



What is Therapeutic Foster Care?

Therapeutic Foster Care is clinical intervention and placement of youth in specially trained foster homes. The youth must be medically approved for treatment in a Therapeutic Foster home by local behavioral health agencies due to the child having severe mental, emotional, and behavioral health needs. Children placed in therapeutic foster homes are usually between the ages of 5 and 17 and stay for a period of 3 to 16 months depending on the child's level of need.

What are the differences between Traditional and Therapeutic Foster Care?

Children placed in traditional foster homes are often removed from their families due to neglect or abuse. The parents of the children are often closely monitored by the Department of Child Safety in the event of reunification.

Children placed in therapeutic foster homes receive the same great benefits of traditional foster care as well as structured treatment specifically tailored for the individual child. Each child is assessed and matched with Therapeutic Foster Parents based on training, experience, and professional competence. This allows for the child to be placed in the most appropriate home based on his or her needs.

Who can be a Therapeutic Foster Parent?

Catholic Charities looks for couples and individuals that have a passion for helping children. Teachers, counselors, and traditional foster parents are among those that continue their training and education to become Therapeutic Foster Parents.

Requirements

- Have a desire to help children in need
- Demonstrate a safe and clean living space
- Obtain a Level 1 Fingerprint Clearance Card
- Be CPR and First Aid Certified
- Have reliable transportation
- Be financially fit
- Pass DCS and criminal background checks
- Obtain 30 hours Pre-Service training and 18 hours additional Therapeutic Foster Care Training

Why partner with Catholic Charities?

Catholic Charities recruits, trains, and supports Therapeutic Foster Care parents by providing:

- 24/7 On Call support
- Daily Contact from your Catholic Charities team
- In-Home Counselor to provide additional family support
- Monthly trainings to improve your skills, education, and network with other Therapeutic Foster Parents
- Up to 7 days paid Vacation days a year

Reimbursement

Therapeutic Foster Parents are considered Professional Foster Parents. This is due to the additional training and enrollment with AHCCCS and the Northern Arizona Behavioral Health Authority (NARBA) such as Steward Health or Mercy Maricopa Integrated Care. This means that reimbursement is much more than being a traditional foster parent

Interested in becoming a Therapeutic Foster Parent with Catholic Charities?

Please contact:

Candace Lea

Program Manager, Therapeutic Foster Care

CLea@cc-az.org

434 W. Gurley Street

Prescott, AZ 86301

(928) 708-7280