

Colorado Foster Youth Sibling Bill of Rights

I Have the Right:

- To live in the same home as my siblings if possible
- To live near my siblings if we can't live together
- To stay in temporary (respite) placements together
- To live with foster parents and work with caseworkers who are trained in the importance of sibling relationships
- To see and talk to my siblings in person, by phone, through social media, or in other electronic ways
- To be a part of my siblings' lives and celebrate special occasions together - like birthdays, holidays, graduations, and other important events
- To be able to talk and visit with my siblings in a natural setting with privacy, even if my contact with others is more limited
- To have contact with my siblings that is not limited to the times when I have contact with my parents
- To be told why I cannot live with, talk to, or see my siblings if I am not able to do so.

***Visits with siblings cannot be used as a form of punishment for behavior issues.

There are adults in my life who set rules and limits to make sure my activities and the people in my life are safe and appropriate. These sibling rights depend on what those adults decide is best for me and my siblings.

- To be told when my siblings who are in foster care experience big life events, like emergencies or changes in their living situations
- To be included in permanency planning meetings for my siblings when appropriate
- To be given updated contact information for my siblings (like phone numbers, addresses, emails and social media accounts) based on what's appropriate with my siblings' placements
- To receive updated photos of siblings regularly
- To have continued sibling contact encouraged if my siblings or I are going to be adopted by separate homes
- To help my caseworker make a plan that lists how my siblings and I will see and talk to each other.
- To expect that my GAL will advocate for me to have contact with my siblings if it is in my best interest

If I have questions or need help, I can speak with a member of my case team, ask another adult I trust, or contact project Foster Power at 303-692-1165 or projectfosterpower@childlawcenter.org.

