

**The City of Philadelphia
Office of Homeless Services (OHS)
Children Services Agreement**

Healthy Meal Participation: OHS provides healthy and nutritious meals to family emergency housing programs in compliance with Philadelphia Nutrition Standards. In addition, select provider who provides services to children and families must adhere to the State of Pennsylvania Child and Adult Food Program (CACFP). Children, up to 17 years, are required to eat meals prepared by your emergency housing program unless they are under 6 months and exclusively breast or formula fed. If your child participates in breakfast or lunch programs in school, day care or Head Start programs, you must present written documentation from each program verifying your child's participation.

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Breastfeeding Accommodation: OHS is committed to creating an environment supportive and conducive to breastfeeding. Lactating clients must be provided reasonable accommodations to express breast milk and must be guaranteed the right to breastfeed in public spaces, irrespective of whether or not the mother's breast is covered during or incidental to the breastfeeding.

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School Attendance: All children of school age are required to attend school unless a notice of sickness or emergency circumstance is presented to emergency housing staff. You are entitled to assistance with school enrollment, transportation and school uniforms. Please see your case manager or the emergency housing staff for assistance.

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Immunizations: Children 0-6 years of age must be appropriately immunized before placement into emergency housing. After placement, parents must ensure that children receive follow up immunizations as required by the Philadelphia Department of Public Health.

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Medical/Dental Assessments: Children 3-8 years of age must have a medical and dental assessment within 60 days of emergency housing placement. You may receive a waiver from this requirement if your child has undergone these assessments within 6 months prior to emergency housing placement, however, you must present verifying documents to your case manager when requested.

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Medical/Dental Care: All children of school age must have a medical and dental care follow-up according to the clients' primary physicians'/dentists' instructions in order to ensure that children are in good health. This includes general health follow-up and follow-up after medical emergencies. Parents with children who are assessed to need specific medical treatment must ensure that their children participate in the medical treatment plan, which includes but is not limited to: attending appointments, physical therapy, and medication.

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Behavioral Health Care: Parents with children who are assessed to need behavioral health assistance must ensure that their children participate in behavioral health treatment, which includes but is not limited to: attending appointments, therapy/counseling, and medication.

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Discipline: Parents are not permitted to use corporal punishment, discipline which is harmful to the health and wellbeing of their children. This includes, but is not limited to: Spanking, slapping or other forms of hitting with hands or any other instruments, any form of punishment that inflicts pain, use of restraints or isolating a child in an inappropriate space, denial of meals or other basic needs, verbal abuse or ridicule, assignment of excessive or inappropriate chores or work, punishment for bed-wetting or actions relating to toilet training, allowing children to discipline other children. (Philadelphia Department of Human Services Resource Parent Handbook, p.41). Parents experiencing difficulty managing the behavior of their children must request assistance from the case manager.

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- I understand that the emergency housing provider must ensure the health and safety of children who participate in their program/reside at their facility.
- I understand that the provider must address any concerns which threaten the health and safety of children who participate in their program/reside at their facility, which may include contacting the Department of Human Services.
- OHS reserves the right to terminate my emergency housing services for any threats to the health and safety of children residing at an OHS contracted program. I understand that I have a right to appeal the termination of emergency housing services, according to OHS discharge and appeal process.

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

OHS/Agency Staff Signature

Date