

TUSCARAWAS COUNTY JOB & FAMILY SERVICES

CHILDREN SERVICES POLICY

Foster Parent Reasonable and Prudent Parent Standard

POLICY

Tuscarawas County Job & Family Services and the foster parents who provide care for the children in Agency custody will follow the reasonable and prudent parent standard when considering whether to authorize a foster child who resides in the foster home to participate in extracurricular, enrichment, and social activities. Generally, foster parents that follow this standard will be protected from liability.

"Reasonable and prudent parent standard" means the standard characterized by careful and sensible parental decisions that maintain the child's health, safety, and best interests while at the same time encouraging the child's emotional and developmental growth.

Foster parents must comply with specific Agency policies regarding activities and situations such as the following:

Policy 500.9.0 – Foster Child Driver's License, Vehicles, etc.

Policy 500.10.0 – Recreational Activities for Children in Custody

Policy 500.12.0 – Hunter's Safety Course, Using and Owning Firearms and Weapons

Policy 500.24.0 – Overnight Stays for Children in Agency Custody

Policy 500.25.0 – Body Piercing and Tattooing of Children in Custody

Policy 500.37.0 – Internet and Cell Phone Usage by Children in Custody

Policy 500.38.0 – Travel Policy for Children in Substitute Care

Policy 500.41.0 – Transportation of Children in Agency Custody

A child's participation in any activity should take into consideration

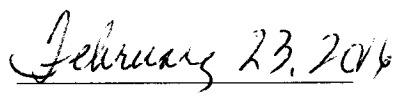
- 1) The child's age, maturity and developmental level.
- 2) Potential Risk Factors.
- 3) Best interest of child.
- 4) Emotional and developmental growth.
- 5) The child's behavioral history.

Foster parents must at all times act only within the scope, responsibility, and power of their role of foster parent and in good faith regarding the children in their care. Foster parents must not act recklessly regarding the children in their care. Reckless means that the foster parent would show a conscious disregard or be indifferent to known or obvious risk of harm that is unreasonable under the circumstances.

Any questions by a foster parent regarding this policy or any specific circumstance may be forwarded to the assigned caseworker, preferably in writing, which can include email.



David Haverfield, Director



Effective Date