



THE ROAD TO FOSTER PARENT CERTIFICATION

COULD YOU BE A FOSTER FAMILY?

- Do you love children and have a good sense of humor?
- Do you enjoy celebrating small victories?
- Do you have a desire to learn – are you able to attend trainings and do you welcome feedback?
- Do you consider yourself flexible and open-minded?
- Are you organized and open to completing and submitting paperwork?
- Do you like being part of a team?
- Do you keep commitments and see things through?
- Do you have the ability to empathize?
- Do you recognize your stress and have healthy ways to manage it?
- Do you have a strong support system that encourages your interest in foster care/adoption?

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1. Ask Us!

When you contact our office a member of our team will answer your questions about foster parenting and the process involved.

2

2. Attend an Orientation

During orientation, we will give you an overview of foster care, our program, and answer questions you may have. Group orientation meetings are monthly. Individual meetings can be arranged as needed.

4. Attend Trainings

Classes are designed to help you prepare for foster/adoptive parenting. You'll learn about your rights and responsibilities, as well as the challenges and rewards.

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5. Home Study

You & your Home finder will identify and explore your personal history, background, lifestyle, child caring experiences, the types of children you feel would best fit into your home, as well as identifying your strengths and skills in meeting the children's needs.

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6. Review Panel

Your Homefinder will present your family to the panel and the panel will make a decision regarding the appropriateness of certification.

Sometimes, a family is asked to come in and join the panel to clarify any questions. This also gives the team an opportunity to meet you!

7. Become a Certified Resource Parent!

This means that you are now eligible to receive referrals and to care for foster children in your home!

NOTE: Re-certification must be completed yearly.

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8. Child Placement!

Once certified, you are eligible to receive referral calls! If the match is right, the child(ren) will come to stay with you (either short-term or long-term).

Before a placement, the Intake Coordinator will give you information that will help you provide the best care for the child.

3

3. Paperwork

We will need: an application, copies of your financial information and medical reports completed by your physician.

All adults (18+) in your home must be fingerprinted, provide local police clearances, and be cleared through the State Central Registrar for Abuse & Neglect.