

Purpose of Family Group Decision Making

For families to join with relatives and friends to develop a plan to ensure that children are cared for and protected from future harm in ways which fit their culture and situation.



Confidentiality

Only the family and friends YOU INVITE to the conference, the service providers involved with your family and the referring worker will know about your involvement with Family Group Decision Making.

A possible exception is if the courts subpoena the file, then by law, the records must be given to the court.

Any information about the process that is used for research purposes will exclude your name and any identifying data.

Family Group Decision Making
for Greene County

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Greene County
Children & Youth Services

Fort Jackson Building, Room 201
19 South Washington Street
Waynesburg, PA 15370
724-852-5217
800-932-0313
888-317-7106

Greene County
Probation Office

Greene County Courthouse, 1st Floor,
10 East High Street
Waynesburg, Pennsylvania 15370
724-852-5250



Our Mission:

To work together, with families, for the purpose of providing a permanent, safe and secure environment for the general well-being of children in Greene County, PA.

Family Meeting

What Will Happen at the FGDM Conference?

- The FGDM Facilitator will conduct the conference.
- The caseworker, who made the referral for a FGDM Conference, will explain his/her involvement with your child/children.
- Everyone in attendance will discuss strengths and concerns they have, for the family.
- Your family, relatives and supportive friends will meet alone in “Private Family Time” to create the plan; without the assistance of your caseworker.
- When the family has created a plan, that is agreeable to everyone, the caseworker and facilitator will re-enter the room.
- The family must inform the caseworker of the plan before it can be put into place.

A meal will be provided, as a courtesy to your family.



How Can I be Referred to a FGDM Conference?

You may call Greene County Children & Youth Services or Juvenile Probation directly and speak to your caseworker about a FGDM Conference

OR

You may be referred by your caseworker and/or a judge may recommend that you consider this process



If I Decide that a FGDM Conference is not for me, can I Stop the Process?

YES! The process is voluntary. You may stop the process at any time.

What is Family Group Decision Making (FGDM)?

Families being in charge of their own lives



FGDM empowers families to invest in their own strengths and energy in order to create a workable plan

VS

Professionals developing a plan and the family not being able to make it work in their daily lives

With the help of the FGDM Coordinator, your family has a one-time meeting with relatives, friends and other support persons in a FGDM Conference in order to create a plan for the best interest of your child/children.

If your family is involved with Greene County Children & Youth Services or Juvenile Probation, FGDM may be helpful to you.