

What is Family Connections Oregon?

Family Connections Oregon (FCO) is a program funded by the Children's Bureau in which a **FCO Coordinator** works with parents, extended family and support people, child welfare workers and other helping professionals to help families plan for the safety and well-being of their children who are recently placed in foster care.

What should I expect from FCO?

- Your **FCO Coordinator** will work with you to bring together important people in your children's lives (family and friends) to help plan to care for their needs.
- Your **FCO Coordinator** will prepare you, the important people in your life, your caseworker, and any other helping professionals for a family meeting.
- Your **FCO Coordinator** will facilitate your family meeting and together, you and your family/friends will create an Action Plan to best support your children's needs.
- Your **FCO Coordinator** will help to ensure the plan you develop is approved by DHS and followed over time.



Can the FCO program really help?

- Research shows that bringing family together to plan for the needs of their children is an effective child welfare practice.
- The goal of FCO is to help improve services and outcomes for families and children in child welfare.
- You will be invited to participate in an evaluation of the FCO program to gather information about how FCO is working for you.
- You will have the opportunity to share what worked for your family.

Where can I get more information?

- Visit our website: www.pdx.edu/ccf/fco
- Contact Susie Barrios at Portland State University: susc@pdx.edu or (503)725-5098

