

What is the Resource Parent Program's GOAL?

Our goal is to maintain children in a family setting within their community with the intention of eventually returning them to their natural families or guardians.

We believe we can achieve this goal by providing intensive care and services to the children, their families, and the resource parents who provide the day-to-day care of these children.

By using a committed team to help focus on the child and family's strengths and needs, as well as a variety of community-based services, steps to reunification can be achieved.

However, there are times that the goal plan for children may change. These changes can include independent living, long-term foster care, or adoption.



Monroe County Children & Youth Services complies with applicable Federal civil rights laws and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex.



Some Required Initial Information

- Copies of Auto & Home Insurance
- Copy of Driver's License
- Well Water Test , if Applicable
- Child Abuse, Criminal History & FBI Clearances
- Health Clearance by a Physician

Help Your Children & Youth Service Agency By Becoming A Resource Parent Today!

Mission Statement:

Advocate for and protect children and youth from abuse and neglect while attempting to preserve and stabilize the family unit.

**Call: (570) 420-3590
Ex 3297**

Resource Parent REQUIREMENTS

- Be over 21 years of age
- Fully complete a questionnaire
- Participate in a personal interview with a Children and Youth representative at your home
- Attend Pre-Service Training
- Have bedroom space for the foster child and space for their belongings
- Obtain state criminal history, child abuse clearances and FBI clearances
- Demonstrate self-sufficiency; have a sufficient income to meet the needs of the family
- Have a valid driver's license
- Appropriately store firearms and other weapons, per agency policy
- Meet the home safety guidelines

Some Resource Parent Responsibilities

- Provide the day-to-day care of a foster child, including food, clothing and shelter.
- Provide praise, attention, stability, and a sense of worth and well-being to the child.
- Arrange for routine medical and dental care for the child and provide transportation to and from appointments.
- Participate in school conferences and activities with the child.
- Prepare the child for visits and for the return home.
- Be available for home visits by both your foster child's caseworker and the foster parent coordinator/caseworker.
- Commit yourself to work through issues so that placement can continue until a permanent plan for the child is carried out.
- Keep all information provided about the foster child and their families confidential.



Frequently Asked Questions

Do I have to attend trainings?

Yes, foster parent candidates are required to attend pre-service training. After you are an approved foster parent, annual training is required. All training is free and available at the agency office.

What is the normal length of a child's placement?

Some children need care for just a few nights, and others need long term care. In most cases, the goal is for the child to return home. In fewer situations, adoptive homes are necessary.

Do I have to transport the child?

YES! Foster parents are required to transport children to all appointments. This includes doctor, dentist, visitation, and perhaps therapy or school.

Is adoption a possibility?

Foster care should not be considered a substitute for adoption, although occasionally, children in care become eligible for adoption. If foster parents are interested in adoption, that is sometimes possible.

Are we responsible for providing health insurance for the foster child?

No, all children in care have medical coverage provided to them.

Is there any reimbursement?

There are standard reimbursements for items such as room/board, mileage, and other expenses. This is reviewed at the pre-service training.