

Family Finding 10 Step Process

- 1) Identify child's need for Permanency Planning.
 - ✧ Place to live
 - ✧ Increase natural team members
 - ✧ Respite
 - ✧ Concurrent Plans
 - ✧ Mentor
 - ✧ Family History
 - ✧ Child wants (assessment)
 - ✧ Connectedness Map
- 2) Develop a Connectedness Map (ongoing process)
 - ✧ ID point person to do map with Child
 - ✧ See connectedness map training
- 3) Obtain consent from legal guardian
 - ✧ Make sure referring worker is in agreement with Family Finding
 - ✧ Check in with foster and biological family
 - ✧ Stay in close contact with referring worker
- 4) Gather information from: Child and Family Team members, chart review, and internet searches
 - ✧ Timelines, photo albums, community Resourcing, unconditional conversation
 - ✧ Chart review; look for post it notes, handwritten notes, team involvement (as many people as possible)
 - ✧ Internet searches; zabasearch.com, try free sites first, yellow pages, death/birth certificates, obituaries
 - ✧ Talk to people; reunions, weddings
- 5) Obtain consents for release of information for additional identified individuals.
 - ✧ Complete release of information forms
 - ✧ Make sure right person sign it
- 6) Contact new individuals for more Family Finding information
 - ✧ See form
- 7) Determine level of commitment and safety of identified family members
 - ✧ Referring worker notified
 - ✧ Get referring worker approval

- ✧ Send cards, visit, phone calls, "Are you willing to have child in home?", referrals to other family members who would be willing to have contact with child on how to build

8) Build family connections.

- ✧ Ideas; support 1st phone call (i.e. Therapist office, FS, etc)
- ✧ Letters, email
- ✧ Celebrations
- ✧ Getting to know you day
- ✧ Pictures
- ✧ Stories (family history)
- ✧ Traditions
- ✧ Cultural/religious events
- ✧ Lots of laughter
- ✧ Consistency
- ✧ Visits (FS), traveling
- ✧ Team could send out child's strengths list to all family/team members to see if there are any common interests

9) Develop Concurrent Plans

- ✧ Have family make/have active involvement in the development of concurrent plans
- ✧ Do community Resourcing for family that will be taking child

10) Implementation & ongoing evaluation of plans

- ✧ Families don't fail, plans fail
- ✧ Revisit/revamp plan