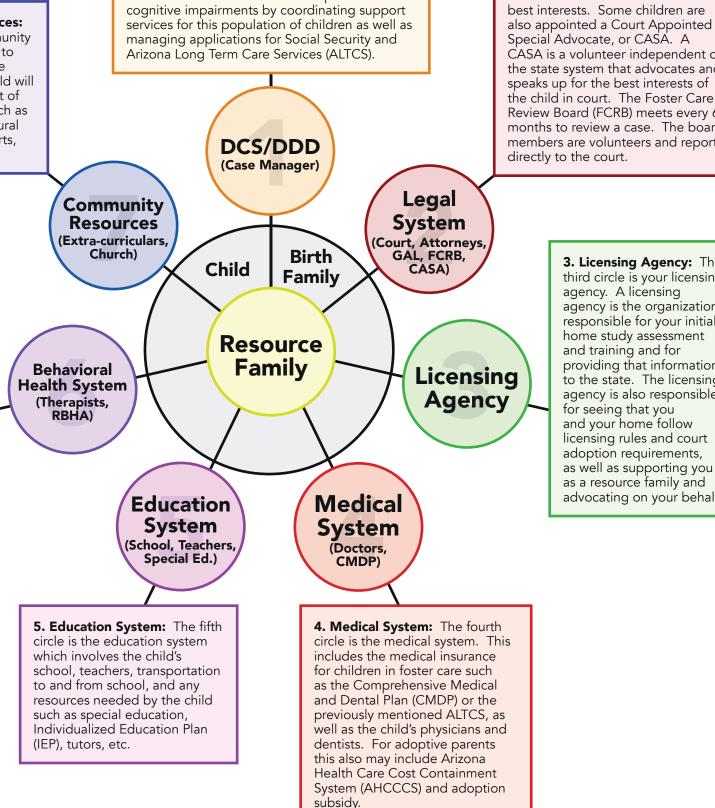
Who should I expect to hear from?

In the center of the graphic we have the family unit - both the Resource Family and child and his/her birth family. In the circles around the center are the various systems that you will be involved with as a Resource Parent.

> 7. Community Resources: The final circle is community resources, which refers to all those activities in the community that the child will encounter independent of system involvement such as a faith community, cultural events, clubs, sports, arts, scouts, etc.

6. Behavioral Health System: The next circle is the Behavioral Health System, which covers counseling or therapeutic needs your child may have. It includes counselors, psychologists, psychiatrists, therapeutic facilities, psychotropic medications, and additional support services used to address behavioral and mental health concerns. Each district in the state has a Regional Behavioral Health Authority (RBHA) that oversees services in that area. The RBHA then contracts services out with various agencies. You can contact DCS to determine the RBHA in your area. Child and Family Teams (CFTs) are also a part of this system. A CFT meeting is a child and family centered meeting of all significant parties involved in a child's case to discuss the progress and therapeutic needs of the child.



1. DCS/DDD: The first circle involves the

Department of Child Safety (DCS) and Division

of Developmental Disabilities (DDD). DCS is

the agency that is responsible for managing

to ensure the safety, permanency, and well-

who have or are at risk for developmental or

being of the child. DCS is the child's legal

investigations and the ongoing support work

quardian. DDD works with families and children

Special Advocate, or CASA. A CASA is a volunteer independent of the state system that advocates and speaks up for the best interests of the child in court. The Foster Care Review Board (FCRB) meets every 6 months to review a case. The board members are volunteers and report 3. Licensing Agency: The third circle is your licensing agency. A licensing agency is the organization responsible for your initial home study assessment and training and for providing that information to the state. The licensing agency is also responsible for seeing that you and your home follow licensing rules and court

2. Legal System: The second

circle is the Legal System. This

includes court hearings presided by

a judge or commissioner, lawyers

children who advocate the wishes

of their clients. Some children are

who is to advocate for the child's

assigned a Guardian ad Litem (GAL)

for birth parents and lawyers for

as well as supporting you as a resource family and advocating on your behalf.