

Who attends the meetings?

The CFT composition always includes you, family members, the current caregiver, a representative from the placing agency, and other individuals identified by the family as being important.

Required:

- You
- Your Family Members
- Your Current Caregiver(s)/Resource Parent(s)
- Your CFT Facilitator
- Your Social Worker and/or your Deputy Probation Officer

Required as Applicable:

- Behavioral Health Staff
- Community Service Providers
- FFA Social Worker or STRTP Representative
- Regional Center Staff
- School Staff
- Your Educational Rights Holder
- Tribe or Indian Custodian

Suggested Team Members:

- Friends/Neighbors
- Youth Partners
- Parent Partners
- Faith Based/Spiritual Supports
- Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASAs)
- Coaches
- Daycare Providers
- Community Members
- Other Natural Supports

Who do you count on as a support person? A friend? A neighbor? Invite them to be part of the Team, too!

What is my role as a member?

- You are an important member of a Team who comes together to help you and your family.
- The Team needs and wants to hear what you say! Speak up and share your opinions, thoughts, and concerns.
- You and your family are at the center of this process. Attending every meeting is part of the plan so the Team can hear from you directly.



Team Members

OUR TEAM MEMBERS	
Name	
Phone	

OUR NEXT MEETING	
Date	
Time	
Location	

Child and Family Team (CFT)



Youth



What is a Child & Family Team?

You, family members, trusted adults, and caring professionals who work together in achieving goals for positive change and improving child safety, permanency, and well-being.

Child and Family Teams

- Your strengths and your family's strengths are the focus in finding solutions
- Your family culture is respected
- You and your family are recognized as the experts in your lives
- Your voice and choice, as well as your family's, are central to the CFT process
- Develop plans to meet your goals and your family's goals

Questions I may have:

Am I able to share information from the CFT with my attorney?

Yes, you are able to share information about the CFT with your attorney. The Team is there to help you and your family.

What happens if my Resource Parent(s) and Parent(s) are not getting along?

The Team will work with you and your family to develop a plan to address this and move towards achieving the plan goals.

How is a CFT meeting scheduled?

You are the most important member of a CFT! All CFT members make a commitment to attend meetings. Meeting times and locations are scheduled so that they are convenient for you and your family.



Can I see my case plan?

Yes. Information sharing is an important part of the CFT, so talk with your social worker or deputy probation officer about wanting to see your case plan.

What if my parents' rights have been terminated? Can they still come to the meetings?

In some cases, biological parents may be able to attend CFT meetings. Check with your Team, since your social worker or deputy probation officer may need to go to Court for approval.

What happens if I am not getting along with members of my Team?

Make sure you tell a trusted Team member so you can all work together to develop a plan to address this and move towards achieving the plan goals.

Can I ask for a CFT meeting if I'm worried about a circumstance in my life?

Yes. A CFT meeting may be requested by you to address issues and brainstorm options for action steps. Your Team will work together to help you and your family with your needs.

Some reasons why a CFT meeting is requested include:

- You have concerns about your placement
- You are not able to attend regular sibling or family visits because of distance, transportation, or supervision
- You are not able to participate in after-school activities, such as sports or school functions
- You are missing your Independent Living Program (ILP) classes
- Your needs have changed

What should I expect at a meeting?

- Your Team establishes "ground rules" to make sure there is safe, honest, and confidential communication within the CFT process
 - » A facilitator will lead the group discussion
- Your Team has a clearly stated goal for every meeting
- All Team members have a voice
- Your Team brainstorms options and decides on specific actions steps
- All Team members agree to complete specific tasks and responsibilities



Can I have my CASA/Guidance Counselor/ Youth Partner/Spiritual Advisor go to a CFT meeting?

Yes! You are encouraged to request that the people in your life who are important to you and willing to support your goals be invited to participate in the CFT.

How will I know what services are available in my county?

Your Team will work with you to assess your needs and explain what services are available in your county. A Team member, such as your social worker, deputy probation officer, and CFT facilitator will help coordinate services that are needed.

If I feel uncomfortable with any part of the process, what can I do?

If you feel worried or upset about any part of the process, you can communicate directly with one or more of your Team members.