Family Preservation

**Description of Service:**

The goal of this service for probation youth is to preserve the family and avoid placement in residential treatment of the child(ren) before the court for a delinquency matter if it is a safe environment for the child to remain in the care of their identified caregivers and in the community. Services delivered must have a foundation of at least one evidence-based practice. Services are comprehensive and individualized to meet the specific needs of the family. The intention of this service is that families will have ONE provider working under ONE referral to meet the needs of the child and family.

**Frequency/Duration:**

Upon receiving the referral, the agency will contact the family within 48 hours. The minimum requirement is for the provider to meet with the family at least once a week face to face and to conduct a safety check of the home at that time. However, the frequency of services should be based on the needs of the youth and family. The initial referral will be for a 6-month period.

**Expectations:**

**Youth:** The youth must be available and participate in every scheduled session.

**Parent:** The parent(s) as well as other family members in the home must participate in the scheduled sessions along with the youth. The full participation of the parent is very important to the success of the service.

**Service Provider:** The provider will maintain frequent contact with the family to include at least one face to face contact per week and using an evidence-based practice. Other services provided should include but are not limited to safety planning, crisis response, and concrete assistance as needed to preserve the family home. The service provider will maintain regular contact with the referring probation officer and upload monthly reports to KidTraks.

**Probation Officer:** The Probation Officer will contact the Probation Service Consultant to discuss youth/families they would like to refer to Family Preservation services. The PO will inform the PSC once it is ordered by the Court and the PSC will then enter the referral into KidTraks. The Probation Officer will indicate to the provider what goals the provider should work on with the child and family and will remain in contact with the provider to monitor the progress of the youth and update goals if they change.

**Probation Service Consultant (PSC):** The PSC will enter the referral in a timely manner.