Children in foster care need safe and loving care until they can rejoin their family. Parents and caregivers need support and partnership as they work towards permanency for their children. Our foster care program is built on the concept of an interconnected, supportive network of caring adults all working collectively for the best interest of the child.

Foster parents play an important role in successful reunification or other permanency options that serve the well-being of the child. Though foster parents play a temporary role, their impact on children and families is lifelong.

The path to becoming a foster parent requires education, trust, and collaboration at every step. Our mutual selection process is key to ensuring that our foster parents learn and share our agency values, understand their role in supporting the child in their family, and have the capacity to serve the children needing care.

Once we match with a prospective foster parent, we invite that family to participate in a 12-week training course and complete in-depth assessments and background checks. Through this process, we build a team of foster parents well-equipped to meet the needs of children and families in our community.

**Foster parent criteria:**

- Willing to care for children 12 and older
- Open to caring for siblings
- Prepared to care for children with behavioral or medical needs
- Able to be flexible, resilient, persistent, and committed
- Committed to partnering with a child’s parents and extended family members to support reunification

Through a mutually supportive network of specialists, foster parents, and families, our Foster Care program helps children achieve permanency.

To learn more about our services, visit nchs.org or call 402.451.0787.