

Nevada Division of Child and Family Services'

# Foster Parent Pre-Service Training:

## Session 4

October 24 & 26, 2023  
6:00 pm to 9:00 pm

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Presented by

Kevin Quint, Clinical Program Manager

Lori Nichols, Licensing Team Supervisor

Kelly McKiddie, LMFT, AFC Coach

**And a Cast of Thousands!**

WELCOME

BACK

## Session 3 Review

- What were some of the topics from Session 3?
- What sticks in your mind from Session 3?
- Any questions from last time?
- Review and discuss homework



# Agenda

- **Ways to help a child connect with his or her past**
- **Continuing family relationships: The birth family**
- **Birth Parent Panel**
- **How will a new child in your home change things?**
- **How will a child who leaves your home change things?**
- **Transitions**
- **Former Foster Child Panel**

# Ways to Help a Child to Connect with His or Her Past

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*What keeps YOU connected? Discussion*

What can you do to help a child become and stay connected?



# *LIFEBOOK*



# Continuing Family Relationships: The Birth Family & What is Reasonable?

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Read *“The Importance of Connection: A Birth Mother’s Perspective”* by L.M. (Group Exercise)

- What does the Division expect? (QPI, “Ice Breakers,” and “Comfort Calls”)
- What does the child need?
- What does the birth parent want and expect?
- What does the foster parent think is reasonable?
- What are the barriers?
- What communication needs to be in place?
- What is reasonable?

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# If it is not possible (or practical) to have connection with the birth family...

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- What are some reasons why a foster parent and child would not have contact with the birth family?
- What are some ways to help your foster child maintain a “healthy” if not direct connection with their birth family? Or with their past?
- Let’s meet a birth mom...

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**Break**



## Birth Parent Panel

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**There are no unwanted children, just unfound families...**

**THE LAST WORD**

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Welcome Back!

**YOU'RE  
ALMOST  
THERE**

Planning for Change: How will a new child in your home change things? How will a child *leaving* your home change things?

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Fun Fact: *Children who grow up in homes that foster are more apt to develop strong caring and empathy skills!*



*Foster Parenting 101: When a Foster Child Leaves*  
By Dr. John DeGarmo

**For more information on foster parent resources:**

**[www.drjohndegarmofostercare.com/](http://www.drjohndegarmofostercare.com/)**

# Transitions

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*Transition planning must be completed for each placement change a child experiences.*

- Goals of transition
- Benefits of proper transitions
- Elements to improve transition planning/Gradual transitions
- Supporting foster parents during transition: Current foster family & new home

# Planning for Change: Transitions and Children Who “Age Out”

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- Transitions in the foster care system
- How prepared is the foster youth who has reached the age of 18?
- Discussion
- Speaker: Belinda Takhar, Independent Living Coordinator, Carson City

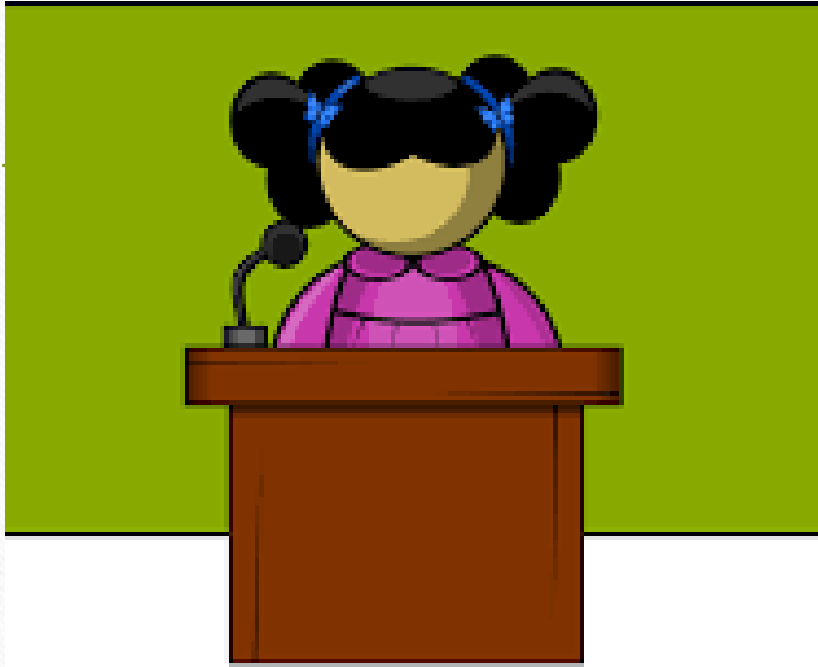
aging out  
OF FOSTER CARE?  
Now What?



A top-down view of a desk with a wooden surface. In the upper left is a white coffee cup filled with dark coffee. To its right and below are several pieces of crumpled white paper. In the center is a spiral-bound notebook with a white cover and lined pages. The words "Brain Break" are written on the notebook in a large, black, cursive font. To the right of the notebook are four markers with colorful caps (green, pink, yellow, and orange) and black barrels. A black smartphone is partially visible on the left edge of the frame.

Brain  
Break





Panel

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Former Foster  
Youth

# Summary, Wrap-Up, and Graduation

- Takeaways for the day. What stands out to you?
- Homework reminder
- Summarize the 4 sessions (*in 1 minute or less*)
- Reminder on the “Letter from a Foster Parent”
- Q&A and discussion
- We’ll contact you soon for more in-depth feedback
- Closing remarks: **THANK YOU, EVERYONE!!!!**



*We’re done! I’ll be following up with you on homework and certificates.*

*We will see you in the licensing process! We look forward to doing great things together to help children in need!!!!!!*



WELL..... BYE