

## Relative Identification and Exploration

### **TOOLS and QUESTIONS**

#### **Some tools supervisors might supply workers with are:**

- Genograms
- Record searches- often these searches will yield names and also guide questions to be asked. Supervisors must see that workers follow up on information in case records.
- Talking to School personnel. Many school officials have known families for years
- Marriage certificates- make active use of our vital records section
- Letter to relatives that are not local asking for family history
- Has there ever been a family reunion? Who organized it? (Who attended?)

#### **Exploration is the work of finding how does this family function? Who has what role? Some things supervisors should be looking for in narration are:**

- Who is close to the parent (s) and / children.
- Who is estranged and why?
- Who has been involved as the family struggled?
- Who did not know the family was struggling but wants to help?
- Who might be a placement possibility?
- Who cannot or will not be a placement possibility but wants to be involved and help? How do they see themselves as being able to help?
- Who might pose a safety risk to the children? How do we know that?
- Is there a person who is seen as a leader in the larger family?

The greatest skill supervisors can teach staff is to be curious about the families and the best way to teach that is through showing your own curiosity.