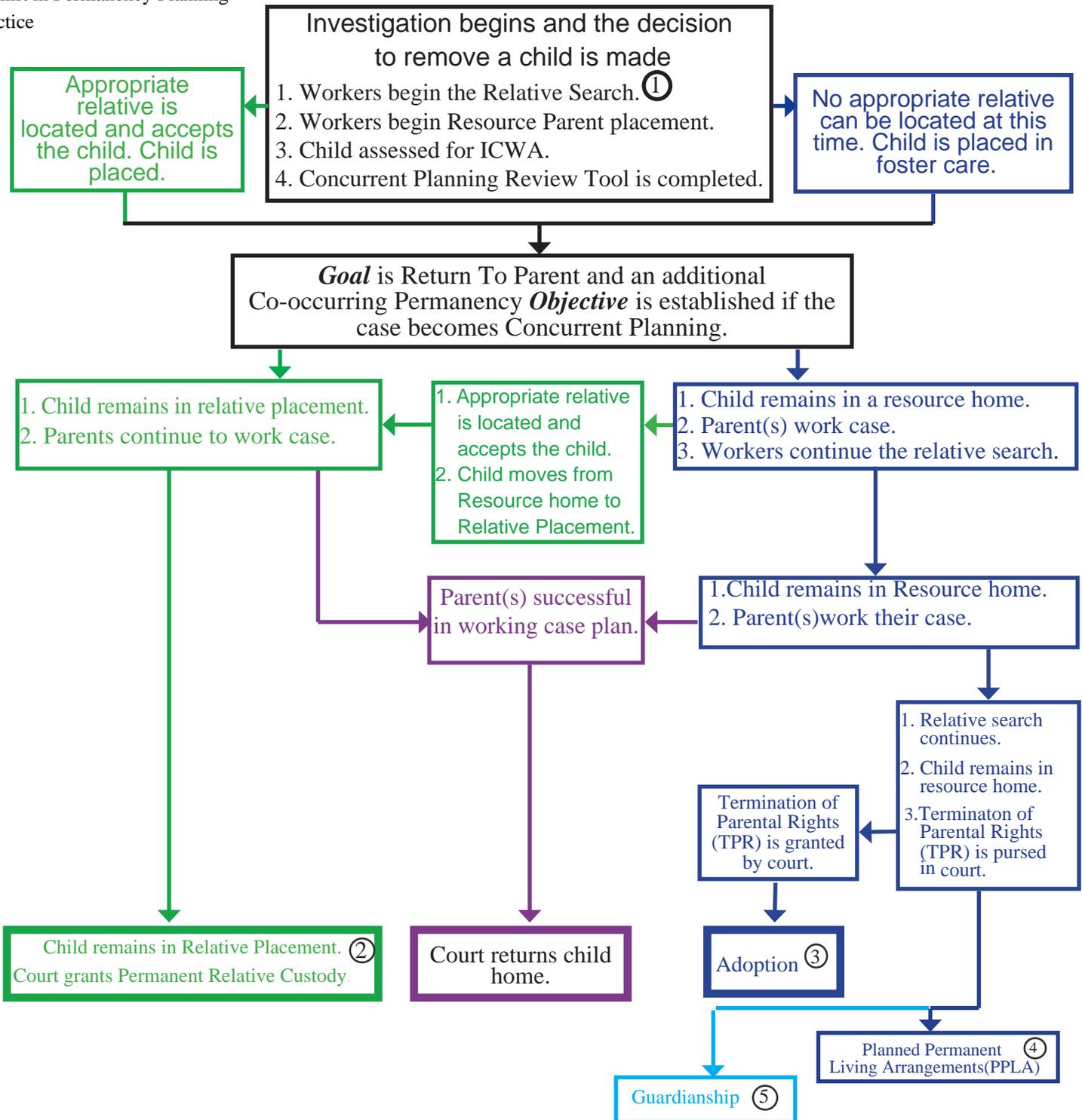


CASE FLOW CHART



- ① Relative Search = Absent Parent Searches are made to locate all parents (mothers and fathers) and their relatives (Maternal and Paternal) for possible relative placement. The search continues beyond Termination of Parental Rights (TPR).
- ② Permanent Relative Custody – The Cabinet selects permanent relative placement as the goal when it is not in the child’s best interest to return to the parents home at that time or to be adopted. Adoption severs the legal but not emotional ties to the parents/relatives. Relative Placement is selected because it is the least restrictive and less traumatic option for a child to remain with family members. Relatives given Permanent Relative Custody may face a court challenge by the birth parents two years after this court decision. Birth parents do have the right to regain custody of their children if they can prove they can care for their children properly.
- ③ As relatives contact the Cabinet and/or are found, the resource/adoptive families may be notified of the child’s connection. For adoptive parents of the adopted child, contact with the relative(s) is at their discretion.
- ④ Planned Permanent Living Arrangements (PPLA) does not have the legal permanency that birth parent, relative and adoption does.
- ⑤ Guardianship is rarely a goal for a child’s permanency.