

Frequently Asked Questions

What is Foster Care?

Foster care is the temporary placement of children who have been removed from their home due to abuse, neglect or the child's emotional or behavioral problems. Foster parents provide a temporary, safe and nurturing environment for a child who is unable to remain in his or her family.

Who can be a foster parent?

Any person 25 years or older who is financially and emotionally stable, responsible and willing to work as part of a team. Foster parents are culturally diverse, single or married and from all income levels. No experience with foster care or special needs is required. Foster families must have a clean and safe home with adequate space for an additional child. Foster families must have time, flexibility and the desire to make a difference in the life of a child.

How do I become a foster parent?

Families complete training and undergo a home study, which includes a review of any criminal history, child protective service, financial and driving records.

What do foster parents do?

Foster parents act as full-time caregivers until the child returns to his parents or relatives or another permanent plan is made. Foster parents work as part of a treatment team to assist children in reaching their behavioral, emotional, developmental or medical goals.

What types of children will be placed in my home?

The program works with children or youth ages 0-20 years. Some children have experienced abuse and neglect, which resulted in removal from their families. Some children have experienced trauma and separation from their family. Other children have medical or developmental conditions that their parents cannot manage. Children come from various races and cultures. Foster families maintain the right to accept or refuse a placement opportunity.

Where is the biggest need?

Parents are needed for all types of children. Currently, the biggest need is for families who can work with teenagers.

Why become a foster parent with Commonwealth Catholic Charities (CCC)?

CCC has been providing foster care services for over 30 years. We value our families and strive to support them. Our experienced caseworkers carry small caseloads to allow them to give more time and attention to each child and family. The program provides 24/7 access and ongoing support and training. Special family events are planned throughout the year to bring everyone together.

Am I financially responsible for my foster child?

A modest reimbursement is provided to cover the child's basic expenses. Staff will assist you in budgeting to meet the needs of the child. Most children have coverage for medical expenses through Medicaid and there is other financial assistance which may be offered when needed.

