Rock County Foster Care

Families First

Spotlight on

Family Find & Engagement

So, what exactly IS Family Find and Engagement?? Great question!! Rock County workers have been learning all about it and we're eager to share our knowledge with our Rock County Foster Care Community.

Family Find and Engagement is a process aimed at re-establishing family connections between children in out-of-home care and their relatives. Every child deserves to have a special connection that only family can provide. This helps a child develop a sense of belonging with their "roots".

The Family Find and Engagement process follows a model requiring workers to make every effort to locate relatives that the child may have lost touch with or, in some cases, never knew existed.

Once family members are found, a Permanency Team comprised of the child, their case manager, foster parent(s) and other individuals work to re-establish family relationships, when appropriate, and explore ways to build life-long connections with family and/or find a permanent home with a family member.

An important member of the Permanency Team is our newest addition to the Substitute Care unit, Lorie Perry. Some of you may remember Lorie as the Kinship Coordinator/Relative Licensor in her previous role within Sub-care. She left us for a while, but recently returned to take on the position of Permanency Specialist. Lorie will have primary responsibility for coordinating the Family Find and Engagement

work within the CPS division. We're excited to have a staff position dedicated to this important work.

To learn more about Family Find and Engagement, please plan to attend an introductory training session for foster parents on October 18, 2018 from 6:00-8:00 p.m. at the Health Care Center. The session is entitled "Relationships and Connectiveness for Children in Out-of-Home Care". Please RSVP to Tricia at 608-757-5243 or Tricia.Stilen@co.rock.wi.us by October 16, 2018 at 5:00 p.m. We look forward to seeing you!!