



Professional Staff Support

Therapeutic Foster Care provides 24-hour support from professional social work staff. Each family is assigned a social worker for case management and support. The Therapeutic Foster Care unit provides 24-hour emergency support for therapeutic foster families and clients.

“Children are the living message we send to a time we will not see.”

John Whitehead,
Novelist



What about you?

If you are interested in helping challenged young people achieve permanence in their lives, call Matt Hillman at 828-695-2115.



Nationally accredited by the
Commission on Accreditation of
Rehabilitation Facilities



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THERAPEUTIC FOSTER CARE



Become a Therapeutic Foster Parent





Become a Therapeutic Foster Parent

Make a difference in a child's life

Family-based treatment

Therapeutic Foster Care is a form of family-based treatment. The child lives with a family, instead of in a group home. Children in Therapeutic Foster Care need not only a substitute "mom and dad." They also need a structured home with predictable expectations to gain a more appropriate sense of self-control and to learn to function in preparation for achieving a permanent "forever" home.

Self-Esteem as a Foundation for Treatment

Every child needs a good foundation. We work with youth who have experienced major trauma in their lives. The most significant of traumas is the loss of self-esteem. The simplest definition of self-esteem is "how one feels about oneself."

One very important task for a therapeutic parent is to help rebuild a child's self-esteem and skills so the child can begin to see himself or herself in a more positive light.

There are four key words to remember in building self-esteem: lovable, capable, responsible and worthwhile. These are the cornerstones upon which our foundation is built.

Who can become a therapeutic foster parent?

- You must be a resident of Catawba County or surrounding county who is at least 21 years of age.
- The primary parent must have a high school diploma or GED.
- Couples must have a stable relationship for at least one year.
- Homes must have adequate sleeping space.
- Households must have no substantiated allegations of child neglect or abuse.
- Households must be financially stable before a child is placed in the home.

Steps to becoming a therapeutic foster parent

- Requires a police background and fingerprint check on all adults living in the household.
- Have fire safety and environmental or health inspections of your home complete.
- Requires medical exams and TB tests for all family members.
- Complete the Home Study conducted by Social Services staff.
- Sign Agency Agreement.
- Complete Training for Therapeutic Foster Care:
 - Pre-service Training
 - MAPP Training
 - CPR and First Aid Certification
 - Defensive Driving
 - Medication Administration Training.

Expectations for Therapeutic Foster Parents

- Complete in-service training through the year.
 - Complete re-licensing biannually.
- Therapeutic Foster Parents are the primary treatment providers involved in the following activities:
- Treatment Team meetings
 - Therapy
 - Transportation
 - School meetings
 - Medical and dental appointments
 - Documentation

Reimbursement/Stipend

The money provided to foster families, on a tax-free basis, is considered reimbursement for reasonable expenses incurred for providing care for children in state custody. Therapeutic Foster Care is reimbursed at a higher rate than other foster care because of the risk for increased expenses and to compensate therapeutic foster parents for the higher level of care and increased expectations of working with children who require this level of care.

Reasonable expenses include:

- Clothing not covered by semi-annual clothing allowance.
- Allowance money for the child.
- School supplies.
- Personal hygiene products.