WESTMORELAND COUNTY CHILDREN'S BUREAU
POLICY ON DISCIPLINE AND CONTROL OF YOUTH
IN FOSTER/KINSHIP CARE

According to the Department of Public Welfare Regulations 3700.63, resource parents must adhere to the following policy when disciplining foster children.

Discipline:

Foster children shall be directed with methods of discipline that stress praise and encouragement. They must not be subjected to verbal abuse, derogatory remarks or threats of removal from the resource home.

Control:

Passive physical restraint is the only allowable method of restraining a child. In the event restraint may become necessary, contact your Westmoreland County Children's Bureau Caseworker.

Punishment:

All abusive discipline practices are prohibited including:

1. Use of corporal, degrading or vindictive punishment.
2. Punishment for bedwetting or actions related to toilet training.
3. Delegation of discipline to other children.
4. Denial of meals, clothing or shelter.
5. Denial of elements of the Service Plan or I.S.P.
6. Denial of communication with or visits by the child's family.
7. Assignment of physically strenuous exercise or work solely as a punishment.

Any of the above situations could be considered grounds for termination as a resource home. If an incident is reported as suspected child abuse in the resource home, an investigation would be required. This investigation may be done by a representative of the Department of Public Welfare Regional Office depending on the circumstances).

Discipline is necessary for a child and we are in no way suggesting that children should not be disciplined. Discipline with loving control can help a child develop into a more confident and independent individual. Children do need to know what expectations and limits are established within a household. In this way they can begin to internalize self-control and can depend on a consistent, orderly routine. **More information on discipline is available in your orientation manual pg 39-41.**

DISCIPLINE POLICY ACKNOWLEDGMENT

I/we verify that I/we received and reviewed the WCCB resource parent, Discipline Policy

Name/s _____

_____

Date received _____

Agency Representative: _____

Date _____