

Placement

eLearning Guide

Placement decisions in Child Welfare can have a significant impact on the lives and futures of children and families. The role of the social worker in the placement decision-making process is extremely important. The social worker is responsible for utilizing team-based approaches to engage birth families, resource families, service providers and the extended support network to ensure safety, permanency and well-being for children in out-of-home placement.

More than ever before in the field of child welfare practice there is an emphasis on creating and maintaining permanent relationships and connections between children and caring adults. The Social worker's role includes ongoing assessment of the individual needs of child(ren) placed in out-of-home care to ensure they are placed with caregivers who can best meet their needs in order to provide placement stability, reduce trauma and increase well-being and sense of belonging for children. Promoting placement stability for children in out-of-home care is paramount as children do better when they experience stable relationships with loving, nurturing, trauma informed caregivers who can meet their physical, educational and mental health needs.

This course is an introductory course, and should be used in conjunction with consultation with your supervisor and county counsel. This eLearning guide was created for you to use in conjunction with the eLearning to take notes. You will bring this handout with you to the Managing the Plan: Supporting Safety, Stability and Well-Being classroom to help bridge the knowledge you have gained from this course into the classroom.

1. What are four state initiatives that affect children in out-of-home placements?

2. What are two federal laws that affect placement of children in out-of-home placements?

3. What are five different types of placement options for children/youth in out-of-home care?

a.

b.

c.

d.

e.

4. List three reasons why a "protective factors" approach is important in child welfare:

a.

b.

c.

5. What are five "protective factors" of the Strengthening Families Framework?

a.

- b. _____
- c. _____
- d. _____
- e. _____

6. What is a primary goal of the Reasonable and Prudent Parent Standard (RPPS)?

7. What are five types of information about a child that must be shared with resource parents at the time of placement?

- a. _____
- b. _____
- c. _____
- d. _____
- e. _____

8. Please list three minimum standards for social worker / child visits:

- a. _____
- b. _____
- c. _____

9. In your own words, please describe the importance of consistent quality social worker / child visits:

10. Please list five essential skills of trauma informed care as outlined in the “Adoptive and foster family support guide”:

- a. _____
- b. _____
- c. _____
- d. _____
- e. _____

11. What are two types of risk factors for placement disruption type of placement options for children/youth in out-of-home care? CHILD

CHILD

- a. _____
- b. _____

PARENT

- a. _____
- b. _____

RESOURCE FAMILY

- a. _____

b. _____

AGENCY

a. _____

b. _____

12. Please list three risks associated with increased likelihood of maltreatment of children in out-of-home placements:

a. _____

b. _____

c. _____

13. Please list three goals and/or practice behaviors associated with teaming:

a. _____

b. _____

c. _____

14. What are three strategies a Social Worker can use to address safety concerns in the home of a resource family?

a. _____

b. _____

c. _____

15. What type of Structured Decision Making tool must be completed during a child abuse/neglect investigation in the home of a resource family?

NOTES:

