

S-260 SUPERVISION AND SUPPORT OF FOSTER FAMILIES-**MODIFIED**



Version 4 effective October 20, 2008 (modified April 1 2019)

(previously FA-13)

Policy

The worker must provide and arrange the necessary supervision, support and services regarding the care provided to the specific child in placement.

The worker consults the foster parent, or in the case of two foster parents, at least one parent, within 7 days of placing a child in the foster home and again within 30 days of placement.

At least once every three months, the worker must:

- Visit the foster home to provide support to the family.
- If a child has not been placed in foster care, inform the family.

The Welfare Worker must visit the foster family more frequently (at least one contact per month) to provide the support that it requires. Frequent and direct contact with the foster family is particularly important during its first placement, during the foster child's adjustment period with a new foster family, or in times of crisis.

A copy of the policies and protocols is available at any time for consultation by the foster parents through a portal available from the Valoris website, a binder can also be provided with a paper version of these policies.

Procedure

1. Role of the Residential Services Worker

In addition to supervising the child's placement, the Welfare Worker must represent the foster parents' rights and interests. The Welfare Worker will offer support to the foster parents and their children, participate in case conferences to accompany and support the foster parents, and answer general questions about policies and procedures.

Each day, the Welfare Worker must indicate his/her availability via a voicemail message and must frequently check for new messages.

In the absence of the assigned Welfare Worker and in case of emergency, a Residential Services Worker is available each day to respond to urgent requests by foster parents. In such cases, foster parents must ask the receptionist to transfer their call to the available Welfare Worker.

2. Extraordinary Circumstances

Death: In the case of death of a member of the foster family or of the child in care, the Welfare Worker must provide the necessary support to the foster family. This may include a temporary placement disruption for a child. The Welfare Worker will arrange for flowers to be sent on behalf of the Agency, ensure that an Agency representative attends the funeral, and advise the Foster Parent Association of the death.

Support of a Specialist

One or several members of the foster family may require the support of a specialist to overcome certain difficult situations related to having a child in care (death of the child in care, abuse of a child by the child in care, placement of a child in adoption, difficult separation). The Welfare Worker may refer the foster family to the Specialized Services Sector for support and service from a specialist.

Disaster (fire or other emergency): The Welfare Worker and the Supervisor offer the necessary support to the foster family (emergency financial assistance, placement disruption for a child in care, etc.).

In case of fire, there must be a plan for which the foster family is responsible. A short-term shelter is designated if one has to leave the foster family's home.

When placed in the foster home, all children living in the foster home are informed, in a manner appropriate to their age and maturity, of the procedures to be followed in the event of activation of a fire alarm or discovery of a fire, including their roles and responsibilities.

The procedure is prominent in the home **and a copy is kept on file with the family in CPIN.**

An evacuation drill takes place every six months and is recorded in the family file. The fire alarm is used to announce evacuation drills in case of fire.

Flammable liquids, including paint materials, kept in the foster home are stored in lockable containers and away from any equipment.

A copy of the protocol is kept by the foster family. This protocol is reviewed as often as necessary to support the safety of children in the foster home and at least once every 12 months.

The protocol must be revised after changes are made in the nature of the residential facility where children to whom care is provided by a foster family.

A smoke detector that meets the fire code requirements for smoke detector standards is located on each floor of the home, and additional detectors that meet these requirements are located in each bedroom of the home.

The foster parent (s) are informed of the procedure to follow in the event of a fire alarm or fire detection activation, including their roles and responsibilities.

Under extraordinary circumstances, the Supervisor may authorize the refund of certain expenses to the foster family.

Definitions

Parents: The term "parents" Includes biological parents, adoptive parents, step-mother, step-father or all other persons responsible for the child previous to Valoris' involvement.

Reference

- [Child, Youth and Family Services Act, 2017](#)
- [Ontario Regulation 156/18: General Matters Under the Authority of the Minister](#)