

Guidelines to Produce Beneficial Services to Children and Their Families



- **Respect for one another-** The primary team members must recognize that each member brings individual viewpoints, values, and culture to team process. The primary care team should seek to utilize diversity to achieve benefits for the child.
- **Seek conflict resolution-** The primary care team must be committed to resolving differences of opinion in regard to the case plan or intervention strategies. Differences of opinion that do not impact the case plan are irrelevant to the case planning process.
- **Permission for honesty-** The primary care team needs to set an atmosphere of honesty with one another in regard to case goals and planning. Each member needs to be honest in regard to the actual agenda for the case process. There must be freedom for members to explore with one another the meaning of behaviors and words.
- **Focus on the best interest of the child-** The primary care team must agree to act in a manner that helps children. The children have already been casualties at the hands of adults on at least one occasion. The primary care team must keep revisiting what is "best for the children?"
- **Communication-** The primary care team must have established channels of communication that provide information in a timely and efficient manner.
 - Expectations should be communicated through a well written case plan.
 - The primary care team can communicate clearly and document progress through the use of monthly reports.
 - Journals can be passed between the resource caregiver parent and the primary family to prevent miscommunication.
- **Continuity of the team's mission-** Should the goal of the case plan change, the primary care team continues to plan for the best interest of the child. The actual caregiver may change, as in situations of adoption and kinship care, but the primary family can remain involved in the planning process.