

Family Finding Enhancements 2006-2017*

In 2006, the Pennsylvania State Roundtable recognized Kevin A. Campbell's Family Finding Model as a core component to the Permanency Practice Initiative (PPI). Family Finding is the Pennsylvania State Roundtable's foundational practice to find and meaningfully involve healthy adults in the lives of Pennsylvania's foster children forming lifelong connections.

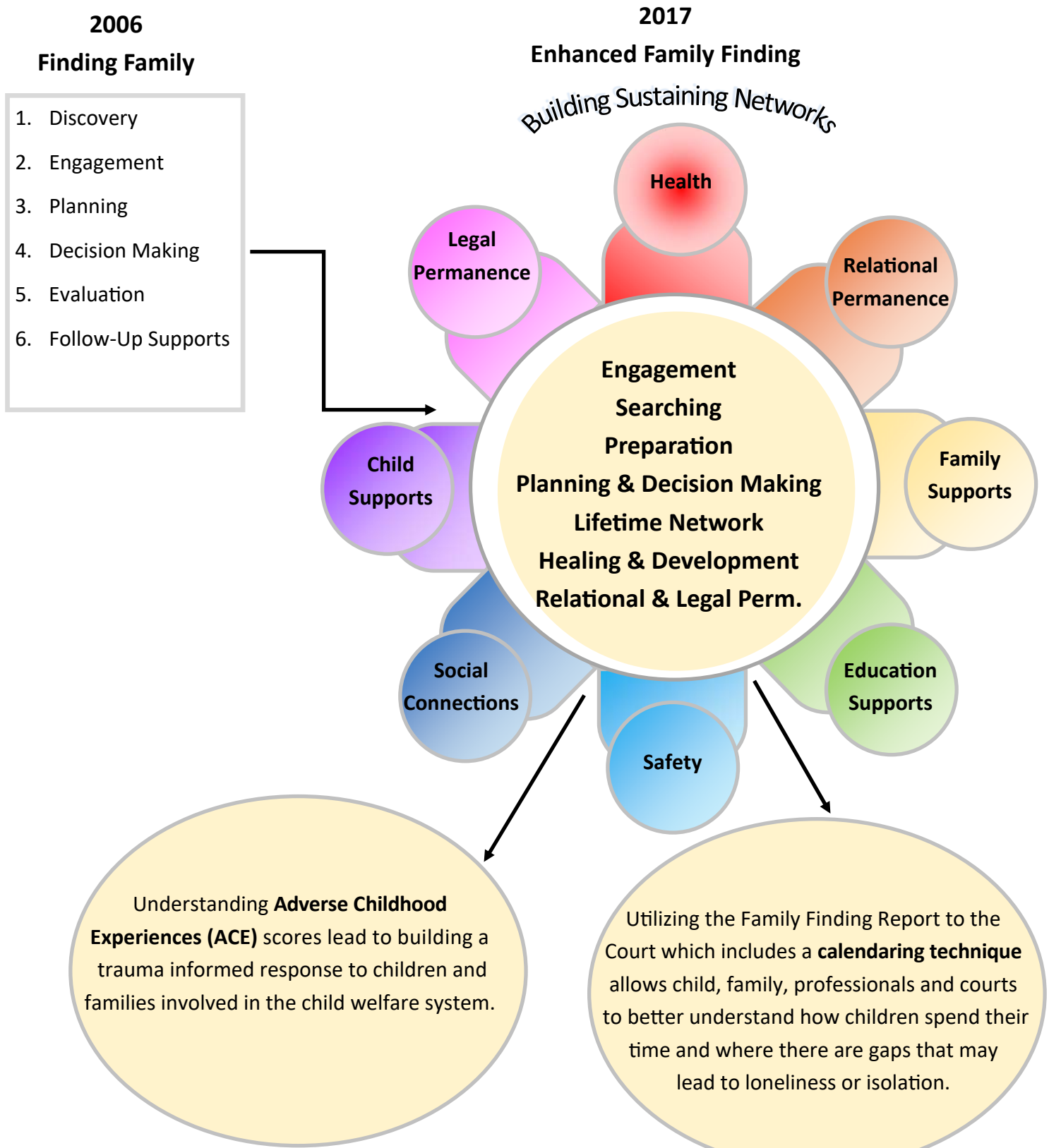
The core beliefs of the Family Finding Model remain the same today: *(1) every child has a family, and they can be found if we try; (2) loneliness can be devastating, even dangerous and is experienced by most children in out-of-home care; (3) a meaningful connection to family helps a child develop a sense of belonging, and; (4) the single factor most closely associated with positive outcomes for children is meaningful, lifelong connections to family.*

As Kevin Campbell's Family Finding practice has evolved, combined with extensive research, PPI county experiences and the passage of Pennsylvania's own family finding legislation (Act 55 of 2013), both philosophical and practice enhancements continue to be made. This document outlines both model and practice enhancements comparing 2006 to 2017.

2006	2017
Primary Focus: Safety → Permanency → Well-being	Primary Focus: Safety → Well-being → Permanency
Goal: legal permanency	Goal: relational permanency and legal permanency
Legal permanency leads to well-being	A supportive network leads to safety, well-being, relational permanency and legal permanency
Lifelong connections focus on the child primarily	Supportive network for the child and/or parents
Identifying a specific number (40+) of relatives and kin	Developing and sustaining a support network wanting to be involved in a meaningful way as early as possible
The caseworker was the "doer of all things"	The caseworker creates the child/family network. The network and the caseworker support the family.
The caseworker is responsible for successful Family Finding	Everyone (including caseworker; supervisor; providers; attorneys; judge; child; family etc.) are responsible for successful Family Finding
Practice based in experience	Practice grounded in experience <i>and</i> research
Best practice/Good idea	Fundamental child welfare practice and legally required in Pennsylvania
Six sequential Family Finding steps	Seven engagement steps that are fluid and ongoing



Family Finding Enhancements to the Model 2006-2017



* Based on PA Law, 2017 PPI Workgroup State Roundtable Report and Kevin Campbell's Model