



*Ask-An-Expert*

This segment will allow Supervised Visitation Program grantees an opportunity to interact with other grantees on problem-solving exercises and ask subject matter experts questions about topics relevant to the Supervised Visitation Program grantees and their collaborative partners.

 Safe Havens:  
Supervised Visitation and Safe Exchange Grant Program

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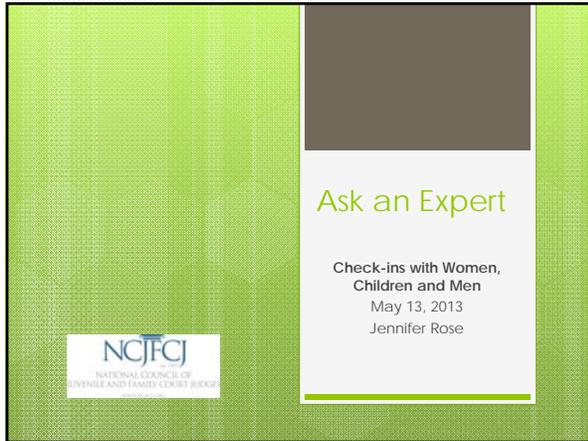
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**Ask an Expert**

Check-ins with Women,  
Children and Men  
May 13, 2013  
Jennifer Rose

 NATIONAL COUNCIL OF  
JUVENILE AND FAMILY COURT JUDGES

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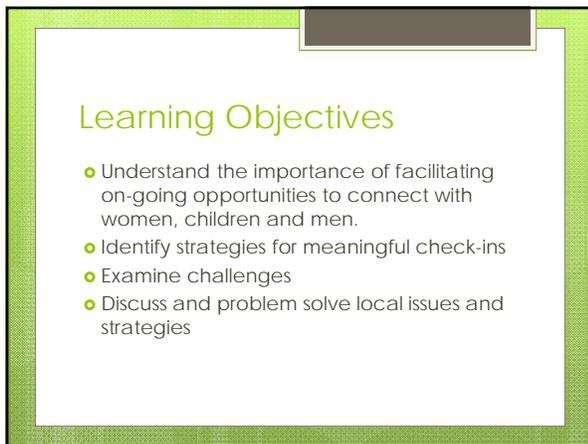
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**Learning Objectives**

- Understand the importance of facilitating on-going opportunities to connect with women, children and men.
- Identify strategies for meaningful check-ins
- Examine challenges
- Discuss and problem solve local issues and strategies

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**Laura, Rosa, and Jose**

The Romero family has been coming to the center for that past few weeks. While the orientation and first visit didn't present any major red flags, the past couple weeks have felt more challenging. Laura, the victim parent has been more distant when coming to the center and Rosa has been hesitant to visit her dad. Laura usually drops Rosa off for visits however Laura has her mom pick up Laura because Laura is typically working.

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After the visit Rosa begins to cry and tells you she is very confused and doesn't want her mom to know she is crying. When she greets her grandma you would never know anything was wrong.

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**What is a check-in?**

- A. On the fly interaction with a client.
- B. One time opportunity to talk with clients.
- C. Regular and on-going opportunity to learn from and provide on-going support to clients.
- D. Planned meetings to gather information from clients.

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**Check-ins**

- Create on-going opportunity for building a strong relationship with each member of the family.
- Opportunity to learn about changing life circumstances.
- Provides scheduled time that parents and children can trust.

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**Goal for Check-ins**

- Create opportunities to build relationships.
- Facilitate on going safety and visitation planning.
- Safe place for each family member to receive support.

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**Opportunity for Check-ins**

- Before or after visits
- In person or by phone
- In between visits

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**Goal of Check-ins with Mothers**

- Support on-going relationship and trust.
- Safety and visitation planning.
- Provide on-going advocacy and meaningful referrals.

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**Goal of Check-ins with Fathers**

- Support on-going relationship and trust.
- Provide on-going support and meaningful referrals.
- Opportunity to discuss visitation and opportunities for growth.
- Strategize about future visits.

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**Goals for Check-ins with Children and Youth**

- To provide age appropriate child/youth centered time to build a trusting relationship.
- Provide a safe and supportive environment for children/youth to talk about their experiences and feelings.
- Time to help and support children and youth transition from one parent to the next.
- Relay messages of support.

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### Challenges to on-going check-ins

- TIME!
- Matching with clients schedules.
- Keeping them supportive and not therapeutic.
- Documentation

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### Strategies for Check-ins

- Plan for check-ins at orientation.
- Allow time.
- Be consistent.
- Allow them to be client centered.

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### QUESTIONS

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*Thank You For Attending*

Thank you for attending today's segment. For more information, or to inquire about training or technical assistance, please visit [safehavenonline.org](http://safehavenonline.org) or contact Michele Robinson, Program Manager with the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges at [mrobinson@ncfci.org](mailto:mrobinson@ncfci.org) or (775) 784-6427.



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