

Parent, Relative, and Foster Family Support Services



Lisa Davis, Clinical Director

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EMQ FamiliesFirst



Program Description

Parent, Relative, and Foster Family Support Services (PRFFSS) offers stabilization and transition services for all children who have recently been placed with Foster Parents, Relatives, NREFM (Non-related extended family members), are reunifying with their families or whose placement with biological or adoptive parents is at risk.

Population Served:



- All family dynamics – biological & adoptive parents, relative caregivers, non-relative family members, foster and adoptive families.
- Serve 135 at a time and 810 annually.

How we do it:

- Immediate response to referrals within 1 hour of call
- 24/7 In-person, On-call support for crisis within one hour of calling
- 60 day (average) length of stay
- Comprehensive Life Domain Assessment
- Functional Behavioral Assessment and Positive Behavioral Intervention Plans
- Behavioral support at home, school, and community
- Referral to on-going, longer term mental health services as needed
- Linkage to culturally appropriate community resources including DV and substance abuse treatment programs.
- Culturally diverse staff and language capacity: Spanish, Farsi, Hebrew, French, German, ASL and Vietnamese
- Coordination of care with other mental health providers.

Life Domains

(Examples include)

- Food, housing and health care
- Emergency services including utility assistance
- Domestic Violence Services
- Substance Abuse Services
- Mental Health Services
- Educational and Vocational Assistance



Why we're successful:

Engagement is the most essential aspect to the success of any program. It is critical to a family's success that they connect to needed services that are accessible and culturally relevant. The Family Partners, with similar life experiences as the families we serve, are the first point of contact and follow a well-developed engagement protocol.

This has resulted in a successful engagement rate of over 90%.



Magic of our program:

The support of a Family Partner who has their own “real-life” experiences with parenting under stressful conditions, provides a safe and accepting environment for parents receiving services to address their frustration and self-doubt and to practice new skills. Family Partners have the unique opportunity to specialize their support, based on family culture, values and need. This allows for a greater level of engagement and participation with successful outcomes.

Success Rate and Definition of Success

- Our success rate is 99%
- Success is defined by the prevention of a child's placement disruption.
- A placement disruption is defined by an unplanned change of placement or a child is moved due to the need of a higher level of care.



Testimonials:



“I learned how to be respectful and responsible. Even if you were not here, I would still do what I’m suppose to do. I would thank you because of all the work you have done for me. I learned valuable lessons.”

Youth

“We are pleased to say that our nephew is responding well to the strategies taught by his entire team at EMQFF that helped him to identify and manage his moods. This is all due to the creative ideas, support, and encouragement by the entire team. Our nephew has also become not only observant to identifying his emotions, but his peers' emotions and is able to identify their feelings of frustration, anger, confusion, or embarrassment which prompts him to offer encouragement, support, or help.”

Relative Caregiver



Testimonials: (Continued)



“Le doy las gracias a cada una de las personas que trabajaron con un propósito para mejorar una familia, mi familia. Gracias, realmente, estaba muy necesitada de este programa. Me dieron, mucho, pero mucho apoyo. Fue un orgullo de recibir esta gran ayuda. ¡Una vez más, gracias! Los extrañare, pero estarán siempre en mi corazón, con un gran agradecimiento.”

Padre

(Translation)

“I give the thanks to each one of the people that worked with a purpose to improve a family, my family. Thanks, really, we were much in need of this program. They gave me a lot, a lot of support. It was an honor to receive this great aid. Once again, thanks! I will miss all of you, but you all will always be in my heart, with a great gratitude.”

Parent

Organizational Chart

Clinical Director
Lisa Davis, MFT

Associate Clinical Director
Linda Nunn, MFT

Clinical Program Manager
Michelle Goodwin, LCSW

Parent Involvement Coordinator
Leah Dansby-Ezeoha

Facilitators
Anoushka Tahaei, LPHA
Calla Bedda, MFT

Program Supervisor
Kevin Burnside, MHRS

Family Partners
Atasca Chiles-Holmes
Elizabeth Carattini
Erika Diaz
John Crowder
Kristen Murray
Lyn Lenichen
Veronica Velasco

Administrative Assistant
Jennifer Garibay

Family Specialists
Ana Lilia Soto
Cynthia Vivar
Eddie Dominguez
Erica Chambers
Jules Castaño-Villanueva
Justin Ricks
Monica Lozano
Randell Lewis
Salvador Hernandez
Xochitl Muñoz