

Contractor Agency Description and Requirements (Exceeding State Foster Home Licensing Rules or Contract)

1. ADCS will be updating the www.azkidsneedu.gov website with contractor information. Describe your agency and its specialties. Include your agency website url and contact information. Do not exceed 500 words.

PURPOSE

Every day in Arizona, about 12 children are abused or neglected. The effects of child abuse and neglect last a lifetime and are often passed along to the next generation. Through parent education and support for families, Casa de los Niños is working to break the generation-to-generation cycle of abuse.

Casa de los Niños has been serving children and families in Tucson since 1973. Casa de los Niños is a nonprofit 501 (c) (3) social service organization and has led the way in preventing and treating child abuse and neglect in the Tucson area. Our mission has always been to promote child well-being and family stability in our community.

In addition to offering targeted services, we are a voice on behalf of children. We are a voice for advocacy, supporting social services that provide vital resources for at-risk children and their families. We also are a voice for change. With the support of community leaders, volunteers, and donors, we seek to build a society in which no child experiences the misery of abuse and neglect. Together, we will continue to make a tremendous difference in thousands of lives.

WHY CASA DE LOS NINOS FOSTER CARE?

Casa de los Niños Foster Care Program is reaching out to families in our community to provide stable, loving, and safe homes to children when they are unable to remain with their biological families due to abuse or neglect. Casa de los Niños Foster Care sets itself apart from other foster care programs in Pima County by providing the best support, advocacy, and ongoing education to our families so they may be successful in their fostering experience. Our exceptional support that we provide is tailored to your family's needs. Our cultural diverse Foster Care staff are friendly and knowledgeable and will guide you through the licensing process and help you navigate the child welfare system. Casa de los Niños Staff of Foster Family Support Specialists are available 24/7 to help with foster care emergencies. Casa de los Niños Foster Care Program also offers our mentoring program which pairs newly licensed families with experienced foster care providers,

Furthermore, our monthly foster parent support group and other opportunities to commune with other foster families through planned social events.

Casa de los Ninos also licenses families that are kinship families.

Website: www.casadelosninos.org

2. List and describe in detail any specific agency requirements or expectations of your agency that exceed the State foster home licensing rules or the requirements within this contract. This may include additional requirements regarding pets or pool fences, for example. Also include anything that may be considered added value, such as offering additional respite hours or a faith-based perspective.

Name of Additional Requirement or Expectation	Is this Required? Yes or No	Reason
Yearly Physician Exams are needed	No	Requirement of our COA (Council of Accreditation) contract
No placement of children under 3 or respiratory sensitivity in homes of smokers	No	Reduce the risk of health issues in very young children (i.e ear infections, asthma, respiratory symptoms, respiratory infections, and Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) http://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/data_statistics/fact_sheets/secondhand_smoke/general_facts/index.htm
Dept of Motor Vehicle Unclassified driving record provided per year	No	Verify yearly driving infractions and record that may cause concern when transporting foster children and part of our COA requirement.
