

The Baby Fold provides support to foster families through:

- ◆ At least monthly in-person contact at your home, or more frequently as necessary depending on case situation
- ◆ After-hours and holiday emergency line to assist foster families during non-operating business hours
- ◆ Ongoing training opportunities to maintain foster care licensure
- ◆ 2x/yearly monitoring of your foster care license by a Family Development Specialist
- ◆ Participation in quarterly family meetings
- ◆ Individual, group, and family therapy referrals, as needed
- ◆ Consultation available as warranted with clinical psychologist and child psychiatrist
- ◆ Parenting classes are offered to interested foster/adoptive families
- ◆ Payment for employment related daycare
- ◆ Orientation meeting for all new families upon licensure to review agency information and procedures
- ◆ Respite care can be provided per agency policy
- ◆ Life books and trainings are provided to all children and families upon entering care
- ◆ Monthly informational newsletter

OUR MISSION: The Baby Fold embodies Christian principles to serve children and families and help them build safe, loving, and healthy environments.

If you are interested in becoming
A foster parent, please contact a
Family Development Specialist at:



The Baby Fold
612 Oglesby Avenue
Normal, IL 61761

Phone: (309) 454-1770
www.thebabyfold.org

The Baby Fold is a not for profit private agency, licensed by the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services. The Baby Fold is accredited by the Council on Accreditation and EAGLE, and affiliated with the Central Illinois Conference of the United Methodist Church. We serve all races, nationalities, and creeds.



FOSTER CARE PROGRAMS



These programs offered by
The Baby Fold

FOSTER CARE is provided to children from infancy through the teen years when they must be removed from their own homes to protect them from continued abuse or neglect. Foster care services are provided by referral through contracts with the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS). Foster homes are licensed and trained to meet both DCFS and The Baby Fold's standards. The Baby Fold supervises children in home of relative foster care, licensed traditional foster care, and professional foster care.

Frequently Asked Questions:

Why would a child require foster care?

Most children in need of foster care have been removed from their own homes because of abuse or neglect. Some children awaiting adoptive placements are also in need of foster care. Other times a parent's medical condition or incarceration necessitates foster care for a child.

Are foster parents' preferences considered in the placement of a foster child?

Foster parents may specify the following, in terms of children they could accept for placement: age, sex, race, medical problems, expected length of placement, and number of children.

How long does a child stay in care?

Some newborn infants awaiting adoptive placement need just a few days or weeks of foster care. Other children are in care for varying lengths of time, from several months to several years.

Foster Care Programs

Home of Relative Foster Care

Abused and neglected children who cannot remain safely at home are placed with relative care providers until those children can safely achieve permanence through return home, adoption, subsidized guardianship, or gaining adult independence.

Traditional Foster Care

Abused and neglected children who cannot remain safely at home are placed with licensed, trained, and supervised care providers when no appropriate relative placement is available. Placement continues until the children can safely achieve permanence through return home, adoption, subsidized guardianship, or gaining adult independence.

Professional Foster Care

Professional foster care is the placement of a child with significant behavioral problems with a licensed foster family employed by The Baby Fold. This is the most intense level of care within the foster care program.



To Become a Licensed Foster Parent:

- ◆ Commit to nurture a child during a difficult time and help their family heal
- ◆ Be at least 21 years old
- ◆ Be financially able to provide for your own family's present needs
- ◆ Complete an application for foster family home license
- ◆ Agree to have household members 18 years of age or older complete background checks, including fingerprinting. Any members of the household ages 13-17 must authorize a check of CANTS and the Child Sex Offender Registry
- ◆ Sign a form that indicates willingness to comply with DCFS policy prohibiting the use of corporal punishment
- ◆ Complete the PRIDE Foster Parent Training Curriculum and ongoing requirements
- ◆ Keep pet vaccinations up-to-date
- ◆ Be a single individual or married couple
- ◆ Get medical exams and TB tests for all household members
- ◆ Accept the standard monthly payment for each child