Wā ʻIke ʻEhā

The four senses

Pilina - Sense of Association

Pikoʻu -Sense of Connection

Pono - Sense of Wellbeing

Kuleana - Sense of Responsibility

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This framework best describes my journey as a Resource Caregiver (RCG formerly known as "foster parent"). The literal definitions are listed beside each sense of the framework.

Pilina is being that person or that family that the child or children will be entering into. This "Sense of Association" is when you and the child or children become a unit "A Family".
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u5hTGOl2QLE

Pikoʻu is finding that connection between child and caregiver whether it be through food, movies, games, or other activities. Making the effort. My mother always welcomed guests to our family home whether it be announced or unannounced with food. A care pack of snacks prepared with a toiletry bag and a fresh towel is my set-up. I would love to hear how you all establish that connection.

Pono your wellbeing, the wellbeing of your family & those children are most important. It is vital to understand when the balance is off in any of those three areas you recognize it and you ask for help. The link listed below shares an article explaining the protective factors that can be a valuable resource for caregivers.
http://www.hooikaikapartnership.com/protective-factors/

Our last but just as important sense of this framework is Kuleana. As a resource caregiver you have a responsibility to care for yourself. It is impossible for you to help others if you do not first care for yourself. Your next responsibility is to care for your family. Then when you all are in one accord and feel you are ready as a family to take on the Kuleana of Resource Caregiving reach out to your local Child ~~Welfare Service Department for more information.~~
https://humanservices.hawaii.gov/ssd/files/2019/11/Resource-Family-Basics-11012019-1.pdf