I. Mono County SCI rates:

   Level A  $240.00 added per month to the basic rate
   Level B  $395.00 added per month to the basic rate
   Level C  $688.00 added per month to the basic rate
   Level D  $945.00 added per month to the basic rate

II. Descriptions and Qualifying Factors.

   Children requiring Specialized Foster Care are those children with documented health and/or behavior problems that require, as determined by the placing agency, more than basic foster care supervision. These levels are not based on age, but on severity of behavioral problems and special needs, including medical care, transportation, and supervision.

   CURRENT POPULATION

   Level A: Moderate Care

   The proposed rate for Moderate Care is the age based state foster family home rate plus $240.00. Moderate Care is provided when the child’s physical or emotional state and/or behavior is such that age appropriate supervision and care is not sufficient to ensure the safety and well-being of the child. Moderate levels of care are needed due to one or more of the following conditions:
1. The child has a chronic condition such as asthma, epilepsy, or heart condition that requires specialized treatment not available through the regular pediatrician or family physician.
2. The child has moderate educational problems and/or learning disabilities requiring that the foster parent meet with school personnel twice a month.
3. The child has moderate symptoms of drug withdrawal, or moderately severe chronic conditions, such as delayed development resulting from prenatal drug exposure.
4. The child has moderately severe behavioral/emotional problems (to include hyperactivity).
5. More than two medical or professional service appointments per month are required.
6. The child is HIV positive with no symptomology.
7. The child is enuretic/encopretic.

Level B: Intensive Care

The proposed rate for Intensive Care is the age based state foster family home rate plus $394.00. Intensive care is provided when the child’s physical or emotional state and/or behavior are such that age appropriate supervision and care is not sufficient to ensure the safety and well being of the child. Intensive levels of care are needed due to one or more of the following conditions:

1. The child has a medical condition that requires continual monitoring of environmental conditions such as temperature and air quality, or more than ordinary care in food preparation, etc.
2. The child has severe educational problems requiring more than three contacts per month with school personnel.
3. The child has severe drug withdrawal symptoms or severe chronic conditions, such as delayed development resulting from prenatal drug exposure.
4. The child has persistent enuresis, moderate encopresis, severe ADHD, persistent behavioral/emotional problems, severe developmental delays, etc.
5. Two or more medical or professional service appointments are necessary per month.

Level C: Exceptional Care

The proposed rate for Exceptional Care is the age based foster family home rate plus $688.00. Exceptional Care is provided when the child has severe emotional/behavioral and/or physical problems. Exceptional levels of care are needed due to one or more of the following conditions:
1. The child has a severe medical condition, which requires in-home monitoring by medical professionals and some use of medical equipment by foster parents.
2. The child is severely emotionally disturbed in the educational setting and at risk of more restrictive out-of-home placement.
3. The child suffers severe medical and/or developmental consequences from prenatal drug exposure.
4. The child is system of care eligible and at risk of more restrictive out-of-home placement.
5. The child has severe emotional/behavioral problems such as substance abuse, self-destructive behavior, severe depression, severe anxiety, physically assaultive, destructive to property; or has severe encopresis.
6. More than four medical or professional service appointments are necessary per month.

Level D: Therapeutic Care

The proposed rate for Therapeutic Care is the age based state foster home rate plus $945.00. Therapeutic care is provided when the child has severe medical, emotional, or behavioral problems and would be at risk of hospitalization or institutionalization if they left foster care. Therapeutic levels of care is needed due to one or more of the following conditions:

1. The child has extremely severe and/or life threatening medical conditions such as A.I.D.S., cancer, or terminal illness, Fetal Alcohol Syndrome with severe complications, severe complications from drug withdrawal, multiple needs and intravenous treatments, extensive involvement with various medical providers due to multiple complications, etc., which requires the foster parent to actively carry out treatment for the child.
2. The child is severely emotionally disturbed in the educational setting and at risk of a more restrictive out-of-home placement.
3. The child suffers severe medical, and/or developmental complications of pre-natal drug exposure to the extent that constant supervision by others is necessary.
4. The child is a danger to self or others.
5. The child has severe emotional/behavioral problems such as substance abuse, self-destructive behavior, severe depression, anxiety, frequently destructive of property or is physically assaultive.
6. More than five medical or professional service appointments are necessary per month.
7. Children who would be placed at RCL Levels 10-14.
III. Criteria and methodology used to determine the increment at each payment level.

1. Workgroup was formed consisting of the department Director, Program Manager, Social Services supervisor and probation staff. Considered factors were current placements, number of children placed out of county, number of children placed in group homes, number of children placed in relative/non-relative homes, and number of children with special needs. Information was gathered on similar counties. Mono County housing costs and availability were also considered. Cost of living in Mono County is very high.

IV. No special forms are used to approve/deny SCI rates