

Primary Family to Foster Family

Birth parents and children have the right to spend time together. The primary purpose of family interaction is to maintain the parent-child relationship and other family attachments. This will establish a secure based attachment context to reduce the sense of abandonment which children experience at placement. When children are in foster care it is essential that foster parents create opportunities for them to see their parents so that the parent-child bond can be maintained. When children see their parents more frequently, the child will move more quickly to permanence – whether by returning home or by moving to another permanent placement.

Trainer: Norma Ginther, MSW

Norma Ginther received her masters degree in social work from Ohio State University in 1988, and has thirty-five years of child welfare practice and training experience. She has worked in both public and private child welfare agencies as a family services caseworker, a foster care program development specialist, in a physical abuse assessment and treatment unit, and in an adolescent services unit. Norma also served as a professional treatment foster home for twenty years, and cared for forty-six adolescents with emotional and behavioral disturbance. She is also an adoptive parent.