

# RFA: #15 Agency Supported Foster Care



**Saint Francis**  
**MINISTRIES**

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

**SECTION I**

**Introduction..... Pg. 2**

- A. Introduction**
- B. Evaluation**

**SECTION II**

**Instructions and Procedures..... Pg. 3**

- A. Necessary Documents**
- B. Specifications**
- C. Questions**
- D. Provider Certification**
- E. Preparation of the Response**
- F. Response Requirements**

**SECTION III**

**Response Criteria..... Pg. 5**

**SECTION IV**

**Timeline/Submittal Documents..... Pg. 6**

**SECTION V**

**Service Definition..... Pg. 8**

## SECTION I

### A. **Introduction**

SFM is dedicated to providing services to children and families involved in the child welfare system in the least intrusive and least restrictive manner possible. Services offered are based on family voice and choice and designed to give children and families the opportunity to safely preserve their family whenever possible, engage with both formal and informal community resources, strengthen parents' protective capacity in order to keep children safe from harm, meet the needs of children and families as identified through the assessment process, be culturally humble, and include parents, siblings, and extended family.

SFM continuum of services includes prevention activities, coordination and services that focus on the safety, health and wellbeing of the child, parental and sibling engagement, family voice and choice in service provision, respite, independent living, adoption, domestic violence, safety, mental health, substance abuse and treatment services, as well as educational initiatives. These services are provided to children and families by Saint Francis personnel or through sub-contracted vendors. Specifically, Saint Francis is seeking providers whom are able and/or willing to provide services through the provision Well-Supported, Supported, and Promising Practice evidence-based models that strengthen families and build protective factors in families, in compliance with the federal Families First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA), part of the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018 (H.R. 1892). Additionally, the Subrecipients will ensure services are culturally humble, trauma-informed, and engage and support the biological/legal parents in the process of family preservation or reunification.

Saint Francis is issuing this Request for Application (RFA) in order to qualify Providers to deliver **Agency Supported Foster Care** throughout the Eastern Service Area. The Service Description detailed in this RFA contains the mandatory minimum requirements Providers must meet in order to provide this service.

The subaward will be for the initial period of July 1, 2021 through February 28, 2023. Saint Francis reserves the right to extend the period of this subaward beyond the termination date when mutually agreeable to the Parties. The resulting subaward may not be an exclusive subaward as Saint Francis reserves the right to subaward for the same or similar services from other sources now or in the future. Under federal law, the resulting contract awarded will also be a "subaward", and the Contractor will also be a "subrecipient".

### B. **Evaluation**

Responses will be evaluated based upon the criteria outlined in Section 3 of this document and scored accordingly. Providers' scores must meet the minimum standards set by Saint Francis to be considered for an offer to join the Saint Francis Provider Network.

Contracts may be entered into with those Applicants whose submissions meet the minimum requirements set forth by Saint Francis. Saint Francis reserves the right to contact individual references and to consider other sources of information to determine eligibility.

Saint Francis may reject any or all responses or parts thereof and/or cancel this RFA and re-solicit, if such an action is in Saint Francis' best interest. Saint Francis may waive informalities and minor irregularities on responses received. This RFA does not commit Saint Francis to award any contract or to pay any costs incurred in the preparation of responses.

## SECTION II

### **A. Necessary Documents**

Providers who wish to submit a response shall complete all necessary documentation as identified in Section 4 of this RFA.

### **B. Specifications**

The specifications included in this RFA provide adequate information as to whether or not Provider can meet the needs of Saint Francis. Deviations from the specifications may result in lower scores or be grounds for disqualification.

### **C. Questions**

Saint Francis believes this RFA contains sufficient information to respond however will allow Providers to submit questions according to the Procurement Schedule in Section 5.

### **D. Provider Certification**

By submission of a response, Provider certifies that Provider has neither paid nor agreed to pay any person, other than a bona fide employee, a fee or a brokerage resulting from the award of the contract.

### **E. Preparation of the Response**

Providers are expected to examine all service requirements, rules, documents, forms, specifications, standard provisions, instructions, and review its response for accuracy before submitting its response: Failure to do so may result in lower scores or be grounds for disqualification.

### **F. Response Requirements**

Responses should be completed and submitted electronically to [ProviderRelationsNEESA@saintfrancisministries.org](mailto:ProviderRelationsNEESA@saintfrancisministries.org), hand delivered, or sent via certified mail Addressed to Saint Francis 9218 Bedford Ave Omaha, NE 68134 for Appendix A, Appendix B, and Letters of Recommendation.

Copies of the forms for Appendix A and Appendix B can be found on the Saint Francis Website.

**SECTION III**  
**RESPONSE EVALUATION CRITERIA**

Responses will be evaluated through in depth analysis and will be based on the following criteria:

- (1) Provider's demonstration of understanding the Service Description requirements.
  - Provider's demonstration of experience, knowledge and education (or a combination thereof) in the following:
    - Family engagement
    - Wraparound principles
    - Trauma informed care
    - Skill training with directed practice
    - Engaging ongoing support in natural communities
    - Community resources and ability to collaborate
    - Child development
    - Skill building
    - Ability to incorporate FFPSA models
- (2) Provider's demonstration of experience with child welfare-involved youth and coaching and skill building in order to effect positive outcomes for youth and families.
- (3) Provider's Letters of Recommendation, reputation, professionalism, and completeness of response to this RFA.

Subcontractors must meet the above requirements to be considered for contract issuance.

## SECTION IV

### TIMELINE/SUBMITTAL DOCUMENTS

#### A. Timeline

- 1) Provider Submittal Documents are due no later than 4:00 p.m. Central Standard Time ~~April 23, 2021~~ **May 14, 2021**.
- 2) Responses will be evaluated from ~~April 26, 2021~~ **May 14, 2021** through ~~May 7, 2021~~ **May 21 2021**. During this time, Saint Francis may require Provider to accommodate further discussions with evaluation team. Provider will be notified in writing or by phone if this is requested.
- 3) Discussion may be conducted with Provider(s) for the purpose of clarifying responses to ensure the evaluation team has a full understanding of the responses to this RFA. In conducting discussions, there shall be no disclosure of any information derived from responses submitted by competing Providers. However, once this competitive procurement process is complete, all records and associated contracts are considered public record and may be released to third parties upon appropriately submitted public records request(s). Saint Francis reserves the right to conduct discussion if determined necessary. Discussions shall not constitute a contract award nor shall they confer any property rights on a Provider. Ward may be made without discussions, therefore, offers shall be submitted complete and on most favorable terms.
- 4) Providers selected to provide **Agency Supported Foster Care** will be contacted by end of business on ~~May 1, 2021~~ **May 21, 2021**.
- 5) Providers not selected to provide the services, but that meet the minimum score threshold, are put on the Qualified Provider Listing and will remain on that Listing for the full RFA cycle. Should there be a need for additional Providers to provide **Agency Supported Foster Care** a Qualified Provider will be contacted, unless a Qualified Provider is unavailable for that service in ESA.

#### B. Submittal Documents

- a. Appendix A – Submittal Letter and Provider Profile
  - i. Appendix A is required by each provider. Provider will include a list of all services provider is seeking a contract for. This document is only required once per provider regardless of the amount of services the provider is seeking to contract for.
- b. Appendix B – Services Response Form
  - i. Appendix B is required for each individual service provider is seeking a contract for.
- c. Letters of Recommendation
  - i. Each provider requires three letters of recommendation. No specific format is required however the response should support the provider's ability to provide the service(s).

#### C. **Responses must utilize the printed Submittal Forms (do not submit handwritten forms) located on the Saint Francis website.**

1. Email submittal documents with the following attachments to:
  - a. Electronic submissions must be sent in the pdf. Format.
  - b. The Subject Line in the email for submissions must include the name of the Organization and Procurement April 2021. (e.g. ABC Company – Procurement April 2021.

- c. Submittal documents should be attached to the email and named pursuant to the naming conversations listed below.
  - Appendix A Submittal Letter and Profile: Providername-AppendixA.pdf
  - Appendix B-Service Response Form(s): Providername-AppendixB.pdf
  - 3 References: Providername-References.pdf

Example: When ABC Company responds to this RFA, the Provider shall attach the following submittal documents to the email:

1. ABCCounseling-AppendixA.pdf
  2. ABCCounseling-AppendixB.pdf
  3. ABCCounseling-Recommendations.pdf
2. If submitting documents via hand delivery or certified mail, utilize the following instructions:
- a. Ensure all documents are in the following order
    - i. Appendix A Provider Submittal Letter and Profile
    - ii. Appendix B-Service Response Form(s)
    - iii. Three (3) Professional Letters of Recommendation
  - b. Ensure all documents are submitted at the same time.

## SECTION V

### Agency Supported Foster Care Service Appendix

#### **DEFINITION**

Agency Supported Foster Care (ASFC) is defined as out of home care in a licensed foster home or a kinship or relative home that is supported by a licensed child placing agency (CPA) and designed to meet the complex needs of children who have experienced trauma, abuse, neglect and other serious issues that require out of home placement.

The Contractor shall recruit, train, license and support foster and adoptive parents who accept placement of, and will meet the needs of, children referred by Saint Francis.

Recruitment of agency supported foster and adoptive families includes active and ongoing efforts to solicit families who are invested in meeting the unique and special needs of the children and youth served by Saint Francis. Recruitment includes undertaking targeted and diligent efforts to locate foster and adoptive families for specific children upon request by Saint Francis. Recruitment efforts will include, but not limited to, engaging communities across the state through outreach and education activities to increase awareness of the need for foster and adoptive parents who reflect the ethnic and racial diversity of the children served by Saint Francis. Recruitment activities may include but not be limited to: organizing special events, speaking engagements, advertising, and networking.

Agency Supported Foster Care Contractors shall work collaboratively with Saint Francis local staff to develop a Foster Care and Adoption Recruitment and Retention Plan that is reflective of the types of foster and adoptive parents needed to meet the unique and special needs of children referred by Saint Francis and who are reflective of the ethnic and racial diversity of children served in the Service Area. The Contractor shall report data as requested or established through the Recruitment and Retention Plan. The Foster Care and Adoption Recruitment and Retention Plan must identify specific strategies designed to support and improve the retention of foster and adoptive families. The Foster Care and Adoption Recruitment and Retention Plan must also include timelines for strategy implementation, and specific measurable goals for increasing the Contractor's number of newly licensed foster and adoptive families.

Retention is defined as keeping both prospective and current foster, adoptive, and kinship families interested and invested in accepting placement of foster children by treating people well, meeting their needs, and providing encouragement and individualized support, beginning with pre-service training and continuing through post-placement services.

Training is defined as the following: (1) providing or ensuring that foster and adoptive parents complete the necessary pre-service educational curriculum required for foster care licensure; (2) providing or ensuring that foster and adoptive parents receive ongoing training to maintain licensure and to improve their knowledge, skills, and abilities to provide a stable home environment for children referred by Saint Francis and placed in their care; and (3) providing or ensuring that ongoing training is completed, and that the training is relevant and enhances the foster or adoptive family's ability and capacity to meet the unique needs of children age 0 to 5 years old, and all other youth for whom they are providing care, including training to acquire the necessary skills and knowledge for applying the Reasonable and Prudent Parent Standard [Preventing Sex Trafficking & Strengthening Families Act of 2014 (P.L. 113-183/HR 4980)] . The Contractor shall train all affiliated foster and adoptive homes within 60 days of affiliating with the Contractor, and provide ongoing training on the Reasonable and Prudent Parent Standard and Human Trafficking, with a curriculum approved by Saint Francis. The Contractor shall also train all foster and



adoptive parents affiliated with their agency on how to talk with children placed in their home about setting healthy physical boundaries and how to talk to children about healthy boundaries.

The Contractor shall distribute the Youth Care Bill of Rights to age appropriate children in foster homes as established by the Nebraska Strengthening Families Act Committee within 72 hours of a youth's initial placement into out-of-home care.

Initial pre-service training curricula required for licensure of foster and adoptive parents shall be a model approved by Saint Francis. Ongoing training can be offered through a combination of face-to-face training, classroom training, web-based training, and reading materials that meet the above criteria.

Support is defined as being readily accessible and responsive to foster, adoptive, kinship or relative foster care parents in meeting their needs and intervening as necessary to stabilize crisis episodes and prevent placement disruptions. Support includes providing face-to-face visits in the foster, adoptive, kinship or relative foster parent's home based on the level of the placement per the NCR results. Minimum (and more frequently as needed) face-to-face contact requirements:

1. Professional and Intensive – weekly
2. Enhanced – twice per month
3. Essential – monthly

In addition, frequent phone calls may be necessary to maintain communication and develop ongoing rapport. During face-to-face visits, Contractor shall:

1. review and discuss the foster, pre-adoptive, kinship or relative foster parent's ability to meet the needs of the youth placed in their home, and identify stressors the foster, pre-adoptive, kinship or relative foster parent(s) may be experiencing;
2. review and offer concrete supports, such as transportation, more frequent face-to-face visits, and other resources to ameliorate the stressors;
3. identify and reinforce the strengths demonstrated by the foster, pre-adoptive, kinship or relative foster parent(s);
4. assess the current suitability of the child(ren) placed with the foster, pre-adoptive, kinship or relative foster parent(s);
5. encourage foster, pre-adoptive, kinship or relative foster parent(s) and youth to complete the "caregiver information form" and the "youth questionnaire form" and submit completed forms to the court prior to the youth's review hearing and permanency hearing;
6. encourage and facilitate the use of respite care and educate foster, pre-adoptive, kinship or relative foster parent(s) on the importance of accepting foster children back into their care after respite care in order to avoid the additional trauma to children from sudden and unplanned placement changes;
7. identify appropriate respite care options, conduct necessary background checks on prospective respite care providers, and facilitate a smooth transition for the child(ren) to and from the respite care home;
8. provide or arrange for foster, pre-adoptive, kinship or relative foster parent(s) to receive ongoing training and one-on-one instruction and guidance, as needed, to help promote "normalcy" for youth in their care through the use of reasonable and prudent parenting standards that provide opportunities for youth to grow emotionally, socially, and developmentally by having the most family-like experience possible;
9. tailor foster, pre-adoptive, kinship or relative foster parent(s) support to the individual and unique circumstances experienced by foster, pre-adoptive, kinship or relative foster parent(s); and,
10. review the status of the foster parent(s) license and work diligently to renew the foster parent(s) license timely and prevent the lapse, or need for an extension of the foster parent(s) license.

11. provide respite services on a regular and ongoing basis based on the needs of the foster, pre-adoptive, kinship or relative foster parents to maintain stability of placement for the foster child.
12. develop a communication plan between the foster, pre-adoptive, kinship or relative foster parents and the biological (legal) parents to ensure consistent communication on the children focusing on their successes and their needs. The communication plan should identify frequency and method of contact by the foster, pre-adoptive kinship or relative foster parents to the legal parents or document why a plan does not exist.

Support of foster, pre-adoptive, kinship or relative foster parent(s) will include ongoing communication that will be delivered by phone, email, or text message and will include being available to foster, pre-adoptive, kinship or relative foster parents 24 hours a day, 7 days per week including holidays and weekends.

Support of foster, pre-adoptive, kinship or relative foster parent(s) shall also include transporting foster children when the foster, pre-adoptive, kinship or relative foster parent(s) are unable to do so, or ensuring that foster children are transported, to their currently enrolled school, to activities, and to services as needed. The Contractor shall transport foster children at no additional cost to Saint Francis.

Activities and services include, but are not limited to, behavioral health appointments, medical appointments, and extra-curricular activities. Saint Francis encourages foster, pre-adoptive, kinship or relative foster families to transport their foster care children to and from scheduled visits with the child(ren)'s parents, siblings, and family members whenever possible and practicable.

As part of supporting the foster, pre-adoptive, kinship or relative foster parent(s), the Contractor shall communicate all known information about the child to the foster, pre-adoptive, kinship or relative foster parent(s), including information regarding the child found on the referral for placement. The Contractor shall assist and support the foster, pre-adoptive, kinship or relative foster parent(s) in making contact with the child's parent(s) from whom the child was removed, within 24 hours of being made aware of the placement into the foster home, to connect and initiate building an alliance to promote the child's well-being. If Saint Francis determined there was a safety reason or some other reason that this contact should not occur, Saint Francis will share that determination with the agency and contact pursuant to this section will not be required. The Contractor shall also provide input to planning processes for youth in placement i.e. Family Team Meetings, Independent Living Plans and preparation of Case Plans and Court Reports, as well as attend Family Team Meetings, when requested by Saint Francis or by the child's family.

The Contractor shall notify Saint Francis of placement options within five (5) calendar days of receipt of a placement request by Saint Francis. When placement requests are marked urgent by Saint Francis, the Contractor shall respond to Saint Francis within one (1) hour of receipt of the placement request to notify Saint Francis of any progress toward securing a foster, kinship or relative foster home placement.

The Contractor shall make foster care placement recommendations that enable youth to remain in the youth's home school/school of origin. When this is not possible, the Contractor must immediately notify the Saint Francis Case Manager in writing.

The Contractor shall provide any information requested by Saint Francis necessary to complete reports required by any applicable Federal or State law and regulation.

All Contractors shall be in compliance and remain in compliance with regulation and licensure as a Child Placing Agency for the delivery of foster care services and adoption services as established by relevant DHHS regulations.

The Contractor, when alerted to a concern about a foster, pre-adoptive, kinship or relative foster home by Saint Francis, shall explore the concern with the foster, pre-adoptive, kinship or relative foster family and provide to Saint Francis, within 10 business days of notice of concern, written documentation on a format approved by Saint Francis, stating the cause of the concerns and efforts to resolve the concerns.

The Contractor must have a medication policy identifying proper and safe ways of administering medication to youth in their care. The Contractor must retain an individualized medication log per youth and have this available upon Saint Francis request.

### **TARGET POPULATION**

Agency Supported foster, adoptive, kinship or relative foster homes shall accept and serve children ages 0 through 18 years old in need of foster care as referred by Saint Francis.

### **LENGTH OF SERVICE:**

The length of Agency Supported foster, adoptive, kinship or relative foster care service is based on the unique needs of each child and should be less than twelve (12) months.

### **ACCEPTING & RESPONDING TO REFERRALS**

The Contractor shall be available to accept Saint Francis Ministries Assessment Foster Care service referrals five (5) days per week during all open business hours. Additionally, the Contractor will ensure on-call staff are available for admission needs that arise outside of business hours.

### **DISCHARGE**

The Contractor will collaborate with Saint Francis to proactively plan for the discharge of youth from Agency Supported foster, pre-adoptive, kinship or relative foster care. The Contractor will use a trauma informed approach to prepare youth for transitions and will collaborate with Saint Francis to ensure that the most appropriate post-discharge placement is available for the youth prior to discharge. When the youth's discharge is not planned, the Contractor will give Saint Francis a fourteen (14) calendar day notice in writing for youth placed at the Essential, Enhanced, and Intensive NCR Levels. Youth placed at the Professional Level will require a thirty (30) calendar day notice in writing. During the fourteen (14) or thirty (30) day period of time, the Contractor will use a trauma informed approach to prepare the youth for the impending discharge and will work collaboratively with Saint Francis to determine the most appropriate post discharge placement for the youth. A fourteen (14) calendar day written notice is not required when the Contractor and Saint Francis mutually agree that it is in the best interests of the child to move sooner.

### **MINIMUM REQUIRED REPORTS:**

Foster, adoptive, kinship or relative foster care Recruitment and Retention Plan -- The Contractor shall submit a copy of the initial foster, adoptive, kinship or relative foster care Recruitment and Retention Plan to the Saint Francis Provider Relations Designee within 30 calendar days after the execution of this contract; and, the Contractor shall submit progress reports of the plan, in a format approved by Saint Francis, to the Saint Francis Provider Relations Designee by the following dates: January 10<sup>th</sup>, April 10<sup>th</sup> and July 10<sup>th</sup>.

Written Summary Reports -- The Contractor shall provide a written monthly report on each child in placement to the referring Saint Francis Representative within fourteen (14) calendar days following the month of service provision, which summarizes the following:

- The supportive services the Contractor provided to the foster, adoptive, kinship or relative foster parent(s), as well as the child(ren)'s progress toward achieving permanency. Supportive services outlined in the monthly report shall include concrete supports, resources, training, one-on-one instruction, and guidance provided to the foster, adoptive, kinship or relative foster parent(s) to ameliorate any stressors the foster, adoptive, kinship or relative foster parent(s) are experiencing,

to manage the child's needs and behaviors, and to maintain the placement.

- The medical, vision, and dental check-ups of children placed in the foster, adoptive, kinship or relative foster home that occurred during the reporting month.
- Mental health or behavioral needs of children placed in the foster, adoptive kinship or relative foster home during the reporting month.

Internal Quality Reports – The Contractor shall provide any internal quality reports upon request.

Upon the request of Saint Francis, the Contractor will complete and submit electronically to the Saint Francis designee, a monthly cost expense report related to the administrative payments made by Saint Francis for the Essential, Enhanced, and Intensive levels of support provided by the Contractor in a format developed by Saint Francis, by no later than thirty (30) calendar days following the request.

- The Contractor, will separate direct foster care maintenance payments from other service delivery expenses and keep records that are readily reviewable and traceable to source documentation, in a format developed by Contractor, including, but not limited to, payments to foster, adoptive, kinship or relative foster parents by check, electronic funds transfers, or other payment methods. Contractor shall ensure its subcontractors and vendors adhere to this requirement.
- The Contractor shall provide source documentation for each maintenance payment made directly to foster, adoptive, kinship or relative foster parents on behalf of each child served. Source documentation shall include copies of cancelled checks and or copies of direct deposit transactions. The source documentation shall be submitted to the Saint Francis designee electronically by no later than 30 calendar days after Saint Francis provides claims level detail.
- The Contractor shall provide information for the National Youth in Transition Database (NYTD) in a format approved by Saint Francis for youth in care between the ages of 14- years-old and 19-years-old. This information shall be provided to Saint Francis within 14 calendar days following the month of service provision.
- The provider will complete and submit a discharge report to Saint Francis within 7 business days of client discharge. Required documentation for discharge reports are as follows:
  - Case Information:
    - Name and date of birth (age) of youth
    - Master Case
    - Date of Discharge
    - Updated contact information for the reporting month
  - Placement Information:
    - Date of placement
    - Name of placement
    - Placement contact information
    - Name of staff member and their supervisor approving placement
  - Youth and Case Plan/Safety Plan Information:
    - Provide a brief progress or lack thereof synopsis on the actions and circumstances enabling the identified goals
    - Provide achievements, positive attributes and/or strengths of the youth during the reporting month (Observed or recognized by the provider and must refrain from providing identical information from the previous month. This should show youth progress)
    - Provide observed or recognized areas of improvement for the youth during the reporting month.

**STAFF CREDENTIALS:**

All new Contractor staff hired to provide direct services to the Agency Supported foster, adoptive, kinship or relative foster families and to foster children and their families, shall have a minimum of a Bachelor’s Degree in a human services related field; or, a Bachelor’s Degree in a related field with experience delivering foster care related services.

If an employee does not meet the standards outlined above, the Contractor shall notify the Saint Francis Provider Relations Department, and provide the name of the employee, their job function, and education deficiencies which prevent them from meeting the contractual standards. This will be reviewed for an Educational Exception which the Contractor will document in their HR file.

At the Contractor’s request, the Saint Francis Provider Relations Designee may consider a potential employee’s High School Diploma or GED and at least 5 years of job related or lived experience to be the equivalent of a Bachelor’s Degree for the performance of Agency Supported Foster Care duties. The Contractor shall have a written, detailed training plan for Agency Supported Foster Care staff that includes both pre-service and ongoing training requirements. The Contractor will provide their staff with access to training in Well Supported, Supported, or Promising Practices in alignment with the Family First Prevention Services Act of 2018, from which to establish a foundation from the appropriate teaching. The Contractor shall make the training plan available to Saint Francis upon request.

**PERFORMANCE OUTCOME MEASURES:**

The contractor will be responsible for reporting outcome data to Saint Francis via the current identified process by the 10th of each following month.

- Minimum of 50% of client population served will be from the 12-18 age group.
- Minimum of 55% of client population served will rate Enhanced or higher on Nebraska Caregiver Responsibility (NCR) Tool
- 94% of children will experience placement stability without going to another placement or higher level of care.
- 100% of children in care will not experience maltreatment within foster home or care concern that would result in the removal from the foster home.

**ESTABLISHED RATE:**

1.

Agency Supported Foster Care	Total	Maintenance	Admin	Unit
Essential 0-5	\$ 43.45	\$ 20.81	\$ 22.64	Day
Enhanced 0-5	\$ 57.91	\$ 28.61	\$ 29.30	Day
Intensive 0-5	\$ 76.74	\$ 36.41	\$ 40.33	Day
Essential 6-11	\$ 46.57	\$ 23.93	\$ 22.64	Day
Enhanced 6-11	\$ 61.03	\$ 31.73	\$ 29.30	Day
Intensive 6-11	\$ 79.87	\$ 39.54	\$ 40.33	Day
Essential 12-18	\$ 48.65	\$ 26.01	\$ 22.64	Day
Enhanced 12-18	\$ 63.11	\$ 33.81	\$ 29.30	Day
Intensive 12-18	\$ 81.95	\$ 41.62	\$ 40.33	Day
Professional 0-5	\$ 160.00	\$ 60.00	\$ 100.00	Day
Professional 6-11	\$ 160.00	\$ 60.00	\$ 100.00	Day
Professional 12-18	\$ 160.00	\$ 60.00	\$ 100.00	Day

NOTE:

- Out of Home Maintenance rates are considered minimum amounts to be distributed to the foster parent. The Contractor may utilize their Administrative Support Stipend to provide additional financial support to foster homes based on the care being provided and the youth's needs.
  - Whenever a child turns age six (6) and age twelve (12), the Out of Home Maintenance rate will be changed to reflect the correct age of the child. The new rate will be effective the date of the child's 6<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup> birthday.
2. Saint Francis shall pay the Contractor a bed hold fee equal to the absent youth's per diem rates for Out-of-Home Maintenance and Agency Supported Foster Care services for a maximum of five (5) days per occurrence when the bed hold has been approved in writing by the Saint Francis Case Manager. Bed holds longer than five (5) days in duration must be approved in writing by the Saint Francis Program Director or their Saint Francis designee.
  3. Prior to the completion of the Nebraska Caregiver Responsibilities assessment, Saint Francis shall pay the Contractor for Out-of-Home Maintenance at the Essential Parenting Level of Care rate based on the age of the youth; and, Saint Francis shall pay the Contractor \$22.20 per day per youth at the Essential Level of Support for the provision of Agency Supported Foster Care services. Payment will remain at the Essential rate from the date of the youth's placement in the agency supported foster care home until the date the Nebraska Caregivers Responsibilities tool is completed and signed by the Saint Francis Case Management Supervisor.
  4. If the child is not Medicaid eligible, the Contractor is responsible for medical transportation.
  5. No additional costs will be paid by Saint Francis without written approval from Saint Francis.
  6. Saint Francis reserves the right to change the foster care rates in accordance with the range of rates identified by Nebraska law.