



JACK, JOSEPH AND MORTON MANDEL
SCHOOL OF APPLIED SOCIAL SCIENCES

CASE WESTERN RESERVE
UNIVERSITY

DAVID S. CRAMPTON, Ph.D.

Faculty Biographical Sketch

David S. Crampton is an Associate Professor of Social Work at the Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences, Case Western Reserve University. His research interests focus on the evaluation of family centered and community-based child welfare practices, with the ultimate goal of protecting vulnerable children through the engagement of families, communities and social service providers. From 2006-2009, Dr. Crampton was a member of a national research team evaluating the Annie E. Casey Foundation's Family to Family Initiative. In 2010, he served as chair of the Cuyahoga County Department of Children and Family Services Practice Review and Improvement Panel.

Dr. Crampton has written extensively about Family Group Decision Making (FGDM), which includes a plan for the care and protection of children at risk developed in a meeting of family members, social workers and other interested community members. He has presented his FGDM work at numerous research conferences as well as annual conferences for FGDM practitioners and his FGDM research is cited internationally.

Since joining the Mandel School in 2002, Dr. Crampton has applied his FGDM expertise to improving Team Decisionmaking (TDM), a similar child welfare practice that is used in Cuyahoga County (Cleveland) and other major cities across the United States. From 2006-2009, he contributed to a national evaluation of the Family to Family Initiative that includes TDM and related child welfare practices supported with funding from the Annie E. Casey Foundation.

His research on FGDM and TDM suggests that there are benefits to bringing family and community members together in a meeting, but these meetings are not sufficient without larger efforts to improve the community contexts in which these families live. Therefore, he also works with the MSASS Center on Urban Poverty and Community Development to promote community-based efforts to reduce child maltreatment. He co-authored, with Claudia Coulton and other colleagues, a review of the research on the relationship between neighborhood characteristics and child maltreatment (Coulton, Crampton, Irwin, Spilsbury & Korbin, 2007). In 2011, he began an evaluation of Providence House, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit crisis nursery in Cleveland. The evaluation will examine involvement or placement in child welfare services for children and their families after they receive services delivered through Providence House.

Dr. Crampton teaches courses in child and family policy, community development, policy analysis, program evaluation, public management and theories of social welfare. In 2007, he was awarded the Outstanding Teacher Award by the MSASS Alumni Association, which takes nominations once a year from the student body.