Give the hope for a home

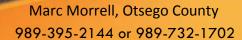
Approximately 14,000 Michigan children are in foster care at any given time. We need your help to provide a safe, nurturing home for these children until they can be returned to their families. When children cannot be returned to their homes, foster parents are often asked to provide permanent homes.

The best home for a foster child is one that provides permanence, safety, and support. Foster families come in all shapes and sizes and we encourage you to help give these children the support they need. Your love and support can make a difference for a child. In particular, we need your help to provide a safe home for children with medical conditions or disabilities, sibling groups and teenagers.





Open Your Heart and Home to Foster Children



www.michigan.gov/HopeForAHome

The Michigan Department of Human Services (DHS) will not discriminate against any individual or group because of race, religion, age, national origin, color, height, weight, marital status, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, political beliefs or disability. If you need help with reading, writing, hearing, etc., under the Americans with Disabilities Act, you are invited to make your needs known to a DHS office in your area.

Foster Parents Needed





easy steps to becoming a foster parent

- 1. Choose an agency.
- 2. Attend an orientation.
- 3. Complete the application process.
- 4. Participate in a home evaluation.
- 5. Attend free foster care training.

Get Started

The primary goal during foster care is to reunite the child with his or her parents. We need caring adults who are willing to provide stability and safety for children in their care. Foster parents should be committed individuals who are willing to:

- Work with the child's birth parents.
- Support efforts to return the child home.
- Work with children who have emotional and behavioral needs.
- Encourage teens toward independent living.
- Provide a permanent home if necessary.
- Call a foster care navigator to get started:
 Marc Morrell, Otsego County
 989-395-2144 or 989-732-1702

Get Support

You're not alone when you become a foster parent. If you need assistance, there are financial resources and entire communities that can, and want to, offer you a helping hand.

Financial Support

The amount of support is based on the child's age and services provided to the child. Contact your local agency for details.

Support Groups

We recommend you take advantage of support groups that bring foster families together. The Michigan Association for Foster, Adoptive & Kinship Parents is a social community that provides support and encouragement to families of foster children. Visit them online at mafak.co. Contact your agency to find support groups in your area.

Get the Facts

You get to choose what type of children you want placed in your home, including their age, race and gender.

Your marital status does not matter.

Just be willing to share your home and love with children in need.

You do need to be able to communicate positively with others.

You can live in a house or an apartment. Foster children can share bedrooms with other children, with prior approval.

The State of Michigan will pay for all approved day care services provided for foster children.

You will receive a variety of support from DHS for every child placed in your home.

Children are waiting for loving, safe foster and adoptive homes.



Learn more about becoming a foster parent. www.michigan.gov/HopeForAHome