

## FOSTER KINSHIP INFORMATION AND CONSENT

We want to thank you for your dedication to your family and the role you have taken on as a kinship caregiver. This is an opportunity to acquaint you with information relevant to our services, as well as our data collection, confidentiality, record keeping and privacy policies.

### AIMS AND GOALS

The mission of Foster Kinship is to provide kinship caregivers with resources, guidance and community support. To do so, we have the following free services available to **all** kinship caregivers in Clark County, NV. Services are not limited by caregiver age, relationship to the child or the custody status of the child:

- Kinship Helpline available Monday-Saturday during Foster Kinship business hours
- General guidance to community, county, state and federal resources that may available to you and your family through our Kinship Resource Locator Tool [RLT].
- Monthly Support Groups for kinship caregivers (free childcare provided), and online support group access.
- Benefit (Child-Only TANF, SNAP, EAP, Licensing, etc) Application Sessions
- Regular Family Events for kinship families.
- Access to emergency resources and community referrals
- Classes and training free of charge for kinship caregivers such as Nurturing Parenting.
- Case Management

### DATA COLLECTION AND RECORD KEEPING

Foster Kinship collects demographic data as well as data regarding use of our programs and services. Our goal is to better understand variables that may affect the disruption of placement. Department of Family Services may share with us final disposition data regarding your placement. In addition, Foster Kinship collects the following data:

1. If you attended any classes
2. If you received a follow up with kinship locator tool by email/mail and/or phone.
3. If you utilized Benefit Application Support
4. If You attend Support Groups (offered monthly) or Family events (offered quarterly)
5. If you received Case Management Support (type of support and length of time)
6. If you received emergency resources such as a car seat or diapers

A record of visits, services provided, financial and physical resources distributed and notes describing the need for each is kept on file per state and federal law. General reporting on services provided and demographic data will be done on a regular basis. Data will be also used to market the program and to procure funding. Personally identifiable information will not be disclosed without your written consent. Data is reported in the aggregate.

### CONFIDENTIALITY

Issues discussed during visits and meetings to determine need and support are important and generally legally protected as both confidential and privileged. However, there are limits to the privilege of confidentiality. Mandatory reporting is required by our agency if there is 1) suspected abuse or neglect



of a child, elderly person or disabled person, 2) your caseworker believes you are in danger of harming yourself or another person or you are unable to take care of yourself or 3) if you report that you intent to physically injure someone. In these cases, the law requires the worker to inform that person as well as the legal authorities. In addition, there are other situations which may require Foster Kinship to release information: 4) if ordered by a court to release information as part of a legal matter, 5) in situations of natural disasters whereby protected records may become exposed or 6) as otherwise required by law. You will be asked to sign a Release of Information so that your caseworker may speak with other professionals about your case.

### **PRIVACY POLICY**

Foster Kinship values the privacy of our clients. It is our policy to collect and store only personal information that is knowingly provided to us. We do not share personal information. Through our client database, Foster Kinship collects and stores contact information from individuals as it is knowingly provided to us, including email addresses. Foster Kinship does not distribute personal information or email addresses to third parties. We use this information to contact individuals via email and mail with additional resources that might be of interest, including upcoming events and trainings, new publications, or other resources. You may choose at any time not to provide personally identifiable information, although this may restrict our ability to provide requested services or information.

### **DIVERSITY STATEMENT**

We believe that the diversity of families in our community is our strength. Foster Kinship demonstrates the commitment, knowledge and ability to work effectively with and advocate for individuals and families with a variety of identities, cultures, backgrounds and ideologies. We serve kinship caregivers without regard to caregiver age, disability status, economic circumstance, ethnicity, gender, race, religion, sexual orientation, relation to the child or custody status of the child.

### **COMPLAINTS**

You have a right to have your complaints heard and resolved in a timely manner. If you have a complaint about the services you have received through Foster Kinship, please inform the executive director, Alison Caliendo, at [Ali@fosterkinship.org](mailto:Ali@fosterkinship.org) or (702) 546-9988 immediately.

