**SUPPORT GROUP SERVICES FOR RESOURCE FAMILIES**

**Description of Service:**

Support group services will be designed to assist resource families in strengthening their relationships with foster children placed in their homes. Support group services will also focus on enhancing placement stability, and promoting foster families’ willingness and ability to foster special needs children and older youth that come into care.

**Frequency/Duration:**

The Support Group Coordinator will provide face-to-face support group services to local resource parents. Support group services should be provided no less than quarterly, but may be provided as frequently as monthly. Monthly phone or email contact should be made with resource parents for the purposes of coordinating services and identifying pertinent support group topics.

**Expectations:**

**Foster Parent:** The foster parent(s) may participate in every scheduled group session

**Service Provider:**  The Coordinator will record the topic(s) of discussion and keep a sign-in sheet for each support group meeting. Child care should be provided if requested by families attending support group meetings. Anyone providing childcare must pass criminal history and CPS checks.

**Probation Officer:** The probation officer will make the referral to the provider shortly after it is ordered by the Court. During appointments, the probation officer will talk with the foster parent(s) about the support group sessions.