


**CORE TRAINING FOR RESOURCE FAMILIES**

SESSION SIX  
*ROLE OF THE RESOURCE FAMILY & WORKING WITH BIRTH PARENTS*

Written and Produced by the Alaska Center for Resource Families and Funded by the State of Alaska Department of Health and Social Services Office of Children's Services.




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**ROLE OF THE RESOURCE FAMILY**

- Care for the Child
- Support the Case Plan
- Respect Culture and the Birth Family
- Communicate with the Caseworker




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**BEFORE A CHILD COMES**





- ✓ Prepare your entire family.
- ✓ Prepare space for a child.
- ✓ Start looking for a safe appropriate, licensed childcare.
- ✓ Complete Core training.
- ✓ Complete your licensing requirements.

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## AT TIME OF PLACEMENT

- ✓ Ask questions!
- ✓ Ask for the Red Placement Packet.
- ✓ Ask about appointments or visits that are scheduled.
- ✓ Help the child transition into your home and feel comfortable.
- ✓ Make a file for the child.
- ✓ Ask about Family Contact.
- ✓ Medicaid

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## WHILE THE CHILD IS WITH YOU

- ✓ Provide transportation to visits, school and appointments.
- ✓ Sign school and club permission slips for routine events and transportation.
- ✓ Support a child's education and schooling.
- ✓ Be prepared for monthly caseworker visits.
- ✓ Be aware that all reports of concern regarding a foster home will be investigated.
- ✓ Follow the family contact plan.




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## CASEWORKER CONTACT




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## CASEWORKER CONTACT BY PHONE

- Be direct and precise in what you need.
- Be patient!
- Utilize the Unit Coordinator if an emergency.

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## CASEWORKER CONTACT MY EMAIL

- Most preferred way to communicate with caseworker.
- Time and date stamped for reference.
- Update emails and Request emails.

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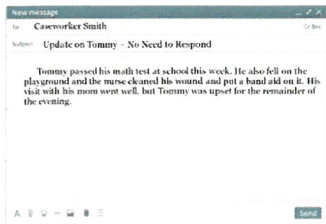
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## UPDATE EMAIL EXAMPLE



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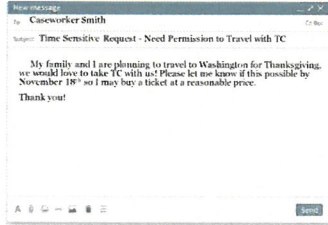
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## REQUEST EMAIL UPDATE



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## WHEN A CHILD LEAVES YOUR HOME



- ✓ Make sure your child goes with adequate clothes and toys.
- ✓ Update the Child Information Sheet and send the Red Placement Packet.
- ✓ If you are requesting removal of a child, give 15 days' notice for OCS.
- ✓ Help your child with the transition.
- ✓ Have a special moment.
- ✓ Update child's Lifebook.
- ✓ Share information with new placement.

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## TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF AND YOUR FAMILY

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### COURAGEOUS CONVERSATIONS

- Stay Engaged
- Speak Your Truth
- It's Okay to Experience Discomfort
- Expect and Accept Non-closure

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## TRIAD EXERCISE

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Birth Parent



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## BACK STORY

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*This is the first visit between Mariah and her parent since she came into your home in emergency foster care. The visit is taking place at the Office of Children's Services and the foster parent is bringing Mariah to the visit. The foster parents meets the birth parent in the waiting room and Mariah runs up to give her birth parent a hug.*

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