

## **FOSTER HOME SAFETY CHECKLIST**

### **GENERAL**

1. \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone service connected, phones working properly, easily & accessible. Emergency numbers are posted within view of phone.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ Well water clearance must be obtained if water is from a private source.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ House appears reasonably neat and clutter free.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ Windows have screens in good repair.
5. \_\_\_\_\_ Windows have curtains or shades to provide privacy.
6. \_\_\_\_\_ Windows are intact and open windows can be closed without difficulty.
7. \_\_\_\_\_ Carpets are clean and in good repair.
8. \_\_\_\_\_ Floors are clean and in good repair.
9. \_\_\_\_\_ Ceilings, corners, closets, and window frames are free of dirt and cobwebs.
10. \_\_\_\_\_ Electrical switches and receptacles are in good working order.
11. \_\_\_\_\_ Drivers licenses are valid and current.
12. \_\_\_\_\_ Type of heating, \_\_\_\_\_, is in good working order, well vented, able to be turned off.
13. \_\_\_\_\_ Heating capable of heating entire house to comfort. If not, what are alternative modes of heating \_\_\_\_\_
14. \_\_\_\_\_ Air Conditioning system is operable and in good working order.
15. \_\_\_\_\_ Hot water source is large enough for household needs. Is area around it clean and the maintenance current?
16. \_\_\_\_\_ Fireplaces, wood stoves and open faced heaters shall be made inaccessible to children by the use of screens or other barriers.
17. \_\_\_\_\_ Hot water is between 105 and 120 degrees at the faucets and not hot enough to burn anyone.

18. \_\_\_\_\_ **Smoke detectors are properly placed and working and batteries are checked regularly (every 3 months). A smoke detector must be placed and working properly in each bedroom.**
19. \_\_\_\_\_ **Hallways and bedrooms have clear passages, and all rooms, including hallways and passages and outside doorways and walkways have adequate lighting.**
20. \_\_\_\_\_ **Furniture is free of sharp edges and broken pieces.**
21. \_\_\_\_\_ **All doors, doorways and screen doors, especially outside ones are in good repair, and can be locked from the inside.**
22. \_\_\_\_\_ **Flashlights are readily available in case of power failure and batteries are checked regularly (every 3 months).**
23. \_\_\_\_\_ **If firearms or other weapons are owned and stored in the house, they are stored unloaded in a locked cabinet and ammunition is stored and locked in a separate location.**
24. \_\_\_\_\_ **All adults over 18 residing in the home are fingerprinted and checked for child abuse.**
25. \_\_\_\_\_ **Fire extinguishers are readily available and fully charged. One fire extinguisher per floor is required. The minimum required capacity must be 2A10BC in size.**
26. \_\_\_\_\_ **All food and solid wastes shall be stored in containers with tight fitting covers. They must be leak proof and rodent proof and maintained in a clean and sanitary condition.**

## **KITCHEN**

27. \_\_\_\_\_ **If children under the age of five are already in residence or are anticipated to be placed, ALL lower cabinets have safety latches.**
28. \_\_\_\_\_ **Home canned foods are processed in accordance with standards of the UCAES.**

29. \_\_\_\_\_ **Diagram for fire drill is posted and practiced.**
30. \_\_\_\_\_ **Refrigerator and freezer are in good condition and maintain appropriate temperatures to prevent food spoilage.**
31. \_\_\_\_\_ **All food that has been prepared or opened (cans) is stored in airtight containers at appropriate temperatures.**
32. \_\_\_\_\_ **Alcohol products/liquors are stored in a locked cabinet.**
33. \_\_\_\_\_ **Matches are stored in a place inaccessible to children.**
34. \_\_\_\_\_ **Sharp tools such as scissors, knives, etc. are stored in a place inaccessible to children.**
35. \_\_\_\_\_ **Counter, sinks and work areas are clean, sanitary and in good condition.**
36. \_\_\_\_\_ **Stove/oven are free of grease and grime and operate properly.**
37. \_\_\_\_\_ **Dishwasher (if present) is working properly at appropriate water temperature assuring sanitation.**
38. \_\_\_\_\_ **One week supply of perishables and two weeks supply of staples/dry food on hand, and adequate space to store food. Fresh fruit, fruit juices and milk are always available.**
39. \_\_\_\_\_ **Cooking and eating utensils are in good condition. Adequate place settings and seating in dining area for all household members to eat together.**
40. \_\_\_\_\_ **Sufficient kitchen area for food storage and preparation according to the family's size.**

### **GARAGE**

41. \_\_\_\_\_ **Paint, thinner, combustibles, glue and gasoline are stored and locked up.**
42. \_\_\_\_\_ **There is an adequate number of trash containers with lids.**
43. \_\_\_\_\_ **Old appliances not in use that are stored on the premises are kept chained shut, locked, or have the doors removed.**

44. \_\_\_\_\_ Liability insurance is current on all vehicles used to transport foster children.
45. \_\_\_\_\_ Garage is uncluttered. If used for storage, items are stored in a safe manner with no loose materials left lying around.
46. \_\_\_\_\_ Garage is kept locked.
47. \_\_\_\_\_ If washer and dryer are on the premises, they work properly and the area is free from clutter. If no laundry facilities are on the premises, the plan for laundry is \_\_\_\_\_.
48. \_\_\_\_\_ All chemical cleaners, disinfectants, insecticides, and other poisonous substances are stored away from food storage areas and locked up.
49. \_\_\_\_\_ Power tools and equipment are stored safely and are inaccessible to children.
50. \_\_\_\_\_ Vehicle(s) is/are operational with lights, horn and signals working.
51. \_\_\_\_\_ Vehicle is able to transport all family members with seats and working seat belts for each passenger. Seat requirements for infants and children under 6 years or 60lbs are met.

### **BEDROOMS**

52. \_\_\_\_\_ Upper tier bunk bed has railing. Children under five are occupying the lower bunk.
53. \_\_\_\_\_ There are no more than two children per bedroom.
54. \_\_\_\_\_ Children five years and older must share a room with a child of the same sex.

55. \_\_\_\_\_ Children two years and older cannot share a room with an adult.
56. \_\_\_\_\_ No room commonly used for other purposes can be used as a bedroom and a bedroom cannot be a passage way to another room. No more than one infant can be placed in the master bedroom.
57. \_\_\_\_\_ Mattress & pillows need to be checked and in good condition.
58. \_\_\_\_\_ Clothing Inventory – A Clothing Inventory form will be completed at time of placement, termination, updated during the quarterly Home Safety Check and annually.

### **BATHROOM**

59. \_\_\_\_\_ All medicines are in a locked box, away from minor's reach.
60. \_\_\_\_\_ First Aid kit is complete and stored in a conveniently reachable place. First Aid kit must contain tweezers, scissors, tape, band aids, gauze, antiseptic wipes, antiseptic ointment, thermometer (non mercury), cold pack, burn care packets, first aid non stick pads, elastic bandages/ace bandages, health care gloves, first aid guide.
61. \_\_\_\_\_ Bathroom facilities are working properly and are clean and sanitary.
62. \_\_\_\_\_ Electrical appliances are not used or stored around sink or bathing areas.
63. \_\_\_\_\_ Adequate number of towels and linens are available for all household members.

### **GROUNDS**

64. \_\_\_\_\_ Spa, if applicable, has a lockable cover or is surrounded by a 5 foot fence with a lockable gate and is only used by children with adult supervision.
65. \_\_\_\_\_ Above ground pools must have a removable ladder that is removed when the pool is not in use, or a barricade preventing access to pool.
66. \_\_\_\_\_ Swimming pool, if applicable, is fenced with at least a five (5) foot high fence with a lockable gate. If a lockable cover is used, it has to support the weight of an adult. The lock is no more than

6 inches from the top of the gate. Toxic pool maintenance products are kept in locked storage. Life preservers are readily accessible and the area is kept free of glass, other sharp objects and debris. No pools of any kind are allowed without a proper fence.

- 67. \_\_\_\_\_ Fence, if applicable, is in good condition with no broken parts, sharp edges or points.
- 68. \_\_\_\_\_ Yard is free of debris, spare auto parts, and nonoperational vehicles are kept locked, repaired promptly or towed off premises.
- 69. \_\_\_\_\_ Check children's home file for appropriate entries (such as medications, monthly report form, clothing inventory, etc.)

**SIGNATURES**

**DATE**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Foster Parent

\_\_\_\_\_  
Social Worker

**CORRECTION PLAN:** \_\_\_\_\_  
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