

MY ROLE WITH  
THE FAMILY  
FINDING  
REPORT TO THE  
COURT

# Agency Solicitors



Make sure the FF Report to the Court gets filed prior to the court hearing.



• What specific things have you done since the last hearing to identify and speak to family and kin? (Looking for information on the bottom of page 1.)



• Are those individuals identified on page 2 doing what they indicated they would do?



• Have you spoken to the child about his/her connections circle (page 3)? Have you contacted any of the individuals identified on the child's connections circle to see how they can be involved?



• Have you reviewed the child's calendar? Is the child involved in activities and spending time with people they know and love?



• What are your next family finding steps between now and the next court hearing? (Remember the intent of family finding is building the child's network of meaningful connections.)

# Guardians Ad Litem/Child's Counsel



• Familiarize yourself with the document as you would any exhibit.



• Make sure your client understands the Report and its purpose.



• Use this report as part of case preparation and ask questions about it in Court.



• Review with your client as an opportunity to identify additional supports and help build the network.



• Look for progression from one report to the next.

# Parent Attorneys



- Familiarize yourself with the document as you would any exhibit.



- Make sure your client understands the Report and its purpose.



- Use this report as part of case preparation and ask questions about it in Court.



- Review with your client as an opportunity to identify additional supports and help build the network.



- Look for progression from one report to the next.

# Judges/JCHO



- Emphasize the importance of the document in your courtroom and hold everyone accountable for Family Finding.



- Utilize the Report in considering FF reasonable efforts determination.



- Ask necessary questions of all the parties.



- Engage children during the hearing .



- Help children/families understand why developing an active network is important and the benefits if they are reluctant.



- Look for progression from one report to the next.