

How do you become a Foster Parent?

To become a foster parent, you will need to...

- ♥ Attend an orientation session.
- ♥ Participate in a home study.
- ♥ Complete foster parenting training.
- ♥ Adhere to a comprehensive background check to include, but is not limited to:
 - Being cleared by the State Central Registry for child abuse.
 - Agreeing to be fingerprinted for a criminal history record check.
 - Providing references and current medical reports.

For information on becoming a Foster Parent, CONTACT:

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County Executive

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Be A Foster Parent

♥ child ♥ family ♥
belonging guidance
encourage believe
foster care ♥
support healing hope
♥ love nurture
home ♥
teen

Make a
Permanent Difference
in a Child's Life



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What is Foster Parenting?

- ♥ Foster parents provide a loving, safe home for children in foster care.
- ♥ Foster parents work with caseworkers to reunite children with their families.
- ♥ When reunification isn't possible, foster parents can potentially become the forever family for the foster child.

Who are Foster Parents?

A foster parent is someone who...

- ♥ Wants to make a difference in the life of a child.
- ♥ Has patience and is open to learning new skills to help children cope with the traumas, behaviors and feelings that are associated with the reasons they are in foster care.
- ♥ Can work as a member of a team - with children, biological parents and DSS caseworkers.
- ♥ Can help prepare a child to return to their birth family; can become an adoptive family; or can become a permanent family resource.



Who can become a Foster Parent?

You can be a foster parent if you...

- ♥ Are able to provide loving care, guidance, and a safe and healthy home for a child.
- ♥ Are at least twenty-one years old.
- ♥ Are married or single.
- ♥ Have a source of income to meet your own family's needs.
- ♥ Are in good health.
- ♥ Have enough living space to care for a child.

Who are the Children in Foster Care?

- ♥ They represent all ethnic groups and may be infants through teenagers.
- ♥ They may be a sibling group needing placement together.
- ♥ They may be teenage moms or mothers-to-be.
- ♥ They may have physical or emotional conditions and need special care.



What are Special Needs Services?

Become part of a team...

- ♥ Trauma Focused Services are provided to children who come into care with special needs.
- ♥ A Team of Workers are available to assist children from the ages of 5-20 who may have physical and/or emotional needs.
- ♥ Being part of this specialized Team, Foster Care Parents are viewed as the most integral part of the foster child's life.
- ♥ As part of the Team, you will receive additional training and support.



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