



Working your Case

Part 2



Working your case Part 2: Agenda

key ingredients to a successful case

Day 1

- Communication
- Parenting time with your child/children (visitation)

Day 2

- The Case Plan and Team meetings
- Working with your child's resource parent/caregiver
- Support network

Day 3

- Getting back in the game
- The end of a case



Helpful Attitudes and Practices

- Showing up
- Cooperation
- Focus on solutions
- Accountability/Honesty



Case Plan and Team Meetings



What is a TEAM Meeting or CFT Meeting

Before your Juris/Disposition Hearing (or Disposition Hearing) you will likely be invited to a meeting (TEAM, CFT or case planning meeting)

This is a meeting for you, your social worker, your child if they are over 10 years old, your Tribe if you have an ICWA worker, and any other relevant people to come up with a plan to show the Court how you will address the issues that brought your family to the Court's attention.



A Team Meeting/CFT

IS NOT:

An admission of guilt

A time to discuss the evidence for/against an allegation

A time to throw blame

IS:

A time to be honest

A time to brainstorm solutions and ideas

A time to ask for the things you need to be successful (housing support, therapy, medical care)

A time to bring your support people

Focus on solutions

How does this practice help us?





Support Networks



Your Support Network

Who is in:

- People you trust
- People who can help you in some way
- People who can help your child

ICWA representatives (mandatory), sponsors, clergy, teachers, family friends, family, counselors, housing specialists, resource parents, tribal leaders, community leaders, parent mentors, people that love you and your kid

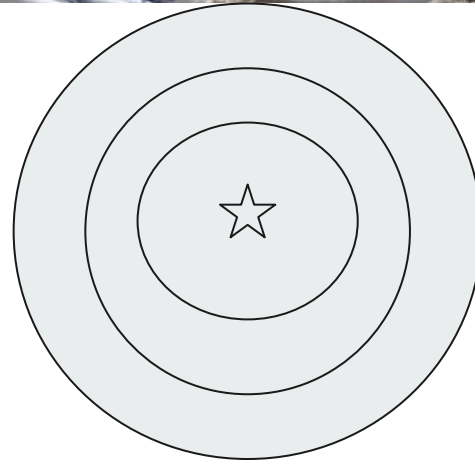


Support Network Activity

Who knows everything

Who knows a little

Who knows nothing





Sample Case Plan with support network involved

A Case plan is both a tool that should help you understand what CPS and the Court expect of you in order to reunify with your child AND a document that tells you what the CPS agency plans to provide you with.

Do not be afraid to bring up creative ways to reach your goals*

Do not be afraid to share ways that people in your culture heal. If you feel disconnected from your culture, it may be a good time to reconnect.



Working with you Child's Resource Parents



Resource parents can be a part of your Support Network

Children can reside in a variety of situations during a reunification case.

- With a foster parent
- With a family member
- With a family friend
- With their other parent
- In a group or shelter setting like Valley of the Moon



Working with a Resource parents

- Give them the most information you can to make your child comfortable.
- Share with them important dates that are coming up for your child.
- Attend meetings with the resource parent about your child
- Maintain the relationship by: respecting boundaries, discussing conflicts with the social worker, and apologizing when you mess up.



Common feelings about resource parents

Jealousy

Suspicion

Fear of judgement

Gratitude

Others?



Partnership

Birth Parent/Resource parent partnership is there to help with this, because it is difficult.

CONTACT



Video-chat with a Resource Parent or partnership

Q and A

A close-up photograph of a person's hands weaving a basket. The hands are dark-skinned and are holding a bundle of long, thin, light-brown fibers. The basket being woven is made of these fibers, with a pattern of red and green threads. The background is slightly blurred, showing more of the weaving process and some greenery.

Support Network: Humans were not built to parent alone.

Support networks are for you and for your kids.

Safe people in your life make your kids safe.

Throughout your case, we are thinking about support networks. Who in your life needs a stronger boundary, and who in your life needs to be brought forward?



You are not alone

