



February 3, 2021

CAREGIVER PRACTICE MODEL

The Department of Children and Families is pleased to announce the development and implementation of a **Connecticut Caregiver Practice Model (CPM)**.

What is CPM?

CPM is an organizing framework, that will align our vision and values with policy and practice by **describing and guiding the work** of the agency and its contracted providers **related to all caregivers** in the State of Connecticut.



The current strategies and initiatives of the Department, such as the Quality Parenting Initiative (QPI), Family First, innovating a Kinship Navigation Model and the Faith-Based Community Initiative, have added momentum for the shared vision of supporting children and families in Connecticut through a focus on prevention and permanency. **We aim to ensure that children are able to live safely 1) with their families, 2) with relatives, kin or someone they know, or 3) with a family.** When children *must* be removed, we maintain relationships between bio-parents, caregivers, and children through our QPI practice. The CPM is the organizing framework within which we can align these central strategies and initiatives.

What will CPM accomplish?

- Facilitate **standardized practice** related to individuals and parents (i.e., parents of origin, parents that foster whether core, adoptive, kin or fictive kin).
- Help to ensure that families are **treated equally and equitably**.
- Ensure children who must enter care **live with relatives, kin or someone they know**.
- Guide the workforce to integrate the principles and values in their efforts to **support caregivers in the best way possible**.

The central principles and values that will guide the CPM work are:

- *A child and family-centered practice*
- *A culturally responsive approach*
- *Community focused and collaborative efforts*
- *Creating accessible services*
- *Ensuring flexible and responsive supports*
- *An outcome driven practice*



What are the next steps?

Early in 2021, the agency will begin to define and implement the CPM as a broad guiding effort with focus on all caregivers and children in the State of Connecticut.

