

Sibling Bill of Rights Commissioner's Form

Sibling relationships are empowering and critically important for them over the course of a lifetime. These relationships are bonds and most often are the longest meaningful connections in life. For those who enter foster care, being supported by their siblings can promote safety, well-being and a sense of security. Sibling separation can cause long-term trauma that would likely interfere with future relationships that they try to build. For the welfare of children, where one sibling is removed from the home, or all are removed but in separate placements, their legal right is to remain connected and should not be limited. See [Minnesota Statutes, sections 260.012e\(4\); 260C.212, subdivision 2\(d\); and 260C.008.](#)

Siblings have a right to:

- Be placed with each other when possible to remain a family. Give adult siblings a chance to be a foster parent, adoptive parent, or gain custody over younger siblings to keep families together.
- Be placed in homes close by each other, if they cannot be placed together, to facilitate frequent and meaningful contact, including phone, internet, social media, FaceTime, skype, etc. Siblings will be provided with a phone number, email, and/or address, and access to updated photos by email or mail.
- Be actively involved in each other's lives if they choose. Share celebrations including birthdays; holidays; graduations and other school events; extracurricular activities; cultural customs, including speaking their native language; and other meaningful milestones.
- Be informed about changes in each other's placements, including being notified of discharge from placements, new placements, as well as discharge from foster care. Siblings will be allowed to maintain contact with other siblings who remain in care. Every effort should be made to ensure contact among siblings in care and those not in care.
- Predictable and regular visits that shall not be withheld as a behavioral consequence. Unless verifiable safety concerns exist, siblings should not be kept from each other. Visits can be monitored, but should not be supervised unless there is a safety risk. Youth, caregivers, caseworkers, and parents are all responsible for ensuring that siblings have contact. All parties will coordinate dates and times, transportation, and other accommodations to ensure contact occurs. This should be outlined in their service plan. Due to the normalcy provision, caseworkers do not need to give permission for visits or possible sleep overs, but foster parents should still communicate with and inform caseworkers that these activities are occurring. The judge should also be updated on sibling connections at every hearing.
- Be included in permanency planning decisions relative to siblings. They should know what expectations are for continued contact when a sibling is adopted or custody is transferred to a relative.

CHILD/YOUTH	FOSTER PARENT	SOCIAL WORKER	DATE

For questions or complaints, contact the Office of Ombudsperson for Families by mail, phone, or email. Provide the following information:

- Name, address and telephone number
- A description of the situation
- Names and dates of birth of children involved in the case
- Tribal affiliation of children, if applicable, and
- Names and contact information of caseworkers and other agency or service providers.

Office of Ombudsperson for Families

[1450 Energy Drive, Suite 106](#)

St. Paul, MN 55108

651-603-0058, 888-234-4939

obff.info@state.mn.us

Attention. If you need free help interpreting this document, ask your worker or call the number below for your language.

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ملاحظة: إذا أردت مساعدة مجانية لترجمة هذه الوثيقة، اطلب ذلك من مشرفك أو اتصل على الرقم 1-800-358-0377.

သတိ။ ဤစာရွက်စာတမ်းအားအခမဲ့ဘာသာပြန်ပေးခြင်း အကူအညီလိုအပ်ပါက၊ သင့်လူမှုရေးအလုပ်သမား အားမေးမြန်း ခြင်းသို့ မဟုတ် 1-844-217-3563 ကိုခေါ်ဆိုပါ။

កំណត់សំគាល់ ។ បើអ្នកត្រូវការជំនួយក្នុងការបកប្រែឯកសារនេះដោយឥតគិតថ្លៃ សូមសួរអ្នកកាន់សំណុំរឿង របស់អ្នក ឬហៅទូរស័ព្ទមកលេខ 1-888-468-3787 ។

請注意，如果您需要免費協助傳譯這份文件，請告訴您的工作人員或撥打 1-844-217-3564。

Attention. Si vous avez besoin d'une aide gratuite pour interpréter le présent document, demandez à votre agent chargé du traitement de cas ou appelez le 1-844-217-3548.

Thov ua twb zoo nyeem. Yog hais tias koj xav tau kev pab txhais lus rau tsab ntaub ntawv no pub dawb, ces nug koj tus neeg lis dej num los sis hu rau 1-888-486-8377.

ဟ်သ့ဟ်သးဘဉ်တက့ၢ်. ဖဲန့ၢ်လိာ်ဘဉ်တၢ်မၤစၢၤကလီၤလၢတၢ်ကကျိးထံဝဲဒၣ်လၢ် တီလၢ်မိတခါအံၤန့ၣ်,သံကွၢ်ဘဉ်ပုၤဂ့ၢ်ဝီအပုၤမၤစၢၤတၢ်လၢန့ၢ်မ့တ မ့ၢ်ကိးဘဉ် 1-844-217-3549 တက့ၢ်.

알려드립니다. 이 문서에 대한 이해를 돕기 위해 무료로 제공되는 도움을 받으시려면 담당자에게 문의하시거나 1-844-217-3565으로 연락하십시오.

ໂປຣດຊາບ. ຖ້າຫາກ ທ່ານຕ້ອງການການຊ່ວຍເຫຼືອໃນການແປເອກະສານນີ້ຟຣີ, ຈົ່ງຖາມພະນັກງານກຳກັບການຊ່ວຍເຫຼືອຂອງທ່ານ ຫຼື ໂທໂປ 1-888-487-8251.

Hubachiisa. Dokumentiin kum bilisa akka siif hiikamu gargaarsa hoo feete, hojjettoota kee gaafadhu ykn afaan ati dubbattuuf bilbilli 1-888-234-3798.

Внимание: если вам нужна бесплатная помощь в устном переводе данного документа, обратитесь к своему социальному работнику или позвоните по телефону 1-888-562-5877.

Digniin. Haddii aad u baahantahay caawimaad lacag-la'aan ah ee tarjumaadda qoraalkan, hawlwadeenkaaga weydiiso ama wac lambarka 1-888-547-8829.

Atención. Si desea recibir asistencia gratuita para interpretar este documento, comuníquese con su trabajador o llame al 1-888-428-3438.

Chú ý. Nếu quý vị cần được giúp đỡ dịch tài liệu này miễn phí, xin gọi nhân viên xã hội của quý vị hoặc gọi số 1-888-554-8759.

DAI (8-16)



For accessible formats of this information, ask your county worker. For assistance with additional equal access to human services, contact your county's ADA coordinator. ADA4 (2-18)