

# What are "House Rules"?

"House Rules" mean the social courtesies identified through a voluntary collaborative process by members of the household. The identified rules are non-binding and may not be solely provider driven expectations for individuals residing in the home. (OAR 411-360-0020(52))

## The 5 "W's" of House Rules

### Who?

- All household members have the opportunity to participate equally in creating rules.
- The foster care provider facilitates this process.

### What?

- Household members identify "rules" which are things that are important to them as part of sharing a home with others.
- Everyone in the home has a voice. The House Rules cannot be rules directed to the household by the provider.

### Where?

- They should be posted in an accessible location in the home; AND
- Shared with prospective household members to inform them of the culture of the home and what may be expected of them prior to moving into the home.

### When?

- They should be reviewed and updated any time someone new moves into the home.
- New household members should be given the opportunity to contribute to the rules.

### Why?

- A great opportunity to help individuals be aware of the needs and preferences of others who live in the home.
- Everyone in the house has an opportunity to share what is important to them.