

Why is this FPM happening?

Permanency Planning FPMs happen...

- ❖ When there is an upcoming Court hearing during the Foster Care timeline.
- ❖ For the team to discuss progress and barriers toward achieving the identified permanency goal and the concurrent goal.
- ❖ For the team to discuss whether or not to continue working toward the identified goal, or if changing the goal is in the best interest of the child.



Before the meeting, plan to...

- ❖ Think about the people who know and care about your children and family and invite them to attend the meeting with you.
- ❖ Participate for up to two hours.
- ❖ Express if there is anything that would help you participate (childcare, transportation, safety, etc.)
- ❖ Understand the conversation may be emotional and challenging.

How to prepare for your FPM?

- ❖ Talk about what your family needs to keep your children safe and help them thrive.

At the meeting, plan to...

- ❖ Express your feelings about your children and family.
- ❖ Talk about your strengths and what is going well.
- ❖ Share what worries you about your family.
- ❖ Talk about what your family needs to keep your children safe, help them thrive, and provide them with a consistent and stable home.
- ❖ Talk about services that have helped or could help.
- ❖ Make decisions for your children and family.

Date: _____
Time: _____
Location: _____
Contact: _____

Albemarle County
Department of Social Services

Family Partnership Meetings

Permanency Planning
FPM





What's an FPM?

- ❖ A team meeting for your family that includes people who care about your family.
- ❖ An open and creative way for parents, family, friends, professionals, and DSS to work together to make a plan to keep your children safe and stable.
- ❖ The meeting is structured and led by a facilitator who is not involved with your case. The facilitator will make sure everyone can participate and the meeting stays focused.

How do FPMs work?

- ❖ Everyone uses respectful, open, and honest communication that respects the privacy of the family.
- ❖ The family team will discuss the purpose of the meeting.
- ❖ The team will talk about your children and family's strengths to help build the plan.
- ❖ The team will then discuss the concerns and your family's needs.
- ❖ Next, the team will "brainstorm" and suggest ideas to support your family.
- ❖ Finally, the team will make decisions and create a step-by-step plan to accomplish the goals.
- ❖ The team tries to reach an agreement on the plan.
- ❖ Everyone will leave the meeting with a printed copy of the plan.



Why is an FPM important?

Because...

- ❖ Children do best when they are connected to family.
- ❖ Family participation improves decision making and outcomes for children.
- ❖ All families have strengths and are experts on themselves.
- ❖ Teamwork is the best way to make decisions about child safety, stability, permanency, and well-being.

