



Each year, hundreds of Maryland children are temporarily separated from their parents.

These children come from a cross section of the community; from a variety of social and economic backgrounds, from every race, religion and nationality. They come from homes where there has been a breakdown in the family. All have been abused and/or neglected.

Children of any age - infants, toddlers, school-age children and adolescents - may need foster homes.

There is a special need for families who can:

- Accept adolescents while helping them to develop the skills they need to become independent.
- Provide the care required by children with severe challenges.
- Provide a home for more than one child, as every effort is made not to separate children from their siblings.



CARING

IS SHOWING YOU LOVE

Initially, the responsibility of caring for someone else's child may seem challenging.

The agency will provide pre-service and ongoing training, a monthly payment for the foster child's expenses, childcare, medical coverage and social work services to the child in your home.

Foster parenting is not a lifetime commitment to a child, but a commitment to be meaningful during a child's lifetime.

Foster parents are people who choose to become the substitute families for children in need. Foster parenting is both a responsibility and an opportunity. It is one of the highest forms of community service in Maryland. Foster parents provide the daily basics— food, clothing, shelter and the love, stability, guidance and discipline these children need.

Foster parents provide a safe and stable environment where the children can regain trust in their world and a sense of self-worth until they are reunited with their family or adopted.



FAMILY

IS BUILT FROM CARING

Types of Foster Families

Traditional Foster Families provide stable and supportive care for children until the child can return home or be adopted.

Emergency Foster Families volunteer to accept children 24 hours a day, seven days a week and provide short-term care, usually 30 days or less, until more permanent arrangements can be made.

Treatment Foster Families provide specialized care to children who have serious emotional or developmental disabilities or significant medical needs that might otherwise place them in an institutional or hospital.

Treatment Foster Care

The Treatment Foster Care Program provides children with specialized treatment in a home environment where they can benefit from community-based services and the nurturing of a family. Our Treatment Foster Care families experience tremendous satisfaction from providing a loving and stable home life for children in need.

BECOME A FOSTER PARENT

CALL (240) 777-1664





FAMILY IS LOVE

SHARE YOUR FAMILY'S LOVE

What are the responsibilities of a Treatment Foster parent?

Some of the responsibilities include:

- Monitor and document the child's behavior
- Implement in-home treatment care
- Attend a 24 hour pre-service training and complete 24 hours annually of continuing education
- Provide for child's health, education, recreational and social needs
- Assist in reunification efforts and/or permanency planning

How does the Department support the Treatment Foster Families

- Monthly foster care stipend and board rate for difficulty of care.
- Intensive case management supportive services
- Respite care
- Maryland Medical Assistance for the child's health care needs
- Ongoing training

Becoming a foster parent should be a well thought out decision involving everyone in your family.

To become a foster parent, you must:

- Be 21 years of age or older
- Live in your own apartment or house
- Be in good physical and mental health
- Be able to meet your families financial obligation
- Complete a criminal background check
- Submit to a health and fire department home inspection
- Attend pre-service training
- Have a stable family relationship
- Have respect for and interest in caring for children and families.



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