SOCIAL WORKERS
BRIDGING THE GAP OF SEPARATION BETWEEN CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILIES
• A CONTINUUM OF CONTACT •

- Encourage exchange of information between BP and FP
- Have BP/FP exchange pictures
- Talk positively about BP to FP
- Talk positively about FP to BP
- Schedule regular/frequent visits
- Arrange phone contact between FP/BP
- Share all information with FP & BP
- Encourage FP to host sibling visits
- Serve as liaison between BP & FP
- Describe FP in non-identifying terms at placement
- Debrief FP regarding BP problems / needs
- Exchange monthly progress reports with BP/FP
- Serve as positive role model to FP and BP
- Assist FP/BP in understanding cultural differences
- Help FP understand the BP’s needs

- Insure that FP/BP attend meetings
- Facilitate talk between BP/FP
- Have FP and BP meet at placement
- Ask BP/FP to work on lifebook together
- Encourage BP to permit FP to call
- Set clear boundaries for contact
- Facilitate the development of a positive relationship between birth parent and foster parent
- Arrange an icebreaker for BP/FP
- Participate in visitations

- Assist BP in welcoming FP to BP home
- Encourage BP to transport child to home
- Permit FP to invite BP to attend all appts.
- Encourage BP to transport BP to agency meetings and child’s appointments
- Encourage BP to allow FP to call FH
- Assist FP/BP in managing conflict
- Mediate and resolve conflicts
- Talk openly with BP/FP about their concerns

- Allow FP/BP to schedule all visits
- Encourage post reunif. contact
- Suggest FP provide respite care after reunification
- Discuss how FP can support BP
- Empower FP to set limits
- Re: contact and visitation

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