



**DEPARTMENT of CHILDREN and FAMILIES**  
*Making a Difference for Children, Families and Communities*



Vannessa L. Dorantes  
Commissioner

Ned Lamont  
Governor

## MEMORANDUM

TO: DCF All Staff  
FROM: Chief of Child Welfare, Tina Jefferson, LMSW  
DATE: 8/29/19  
SUBJECT: Child in Care/Sibling in Care Bill of Rights and Expectations

The Department of Children and Families recognizes the importance of honoring and upholding the rights of child(ren) in the foster care system. The Child in Care Bill of Rights and Expectations and the Sibling in Care Bill of Rights are intended to guide the Department, Foster Parents, and Care Providers as well as ensure that the permanency, safety, well-being and basic needs of child(ren) in the foster care system are consistently met.

DCF Policy 20-1, *Case Planning* [20-1](#), and DCF Policy 23-3, *Ongoing Services* [23-3](#), have been revised in accordance with Public Act (PA) 19-44, An Act Concerning a Children in Care Bill of Rights and Expectations and the Sibling Bill of Rights.

The child shall sign and receive a copy of the DCF-780 as an acknowledgment of the Child in Care Bill of Rights and Expectations and the Sibling Bill of Rights being reviewed. [DCF-780](#)  
A copy shall be maintained in the case record.

As noted in Practice Guidance [20-1PG](#), the DCF-780 shall be shared and reviewed with the child by the social worker as follows:

- Whenever a child is placed in out of home care;
- Whenever a child is moved to a new out of home placement; and
- Annually with the child as long as the child is in an out of home placement

For child(ren) currently in DCF care, the Child in Care Bill of Rights and Expectations and Sibling Bill of Rights shall be reviewed at the next placement visit and/or within 60 days.

Office Directors will be expected to ensure that regional office discussions are occurring in leadership, workgroup and unit meetings regarding the intent and expectations of the legislation.

An on-line training component will be developed by the Academy for Workforce Development to assist with adherence and reinforcement of the Child in Care Bill of Rights and Expectations and Sibling Bill of Rights. The training will be made available to all staff by the end of the year.