

CHAPTER SUMMARY

Section 19.1

How Families Work

Although families come in many forms, they all have similar functions. Families are responsible for the physical, intellectual, emotional, social, and moral development of family members. At each stage of the family life cycle, families must adapt to changing situations and priorities. Societal trends create changes that affect families. Families are strengthened by respect, communication, trust, emotional support, sharing, and support systems.

Section 19.2

Family Challenges

Changes in a family affect every member. Common changes include moving to a new home, employment changes, and additions to the family. Serious changes, such as financial hardship, divorce, teen pregnancy, health issues, death, drug and alcohol problems, family violence, and major disasters, may become crises. There are coping methods and outside sources to help families through challenges. Sometimes a crisis can bring a family closer.