

# Family Empowerment Protocol

Purpose: To have a standard definition and process for families and agencies to work together for the family's success

**What is Teaming?** A strength-based guided practice which places family at the center of decision-making, in order to support and empower them toward the goal of safe children, strong families, and supportive communities.

**Formation of the Team:** The team includes formal and informal resources, professionals, and the community, and adapts in response to the changing nature of the case. It is important for these team partners to work together in decision making in order for the family to be successful. The lists below are participants who should be considered for all meetings. The lists are not all inclusive.

<b>Natural Supports (Family &amp; Friends)</b>
<b>Biological parents</b>
<b>Mom's family supports</b>
<b>Dad's family supports</b>
<b>Child</b> (age appropriate)
<b>Child's supports</b> (family/friend, age appropriate)
<b>Neighbors/friends</b>

<b>Community Supports</b>
<b>Faith based support</b>
<b>Mental Health, Counseling, Therapist</b>
<b>School staff/connections</b>
<b>Early Intervention services</b>
<b>Drug &amp; Alcohol services</b>

<b>Providers</b>
<b>Resource Parents</b>
<b>Attorneys</b> (GAL, parent)
<b>Court Appointed Special Advocate</b> (CASA)
<b>CYF Agency Staff</b> (Caseworker & Supervisor, Family Connections Caseworker)
<b>Foster Provider case manager</b>
<b>Other Providers involved with family</b> (Family Group Decision Making, in-home providers, Independent Living providers, etc)

**Functioning of the team:** Each person has a specific role and valuable skills. Each person agrees to contribute positively and be held responsible by the others, working toward the short and long term goals as a partnership. The team will only be successful if all partners are fulfilling their roles and everyone is flexible as the case changes.

<b>Role</b>	<b>Tasks</b>
<b>Team Guide</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Guides meeting, keeps team focused on purpose</li> <li>• Delegates/assigns all tasks</li> <li>• Reviews 'homework' at conclusion of meeting</li> <li>• Also a team partner</li> </ul>
<b>Record Keeper</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Takes notes</li> <li>• Develops action plan</li> <li>• Distributes to all team partners</li> <li>• Also a team partner</li> </ul>
<b>Team Monitor</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Follows up after meeting on action plan</li> <li>• Reminds of deadlines</li> <li>• Holds team partners accountable for completion of tasks</li> <li>• Also a team partner</li> </ul>
<b>Team Partners</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Take on the tasks as assigned</li> <li>• Complete tasks between meetings</li> <li>• Support the team guide, record keeper, and team monitor</li> <li>• Assist each other in overcoming barriers</li> <li>• Professional team partners represent their field during meetings and take on tasks accordingly</li> </ul>