

WHY

DO WE SUPPORT

REUNIFICATION?

Children can enter into the child welfare system for a variety of reasons. We want to support and assist families in addressing whatever brought them to foster care. We know that family bonds are strong, and even if children have been previously abused or neglected, they want to go home to their parents. Studies have shown that abuse and neglect often happens due to a lack of resources, tools, skills and support. This is where we can help. We'll work with the families to help them develop the needed resources and support to help keep their family together in the future.



As a foster parent, do I have to support reunification efforts?

If children have been removed from their parent's custody, aren't they better off being adopted?

Will I get to have contact with the children once they go home?



You must be willing to support any effort that is in the best interest of the children in your care. Often times this can include reunifying them with their birth families. Last year, nearly 56% of children who entered into state foster care were reunited.

Children can enter into foster care for many reasons. Sometimes parents make poor decisions that put their children at risk, but this doesn't mean that they are inherently bad parents. Once a child is removed from their birth family's care, we work with the family to determine the tools and resources they might need in order to safely welcome the children back into their home.

This decision is left up to the birth and foster families. It's our hope that foster families can continue to be a safe and loving resource for the children and their birth families once their children are back at home. Many foster parents do have an ongoing relationship through phone calls, visits, attending children's activities and even overnights.

Ask yourself. Ask us.

Could you be a foster parent?

Learn more at cornerstonesofcare.org/fostercare



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