



Hawaii Assures Nurturing and Involvement





Licensing Process, Role of the Resource Caregiver, and Child Welfare Team & Court Process

SESSION 1-A



Training Agenda

- Welcome and Introductions
- Licensing Process
- Role of the Resource Caregiver
- Know the Rights
- Child Welfare Team & Court Process



Competencies and Objectives

- Resource Caregivers will be provided with an overview on the Department of Human Services Licensing Process and the purpose of H.A.N.A.I Training.
- Resource Caregivers will be able to define their role and working with the child welfare team.
- Resource Caregivers learn about the court process.



Introductions

Trainer:

Co-Trainer:



Housekeeping Information



- Audio/Video/Chat
- Restrooms
- Emergency Plan
- Breaks
- Discussion & Confidentiality
- Silence Cell Phones / No Texting
- Parking Lot: Questions are welcomed and encouraged
- Others?



Introductions

Name

Child Specific

How long have you been a resource caregiver? What are the ages of the children?

General License

Why are you interested in becoming a resource caregiver? What ages are you interested in caring for?



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For all children in the Hawai`i State Department of Human Services Foster Care System.



Purpose of Training

Why do I need training?

- I already know a lot about children
- I've raised my children and grandchildren
- I'm familiar with the child that I'm caring for

These are good questions, but there are some things to consider....



Even if a new resource caregiver may have many years of experience raising children he or she may not have the experience caring for children who have been traumatized, abused, abandoned, or exposed to drugs or alcohol. These sessions try to prepare participants for the reality of foster care, so the placements of children are more stable and beneficial for both youth and resource caregiver.



Goals of H.A.N.A.I.

- Prepare resource caregivers for the realities of caring for children in out-of-home care.
 - Inform resource caregivers about how to care for children who have experienced abuse and neglect, through no fault of their own.
 - Become familiar with the state licensed rules, regulations, and court process.
- To provide information that will help you succeed.
 - Help you learn what our youth need you to know.
 - To help applicants make an informed choice about becoming a resource caregiver.



Training Overview

- Licensing Process
- Child Welfare Team & Court Process
- The Role of the Resource caregiver
- Rights of Youth in Foster Care
- Working with Birth Families and importance of culture
- Child Abuse and Neglect and Human Trafficking
- Child Welfare Discipline Guidelines
- Promoting Safety
- Trauma & Adverse Childhood Experiences
- Impact of Trauma on the Brain
- Separation/Loss/Grief
- Prudent Parenting
- 'Ohana Time
- Sexual Health & Development , LGBTQIA+
- Trauma & Developmental Stages
- Being Trauma Responsive
- Attachment
- Normalcy
- Positive Caregiving Strategies
- Appropriate Discipline
- Social Capital
- Normalcy
- Promoting Resiliency
- Transition
- Becoming an Advocate & Mandating Reporting
- Community Resources



Teamwork Agreement

1. Confidentiality
2. Flexibility
3. Humor
4. Friendship and `Ohana
5. Ownership
6. Sensitivity
7. Time is valuable.
8. Expectation to learn and succeed
9. Be Respectful
10. Attendance is mandatory
11. Discussion is needed
12. Open your mind to new ideas & experiences
13. Participation and Cooperation
14. We are a team!
15. Be Present





Licensing Process



LICENSING PROCESS

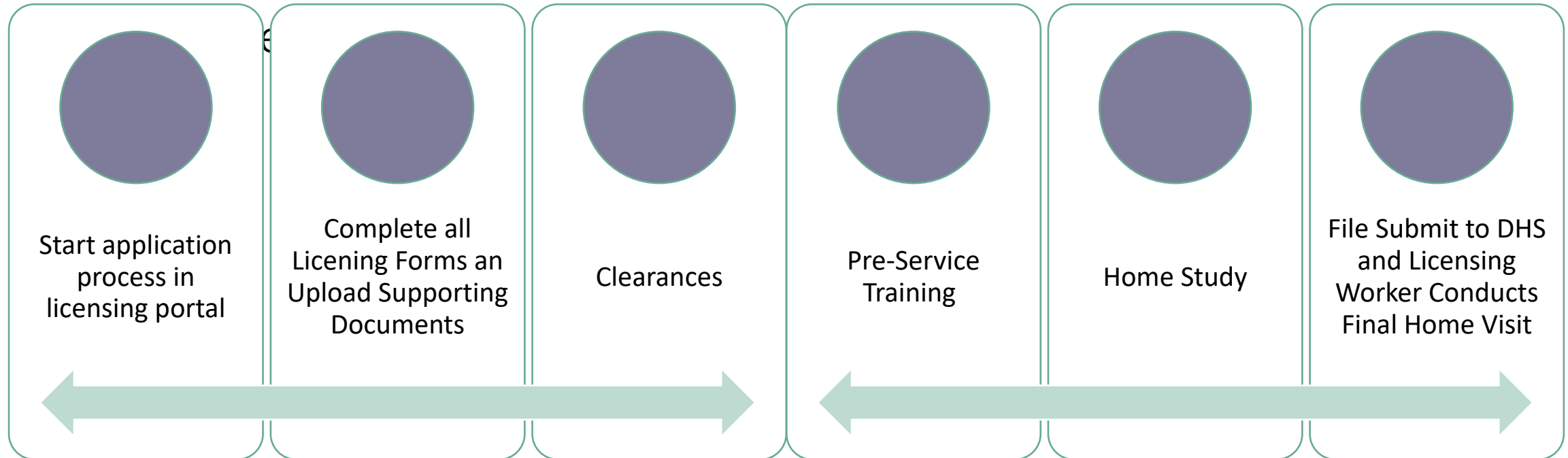
Program and agencies is part of a collaboration headed by the State Department of Human Services (DHS) to serve resource caregivers.



CATHOLIC CHARITIES
HAWAII



Licensing Process



The process may vary between General License & Child Specific cases however both complete the entire process





Role of the Resource Caregiver



What is a Resource Caregiver?

Resource caregivers provide temporary care for youth in state custody. Resource caregivers have limited rights and responsibilities while having the youth in their care. In the State of Hawai`i, there are two categories of resource caregivers.

General Licensed

These families are licensed to care for a particular number of youth who, in general; they do not have a previous relationship.

Child Specific

These families are licensed to care for specific youth. These families may be relative.



ACTIVITY:
Characteristics of a Caregiver



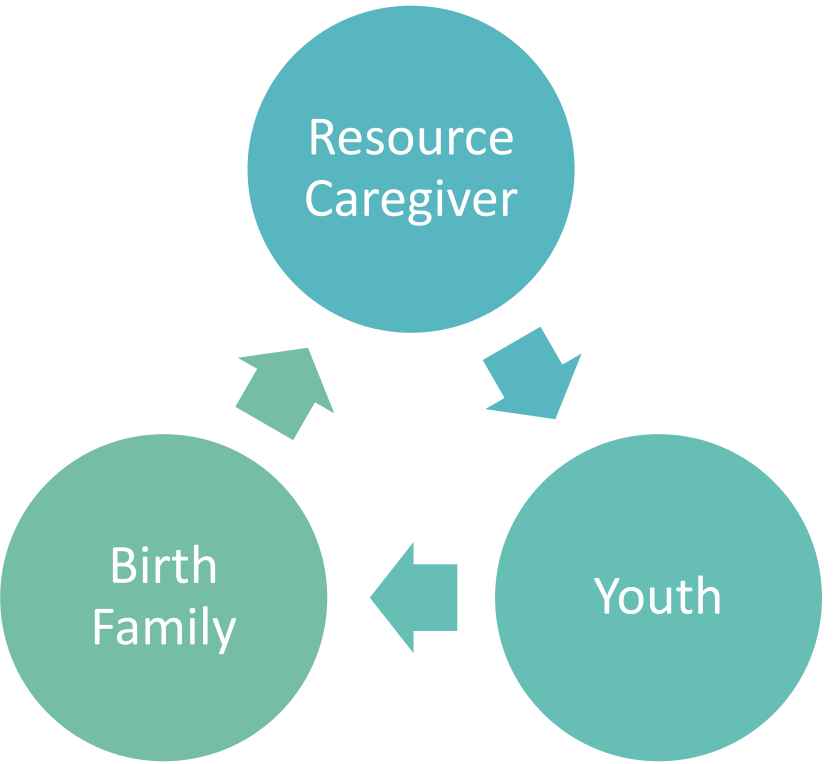
Role of the Resource Caregiver

- Provide a safe home for children in care
- Give families a chance to heal, grow, and develop
- Strengthen the family connection so children can reunite with their families
- They build and promote protective factors for the youth
- Create a sense of normalcy for youth

- Are mandated reporters and service providers for the State
- Engage with the child welfare team and the court process
- Support the state's efforts to reunify children with their birth families
- Support the state's efforts to find appropriate relatives who are willing to adopt the youth when reunification is not possible



Family Dynamics



Relative

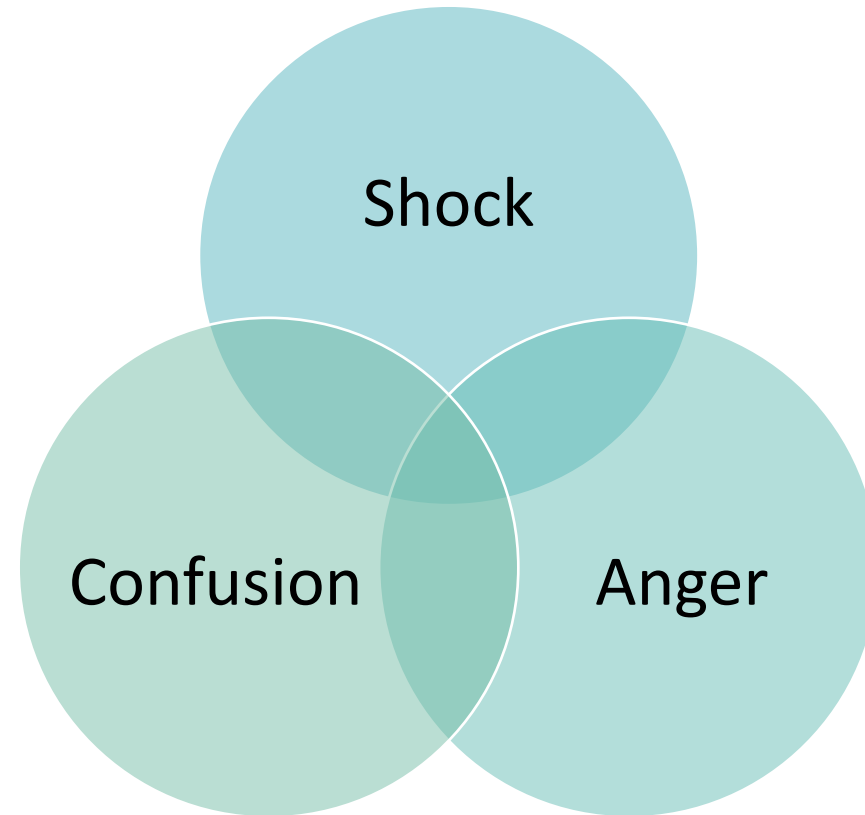
- CAREGIVER
- CWS TEAM PLAYER
- ADVOCATE
- SERVICE PROVIDER

Non-Relative

- CAREGIVER
- EXTENDED 'OHANA
- CWS TEAM PLAYER
- ADVOCATE
- SERVICE PROVIDER



Stages with Transition



Discussion

- What roles are you transitioning into?
- What are some hopes or fears you encounter?



Transitions for Birth Parents

As resource caregivers and youth transition, the birthparents are experiencing transitioning as well. Some behaviors displayed by birthparents may be related to a them experiencing loss and grief.

Shock	I wonder if my child is okay and cared for... I can't believe this is happening to me...
Protest	I am angry, sad, and upset! It's my fault... I am not going to do anything!
Sadness/Despair	I am alone. I can't do this. How do I make the pain go away?
Accept/Adjust	Others believe and depend on me. I want to get my child back. I will do whatever it takes to be a family again.






DISCUSSION

Thoughts?

What is one or two things that you learned?





Rights of Youth in Care





DISCUSSION:

What is one or two things that you learned?



Youth

- Bill of Rights signed into law in 2018.

Birth Parents

- Have parental rights unless determined by court.
- 'Ohana Time
- Ongoing communication and connection

Resource Caregiver

- Right to the medical records that DHS has for the child in care within thirty (30) days of placement.
- DHS should provide Resource Families with the “relevant social history.”
- Provide consent to participate in routine education and recreational activities.
- Participate in family court hearing involving the youth in their home.





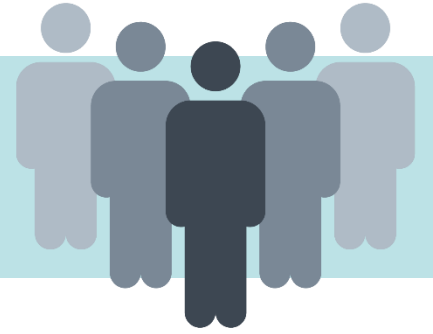
Child Welfare Team & Court Process



Case Study: The Locke Family



Child Welfare Team



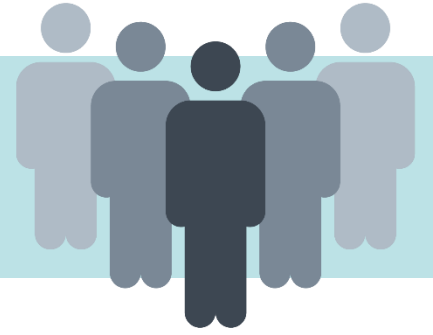
- Branch Administrator
- Assistant Branch Administrator
- Section Administrator
- Supervisor
- Caseworker
- Permanency Worker
- Social Services Assistant
- Social Services Aide
- Licensing Worker
- Intake line:

832-5300 (Oahu)

1-888-380-3088 (Neighbor Islands)



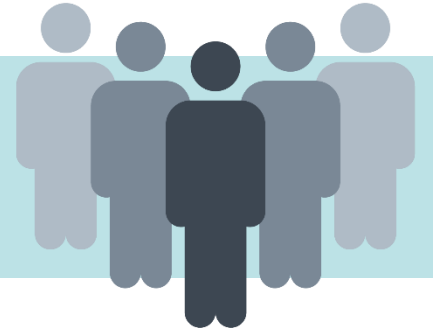
Role of the Youth's Case Worker



- Case manage
- Arranges placement
- Arranges counseling
- Make casework decisions
- Meets and coordinates with team members
- Monitors progress of parent's services
- Completes assessments
- Appear in court



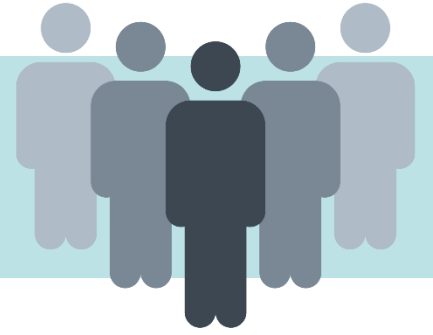
Role of Licensing Worker



- Provides support to resource caregivers (link to support services)
- Assist resource caregiver's to meet initial and renewal/recertification licensing requirements
- Monitor's resource caregivers home for compliance with licensing standards/requirements



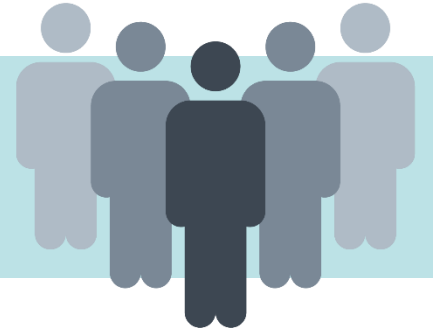
Members of the CWS Team



- Partners in Development Foundation-Project Pilina
- Catholic Charities Hawaii: Home Study and Resource Caregiver Support Services
- EPIC `Ohana-Family Findings, Ohana Conference, Youth Circle, HI Hopes
- Child Welfare Services Licensing Worker
- Youth's & Parent's Child Welfare Services Caseworker
- Parents(s) and Relatives (Maternal & Paternal)
- Resource Caregiver



Members of the CWS Team



- Guardian Ad Litem (GAL) or Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)
- Parent's Attorneys
- Therapist (youth and/or parents)
- Teacher / Principal / Foster Care Point of Contact
- Surrogate Parent (Represent youth matters in special education)
- Physician / Health care provider
- Judge
- Interpreter
- Any other person involved in the life of the child



CWS Team & Resource Caregiver

WITH THE YOUTH:

- To protect the youth and keep them safe
- To nurture the youth by taking care of their physical and emotional needs
- To guide the youth by providing structure, discipline, and teaching
- To be a good role model
- To help support connections with the youth's birth family

WITH THE SYSTEM:

- To maintain licensing standards such as safety, training, fire drills, etc
- To maintain confidentiality about the youth's information
- To communicate information and needs to the social worker
- To support the case plan for the youth, including getting children to appointments and `ohana time
- To provide transportation (resource caregiver are expected to provide transportation)
- To ensure that the youth's medical needs are met



CWS Team & Resource Caregiver

WITH TEACHERS/PRINCIPALS/SURROGATE PARENTS:

- To ensure that the youth attends school regularly
- To ensure that the youth receives assistance with their assignments
- If the youth is receiving special education services, the resource caregiver should be communicating with a surrogate parent and attending IEP/504 meetings

WITH OWN FAMILY:

- To involve everyone in the decision to become a resource family.
- To understand that being a resource family can bring more stress.
- To think about what kinds of children might fit best with your family, your circumstances, and your preferences.



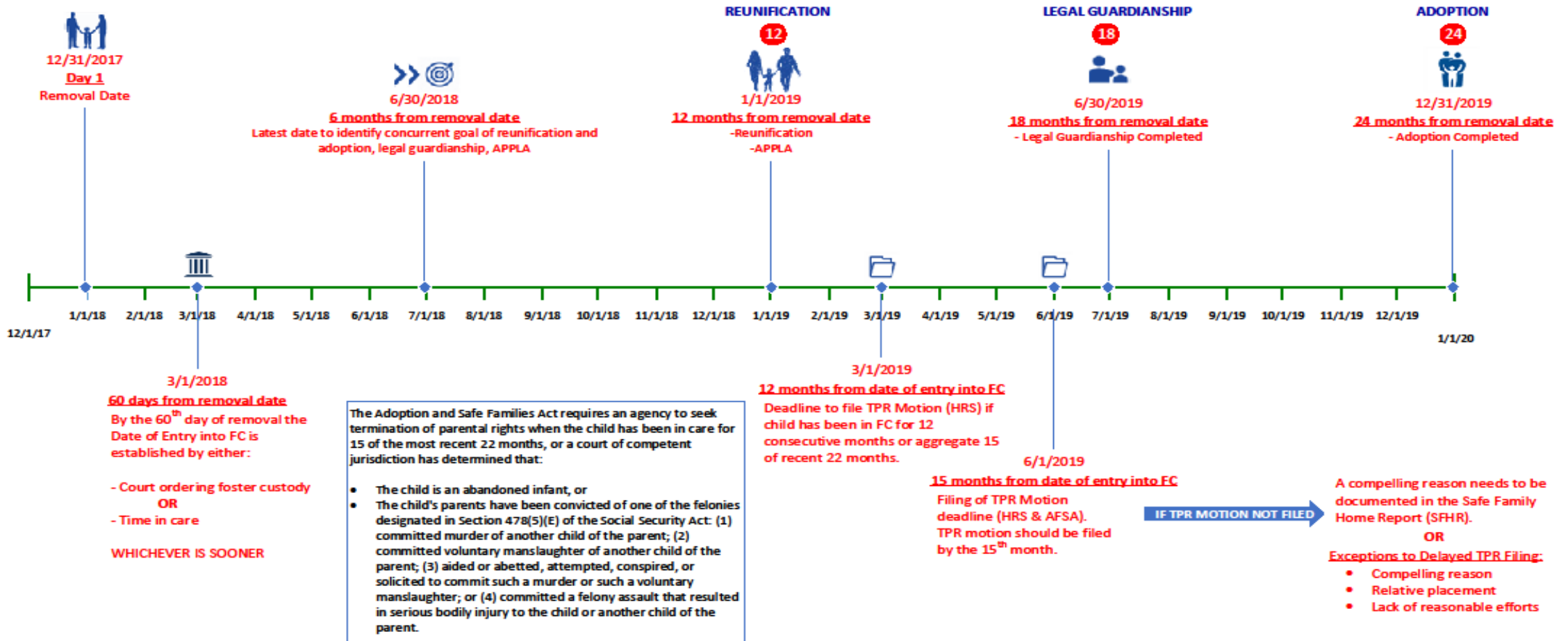


Court Process



Permanency Goal Timeline

A hypothetical timeline illustrating critical deadlines in an effort to achieve permanency for a child in foster care in a timely manner. The example below is based on a child removed on December 31, 2017 and the process of events that is involved through a 24-month period, ending on December 31, 2019.



Revised: 3/22/2019



Court

What is the Goal of Court?

- Child Welfare services are guided by family court to ensure both safety and permanency is accomplished through the court process.
- “Concurrent Planning” to shorten the amount of time a youth remains in foster care.
- Engage family immediately in the process
- Promote more options for permanency (i.e. Reunification)

Why Participate?

- Your voice is valuable
- Your day-to-day care of the child and your regular contact with therapists, teachers, and other service providers gives you a unique perspective on the child’s needs
- By giving the Family Court current and detailed information about the child, you can assist the Court in making the best possible decisions about the child in your home



Court Participation by Youth

- Family Court judges on all islands have a general policy of welcoming all youth to participate in court hearings
- Resource caregivers and Guardian Ad Litem or Court Appointed Special Advocate should encourage youth to participate
- Family court welcomes youth ages 13 years old and younger but the court approaches these case by case
- Able to speak with the judge behind chambers or write a letter
- If youth participates in court then the GAL, CASA, and case worker would be responsible to prepare and discuss after hearing



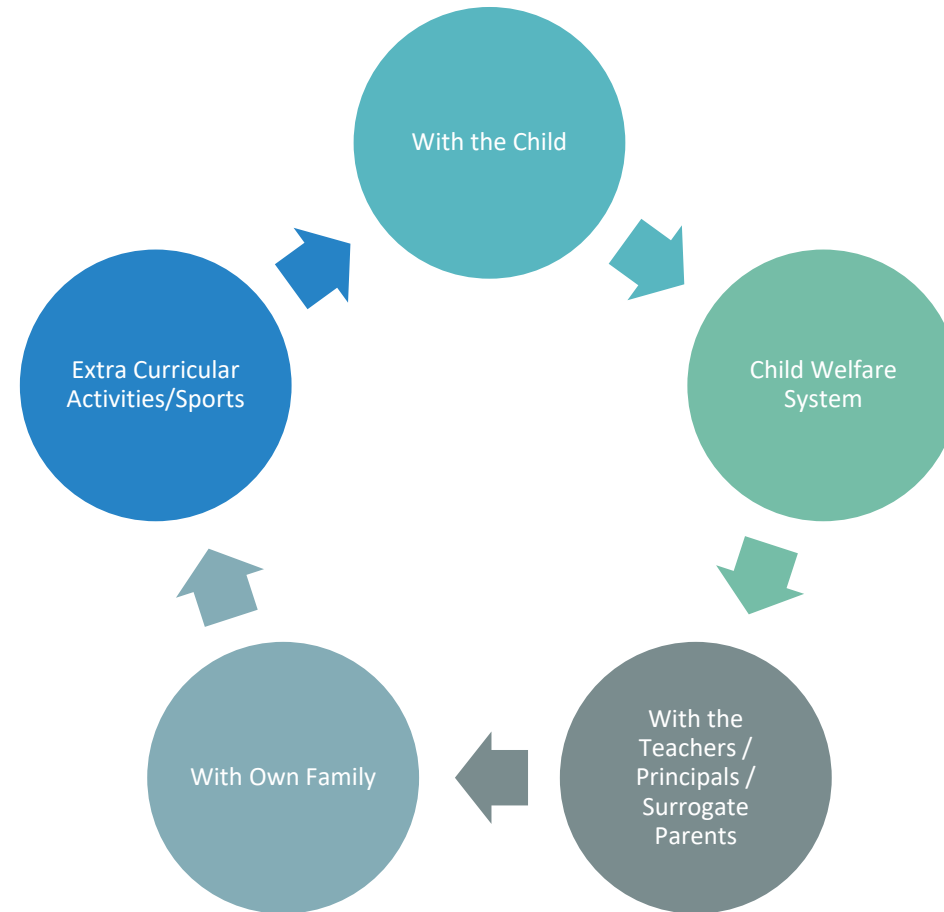
Discussion:

What has been your experience in court hearings?

What is your `ohana time plan?



CWS Team and Resource Caregivers



Questions?



A stylized map of the Hawaiian Islands is centered on a light blue horizontal band. The islands are rendered in a muted, brownish-grey color. The largest island, Hawaii, is on the right side of the band, while the other islands are scattered to its left and slightly above.

Mahalo!



References

- A Healing Journey: The Road to Reunification. Department of Human Services and Epic Ohana, Inc.
- Child Welfare Guide for Caregivers. Department of Human Services
- Caregivers and the Court (May 2012). It takes an `Ohana. Family Programs Hawaii.
- Concurrent Planning For Timely Performance. www.childwelfare.gov
- Department of Human Services Child Welfare Policy for Resource Caregivers
- [Know Your Rights: Foster Care Youth Rights in Hawai'i - YouTube](#) Epic, Ohana Inc
- Stages with Transition section influence by The Grandfamily Guidebook. Wisdom and Support for Grandparents raising Grandchildren. Adesman, Andrew & Adamec, Christine.

