

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

**PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF CONTAGIOUS/INFECTIOUS DISEASES**

**POLICY**

Prevention and control of contagious diseases are of primary importance to the agency. The agency's goals are to minimize exposure to contagious diseases and to have foster caregivers prepared in the event of an exposure.

**PROCEDURES**

Foster families are required to meet and maintain ODJFS health screening standards for members of their household and with regard to water testing requirements for their homes. Results of these are filed in the foster family case record.

A child suffering from an infectious or contagious disease will not knowingly be placed in a foster home unless the foster caregivers have agreed to care for the child and, if necessary, have received or will receive special training in providing care necessary for the child's condition.


Foster caregivers are given completed copies of the TCJFS Placement Referral Form--which contains known medical information about the child--immediately prior to placement and the Individual Child Care Agreement Form--which includes the child's known medical information--within seven (7) days of placement. Additional medical information about the child is shared with foster caregivers and filed in the child's case record as it is received by the agency.

Specialized medical services for a foster child are obtained by the foster caregiver and caseworker based on medical necessity. If a medical provider so recommends, the agency will supply an 'infectious disease control kit' for the identified foster caregiver.

Appropriate agency staff will seek current medical advice regarding contagious or infectious diseases from the Tuscarawas County Health Department as needed.

Foster caregivers will record incidents of exposure and subsequent acts of prevention and control of contagious and infectious blood and other body fluids within twenty-four (24) hours on the Foster Caregiver Exposure/Incident Report form. These incidents will be reviewed immediately by the Placement Unit supervisor and appropriate staff and quarterly as part of the agency's review of incidents.

Training about the use of universal precautions and proper methods of treatment and precautions to be taken regarding infectious or contagious diseases is offered to foster caregivers and staff periodically.

  
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Lynn Angelozzi, Director

9-12-05  
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Date