

Resource #4

Take Home Points

- Instability in the lives of children and families further exacerbates their experience of trauma.
- Kinship placements should be our first choice because they are more stable and lead to more permanencies.
- Children who remain connected to their parents/siblings/communities/schools experience less loss and are more stable.
- Support the first out of home placement to avoid a pattern of instability.
- The first six months are critical for a child to successfully transition into a new home. Be available to help out and provide additional support when needed.
- Make sure the foster parent is properly trained and ready to handle the child's trauma behaviors before you make the placement.
- Support the parent/foster parent with education about trauma. Build a supportive relationship. Help them be more attuned and able to manage their own affect.
- Teach parent/foster parents about vicarious trauma and help them develop a self care plan.
- Children and families need consistent casework. High case turnover leads to more instability.
- By supporting children in developing strengths you are mitigating the impact of trauma and developing greater stability in their lives.