

## FAMILY INTERACTION: PLANNED THERAPEUTIC INTERVENTION: THE PHASES



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## WELCOME



- Why do you see your family?

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## Family Interaction Resources

Hess, P. & Proch, K. (1988). *Family visiting in out-of-home care: A guide to practice.*

Pine, B., Warsh, R., & Maluccio, A. (eds.) (1933). *Together again: Family reunification in foster care.*

National Resource Center for Foster Care & Permanency Planning (2003). in the article *Visiting Between Children in Care and Their Families: A look at Current policy.*

C.H. Neuman (1997).

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## Caseworkers' Role/Responsibility

- Develop, implement and revise plan.
- Prioritize facilitation of plan.
- Support the parent, foster family and child.
- Inform parent of their responsibilities.
- Assess family attachment and extended family connection.
- Evaluate success of plan.
- Supervise Family Interaction, if needed.
- Work with child and parent over setbacks in plan.
- Provide conflict resolution to the plan.
- Stress to all that safety is sole responsibility of parent.

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## Phases of Family Interaction

■ I. Initial

■ II. Middle

■ III. Transitional



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## Initial Phase

### Characteristics:

- Builds relations
- Assessment/Goal setting
- Two-Four weeks
- People uncomfortable
- Pressure on child
- Close supervision
- Supervisor plays important roles
- Levels of supervision – fade in/out



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## Initial Phase Reasons

- Assessment
- Mediate
- Problem Solve
- Assess ability to provide safety
- Demonstrate strength resources
- Identify impediments to reunification
- Modeling/Facilitate goals

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## Middle Phase

### Characteristics:

- Responsibility shifts agency to parent
- Work toward goals
- Activities chose to provide learning/practice
- Collaboration of agencies
- Timing and reconnection assessed
- Consider change in arrangements
- More often/longer
- Time – months to years



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## MIDDLE PHASE REASONS

- ❖ Forum for parents to show growth
- ❖ Facilitate progress
- ❖ Demonstrate reduction of risk
- ❖ Show timing
- ❖ Reactions to family interactions
- ❖ Messages sent
- ❖ Shift responsibility
- ❖ Use community supports

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## Transition Phase

### Characteristics:



- Case goal in sight
- Secure services after return
- Plan ahead**
- Maximize contact
- Evaluate remaining stressors

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