

Make a Difference in the Life of a Child

Consider Being a Foster Care/Adoptive Home Provider

Anishnaabek Community and Family Services is in need of caring individuals who can provide a safe and nurturing home environment for children who have been placed out of their home due to abuse or neglect. Foster Care is founded on the premise that all children have the right to physical care, educational, emotional, and cultural nurturance. The family foster care program is designed to provide a substitute family life experience for a child in a household that has been approved and licensed. A relative may become licensed or may be unlicensed. ACFS makes every effort to place children with a relative if possible.

Children may need foster care for a temporary or extended period of time. The primary goal during foster care is to reunite the child with his or her parents. The foster family plays an important role in the treatment plan for the child and family. Under the “team” approach, foster parents or relatives, together with the worker, attempt to provide the specific kind of help a child and his family need for reuniting the child with the parents. When the child cannot be reunited with the parents, the children are prepared for permanent placement, with relatives or non-related adoptive families. The majority of adoptions done by ACFS are with relatives or other Native American families. Under certain circumstances, a foster family may adopt children in their care. When adoption is not possible for older youth, the goal is to prepare the youth for independent living.

Foster Care is seen as a short-term solution to an emergency situation.

Anishnaabek Community and Family Services needs committed individuals who are:

- Willing to work with the child’s birth parents
- Supportive of efforts to return the child home
- Able to work with children who have significant emotional and behavioral needs
- Able to encourage teens toward independent living

You are not required to own your own home, be married or give up your job and stay home full time in order to foster children. You may be renting an apartment or be single. You may apply for day care payments for the time that you are working or continuing your education. You will work with the agency to determine what type of placement works best for you and your family.

To become a Foster Care Parent, applicants must:

- Complete a licensing application and home study
- Provide successful background clearances for all adult household members
- Provide medical statements for all household members
- Have an environmental inspection (when applicable)
- Provide three letters of reference
- Meet basic home safety standards
- Attend training pertinent to foster care issues

**For further information on becoming a foster parent,
contact (906) 632-5250 or toll-free (800) 726-0093.**