

FAMILY SUPPORT MEETINGS

The Family Support Meeting (FSM) process is **focused on the family** and team creating a plan to get the family's needs met and to ensure safety for all family members.



FSM Preparation ► Meeting goals and logistics are discussed with the family before the meeting. The family has an opportunity to explore and identify who should be invited to the table. All participants are educated on the values and structure of the FSM. The more members on the team, the more resources for the family!

Honoring Family Choice ► Teams consist of individuals agreed upon by the family and will include both natural and professional supports. Families and their teams work collaboratively and persistently to explore options and choices that are community-based and that work best for the family.

FSM Structure ► The agenda for the meeting will include the following: a welcome, introductions, discussion of the purpose of the meeting (including why the team is gathering, and what the family would like to share with the team), and the development of a family plan based on the family's strengths and needs.

FSM Family Plan ► The team will create a Family Plan. Together they will identify the goal and/or area of concern, determine who will support the family, how the goal will be accomplished, where it will happen, and by when it will occur.

Concluding the FSM ► Prior to adjourning, team members will discuss how the meeting went, who might be missing from the team that should be invited next time, and any questions team members may have. The team will set a follow up meeting date and time. All team members are encouraged to provide anonymous feedback about the meeting via an online survey.

Supporting Family Voice ► FSMs cannot occur without the family present. We hold to the principle of "nothing about us, without us." All planning is grounded in the family's perspective, which we intentionally seek every step of the way. Each family has strengths, and when supported, can make well-informed decisions about keeping kids safe. When families lead in the decision-making process, outcomes improve.

TOGETHER, WE KEEP CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILIES SAFE, ENGAGED AND THRIVING.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

FAMILY VOICE & CHOICE

STRENGTHS BASED

CULTURALLY AWARE

NATURAL SUPPORTS

NEED AN FSM FACILITATOR?
FREE FACILITATORS AVAILABLE!

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