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| Chapter: | Placing Children and Youth | |
| Subject: | Sharing Resource Families Cross-Jurisdictionally | Page 1 of 1 |
| Approved: | James Morse, Commissioner | Effective: 7/1/04 FINAL |
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Purpose

While resource families should be viewed as an integral part of a local placement system of care, there are times when it is necessary to place in foster care children and youth away from their community. All districts are responsible for ensuring their safety, permanence and wellbeing of children in the commissioner’s custody. This policy guides district staff when it is necessary to seek a resource family cross-jurisdictionally in another district. All other policies on the placement and supervision of children are applicable.

Policy

Placement Across District Lines

Federal statute requires that states effectively use of cross-jurisdictional resources to facilitate timely adoptive or permanent placements. This policy is designed to **promote** meeting a child’s needs in an appropriate home, even when that home is in another district by ensuring that the match between child and resource family is appropriate, and that each receives the supportive services needed for success.

The following procedures are in place for placements with licensed resource families across district lines:

- The child’s social worker or resource coordinator obtains permission from the host district’s resource coordinator, supervisor or director **before** contacting the resource family.
- The child’s social worker sends a completed placement checklist, and a plan for crisis response to the host district’s resource coordinator. If the placement was made in an emergency, the documents should be forwarded on the next business day.
- The child’s social worker or resource coordinator notifies the host district’s resource coordinator when the child’s placement ends.

Shared Resource Families

Resource families who foster children from more than one district routinely will receive training and support from their home district. The home district will maintain the resource family file.

Definitions

Host district or Home district: District in which resource family resides.

Sending district: District responsible for child to be placed.