TRAINING PROGRAMME

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| **Nagalro Autumn Conference: Zoom**  **‘Post-Adoption Contact: Changes and Constants’**  Friday, 4 October 2024, 9.30 am – 1.30 pm  This year will see the publication of the President’s Public Law Working Group (Adoption Sub-Group) Best Practice in Respect of Adoption Report together with its Best Practice Guidance. Chapter 1 deals with adoption and contact and is likely to have the most immediate impact on practice. The sub-group has identified that all the necessary statutory framework for greater flexibility around post-adoption contact is already in place and the research supporting a more bespoke solution for the individual child has already been done. For all professionals, the urgent need will be to understand what has changed and what stays the same. The Adoption Sub-Group’s interim report pointed out the essential nature of training to ensure that all relevant professionals understand the issues and options for children and are ready for the implementation of the recommendations for best practice. The shift in emphasis will affect social workers, adoption agencies, voluntary adoption agencies, lawyers and judges.  This conference aims to ensure that delegates are fully aware, not only of the changes but also of the essential constant – the paramount importance of the welfare of the child throughout their life.  **Conference Chair:**  **The Hon Mrs Justice Judd DBE KC** former Chair of the Family Law Bar Association and is the Chair of the Public Law Working Group’s Adoption Sub-Group.  **Professor Beth Neil**: Professor Neil’s research into children and adoption is at the foundation of many of the proposed reforms. She will explain what the research tells us about post-adoption contact, when it is appropriate and when not, what can the benefits be and what forms can benefit the child.  **Dr Tam Cane and Dr Sushir Puhan**: The contact needs of transracially adopted children and how we can maintain the ethnic and cultural heritage of the child without damaging the security of the adopted family.  **Shelagh Beckett**: The contact needs of siblings when they cannot be placed together or where only some are adopted.  **Dr Mandi MacDonald:** Based at Queen’s University Belfast, Dr MacDonald has conducted extensive research on post-adoption contact, the experiences of adoptive parents and their support needs. The experiences of adopted children in Northern Ireland where some form of post-adoption contact is much more common and whose practices informed the Public Law Working Group’s recommendations.  **Cathy Ashley**: Chief Executive of Family Rights Group will discuss the role which may be played by extended family members to support the child in their adoptive family.  **Arc Adoption NE:** Arc will demonstrate their ARCBOX digital communication management app, showing how ‘letterbox’ contact can be brought into the digital age and answer questions about their solution.  **Family Justice Young People’s Board:** On the basis that children and young people should be participants rather than the subjects in our discussions, you will also hear directly from young people about their experiences.  ***Cost: £50 - £75 4 CPD*** |
| **Improving Risk Assessment to Safeguard Children**  This half-day training course is for professionals who are already familiar with the safeguarding system but want to upgrade their skills in risk assessment and decision making when working within that system. The course will be interactive and based on experiential exercises and case studies to allow participants the opportunity to explore the dilemmas inherent in safeguarding practice.  ***Zoom, Wednesday, 18 September at 09.30 – 1.00 3.5 cpd*** |
| **A Year of Public and Private Law in Review**  A review of the most important and interesting cases of the last twelve months.  Led by barristers from Coram Chambers:  ***Zoom, Autumn 2024 date to be confirmed 2.5 CPD*** |
| **Effective Assessment and Intervention in working with Disguised Compliance/Parental Resistance in Safeguarding Children**  This session will address different forms of disguised compliance/parental resistance and explore the effects on parents/carers; staff; and the risks those present to each of them, and ways to most effectively deal with such risks.  Trainer: Professor Brian Littlechild.  ***Zoom, Wednesday 20 November 2024, 09.30 – 11.45 am 2 CPD*** |
| **Communicating with Children**  This experiential workshop will present a range of quick and easy to access tools and techniques to support parenting and family assessments and hearing the voice of the child. The tools and techniques draw from play and art therapy as well as Therapeutic Life Story Work. We will also consider ways of explaining to the child who you are and why you are seeing them. A handout will be provided of printable worksheets to use during visits to children.  Trainer: Suzanne McGladdery, ISW, Therapeutic Life Story Work Practitioner, Lecturer, Consultant  ***Zoom, next date of this 3 hour seminar to be advised 3 CPD*** |
| **INDEPENDENT SOCIAL WORKERS - Children and Family specialists**  **Are you looking for an independent social worker?**  **log on to** [**www.nagalro.com**](http://www.nagalro.com)  Local authorities, other agencies, solicitors and the Courts often use our on-line ISW Directory at [www.nagalro.com](http://www.nagalro.com) or by contacting Nagalro on 01372 818504. All the ISWs listed in our on-line directory are registered with their relevant Social Care Council Regulatory body such as SWE, Coru and Social Care Wales.  **Are you an ISW looking for work?** Nagalro offers vital resources for independent social workers. Whether you are just thinking about starting out in your own business or you have been working on a freelance basis for some years, Nagalro has a lively professional network giving quick access to information and support that keeps you up to date, plus:   * Professional and Public Liability Indemnity Insurance * Publicity and Marketing * Receipt of our professional journal: ‘Seen & Heard’ * Regional Support Groups High Quality Training and conferences   follow us on twitter at https://twitter.com/nagalro |