



Frequently Asked Questions

Who attends the Family Group Conference?

You and your family determine the invitation list. In preparation for the meeting, you and the coordinator will explore who to have in attendance.

How do children participate?

The coordinator will talk with the children and adults you want involved about how the children can best participate – whether in person, by written views, video, drawings, etc.

Where will the conference be held?

The location will be at your choice. The coordinator can assist you in selecting the most neutral environment possible to provide comfort and safety for everyone attending the conference.

How long will the conference take?

The conference could last anywhere from 3-5 hours. This depends on how long information sharing and private family time take, neither of which are limited in time.

Is there help with childcare and/or transportation?

If there are any barriers to getting your family together (for example: lack of childcare or transportation) the coordinator can help find creative ways to remove those barriers.

For more information:



Family Group Decision Making

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Healthy Communities Partnership

Family Group Decision Making



*Empowering Families toward
Positive and Healthy Change*

At our best level of existence we are parts of a family, and at our highest level of achievement, we work to keep the family alive.

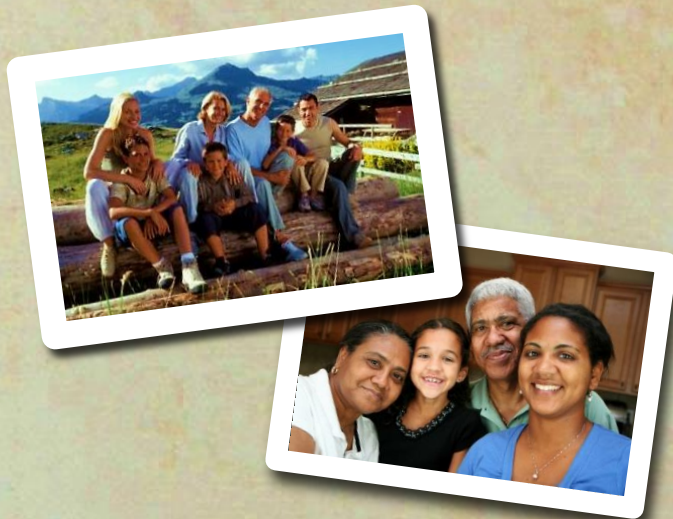
~Maya Angelou



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What is Family Group Decision Making (FGDM)?

- 📖 A voluntary process that draws on family experiences, knowledge and resources to create plans that provide for the safety and wellbeing of the entire family.
- 📖 A gathering that involves immediate and extended family, support people, community members, and services providers, also known as the Family Group Conference.
- 📖 A strategy to strengthen the partnership and collaboration between families, service providers, and community.



How long until the Family Group Conference?

- 📖 The length of time between the initial contact with the FGDM coordinator and the Family Group Conference varies based on the number of participants and scheduling. Preparation for the conference takes approximately 3-4 weeks before we gather together.



What happens before the Family Group Conference?

- 📖 The FGDM Coordinator will meet with each participant individually:
 - To clearly describe the FGDM process and purposes for the conference.
 - To help participants understand their role before, during and after the conference.
 - To prepare participants to create a family plan.

What happens at a Family Group Conference?

- 📖 Welcome and Information Sharing
 - The Family Group Conference begins with introductions, family rituals, guidelines, and agreement on our purpose for the gathering.
 - Family members and other participants share strengths and concerns.
 - There is opportunity for everyone to ask questions, share information, thoughts, and ideas.
 - All participants are invited to share a meal with the family.
- 📖 Private Family Time
 - All service providers exit and allow the family time alone to discuss the information shared and create a family plan that addresses the areas of concerns.
- 📖 Plan Presentation
 - The entire group comes back together and the plan is presented, reviewed, strengthened, and approved by the referring agency.

