

Adoption Committees

Background Notes

Although the majority of children who are placed outside of the family home with a relative caregiver or non-relative caregiver will return home, there are some children who need a permanent family other than their biological parents. Some of those permanent families are established through adoption. Oregon has historically had a very low disruption rate and the decision to place a child with an adoptive family has been through a committee decision. Not all adoptive placements in Oregon are made through a committee process. Committees are available in any situation when a caseworker, in consultation with their supervisor, requests that assistance. Committees are required to make an adoptive plan in certain circumstances. It is important for the child's worker to understand the different committees and policies in order to avoid delaying permanency for the child.

Tasks / Assignments:

- Read the [OAR](#) in Division 120 regarding adoption placement selection and Identification and Consideration of Potential Adoptive Resources section:
- Learn about the decisions that committees make prior to a case being considered for adoption. Also read the section about foster parents and current caretakers requesting an adoption study. The information is located [Division 110](#).
- Attend at least two committees in which decisions regarding permanency are considered.

References:

Division 120:

http://www.dhs.state.or.us/policy/childwelfare/manual_1/division_120.pdf

Division 110:

http://www.dhs.state.or.us/policy/childwelfare/manual_1/division_110.pdf

Discoveries:

- *Why are certain committees required for different of situations?*
- *How well was the child's worker prepared for each committee?*
- *What struggles did the committees have regarding selecting a permanency plan for the child?*