

**PROGRAMS AND SERVICES POLICY
FOSTER CARE AND ADOPTION PS-FCA-02
DISCIPLINE, BEHAVIOR MANAGEMENT AND SUICIDE PREVENTION**

08/30/2001

Origination Date

Behavior Management

Holt International prohibits the use of physical punishment as a method of discipline for all children. Methods of punitive behavioral management that are included in this prohibition are discussed further in program procedure manuals¹.

Holt International provides information about trauma’s impact on brain chemistry and trauma-informed discipline methods that promote attachment and self-regulation, and encourages families to use these non-punitive methods. Further descriptions of these evidence-based behavior management techniques, can be found in the program’s procedural manual.² Holt International does not use physical restraint techniques or seclusion.³ (See “PS-UNV-04 Corporal Punishment” policy)

Suicide Prevention

One of the most important responsibilities of foster and adoptive parents is to provide a safe and nurturing home environment for a child who cannot safely live with their family of origin. Given the elevated risk level for all children in substitute care, it’s vital for all Holt International FCA staff and families to be informed regarding warning signs, emergency response protocols, mental health treatment, and the potential need for increased supervision for safety.

Holt International staff and fostering families should be aware of and understand issues related to suicide prevention and interventions found in Holt International’s FCA procedure manual, which include the following: warning signs of suicidal ideation⁴, emergency protocol and contacts, follow-up treatment, training requirements for staff and fostering families⁵, procedures for determining appropriate supervision precautions⁶, documentation requirements⁷, and methods for tracking suicide behavioral patterns including a “post intervention plan”.⁸

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¹ [OAR 413-215-0076.1\(B\)](#)

² [OAR 413-215-0076.2](#)

³ [OAR 413-215-0076.3\(d\), \(e\), \(f\)](#)

⁴ [OAR 413-215-0076.4\(b\)](#)

⁵ [OAR 413-215-0076.4\(d\)](#)

⁶ [OAR 413-215-0076.4\(e\)](#)

⁷ [OAR 413-215-0076.4\(g\)](#)

⁸ [OAR 413-215-0076.4\(h\) & \(i\)](#)