

Rights of Parents of Children in Foster Care*

Parents of foster children shall have the following rights:

- A. To be treated as individuals who have all the rights guaranteed to them as citizens of the United States and their state.
- B. To maintain custody of their child unless it has been demonstrated that this would jeopardize the child's health and welfare.
- C. To be provided with opportunities to demonstrate their capacity to provide a suitable home for their child, and to regain custody of their child as quickly as possible, when regaining custody is consistent with the health and welfare needs of the child.
- D. To receive proper and adequate notice regarding any grievance or legal proceeding concerning their child.
- E. To participate in planning for their child, to receive a copy of the case plan and to receive notice of any formal review of their child's case plan.
- F. To receive a clear written description of their rights and responsibilities and the agency's rights and responsibilities, and to receive information about any recourse they may have to contest actions taken by the agency.
- G. To receive services, in accordance with the service plan, to assist them in overcoming the conditions which led to removal of their child, and if return of their child to their custody is not feasible, to help them adjust to an alternative permanent plan for their child.
- H. To visit and communicate with their child within reasonable guidelines as set by the service plan and by the court.
- I. To have their cultural, religious, ethnic or racial heritage respected as a plan for them and for their child is developed.
- J. To receive an explicit written description of the expectations they must meet in order to have their child returned home and of the services the agency will provide to help them meet those expectations.
- K. To have information maintained by the agency about them kept confidential.
- L. To have access to information maintained by the agency about them within a framework of agency guidelines which take into consideration others' rights to privacy, and to correct errors contained in those records.