From: Williams, Edwina <edwina.williams@dss.virginia.gov>

Date: Tue, Dec 7, 2021 at 8:25 AM

Subject: Foster Parent Bill of Rights LCPA Training Notice

To: <DSS_LICENSING@listserv.cov.virginia.gov>

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DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

Date: December 3, 2021

To: Licensed Child-Placing Agencies

From: Tara Ragland, Director, Division of Licensing Programs

Subject: Foster Parent Bill of Rights Training Opportunity

This memo is to introduce the <u>Foster Parent Bill of Rights</u>, which resulted from legislation passed during the 2019 General Assembly Session (<u>House Bill 2108</u>). Legislation required Virginia Department of Social Services (VDSS) to promulgate regulations to ensure collaboration, communication, access and transparency between local departments, licensed child placing agencies and foster parents. As a result, VDSS-Division of Family Services (DFS) established the <u>Foster Parent Bill of Rights</u>. All foster parents should review and sign the foster parent bill of rights by December 31, 2021 and all new foster parents approved after this date should review and sign this document as part of the approval process.

The legislation also amended Section 63.2-902 of the Code of Virginia, establishing a requirement that local boards and LCPAs implement and publicize a dispute resolution process through which a foster parent may contest an alleged violation of applicable regulations. The dispute resolution process for local departments of social services is described in the Foster Parent Bill of Rights, as a resource for your agency.

You are invited to a Zoom meeting to review of the <u>Foster Parent Bill of Rights</u> and best practices intended to promote collaboration between LCPA, local departments and foster families:

When: Jan 5, 2022 02:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Register in advance for this meeting:

https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwocu-vpj0oEtVaVmJ3kBxKw0kC2-S0MQfQ

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

If you have any questions after attending the training, please contact your licensing inspector.