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# Aspiranet

~ December 2021 ~

## Monthly Regulation Topic

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### Communication Reminders

#### Communicating with Aspiranet

As your foster care agency, it is Aspiranet's role to provide direct support and services to you and the children in your care. Your Aspiranet Social Worker can best support you and your foster children when there is frequent, open communication. It is your Aspiranet Social Worker's role to serve as your children's primary case manager and therefore, "communication coordinator" with the County Social Worker and other service providers.

Aspiranet is also responsible to report certain incidents to Community Care Licensing within the next business day and therefore it is vital for resource parents to report specific events to Aspiranet in a timely manner.

As a reminder, outlined below are some events that are vital to report to your Aspiranet Social Worker or the On-Call Aspiranet Social Worker the same day and preferably immediately whenever possible:

**COVID-19 exposure/symptoms/testing:** Please contact Aspiranet right away in the event any member of your household has been COVID exposed, is having COVID-related symptoms, or is seeking COVID testing or is confirmed to have COVID-19. Aspiranet is best able to support your family the sooner we know and can develop a support plan, if needed. In addition, Aspiranet is also required to report any COVID-19 positive resource family members or Aspiranet staff to Community Care Licensing.

**Absence or Late Return of a Child:** If a child leaves your home without permission or does not return home as scheduled, please contact Aspiranet immediately. This includes late return from family visits, an approved outing, etc.

**Injury:** Contact Aspiranet as soon as possible if your foster child is injured and any of the following occur: 1) you provide First Aid for the injury 2) the child is seen by a health care provider for the injury (i.e. doctor office, Urgent Care, or Emergency Room) 3) the injury leaves a mark on the child.

**County Social Worker or Community Care Licensing Visit your Home unexpectedly:** Please notify Aspiranet right away any time you have an unexpected visit from a County Social Worker or a representative of Community Care Licensing (CCL) to your home, particularly if the visit is due to an investigation. Aspiranet can better support you and your family during the investigation process if you let us know right away. If permitted by CCL, your Aspiranet Social Worker can be present during the investigation to provide support.

**County contacts you directly about placement of a child:** Due to many considerations when placing a child, only Aspiranet can approve the placement of a child with your family. Please contact Aspiranet immediately if you are contacted directly by a county social worker regarding placement of a child. Please let the county social worker know they must contact Aspiranet regarding potential placements and before a child can be placed (left) at your home.

**Child's behavior is escalated and not responding to your intervention:** If your foster child's behavior begins to escalate and s/he is not responding to your attempts to calm him/her down, please contact your Aspiranet Social Worker or the On-Call Aspiranet Social Worker for assistance right away. It can be helpful to have a "neutral" party for you and/or the child to talk with to help reduce the escalation. In addition, if needed, an On-call Aspiranet Social Worker can visit your home to assist in person.

If a child's behavior is escalated to the point of being a true danger to him/herself or to others, contact the police for emergency response.

**Any police/criminal involvement:** Police contact involving a resource parent, household member, or foster child need to be reported to Aspiranet as soon as possible. Police involvement requires reporting to Community Care Licensing.

### **Additional Situations Requiring Notification to Aspiranet**

In order to maintain agency and licensing standards, and the health, safety and well being of your foster children and family, Aspiranet requests that as soon as possible, resource parents notify their Aspiranet Social Worker of the following before they occur:

**Changes in your family composition:** This includes anyone moving in or out of your home. Changes in the residents of your home may impact room sharing, available bed space, in addition, anyone 18 & over must obtain fingerprint clearance prior to residing in your home (with the exception of youth in the extended foster care program).

**Frequent Visitors & Extended Houseguests:** Community Care Licensing requires that anyone 18 & over that is a frequent visitor to your home obtain fingerprint clearance. This can include extended family member, adult children or friends that frequently visit your home. Aspiranet policy requires that any houseguest that visits the foster home for more than 14 continuous nights or 21 nights in a calendar year, must complete an "18 & Over Resident in the Home" packet and obtain clearances.

**Adding a pet to your family:** An assessment for safety and health considerations must be completed prior to your family obtaining a new pet. The assessment will include pet type, health and vaccination status of pet, pet's experience with children, possible allergies of children in your care, etc.

**Obtaining a firearm:** Safety considerations and compliance with agency and licensing standards require that you immediately notify your Aspiranet Social Worker regarding obtaining a firearm.

**Considering home day care license:** There are many factors to consider and discuss prior to obtaining a home day care license, such as needs of children currently in your care, number of children being considered for day care, additional adult help, etc.

**Remodeling Your Home:** Safety considerations and compliance with agency and licensing standards must be considered prior to a certified home starting a remodeling project.

**Change in employment or work schedule(s):** There are a number of considerations to discuss with a change in employment or work schedule, including impact on the overall care and supervision of children, as well as impact on the you and your family overall.

**Plans to move:** Whether moving to a new home in your current community or moving out of your area, please notify Aspiranet as soon as possible to provide for adequate time to prepare for the transition. If you will be remaining with Aspiranet a home inspection and an update to specific forms, and your home study will need to be completed.

**Obtaining new vehicle:** Vehicle and insurance info must be updated with Aspiranet.

For detailed emergency reporting procedures, please see *Emergency Procedures* section of the Foster Parent Manual.

Please sign and return this page to your Aspiranet Social Worker for training credit.

My signature below indicates that I have completed the December 2021 "Communication Reminders" training.

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Signature Foster Parent #1*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Date*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Print Name Foster Parent #1*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Signature Foster Parent #2*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Date*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Print Name Foster Parent #2*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Aspiranet Authorized Signature*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Date*

Training credit: \_\_\_\_ minutes