# National Family Drug Court Training and Technical Assistance Program

## Raising the Bar in FDCs – A Look at FDC Guidelines

**Wednesday, September 11, 2013**

**11:00 am – 1:00 pm (Pacific Time)**

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| 11:00 – 11:10 am | Welcome and Opening Remarks  
Alexis Balkey, Program Associate |
| 11:10 – 12:00 pm | Why? *The Need for FDC Guidelines*  
- National Perspective of FDC Movement  
- The Need for Guidelines for FDCs  
- The Difference Between Guidelines, Components, and Standards  
   *What? Overview of the FDC Guidelines*  
   - The Framework  
   - Overview of the 10 Guidelines – Effective Strategies  
Phil Breitenbucher, MSW |
| 12:00 – 12:10 pm | Q&A and Discussion |
| 12:10 – 12:25 pm | How? *Implementing the Guidelines*  
- Technical Assistance Available  
- Implementation at State and Local Level  
Next Steps & Resources  
Phil Breitenbucher, MSW |

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Presenters

Phil Breitenbucher, MSW

Mr. Breitenbucher currently serves as the Director of the National Family Drug Court Technical Assistance and Training Program at Children and Family Futures. In this role, he is responsible for overall management of the program and coordinating the Family Drug Court efforts with the National Center on Substance Abuse and Child Welfare, the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention and the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. Additionally, Mr. Breitenbucher provides consultation and technical assistance to States and counties working to implement strategies related to substance abuse and child welfare. Mr. Breitenbucher joined the staff of Children and Family Futures in February 2010 after 13 years of child welfare experience. His child welfare experience includes the implementation and management of three Family Drug Court sites, four Family Resource Centers as well as various prevention, diversion and early intervention programs.

Mr. Breitenbucher has served as faculty to national organizations such as the National Council of Juvenile Court Judges and Family Court Judges, Child Welfare League of America, National Association of Drug Court Professionals and the American Humane Association.

Mr. Breitenbucher holds a Master’s Degree in Social Work from California State University, San Bernardino with an emphasis in Public Administration and has served as Field Instructor for California State University, San Bernardino, Loma Linda University and the University of Southern California.

Alexis Balkey, BA, RAS

Ms. Balkey currently serves as a Program Associate with the National Center on Substance Abuse and Child Welfare at Children and Family Futures (CFF). In this capacity, she facilitates technical assistance regarding child welfare and substance abuse related issues for multiple projects. Previous to her employment with CFF, Alexis Balkey was the Program Manager for Riverside County Family Preservation Court, located in Indio, Ca. Ms. Balkey successfully managed a Family Drug Court with multiple funding streams including the most recent SAMHSA Children Affected by Methamphetamine (CAM) federal grant. Ms. Balkey has been part of the implementation and development of the CAM project for the Riverside Family Drug Courts with emphasis in data analysis and collaboration between the key partners. Ms. Balkey is an active instructor for the William R. Mead Academy located in San Diego, Ca with a teaching emphasis on Case Management, Criminal Justice, Ethics, Gender Studies and Co-Occurring as well as a certified Pro-Act trainer.

Ms. Balkey has a B.A. in Psychology and a B.A. in Criminal Justice, both from Temple University. Ms. Balkey is also a certified Drug and Alcohol Counselor by the Breining Institute, College for the Advances Study of Addictive Disorders.