

**TUSCARAWAS COUNTY JOB & FAMILY SERVICES
CHILDREN SERVICES POLICY**

DISCHARGE FROM FOSTER/SUBSTITUTE CARE SERVICES

POLICY

Termination of foster/substitute care services is to be accomplished through an orderly process, carried out between the client and the agency, in which referral plans are developed as needed.

Emergency discharges and discharges not in accordance with the child's service plan are also to be done in a planful way.

PROCEDURE

1. A child is to be terminated from foster/substitute care under the following circumstances, in accordance with the case plan:
 - a. The child is returned to birth parent(s);
 - b. The child is placed with a relative;
 - c. The child is placed in an adoptive home;
 - d. The child is referred to another agency for service;
 - e. The child ages-out of agency's custody.

2. In order for a child to be emergency discharged or discharged not in accordance with the child's case plan, an interim plan must be developed that is in the child's best interest.

Exceptions to developing an interim plan for the child would include:

- a. the child's running away, the agency exhausting all means to locate him/her, and the court's agreeing to terminate agency custody;
- b. an appeal being filed and won vacating the order that had awarded custody to the agency.

Lynn Angelozzi, Director

8/11/08

Effective Date