

# DISCIPLINE POLICY STATEMENT

- Kinship Caregiver
- Substitute Caregiver
- Foster Parent

The Philadelphia County Department of Human Services has long had a policy which prohibits physical or corporal punishment or discipline of foster children. On January 24, 1987, regulations were enacted by the Department of Public Welfare, which apply to all foster parents in Pennsylvania.

The Foster Child Discipline Punishment and Control Policy, Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare Code, Section 3700.63 is as follows:

**a) Discipline:**

- Foster children shall be directed with techniques that stress praise and encouragement.
- Foster children may not be subjected to verbal abuse, derogatory remarks, or threats of removal from the foster home.

**b) Punishment: The following forms of punishment are prohibited**

- Abusive discipline practices
- Physical punishment inflicted upon the body
- Punishment for bed wetting or actions related to toilet training
- Delegation of punishment to another child
- Denial of meals, clothing, or shelter
- Denial of elements of the service plan or ISP
- Denial of communication with, or visits by, the child's family
- Assignment of physically strenuous exercise or work solely as punishment

**c) Control:**

- Passive physical restraint is the only allowable method of restraining a child

I, We \_\_\_\_\_

have been informed of the Foster Child Discipline Punishment and Control Policy as defined by the Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare Code, Section 3700.63. I, We have been given a copy of this policy, have read and understand it. I, We agree to abide by the terms of this policy. I, We understand that when problems related to discipline arise, we will consult with our assigned caseworker.

Signed:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Caregiver

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Caregiver

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Caseworker

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

