



Share Your Heart... Share Your Home

This is a Big Responsibility! What Type of Help is There for Me?

Personal Support

Your social worker will prepare, train, and support you through this process, and connect you with community resources that you might need. If you choose to adopt a child, post-adoptive services are available to all adoptive families.

Financial and Medical Assistance

Whether you foster or adopt, the child you care for will receive medical and dental coverage. Further, you will receive monthly financial support until the child is 18 and sometimes longer. If a child has special mental health and/or medical needs, increased foster care and adoption assistance payments are available.

Anything Else I Should Know?

There is no fee to become a Resource Parent (Foster and/or Adoptive Parent). With a completed application, it takes from 4-6 months to go through the process; but remember everyone's situation is different and therefore timeframes will vary. Once you are approved to have a child in your home, the type of child that

you want to parent will affect how quickly a child can be placed with you.

This Sounds Great! How Can I Learn More?

Please come to one of our orientations that are offered throughout the county. You can get an overview and have your questions answered. To register, please call **1 (888) 811-1121**. You can also visit us at our website at:

www.ShareYourHeartLA.org



**Become a Resource Parent
(Foster and/or Adoptive Parent)**

Call 1 (888) 811-1121



A program brought to you by
the County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors
and the Department of Children and Family Services



www.ShareYourHeartLA.org



There are thousands of children in Los Angeles County being served by the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) who cannot safely live with their own families due to abuse, neglect or abandonment. These children need to be with a safe, stable, and loving family—sometimes temporarily and sometimes permanently.

Who are the Children That Need Permanent and Temporary Homes?

These children are usually of African-American or Latino decent, a member of a sibling group, and may have special medical, emotional, or educational needs. They are also wonderful children who could thrive in a loving home.

What is a Foster Parent?

A Foster Parent is someone that provides a temporary safe, stable, and loving home for a child or children and helps them reunite with their birth parents or family member when the family problems have been resolved.

What is an Adoptive Parent?

An Adoptive Parent is someone that provides a permanent safe, stable, and loving home for a child or children when it has been determined

that they cannot safely be returned to their birth parents or relatives.

Can I be both a Foster Parent and an Adoptive Parent?

Absolutely! One of our greatest needs is for families that are able to provide foster care and help birth parents reunite, but also can provide permanent adoptive homes for children if they cannot safely return to their families.

How Do I Know What Type of Family I Should Be?

The process of becoming a Resource Parent (Foster and/or Adoptive Parent) is specifically designed to help you discover what is right for you and your family. Our classes and family assessments are conducted by friendly, experienced social workers that will work with you in determining the types of children you can best parent.

Who Can Become a Foster, Adoptive, or Resource Parent?

Becoming a Resource Parent (Foster and/or Adoptive Parent) requires flexibility, a good sense of humor, a willingness to grow and learn, but most of all a commitment to provide a safe, stable, nurturing, and loving home for a child.

- You can be single, married, divorced, or living with a partner. Further, you can live in an apartment or house and either rent or own.
- There is no minimum income, however you must be able to support yourself, and provide a safe and stable home.
- You can still work. For working parents, appropriate childcare arrangements need to be made.
- You can be of any race, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, or culture – all of which can be the same or different as the child you want to parent.
- You may reside anywhere to adopt a child from Los Angeles County. If you do reside in Los Angeles County we offer classes throughout the county and a full Family Assessment at no cost to you regardless of whether you choose to foster or adopt.

