SYNDICATE LEGAL ADVISORY SERVICES

FOSTER PARENTS RIGHTS

Syndicate Legal Advisory Services – *Foster Parents Rights*

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Each state has its own **Foster Parent Bill of Rights**, establishing the legal rights of foster parents, both for their protection and the children's good. Foster parents are generally allowed most of the same rights as natural parents because they can make most decisions for the child's benefit, including after-school activities, punishments, behavioral rules, etc. However, the welfare agency has legal custody of the foster child, not the foster parents.

Foster parents have the right to:

- Be treated as a member of the foster child's welfare team
- Receive training and support while serving as a foster parent
- Obtain their foster child's biographical and medical information
- Receive notice of placement plants or court proceedings that could affect their child's placement
- Assist with planning visitation with a child's natural parents or siblings
- Communicate with other professionals working with their child, including therapists, teachers, doctors, etc.
- Priority consideration if a foster child becomes available for adoption

In addition to these rights, in most states, foster parents can expect fair and adequate financial reimbursement to help care for their children. It is also within the foster parents' rights to refuse the placement of a child into their home or to request the removal of a child from their home. These rules protect the dignity of those who choose to serve as foster parents and should be honored under any circumstances. Further, in most states, foster parents are granted the right to make certain medial decisions for foster children.

If you are a foster parent, your Syndicate Subscription Legal Plan is able to assist you by ensuring you have all the rights and assistance afforded to you by State Law.

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