

Normalcy Training

Learning Objectives

- Understand Normalcy
- Utilize Normalcy Practice Aids
- Locate Normalcy Resources

www.GuardianadLitem.org

Normalcy



October 2010

Normalcy

§ 409.1451(3)(a) and 65C – 30.007(10) F.A.C.

Children should be allowed and encouraged by the licensed out-of-home caregiver, and service worker to engage in appropriate social and extracurricular activities to promote the child's social development and maturity.

Normalcy

Requirements

Participants must develop a written plan, of specific goals and objectives that promotes the child's participation in activities similar to those of non-foster care children

Normalcy

Requirements

Written Plan Must be Developed with foster parent or caregiver, the child (13+), and the case manager

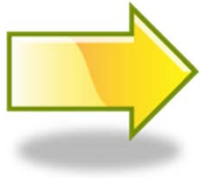
Normalcy

Requirements

Written plan must be reviewed and updated no less than quarterly

Normalcy

Requirements



Action Item:

Has the plan been reviewed every three months?

Normalcy

Requirements

The child shall be able to participate in activities that promote personal and social growth, self-esteem and independence as long as he or she is not identified as a foster child

Normalcy

What should be included?

Permission and encouragement for the child to:

- **engage in appropriate social and extracurricular activities**
- **obtain employment**
- **have contact with family members**
- **have access to phone usage**
- **have reasonable curfews**
- **travel with other youth or adults**

Normalcy

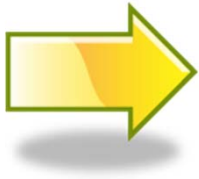
What should be included?

Assistance in participating in activities such as:

- **the child having his or her picture taken for publication in a newspaper or yearbook**
- **receiving public recognition for accomplishments**
- **participating in school or after-school organizations or clubs**
- **participating in community events**

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What should be included?



Action Item

Current extracurricular activities?

Requested extracurricular activities?

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Driving a Car

- **Support of the child's efforts to learn to drive a car**
- **Support efforts to obtain learner's permit & drivers license (age, maturity, insurance)**
- **Efforts shall be made to obtain automobile insurance**

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What should be included?



Action Item

- **What will be done to assist the child in finding a driver's education program? Responsible party?**
- **What will be done to support the child's efforts to obtain a learner's permit and driver's license (age, maturity, insurance)? Date?**
- **What efforts will be made to obtain automobile insurance? Date?**

Normalcy

Overnight Outings

The out-of-home caregiver must determine that the overnight outing is safe & appropriate

Normalcy

Overnight Outings

The out of home caregiver shall:

- **Consider if there will be adult supervision**
- **Be as diligent in determining approval for such events as he or she would for his or her own children, and**
- **Use his or her parenting skills to familiarize himself or herself with the individual or group that the child wishes to spend time with and evaluate the child's maturity level and ability to participate in the activity appropriately**

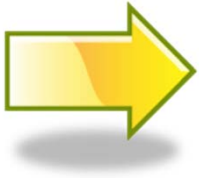
Normalcy

Overnight Outings

- **Criminal, delinquency and abuse/neglect history checks for dating, outings and activities with friends, families and school and church groups are not necessary for participation in normal school or community activities**
- **the services worker shall be available for consultation**

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Overnight Outings



Action Item

What overnight or planned outings are possible for the child?

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Information for Teen

Child must be provided the following information:

- **drug and alcohol use and abuse**
- **teen sexuality issues**
- **runaway prevention**
- **health services**
- **community involvement**

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Information for Teen

Child must be provided the following information (con't):

- **knowledge of available resources**
- **identifying legal issues**
- **understanding his or her legal rights**
- **accessing specific legal advice**

Information regarding these topics can be found at the Florida Guardian ad Litem website's Teen Resources section at http://guardianadlitem.org/teen_main.asp

Normalcy

Confidentiality

Confidentiality requirements for department records shall not restrict the child's participation in customary activities appropriate for the child's age and developmental level.

Normalcy

Withholding Normalcy Activities

Normalcy opportunities shall not be withheld as a form of discipline

Normalcy

Disabled Youth

Disabled youth shall be provided with an equal opportunity to normalcy plans

Normalcy

Foster Parent Liability

Provided the age-appropriate activity is in a written plan developed and signed by the foster parent or caregiver, the child and the case manager, the foster parent shall not be held responsible for, or have the foster care license at risk, as a result of the child's participation in the age-appropriate activity

§ 409.1451(3)(a)3

Normalcy



Action Item

- **Ensure the child has participated in the development of the Normalcy Plan.**
- **Ensure the child has received a copy of the Normalcy Plan.**

Normalcy

Resources

You can find the Normalcy Checklist at
<http://guardianadlitem.org/documents/Normalcy.pdf>

**Florida's Center for the Advancement of Child Welfare
Practice. Normalcy Implementation Resources**
<http://centerforchildwelfare.fmhi.usf.edu/il/normalcy/Forms/AllItems.aspx>



FLORIDA GUARDIAN AD LITEM

Normalcy

NORMALIZATION 5 409.1451(3)(A), FLA. STAT. (2009), AND NORMALCY FOR ADOLESCENTS AND TEENAGERS IN THE CUSTODY OF THE DEPARTMENT 65C - 30.007(10) F.A.C.

Children should be allowed and encouraged by the licensed out-of-home caregiver, and service worker to engage in appropriate social and extracurricular activities to promote the child's social development and maturity.

REQUIREMENTS

Participants must develop a written plan, of specific goals and objectives that promotes the child's participation in activities similar to those of non-foster care children. These opportunities shall not be withheld as a form of discipline.

PARTICIPANTS

- foster parent or caregiver, licensed out-of-home caregiver
- the child (13+), and
- the case manager

ACTION ITEMS

- Develop procedures to maximize the authority of foster parents or caregivers to approve participation in age-appropriate activities of children in their care
- Develop a written plan with participants, sign, follow
- Develop a list of age-appropriate activities and responsibilities
- Assist out-of-home caregiver and Services Worker shall assist the child in finding a driver's education program
- Support of the child's efforts to learn to drive a car
- Support efforts to obtain learner's permit & drivers license (age, maturity, insurance)

- Efforts shall be made to obtain automobile insurance
- If child wants to attend overnight or planned outings: The out-of-home caregiver must determine that it is safe & appropriate. The out of home caregiver shall:
 - Consider if there will be adult supervision
 - Be as diligent in determining approval for such events as he or she would for his or her own children, and
 - Use his or her parenting skills to familiarize himself or herself with the individual or group that the child wishes to spend time with and evaluate the child's maturity level and ability to participate in the activity appropriately
 - Criminal, delinquency and abuse/neglect history checks for dating, outings and activities with friends, families and school and church groups are not necessary for participation in normal school or community activities.
 - the services worker shall be available for consultation
- Child **must** be provided information regarding:
 - drug and alcohol use and abuse
 - teen sexuality issues
 - runaway prevention
 - health services
 - community involvement
 - knowledge of available resources
 - identifying legal issues
 - understanding his or her legal rights
 - accessing specific legal advice
- Permission and encouragement of the child to:
 - engage in appropriate social and extracurricular activities
 - obtain insurance
 - have contact with family members
 - have access to phone usage
 - have reasonable curfews
 - travel with other youth or adults
- Assistance in participating in activities such as:
 - the child having his or her picture taken for publication in a newspaper or yearbook
 - receiving public recognition for accomplishments
 - participating in school or after-school organizations or clubs
 - participating in community events

REVIEW/ACCOUNTABILITY

- Written plan must be reviewed and updated no less than quarterly

SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS

- Disabled youth shall be provided with an equal opportunity to participate in Independent Living services.
- The child shall be able to participate in activities that promote personal and social growth, self-esteem and independence as long as he or she is not identified as a foster child.
- Confidentiality requirements for department records shall not restrict the child's participation in customary activities appropriate for the child's age and developmental level.
- Provided the age-appropriate activity is in a written plan developed and signed by the foster parent or caregiver, the child and the case manager, the foster parent shall not be held responsible for, or have the foster care license at risk, as a result of the child's participation in the age-appropriate activity 5 409.1451(3)(a)3

Normalcy Plan

Children should be allowed and encouraged by the licensed out-of-home caregiver, and service worker to engage in appropriate social and extracurricular activities to promote the child's social development and maturity. A Normalcy Plan shall be developed. The Normalcy Plan should be developed by the participants (foster parent or caregiver, licensed out of home caregiver, the child (13+) and the case manager) and reviewed quarterly.

Child's Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Birthday/Age: _____ (13+)

Child's Permanency Goal: _____

Date of Normalcy Plan: _____

Normalcy Plan to be Reviewed Every 3 Months on the Following Dates:

- _____ (date)
- _____ (date)
- _____ (date)
- _____ (date)

Current Placement

- Foster Home
- Therapeutic Foster Home
- Group Home
- Other: _____

School Information

- Middle School
- High School
- GED
- College
- Vo-Tech
- Name of School: _____

CURRENT EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

REQUESTED EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES (appropriate social and extracurricular activities, employment, contact with family members, if appropriate, access to phone, reasonable curfews, travel with other youth or adults, participate in community events, picture taken for publication in a newspaper or yearbook, receive public recognition for accomplishments, participate in school or after-school organizations or clubs)

ACTION PLAN FOR DRIVERS LICENSE – if appropriate

What will be done to assist the child in finding a driver's education program? Responsible party?

What will be done to support the child's efforts to obtain a learner's permit and driver's license (age, maturity, insurance)? Date?

What efforts will be made to obtain automobile insurance? Date?

ATTENDING OVERNIGHT OR PLANNED OUTINGS - The out-of-home caregiver must determine that overnight/planned outing is safe and appropriate.

What overnight or planned outings are possible for the child?

The caretaker must:

- Consider if there will be adult supervision
- Be as diligent in determining approval for such events as he or she would for his or her own children, and
- Use his or her parenting skills to familiarize himself or herself with the individual or group that the child wishes to spend time with and evaluate the child's maturity level and ability to participate in the activity appropriately

Criminal, delinquency and abuse/neglect history checks for dating, outings and activities with friends, families and school and church groups *are not necessary* for participation in normal school or community activities

THE CHILD HAS BEEN (WILL BE) PROVIDED THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION

- drug and alcohol use and abuse
- teen sexuality issues
- runaway prevention
- health services
- community involvement
- knowledge of available resources
- identifying legal issues
- understanding his or her legal rights
- accessing specific legal advice

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:

- The child has participated in the development of this Normalcy Plan.
- The child has received a copy of this Normalcy Plan.

Signature of Youth Date

Signature of Foster parent(s) or caregiver(s) Date

Signature of Child Welfare Case Manager Date