



# DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

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Dear Foster Parents:

I am writing to you today about an important change in practice for children entering foster care. To better serve children in foster care we have contracted with Cornerstone Family Healthcare. All children entering foster care are required to undergo an assessment by a medical provider within a week of placement. They are also required to have a full physical exam within 30 days of entering foster care.

Cornerstone Family Healthcare has developed a program specifically for children entering foster care called Support Treatment Alliance for Resilience (STAR). The STAR team are eager to work with us to meet the needs of our children and to help support you, our foster parents, as you do the same.

**Starting January 1, 2020, it is required that children entering foster care be seen at a Cornerstone clinic within seven days of placement and have their full physical exam there within 30 days of placement.** Our goal is to better assess the immediate needs of the children who are experiencing trauma through abuse or neglect. This initial assessment is also intended to provide you with support and guidance on meeting the needs of children placed in your home. (Please note that this does not apply to children already in foster care or to those moving from one foster home to another. This only applies to children who are entering foster care on or after January 1, 2020.)

**Appointments are to be scheduled by calling 845-563-8000. You'll need to indicate that you are making an appointment for the STAR Foster Care Program.**

The Cornerstone STAR clinic locations and hours are as follows:

**Middletown**  
14 Grove Street  
Middletown, NY  
Friday afternoons 2-4:30

**Newburgh**  
147 Lake Street  
Newburgh, NY  
Wednesday afternoons 2:30-4  
Thursday evenings 5-6:30

Port Jervis  
140 Hammond Street  
Port Jervis, NY  
Monday mornings 9-12

**If these hours are not convenient to you, the clinic does have flexibility to accommodate other appointment times.**

When you go to your appointment, please bring the Initial Child Placement Information Sheet and the Permission to Seek Routine Medical Care letter. If you don't have those, please contact your child's caseworker.

Cornerstone Family Healthcare accepts all our Managed Care plans as well as straight Medicaid. You are welcome to stay with Cornerstone after these appointments or return to a preferred provider if you choose. If you intend to go to a different provider after these two appointments it is imperative that you notify your child's caseworker so that the change can be made to the insurance coverage prior to making an appointment.

The process of obtaining mileage reimbursement for transportation to these appointments remains unchanged- call MAS at 1-855-360-3543 or online at [www.medanswering.com](http://www.medanswering.com)  
This information will be posted to our website- [www.fosteradoptorangeny.org](http://www.fosteradoptorangeny.org)

As always, thank you for all you do. If you have any questions about this, please contact your caseworker or homefinder directly. It is our sincere hope that this program will lead to better health outcomes for our children and will provide you with increased support as you provide care to children in foster care.

Very truly yours,

Beth Van Pelt  
Case Supervisor