

# Full Disclosure

## A. What is Full Disclosure?

Directions: Please fill in the blanks in this definition of full disclosure:

Full disclosure is a respectful and candid \_\_\_\_\_ that begins when the child is \_\_\_\_\_ and continues \_\_\_\_\_ surrounding the agency's intent to work towards the implementation of \_\_\_\_\_.

## B. Who Gets Full Disclosure?

Full disclosure must be made to **all team members** including parents, child/youth, resource parent, and all stakeholders.

## C. Why is Full Disclosure Important?

Full Disclosure is required by the Concurrent Planning Bulletin to foster honesty and transparency between team members. Full disclosure can:

- Create a sense of urgency and responsibility among team members
- Maintain emphasis on the child's needs
- Empower team members to support permanency goals
- Motivate team members to unified action
- Increase trust and desire among team members

## D. What Information Must Be Conveyed as Part of Full Disclosure?

- **Explain the child's needs for permanency.**
  - We believe that for most children, being raised by a parent is best.
  - We only place children in out-of-home care when it is determined that they are unsafe.
  - Parents play a critical role in child's life as they know the child best.
  - Children need to and have a right to know where they will grow up.
  - Foster care is temporary and is not designed to be permanent.
  - That out-of-home placement has emotional and developmental impacts on children.
  - It is imperative that the child be returned to the family as soon as possible or that another legally permanent family be found for them as soon as possible.

## Full Disclosure

### What Information Must Be Conveyed as Part of Full Disclosure? (cont'd)

- **Explain how family search, engagement, and teaming support timely permanence.**
  - That it is important for them to share information about the child's needs so that those needs can be met.
  - The Reasonable and Prudent Parent Standard and how teaming is crucial to its effective application. (Act 75)
  - That it is important for them to identify relatives or other significant adults who may be considered as a permanency resource so the child can be placed in the best possible environment with people they know.
  - Family, kin, the resource parents, and other supports are potential team members that can support us to assess needs, plan, and ensure that appropriate services are available to help the family to provide safety and need for out-of-home placement.
- **Explain how the agency in collaboration with the family team will work toward achieving two permanency goals at the same time.**
  - The identification of the primary and concurrent goal.
  - That there will be objectives and tasks being worked on at the same time to achieve both goals.
  - Needs of the resource parents to adequately provide for the care of the child. (high emphasis for resource parents.)
  - If no relatives can be a permanent resource, that the agency will expect that the caregivers adopt the child if reunification efforts fail.
- **Identify the time frames and related requirements established by law and policy to achieve timely permanence.**
  - The permanency planning timeframes; (ASFA, Concurrent Planning Bulletin).
  - Circumstances that lead to out-of-home placement
  - Safety will determine if/when the child goes home and what needs to be demonstrated to show that the child will be safe (Concurrent Planning Bulletin).
  - That if they do not meet the agreed upon objectives designed to assure safety, the concurrent goal may be finalized (Concurrent Planning Bulletin)
  - If adoption is finalized, there is an option to participate in the development of a voluntary post adoption agreement (Act 101).
  - The parents' and child's rights to due process, an attorney, services to support the achievement of both permanency goals, and family visitation. (*Know Your Rights*)
  - The resource parents' rights and responsibilities. (high emphasis for resource parents.)
  - The court's role to monitor the safety status and to ensure rights are respected and responsibilities are adhered to. (Concurrent Planning Bulletin). These rights include the child's right to opportunities to participate in age and developmentally appropriate activities while in out-of-home care and the resource parents' right to make reasonable and prudent parenting decisions that maintain the health, safety and best interests of the child and to make decisions regarding whether to allow the child to participate in extracurricular, enrichment, cultural and social activities. (Act 75 of 2015)

# Full Disclosure

## Tuning In and Tailoring the Message

### *To a parent*

How would full disclosure to a **parent** differ from full disclosure to other team members?

---

---

---

What would be this person's main concerns?

---

---

---

What might you plan to say to address those concerns?

---

---

---

## Tuning In and Tailoring the Message

### *To a 6 year-old*

How would full disclosure to a **six year old child** differ from full disclosure to a parent?

---

---

---

What would be this person's main concerns?

---

---

---

What might you plan to say to address those concerns?

---

---

---

# Full Disclosure

## **Tuning In and Tailoring the Message** ***To a 15 year-old***

How would full disclosure to a 15 year old differ from full disclosure to a parent?

---

---

---

What would be this person's main concerns?

---

---

---

What might you plan to say to address those concerns?

---

---

---

## **Tuning In and Tailoring the Message** ***To a Resource Parent***

How would full disclosure to a resource parent differ from full disclosure to a parent?

---

---

---

What would be this person's main concerns?

---

---

---

What might you plan to say to address those concerns?

---

---

---