

HOME AND COMMUNITY BASED SERVICES

INDIVIDUALLY –BASED FREEDOMS AND PROTECTIONS

There are rights you always have when you live in a foster home or 24-hour setting. Your rights include:*

1. Locks - You have the right to lock the door to your personal space.



2. Food - You have the freedom and support to access personal food at any time.



3. Visitors -You can choose who visits you, and when.



4. Schedule/activities - You have the freedom and support to control your own schedule and activities.



5. Roommates and decorations—When you share a room, you have a choice of who your roommate is. You can decorate your room within your written agreement.



6. Residency agreement - There will be a written agreement for where you live. It has protections against being evicted as well as responsibilities for you as a resident.



7. Freedom from restraint - You have the right to be free from restraints, either chemical or physical. Restraints may only be used when there is a serious, immediate health and safety threat to you or others.

** The freedoms and protections listed can only be limited if there is a risk to you or someone else.*

Home Screening Tool

You've worked with your case manager and found a home with an opening that you are interested in. Now what?



Visiting the home is often the next step, and it's important to know what questions to ask when you do that. Inside you will find a checklist of suggested questions that you, or your family members, can use to help you decide if a home is right for you.



Don't forget to take along a piece of paper so you can take notes about your visit and write down their answers to your questions!



PROVIDER SCREENING TOOL

Individuals and their families can use this brochure to guide them when screening a potential residential placement. You do not need to ask all of the questions in this brochure, just those that are important to you.

TRANSPORTATION AND EMPLOYMENT

- What kind of vehicle would I have access to?
- Will you be able to assist me with travel to family/friends for visits or holidays?
- How much notice should I give you if I need assistance with transportation?
- What are the job opportunities like around here? Do other people who live here work?

PERSONAL FREEDOMS

- What kind of key will I have for locking the house and my bedroom?
- Can I cook my own meals? Where can I keep my personal food?
- How much notice do you want if I want to have someone visit? Can my romantic partner visit and stay overnight?
- If I want to go out and do something by myself, what support can you provide me to do that?
- Will someone be able to take me to my place of worship and support me in practicing my religion? What religions are practiced in this house?
- Your profile said you allow pets, what kind of pets are okay?

SOCIAL ENVIRONMENT/ CULTURE

- What is the culture of the home? Is it busy and active, quiet and laid back, very structured?
- Who else lives here, what are their ages? Can I meet them before I move in?
- How many times in an average week do people here go out and do things together?
- How will you help me build positive relationships with the other people who live here? What if I don't get along with another resident here, how will you help me work through that?
- Can I see the residency agreement for living here? If you have house rules, can I see them?
- If someone moves out, how much say do I get in who moves in?

SAFETY AND SUPPORT

- What can you tell me about the sensory environment here? What smells are common? What kind of lighting do you use?
- What is the noise level like in the house? Do you have quiet hours?
- Who will be ordering my medication? Who will dispense it?
- How do I get my laundry done?
- Do you offer WIFI that I can access? Is it free or do I have to pay for it?
- Do you provide representative payee services?
- I have a risk of _____, how will you support me with that?
- Tell me about the safety of this neighborhood.

QUALITY ASSURANCE

- If you have a house manager, how often are they here at the house? How long have you worked here?
- What is your staff turnover rate?
- What kind of issues have you had in the home in the past and how did you address them?
- Who do I report concerns about staff or safety to?
- Do you have a complaints process? What is it?

