

WAFCA Pilot Project

Centralized Resource Connection for Children At-Risk of Out-of-State Placement

Memorandum of Understanding

The purpose of the resource connection pilot project is to locate in-state treatment and services for children at-risk of out-of-state placement. To be successful, we need to partner efficiently and effectively, think creatively, and act with urgency. We value the expertise and experience of the professionals coming to the table and have established the following set of commitments as a framework for our joint efforts.

All involved with the pilot project understand (and agree to):

Being informed and ready to engage contributes to successful partnerships.

- ✓ I agree to read all materials pertaining to the pilot and come prepared.

Everyone is at the virtual table because they care.

- ✓ I will assume the best intentions of those in the virtual room.

This is a pilot. When trying something new, there will inevitably be bumps in the road.

- ✓ I agree to participate with patience and be respectful of the other professionals involved.
- ✓ I will offer constructive feedback when I notice things that could be improved. (Feedback can be provided during the session or afterwards via email – connect@wafca.org.)

The connection session is a dialogue and professional exchange, during which the most current and accurate information regarding the child, the child and family's circumstance, and the provider options are shared.

- ✓ I will share all relevant information, including the strengths and needs of the child and family, while ensuring confidentiality.
- ✓ I agree to keep the information discussed confidential and only share with those who have a need to know for the purpose of providing care and/or treatment.
- ✓ If I do not have the answer to a question, I commit to seeking it out.

The connection session is a means to narrow the placing agency's search to those agencies with a capacity to serve the child and/or family. It should also produce as many viable options as possible, so that if one option does not work out, others can be tried, or so that a combination of services can be tried if residential services are unavailable.

- ✓ I agree to keep an open mind and consider *all* possibilities.
- ✓ I agree to think of myself/my agency as part of the solution.
- ✓ I will think of child/family needs first.
- ✓ If challenges come to mind, I will share those with the group and view them as things to problem-solve.

If a solution(s) emerges from this session, my work is not done.

- ✓ I agree to continue being part of the solution, including partnering to support the child/family when in crisis.
- ✓ I will respond timely to those I'm in partnership with.
- ✓ I will share information with WAFCA so that evaluation of this pilot can occur.

A solution may not emerge for a particular child/family.

- ✓ I agree to focus on the success of the attempt rather than the outcome.
- ✓ If something changes about the resource needed and/or availability of a service, I can share this with WAFCA and discuss the options.

Electronic Signature:

Date: