

## **TRANSCULTURAL/TRANSRACIAL PLAN**

Please complete the following questions, each contributing a different answer or additional details.

1. Children need to have information about and an understanding of their racial and cultural ancestry in order to develop cultural pride. They also need to know that their adoptive parents have an appreciation of ethnic diversity.

Please describe your plans to increase your knowledge of your adoptive child's ethnic heritage and history.

Parent 1:

Parent 2:

Please describe how you will share knowledge regarding ethnicity and race with your child.

Parent 1:

Parent 2:

2. Children also develop cultural identity through daily experiences. These cultural experiences include music, food, literature, religion, toys, language/dialect, arts/crafts, activities, holiday celebrations, and special events.

Please describe your plans to provide these experiences. Please be as specific as possible.

Parent 1:

Parent 2:

3. Children need to feel accepted by their own ethnic group and therefore need frequent opportunities to interact with children of their same race and culture.

Please describe your plans to provide these opportunities for interaction.

Parent 1:

Parent 2:

4. Children need to know that their parents value their ethnicity. One way they learn this is through observing their adoptive parents' social interaction with other adults of the children's race and culture.

Please describe your efforts to cultivate friendships with adults of your foster/adoptive child's race and culture.

Parent 1:

Parent 2:

5. Children need to have adult role models to offer them positive cultural images. Role models can be teachers, doctors, neighbors, clergy, family friends, or others of your child's same culture.

Please describe your plans to provide these positive role models.

Parent 1:

Parent 2:

6. Children need to learn coping and survival skills to help them deal with prejudice and discrimination. As a multicultural family, it is likely that you will also experience prejudice and discrimination.

Please describe your efforts to learn about prejudice and discrimination in our society.

Parent 1:

Parent 2:

Please describe your plan to teach your adoptive child to deal with prejudice and discrimination.

Parent 1:

Parent 2:

7. Children typically have culturally unique skin and hair care needs, and appropriate skin and hair care is important for developing and maintaining a positive self-image.

Please describe your plan to provide knowledgeable skin and hair care for your foster/adoptive child.

Parent 1:

Parent 2:

8. Adults who are choosing to parent transculturally are often reminded of their lack of knowledge of specific cultural and racial issues of their child. No one, no matter how diligently they may try, can know and experience what it is like to be of a different culture or race. In order to fill this gap, what many parents have found to be extremely helpful is the development of a trusting relationship with a "Cultural Consultant." The Cultural Consultant is an individual of the same race and culture as the adoptive child. The Cultural Consultant serves as an advocate, advisor, and confidant for the parent(s). The Cultural Consultant may or may not have a relationship with the child.

Please discuss whom you will use as your Cultural Consultant.

Parent 1:

Parent 2:

9. Please describe any additional ways that you have developed or plan to develop a multicultural lifestyle.

Parent 1:

Parent 2:

**Signature (Parent 1)** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature (Parent 2)** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_