



CADY INITIATIVE

GUIDING COURTS TOWARD IMPROVED OUTCOMES FOR FAMILIES

Use this checklist to determine the extent to which your current court practices are aligned with the [Family Justice Principles](#).

	Not at All	Some	Mostly	100% Yes	Not Sure
Does court leadership agree that there is an opportunity to improve the justice system for family and domestic relations cases?					
Is there an existing multi-disciplinary team focused on improving family court practices?					
Is the court willing and able to invest resources (i.e., money, space, case managers, technology, training, consultation) to make improvements?					
Does the court have an established process for reviewing and responding to court management data related to domestic relations cases?					

Does the court leadership support a problem-solving approach to family matters that prioritizes the resolution of underlying issues?

Does your court have a self-help program where pro se litigants can access information about the process, assistance with completion and filing of forms, and service options?

Is there an existing process for “triaging” family cases at filing (or upon receipt of petition and answer) to indicate the level of attention they will likely need from judicial officers or staff?

Is there an established process for straightforward and/or low-conflict cases to achieve resolution without a court hearing?

Do court professionals, including judicial officers, clerks, judicial assistants, bailiffs, and case managers, receive training on understanding behavioral health issues including mental health needs and substance use, domestic violence, and the impact of trauma on adults and children?

Not at All	Some	Mostly	100% Yes	Not Sure

