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Leadership Matters

Leadership Matters Wednesday at 2 PM Pacific July 10th 2013: Leading Systems Change in Child Welfare Privatization

In 2008, the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services launched a massive effort to privatize the delivery of child welfare services. While certainly lawmakers had hoped to save taxpayer dollars, the major impetus for this effort was to address the fact Nebraska has one of the highest rates in the U.S. of children in out-of-home care. In November of 2009, five lead agencies were selected to deliver and coordinate child welfare services across the state. Two years later, all but one of these lead agencies, the Nebraska Families Collaborative (NFC), had either gone bankrupt or ended th

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Featured Guest

Guest Image

Dave Newell

Dave Newell has more than 20 years of behavioral healthcare experience in both direct service and leadership roles. In partnership with his wife, Theresa, Dave also has 20 years of experience as a therapeutic foster, adoptive, and birth parent. Prior to leading the NFC, Dave served as the regional vice president at EMQ FamiliesFirst in California, and previously served as the executive director of Denali Family Services in Anchorage, Alaska. Dave received his Certificate of Nonprofit Management and M.S.W. from the University of Alaska Anchorage, and B.S. in Education from Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville. In June 2012, Dave was appointed to the Nebraska Children's Commissi

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