

## Foster Parents

### Bridging the gap of separation between children and their families

#### A Continuum of Contact

- Exchange letters with child's family via social worker
- Call child's parent on the phone
- Request pictures of child's family to display in the child's room
- Give parents pictures of child
- Share copies of homework and report cards with family
- Have positive view of child's family
- Talk openly with child about family
- Send snacks/activities for visits
- Encourage parent's progress
- Dress child up for visits
- Share monthly progress reports with birth parents
- Foster parent hosts/arranges sibling visits
- Brag to parent about child
- Request cultural information from birth parent
- Transport child to visits
- Talk with parents at visits
- Encourage parent to phone child
- Meet child's family at placement
- Non-threatening attitude
- Refer to child as "your child" to birth parent
- Share parenting information
- Attend staffing, court, team meetings
- Help birth parent find community resources
- Encourage/reassure reunification
- Share child's life book with parents
- Attend training to learn how to work directly with birth parent
- Learn about, understand and respect the birth parents' culture
- Take/pick up child to/at parent's home
- Serve as a parent's mentor
- Review child's visits with parent
- Give parents' verbal progress reports
- Ask parent to come to appointments
- Foster parent transports birth parent to meetings
- Invite child's family to attend school programs
- Assist in planning child's return to birth home
- Welcome child's parents into your home
- Attend parenting classes with parents
- Arrange family visits with parents
- Serve as support to family following reunification
- Foster parents provides respite care
- Include birth parent in farewell activities