

Welcome!

Nearly 1,000 children in Erie County alone are in Foster Care. You can help! Children of all ages need loving families and supportive homes during this critical time in their young lives

About Our Program

At Gateway Longview we offer comprehensive Foster Care & Adoption Services to support families in the Buffalo, NY area and throughout Erie County. We work to match children in care with safe, nurturing foster home environments where they are set up to thrive.

Children in foster care are hoping and waiting for their own special champion. Could it be you?

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?

Mission

Working together to protect, to give hope, and to enrich the lives of every child and family we serve

About Gateway Longview

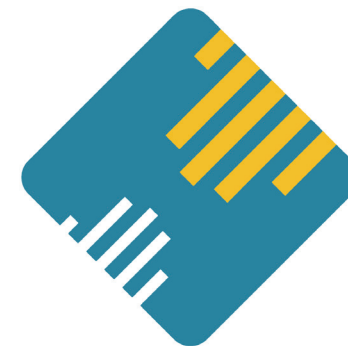
We have a rich history of caring for the children and families of Western New York. Since 1890, our services and programs have evolved to address the ever-changing needs of our community. For over 130 years our commitment to working together to protect, to give hope, and to enrich the lives of every child and family we serve has remained steadfast.



Kinship Care

Kinship Care is a court appointed program. Gateway Longview caseworkers offer you resources, education, and support in your homes when you, as a grandparent or other relative, cares for your kin full-time. Families must be referred to services via Erie County.

Call 716.783.3100 ext. 3184 to learn more.



Gateway Longview

protect • enrich • give hope

Foster Care Kinship Care & Adoption

Contact Us

10 Symphony Circle | Buffalo, NY 14201

716.783.2909



gateway-longview.org/fostercareadoption

Steps to Certification

Becoming a foster or adoptive parent with Gateway Longview involves several steps. Each step builds upon the last, this process helps you decide whether foster or adoptive parenting is right for you and your family. It also allows us an opportunity to get to know and assist you in identifying your strengths and needs. Highlighting your strengths and needs will help us when matching children with your family.

START
HERE

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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.



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2. Attend an Orientation

During orientation, we will give you an overview of foster care, Gateway Longview's program, and answer questions you may have.

Group orientation meetings are monthly, and individual meetings can be arranged as needed.

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3. Paperwork

We will need documentation including: 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 and Neglect.

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4. Attend Trainings

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



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5. Home Study

During the home study process, your Homefinder will look to identify and explore your personal history, background information, 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!

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8. A Child is Placed in Your Home

After you are certified, you will be eligible to begin receiving referral calls from Gateway Longview!

If the match is right, the child(ren) will come to stay with you (either short-term or long-term). Before a child is placed in your home, the Intake Coordinator will give you information that will help you provide the best care for the child.



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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: Yearly re-certification must be completed by resource parents.



Give Us A Call!

If you're interested in becoming a foster family call **716.783.2909** or visit our website:

[gateway-longview.org/
fostercareadoption](http://gateway-longview.org/fostercareadoption)

