Guardianship

There are two types of Guardianship options available through DHS. A Permanent Guardianship results from a process similar to a termination of parental rights. The more frequently used Guardianship option is a Durable Guardianship. This option does not require a termination of parental rights, nor does it require parents to agree with the plan, but it does require that parents be notified of the plan. There is an option for a Guardianship to have a subsidy, but children must qualify for the subsidy. Guardianships can be achieved without the funding. Guardianship with relatives can be a better fit for some relative caregivers than termination of parental rights.

Tasks / Assignments:
- Attend a permanency committee in your local office in which guardianship is the permanency choice.
- Read the Legal Permanency, Concurrent Planning, and Use of Permanency Committee policy I-E.3.6.
- Read the Guardianship as a Permanency Plan policy I-E.3.6.1.
- Read the Guardianship Assistance policy I-E.3.6.2.
- Read the Determining the Appropriateness of Adoption as a Permanency Plan for a Child policy I-F.2.

Discoveries:
- What were the factors which most influenced the decision to seek guardianship as the permanency plan of choice in the staffing you attended?
- What preparation is required to staff a case before the permanency committee?
- Who else must you staff a guardianship case with prior to the court changing the plan to Guardianship?