PLACEMENT STRATEGIES

Note Taking Guide

At the end of this training, you will be able to:
1. Identify common reactions children have to adoptive placement
2. Explain their role in the placement of children
3. Identify strategies that support placement stability

Introductions and WIIIFM

- A “One size fits all” practice strategy is not likely to be successful.
- Even when adoption is by known adults, it cannot be assumed that the adults are aware of child’s trauma history.

The Impact of Placement on the Child

- Children placed for adoption often experience ruptured relationships, new people, routines, rules, and strangers having authority over them.
- **Ambiguous Loss** is typically felt when a loved one is physically absent but psychologically present (Adoptalk, 2009).
- Age affects a child’s response to adoptive placement.

- If the child perceives a placement to be a threat to them, they may experience it as a crisis (Center for the Developing Child, 2014).
Tier 1: Placement Strategies
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- Toxic stress causes the child to be on constant alert and to perceive innocuous events as threatening (Center for the Developing Child, 2014).

Roles and Responsibilities

- There are specific actions that caregivers, adoptive families, and assessors can take to help reduce the child’s stress at time of adoptive placement.
- It is often best for caregivers, adoptive family, and assessors to share in the responsibility in the transition of the child to permanency.
- Assessors can guide the adoptive family in the areas of daily expectations, communication practices, mindfulness, and self-care.
Assessor Tasks

- 5101:2-48-15 (Provision of Information to a Prospective Adoptive Parent Matched with a Specific Child), 5101:2-48-16 (Adoption Preplacement and Placement Procedures) and 5101:2-48-21 (Child Study Inventory) are minimum practice requirements.

- All activities of the assessor should be recorded in SACWIS.

Case Studies: Practicing Strategies

- Each adoptive placement is unique and diverse in nature and will required targeted strategies. Factors to consider:
  - The child’s trauma and its impact on emotions and behavior
  - Issues of diversity
  - Assessments of concerns (medical, development, etc.)
  - Pace of the transition
Summary and Action Planning

Were there any “aha moments”?

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

Can you name at least one (1) person with whom you will share this information?

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

What information will you most likely use after today?

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

Resources

Placement Forms
For copies of the forms, go to ODJFS Forms Central (https://www.odjfs.state.oh.us/forms/inter.asp) and search for form by name or number.

JFS 01385  Assessment for Child Placement Update
JFS 01616  Social and Medical History
JFS 01640  Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children (ICPC) Transmittal
JFS 01646  Report of Indian Child Placement
JFS 01654  Adoptive Placement Agreement
JFS 01661  Interstate Compact Placement Request (ICPC 100A)
JFS 01662  Interstate Compact Report on Child's Placement Status (ICPC 100B)
JFS 01667  Adoption Information Disclosure
JFS 01673  Child Characteristics Checklist for Foster Care and/or Adoption
JFS 01674  Statement of Assurance
JFS 01675  Ohio Adoption Guide: A Handbook for Prospective Adoptive Families
JFS 01689  Documentation of the Placement Decision-Making Process
JFS 01690  Documentation of the Pre-Adoptive Staffing and Updates
JFS 01691  Application for Child Placement
JFS 01692  Application for Adoption of a Foster Child or Sibling Group
JFS 01693  Ohio Law and Adoption Materials
JFS 02424  ICPC Placement Financial Information