



Promote | Strengthen | Support



WHO DO WE SERVE?

- Children and adolescents with developmental and cognitive disabilities
- Children with a mental health diagnosis, which includes PTSD, Reactive Attachment, oppositional and bipolar disorders
- Children with special health care and medical needs
- Children who have difficulty with physical boundaries

Often the children we serve require a structured setting and committed efforts from SKSF, community programs and loving foster families to work on challenging behaviors.



Foster Care & Adoption Services

Providing support & educating families that make a difference

Special Kids Special Families

424 W. Pikes Peak Avenue
Colorado Springs, CO 80905
www.SKSFfostercare.org

719-447-8983

720-988-9511



Special Kids Special Families is a non-profit Child Placement Agency licensed by the State of Colorado.

**For additional information contact:
Child Placement Director at
719-447-8983**

**Executive Director
Linda Ellegard
719-447-8983 x19
720-988-9511**

**Visit our website for more information:
www.SKSFfostercare.org**

Serving counties throughout Colorado including Denver Metro, the Colorado Springs Front Range & Pikes Peak Region



WHAT IS A FOSTER FAMILY?

Families in today's world are more unique than ever. Foster families are a unique family unit, in that their goal is to provide a temporary opportunity for providing a safe and nurturing environment to a child; while being a part of a treatment team that helps the family and child move towards a permanent home.

Many of our foster families are couples who have decided that they want to add more children into their home. Some families are single parents who have family and friend resources who can help them out in caring for a child. The majority of families have one parent who stays at home and is the primary person who takes charge of helping the team of professionals and family members in meeting the treatment goals so that the child can have a permanent home. Some families are waiting to add additional birth children into their home; while other families have raised children and want to fill their home with children once again. Others love to care for children and believe that their family can help other children.

Some of our foster families choose to be a respite care provider. Some provide respite care for other foster children, while others provide respite care for children who are at risk of out of home placement.



BECOMING A FOSTER FAMILY

The child's stay in your home will vary with the circumstances. Emergency care can be as short as 24 hours, while longer placements can last a year or longer. Most placements are short term.

SKSF finds and trains foster families who are willing and able to look after children who cannot live with their own families. The goal is for the child to return home when their parents are able to care for them. If children aren't able to return home, and other relative family members aren't available to care for them, then some foster families decide that they want to adopt the children.

Couples, families or single people (21 years of age or older), who want to share their home with a child in foster care can apply. It isn't necessary to own your home, but there needs to be adequate space in your home. Your financial situation must be stable and you must have the necessary supports to help you in the day-to-day duties. A home study, criminal background check, references, and required training are necessary to complete the application process. SKSF reimburses families on a monthly basis and provides staff support and supervision. For more details about the application process and to take a self evaluation visit our website:

www.SKSFfostercare.org

Foster a Child Make a Difference Join Our Team

SERVICES PROVIDED

- ◆ Tax-exempt reimbursement for foster families
- ◆ Staff support and Home Supervisor assigned to provide guidance, support and compliance
- ◆ 24-hour on-call services
- ◆ Agency events that include opportunities for social and recreational interaction (picnics and yearly holiday event)
- ◆ On-going trainings & educational support
- ◆ Fosterzette Newsletter
- ◆ On-site supervised visits
- ◆ Medicaid coverage is often received to pay for the child's health care needs
- ◆ Donation bank (clothing, other needed items available as needed)

