

**CLINTON COUNTY JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES
FOSTER CARE PROGRAM
POLICY ON CARE OF A FOSTER CHILD UNDER AGE TWO**

- A. A foster child who is under two years of age or under thirty-five inches in height shall be provided with a full-sized crib which meets the following requirements:
1. Crib slats shall be no more than two and three-eighths inches apart.
 2. Decorative cutout areas on crib end panels which could entrap the head of a child shall not be permitted.
 3. Locks and latches on the drop side of a crib shall be safe and secure from accidental release or release by the child inside the crib.
 4. Each crib shall have a firm mattress which is at least one and one-half inches thick and covered with a waterproof material not dangerous to a child. The mattress shall fit close enough in the frame so that there is no more than one inch between the mattress and the sides of the crib.
- B. A bassinet or cradle may be used only for infants under three months of age or less than fifteen pounds in weight.
- C. A foster child under two years of age shall be given regular opportunities for individual attention and physical contact with a caring adult. A foster child under two years of age shall be given consistent and regular opportunities for safe and comfortable participation in developmental activities such as sitting, crawling, walking and playing as appropriate to the child's age and developmental ability.
- D. A foster child under two years of age shall be supplied with safe play items appropriate to the child's age and developmental ability.
- E. A foster child under two years of age shall be fed according to instructions from the child's physician or the recommending agency as required by the individual child care agreement. For feeding, a foster child under two years of age shall either be placed in a highchair, infant seat, or held, as appropriate to age. No foster child shall be placed in a crib or bassinet for feeding. At no time shall a bottle be propped for feeding.
- F. If a foster child under two years of age continually creates a danger to him or her self by climbing out of his/her crib and the foster caregiver, the custodial agency, and the recommending agency, if different, agree that the child should not continue to sleep safely in a crib, the child may use a toddler bed or other type of standard bed for sleeping, except that the child may not use the upper bunk of a bunk bed. Written documentation

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of any such agreement shall be signed by a custodial agency representative and maintained in the foster caregiver's record.

Submitted by:

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Adoption/Foster Care Supervisor

Approved by:

John Hosler
Director