

Miranda Lynch provides strategic guidance and capacity building to child welfare agencies in large-scale system reform initiatives geared toward improving child outcomes in safety, permanency, and well-being. Ms. Lynch works directly with public and private decision-makers in developing and implementing feasible action plans with an emphasis on the use of evidence in decision-making, the application of implementation science principles within systems change efforts and aligning federal and state policy with the jurisdiction's strategic direction. Ms. Lynch is currently partnered with administrators in several jurisdictions to enhance their continuous quality improvement processes to support improved performance on priority outcomes; to make systematic policy changes that build well-being systems and address race equity; and to assess, ready and implement transformational change leveraging the Family First Prevention Services Act of 2018 (Family First).

Key Qualifications and Expertise

- Child welfare policy, practice, and monitoring
- Continuous quality improvement systems and processes
- Implementation of human service reform efforts
- Development and analysis of federal and state child welfare legislation, regulations and policy

Honors & Awards

2016	HHS – ACF Assistant Secretary's Award for Exemplary Leadership of the Child and Family Services Reviews
2006	HHS – ACF Assistant Secretary's "Special Act Award" for work to combat child fatalities
1996	U.S. Presidential Management Fellowship

Education

Rutgers University, Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy M.S., Public Policy	<i>New Brunswick, NJ</i>
Rutgers University, Douglass College B.S., Political Science and English	<i>New Brunswick, NJ</i>

Professional Positions

Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago <i>Policy Fellow</i>	Chicago, IL 2016-Present
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Serve as lead for projects in jurisdictions that aim to transform child welfare systems into well-being and prevention-oriented systems that support children thrive in their families. Translate and apply evidence related to leadership, governance and strategy, practice and implementation, data and evidence use, policy and fiscal alignment, continuous quality improvement and race equity, to enable state and local child welfare administrators to accurately pinpoint problems in collaboration with their partners and families and innovate responsive and dynamic solutions. Develop and sustain thought partner and advisory relationships with state

and local child welfare executives to articulate their vision and desired outcomes and identify strategies to mobilize their workforce and legislative, judicial and community partners to achieve them. Serve as a national authority on child maltreatment prevention and Family First implementation for a federally contracted state child welfare capacity building center. Develop and publish resources, briefs and webinars for administrators and policymakers to share timely and actionable insights from using and creating evidence in the field. Identify and manage diverse project teams to apply their skills in policy, data analysis and strategy in support of project goals. Manage multiple multi-year contract budgets and engage in strategic business development to increase organizational impact in service of improvements in the conditions of children and families.

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Children's Bureau
Child and Family Services Review Team – Supervisory Child and Family Program
Specialist (2010-2016)

Washington, DC
1997-2016

Provide national leadership for the Child and Family Service Reviews (CFSR) of state child welfare services programs in all 50 States, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. Evaluate state compliance with federal child welfare laws and the effectiveness of state and local child welfare practices and policies on certain safety, permanency and well-being outcomes for children and families. Recommend to and negotiate with state executive leadership on systems change strategies and appropriate methods of measuring improvement consistent with federal protocols. Use skills in adaptive leadership and change management and apply project management and knowledge of implementation science to craft with key stakeholders, sustainable system improvements at the national, state and local levels. Manage a staff of 14 direct reports and an indirect staff of approximately 60 to accomplish programmatic objectives. Oversee a contract of approximately \$60 million to support review protocols, provide staff support for the reviews and deliver online and in person training and information on the review process. Provide effective written and oral presentations to a wide variety of audiences on a national vision for continuous quality improvement and data driven results

Policy Division - Lead Child Welfare Policy Specialist (2002-2010); Child Welfare Policy Specialist (1997 – 2002), Presidential Fellow (1997)

Serve as lead advisor and expert to the Bureau's leadership on policy related to child maltreatment and protection, foster care, guardianship, adoption, Indian child welfare issues, information and data systems and all other major child welfare legislation. Provide consistent leadership of local and statewide teams for the Child and Family Services Reviews. Serve as team leader and co-author of several federal child welfare regulations, including the Child and Family Service Reviews and National Youth in Transition Database. Develop legislative specifications and briefing materials on proposed federal legislation for Administration and Congressional consideration. Collaborate with interagency federal partners on crosscutting policy issues related to children involved in the child welfare system, particularly regarding health, juvenile justice, education and public assistance programs.

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Human Services Policy
Special Assistant to the Assistant Secretary

Washington, DC
1996-1997

Coordinate activities of a 30-member HHS Early Childhood Workgroup. Write press releases for White House Conference on Early Childhood Development and speeches for Department officials. Served as key staff person on disability and welfare reform issues. Editor of a report to the President on HHS Activities Targeted to Children in their Earliest Years. Co-editor of "How Are the Children: Report of the White House Conference on Early Childhood Development and Learning."

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Child Care Bureau
Program Analyst

Washington, DC
1996

Author HHS resource publication on "State and Local Child Care Initiatives for Adolescent Parents." Serve as part of a coordinating workgroup to address common child care quality issues across HHS agencies and other federal departments.

Eagleton Institute of Politics, Center for American Women and Politics
Project Assistant and Research Assistant

New Brunswick, NJ
1994-1996

Conduct background research on legislation for "The Impact of Women in Public Office" project. Facilitated workshops for 25 women at NEW Leadership New Jersey, a nonpartisan program that engages college women in the political process. Conduct research for the "Women in the 103rd Congress" project. Coordinate interviews with over 250 staff, lobbyists, activists, and members of Congress for senior research staff.

Selected Grants and Contracts

- 2020-Present Jurisdiction Lead, Casey Family Programs/Chapin Hall Partnership – *New Hampshire Family First Planning and Implementation*
- 2019-Present Prevention Plan National Authority and Implementation Subject Matter Expert, *Child Welfare Capacity Building Collaborative - Center for States* (funded by the HHS-Children's Bureau)
- 2019-Present Project Director, *Connecticut Family First Planning and Implementation, Kinship Caregiver Practice Model and Kinship Navigator Model Development*, Connecticut Department of Children and Families
- 2016-Present Family First and CQI Lead, *Maryland Child Welfare Transformation Project*, Maryland Social Services Administration
- 2019-2020 Jurisdiction lead, Casey Family Programs/Chapin Hall Partnership - *New Jersey Data Integration for Prevention*, New Jersey Department of Children and Families
- 2019 Jurisdiction Lead, Chapin Hall-Casey Family Programs Partnership – *Michigan Family First Planning and Implementation*, Michigan Department of Health and Human Services
- 2018-2019 Policy Task Lead, *Baseline Performance Assessment*, Washington Department of Children, Youth, and Families

Selected Publications and Presentations

Selected Publications & Reports (under Lynch and Thomas)

- Anderson, C., **Lynch, M.**, Thomas, K, & Samuels, B. (2021, exp.) History of Child Well-being and the Child Welfare System. In Klein, A. (Ed), *Child and Family-Serving Systems: A Compendium of Policy and Practice* (2021, exp). Washington, DC and Columbus, OH. Child Welfare League of America and The Ohio State University College of Social Work.
- Thomas, K., **Lynch, M.**, Anderson, C. (2021, exp.) Child Welfare Legislation and Policy. In Klein, A. (Ed), *Child and Family-Serving Systems: A Compendium of Policy and Practice* (2021, exp). Washington, DC and Columbus, OH. Child Welfare League of America and The Ohio State University College of Social Work.

Mitchell, L., **Thomas, M.L.**, Parker, B. (2014) Child and Family Services Reviews: A Catalyst for Improving Practice and Measuring Results. In Mallon, G.P., & Hess, P. (Eds.), *Child welfare for the twenty-first century: A Handbook of practices, policies, and programs* (2nd ed.). New York: Columbia University Press.

National Child Traumatic Stress Network Child Welfare Committee and Chapin Hall. (2020). Recommendations for trauma-informed care under the Family First Prevention Services Act. Los Angeles, CA and Durham, NC and Chicago, IL: National Center for Child Traumatic Stress and Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago.

Lynch, M., Brennen, J., Gore, K. & Hyland, S. (2020). *New Jersey Department of Children and Families (DCF) Data Enhancement and Integration Report*. Chicago, IL: Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago.

Kull, M., Dasgupta, D., Schlecht, C., Dworsky, A., **Lynch, M.**, Hill, Z., Reed, A., Brennen, J., Mayer, M., Moore, F., Lockaby, T., Haight, J. M., Weiner, D., Axelrod, J., & Samuels, B. (2019, May) *Capacity assessment and integration support for the Washington Department of Children, Youth, and Families: Final report*. Chicago, IL: Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago.

Mitchell, L., **Thomas, M.L.**, Parker, B. (2014) Child and Family Services Reviews: A Catalyst for Improving Practice and Measuring Results. In Mallon, G.P., & Hess, P. (Eds.), *Child welfare for the twenty-first century: A Handbook of practices, policies, and programs* (2nd ed.). New York: Columbia University Press.

Thomas, M.L. One Hundred Years of Children's Bureau Support to the Child Welfare Workforce. *Journal of Public Child Welfare*. Vol. 6 (4) 2012

Mitchell, L., Walters, R. **Thomas, M.L.**, Denniston, J., McIntosh, H., Brodowski, M. The Children's Bureau's Vision for the Future of Child Welfare. *Journal of Public Child Welfare*. Vol. 6 (4) 2012

Selected Presentations

Lynch, M., O'Brien, K., Armstrong, M. (2020, September). *Promoting Racial Equity in Child Welfare CQI and Evaluation*. Presented at Linking Systems of Care for Ohio's Youth: Bridging Research to Practice Series. Virtual.

Lynch, M., Green-Rogers, Y., Ward Allen, C. Warner, L & O'Campo, A. (2020, September). *Evaluation & CQI Through a Race Equity Lens*. Presented at Casey Family Programs Family First Learning Collaborative: Evaluation and CQI. Virtual.

Thomas, K., **Lynch, M.**, Armstrong, M. & Miller, N. (2020, October). *Promoting Racial Equity in Child Welfare CQI and Evaluation*. Presented at at Kempe's A Call to Action to Change Child Welfare Conference. Virtual.

Lynch, M., Green-Rogers, Y. (2019, May). *Leveraging the Family First Prevention and Services Act to Encourage Innovation and Maximize Performance Management and Impact*. Presented at the National Social Work Management conference, Chicago, IL.

Anderson, C. **Lynch, M.**, Gaston, R.J. (2019, April). *Comprehensive Assessment and Planning to Implement Family First Prevention Services Act*. Presented at the 2018 Child Welfare League of America (CWLA) conference, Washington, DC.

- Green-Rogers, Y., Thomas, K., **Lynch, M.**, Anderson, C., & Cooper, K. (2019, April). *21st century strategies for outcomes driven continuous quality improvement*. Presented at the 2018 Child Welfare League of America (CWLA) conference, Washington, DC.
- Lynch, M.** & Lardner, M. (2019, October). *Roundtable: Impact of Family First Legislation*. Transformational Collaborative Outcomes Management Conference, Indian Wells, CA.
- Weiner, D. & **Lynch, M.** (2019, August). *Data Analytics for Defining and Describing Preventive Service Candidates Under Family First*. Children's Bureau National Child Welfare Evaluation Summit: Leveraging Data and Evaluation to Strengthen Families and Promote Well-Being. Washington, DC.
- Lynch, M.** & Anderson, C. (2019, May) *Family First Prevention Services Act: Overview, Planning, and Considerations*. American Public Human Services Association Policy National Human Services Summit, Arlington, VA.
- Lynch, M.** & Green-Rogers, Y. (2019, May) *Leveraging the Family First Prevention and Services Act to Encourage Innovation and Maximize Performance Management and Impact*. National Social Work Management Conference. Chicago, IL.
- Anderson, C. & **Lynch, M.** (2018, October) *The Family First Prevention and Services Act: Opportunities for Partnerships and Transformation*. Global Alliance for Behavioral Health and Social Justice, Coming Together for Action Conference. Denver, CO.
- Lynch, M.** & Rollins, K. (2018, April) *21st Century Strategies for Outcomes Driven Continuous Quality Improvement*. Child Welfare League of America Conference 2018 National Conference. Washington DC.