

Next Steps Sample Panel Questions

CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate) -

- What does a court appointed special advocate do?
- Why are these volunteers so important?
- Can you share a story of when a CASA had a huge impact on a child or family?
- What would you say to someone considering volunteering in this way?

Safe House- (Isaiah 1:17, Immanuel House, Etc)

- What is a safe house?
- Why are these volunteers so important?
- Can you share a story of when your safe house had a huge impact on a child or family?
- What would you say to someone considering volunteering in this way?

Foster Care Closet-

- What is a foster care closet?
- Why are these volunteers so important?
- Can you share a story of when the closet had a huge impact on a child or family?
- What would you say to someone considering volunteering in this way?

DCS (Department of Children's Services) -

- Can you give us a basic overview of the process to become a foster parent?
- What support does DCS offer to foster parents (both new and seasoned families)
- What are the largest needs in our region? Why should folks consider opening their home to these kids?

Private Provider Agency –

- Can you give us a basic overview of the process to become a foster parent?
- What support does your agency offer to foster parents (both new and seasoned families)
- What is the difference in becoming a foster parent through DCS and through your agency?

Seasoned Foster Family -

- How has being a foster family impacted your biological children if applicable?
- What has been the hardest thing about being a foster family? What about the best thing?
- How have you built relationships with the children that have come into your home?
- What would you say to someone who is afraid to get “too attached” while fostering?

New Foster Family -

- What was the certification process like to become a foster parent?

- What has been the biggest surprise so far in this journey?
- What do you wish you would have known before you got started?
- What kind of support has been the most helpful to you and your family?

Adoptive Family –

- What has been your greatest joy and hardest low point in your adoption journey?
- What led you to begin exploring adoption?
- What resources would you recommend to folks interested in pursuing adoption?
- What types of questions did you ask different adoption agencies before deciding on one?

WRAP Team Member (supported foster/adoptive families) -

- What has been the best part about supporting a foster/adoptive family?
- How do you (or your team) support the family? What does that actually look like?
- What would you say to someone considering supporting a family in this way?

Adult (Older Teen) that Grew up in Foster Home –

- Tell us about your experience growing up in a home that fostered.
- What were some of the hard things about this experience and what were some of the really good things?
- What did your parents do to explain things to you and get your perspective and input?
- How has the experience of growing up in a home that fostered impacted you? (career, personally, in your own family, etc)

Safe Families –

- What is the difference between Safe Families, Foster Care and Adoption?
- Can you share some of the reasons families may seek out help from your organization?
- What type of support and help do Safe Families receive?

