

Foster Parent Training and Support Assessment

Survey Results

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FOSTER PARENT SURVEY

FOSTER PARENT TRAINING AND SUPPORT ASSESSMENT

AUGUST-DECEMBER 2003

FOSTER PARENT SURVEY RESULTS

Number of Responses: 787

Distributed at foster parent seminars, trainings and as mailed survey.*

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Note - Open-ended questions (Q20, Q22) are not listed

This project was completed for the New York State Office of Children and Family Services as part of a contract entitled FAO 1 Foster/Adoptive Parent Training Project.

* Mailed survey component: response rate = 29% (225 of 780).

Also distributed at three Foster Parent Seminars (Liverpool 10/25, New York 11/15, Buffalo 11/22) and at trainings across the state.

FOSTER PARENT SURVEY**Question 1 through 6 Demographics****N=787**

<u>Text of Question</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>N</u>
1 County of residence:		
New York City	27%	216
New York State (non-NYC)	65%	514
Out of state	1%	6
Not listed	6%	51
2 If fostering, how long have you been a foster parent?		
Less than one year	10%	78
One to three years	25%	192
Four to six years	22%	170
Seven to nine years	11%	87
Ten or more years	28%	217
Not actively fostering	3%	20
3 If no longer a foster parent, how long did you foster? N=90		
Less than one year	16%	14
One to three years	27%	24
Four to six years	20%	18
Seven to nine years	10%	9
Ten or more years	28%	25
Not applicable	---	244
4 How many agencies have you worked with as a foster parent?		
One	75%	585
Two to three	22%	173
Four to five	1%	11
Six or more	1%	7
5 With which type of agency are you a foster parent?		
Private agency	37%	262
Local DSS	62%	438
6 How many foster children have been placed in your home?		
None	3%	21
One or two	25%	191
Three to five	25%	196
Six to ten	18%	140
Eleven or more	29%	221

FOSTER PARENT SURVEY

Question 7 and 9 (Q8 presented next page)

<u>Text of Question</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>N</u>
7 Has your agency provided a written description of:		
7a Your roles/responsibilities		
Yes	95%	715
No	5%	36
7b Your legal rights		
Yes	87%	638
No	13%	92
7c The legal rights of children in care		
Yes	91%	670
No	9%	68
9 Do you and your agency agree on your responsibilities?		
Yes	77%	562
No	4%	26
Unsure	19%	142

FOSTER PARENT SURVEY**Question 8 Foster parent roles/responsibilities (ranked by response percentage)**

What are the five most important foster parent roles/responsibilities?	<u>% (N)</u>
1 Providing safety for a child	83% (656)
6 Loving and nurturing a child	75% (593)
10 Providing support, guidance and discipline	65% (511)
7 Helping a child progress in his development	41% (326)
9 Being a role model for a child	37% (289)
2 Helping a child with loss and separation	36% (287)
11 Teaching the child daily living skills	32% (249)
13 Being an advocate for a child	28% (219)
5 Helping a child develop or maintain contact/attachment with birth family	21% (169)
14 Preparing a child to return home or be adopted	20% (158)
17 Adopting a child if reunification is not possible	13% (102)
4 Participating in permanency planning	12% (92)
8 Helping a child obtain necessary services (e.g. transporting)	11% (83)
16 Preparing youth for self-sufficiency	10% (81)
15 Being a continuing resource to a child & birth family following reunification or adoption	09% (70)
12 Modeling parenting skills	07% (54)
3 Being a mentor to birth parents	05% (38)

FOSTER PARENT SURVEY

Question 10 through 13

	<u>Text of Question</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>N</u>
10	Are you aware of your legal rights as they pertain to:		
10a	Service plan reviews		
	Yes	81%	549
	No	19%	132
10b	Court hearings/appearances		
	Yes	76%	521
	No	24%	161
10c	Child removals from your home		
	Yes	79%	528
	No	21%	142
10d	Adoptions		
	Yes	81%	537
	No	19%	123
10e	Fair Hearings		
	Yes	69%	444
	No	31%	196
11	Have you received a copy of the NYS Foster Parent Manual (September 2002 version)?		
	Yes	55%	378
	No	45%	305
12	If yes, does it contain useful information on foster parent rights, roles, and responsibilities?		
	Yes, to a great extent	57%	222
	Yes, somewhat	40%	156
	No	3%	12
13	How does your agency provide on-going training? (select all that apply)		
	Annual regional foster/adoptive parent training seminar	71%	562
	Directly provides in-service training	48%	377
	Videos or teleconferences	15%	119
	Community based workshops	39%	306
	No training was offered	1%	9
	Other	3%	26

FOSTER PARENT SURVEY

Question 14 Training Interest (ranked by percentage expressing interest in training)

Please indicate your interest in attending training on these topics.	1 Already Attended Training	2 No Interest	3 Interested in training	(N)
21 Legal issues	25% (148)	12% (69)	63% (370)	(587)
26 Oppositional defiant behavior	26% (146)	12% (66)	62% (347)	(559)
36 Suicide & depression	24% (134)	18% (100)	58% (322)	(556)
17 Foster parents & school problems	28% (166)	15% (88)	57% (333)	(587)
23 Lying & stealing	32% (190)	13% (75)	55% (324)	(589)
38 Violence in schools	18% (102)	28% (155)	54% (300)	(557)
15 Emotionally disturbed children	32% (183)	16% (93)	52% (301)	(605)
35 Substance-exposed infants & children	29% (163)	18% (102)	52% (292)	(557)
18 Foster parents' rights	41% (252)	8% (49)	51% (315)	(616)
25 Mental health system	27% (145)	24% (131)	49% (266)	(542)
28 Parenting the sexually abused child	39% (229)	12% (73)	49% (289)	(591)
14 Effective discipline techniques	48% (289)	5% (28)	48% (288)	(605)
30 Running away	23% (123)	30% (162)	48% (258)	(543)
33 Stress management	41% (236)	11% (63)	48% (271)	(570)
37 Talking about sex with your child	34% (187)	19% (103)	48% (265)	(555)
4 Attention deficit disorder	40% (237)	13% (76)	47% (276)	(589)
11 Allegations of abuse & neglect	43% (254)	10% (59)	47% (275)	(588)
13 Developmentally disabled children	31% (171)	22% (118)	47% (255)	(544)
3 Attachment disorder	40% (224)	14% (81)	46% (260)	(565)
5 Caseworker & foster parent relationships	38% (232)	16% (96)	46% (279)	(607)
31 Self-esteem	42% (240)	12% (69)	46% (267)	(576)
12 Anger management	44% (269)	11% (70)	45% (273)	(612)
19 Gangs and cults	11% (60)	45% (248)	44% (241)	(549)

FOSTER PARENT SURVEY

Question 14 Training Interest (rankings continued)

Please indicate your interest in attending training on these topics.	1 Already Attended Training	2 No Interest	3 Interested in training	(N)
16 Impact of fostering on your family	41% (235)	16% (89)	43% (248)	(572)
29 Permanency	38% (212)	19% (103)	43% (239)	(554)
2 ASFA time frames	24% (107)	34% (153)	42% (186)	(446)
32 Separation & loss	49% (282)	9% (51)	42% (240)	(573)
1 Adoption	41% (257)	19% (122)	40% (250)	(629)
9 Communication skills	45% (261)	16% (92)	39% (221)	(574)
20 Independent living issues	27% (153)	34% (196)	39% (222)	(571)
8 Children affected by HIV/AIDS	33% (189)	29% (168)	38% (218)	(575)
6 Child development	54% (331)	9% (53)	37% (229)	(613)
24 Managing medications	34% (185)	30% (163)	36% (199)	(547)
27 Parenting the gay or lesbian teen	8% (45)	56% (299)	36% (194)	(538)
34 Substance & alcohol abuse	40% (222)	24% (134)	36% (201)	(557)
39 Working with birth families	42% (239)	21% (121)	36% (205)	(565)
7 Child/family visits	45% (256)	20% (117)	35% (200)	(575)
22 Life books	31% (163)	34% (179)	35% (183)	(525)
10 Confidentiality	50% (272)	23% (127)	27% (148)	(547)

FOSTER PARENT SURVEY

Question 15-18, 21 (Question 19 presented next page)

<u>Text of Question</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>N</u>
15 Were the trainings you attended helpful in carrying out your roles/responsibilities?		
Yes, to a great extent	51%	358
Yes, somewhat	47%	329
No, not at all	2%	12
16 What is the best time to offer training?		
Weekday evenings	35%	233
Weekday days	20%	129
Weekend evenings	6%	42
Weekend days	39%	256
17 Would you be interested in on-line computer based training?		
Yes	67%	469
No	33%	233
18 What can the agency do to encourage training attendance? (select all that apply)		
Use foster parent input to determine training topics	58%	440
Offer child care	51%	388
Offer refreshments/meals	23%	172
Use foster parents as co-trainers	34%	261
Reimburse travel expenses	29%	223
Make it practical and helpful	55%	415
Link board rate increases to training attendance	31%	234
21 When a foster child leaves your home, does your agency provide your family any of the following? (select all that apply)		
N=758 (for first four categories N=603, including those who did not select any choice)		
Adequate notice/time to prepare for separation	49%	293
Grief counseling	6%	35
Follow up contact with your family	15%	92
Post placement feedback interviews	11%	64
A foster child has not left my home	20%	155

FOSTER PARENT SURVEY

Question 19 Services/Supports (ranked by mean score)

<u>Text of Question</u>	<u>1</u> Very Dissatisfied	<u>2</u> Dis- Satisfied	<u>3</u> Neutral	<u>4</u> Satisfied	<u>5</u> Very Satisfied	<u>Mean (N)</u>	<u>NA</u> % (N)
1 Caseworker contact in person	6% (43)	8% (58)	15% (101)	39% (267)	32% (224)	3.82 (693)	01 (06)
2 Caseworker contact by phone	6% (43)	11% (73)	14% (93)	40% (276)	29% (201)	3.76 (686)	01 (06)
6 24 hour crisis services	4% (25)	5% (29)	38% (222)	34% (197)	20% (115)	3.59 (588)	06 (40)
8 Newsletter for foster parents	5% (26)	10% (55)	28% (156)	41% (233)	16% (92)	3.55 (562)	14 (90)
3 Guidance on working with families	4% (25)	11% (66)	30% (184)	39% (241)	17% (107)	3.54 (623)	04 (24)
7 Foster parent support group	5% (30)	10% (61)	32% (184)	34% (201)	18% (107)	3.50 (583)	09 (55)
21 Information on adoption	6% (35)	11% (67)	28% (168)	40% (242)	16% (96)	3.49 (608)	04 (25)
4 Respite care	5% (29)	10% (56)	38% (206)	32% (172)	15% (79)	3.40 (542)	10 (58)
10 Involvement with permanency planning	6% (33)	14% (79)	31% (178)	38% (215)	11% (61)	3.34 (566)	06 (38)
5 Day care for foster child	9% (46)	11% (61)	36% (192)	29% (157)	15% (79)	3.30 (535)	13 (81)
15 Transportation	9% (48)	15% (82)	32% (176)	33% (182)	12% (65)	3.24 (553)	14 (88)
18 Referrals to appropriate services	10% (63)	16% (99)	26% (161)	36% (221)	11% (68)	3.22 (612)	03 (20)
9 Ongoing recognition in community	6% (32)	14% (75)	42% (219)	30% (156)	8% (42)	3.19 (524)	13 (79)
16 Timely evaluations for child service needs	12% (75)	18% (109)	24% (149)	34% (212)	11% (70)	3.15 (615)	02 (15)
19 Access to NYS/OCFS regional office staff	8% (42)	10% (53)	50% (252)	24% (124)	7% (38)	3.12 (509)	13 (77)
13 Counseling services for foster parents	10% (51)	16% (85)	38% (198)	25% (132)	10% (54)	3.10 (520)	17 (105)
14 Mentoring or buddy system	7% (31)	15% (69)	49% (226)	20% (90)	9% (42)	3.09 (458)	22 (131)
11 Reimbursed for special costs	15% (82)	18% (102)	31% (172)	26% (145)	10% (58)	2.99 (559)	13 (82)
12 Liability insurance	11% (46)	16% (67)	49% (208)	19% (79)	5% (23)	2.92 (423)	29 (176)
20 Child's contact with law guardian	19% (114)	17% (103)	28% (165)	25% (149)	11% (63)	2.91 (594)	08 (53)
17 Child's full history (e.g. emotional, medical)	20% (124)	25% (154)	19% (117)	27% (169)	9% (57)	2.81 (621)	04 (28)

FOSTER PARENT SURVEY

Question 19 Services/Supports ranked by Satisfaction Levels*

*Percentage represents combined satisfied and very satisfied responses

Service/support	Pct Satisfied
Caseworker contact in person	71%
Caseworker contact by phone	69%
Newsletter for foster parents	57%
Guidance on working with families	56%
Information on adoption	56%
Day care for foster child	54%
24 hour crisis services	54%
Foster parent support group	52%
Involvement with permanency planning	49%
Respite care	47%
Referrals to appropriate services	47%
Transportation	45%
Timely evaluations for child service needs	45%
Ongoing recognition in community	38%
Reimbursed for special costs	36%
Child's full history	36%
Child's contact with law guardian	36%
Counseling services for foster parents	35%
Access to OCFS regional office staff	31%
Mentoring or buddy system	29%
Liability insurance	24%

FOSTER PARENT SURVEY**Question 23 and 24 Reasons for Child Removal Requests (ranked by response percentage)**

23	Have you ever asked to have a child removed from your home?	<u>%</u>	<u>(N)</u>
	Yes	49	342
	No	51	361
24	If yes, why have you requested that a child be removed from your home? (select all that apply)	<u>N=342</u>	
		<u>% (N)</u>	
	4 Severe behavior problems	70%	(240)
	11 Destructive behavior	45%	(153)
	5 Mental health issues	23%	(79)
	3 Inappropriate sexual behavior	21%	(71)
	6 Criminal activity	16%	(56)
	12 Lack of caseworker contact & support	16%	(54)
	13 Caseworker attitude	11%	(38)
	7 Substance abuse	11%	(37)
	19 Allegations of abuse & neglect	08%	(28)
	10 Fire safety	08%	(27)
	1 Foster family illness/crisis	08%	(26)
	17 Lack of appropriate or timely services	07%	(24)
	16 Birth parent threat to family	06%	(21)
	8 Child's medical needs	06%	(19)
	15 Lack of respite	05%	(18)
	9 Cross cultural placement issues	02%	(6)
	14 Delays in board payment or other reimbursements	02%	(6)
	2 Foster family move	00%	(3)
	18 Pregnancy of foster family member	00%	(3)
	20 Pregnancy of foster child	00%	(3)

FOSTER PARENT SURVEY

Question 25 and 26

<u>Text of Question</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>N</u>
25 What could have helped you keep that child in your home? N=342		
Respite	15%	53
More intensive treatment for the child	43%	146
More contact by caseworker	22%	76
More practical help/advice from agency	32%	108
A higher board rate	20%	68
More information up front about child's needs & behavior	52%	179
Fewer children in the home so I could manage this child	8%	27
Nothing	32%	108
26 Do you feel a foster/adoptive parent support group would be beneficial to you?		
Yes, and I attend one now	34%	207
Yes, but there is none nearby	42%	254
No	24%	142

FOSTER PARENT SURVEY

Question 27 Reasons for voluntary closing (ranked by response percentage) N=70

If your certified foster home was voluntarily closed, for what reasons did you request the closing?

Reason	Percent	N
Adoption of foster children	37%	26
Dissatisfaction with agency	24%	17
Other*	19%	13
Difficulty of children	13%	9
Foster parent going to work full-time	10%	7
Family illness/death	9%	6
End of foster child placement	7%	6
Problems working with birth family	7%	5
Foster family move	7%	5
Age-related retirement	4%	3
Liability issues	4%	3

*“Other” responses:

We have retired. Problems with adopted child needing 24-7 attention. Didn't bother to help us keep children in our home. Not closed but have adopted two children. Board rate too low. Space limitation. Not requested. Agency lied about adoption. Not applicable. Not applicable.

APPENDIX

SURVEY INSTRUMENTS

Foster Parent Training and Support Assessment

Foster Parent Survey

1. County of residence: _____

2. If fostering, how long have you been a foster parent?

- Less than one year Seven to nine years
 One to three years Ten or more years
 Four to six years Not actively fostering

3. If no longer a foster parent, how long did you foster?

- Less than one year Seven to nine years
 One to three years Ten or more years
 Four to six years Not applicable

4. How many agencies have you worked with as a foster parent?

- One Four to five
 Two to three Six or more

5. With which type of agency are you a foster parent? Private agency Local/DSS

6. How many foster children have been placed in your home?

- None Six to ten
 One or two Eleven or more
 Three to five

7. Has your agency provided a written description of:

- Your roles/responsibilities Yes No
Your legal rights Yes No
The legal rights of children in care Yes No

8. What are the five most important foster parent roles/responsibilities? (select five choices)

- | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> Providing safety for a child | <input type="radio"/> Being a role model for a child |
| <input type="radio"/> Helping a child with loss and separation | <input type="radio"/> Providing support, guidance and discipline |
| <input type="radio"/> Being a mentor to birth parents | <input type="radio"/> Teaching the child daily living skills |
| <input type="radio"/> Participating in permanency planning | <input type="radio"/> Modeling parenting skills |
| <input type="radio"/> Helping a child develop or maintain contact/attachment with birth family | <input type="radio"/> Being an advocate for a child |
| <input type="radio"/> Loving and nurturing a child | <input type="radio"/> Preparing a child to return home or be adopted |
| <input type="radio"/> Helping a child progress in his development | <input type="radio"/> Being a continuing resource to a child & birth family following reunification or adoption |
| <input type="radio"/> Helping a child obtain necessary services (e.g. transporting) | <input type="radio"/> Preparing youth for self-sufficiency |
| <input type="radio"/> Adopting a child if reunification is not possible | Other (specify) _____ |

9. Do you and your agency agree on your responsibilities?

- Yes No Unsure

Instructions:

Please **COMPLETELY DARKEN** the circle corresponding to your answer. A dark pen will produce the most accurate results. **DO NOT** staple. Thank you!



9a. If you do not agree, what are the areas of disagreement? (please print)

10. Are you aware of your legal rights as they pertain to:

- Service plan reviews Yes No Adoptions Yes No
 Court hearings/appearances Yes No Fair hearings Yes No
 Child removals from your home Yes No

11. Have you received a copy of the NYS Foster Parent Manual (September 2002 version)? Yes No

12. If yes, does it contain useful information on foster parent rights, roles and responsibilities? Yes, to a great extent Yes, somewhat No

13. How does your agency provide on-going training? (select all that apply)

- Annual regional foster/adoptive parent training seminar Community based workshops
 Directly provides in-service training No training was offered
 Videos or teleconferences Other (specify) _____

14. Please indicate your interest in attending training on these topics.

Please completely darken appropriate bubble.	Already attended training	No Interest	Interested in training		Already attended training	No Interest	Interested in training
• Adoption	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	• Legal issues	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
• ASFA time frames	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	• Life books	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
• Attachment disorder	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	• Lying & stealing	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
• Attention Deficit Disorder	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	• Managing medications	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
• Caseworker & foster parent relationships	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	• Mental health system	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
• Child development	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	• Oppositional defiant behavior	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
• Child/family visits	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	• Parenting the gay or lesbian teen	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
• Children affected by HIV/AIDS	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	• Parenting the sexually abused child	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
• Communication skills	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	• Permanency	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
• Confidentiality	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	• Running away	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
• Allegations of abuse and neglect	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	• Self-esteem	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
• Anger Management	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	• Separation & loss	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
• Developmentally disabled children	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	• Stress management	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
• Effective discipline techniques	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	• Substance & alcohol abuse	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
• Emotionally disturbed children	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	• Substance-exposed infants & children	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
• Impact of fostering on your family	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	• Suicide & depression	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
• Foster parents & school problems	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	• Talking about sex with your child	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
• Foster parents' rights	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	• Violence in schools	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
• Gangs and cults	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	• Working with birth families	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
• Independent living issues	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>				

Other (specify) _____

47164



15. Were the trainings you attended helpful in carrying out your roles/responsibilities?

- Yes, to a great extent Yes, somewhat No, not at all

16. What is the best time to offer training? (please select only one)

- Weekday evenings Weekend evenings
 Weekday days Weekend days

17. Would you be interested in on-line computer based training?

- Yes No

18. What can the agency do to encourage training attendance? (select all that apply)

- Use foster parent input to determine training topics Use foster parents as co-trainers Link board rate increases to training attendance
 Offer child care Reimburse travel expenses Other (specify) _____
 Offer refreshments/meals Make it practical & useful

19. Please indicate your level of satisfaction with the following services/supports.

	Not Available	Very Dissatisfied	Dissatisfied	Neutral	Satisfied	Very Satisfied
• Caseworker contact in person	①	②	③	④	⑤	⑥
• Caseworker contact by phone	①	②	③	④	⑤	⑥
• Guidance on working with families	①	②	③	④	⑤	⑥
• Respite care	①	②	③	④	⑤	⑥
• Day care for foster child	①	②	③	④	⑤	⑥
• 24 hour crisis services	①	②	③	④	⑤	⑥
• Foster parent support group	①	②	③	④	⑤	⑥
• Newsletter for foster parents	①	②	③	④	⑤	⑥
• Ongoing recognition in the community	①	②	③	④	⑤	⑥
• Involvement with permanency planning	①	②	③	④	⑤	⑥
• Reimbursed for special costs (e.g. field trips, proms, school related expenses)	①	②	③	④	⑤	⑥
• Liability insurance	①	②	③	④	⑤	⑥
• Counseling services for foster parents	①	②	③	④	⑤	⑥
• Mentoring or buddy system	①	②	③	④	⑤	⑥
• Transportation	①	②	③	④	⑤	⑥
• Timely evaluations for child service needs	①	②	③	④	⑤	⑥
• Child's full history (e.g. emotional, medical etc.)	①	②	③	④	⑤	⑥
• Referrals to appropriate services	①	②	③	④	⑤	⑥
• Access to NYS/OCFS Regional office staff	①	②	③	④	⑤	⑥
• Child's contact with law guardian	①	②	③	④	⑤	⑥
• Information on adoption	①	②	③	④	⑤	⑥



20. What services and supports could be improved or added? (print in space below)

21. When a foster child leaves your home, does your agency provide your family any of the following? (select all that apply)

- Adequate notice/time to prepare for separation
- Post placement feedback interviews
- Grief counseling
- A foster child has not left my home
- Follow up contact with your family

22. How can the agency better help you with separation and loss when a foster child leaves your home? (print in space below)

23. Have you ever asked to have a child removed from your home? Yes No

24. If yes, why have you requested that a child be removed from your home? (select all that apply)

- Foster family illness/crisis
- Fire safety
- Foster family move
- Destructive behavior
- Inappropriate sexual behavior
- Lack of caseworker contact & support
- Severe behavior problems
- Caseworker attitude
- Mental health issues
- Delays in board payment or other reimbursements
- Criminal activity
- Lack of respite
- Substance abuse
- Birth parent threat to family safety
- Child's medical needs
- Lack of appropriate or timely services
- Cross cultural placement issues
- Pregnancy of foster family member
- Allegations of abuse or neglect
- Pregnancy of foster child
- Other (specify) _____

25. What could have helped you keep that child in your home? (select all that apply)

- Respite
- More information up front about child's needs and behavior
- More intensive treatment for the child
- Fewer children in the home so I could manage this child
- More contact by caseworker
- Nothing
- More practical help/advice from agency
- Other (specify) _____
- A higher board rate

26. Do you feel a foster/adoptive parent support group would be beneficial to you?

- Yes, and I attend one now
- Yes, but there is none nearby
- No

27. If your certified foster home has been voluntarily closed, for what reasons did you request the closing?

- Adoption of foster children
- Foster parent going to work full-time
- Allegations of abuse or neglect
- Age-related retirement
- End of foster child placement
- Dissatisfaction with agency
- Family illness/death
- Difficulty of children
- Liability issues
- Foster family move
- Problems working with birth family
- Other _____

Comments: _____

