



ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS & PROBATION

Service Interpretive Guidelines **Expedited Family Group Conference**

SERVICE DESCRIPTION:

An expedited and focused family group decision making model, which engages the youth, their family, and supportive community agency members to resolve an identified barrier to the youth's success.

The focus is often on the immediate problematic behavior and solution related to that behavior; however, it may include solutions to longer term barriers that impact the youth and family's success.

With the support of a trained mediator, the team identifies the youth and family's strengths, discuss the behaviors and factors creating barrier(s), and empowers the youth, family, friends and community to create a written plan to address the youth's behavior.

The plan will also provide the necessary supports to overcome identified barriers with the overarching goal of enhancing family and community engagement. This will prevent the utilization of out-of-home placement and more intensive services to manage the youth's behavior as a means to ensure community safety.

Reference; Nebraska Revised Statute 43-247.03

TARGET POPULATION:

This service would typically assist in addressing youth who require assistance from a skilled mediator to overcome complex barriers such as lingering or transitioning from placement, youth lacking family engagement and families resistant to the probation/problem solving court case planning process who could benefit from a neutral party to re-engage. This service would typically assist in addressing youth with high risk and/or need in Family Circumstances/Parenting. This service may be used when the court has ordered the service.

PROBATION/PROBLEM SOLVING COURT OFFICER (OFFICER) RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Officer shall ensure the provider has all necessary collateral information to direct the focus of the conference, (criminogenic risk, need and responsibility) relevant collateral documentation/assessments and youth/family goals.
- Officer shall participate in person at the conference as a member of the team.
- Officer shall communicate with the provider and obtain a report when the service is completed
- Officer will complete engagements outlining the information obtained at the conference.

- Officer will upload documentation to the information management system.

This service does not take the place of case management strategies employed by the probation/problem solving court officer to assist the youth in working through difficult situations.