

Children Come into Care for a Variety of Reasons...

Children may come into care through involvement with Child Protective Services due to allegations of abuse, neglect, and/or dependency. Their parents may also lack the parenting skills necessary to nurture and discipline them properly. Children may also come into care through court order and involvement with Juvenile Justice.

Different Types of Foster Care...

Emergency/Respite Foster Care

A child may be in need of placement for a short period of time. The reasons vary from pending relative home studies, emergency removal by protective services, an existing placement may have had previous plans or just need a break, or current placement disrupts.

Family Foster Care

A family home where a child in care will live, as part of the family.

Therapeutic Foster Care

Some children need more specialized care due to medical, emotional or mental health issues.

The Primary Goal of Foster Care is...

to provide a safe and temporary place for children to live until they can be in a permanent placement whether that may be with birth family, relatives or pre-adoptive family. Children of any age from birth to eighteen may come into care.



What Kind of People are Foster Parents?

Foster parents are regular people. They may be younger or older; have young children, adult children, or no biological children. They may own their own home or rent. They are single, married, divorced and widowed.

They are two income homes, single income homes, students and retirees. All kinds of people are foster parents. They are not "perfect" and they don't have to have all the answers.

For More Information Contact Us At:

TRS Clinton- (910)682-1201
TRS Lumberton- (910)345-0180
TRS New Bern- (252) 672-4020
TRS Raleigh - (919) 847-4617
TRS Wilmington- (910)791- 4595
Email: trsfp@trs-nc.com



Time is all you need....
to **change** a child's life
forever....



Become a Foster Parent today!

Could You Be A Foster

Parent?



Maybe! Here are some questions to ask yourself:

- Do you have a strong support system of friends and/or family?
- Are you a patient and giving person who enjoys helping others?

Many people enter into foster care thinking that they are rescuing a poor child from an abusive parent.

These foster parents believe that the child will be grateful and relieved to be out of their home situation. This is rarely the case. The child's situation is his "normal." Be prepared for the child to be unhappy about being in your home.

Examine your expectations.

- Children in care have sometimes been neglected or physically, sexually, or mentally abused. These children can be angry, resentful, and sad. They may take it out on their foster parents. Are you willing and able to deal with what the children may put on you and not take it personally?
- Are you willing to have social workers in your home? Can you work in a partnership with a team of professionals to help the child either get back home or to another permanent placement, such as adoption?

Foster Care requires excellent communication skills on your part and a commitment to follow the plan set forth by the social worker and courts.

• **Can you say goodbye?** Foster care is not a permanent arrangement. However, you and your family will attach to this child. Will you be able to cope with the loss of this child that you have cared for?

If you have children of your own, how do they feel about doing foster care? Your children will have to share their home, room, toys, and parents. They sacrifice a lot in becoming part of a foster family.

What type of children can you parent at this time? Consider the ages and gender of a child. You will also be given choices on what behavior and special needs you feel that you can parent at this time. Understand that the Agency is not always aware of a child's behaviors at the time of placement.

Do you have a lot to give? Are you ready to throw a child her first birthday party? Can you help him decorate a first Christmas tree or carve a first pumpkin? Help the child to see that families are a great place to grow up. Give a child the opportunity to heal and grow?



What is Required to be a Foster Parent?

You must be:

- At least 21 years old
- Pass a thorough background check
- Free from health problems that impair your ability to care for children
- Mentally and emotionally stable
- Able to meet your financial obligations and have a consistent source of income.
- Complete pre-services training
- Complete a home study with the Agency.
- Be able to work with the birth family and participate in Shared Parenting for the best interest of the child



What Do Foster Parents Do?

Foster parents play a vital role in the lives of foster children and their families. They do a lot including:

- Providing for the basic daily needs of foster children, such as food, clothing, shelter and supervision.
- Transporting foster children to appointments, court hearings, and visits with family.
- Arranging medical and dental care for foster children.
- Role modeling positive parenting to the foster child's birth family.

You will be paid a generous daily stipend and each child's medical care is provided.