

# Minority Professional Leadership Development Program at AdoptUSKids



The Minority Professional Leadership Development (MPLD) program is currently an eight-month fellowship designed for emerging leaders working in child welfare. The structured program includes hands-on experience, exposure to national experts, and mentorship opportunities.

## THE NEED

Children of color continue to be overrepresented in foster care. Leaders who are culturally competent and mirror the child welfare population can help agencies be responsive to the needs of diverse communities.

## CRITERIA

The fellowship application process will be open to minority professionals who are:

- Committed to pursuing systemic change for children and families who are moving toward adoption or guardianship or who have already achieved permanency
- Interested in advancing their skills and knowledge of adoption and guardianship
- Motivated to become transformational leaders

Approximately sixteen professionals will be selected to participate in the 2020 cohort.

## THE PROGRAM

The fellowship begins and ends with events in the Washington, DC, area. Most of the fellows' work happens online and at their workplace.

There is no fee to participate in the MPLD program.

Components include:

- A kick-off celebration and meeting that includes three days of intensive skill-building and networking.
- Action research projects that fellows design and implement in their place of work to address issues related to adoption or guardianship. Fellows will receive expert, individualized guidance to help them complete their projects.
- Online structured courses in transformational leadership, policy, practice, and research. (CEUs will be provided.)
- Mentoring from leaders within the fellow's agency and from program alumni.
- A graduation ceremony where fellows present their action research projects.
- An alumni network that provides long-term career support, resource-sharing, and leadership opportunities with future cohorts.

## TIMELINE

- Applications for this next cohort will be available in June 2019.
- The next cohort of MPLD will begin in January 2020.

Are you ready to become a transformational leader? Go to [adoptuskids.org/mpld](https://adoptuskids.org/mpld) to sign up to be notified when applications are available.



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