Can I be a foster parent?

YES!

By meeting the following requirements and making the decision to open up your heart and your home, you can bring hope to a child that needs you.

- Be 21 years of age or older
- Take 30 hours of pre-service training
- Pass criminal and child welfare clearance checks
- Have a source of income other than foster care reimbursement
- Own or rent a home that meets all state requirements
- Be willing to work as part of a team with children, families, Saint Francis staff, and other professionals



Take the first step

Call **866-999-1599** today or go online to **www.fostercare-ks.org.** We will help you decide if becoming a foster parent is right for you.

SCAN TO LEARN MORE

About Saint Francis Ministries

A voice for the vulnerable since 1945, the mission of Saint Francis Ministries is to provide healing and hope to children and families. We honor human dignity and potential through our programs and services to thousands of youth and families in Arkansas, Kansas, Mississippi, Nebraska, Oklahoma, and Texas.

Saint Francis MINISTRIES

www.saintfrancisministries.org

Saint Francis Ministries is Joint Commission accredited.

REV/11-26

Foster Care Homes Program



Saint Francis MINISTRIES

HOPE STARTS HERE

Kansas children come to foster care from all walks of life and from every community. Many have experienced trauma, so they come frightened, confused, and anxious.

Foster parents open their homes and hearts – helping children heal, trust, and hope again.

Children in care range in age from birth to 21, with an average age of 12. Most enter foster care due to abuse or neglect, while others exhibit behavioral disorders. We strive to keep sibling groups together, keep children with relatives or kin, and in their home communities.

Whatever their story, each child in foster care needs a safe place to stay and a family to provide for their emotional, educational, medical, and special behavioral needs.



"The kids don't need everything perfect. They need you to open up your heart and your home to love them." - Michael & Kristi Fry, foster parents

Foster parents build hope

Just as children come from all walks of life, so do foster parents. You don't have to be wealthy, live in a big house, or be married. You simply need room in your heart and in your home to give children a safe space to heal and build hope.

Foster Family Care

Foster parents provide a temporary home and quality care for children. Working with birth parents, they help prepare children for the day they can safely reunite with their families.

When children cannot go home, they assist with the transition to placement with relatives, to an adoptive home, or entry into self-sufficient adulthood.

Foster parents provide daily care and support aimed at promoting healthy physical and emotional growth, recovery from trauma, and hope while children are separated from their family.

Therapeutic Foster Care

Therapeutic Foster Care provides a safe, structured environment for youth who have made poor decisions. Foster parents receive specialized training, so they can help the young people in their care decrease participation in criminal activity by improving coping, social, and decision-making skills.

Respite Care

Respite care providers give foster parents planned time off for rest and renewal. These providers care for children for shorter periods of time. Their assistance is invaluable.

Rewards and Benefits

Foster parents:

- Positively influence a young person's life
- Keep children safe, within a family environment
- Serve their community
- Participate on a professional team
- Enrich the quality of their own life through foster parenting

Saint Francis foster parents receive:

- Free, professional one-on-one support provided by caring Saint Francis staff
- Respite/relief care
- Tax-free compensation
- 24/7 support services
- Mileage reimbursement per state guidelines
- Medical cards for foster children
- Foster Care Child Care Assistance for employed foster parents
- Ongoing training in person, online, or via relevant articles
- Recruitment incentive for referring another family that fosters
- Online resources and support through a secure website designed exclusively for Saint Francis foster parents
- The joy of providing healing and hope to a child in need

