

## **Tulane Infant Team**

### **Benchmarks for Assessing Parents' Response to Treatment and Readiness for Reunification**

- 1) Parents must accept responsibility for child's maltreatment and the need to change their own behavior.
- 2) Parents must acknowledge longstanding psychiatric, substance use and/or relationship difficulties that potentially compromise their ability to provide safe and effective care to their child.
- 3) Parents must place the needs of the child ahead of their own needs.
- 4) Parents must demonstrate a capacity for change and a willingness to try different approaches within a reasonable time frame (reasonable from the child's perspective as defined by Adoption and Safe Families Act).
- 5) Parents must work constructively with involved professionals to address their problem areas.
- 6) Parents must make use of available community resources.