

Legal Services of New Jersey  
**Justice Series**

# Substance Use in the Child Welfare System Webinar

*Part of the Supporting and Preserving Families Webinar Series*



**Thursday**  
**August 12, 2021**  
**2:00-3:30 p.m. EST**

Join us as we explore substance use in the child welfare system, the stereotypes and confusion. The webinar focuses on ways removals can be prevented by supporting parents with substance use disorders, and the need for a nationwide culture shift to prevent removals.

We'll also discuss the Adoption and Safe Families Act (ASFA), which requires states to file a termination of parental rights (TPR) petition for any child who has remained in foster care for 15 of the previous 22 months. ASFA presents major challenges to parents suffering from substance use disorders. Due to limited treatment programs and services, they face delays in completing their case plans within the ASFA timeline.

TO REGISTER FOR THIS EVENT

**RSVP to [FRPtrainings@lsnj.org](mailto:FRPtrainings@lsnj.org)**

NJ CLE credit available

## PANELISTS

**Tricia Stephens, LCSW-R, PhD**, *Assistant Professor at Silberman School of Social Work.* Tricia has extensively researched trauma, child welfare, and family reunification.

**Elizabeth Brico**, *freelance writer and journalist.* Elizabeth uses her own experiences and those of others to write about substance use disorder and the child welfare system.

**Alexandra Travis**, *parent ally with LSNJ's Family Representation Project.* Alexandra is passionate about preventing removals by supporting parents with substance use disorders.

**Jey Rajaraman**, *Chief Counsel of LSNJ's Family Representation Project.* Jey will discuss how to use prevention work to support parents with substance use disorders and their children.