

Big Bend Community Based Care Policy & Procedure

Series:	400: Child Welfare Services	
Policy Name:	Concurrent Permanency Planning	
Policy Number:	407	
Origination Date:	3/09/09	Revised: Board Meeting of 12/13/2018
Regulation:	39.621, F.S. 39.6011, F.S. 65C-30.006, F.A.C. P.L. 105-89 CFOP 170-4 CFOP 170-5 CFOP 175-15	

Policy

It is the policy of Big Bend Community Based Care, Inc. (BBCBC), to mandate that all CMOs support concurrent permanency planning as time is of the essence for children in the dependency system.

Procedure

- A. Establish a permanency goal for all unsafe children. All case plans established for unsafe children, whether they are court supervised, will include the department's goal(s) for the child(ren) with respect to permanency and legal custody. The DCM should explain to the parent/legal guardian(s), as well as any substitute caregiver(s) involved, the goals for the child that the department has identified. Case plan goal options are as follows:
 1. "Maintain and strengthen" means to maintain the child with parent and strengthen parent's ability to fulfill their responsibilities as parents.
 2. "Reunification" means to return the child to his/her parent/legal guardian(s).
 3. "Adoption" means that a petition for termination of parental rights has been or will be filed.
 4. "Permanent guardianship" of a dependent child.
 5. Placement in another planned permanent living arrangement under certain limited circumstances for children 16 and older.
- B. The DCM will work with the parents/legal guardian to establish a mutually agreed upon family goal and assess their motivation for change. This should happen after the protective capacities that resulted in the identified danger threats are better understood. The family goal should be established collaboratively with family members. When that is not possible, the DCM should provide some choices for the family that would be acceptable to the agency. Every case involving a child in an out-of-home placement will be evaluated during permanency staffings to determine if concurrent permanency case planning is appropriate.
 1. The appropriateness of concurrent permanency goals will be determined in the early stages of the case.

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2. The child will be involved in these determinations, depending on his or her age and developmental level.
 3. Information from other persons involved with the child will be obtained, such as the child's therapist and school personnel.
 4. Safety, permanency, and well-being should be assessed during permanency staffings, including: medical, educational, emotional, developmental, and child safety issues when making determinations regarding concurrent case planning.
- C.** Cases involved with the Early Childhood Court (ECC) Project will have monthly permanency discussions, including conversations about concurrent planning from the initiation of the case.
- D.** The DCM will ensure the case plan includes services and tasks that address the concurrent permanency planning goals and will provide participants a clear statement of services and tasks related to each goal.
- E.** The DCM will provide the participants with an explanation of the purpose of concurrent planning and its impact.
- F.** The DCM will file the case plan, all updates, and attachments required by state and federal law, with the court.
- G.** The case plan for children 13 and over in out-of-home placement will include a description of the independent living services.
- H.** If circumstances are so extraordinary that the case plan must be extended beyond twelve (12) months and it is warranted that this is in the child's best interest, the reasons shall be documented and presented to the court. The extension request shall be made no later than the 12-month permanency review.