



Alternative Caregiver and Checklist for Care

Foster care can be challenging, and there are times when families need assistance with the fulltime care of the child. Alternative care is support for Resource Families in order to provide personal, self-care, or adult time for the resource parents. Alternative Care is utilized when the child is in care for 24 hours or longer, and can only exceed 72 hours with prior CSW permission. Alternative care is not to be used as regular childcare or for preservation of the placement. Serenity encourages families to form relationships with care givers and to engage on a regular basis. This is not only beneficial as a family support, but is also helpful for children who need alternative care to be with people they are comfortable with and already know.

The alternative caregiver must be:

- 1) 21 years old older
- 2) Live Scan cleared
- 3) Criminal Background Cleared

If transporting the child a valid Driver's License, current DMV printout, current auto registration and insurance must be on file.

Serenity asks that families inform their Serenity social worker that they are using alternative care before it happens. When needing to use care for longer than 72 hours, notice is needed in advance to get permission from the child's CSW. However, Serenity understands that there can be times where notice is not possible, and we will do our best to support families in locating emergency alternative care.

Basic Required Provisions for Child(ren) during Alternative Care

The items listed below are to be given to the care-provider on the same day that the child is being left in their care. All items must be clean, appropriately sized, in good repair, and adequate for the length of time the child will be in the care:

Clothing/underwear/shoes

Diapers/wipes – all infant care items

Personal toiletry items

Child's Home File: confirm that the Medi-Cal card Medical Authorization are in the file

Comfort items (favorite toy, stuffed animals, etc.)

Copy of completed Emergency Contact Information Form

Daily Babysitting Rates:

Rates are indicated as per night of care.

Serenity is **not** responsible for payment. All monies must be provided by the child's current Resource/Foster family to the alternative caregiver.

Daily base rate for 0 – 17 years = \$37.02 (plus any applicable LOC)