

## **RIGHTS OF FOSTER PARENTS**

Foster parents have the following rights:

1. To refuse placement of a child whose needs they feel they cannot meet.
2. To be reimbursed for the cost of caring for a foster child.
3. To a clear understanding of their role as foster parents and the roles of the agency and the natural parent.
4. To continue in their own family patterns, routines, and values, so long as these do not infringe on their foster child's rights.
5. To have knowledge of those things concerning the foster child that will have direct bearing on daily living patterns as well as any potential dangers from child or family.
6. To have visitations between child and family be reasonable and fair.
7. To have knowledge of the appropriate appeal process in the case of disagreement with the department.
8. To be involved with the placement worker in the ongoing planning for the foster child, especially in areas that will affect the foster home.
9. To support from the agency social worker in an effort to do an effective job in caring for the child and in working to achieve the goals for the child and his / her family and to be accorded dignity in all relationships with the agency.
10. To have opportunities to grow professionally through agency-sponsored training courses.
11. To make decisions around daily living situations such as permission to attend recreational activities, staying home from school with a sore throat, etc.
12. To help from the placing worker in locating and using appropriate resources to meet the child's needs.
13. The right to consultation and professional support regarding the special needs of the child.
14. To be considered as possible permanent placement for the child in the event the child is to be placed out of his / her own home permanently.