Outline for Health and Social History Narrative

The following outline is suggested for summarizing the child’s health and social history information. The summary is to be given to the child’s permanent caretaker.

I. BIRTH INFORMATION
A. Child (This information may be obtained from the hospital after the child becomes a state ward. Ask for the complete birth record.)
   1. Height, weight, apgar score
   2. Type of delivery
   3. Special medical conditions at birth, including prenatal exposure to chemicals or sexually transmitted diseases.

B. Health/Medical History: Summary of medical records and medical history of child, to include:
   1. When known, contact child’s medical providers for summary of treatments and results or prognosis
   2. Childhood diseases
   3. Hospitalizations
   4. Medications
   5. Overall picture of health

II. PLACEMENT HISTORY: Summary of child’s placement, to include:
   1. Specifics on how and why child came into out-of-home care
   2. Chronological summary of placements, i.e. dates, reasons, outcomes
   3. Current placement highlighted and explained
   4. Use first names of placement resources
   5. In foster home-turning-adoptive situations, explain in some detail how the child joined the family and how the decision was reached to adopt the child.

III. EMOTIONAL / BEHAVIORAL HISTORY AND/OR PSYCHOLOGICAL HISTORY:
Summary of child’s development:
   1. Physical description of child
   2. Personality description of child:
      a) Likes/dislikes
      b) What child had been like in placement
      c) If young child, what child’s schedule is
   3. Developmental history:
      a) Type of abuse or neglect and impact on child (include both direct and indirect abuse or neglect)
      b) History of mental illness
      c) Types of behaviors and how they are manifested
      d) Methods of management
   4. Psychological testing done and where it was done, results
   5. Medications used, past and present
IV. **EDUCATIONAL HISTORY:** Summary of child’s education records to include:
   1. Educational needs
   2. Special educational needs
   3. Names of schools attended, include preschool, day-care and day treatment
   4. Older children to include areas of academic strength and weakness
   5. Summary of individual education programs (IEP’s)

V. **BIRTH PARENTS:** Please include as much non-identifying information as possible:
   1. Age at child’s birth
   2. Physical description
   3. Religion
   4. Education
   5. Nationality
   6. Emotional and personality background
   7. Medical history
   8. Mental health history
   9. Summary of life experience as relevant to child’s best interests
   10. Occupation
   11. Positive things, such as interests, skills and positive characteristics

VI. **MATERNAL GRANDPARENTS, AUNTS, UNCLEs, ETC.**

VII. **PATERNAL GRANDPARENTS, AUNTS, UNCLEs, ETC.**

VIII. **OTHER SIGNIFICANT ADULTS IN THE CHILD’S LIFE**

IX. **SIBLINGS, HALF-SIBLINGS**
   1. Arrangements for ongoing contact

X. **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:** Any relevant information or addendum once the social history is completed and further information surfaces.