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|  | 1. Kinship care cases are similar to concurrent placements, in that we are working with the parents on reunification, while also planning for permanent custody with the relatives should this be needed after twelve (12) months. |
|  | 1. If a child is already in foster care, and a potential relative placement becomes available, kinship care can be considered for that family. |
|  | 1. If the relative lives in a different county, an onsite worker can be requested to provide services. Case responsibility remains where the parent/caretaker, from whom the children were removed, resides. |
|  | 1. Monthly home visits are needed with the child(ren), parents and relative caregivers. |
|  | 1. Visits as needed, with parents and relative caregivers. |
|  | 1. Case planning occurs at the same intervals it does with any P&P case. The relative caregivers should be included in both the assessment and the case plan. Relatives should be invited to case conferences and have identified tasks. Services needed to maintain the placement for the children should be discussed and addressed during case planning. If the child is in the temporary custody of the Cabinet, the out of home care section of the case plan (which includes the Child Youth Section) must be completed. |
|  | 1. Parents of the child(ren) cannot reside in the relative’s home with the child in order for kinship care to continue. |
|  | 1. Continue to assist the relative in planning for permanent custody, should it be needed, within twelve (12) months of the placement of the child (this might include scheduling the case in Court for permanent custody, or ensuring the relatives seek permanent custody in circuit court if juvenile court does not order it etc.) |
|  | 1. If the child moves to another placement such as a PCC, foster care etc., kinship care payments are discontinued. The benefits can be reinstated once the child returns to the relative’s home. Children should not be moved from one relative to another without a legitimate reason. In order for kinship care benefits to follow the child, P&P staff must be involved in this move and it must be related to the illness, death or military service of the caregiver. |
|  | 1. A kinship care case is closed **only** after permanent custody of the child is obtained by the relative. An aftercare plan is completed to address the need for the relatives to complete their yearly re-certification with Family Support in order to continue to remain eligible. Items such as visitation with the parents should be negotiated (if not already addressed by the court, which is always a good thing) or any other safety issues that need to be in place for the child(ren). |