

## What is foster care?

Foster care is the provision of a temporary home for a child when birth parents are not physically or emotionally capable of caring for them. These children have experienced trauma through abuse and/or neglect. While the agency provides services to the child and birth parents, the foster parent may be asked to provide mentoring both to the birth parents as well as the child. A child's need to foster care can vary from a few days or months to a year or more.

## What is adoption?

Adoption involves making a permanent commitment to a child in need of a forever family. Children who need adoptive families range in age from toddlers to teens and are often part of sibling groups. Many of these children have a combination of mental, physical, emotional, and educational challenges. These children need families who can and will be there for the long haul.



## What are the requirements to be a foster or adoptive parent?

*Applicants must:*

- ♥ Attend preservice training classes which are available at the agency free of charge. Training is required of all applicants to expand knowledge of children placed in foster care and adoptive homes and to help families develop realistic expectations of becoming a foster or adoptive parent.
- ♥ Submit the Application for Child Placement, along with a medical report, criminal record check which includes fingerprinting, financial report, references, as well as a fire and safety inspection of the applicant's home.
- ♥ Participate in a family assessment. This includes the gathering of information through joint and individual interviews with all family members in order to complete the assessment or home study process.
- ♥ Applicants for foster or adoptive parenting must be at least 21 years of age. They can be married, single, widowed, or divorced. If married, it must be for at least one year. Adoptive or foster parents must have stability in their physical and emotional health. They must also have a stable income to meet their current family's needs.

## Financial Support

Foster Parents are paid a monthly per diem for each child in their home. This assists with the cost of food, shelter, clothing and other necessary items. Medical costs for foster children are generally covered by Ohio Medicaid Card.



There is no fee to become an adoptive or foster parent. However, the adoptive family may have to incur legal and court fees for adoption finalization. Assistance may be available to help with legal fees for families adopting special needs children.

Financial subsidies are available for adoptive parents who qualify. This may include monthly payments and Medicaid coverage to meet the child's special needs.



## Our Goal

*What type of families are needed?*

- ♥ Families willing to take children on an emergency basis or provide respite care.
- ♥ Families willing to foster children with special medical needs, including drug affected infants.
- ♥ Families for sibling groups.
- ♥ Families willing to take teens.
- ♥ Families for children with behavioral or emotional problems.
- ♥ Families for Latino and African American Children.

Today's families come in all shapes and sizes. If you are at least 21 years old, have space in your home for additional children, and have a stable income, you meet the guidelines. You can be single, married, divorced, or widowed. You can own or rent your home as long as it meets basic safety requirements.



## Become a foster or adoptive parent!

### CONTACT US!

Clinton County Job and Family Services  
Child Protection Unit  
1025 S. South Street, Suite 300  
Wilmington, OH 45177

937-382-5935



*You can make a difference in the life of a Clinton County Child!*



## Foster Care



## Adoption

*Be a Forever Family*



*Foster and Adoptive Families Needed in Clinton County!*