

# Did You Know?

## Permanency Roundtable (PRT)

### What are Permanency Roundtables (PRTs)?

Permanency Roundtables (PRTs) are structured, professional case consultations designed to:

1. Develop a permanency action plan for each child/youth that will expedite legal permanency;
2. Stimulate thinking and learning about pathways to permanency for these and other children in out-of-home care (OOHC); and
3. Identify and address barriers to expedited permanency through professional development, policy change, resource development, and the engagement of system partners

PRTs feature the **participation of local staff, regional management, and central office staff**. This consult encourages a **fresh, open-minded perspective** that often contributes to identifying better action plan strategies and improved case outcomes. PRTs tend to be longer in duration, providing a minimum of **two hours of uninterrupted focus** on one child or sibling group in OOHC.

PRTs have a specific structure and facilitation style that encourages an **urgency for permanency**. This structure has five phases:

- I. Welcome & overview;
- II. Present the case;
- III. Clarify and explore;
- IV. Brainstorm;
- V. Create a permanency action plan; and
- VI. Debrief.

During the brainstorming phase, the group is asked to come up with ideas to answer five key questions. No idea is a bad idea! The five key questions are:

- ✓ What will it take?
- ✓ What can we try that has not been tried before?
- ✓ What can we do differently?
- ✓ What can we do concurrently?
- ✓ How can we engage the youth in developing & implementing the plan?

PRTs are future-focused. Participants do not critique prior casework activities. Instead, the process brings a “fresh set of eyes” to the case. The PRT team works together to gain an accurate understanding of the current needs and situation of the child before creating a realistic plan for permanency.

If you have any questions, comments, or suggestions for permanency roundtables, please reach out to:

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