

## Presenting FGDM to Families

After ensuring that all Stacking for Success questions are answered in the affirmative and any doubts about timing and familial situations serving as barriers to success are resolved, it is now time to present Family Group Decision Making (FGDM) to families. In doing so, your job as the referring worker is to do the following.

- Briefly describe to the parent(s) or primary caregiver(s) the FGDM process. In describing the FGDM process:
  - reveal the agency's belief that the agency values and emphasizes family ownership/empowerment;
  - discuss the emphasis that FGDM places on the family's voice in decision making; and
  - secure consents to release information in preparation for contacting other family and community partners – if your coordinator does not do this, and your agency has not already done so as part of agency policy.
- Discuss a potential purpose for the meeting and identify potential participants.
- Connect the family with the FGDM Coordinator.
  - Multiple methods exist to do this (*e.g.*, after being informed about FGDM, once the family expresses interest in taking part in FGDM, give the family the coordinator's contact information, ask the coordinator to accompany you on the next visit, and so on). Agency policy will direct you further in expectations regarding your agency's referral processes and next steps.

