

**CLINTON COUNTY JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES
FOSTER CARE PROGRAM
POLICY ON FAMILY FOSTER HOMES WITH TRAMPOLINES**

Clinton County Children Services has developed and updated the policy regarding the use of trampolines by foster children residing in licensed foster homes. As children in the care and custody of Clinton County Job and Family Services become the agency's responsibility, it is important for foster families who care for these children to take notice to the following guidelines regarding children's use of trampolines.

Per Ohio Administrative Code 5101:2-7-12(B) foster parents should take measures to ensure that "outdoor recreational equipment on the grounds of a family foster home shall be maintained in a safe state of repair." This shall include trampolines and any equipment or materials associated with the use of a trampoline.

In order for the agency to allow the use of a trampoline by a foster child the following must be followed:

1. A trampoline must have safety netting equipment attached appropriately and safely on trampoline when in the use of any foster child.
2. Foster children shall have at least one adult who is responsible for said children's welfare and who is at least 18 years of age to supervise them at the trampoline side at all times while the foster children are playing on the trampoline.
3. All safety rules that apply to the use of a trampoline that is stated in the safety guidelines should be adhered to specifically that only one child at a time may have use of the equipment.

ANY FAILURE TO PROVIDE ADEQUATE SUPERVISION AS DESCRIBED ABOVE TO FOSTER CHILDREN WHO USE TRAMPOLINES WHILE IN THE CARE OF THE FOSTER FAMILY IS AN ACT OF LIABILITY AND/OR NEGLIGENCE. FOSTER PARENTS, THEREFORE, ARE AT RISK FOR ANY LIBELOUS OR NEGLIGENT LAWSUITS BROUGHT FORTH WHEN FOSTER CHILDREN IN THEIR CARE ARE INJURED WHILE USING TRAMPOLINES WITHOUT APPROPRIATE SUPERVISION.

Submitted by:

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