About Our Foster Care Program

The Intensive Foster Care (IFC) Program at The Home is committed to providing safe and nurturing foster homes for children in the care of the Massachusetts Department of Children and Families (DCF). We offer individuals and families of all races, ethnicities, sexual orientations, gender identities, socio-economic backgrounds and religions the opportunity to get involved as foster parents.

As an intensive foster care program, we serve children who require a higher level of care. Therefore, we provide a higher level of clinical support to the families affiliated with our IFC program. We believe no child should grow up in foster care, so our goal is to help children achieve permanency through reunification, adoption, guardianship, or independent living.

Our Intensive Foster Care program is driven by the belief that every child deserves a safe and loving home. Among The Home’s oldest programs, this vital service remains at the heart of our work.

Often, we help children who are victims of trauma or grappling with significant emotional or behavioral challenges. With each child, our social workers promote a child-centric approach and a goal of permanency. But we can’t do it alone. The backbone of our efforts is the dedication of the foster parents who step up to make a difference in a child’s life. We are always seeking new foster parents.

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FOSTER CARE AT THE HOME FOR LITTLE WANDERERS

Because Every Child Deserves a Home

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INFORMATION SESSIONS
Information sessions are a quick and easy way to learn more about our program and get your questions answered. We typically host them at our office, online, or occasionally in the community. Visit thehome.org to find an upcoming session.

MAPP TRAINING
The Massachusetts Approach to Partnerships in Parenting (MAPP) training is a free, 30-hour course required by the Department of Children and Families (DCF) for all foster parents. The Home provides regular sessions for your convenience.

FAMILY RESOURCE SUPPORT
A dedicated Family Resource Worker meets at least once a month with the foster family in their home to discuss challenges, answer questions, provide support, complete annual license reviews, and help navigate the experience of fostering.

PLACEMENT COORDINATION
An Operations Manager is dedicated to supporting you in finding the right child for your home, helping you assess whether a referral is a good match and partnering with you throughout the placement process.

CLINICAL CASE MANAGEMENT
All youth in our foster care program are assigned a Clinical Case Manager (CCM) to help coordinate their education, health, visitation, and other services. CCMs meet weekly with the youth and work in close partnership with the foster families to ensure successful outcomes.

FLEXIBLE TRAINING OPTIONS
We offer regular training programs to help our foster parents stay up to date and meet their annual 21-hour training requirement.

For over 200 years, The Home for Little Wanderers has helped build stable lives and hopeful tomorrows for vulnerable children and their families. Our 25+ community-based and residential programs serve thousands of at-risk youth from birth to age 26. Many of these children have experienced abuse, neglect, trauma or a disrupted family life. As the oldest child welfare agency in America, we provide them with safe surroundings, permanent loving relationships and a secure path toward a better, brighter future.