



# National Training and Development Curriculum

FOR FOSTER AND ADOPTIVE PARENTS

## Literature Review of Relative and Non-Relative Foster/Adoptive Parent Factors Related to Placement Stability and Permanence for Children and Youth

Updated June 2018



This product was funded by the Children's Bureau, Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, under grant #90CO1132. The contents of this product are solely the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official views of the Children's Bureau.



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Suggested citation: Salazar, A. M., Vanderwill, L. A., De Larwelle, J. A., Jenkins, G. J., McMahon, A. K., Day, A., & Haggerty, K. P. (2018). *Literature Review of Caregiver Factors Related to Placement Stability and Permanence for Children and Youth Experiencing Foster Care or Adoption*. Southfield, MI: National Training and Development Curriculum for Foster and Adoptive Parents.

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## **Introduction**

The Administration on Children, Youth & Families, Children’s Bureau funded the development of a national training initiative to prepare foster and adoptive parents to effectively parent children exposed to trauma and to provide these families with ongoing skill development needed to understand and promote healthy child development. At the end of the grant period, states, counties, tribes, territories, and private agencies will have access to a free, comprehensive curriculum that has been thoroughly evaluated, which can be used to prepare, train, and develop foster and adoptive parents. The National Training and Development Curriculum for Foster/Adoptive Parents (NTDC) will be designed for families who are fostering and/or adopting children through the public child welfare system as well as those adopting through an intercountry or private domestic process.

The NTDC curriculum will be comprised of three components:

- **Self-assessment**
- **Classroom-based training**
- **Right-time training**

The curriculum will be piloted and rigorously evaluated in six to eight sites (state, county, territory, or tribe) that will be selected based on a non-biased, multi-step process. It is anticipated that the final curriculum will be disseminated across the United States in 2022.

To inform the development of this national training initiative, a needs assessment was conducted. The needs assessment included interviews with stakeholders, systematic literature reviews, information gathered from interviews with professionals in the field and a survey of states. The systematic review of the literature represents one component of the needs assessment. There were three literature reviews conducted for the needs assessment including a literature review specific to relative and non-relative foster/adoptive parents, a literature review specific to Native American foster/adoptive parents and a literature review specific to families who adopt via the intercountry or private domestic process.

This literature review was conducted to help identify characteristics relative and non-relative foster/adoptive parents need to embody in order to be successful as well as suggested training themes (proficiencies) for these parents.

Four databases (Psycinfo, Medline, ERIC, and Social Services Abstracts) were used to search for articles using the 15 search terms created to examine existing curriculum, characteristics, proficiencies, permanency, and stability factors that were associated with positive child/youth and parenting outcomes. In our searches we limited results to articles published 2003-current, English language only, and, for databases that allowed it, limited results to peer reviewed only. Dissertations were excluded (as articles fitting our inclusion criteria should be captured anyway), as well as studies that took place outside the United States or its territories. Key search terms for the web-based searches were provided to the research team from a panel of national experts who informed the development of the study. Key search terms/phrases included foster, adoptive or resource parent as well as : training or curriculum, competency, approach or strategy, behavioral challenge, maltreatment or abuse, factor or predictor and placement stability or permanency, trauma-informed, therapeutic foster care or treatment foster care and characteristic or competency, child wellbeing or attachment, LGBTQ, U.S territory of Guam or American Samoa or Northern Mariana Islands or Puerto Rico or U.S. Virgin Islands, educational challenge, mentor or coach, biological family, and transition preparation.

This resulted in the analysis of 202 peer reviewed articles and the identification of 10 specific characteristics and 11 proficiencies that relative and non-relative foster or adoptive parents need to have exposure to best prepare

them for their caretaking roles. Characteristics and proficiencies were included if, in the reviewed articles, they were found to be statistically, qualitatively, referenced or discussed as associated with permanency, placement stability, or another key outcome (such as behavioral challenges) known to be related to permanency or placement stability. There are 202 articles included in this review. Study methods of the articles are quantitative (N=88), qualitative (N=42), mixed methods (N=34), theoretical (N=13), systematic or literature reviews (N=24), and newsletters (N=1).

The findings are broken into two groups: (a) **caregiver characteristics**, and (b) **caregiver proficiencies** (malleable, trainable factors). **Characteristics** are inherent qualities or personal attributes that are critical to successful resource parenting. These are traits that are difficult to teach and tend to be inherent or achieved through life experience. **Proficiencies** describe knowledge, skills, and attitudes that are important to the role of a resource parent. The following provides definitions for each characteristic/proficiency, and the articles associated with each. Characteristics and proficiencies are listed in order of how many times they were found in articles, from most to least.

### Caregiver Characteristics

The following 10 caregiver characteristics emerged as those that are associated with placement stability, permanency, or other key outcomes that are closely linked to placement stability and permanency.

Caregiver Characteristic	Characteristic Definition and Articles That Refer to this Characteristic
<b>Access to Support Systems</b>	<p><b>Definition:</b> Parents have knowledge of and use informal and formal support systems and services for themselves and their children (i.e. spouse/partner, support groups, parent networks, foster care agency, extended family, friends, other foster parents, respite providers. Other supports include child’s teacher, personal/child’s therapist). “Supports can provide reprieve from caregiving duties.” (Perry &amp; Henry, 2009; article 292)’</p> <p><b>Articles :</b>            Ackerman, J. P., &amp; Dozier, M. (2005). The influence of foster parent investment on children's representations of self and attachment figures. <i>Journal of Applied Developmental Psychology, 26</i>(5), 507-520. doi:http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.appdev.2005.06.003</p> <p>Ahn, H., Greeno, E. J., Bright, C. L., Hartzel, S., &amp; Reiman, S. (2017). A survival analysis of the length of foster parenting duration and implications for recruitment and retention of foster parents. <i>Children and Youth Services Review, 79</i>478-484. doi:10.1016/j.childyouth.2017.06.069</p> <p>Akin, B. A., Bryson, S. A., McDonald, T., &amp; Walker, S. (2012). Defining a target population at high risk of long-term foster care: barriers to permanency for families of children with serious emotional disturbances. <i>Child Welfare, 91</i>(6), 79-101.</p> <p>Atkinson, A. J., &amp; Riley, D. B. (2017). Training for adoption competency: Building a community of adoption-competent clinicians. <i>Families in Society, 98</i>(3), 235.</p> <p>Atkinson, A., &amp; Gonet, P. (2007). Strengthening adoption practice, listening to adoptive families. <i>Child Welfare, 86</i>(2), 87-104.</p>

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**Sufficient Economic  
Resources**

**Definition:** Parents have sufficient income or other financial resources to meet the needs of the foster/adoptive/kinship child and family.

**Articles:**

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<b>Motivated to Foster/Adopt</b>	<p><b>Definition:</b> Resource parents have an altruistic desire and internal motivation to help children and contribute to the community.</p> <p><b>Articles:</b></p> <p>Ahn, H., Greeno, E. J., Bright, C. L., Hartzel, S., &amp; Reiman, S. (2017). A survival analysis of the length of foster parenting duration and implications for recruitment and retention of foster parents. <i>Children and Youth Services Review</i>, 79478-484. doi:10.1016/j.chilyouth.2017.06.069</p> <p>Benesh, A. S., &amp; Cui, M. (2017). Foster parent training programs for foster youth: A content review. <i>Child &amp; Family Social Work</i>, 22(1), 548–559. <a href="https://doi.org/10.1111/cfs.12265">https://doi.org/10.1111/cfs.12265</a></p> <p>Berrick, J. D., Shauffer, C., &amp; Rodriguez, J. (2011). Recruiting for excellence in foster care: Marrying child welfare research with brand marketing strategies. <i>Journal of Public Child Welfare</i>, 5(2-3), 271.</p> <p>Buehler, C., Cox, M. E., &amp; Cuddeback, G. (2003). Foster Parents’ Perceptions of Factors that Promote or Inhibit Successful Fostering. <i>Qualitative Social Work: Research and Practice</i>, 2(1), 61–83. <a href="https://doi.org/10.1177/1473325003002001281">https://doi.org/10.1177/1473325003002001281</a></p> <p>Chipungu, S. S., &amp; Bent-Goodley, T. (2004). Meeting the challenges of contemporary foster care. <i>The Future of Children</i>, 14(1), 74-93.</p> <p>Coakley, T. M., Cuddeback, G., Buehler, C., &amp; Cox, M. E. (2007). Kinship foster parents' perceptions of factors that promote or inhibit successful fostering. <i>Children and Youth Services Review</i>, 29(1), 92-109.</p> <p>Cole, S. A. (2005). Foster caregiver motivation and infant attachment: How do reasons for fostering affect relationships? <i>Child &amp; Adolescent Social Work Journal</i>, 22(5-6), 441-457. doi:http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/s10560-005-0021-x</p> <p>Coleman, K. L., &amp; Wu, Q. (2016). Kinship care and service utilization: A review of predisposing, enabling, and need factors. <i>Children and Youth Services Review</i>, 61201-210. doi:10.1016/j.chilyouth.2015.12.014</p> <p>Cox, M. E., Cherry, D. J., &amp; Orme, J. G. (2011). Measuring the willingness to foster children with emotional and behavioral problems. <i>Children and Youth Services Review</i>, 33(1), 59-65.</p> <p>Crea, T. M., Barth, R. P., &amp; Chintapalli, L. K. (2007). Home study methods for evaluating prospective resource families: History, current challenges, and promising approaches. <i>Child Welfare</i>, 86(2), 141-59.</p> <p>Denby, R. W. (2012). Parental incarceration and kinship care: caregiver experiences, child well-being, and permanency intentions. <i>Social Work in Public Health</i>, 27(1-2), 104-128. doi:10.1080/19371918.2012.639639</p>
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## Flexible Expectations

**Definition:** Parents are able to adjust their expectations for their children in relation to the children’s capacities, trauma history, and interests. There is a distinction between a parent’s expectations of themselves and expectations toward their child.

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<p><b>Higher Education</b></p>	<p><b>Definition:</b> Foster and adoptive parents with higher education levels have increased access to financial resources that provide more opportunity to promote bonding and relationship building. Foster and adoptive parents with higher education tend to have more access to resources, which is correlated with increased success. With kinship care, there was no relationship between higher education and stronger parent/child relationships.</p> <p><b>Articles:</b></p> <p>Ahn, H., Greeno, E. J., Bright, C. L., Hartzel, S., &amp; Reiman, S. (2017). A survival analysis of the length of foster parenting duration and implications for recruitment and retention of foster parents. <i>Children and Youth Services Review</i>, 79478-484. doi:10.1016/j.chilyouth.2017.06.069</p> <p>Barth, R. P., Green, R., Webb, M. B., Wall, A., Gibbons, C., &amp; Craig, C. (2008). Characteristics of out-of-home caregiving environments provided under child welfare services. <i>Child Welfare</i>, 87(3), 5-39.</p> <p>Bass, S., Shields, M. K., &amp; Behrman, R. E. (2004). Children, families, and foster care: Analysis and recommendations. <i>The Future of Children</i>, 14(1), 4-29.</p> <p>Berrick, J. D., &amp; Skivenes, M. (2012). Dimensions of high quality foster care: Parenting Plus. <i>Children and Youth Services Review</i>, 34(9), 1956–1965. <a href="https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chilyouth.2012.05.026">https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chilyouth.2012.05.026</a></p> <p>Buehler, C., Rhodes, K. W., Orme, J. G., &amp; Cuddeback, G. (2006). The potential for successful family foster care: Conceptualizing competency domains for foster parents. <i>Child Welfare</i>, 85(3), 523-58.</p> <p>Cherry, D. J., Orme, J. G., &amp; Rhodes, K. W. (2009). The available time scale: Measuring foster parents' available time to foster. <i>Social Work Research</i>, 33(3), 146-158.</p> <p>Cooley, M. E., &amp; Petren, R. E. (2011). Foster parent perceptions of competency: Implications for foster parent training. <i>Children and Youth Services Review</i>, 33(10), 1968-1974. doi:10.1016/j.chilyouth.2011.05.023</p> <p>Denby, R. W., Brinson, J. A., Cross, C. L., &amp; Bowmer, A. (2015). Culture and coping: Kinship caregivers' experiences with stress and strain and the relationship to child well-being. <i>Child &amp; Adolescent Social Work Journal</i>, 32(5), 465-479. doi:<a href="http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/s10560-015-0387-3">http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/s10560-015-0387-3</a></p>

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<p><b>Belief in a Higher Power</b></p>	<p><b>Definition:</b> Having a religious and/or spiritual foundation may provide a sense of belonging and guide parents through their parenting journey.</p> <p><b>Articles :</b></p> <p>Atkinson, A., &amp; Gonet, P. (2007). Strengthening adoption practice, listening to adoptive families. <i>Child Welfare</i>, 86(2), 87-104.</p> <p>Belanger, K., Copeland, S., &amp; Cheung, M. (2008). The role of faith in adoption: Achieving positive adoption outcomes for African American children. <i>Child Welfare</i>, 87(2), 99-123.</p> <p>Berrick, J. D., Shauffer, C., &amp; Rodriguez, J. (2011). Recruiting for excellence in foster care: Marrying child welfare research with brand marketing strategies. <i>Journal of Public Child Welfare</i>, 5(2-3), 271.</p> <p>Buehler, C., Cox, M. E., &amp; Cuddeback, G. (2003). Foster Parents' Perceptions of Factors that Promote or Inhibit Successful Fostering. <i>Qualitative Social Work: Research and Practice</i>, 2(1), 61-83. <a href="https://doi.org/10.1177/1473325003002001281">https://doi.org/10.1177/1473325003002001281</a></p> <p>Bullock, K. (2004). The changing role of grandparents in rural families: The results of an exploratory study in southeastern North Carolina. <i>Families in Society</i>, 85(1), 45-54.</p> <p>Chipungu, S. S., &amp; Bent-Goodley, T. (2004). Meeting the challenges of contemporary foster care. <i>The Future of Children</i>, 14(1), 74-93.</p> <p>Coakley, T. M., Cuddeback, G., Buehler, C., &amp; Cox, M. E. (2007). Kinship foster parents' perceptions of factors that promote or inhibit successful fostering. <i>Children and Youth Services Review</i>, 29(1), 92-109.</p> <p>Collins, W. L. (2011). A strengths-based support group to empower African American grandmothers raising grandchildren. <i>Social Work and Christianity</i>, 38(4), 453-466.</p>

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<p><b>Belief in Self-Efficacy</b></p>	<p><b>Definition:</b> Parents feel competent and have confidence in their ability to effectively parent.</p> <p><b>Articles :</b></p> <p>Ackerman, J. P., &amp; Dozier, M. (2005). The influence of foster parent investment on children's representations of self and attachment figures. <i>Journal of Applied Developmental Psychology</i>, 26(5), 507-520. doi:http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.appdev.2005.06.003</p> <p>Atkinson, A., &amp; Gonet, P. (2007). Strengthening adoption practice, listening to adoptive families. <i>Child Welfare</i>, 86(2), 87-104.</p>

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<p><b>Physical and Mental Health of Parent</b></p>	<p><b>Definition:</b> Good mental health is demonstrated by the parent’s self-awareness, emotional regulation, and ability to address their own mental health care when needed. Good physical health refers to the parent successfully managing any health challenges, taking care of their body, and having access to a physician to address any needs. Good parent mental and physical health has been associated with more positive outcomes for the youth.</p> <p><b>Articles :</b></p> <p>Baker, A. J. L., Mehta, N., &amp; Chong, J. (2013). Foster children caught in loyalty conflicts: Implications for mental health treatment providers. <i>American Journal of Family Therapy, 41</i>(5), 363–375. <a href="https://doi.org/10.1080/01926187.2012.728902">https://doi.org/10.1080/01926187.2012.728902</a></p> <p>Berrick, J. D., &amp; Skivenes, M. (2012). Dimensions of high quality foster care: Parenting Plus. <i>Children and Youth Services Review, 34</i>(9), 1956–1965. <a href="https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chilyouth.2012.05.026">https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chilyouth.2012.05.026</a></p> <p>Combs-Orme, T., &amp; Orme, J. G. (2014). Foster parenting together: Assessing foster parent applicant couples. <i>Children and Youth Services Review, 36</i>, 70–80. <a href="https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chilyouth.2013.10.017">https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chilyouth.2013.10.017</a></p> <p>Conradi, L., Agosti, J., Tullberg, E., Richardson, L., Langan, H., Ko, S., &amp; Wilson, C. (2011). Promising practices and strategies for using trauma-informed child welfare practice to improve foster care placement stability: a breakthrough series collaborative. <i>Child Welfare, 90</i>(6), 207-225.</p> <p>Cooley, M. E., &amp; Petren, R. E. (2011). Foster parent perceptions of competency: Implications for foster parent training. <i>Children and Youth Services Review, 33</i>(10), 1968-1974. doi:10.1016/j.chilyouth.2011.05.023</p> <p>Denby, R. W. (2012). Parental incarceration and kinship care: caregiver experiences, child well-being, and permanency intentions. <i>Social Work in Public Health, 27</i>(1-2), 104-128. doi:10.1080/19371918.2012.639639</p> <p>Downs, A. C., &amp; James, S. E. (2006). Gay, Lesbian, and Bisexual Foster Parents: Strengths and Challenges for the Child Welfare System. <i>Child Welfare, 85</i>(2), 281–298.</p> <p>Linares, L. O., Rhodes, J., &amp; Montalto, D. (2010). Perceptions of co-parenting in foster care. <i>Family Process, 49</i>(4), 530–542. <a href="https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1545-5300.2010.01338.x">https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1545-5300.2010.01338.x</a></p>

	<p>Murphy, A. L., Van Zyl, R., Collins-Camargo, C., &amp; Sullivan, D. (2012). Assessing systemic barriers to permanency achievement for children in out-of-home care: development of the child permanency barriers scale. <i>Child Welfare</i>, 91(5), 37-71.</p> <p>Murray, K. J., &amp; Sullivan, K. M. (2017). Using clinical assessment to enhance adoption success. <i>Families in Society</i>, 98(3), 217.</p> <p>Orme, J. G., &amp; Combs-Orme, T. (2014). Foster parenting together: Foster parent couples. <i>Children and Youth Services Review</i>, 36124-132. doi:10.1016/j.chilyouth.2013.11.017</p> <p>Pasztor, E. M., Hollinger, D. S., Inkelas, M., &amp; Halfon, N. (2006). Health and mental health services for children in foster care: The central role of foster parents. <i>Child Welfare</i>, 85(1), 33.</p> <p>Proctor, L. J., Van, D. R., Litrownik, A. J., Newton, R. R., Davis, I. P., &amp; Villodas, M. (2011). Factors associated with caregiver stability in permanent placements: A classification tree approach. <i>Child Abuse &amp; Neglect</i>, 35(6), 425-436.</p>
<p><b>Tolerance for Rejection</b></p>	<p><b>Definition:</b> Parents are able to accept the child’s rejecting behaviors (i.e. disinterested in relationship with parent, standoffish). Parents do not take a child’s behavior personally and understand that the rewards of fostering are not immediate. Parents are able to accept and be comfortable with powerful and negative feelings in reaction to the child’s behaviors and with the understanding that those feelings are normal and transient.</p> <p><b>Articles :</b></p> <p>Baker, A. J. L., Mehta, N., &amp; Chong, J. (2013). Foster children caught in loyalty conflicts: Implications for mental health treatment providers. <i>American Journal of Family Therapy</i>, 41(5), 363–375. <a href="https://doi.org/10.1080/01926187.2012.728902">https://doi.org/10.1080/01926187.2012.728902</a></p> <p>Buehler, C., Cox, M. E., &amp; Cuddeback, G. (2003). Foster Parents’ Perceptions of Factors that Promote or Inhibit Successful Fostering. <i>Qualitative Social Work: Research and Practice</i>, 2(1), 61–83. <a href="https://doi.org/10.1177/1473325003002001281">https://doi.org/10.1177/1473325003002001281</a></p> <p>Buehler, C., Rhodes, K. W., Orme, J. G., &amp; Cuddeback, G. (2006). The potential for successful family foster care: Conceptualizing competency domains for foster parents. <i>Child Welfare</i>, 85(3), 523-58.</p> <p>Cooley, M. E., &amp; Petren, R. E. (2011). Foster parent perceptions of competency: Implications for foster parent training. <i>Children and Youth Services Review</i>, 33(10), 1968-1974. doi:10.1016/j.chilyouth.2011.05.023</p> <p>Denby, R. W. (2011). Predicting permanency intentions among kinship caregivers. <i>Child &amp; Adolescent Social Work Journal</i>, 28(2), 113-131. doi:<a href="http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/s10560-010-0221-x">http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/s10560-010-0221-x</a></p>

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### Caregiver Proficiencies

The following 11 caregiver proficiencies (malleable, trainable factors) emerged as those that are associated with placement stability, permanency, or other key outcomes.

Caregiver Proficiency	Proficiency Definition and Articles That Refer to this Proficiency
<b>Maintain Attentiveness to the Parent- Child Relationship</b>	<p><b>Definition:</b> Parents are able to define boundaries, set rules (chores, curfews, study habits), maintain quality in the physical environment, use verbal praise, positive consequences hugs, smiles. Parents instill structure in the home (consistent and predictable routines and rules), are responsive and nurturing to the needs of the child, and advocate for the child to ensure his/her needs are being met (i.e. health care needs, school, youth employment searches, organizing visitations with siblings).</p>
	<p><b>Articles :</b> Ackerman, J. P., &amp; Dozier, M. (2005). The influence of foster parent investment on children's representations of self and attachment figures. <i>Journal of Applied Developmental Psychology</i>, 26(5), 507-520. <a href="http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.appdev.2005.06.003">doi:http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.appdev.2005.06.003</a></p>



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<p><b>Understanding the Effects of Trauma and Teaching Socio-Emotional Health</b></p>	<p><b>Definition:</b> Caregiver has the ability to understand the effects of trauma and teach socio-emotional health which includes assisting the youth in building self-awareness, emotional regulation skills, social awareness, and relationship skills. Understands the importance of consistency and predictability. Knows how to teach self-regulation through problem solving and increasing coping skills.</p> <p><b>Articles:</b></p> <p>Akin, B. A., Bryson, S. A., McDonald, T., &amp; Walker, S. (2012). Defining a target population at high risk of long-term foster care: barriers to permanency for families of children with serious emotional disturbances. <i>Child Welfare</i>, 91(6), 79-101.</p> <p>Atkinson, A., &amp; Gonet, P. (2007). Strengthening adoption practice, listening to adoptive families. <i>Child Welfare</i>, 86(2), 87-104.</p> <p>Atkinson, A. J., &amp; Riley, D. B. (2017). Training for adoption competency: Building a community of adoption-competent clinicians. <i>Families in Society</i>, 98(3), 235.</p> <p>Baker, A. J. L., Mehta, N., &amp; Chong, J. (2013). Foster children caught in loyalty conflicts: Implications for mental health treatment providers. <i>American Journal of Family Therapy</i>, 41(5), 363–375. <a href="https://doi.org/10.1080/01926187.2012.728902">https://doi.org/10.1080/01926187.2012.728902</a></p>



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<p><b>Value the Connection to Child's Birth Family</b></p>	<p><b>Definition:</b> Caregiver is willing to promote continuity of relationships (i.e. encourages contact between child and birth family; visits with birth relatives); is able to help youth process through feelings after a visit. Is able to collaborate with the birth family and talk positively about birth family with the child.</p> <p><b>Articles :</b></p> <p>Atkinson, A. J., &amp; Riley, D. B. (2017). Training for adoption competency: Building a community of adoption-competent clinicians. <i>Families in Society</i>, 98(3), 235.</p> <p>Badeau, S. H., Perez, A. G., Lightbourne, W., Gray, E. S., &amp; Suleiman Gonzalez, L.,P. (2004). Five commentaries: Looking to the future. <i>The Future of Children</i>, 14(1), 174-89.</p> <p>Baker, A. J. L., Mehta, N., &amp; Chong, J. (2013). Foster children caught in loyalty conflicts: Implications for mental health treatment providers. <i>American Journal of Family Therapy</i>, 41(5), 363–375. <a href="https://doi.org/10.1080/01926187.2012.728902">https://doi.org/10.1080/01926187.2012.728902</a></p> <p>Berrick, J. D., Shauffer, C., &amp; Rodriguez, J. (2011). Recruiting for excellence in foster care: Marrying child welfare research with brand marketing strategies. <i>Journal of Public Child Welfare</i>, 5(2-3), 271.</p> <p>Berrick, J. D., &amp; Skivenes, M. (2012). Dimensions of high quality foster care: Parenting Plus. <i>Children and Youth Services Review</i>, 34(9), 1956–1965. <a href="https://doi.org/10.1016/j.childyouth.2012.05.026">https://doi.org/10.1016/j.childyouth.2012.05.026</a></p>

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<p><b>Positive Parenting/ Effective Discipline</b></p>	<p><b>Definition:</b> The caregiver has multiple strategies to handle problematic behavior. Understands the impact of tone, attitudes, consistency, positive parenting techniques, effective limit setting, and clear expectations in managing behaviors.</p> <p><b>Articles :</b></p> <p>Buehler, C., Rhodes, K. W., Orme, J. G., &amp; Cuddeback, G. (2006). The potential for successful family foster care: Conceptualizing competency domains for foster parents. <i>Child Welfare</i>, 85(3), 523-58.</p> <p>Chamberlain, P., Price, J. M., Reid, J. B., Landsverk, J., Fisher, P. A., &amp; Stoolmiller, M. (2006). Who disrupts from placement in foster and kinship care?. <i>Child Abuse &amp; Neglect</i>, 30(4), 409-424.</p> <p>Coakley, T. M., Cuddeback, G., Buehler, C., &amp; Cox, M. E. (2007). Kinship foster parents' perceptions of factors that promote or inhibit successful fostering. <i>Children and Youth Services Review</i>, 29(1), 92-109.</p> <p>Cooley, M. E., &amp; Petren, R. E. (2011). Foster parent perceptions of competency: Implications for foster parent training. <i>Children and Youth Services Review</i>, 33(10), 1968-1974. doi:10.1016/j.chilyouth.2011.05.023</p> <p>Crea, T. M., Barth, R. P., &amp; Moreno, H. M. (2012). Consistency between self-reported risks and strengths among prospective adoptive couples: Findings from home studies. <i>Child Welfare</i>, 91(4), 109-26.</p> <p>Crum, W. (2010). Foster parent parenting characteristics that lead to increased placement stability or disruption. <i>Children and Youth Services Review</i>, 32(2), 185-190. doi:10.1016/j.chilyouth.2009.08.022</p> <p>De Robertis, M. T., &amp; Litrownik, A. J. (2004). The experience of foster care: Relationship between foster parent disciplinary approaches and aggression in a sample of young foster children. <i>Child Maltreatment</i>, 9(1), 92-102. doi:10.1177/1077559503260402</p>

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Self-Care	<p><b>Definition:</b> Successful caregivers seek help for themselves, as well as the children in their care, by routinely accessing services (including counseling, respite care, support groups) to maintain perspective, relieve tension, and remain strong and healthy. Includes the ability to self-regulate and mitigate stress through use of coping skills to care for one’s mental and emotional health.</p> <p><b>Articles :</b></p> <p>Buehler, C., Rhodes, K. W., Orme, J. G., &amp; Cuddeback, G. (2006). The potential for successful family foster care: Conceptualizing competency domains for foster parents. <i>Child Welfare</i>, 85(3), 523-58.</p> <p>Chipungu, S. S., &amp; Bent-Goodley, T. (2004). Meeting the challenges of contemporary foster care. <i>The Future of Children</i>, 14(1), 74-93.</p> <p>Christenson, B., &amp; McMurtry, J. (2007). A Comparative Evaluation of Preservice Training of Kinship and Nonkinship Foster/Adoptive Families. <i>Child Welfare</i>, 86(2), 125–140.</p> <p>Collins, W. L. (2011). A strengths-based support group to empower African American grandmothers raising grandchildren. <i>Social Work and Christianity</i>, 38(4), 453-466.</p> <p>Conradi, L., Agosti, J., Tullberg, E., Richardson, L., Langan, H., Ko, S., &amp; Wilson, C. (2011). Promising practices and strategies for using trauma-informed child welfare practice to improve foster care placement stability: a breakthrough series collaborative. <i>Child Welfare</i>, 90(6), 207-225.</p> <p>Cooley, M. E., &amp; Petren, R. E. (2011). Foster parent perceptions of competency: Implications for foster parent training. <i>Children and Youth Services Review</i>, 33(10), 1968-1974. doi:<a href="https://doi.org/10.1016/j.childyouth.2011.05.023">10.1016/j.childyouth.2011.05.023</a></p> <p>Cooley, M. E., Thompson, H. M., &amp; Wojciak, A. S. (2017). Risk, resilience, and complexity: Experiences of foster parents. <i>Children and Youth Services Review</i>, 76, 35–41. <a href="https://doi.org/10.1016/j.childyouth.2017.02.030">https://doi.org/10.1016/j.childyouth.2017.02.030</a></p> <p>Crum, W. (2010). Foster parent parenting characteristics that lead to increased placement stability or disruption. <i>Children and Youth Services Review</i>, 32(2), 185-190. doi:<a href="https://doi.org/10.1016/j.childyouth.2009.08.022">10.1016/j.childyouth.2009.08.022</a></p>

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<p><b>Participation in Lifelong Learning, Training, and Education</b></p>	<p><b>Definition:</b> Values, supports and engages in ongoing learning to assist with their parenting. Willingness to be a life-long learner by participating in training and educational opportunities.</p> <p><b>Articles:</b></p> <p>Ahn, H., Greeno, E. J., Bright, C. L., Hartzel, S., &amp; Reiman, S. (2017). A survival analysis of the length of foster parenting duration and implications for recruitment and retention of foster parents. <i>Children and Youth Services Review</i>, 79478-484. doi:10.1016/j.childyouth.2017.06.069</p>

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<p><b>Cultural Competence</b> (e.g., Race, LGBTQ)</p>	<p><b>Definition:</b> Ability to promote cultural identity, understanding, and sensitivity; this is especially important for families engaging in transracial fostering/adoption and those caring for youth who identify as LGBTQ. Ability to accept and participate in cultural activities that reflect the youth's identity. Ability and commitment to include people who share the youth's cultural identities in the family constellation.</p> <p><b>Articles:</b></p> <p>Badeau, S. H., Perez, A. G., Lightbourne, W., Gray, E. S., &amp; Suleiman Gonzalez, L.,P. (2004). Five commentaries: Looking to the future. <i>The Future of Children</i>, 14(1), 174-89.</p> <p>Bates, L., Baird, D., Johnson, D. J., Lee, R. E., &amp; al, e. (2005). Sudanese refugee youth in foster care: The "lost boys" in America. <i>Child Welfare</i>, 84(5), 631-48.</p> <p>Berrick, J. D., &amp; Skivenes, M. (2012). Dimensions of high quality foster care: Parenting Plus. <i>Children and Youth Services Review</i>, 34(9), 1956–1965. <a href="https://doi.org/10.1016/j.childyouth.2012.05.026">https://doi.org/10.1016/j.childyouth.2012.05.026</a></p> <p>Beyerlein, B. A., Bloch, E. (2014). Need for trauma-informed care within the foster care system: A policy issue. <i>Child Welfare</i>, 93(3), 7-21.</p> <p>Buehler, C., Rhodes, K. W., Orme, J. G., &amp; Cuddeback, G. (2006). The potential for successful family foster care: Conceptualizing competency domains for foster parents. <i>Child Welfare</i>, 85(3), 523-58.</p> <p>Chamberlain, P., Price, J., Reid, J., &amp; Landsverk, J. (2008). Cascading implementation of a foster and kinship parent intervention. <i>Child Welfare</i>, 87(5), 27-48.</p> <p>Cherry, D. J., Orme, J. G., &amp; Rhodes, K. W. (2009). The available time scale: Measuring foster parents' available time to foster. <i>Social Work Research</i>, 33(3), 146-158.</p> <p>Chipungu, S. S., &amp; Bent-Goodley, T. (2004). Meeting the challenges of contemporary foster care. <i>The Future of Children</i>, 14(1), 74-93.</p>

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<b>Collaboration</b>	<p><b>Definition:</b> Ability to work effectively with child welfare and other agencies that provide services for the child or youth, being an active participant in the service delivery team.</p> <p><b>Articles :</b></p> <p>Buehler, C., Rhodes, K. W., Orme, J. G., &amp; Cuddeback, G. (2006). The potential for successful family foster care: Conceptualizing competency domains for foster parents. <i>Child Welfare</i>, 85(3), 523-58.</p> <p>Cherry, D. J., Orme, J. G., &amp; Rhodes, K. W. (2009). The available time scale: Measuring foster parents' available time to foster. <i>Social Work Research</i>, 33(3), 146-158.</p> <p>Christenson, B., &amp; McMurtry, J. (2007). A Comparative Evaluation of Preservice Training of Kinship and Nonkinship Foster/Adoptive Families. <i>Child Welfare</i>, 86(2), 125–140.</p> <p>Christenson, B. L., &amp; McMurtry, J. (2009). A longitudinal evaluation of the preservice training and retention of kinship and nonkinship Foster/Adoptive families one and a half years after training. <i>Child Welfare</i>, 88(4), 5-22.</p>



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<p><b>Recognize, Express, and Process Grief</b></p>	<p><b>Definition:</b> Ability to help child cope with separation and loss; Parents understand, recognize, and process their own grief and loss.</p> <p><b>Articles :</b></p> <p>Bammens, A., Adkins, T., &amp; Badger, J. (2015). Psycho-educational intervention increases reflective functioning in foster and adoptive parents. <i>Adoption &amp; Fostering</i>, 39(1), 38-50. doi:<a href="http://dx.doi.org/10.1177/0308575914565069">http://dx.doi.org/10.1177/0308575914565069</a></p> <p>Berrick, J. D., Shauffer, C., &amp; Rodriguez, J. (2011). Recruiting for excellence in foster care: Marrying child welfare research with brand marketing strategies. <i>Journal of Public Child Welfare</i>, 5(2-3), 271.</p> <p>Berrick, J. D., &amp; Skivenes, M. (2012). Dimensions of high quality foster care: Parenting Plus. <i>Children and Youth Services Review</i>, 34(9), 1956–1965. <a href="https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chilyouth.2012.05.026">https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chilyouth.2012.05.026</a></p> <p>Buehler, C., Rhodes, K. W., Orme, J. G., &amp; Cuddeback, G. (2006). The potential for successful family foster care: Conceptualizing competency domains for foster parents. <i>Child Welfare</i>, 85(3), 523-58.</p> <p>Burke, R. V., Schlueter, C., Vandercoy, J., &amp; Authier, K. J, &amp; The Prevention Group Research Team (2015). Post-adoption services for families at risk of dissolution: A case study describing two families' experiences. <i>Clinical Case Studies</i>, 14(4), 291-306.</p> <p>Coakley, T. M., Cuddeback, G., Buehler, C., &amp; Cox, M. E. (2007). Kinship foster parents' perceptions of factors that promote or inhibit successful fostering. <i>Children and Youth Services Review</i>, 29(1), 92-109.</p>

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<p><b>Understanding Developmental Stages</b></p>	<p><b>Definition:</b> Caregivers understand the developmental stages and how to assist the child through each stage. This includes knowledge of developmental delays or disorders that impact the trajectory of development.</p>
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