

What is Collaborative Family **Engagement?**

The goal of Collaborative Family Engagement (CFE) is to ensure children have meaningful connections while under the care of Child Protective Services (CPS) and to establish a Lifetime Support Network. This network consists of positive and committed adults who will support the child and their families both during and after CPS involvement.

Why CFE Works:

- · Recognizing that children heal from trauma through relationships
- Responding urgently to the needs of the child
- Promoting connections for children and their families provides healing, safety, healthy attachment; positive development helps regulate emotions and recovery
- Children and parents can only feel safe and thrive when in positive relationships

Who is on the CFE Team?

- Family Members
- Fictive Kin/Foster Parents
- Teens
- Volunteer Child Advocate (CASA)
- Advocacy Specialist
- CPS Caseworker
- **CPS Supervisor**
- Family Meeting Facilitator
- Attorneys
- Therapists
- Educators
- Specialists

Benefits of CFE for Children:

- Provides connections
- Supports success of relational and legal permanence
- Maintains important relationships
- Reduces psychological stress
- Improves self-worth
- Normalcy
- Easier transitions
- More successful transition into adulthood (older youth)

For more information about the program, please contact Destin Hudek, Collaborative Family Engagement & Advocacy Specialist, at Destin@ChildAdvocatesTexas.org.

CHILD ADVOCATES OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY WHERE HOPE PREVAILS