

Michael Hayes is the Deputy for Family Initiatives in the Child Support Division of the Texas Office of the Attorney General (OAG) where he leads a multi-disciplinary team of project developers, curriculum designers, program specialists, educators, and attorneys affectionately known as “the warm and fuzzy compass” of child support. His work in child support includes the development of: statewide prevention education programming for teens, perinatal family support service interventions for unmarried couples, court/workforce/child support collaborations to help unemployed NCPs find work and pay child support, enhanced child support and parenting legal resources for military/veteran families, co-parenting resources for couples in the child support system, and family violence collaborations to help survivors of intimate partner violence access the child support system safely.

Immediately prior to his work with the OAG, Michael helped create and was director of the Texas Fragile Families Initiative (TFF), a state-wide initiative bringing together more than 30 private foundations, multiple state agencies and community/faith-based organizations in 12 sites across Texas to support fragile families.

When not helping to keep the child support compass at least partly pointed toward “warm and fuzzy”, Michael can be found in the Colorado mountains constructing a dream getaway/camp/grain-bin cabin, at home with guitar in hand, or phone-coaching his young adult daughter through the adventures of shoestring cookery.