



## Youth View Lifelong Connections As:

- Lifelong Relationships
- Family
- Friendship
- Unconditional Love
- Ongoing Support
- Extended Family-Like Relationship
- Knowing That Someone Cares
- Continuity
- Someone To Go Home To
- Sharing Life's Ups and Downs
- Someone To Call On In Times of Crisis
- Someone To Call "Just Because"
- Being There
- Defining Family Together
- Sharing Holidays
- Celebrating Special Times Together
- Someone To Check-in With Regularly
- Shared History
- Assistance Around Major Decisions
- Growing and Changing Together
- Being Accepted No Matter What
- Someone To Trust
- Having Someone To Stand By You
- Knowing Someone is Proud Of Your Accomplishments
- Knowing That One Is Not Alone



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## What is Permanency?

**EVERY CHILD  
HAS THE RIGHT  
TO HAVE A  
PERMANENT  
LIFE-LONG  
CONNECTION**

# PERMANENCY WAS TRADITIONALLY ONLY CONSIDERED AS AN OPTION FOR YOUNG CHILDREN.

Solano County is challenging this myth.



## Vision of Permanency

The County of Solano is committed to achieve permanency for children and youth in foster care. We believe that all children and youth should have a lifelong connection to a caring adult.

## DEFENITION OF PERMANENCY

As defined by the CPYP Task Force. [www.cpyyp.org](http://www.cpyyp.org)

- At least one adult.
- A safe, stable and secure parenting relationship
- LOVE
- Unconditional commitment.
- Lifelong support.
- Involvement of the youth as a participant and leader in the process
- The most permanent, legal arrangement possible

## GOALS FOR ACHIEVING PERMANENCY

- Increase permanency awareness among staff, foster families, relative caregivers, and community-based partners.
- Enhance and strengthen discussions with youth regarding their permanency planning process
- Recruit permanent families and lifelong connections for foster youth.
- Reduce the number of children in group home care.

## PERMANENCY OPTIONS

When reunification is not possible, it is necessary to explore other options for permanency.

### ➤ Adoption

Provides legal permanency and an irreversible relationship with the adoptive family. All children and youth are considered “adoptable” and adoption should be examined on a case-by-case basis.

### ➤ Legal Guardianship

Provides legal permanency for children and youth without severing their parent’s rights or relationship.

### ➤ KinGap Guardianship

Provides legal permanency for children and youth specifically placed with their relatives.

### ➤ Lifelong Connections to a Caring Adult

Provides children and youth with permanent, supportive relationships.

