

Question to consider when your child is going to live in an out of home residence.

The questions are numbered so that you may circle the ones that are important to your family. Write your own questions on the space provided. Write the answers on the back of this paper with the corresponding question number so that you may take this home and share the information with others who may be able to help you with your decision.

1. **What is the average length of stay for a child with similar challenges?**
2. **Of the youth being served here what is the percentage of youth with similar challenges?**
3. **How will my child be educated?**
 Here or sent to another location?
 Self contained integrated or regular education?
 Will all the students in my child's class be in the same grade?
 Are there multiple disabilities being taught in the same classroom?
 Are there teachers aides, how many and what are their qualifications?
 Is an extended school year available? Is it mandatory?
 Will my child receive enough credits to receive a diploma from his school?
 Will the courses my child needs to enter college be taught?
4. **What are the rules regarding phone calls to my child?**
5. **Are my child's sisters and brother allowed to visit? What are the rules?**
6. **When do home visits start?**
7. **How are families prepared for home visits?**
8. **What is your discipline policy?**
9. **Do you use physical restraints? If yes what type and when are they used? Is the family informed every time?**
10. **Is the removal of family contact used as punishment (example if my child does not reach a certain level or does something wrong we cannot visit or call him)?**
11. **What type of therapy will my child receive, group, individual or a combination of both?**
12. **Will my family receive family therapy?**
13. **How often will my child see a Psychiatrist?**
14. **Will the Psychiatrist consult me before changing my child's medication?**
15. **What would cause my child to lose placement here?**
16. _____
17. _____
18. _____
19. _____
20. _____

Out of home treatment discussion questions for the Child Family Team

The following questions should be used as the basis for discussion in Child Family Team meetings when out of home treatment is being considered. Although this is not meant to be a form to be completed, Care Managers need to be prepared to discuss the team's responses with their supervisor and Clinical Director before starting the referral process.

- What is the family's understanding of the difference between accessing out of home treatment and placement?
- What is the team's understanding of the needs that would be met through the use of out of home treatment? Can those same needs be met through community based strategies?
- What are the areas of high risk (as identified in the Strengths & Needs Assessment) that are creating the push for out of home treatment?
- What are the triggers for these high risk needs?
- What strategies are in place to address the high risk needs?
- Are there creative and non-traditional strategies to address the areas of risk?
- Has the youth been evaluated by a psychiatrist or nurse practitioner? Has medication been recommended? If so, is the medication being taken regularly and is it helpful?
- Is the school/child study team involved in the discussion? *If not, then they need to be.* What is their perspective on the child going to out of home treatment?
- Has the youth been in out of home treatment before? What was the outcome? If the outcome was unsuccessful, why does the team want to attempt out of home treatment again?
- Has the team discussed the pros and cons to out of home treatment?
- Has the family utilized respite either informally or through formal resources?
- Is the Family Support Organization involved? Has the family participated in FSO support groups/events? What was the outcome?
- Has a specialist in the high risk areas been utilized? What was the outcome?
- Has the team increased supervision and monitoring? What was the outcome?
- What barriers prevent the strategies from being successful?

- Is the youth doing well in any life domains? Has the team tried to build off that strength?
- Is the team balanced and diverse?
- What is the family's understanding of their need to remain active and involved in the youth's treatment?
- If the youth goes into out of home treatment, what is the plan for the family to seek out help for themselves?
- What will be done in the meantime to assist the youth and family during the referral process?