**SUPERVISED FAMILY VISITATION POLICY**

The Sullivan County Public Library recognizes the role it plays in the community as a safe meeting place. As such, some Library locations offer a space designated for public use and small gatherings.

Given the fact that the county’s Department of Children’s Services caseworkers and other service providers use Library facilities regularly for supervised family visitations, counseling, and other meetings, the Library welcomes this opportunity to serve its community in this manner.

These visits require privacy and allowances for children to run, eat, play and interact with family members. Those activities make it imperative that these meetings be held in designated meeting spaces. Supervised visitation is not a public activity, and may not be held in the Library’s public areas. While parents and children are welcome to use public areas outside of visitation times, sensitive topics and conversations must be addressed in private areas.

Caseworkers and service providers will be responsible for reserving the space and are considered the point of contact for each visit. Visitations must be scheduled in advance and follow the same guidelines as the Library’s Meeting Space Policy. Not all Library locations are suited for providing this unique service, and it will be the responsibility of the caseworker to confirm visitations ahead of time with Library staff whether a location will be suitable for usage.