



Words Matter in Communicating and Building Trust

CWLA's (1) *PRIDE Model of Practice to Develop and Support Foster and Adoptive (Resource) Parents as Team Members in Child Protection and Trauma Informed Care of Children* and (2) *Kinship Traditions of Caring and Collaborating Model of Practice* each use “strengths-based” words to emphasize treating children, adults, and families with dignity and respect.

<u>Instead of:</u>	<u>Consider using:</u>
Case	Child or parent or family
Home	Family
Hard to place child	Safe, nurturing families are hard to find
Up for adoption	Child is ready to be adopted or needs an adoptive family
Placed in a home	Joined a family
aging out of the foster care system	Being connected to a relationship that is safe, nurturing and enduring
Kinship Caretaker	Kinship Caregiver
Foster parent	Resource parent
Natural family or natural parent	Birth family or birth parent
Visitation	Family time
Home study	Family assessment
Home visit	In home consultation
How many placements can the home take	How many children can the family care for
Screening out or weeding out	Selecting in
Children are removed or pulled	Children are separated
How many bed does the foster home have	How many children can join the family
Recruitment, retention	Develop, support