

Barium Springs Home for Children Foster Care Program

Licensing Procedures

I. INITIAL APPLICATION

Application for Foster Parents must be submitted to the Director. References will be checked.

II. PERSONAL INTERVIEW

After your references have been checked, you will be contacted for a personal interview. At this interview, you will be asked to complete a background questionnaire and family assessment. Be prepared to answer questions about your family relationships, family history, personal history, and social information as well as situational questions.

III. COMPLETION OF MAPP-GPS AND TEACHING FAMILY MODEL TRAINING

Attend the state required Model Approach to Partnerships in Parenting: Group Preparation and Selection training sessions (MAPP-GPS) and agency required Teaching Family Model training. Barium Springs provides all training. Should you have to miss any meetings, please notify the Director at (704) 873-1011 or toll-free (800) 320-4157. There are no fees for training.

IV. MUTUAL HOME ASSESSMENT

After you have started your MAPP-GPS/TFA training and all necessary applications have been completed, an appointment will be made for one of us to visit your home to begin the Mutual Home Assessment. This is the time for us to become better acquainted with your family and for you to know us better. We will talk more about your strengths and needs in fostering a child and answer any questions that have not been addressed through training. The Mutual Home Assessment will involve a minimum of two visits. There is no fee for the Mutual Home Assessment.

V. MEDICAL EXAMS

Every member of the household will be required to have physicals. All adults 18 and over must have TB tests completed. If any of the TB tests are positive, the children in the home must be tested also. If you have not had a physical or TB test within the last month, they will have to be completed. Physicals must be documented on a form **stamped** with the offices' name and address. When obtaining TB results, a separate sheet must be obtained that documents the results.

VI. FIRE INSPECTION

We will give you the proper information needed to contact your local Fire Department so the inspection can be done. There are certain requirements which must be complied within regards to safety. We will address these requirements with you during training.

VII. FINGERPRINTING

All Foster Parents and adults over the age of 18 living in the home are required by law to be fingerprinted. Each person must have **one** fingerprint card each. Fingerprints can be obtained from the Sheriff's Department or local courthouse. You will be advised how to proceed with this requirement.

VIII. CRIMINAL RECORD CHECKS

By law we are required to check for criminal records on all prospective Foster Parents, and anyone else in the household who is 18 or over. This check can be completed through the local courthouse. If there is any information that you think we need to know concerning your background or any out of state activities, please share them with us **before** you begin the MAPP-GPS training.

Upon completion of the above requirements, a written report is sent to the State Division of Social Services so your Foster Parent license can be issued. The entire process after training should be completed within 8 weeks, if no delays occur.

To be a Foster Parent is an enormous commitment. We are delighted you are considering this responsibility!