



# “FRONTLOADING WITHOUT RAILROADING”

REGIONAL TRAINING PROGRAM IN SUPPORT OF THE ENHANCED INTERDISCIPLINARY PRACTICES INITIATIVE IN NASSAU, SUFFOLK AND WESTCHESTER COUNTIES

**DATE:** NOVEMBER 29, 2010, 10 AM TO 4 PM

**LOCATION:** Adelphi University  
Ruth S. Harley University Center, 2nd Floor  
Garden City Campus

**REGISTRATION REQUIRED :** <http://selectsurvey.net/nyscourts/TakeSurvey.aspx?SurveyID=m4KJmo8>  
**REGISTRATION LIMITED; DEADLINE NOVEMBER 19**  
LUNCH & TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT PROVIDED

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:** Trista Borra, Deputy Statewide Project Manager,  
NYS Child Welfare Court Improvement Project  
516-571-9437 or [tborra@courts.state.ny.us](mailto:tborra@courts.state.ny.us)

**COSPONSORED BY:** CASEY FAMILY PROGRAMS  
ADELPHI UNIVERSITY INSTITUTE FOR PARENTING

CLE CREDITS PENDING

FREE

**Michele Cortese**, Deputy Director of the Center for Family Representation, a nonprofit law and policy organization in New York City, will present on a promising approach to support timely family reunification, when possible, when a child is placed in foster care. The “Cornerstone Advocacy” approach suggests intensive advocacy and attention during the first 60 days following removal in the following four areas: **visiting** arrangements for children and their parents, **placement** arrangements that support a child’s connection to family and the people and institutions that the child was connected to before placement in foster care; **services** that address a parent and child’s strengths and needs; and **conferences** and meetings that provide opportunities for parents and older youth to meaningfully participate in their case planning.

This presentation will be followed by a panel of experts discussing the roles and responsibilities of both legal/judicial and child welfare professionals to maintain a sense of urgency about each family’s circumstances while ensuring parties’ due process rights are protected:

- **Hon. Sharon Townsend, JSC**, Vice Dean for Family and Matrimonial Law, State Judicial Institute (Moderator)
- **Hon. Michele Pirro Bailey**, Onondaga County Family Court Judge
- **Margaret Burt, Esq.**, Private practice attorney & Counsel to NY Public Welfare Association
- **Betsy Stevens, Esq.**, Assistant Counsel, NYS Office of Children and Family Services
- **Betsy Kramer, Esq.**, Lawyers for Children, New York City
- **Hollis Hite, Esq.** Assigned Counsel Program, Erie County

During the afternoon, participants will have the opportunity to join with others in discussion groups to explore practice adjustments to make “frontloading” a reality.

Whether you are a child welfare agency administrator, a caseworker, a service provider or an attorney who represents parents, children or the child welfare agency, this presentation will provoke your thinking about ways to help clients achieve the goal that often means the most to them—the chance to have their families whole and healthy.

