



and the Foster Parent Discussion and Support Group.
Questions? Contact: Deborah Scholom at fosterparentdiscussiongroup@gmail.com

FOSTER PARENT SURVEY – 2016 – Overview of STATISTICS / RESULTS from 160+ Foster Parents

- **70% of foster parents feel they are only *sometimes* or *never* a valued member of their foster child's "Team"**
- **Over 50% of Foster Parents report not being well informed of the case plan, court dates, upcoming changes, etc. by DHS**
- **Over 50% of Foster Parents report they are not given enough information about foster parent rights**
- **Only 38% of Foster Parents would know how to go about obtaining current caretaker status to be considered as an adoptive resource for a foster child in their home**
- **Over 60% of Foster Parents think that case workers do not spend enough time getting to know their foster child and foster family**
- **Approximately 60% of foster parents fear that speaking up against or reporting a case worker would result in retribution. 30% report never having had a reason to report a case worker. 10% say they do not fear retribution.**
- **Foster parents report not receiving adequate information upon a child's initial placement. 77% do not receive enough info about a child's background, 63% do not receive enough info about a child's behavioral challenges, 56% do not receive enough information about medical needs**
- **Approximately half of foster parents feel they do not receive enough support the first week after child placement**
- **Only 35% of foster parents report that child visits with biological relatives are well organized, supported and reasonable**
- **58% of Foster parents think that there is sufficient ongoing training for foster parents (about trauma, child sex abuse, attachment, etc.), 29% think this could be improved, and only 7% think there is not enough training available.**
- **Only 22% of foster parents think there are sufficient services/grief counseling/support available to their family when a foster child leaves their home.**
- **Over 90% of foster parents would like to receive child updates after a child is removed from their home**
- **72% of Foster parents are interested in attending a Town Hall Meeting**