child narratives for photolistings. We will provide strategies for ensuring children's narratives are compelling and highlight a child’s individual strengths while protecting their safety, privacy, and dignity. Presenters will cover specific tips for engaging children and youth in the process. We will also discuss ways to build agency capacity and change culture and infrastructure to ensure best practices and outcomes.

Lecture, Combination of lecture and open discussion

Yes
Q6 Lead Presenter Information

Name: Mary Boo  
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Q7 Brief Biography of Lead Presenter

Mary Boo serves as executive director of the North American Council on Adoptable Children, where she has worked since 1996. As manager of the AdoptUSKids Family Support Team, Mary Boo has researched, written, and trained about state, tribal, and private support services for foster, kinship, and adoptive families since 2006. She was the lead developer of the AdoptUSKids guidance on developing strengths-based narratives and has conducted several trainings on this topic over the last year. Mary attended graduate school at the Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs, where she studied nonprofit management and social policy.

Q8 Second Presenter Information

Name: Tracy Serdjenian  
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Q9 Brief Biography of Second Presenter

Tracy Serdjenian, LMSW, is the director of the capacity-building and engagement team at AdoptUSKids. In this role, she serves state, tribal, and territorial child welfare systems and their private agency partners by providing or coordinating tailored assistance and developing resources including publications, webinars, and peer learning opportunities. For the past 10 years, she has worked for national organizations and projects that provide capacity-building assistance and information services and support to child welfare agencies. Her areas of expertise include permanency for children and youth and recruitment, development, and support of foster, adoptive, and kinship families. Her varied experience also includes community organizing, advocacy, outreach, direct services provision, child welfare training facilitation, and research and policy work.