

Brief Description¹	<p>Family Connections (FC) is a multi-faceted community-based program that works with vulnerable families in their homes, in the context of their neighborhoods, to help them meet the basic needs of their children and prevent child maltreatment.</p> <p>Adaptations of Family Connections:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Grandparent Family Connections (GFC) – works with informal kinship families 2. Trauma Adapted Family Connections (TA-FC) – targets families where parents and/or children screen with trauma symptoms 3. SAFE-Family Connections (SAFE-FC) – targets families with children who are assessed as unsafe after a report of child maltreatment
FC Core Components	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Intake & screening 2. Outreach & engagement 3. Concrete/emergency services 4. Comprehensive family assessment (including the use of standardized clinical assessment instruments) 5. Outcome driven case/service plans with SMART goals 6. Change focused interventions (Minimum of 1 hour per week to support achievement of SMART goals & advocacy/service facilitation) 7. Case/service plan evaluation/progress assessment (at least every 90 days after the initial case plan) – including the assessment of change over time using standardized assessment instruments 8. Closure of services
Target Population	Families with children (birth to 18) who meet risk criteria for child maltreatment (criteria are adapted based on geographic differences)
Outcomes	Original research indicated positive change over time in protective factors (parenting attitudes, parenting competence, social support); diminished risk factors (parental depressive symptoms, parenting stress, life stress); and improved child safety (physical and psychological care of children) and child behavior (internalizing and externalizing behavior). Agencies replicating FC have demonstrated similar changes in risk and protective factors.
Length of Service	Versions of FC have been delivered for 3, 4, 6, 9, or 12 months, partly dependent on the target population. Since shorter interventions have demonstrated greater cost effectiveness in relation to risk and protective factors, most agencies choose to serve families intensively for 3 months (post assessment) with the option of delivering another 3 months of intervention if family circumstances indicate high need.
Staff Qualifications	BSW or MSW under the supervision of an Advanced MSW Clinical Social Work Supervisor. At least one hour of individual consultative supervision/coaching and one hour of group supervision is required per week.
Workload/Caseload	Fidelity criteria focus on performance of core intervention components (e.g., at least one hour per week of face to face change focused interventions), rather than a pre-determined caseload size. Most social workers are able to meet fidelity with caseloads of 8-10 families.

¹ Additional information provided in DePanfilis, D., Filene, J. H., & Lim Brodowski, M. (2009). Introduction to Family Connections and the national replication effort. *Protecting Children*, 24(3), 4-14.

Process & Costs of Implementation	
Exploration & Adoption	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provide information about FC for review by agency leadership. 2. Initial Phone or Go-To Meeting consultation to explore “fit” with agency goals 3. Optional – 1-day Orientation with Agency Implementation Team (Including individualized agenda/plan) (Cost - \$6,400, agency makes handouts for participant leaders). 4. Negotiation of installation and implementation budget based on needs/size of agency.
Installation	<p>Work with replicating organization to tailor FC to the local site (20-25 days @ \$1,800 per day plus travel (# of days on site dependent on agency) including:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Review of existing program policies/procedures/requirements 2. Consult on development of an implementation plan (template) 3. Consult on FC intervention manual revisions proposed by agency leaders for congruence with agency and purpose/requirements 4. Agree on operationalization of fidelity criteria 5. Guide implementation team to develop a logic model, select standardized clinical assessment measures, make decisions about needed changes to agency information system, and case record documentation system (e.g., case plan format, case progress assessment format) 6. Develop learning plan (e.g., breakdown of on-site training days, practicum) 7. Develop training materials based on training plan (in collaboration with implementation team who will contribute sample case materials) and copy adapted intervention manual for all participants <p>Deliver Training According to Training Plan (Worker/Supervisory/Program Director Training 5 days of on-site training (split into 2 weeks with a practicum) (agency provides location and manages logistics). Cost = \$2,800 per participant (minimum of 5 participants). Ideally supervisors and program directors are trained first in 1 – 4 days of supervisory/coaching training dependent on agency size. (Cost for supervisory training = range - \$5,000 - \$7,700 per participant).</p>
Initial Implementation	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provide On-Site Coaching and consultation supplemented with monthly phone/Go-To Meeting consultation, coaching, technical assistance post implementation based on agency agenda/needs– ½ day per month per supervisor (planning and direct TA) + 6 days on site) for group meetings (planning, on-site meetings, travel days = \$35,400)- on site TA optional. 2. Collaborate on format for agency fidelity self- assessment instruments based on operationalization of fidelity criteria during installation. (5 days @ \$1800 per day= \$9,000) 3. Review agency fidelity self-assessments (required every 6 months) (2 days @ \$1800 for each review x 2, = \$7,200) 4. Conduct 2-4 day on-site fidelity assessment (required every 6 months following agency self-assessment) including case reviews (3 days [3 days on site and 1 day travel] \$1800 per day plus \$500 per day travel= \$18,400)

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An individualized budget and contract for the first 12 months will be developed based upon the level of effort determined for items that have a range of costs. The following is a sample summary of costs.

Exploration and Adoption: \$6,400

Installation

Tailoring FC: Range \$36,000-\$45,000

Delivering Training:

Worker training: \$2,800 per participant (minimum of 5 participants)

Supervisor: Range \$5,000-\$7,700 per participant

Initial Implementation

On-site coaching: \$35,400

Design agency fidelity self-assessment: \$9,000

Review agency fidelity self-assessments: \$7,200

Conduct 2-4 day on-site fidelity assessments: \$18,400²

² This item is dictated by the size of agencies (i.e., number of families served)