

Summit County Children Services

264 South Arlington Street

Akron, Ohio 44306

Foster / Adoption Parents Caregiver Agreement

Caregiver(s)

Street Address

City and Zip Code

Date

The Agency Agrees To:

- 1) Give a description of the child's behavior, personality, development, his problems and needs, as available.
- 2) Provide any information about the child's family that is pertinent to caregivers effectively carrying out their role as substitute parents.
- 3) Prepare the caregiver, when possible, for the child's sense of loss in being separated from his own parents.
- 4) Establish a visitation plan for the child and his birth family as appropriate and mandated by law and agency standards.
- 5) Keep confidential any information regarding the caregiver as mandated by law and agency standards.
- 6) Arrange, when possible, pre-placement visits prior to placement of infants and children.
- 7) Use your home for a child needing emergency placement only when necessary and by mutual agreement.
- 8) Give the caregiver the child's medical and psychiatric/emotional history when known, and as allowed by law, which may include such information as: childhood diseases, immunization records, illness history, hospitalization history, medication history, allergies, special diet and any medical, emotional or dental needs the child may have.
- 9) Provide staff who will work with the caregiver to create a climate of honesty, friendliness,

The Caregiver Agrees To:

- 1) Regularly share with the agency and document as directed the child's behavior, problems and adjustment throughout the time the child is in our home.
- 2) Recognize the meaning of and help the child with his feelings about his birth family.
- 3) Recognize the meaning of separation for the child and make every effort to accept the child's difficulties in adjusting to a new home.
- 4) Make no visitation arrangements or other plans with the child's birth parents without first consulting the agency.
- 5) Keep information about the child and his family confidential and discuss same only with appropriate agency staff members or other professional persons designated by the agency.
- 6) Cooperate and participate in placement activities as a means of helping the child make a gradual transition into our home.
- 7) Accept, when possible, children needing emergency placement.
- 8) Assume responsibility for scheduling, participating in, and transporting the child to all medical, dental and psychiatric/psychological appointments, trainings and support groups.
- 9) Work cooperatively with the agency, the workers assigned to us, Juvenile Court and any other

The Agency Agrees To:

The Caregiver Agrees To:

sharing and trust. Agency staff and the caregiver will assess the child's progress and/or problems, and work together on behalf of the child.

involved community resources.

10) Provide necessary help to the caregiver regarding the adjustment of the child.

10) Treat the child placed in our care with sensitivity, understanding, acceptance and affection appropriate to the child's needs.

11) Pay a daily board rate for each child placed in foster care. The board rate is to be used for shelter, food, clothing and other needs of the child. The agency will provide medical and dental care through the agency Medical Clinic or another provider.

11) Maintain a reasonable standard of care for the child placed in our home.

11a) Meet a child's personal hygiene needs appropriate to the child's age, sex, race and cultural background.

12) Place children on a temporary basis unless the agency has secured permanent custody of the child and the intent of placement is a permanent placement.

12) Accept a child on a temporary basis unless the agency has permanent custody of the child and the intent of the placement is a permanent placement. Give the agency notice of at least two weeks when requesting removal of a child.

13) Respect the caregiver's right to accept or reject placement of a particular child presented to them.

13) Share with the agency our reasons for accepting or rejecting a child presented for placement in our home.

14) Place only children in the home for whom the agency has responsibility for planning.

14) Take placement of a child only from Summit County Children Services unless otherwise approved by Summit County Children Services.

15) Use its final authority by making and carrying out the casework plan for the child which may include return to parents, or relatives, transfer to another placement, or adoptive placement finalization.

15) Recognize and accept that the agency has the final authority and responsibility to make and carry out the casework plan for the child.

16) Discuss with the caregiver the plan for removal of a child and help them to prepare for the child leaving whenever possible.

16) Prepare the child for reunification/removal from our home whenever possible.

17) Respect the caregiver's request for a child to be removed from their home without penalty, due to an emergency such as sudden, severe illness or hospitalization of the caregiver or another household member.

17) Continue working with the child until reunification/removal, thereby giving the agency a reasonable period of time to make an alternate plan.

18) Assess training needs and provide ongoing training and other educational opportunities for caregivers.

18) Prioritize completion of ongoing training as required by the agency and participate in other educational opportunities provided by the agency.

19) Complete an ongoing evaluation of the caregiver's home during placement, including but not limited to, when a child leaves, at one year intervals, and during safety audits.

19) Participate in all evaluations, sharing the merits of our parenting experience as it affects the future use of our home.

20) Provide the caregiver with guidelines, training and policy materials that may help them better

20) Read and understand all agency caregiver policies, and all ODJFS rules provided by the agency and

The Agency Agrees To:	The Caregiver Agrees To:
understand agency programs, rules and policies.	abide by the required notifications. (Please see mandated notification policy).
21) Provide caregiver with the child's developmental and educational information when that information becomes available to the agency and assist in enrolling the child in school or other learning/vocational program.	21) Actively participate in the child's education and development by assisting with and checking homework, scheduling and attending school conferences, participating in school activities and bringing problems with school to the attention of the agency.
22) Provide information to the caregiver regarding a child's religious affiliation, if applicable, and whenever possible.	22) Support the birth parents' wishes regarding religious participation or lack of participation by their child while the child is in the temporary custody of the agency. Caregivers will direct conflicts/problems regarding religious participation to the agency for assistance.
23) Provide caregiver with the life book, medical logs and other materials that will assist the family in caring for the child's physical and emotional needs.	23) Maintain life books, medical logs and other documents as required by the agency.
24) Provide information to caregiver about siblings of the child and place siblings together whenever possible and not clinically counter-indicated.	24) Assist child in maintaining frequent sibling contact as much as possible and whenever not clinically counter-indicated.

Signature of Social Worker

Signature of Caregiver

Date

Signature of Caregiver

To be signed in duplicate. One copy retained by caregiver, one copy secured in agency resource file.

- * For Foster Parents: This agreement will be in effect for as long as your home is licensed by the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services.
- * For Adoptive Parents: This agreement will be in effect from the date of homestudy approval to the expiration date of home study and does not apply to children in finalized adoptions.

CWLA 2.3
OJFS 5101:2-5
ODJFS 5101:2-7