

Last updated: 10/28/2021

## **Overview of the Child Welfare System Discussion Questions**

1. Recognizing that child welfare systems vary by state -- sometimes even by county -- what are some actions that you can take proactively to better understand how your local child welfare system operates?
2. What role on the child welfare team do you envision for parents who are fostering? Which aspects of this role do you think could be challenging for you to play?
3. Do you have concerns working with any member of the child welfare team? If so, what are some ways that you can ease these concerns?
4. While reflecting on the types of abuse that children can experience, do you have any concerns about parenting children who may have experienced any of these types of abuse? What are some ways that you could ease these concerns (for example: get additional training; talk with a parent who has fostered children that have experienced different types of abuse)?
5. The video states, "Foster parents are responsible for the temporary care and nurturing of a child placed in their home." Does this match what you thought the role of parents who are fostering would be? If not, how is it different? How will you resolve these differences?
6. The child's parents will retain rights to make certain determinations for their child, such as medical, educational and religious decisions. What role do you expect parents who are fostering to have when working with the child welfare team to support the parents' engagement in these decisions?