



Resource Family Retention: An Overview

What Works	What Agencies Need
Foster parents experience a relationship with the agency that is typified by sharing of information, ready access to worker support, within the framework of respect, and positive regard.	Enough personnel to allow time for communication Respect and positive regard for permanency workers from administration, government, media
Foster parents are clear and confident about their rights and responsibilities and agency expectations	Agencies have clear policies and regulations based on clear legislation
Foster parents have access to training opportunities that prepare them to deal with more difficult behaviors exhibited by foster children	Personnel, funding to develop, buy, or send foster parents to appropriate training
Foster parents have access to a supportive network of caseworkers and other more experienced foster parents when challenges and crises occur.	Personnel to develop and maintain networking activities. Ability to provide or refer foster parents to resources such as health care, housing assistance, respite care, training, liability insurance. Requires that resources are available and foster parents can afford them
Foster parents are regarded as part of the team that is responsible for making decisions about the child and the family.	Leadership that regards foster parents and agency workers as part of the team, provides them with needed resources, and supports them with positive regard

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