



FOSTER & ADOPTIVE CARE COALITION FOR EVERY CHILD... A PLACE TO CALL HOME

30 Days to Family® Consent & Participation Agreement

Printed Name of Child Being Served	DOB	DCN

Program Overview & Philosophy:

The purpose of 30 Days to Family® is to expand efforts to find safe, appropriate relative/kin supports for children entering foster care. One goal of the program is to assist in meeting the Fostering Connections to Success and Increasing Adoptions Act 30-day standard of notifying a child’s adult relatives of their option to participate in the care and placement of the child. The initial search is for grandparents, parents, and siblings, but the goal is that at least 80 additional relatives will be identified and explored. Because foster care placements can be fragile, the goal is to identify at least 2-3 relatives or kin as potential placement providers. Maternal and paternal relatives are explored with equal interest. In all cases, every effort is made to keep siblings together, maintain children in their school of origin, and preserve the child’s important relationships with friends and supportive adults.

The Coalition is committed to adhering to Federal and State laws, as well as Children’s Division Policy, on placement with relatives and kin. The Coalition will assist in ensuring licensing standards are satisfied and the relative/kinship caregiver has the necessary supports in place to care for the child.

Team Member Participation & Expectations:

A referral for 30 Days to Family® services may only be made at the time a child enters Protective Custody. The completed referral and supporting documentation must be submitted prior to initiation of services. The 30 Days to Family® Specialist will attend the initial TDM (if applicable), the PC hearing, and the 72-hour FST meeting to gather information and obtain team approval for 30 Days to Family® services. This consent gives approval for the 30 Days to Family® Specialist to attend all Children’s Division meetings throughout 30 Days to Family® services and for case follow-up. This consent allows the exchange of client and family information to/from 30 Days to Family® Specialists and all professional team members. Although 30 Days to Family® does not require weekly meetings, if a child has multiple potential relative/kin placement options, or barriers to placement arise, we will request a meeting with team members to review all possible options and determine the most appropriate action.

Throughout the service, the Specialist will be in contact with the child, the child’s caregiver(s), parents, siblings, and all other adult relatives and kin identified and located by the Specialist. When a relative or kin expresses a desire to care for the child, or become a support for the child, 30 Days to Family® will provide the information to the professional team members via email and may request further action by team members relating to background screenings. 30 Days to Family® Specialists are authorized to conduct home safety walkthroughs and initial screenings for individuals interested in pursuing placement of the child.

Typically, 30 Days to Family® services conclude at the 30 day meeting; however, if the child has not been placed with relatives or kin within the 30-day timeframe, the team may agree to continue services to meet the desired program outcome of relative/kin placement. At the conclusion of services, the Coalition will provide case documentation to the Children’s Division representative, the Deputy Juvenile Office, and the child’s guardian ad litem. The relative/kinship caregiver will be provided with a copy of the child’s natural and professional supports.



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Following the conclusion of 30 Days to Family® services, the Coalition will conduct follow up with the case management agency to collect data for program improvement and outcome comparison. This data must be collected to ensure the integrity of the program, and participation is not optional. The initial follow-up consists of the Specialist attending the FST 30 days after services conclude, usually the 60-Day FST. Additional follow-up will occur at 90 days, 180 days, and 1 year following the conclusion of services.

The Specialist will complete assessments, specifically the CGAS or PIR-GAS (depending on the child’s age) and the GARF, to gather child and family data at the inception of services, conclusion of services, and 30 days following conclusion of services.

General Information:

The Foster & Adoptive Care Coalition is a private, non-profit agency. All services provided by the Foster & Adoptive Care Coalition, including 30 Days to Family®, are voluntary services and may be declined.

The Coalition does not physically, mechanically, or chemically restrain clients. It is the belief of the Coalition that the use of restraints increases risk of harm and diminishes rapport between staff and clients. A copy of the Coalition’s behavior support and management practices procedures is available for review upon request.

Records & Disclosure of Confidential Information:

Foster & Adoptive Care Coalition maintains records of services provided to each client and family. These records are confidential; however, information collected will be shared with the Children’s Division representative and court professionals. Information may be shared between Coalition program staff. You have a right to request and obtain a copy of any part of your client’s record that pertains to your client, not including information provided by third parties.

30 Days to Family® services are provided free of charge, funded through the United Way, St. Louis County Children’s Service Fund, St. Louis Mental Health Board, and the Jefferson Foundation. These grants require the Foster & Adoptive Care Coalition to allow the funding agencies’ staff to review service records for the purpose of quality evaluation. In addition, the Council on Accreditation (COA) may also have access to records solely for the purpose of reaccreditation.

Certain information may be released without your authorization under the following legal circumstances:

1. The receipt of a legitimate subpoena or court order, as outlined by Missouri State law.
2. In the event of a medical emergency.
3. The receipt of information that suggests child abuse or neglect has occurred; Foster & Adoptive Care Coalition employees are mandated to report any such information to the Children’s Division.
4. In the event of threat of harm to someone; if the threat is perceived to be serious, the proper individuals must be contacted.

Grievance Procedure:

If you are not satisfied with the 30 Days to Family® services you receive, you are encouraged to call the Foster & Adoptive Care Coalition, at 314.367.8373, to discuss the situation with Jo Anne Zarky, Director of 30 Days to Family®, or Melanie Scheetz, Executive Director.

Consent to Services:

I have been provided a copy of this Consent & Participation Agreement for 30 Days to Family® services through the Foster & Adoptive Care Coalition. I have read and understand the information provided. I agree to participate, and consent to services for the following child(ren): _____

Children’s Division Representative

Date