QUESTIONS TO ASK
TO ASSURE A CONNECTION IS PERMANENT

- If another family member needs to move in the home, will this youth remain in the home? Remember: In permanency, the family keeps the youth in the home, even if not in his or her room, just as it would keep another child in the same situation.
- If the family moves out of state, will the youth go with them?
- Has a plan been made for the youth should a parent be incapacitated? For instance, if the foster parent(s) die, where would the youth live? Remember: it's not permanency if the answer to this question is "back into foster care." Foster parents' relatives should be explored and committed as well.
- Is the youth included in any and all family decisions in which biological children of this family are included?
- If the parent(s) were injured and end-of-life decisions needed to be made would the youth be included in the family decision-making?
- Does the youth benefit from the adult's network of family and close friends?
- Is the youth invited to go on visits to relatives and holiday celebrations?
- Is the youth allowed to have disagreements and struggles with other children in the home, just as biological children do?
- Would the youth be asked to leave the house for mistakes or behavior for which other children would not be asked to leave?
- Is the same amount of money devoted to the youth as to other children in family, e.g., violin lessons, soccer camp, money for housing, school, etc.?
- Does the parent(s) offer the same level of mentoring, career counseling and emotional support as he or she offers to the adult's other children?
- Is the youth included in inheritance?
- In all ways, is the youth treated as a member of the family?

Other questions or concerns:

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