

	Department of Human Services to CHILDREN and FAMILIES CLIENT SERVICES MANUAL I ISSUED BY: Program Operations EFFECTIVE DATE: February 15, 1998	NUMBER: I-A.4.1
		SECTION: A. Client Rights
		SUBSECTION: 4. Rights When Children are in SOSCF's Legal Custody
SUBJECT: 1. Rights of Children - Oregon Administrative Rule		

Responsible Manager: Executive Assistant
Program Operations
 Interpretation: Executive Assistant,
Program Operations

Approval:
Assistant Administrator,
Program Operations

REFERENCES: Child Welfare Policy, I-A.1, Client Rights
Oregon Laws 1997, Ch. 873

PURPOSE

413-010-0170 Each child placed in the legal custody of the State Office for Services to Children and Families (SOSCF) is entitled to receive from SOSCF the protection that would be provided a child by a responsible parent. SOSCF recognizes that children are individuals who have rights. These rules supplement the statement of clients rights established in SOSCF policy I-A.1.

Statutory Authority: Oregon Laws 1993, Ch. 676

Stats. Implemented: Oregon Laws 1997, Ch. 873

POLICY

413-010-0180 Basic Rights of Children in SOSCF's Custody. Each child placed in the legal custody of SOSCF has the following rights:

- (1) To be physically placed in the least restrictive environment that can appropriately meet the child's needs;
- (2) To be provided basic needs such as adequate food, clothing, and shelter;
- (3) To receive care, supervision, and discipline, and to be taught to act responsibly and respect the rights of others;

- (4) To be provided ordinary medical, dental, psychiatric, psychological, and hygienic care and treatment when the child's condition requires it;
- (5) To be provided with free and appropriate education;
- (6) To be protected from physical and sexual abuse, emotional abuse and exploitation;
- (7) To be provided services which will reunite the child with his or her own family except when there is clear evidence that the family will not protect the child's welfare;
- (8) To be provided services to develop a safe, permanent alternative to the child's own family, when suitable family resources are not available;
- (9) To be accorded the least restrictive legal status that is consistent with the child's need for protection or the protection of the community, and to receive advocacy and/or legal representation, when needed, to assure that the child's best interests are presented to the court;
- (10) To receive respect and be nurtured in accordance with his or her background, religious heritage, race and culture;
- (11) To visit and communicate with members of his or her family within reasonable guidelines as set by the service plan and by the court;
- (12) To be involved, in accordance with his or her age and ability and with the law, in making major decisions that affect his or her life;
- (13) To receive encouragement and be afforded reasonable opportunities to participate in sports, youth activities in school and neighborhood, and other enrichment programs;
- (14) To earn and keep his or her own money and to receive guidance in managing resources to prepare him or her for independence.

Statutory Authority: Oregon Laws 1993, Ch. 676

Stats. Implemented: Oregon Laws 1997, Ch. 873