

# **P**ERMANENT FAMILY CONNECTIONS FOR ADOLESCENTS IN CARE

A two-day, hands on training

*To every child we take into care, society makes a promise. We promise to restore them to a better family than the one from which we removed them, if not their own, then another. No one can exempt us from this promise, not even the teens themselves. This workshop is about keeping that promise.*



**Workshop Leader:** Robert G. Lewis, M.Ed.,  
M.S.W., L.I.C.S.W.

This two-day workshop focuses on the material in ***Adolescents & Families For Life: A Toolkit for Supervisors***. This first ***Toolkit*** provides a set of tools to help child welfare agency supervisors/managers guide, train and supervise staff who must insure permanence for the adolescents in their care. The workshop provides an overview of topics and strategies that create a successful permanence for teens practice in your agency. First, we make the case for working for permanency for adolescents. We then address choosing, using and developing permanency tools with teens. Finally, we discuss how to support permanence in the specific culture of your agency. Throughout the two-day workshop, participants have opportunities to identify the issues they find most challenging, and to discuss particular cases. They practice delivery of one lesson from the ***Toolkit***. We provide tips on training workers based on our experience in hundreds of training sessions. Participants come away from this two-day workshop with a renewed commitment to permanency for adolescents, new strategies to help them meet this goal, and a copy of ***Adolescents and Families for Life*** to help them train their staff.

Bob Lewis is a consultant, an author and a strategic thinker providing training and technical assistance to child welfare organizations. He focuses on the development of social work practices in permanency planning as well as policy and organizational development in support of permanency. He began his career as a child care worker with teens, worked with families and children, and directed Massachusetts congregate care programs. Since 2000, Bob has consulted extensively with New York City's Administration for Children's Services (ACS) and its foster care agencies on adolescent permanency. A key consultant in the Families for Teens initiative there, he has taught, consulted, and worked in every part of the New York City child welfare system. Bob tailors his work to each agency's needs from case consultations, review of procedures and policies, and program development to work with youth and families.

He coauthored with Maureen S. Heffernan, ***Adolescents & Families For Life: A Toolkit for Supervisors***; and in conjunction with Communities for People he developed the ***Family Bound Program: A Toolkit for Preparing Teens for Permanent Family Connections***. His most recent book, co-authored with Maureen Heffernan, is ***Families for Teens: A Toolkit for Focusing, Educating and Motivating Staff***. For more information, please visit [www.thetoolkit.org](http://www.thetoolkit.org)



Enrollment is limited to a maximum of 30 participants.  
For more information about training contact Bob Lewis.  
[www.rglewis.com](http://www.rglewis.com)

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