A JOURNEY THROUGH UTAH'S CHILD WELFARE SYSTEM

IMMERSION

What Is An "Immersion"?

Utah Department of Human Services developed the "Immersion" experience as an opportunity for professionals to more fully understand the practice, operations, decision-making and responsibilities of the Division of Child and Family Services (DCFS).

Who Should Consider Attending?

Professionals who regularly interact with DCFS; however, the experience can be tailored to any group of interested parties. Past attendees include mental health and substance abuse providers, law enforcement, child welfare attorneys and judges, medical and education professionals, and quality improvement committee members.

What Will Be Gained By Attending An Immersion?

By attending an Immersion participants should gain an understanding of:

- The complex and often emotional decisions and actions made by DCFS staff
- The principles of practice DCFS staff follow
- The limitations DCFS staff often face
- How your agency/group can best work with DCFS to serve common clients

How Long Is The Experience?

The Immersion experience typically lasts 4 hours.

How Much Does It Cost To Participate?

These experiences are provided at no cost to the group requesting them.

FREE!

How Do We Arrange For An Immersion Experience?

Contact Katy Larsen, 801-538-4100 or 801-232-0849, katylarsen@utah.gov or Elizabeth Sollis, 801-538-3991, esollis@utah.gov.

QUICK FACTS

- DCFS served 56,512 people between July 2010 and July 2011
- 34% of supported CPS cases are related to domestic violence
- Substance abuse was a factor in 63% of children placed in foster care
- 34% of children served in foster care were in kinship placement for some of the time they were in care

FY 2011