## REASONABLE EFFORTS TO PREVENT REMOVAL:

- 1. Discuss safety related issues with the parents
- 2. Provide resources for In-Home Services, ie MYPAC/In-Circle
- 3. Provide resources for counseling
- 4. Assist/Provide resources for SNAP benefits
- 5. Provide resources for low income housing
- 6. Assist parents to repair or replace safety issues
- 7. Assist parents by providing resources for financial assistance
- 8. Locate and speak with family members about providing respite or help with children
- 9. Assist parents with job search/WIN job center
- 10. Assist parents with resources for local mental health providers
- 11. Assist parents with connection to local resources for domestic violence and/or drug rehab
- 12. Assist parents by locating local public transportation options
- 13. Assist parents with medical/pharmacy needs by utilizing local free clinics
- 14. Assist parents in locating local food kitchens, registering for backpack buddies or other
- 15. Assist parents with accessing legal representation for collateral issues, ie housing, public assistance, domestic violence protection order, divorce
- 16. Assist family with connections to the juvenile justice/delinquency services and support

## REASONABLE EFFORTS TO **REUNIFY WITH PARENT(S)**:

- 1. Assist parents with meaningful visitation
- 2. Assist parents with resources for drug treatment, detox, in and out patient
- 3. Assist parents with completing applications for resources such as TANIF, EBT, Medicaid
- 4. Assist parents in locating medical/pharmacy needs by utilizing local free clinics
- 5. Assist parents with transportation by locating public transportation or helping when appropriate
- 6. Assist parents with application for free housing
- 7. Assist parents with job search/WIN job center
- 8. Assist parents with Educational needs for themselves, ie GED, vocational training
- 9. Assist parents with locating local food kitchens
- 10. Assist parents by locating family members who would be willing to help with children/family
- 11. Assist parents by keeping them informed of child's educational status, school schedule, holiday schedule and ensuring that, if allowed by Court, they can follow school rules and visit child at school
- 12. Assist parents with technical needs for Facetime, Zoom or other methods of maintaining contact with their children
- 13. Maintain contact with incarcerated parents and encourage them to write to their children
- 14. Maintain contact with parents to ensure that they are receiving court papers and know court
- 15. Continuously monitor a parent's service plan to ensure that they are reaching goals and if goals are not attainable, have the court reexamine the court ordered activity.

- 16. Make sure Family Team Meetings are meaningful and useful. If allow, have teenage children participate in FTM so that the parents know their children know their task and goals and that they are working to achieve them. If smaller children, have a visitation immediately before or after the FTM which will encourage parents to attend the meeting.
- 17. Ensure that parents know their child's medical conditions, medical appointments, any emergencies that may arise and, if allowed, encourage them to attend medical appointments.

## REASONABLE EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE PERMANENT PLANS AND CONCURRENT PLANS:

- 1. Reunification:
  - a. See above for reunification with parents.
- 2. Custody with Relative
  - a. Assist relative in becoming a certified foster parent.
  - b. Immediately prepare and present ICPA if applicable.
  - c. Allow visitation between children and relative seeking custody.
  - d. Ensure that child's medical and educational needs can be meet in relative placement
  - e. Assist relative in preparing a plan for child care if applicable
  - f. Assist relative in preparing a contingent plan for the child's placement should need arise
  - g. If allowed by the court, assist the relative in obtaining legal counsel to discuss guardianship
  - h. If applicable, discuss the pros and cons of durable legal custody with relative
- 3. Custody with Non-Relative
  - a. See above for Relative
- 4. APPLA
  - a. Do a psychological evaluation of minor to determine ability to manage on their own
  - b. Assist minor with basis needs such as:
    - i. Educational plan, to include financial aid applications
    - ii. State Identification
    - iii. Driver's License
    - iv. GED, if applicable
    - v. School activities and needs for graduation, prom, etc
    - vi. Physical examination
    - vii. Housing, if applicable
    - viii. Vocational training and resources available within community
    - ix. Transportation issues, ie public transportation or Medicaid transportation
    - x. Assist with job search/WIN job center
    - xi. Mental Health and counseling centers
    - xii. Assist with locating medical/pharmacy needs by utilizing local free clinics
    - xiii. Assist with locating local food kitchens and/or pantries
  - c. Ensure that minor maintains connection to either family or fictive kin
  - d. Ensure the minor is enrolled in Transitional Living
  - e. Provide minor information on stipends available, ie ETV
  - f. Sign the minor, if 17 or above, up at the WIN job center

- g. Ensure that minor understands and is capable of self-sufficient skills such as:
  - i. Banking
  - ii. Credit Counseling/score
  - iii. Cooking
  - iv. Cleaning
  - v. Personal Hygiene
  - vi. Applying for further education
  - vii. Interviewing skills
  - viii. Appropriate social media skills
  - ix. Appropriate dress for work place
- h. Provide the minor with choices for his/her future:
  - i. Community College
  - ii. University
  - iii. Military
  - iv. Vocational/Technical training
  - v. Camp Shelby
  - vi. Job Corps
- i. Explore all other options rather than APPLA with the minor
- 5. Termination of parental rights:
  - a. Obtain birth certificate (should have done long before, but you know how that goes)
  - b. If minor is over 14, make sure this is what he/she wants
  - c. Ensure that minor is in a placement that will qualify for adoption
  - d. Adoption Worker should obtain the information on adoption assistance ASAP
  - e. Continue to allow contact with parents if it is not detrimental
  - f. Continue to work with parents if it is not detrimental
  - g. Meet the minor's medical/dental needs prior to adoption
  - h. Complete TPR Package in a timely manner