

CIP Webinar: Structured Decision Making (SDM) - SESSION 1

Monday, November 16, 2020 - 12:30pm to 1:30pm

PLEASE NOTE - this date has been changed from the original date of November 4, 2020.



STATE OF
NEBRASKA
JUDICIAL BRANCH

Court Improvement
Project

Two Sessions are Offered - the same material will be shared in both. [Click here to register for the November 12 session.](#)

Research has demonstrated that when decision makers know exactly what information to consider (and what to ignore), they do better. Children and families experience treatment that is more equitable and more consistent.

Based on decades of research and practice, the SDM® model provides a framework for focusing on key information at each child welfare decision point:

- At the initial phone call: Should we screen this case in and respond? How quickly?
- At first contact: Is the child in any immediate, serious danger? Can she safely stay in the home?
- When concluding an initial investigation or assessment: Would this family benefit from intensive, ongoing intervention?
- If building a long-term plan: What are the most important things for this family to work on?
- If a child has been removed: Can this child be safely returned home, or should alternative permanency become the goal?
- When getting ready to end CPS involvement: If we close the case, will the child remain

safe?

Presented by Jay Judds (Nebraska DHHS attorney in Lincoln) and Justy Nelson (Nebraska CFS Supervisor in Broken Bow area) both with SDM© expertise.

Jay Judds is a Special Assistant Attorney General for the State of Nebraska, assigned to the Children and Family Services Division of the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services. He has been employed by the State since March 2010 and worked for 5 years in Grand Island, Nebraska covering approximately 23 counties, mainly assisting Child and Family Services Specialists in courtroom proceedings. For the last 5 plus years, he has been working mainly in the Separate Juvenile Court of Lancaster County. Prior to working for the State, Jay was in private practice for approximately 16 years, in both Sidney and Grand Island Nebraska. In early 2012, Jay received multi-day training in SDM when it was first introduced to Nebraska CFSS workers and supervisors. Since that time, he has been assisting CFS personnel to meet the goals and objectives outlined by the SDM process.

Justy Nelson is a Child and Family Services Supervisor for the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services. Justy supervises an end to end team in central Nebraska that covers eleven counties including the Broken Bow, O'Neill and Valentine areas. She supervises both initial assessment/investigations and the ongoing cases in her area, which allows her to utilize all areas of Structured Decision Making. She uses SDM daily as she assists her worker with making decisions on recommending removals, opening ongoing cases, writing case plans, recommending reunifications and recommending case closures. Justy has worked with the SDM model for the past three years, in the time she has been a supervisor for the Department. Prior to this, she was a Child and Family Services worker from 2004-2007, before SDM was utilized. In between these years with the Department, Justy raised her young children and served Nebraska's families as a licensed foster parent.

This webinar will provide an overview of the SDM model, outline different assessment types, and identify when an assessment may be utilized.

First Name *

Last Name *

Email *

Company

Address

City

State

Zip Code

Cell Phone

Bar # (If Applicable, Req for CLE Credit)

Dietary Restrictions (if food is served and if applicable)

Submit
