

FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER

Esperanza Foster Family Agency

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HOME STUDY- UPDATES

As you are aware, due to new regulations that fall under RFA Approvals, each resource home must agree to undergo a yearly update review of their home study on file.

Under Title 22, section 88371. At least annually, a foster family agency shall update the approval of a Resource Family. A foster family agency shall complete an Update Report or an equivalent form showing that a review of the Resource Home was completed. Failure to complete this "Home Study Update" might result in decertification.

The update is a short process that consists of an interview and a written report that will be added to your Home Study on file.

TAX SEASON

As tax season begins, it is important to remember that you can only claim a foster child as a depended in your taxes *if the child stayed in your home for more then 6 months. The 6 months must be counted from the date of intake to the date of discharge, or a total of about 183 calendar days.*

You will also need the child's Social Security Number (SSI), as with most cases we do not have that number on file for privacy. You will need to ask county for that number, if the child has left your home, county still needs to be contacted.

Please remember that asking for the SSI number does not mean you will be given the number, it will all depend on county.

TRAINING AT ESPERANZA FFA

- Always check in with Maria prior to Wednesday
- Late arrivals are only permitted for up to 10 minutes (unless you spoke with Maria the day prior and obtained permission)
- Make sure to check in, otherwise your certificate might not be provided
- Please be advised that side conversations during the class will not be allowed
- Silent your cellphone as it respectful to the other parents
- Make sure you check your past certificates to confirm that you have not taken the class before, if you do take the same class twice within the same training cycle, the class will not count
- *Remember that only 6 hours of Coffee Connections will be accepted*
- Most classes are done in two sections, ***IF YOU DID NOT ATTEND THE FIRST SECTION OF THE CLASS YOU CANNOT ATTEND THE SECOND ONE***