



Virtual Resource Kit:

Working With Birth Parents



Building, maintaining, and strengthening connections between birth parents and foster parents keeps the focal point on meeting the needs of children and youth in the child welfare system. We developed this kit to offer links to services, resources, and perspectives that will help encourage collaborations between and connections with birth parents and foster parents.

Tip Sheet

Shared Parenting: Putting the Needs of Children First

Everyone benefits when birth parents and foster parents collaborate, communicate, and co-parent. This tip sheet discusses the importance of families working together, which ultimately benefits children and youth in out-of-home care.

Champion Classrooms Courses and Webinars

Working in Partnership With Birth Parents

This training provides personal insights from a foster and adoptive parent on the benefits of creating partnerships between birth and foster parents. The webinar identifies common barriers you may face as you work to build a strong relationship and offers tools and strategies to overcome them.

Foster Parents Supporting Birth Parents: Considerations for Success

Parents involved in the child welfare system often need support to help them through their journey, and foster parents may be well-positioned to provide the support needed. This webinar helps foster parents understand how to support birth parents and provides tips for doing so successfully.

Let's Talk: Partnering With Birth Parents

This mini-training focuses on practical steps foster parents can take to build collaborative relationships with birth parents to provide the best possible outcomes for children in care.

Co-parenting Through Connection

Periodically, the Coalition offers a 3-week hybrid course that includes self-paced online modules and weekly discussion groups to explore practical strategies for developing cooperative, connected relationships between birth and foster parents. If you are interested in learning more about this 12-credit course, please contact us at 1-800-762-8063 or info@wifamilyconnectionscenter.org.

Comfort Calls & Communication: Compassionate Child Placement

What if there was a simple step you could take at the very beginning of a new foster care placement that would help reduce the fear, anxiety, and trauma for the child in your care and their family? And even better, it can lay the groundwork for a compassionate, cooperative relationship that produces positive outcomes for everyone involved.

No Matter What Families Videos

Everyone Needs Support: A Birth Mom's Story

Everyone Has a Story

From Birth Mom to Foster Parent: A Journey of Compassion

Fostering the Family

Resource Library Items

Partners Newsletter: Working With Birth Parents

This issue of *Partners* focuses on relationships. Topics include shared parenting while in foster care, myths about birth parents, complexities of law and relationships after adoption, and continued relationships with birth relatives.

Kinship Care: Birth Mothers Speak Out (DVD)

This presentation is one in a 3-part series of Kinship Care topics developed and facilitated by Dr. Joseph Crumbley. Dr. Crumbley is an expert in the relative caregiving field and an internationally respected author, therapist, trainer, and consultant. In this session, birth mothers reflect on their varied experiences with kinship care.

Additional Weblinks and Recommended Online Resources

Co-Parenting or Shared Parenting - Families Rising

Questions? Contact the Wisconsin Family Connections Center at 1-800-762-8063
or at info@wifamilyconnectionscenter.org.