CFS 604-1
Rev 07/2006

State of Illinois
Department of Children and Family Services

FOSTER HOME UTILIZATION ASSESSMENT

Section 402.12 (d) The capability of the foster parents to provide care shall be considered prior to licensure of the foster family home. A decision to establish the age and number of children permitted in the home shall be based on an assessment of the foster family and shall consider at least the following:

1) *the foster parent's capability to provide care including an evaluation of the caregivers' health, strength, and mobility;*
2) *the number, chronological and functional age, and characteristics and needs of the children currently under the care of the foster parents. This shall include an assessment of the foster parent's own children under age 18, all other children under age 18 receiving full-time care, and children receiving day care services in the foster family home;*
3) *the characteristics, limitations, and responsibilities of the caregivers. All members of the foster family shall be free from active alcohol or substance dependency;*
4) *the caregivers' ability to appropriately care for and adequately supervise the children currently in the home, as well as their ability to care for and supervise the ages, needs and behaviors of the children who may be placed in the foster family home; and*
5) *the number of foster parents in the home and the availability and experience of child care assistants.*

Please review the following questions with the foster parent(s) during monitoring visits and use their responses to help write narrative assessment below, which should reflect the utilization of this home.

1. Who are the children in your home, ages, and adjustment behaviors? Foster parents overall response to such children (interview the children).

2. In the past have you been contacted for a placement? If so, have you turned down any request? Why?

3. Have you accepted children in your home that were not your preference?

   For example, children that were older or younger than your preference or a child with behavior problems when you wanted a child with medical problems.

4. Have you provided respite care for any children since you were licensed? If so what challenges have you faced in providing respite care?

NARRATIVE ASSESSMENT

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