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Service Stream	Families and Young People Services	Category	Foster and Kinship Care
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To ensure that children and young people in foster care, as well as their carers, are supported appropriately, Mercy Community (MC) and the Department of Child Safety, Seniors, and Disability Services (the Department) monitor the progress of children and young people in meeting the goals of their case plans. This includes monitoring the environment in which they are placed.

As a member of the child or young person's care team, you must tell us and the DCYJMA if you are about to have, or already have had, changes in your circumstances. You must also tell us about any change in circumstances for any household members.

These include:

- Changes to the household membership – a new person joins the household, a person leaves the household, or a household member turns 18;
- Changes to your traffic history, criminal history or domestic and family violence history or the history of a household member;
- Involvement with any child protection agency, other than in a caring capacity;
- Changes in personal circumstances, such as health concerns or employment demands;
- Changes in spousal arrangements, such as marriage, a new partner, divorce, separation or death of a partner;
- Change of address or significant changes to current address that may impact the Household Safety Assessment (e.g. major renovations);
- Intention to care for other children, for example, who are relatives or through family day care; and/or
- Changes in health status.

All adult members of a carer's household must hold a valid Blue Card unless an exception is approved by the Department. Young people approaching 18 years of age are required to make an application for a Blue Card three (3) months prior to their 18th birthday.

If you are planning for an adult to join your household, you must provide us and the Department with Blue Card details. Adults who do not currently hold a Blue Card are required to make an application prior to moving into the household.

MC and the Department must be advised immediately of any planned changes in circumstances, or as soon as practicable if the changes were unexpected. Depending on the potential impact of the change in circumstances, a review of the Foster Care Agreement may be required.

Please contact your Foster and Kinship Care Practitioner for more details on the requirement to advise us and Child Safety Services when there are changes in your circumstances.

Approval Date	07 Jan 2022	Implementation Date	14 Jan 2022	Review Date	01 Jul 2024
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