

# Being Active in Your Efforts

- Conduct a **comprehensive assessment** of the circumstances of the Indian child's family, with a focus on **safe reunification** as the most desirable goal;
- Identify **appropriate services** and help the parents to **overcome barriers**, including **actively assisting** the parents in obtaining such services;
- Identifying, notifying, and inviting** representatives of the **Indian child's Tribe** to participate in providing **support and services** to the Indian child's family and in family team meetings, permanency planning, and resolution of placement issues;
- Conducting or causing to be conducted a **diligent search** for the Indian child's extended family members, and contacting and **consulting with extended family members** to provide family **structure and support** for the Indian child and the Indian child's parents;
- Offering and employing all available and **culturally appropriate family preservation strategies** and facilitating the use of remedial and rehabilitative services provided by the child's Tribe;
- Taking steps to keep **siblings together** whenever possible;
- Supporting **regular visits** with parents or Indian custodians in the **most natural setting possible** as well as **trial home visits** of the Indian child during **any period of removal**, consistent with the need to ensure the health, safety, and welfare of the child;
- Identifying **community resources** including housing, financial, transportation, mental health, substance abuse, and peer support services and **actively assisting** the Indian child's parents or, when appropriate, the child's family, in **utilizing and accessing** those resources;
- Monitoring** progress and participation in services;
- Considering **alternative ways** to address the needs of the Indian child's parents and, where appropriate, the family, if the optimum services do not exist or are not available;
- Providing **post-reunification** services and monitoring.



# Agents of Change

- Rapport building - demonstrate genuine care and concern
- Active listening and acknowledgement of family circumstances.
- Ask and answer questions until true understanding has been achieved.
- A non-judgmental environment regardless of circumstances.
- Client input in case plan. If children are old enough consider their wishes.
- Unconditional motivational support - you might be the only one who believes in them.
- Providing culturally responsive services. Don't be afraid to learn from your families.
- Sharing of all case related information. Communication in a timely manner is ESSENTIAL.
- Awareness of services and supports available to assist the family. Stay up-to-date.
- Engaging other meaningful adults to assist in the process of making change.
- The bigger the support system the greater likelihood of success.
- Provide training in performing tasks.
- Seek overt commitment to task and goals