



County of Orange
SOCIAL SERVICES AGENCY

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March 18, 2011

To Whom It May Concern:

As the manager of the Orange County Children and Family Services, Multi-treatment Transition Services (MTS), I am pleased to recommend Ms. Randi Rubenstein and her *Education for Successful Parenting (ESP)* Program.

Ms. Rubenstein recently provided a workshop to the MTS social work professionals highlighting the risks of teen pregnancy/parenting among our foster youth. The focus of the presentation was to help staff to increase/enhance:

- understanding of the risks of teen parenting for foster youth and youth perspectives regarding their future families
- communication skills among social workers, youth and their parents / caregivers
- ability to support youth and caregivers in developing personalized life-plans for future parenting

The process of creating a healthy family begins in the decision-making of adolescents. ESP offers highly valuable information, insights and communication tools to help professionals work more effectively with at-risk teens during a critical stage in their development. The material is clearly research-based and data-driven. The power point presentation is both impactful and interesting and Ms. Rubenstein's delivery engaging.

Overall, the workshop was effective and very well-received. The MTS staff commented that Ms. Rubenstein's framework on this issue has changed their approach in their work with their clients and that they are now better equipped to identify the "red flags" and guide the "at risk" youth and support their caregivers.

Ms. Rubenstein's commitment to the safety and well-being of our youth and their future families is commendable and much appreciated.

Sincerely Yours,

Shekoufeh Markel

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