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Adoptive Parent Transition Plan for Siblings

Sibling group TRANSITION PLAN

All God’s Children International feels it is important to begin planning now for a smoother transition upon returning to the U.S. with your children. Please complete this form to the best of your ability, in addition to a transition plan for each individual child. We encourage you to thoroughly consider and answer all questions so that you are prepared.

Please return a copy of this form with your Transition Plan at least 2 business days prior to your scheduled transition plan call.

Family Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Children’s Names: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Children’s Birth Dates: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Children’s Current Ages: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

SIBLING HISTORY

What do you understand about this specific sibling groups relational history (With each other? With their biological family? With other caregivers/foster parents?)

What do you understand about this specific sibling group’s placement history?

Do these siblings have any shared trauma? (explain to the best of your knowledge)

RESEARCH

List and describe the applicable steps you have taken to better acquaint yourself with adopting a sibling group. Please include websites you have visited, books you have read, other adoptive parents you have spoken to, and so forth. (You may also ask AGCI staff for previous adoptive family references.):

RESOURCES

Please list several resources in your community to benefit your children and plans of engagement for each section.

PSYCHOLOGICAL

How do you plan to help your children with any trauma they may have experienced? (List specific people/practices and contact information)

1. COUNSELING & GROUP THERAPY:
2. FAMILY THERAPY:
3. FAMILY SUPPORT GROUPS:

LANGUAGE/SPEECH

Parents who adopt sibling groups find that it is much more difficult for the children to learn English because they speak to each other in their first language. Each child will learn English at their own pace. What services do you have in your community to help with the language barrier?

1. INTERPRETER SERVICES:
2. INFORMAL LANGUAGE SUPPORTS:

EDUCATION

Each child will need to be evaluated for the most appropriate grade level in school. Younger children may have a difficult time with their older sibling leaving for school each day. Parents will need to prepare all children for the length of the school day and that the sibling will return.

How do you anticipate you will need to prepare each child for school attendance?

ATTACHMENT

How will you respond to the needs of each child as well as coping with the sibling group as a whole?

What will you do if you find yourself attaching to one child over another?

TRANSITIONAL BEHAVIOR IN SIBLING GROUPS

How do you plan to respond to the following behaviors?

1. SIBLING RIVALRY:
2. JEALOUSY:
3. AGGRESSION/VIOLENCE:
4. DEPENDENCE ON EACH OTHER FOR BASIC NEEDS:

PARENTIFIED CHILDREN

In some countries and situations, older children have been responsible for the care and upbringing of younger sibling(s). This creates a dynamic in the sibling relationship where the younger child depends on the older sibling(s) just as if the older sibling were their parent. Adoptive parents will need to prepare to intentionally but gently insert themselves into the relationship and teach each child their new role. Older children will need lots of permission to play and be a “kid” and all children will need to learn to depend on the adults for care and to meet their needs.

1. Describe how the sibling relationship may inhibit bonding to the adoptive parents?
2. What behaviors will identify your older child as parentified?
3. What behaviors will the younger child(ren) likely exhibit?
4. How will you teach/encourage your older child to be a “kid” again?
5. How will you encourage the younger child(ren) dependence on you as parents?
6. How will you model appropriate sibling relationships versus parent/child relationships?

I/We are committed to the adoption of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and have completed this transition plan as a guide and resource tool to use once my/our child arrives home. I/We understand that AGCI will continue to be a resource to my/our family after placement.

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Adoptive Parent Date Adoptive Parent Date

All God’s Children Staff Date