

Using an SSP to Enhance GAL Practice

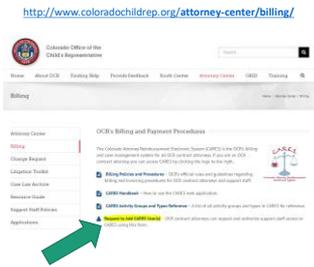
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Need an SSP Now?

- If you know someone who you'd like to have approved as an SSP, Alex is happy to discuss.
 - Request through OCR's website (at right)
 - Generally a BA in related field **OR** two plus years of related experience
- If you are looking for an SSP, OCR may know one in your area.



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How to find an SSP?

- OCR may potentially contract with SSPs to offer a pool of approved SSPs to contractors
- Other GALs have found SSPs through DHS, therapists, asked that one of their own staff be approved (i.e. an experienced paralegal)
- Options: Hire as employee or contract on hourly basis

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Positives too!



BETTER CHANCE OF LEARNING OF INTERESTS/SUPPORTS



SSP HAS ABILITY TO OBSERVE MORE, BUILD SOME LEVEL OF TRUST FASTER, GAIN INSIGHT. MORE OPEN DIALOGUE WITH TRUSTED OUTLET.



SSP MAY HAVE BETTER ABILITY/AVAILABILITY TO BUILD PERSONAL RELATIONSHIPS IN THE DIFFERENT SYSTEMS CLIENT(S) ARE IN.

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Say what?
Translating legalese, observing body language

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Tasks NOT appropriate for SSP

- Daily/weekly transporting of child to appointments/school etc., supplying daily needs of client regularly
- Keep reasonable efforts in mind
 - Shouldn't take the place of caseworker
 - Ensure DHS is doing their part
 - Not service providers
- The client needs a system that is functioning *after* you're done with the case

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Billing

- Current policy / allowed billing
- What you can't bill for (e.g. double-billing)
- OCR may consider a change, but budget changes must be approved by the JBC
- Important to talk about efficiencies



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