

Big Bend Community Based Care Policy & Procedure

Series:	700: Provider Network & Licensing	
Policy Name:	Foster Care Discipline & Behavior Management	
Policy Number:	707	
Origination Date:	03/09/2009	Revised: Board Meeting of 12/13/2018
Regulation:	65C-13.010, F.A.C.	

Policy

It is the policy of Big Bend Community Based Care, Inc. (BBCBC), to provide training to foster parents in the appropriate use of behavior management.

Procedure

A. General Information Regarding Discipline.

1. Foster parents will receive the BBCBC Bilateral Agreement which outlines the boundaries of discipline, including the prohibition of corporal punishment.
2. Foster parent training includes guidance on compliance with the discipline philosophy as well as consequences of failing to comply.
3. Licensing Counselors and DCMs will work with foster parents to ensure they have the parenting skills necessary to successfully manage children who exhibit challenging behaviors.
4. Foster parents will not allow a child to discipline another child.

B. Discipline Procedures.

1. Foster parents will use positive methods of discipline, including reinforcing acceptable behavior, verbal disapproval of the child's behavior, loss of privileges, grounding/restriction, and redirection.
2. Parents may also assign chores as discipline, but not such that it would impact the health or safety of the child.
3. Foster parents will not allow children to be subjected to verbal abuse, derogatory remarks about themselves and family members or threats of removal from the home.
4. Foster parents will not subject children to cruel, severe, humiliating or unusual punishment; for example, using soap to wash out the mouth, eating hot sauces or pepper, placing in hot water, kneeling on stones, etc.
5. Foster parents will not use corporal punishment of any kind.
6. Foster parents will not withhold meals, clothing, or shelter as a form of punishment.
7. Foster parents will not punish children for bedwetting or errors which occur during the toilet training process.
8. Foster parents will not deny a child contact, including mail, or visits with his family as punishment.
9. Foster parents will not withhold allowance as punishment.

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10. Discipline methods will be provided in QPT (Quality Parenting Training) training and will be appropriate for the child based on the child's age and physical, emotional, developmental, and social capacity.