

**FOSTER CARE REVIEW OFFICE**  
**Local Board Meeting**

**Chairpersons Opening Statement**

Welcome to this meeting of the Foster Care Review Office, Local Board.

The Foster Care Review Office is an independent state agency. We are not a court review. We are not part of the Department of Health and Human Services, and we are not part of any lead service provider agency. (*Such as NFC in Omaha*).

There are several parts to our job. We find out if there are any issues affecting the children while they are in foster care. We find out what needs to happen for the children to go home safely, or reach other permanency. We then make recommendations to the legal parties and the Judge on what needs to happen next.

Members of this local Board serve as volunteers and are private citizens. We have completed training on how to review cases. We have read the case file material, and we will be asking you questions to help us make the most helpful recommendations possible on behalf of this child (these children). What you say during this meeting may be included in the Local Board's final report, which is sent to the court, attorneys, caseworkers and any other legal parties in the case. Please keep in mind that some attorneys may share our recommendations with their clients, and that the final decision in all juvenile cases is made by the Juvenile Judge at court. *Information will not be shared with anyone other than those listed above.*

**Recording of this meeting is not allowed.**

Do you have any questions of us?

Again, welcome, and please tell us your name and your relationship to the child (children).