

What are the requirements to be a foster and/or adoptive parent?

- ◆ You must be 21 years of age
- ◆ You may be single, married or divorced
- ◆ You may or may not have other children in your home
- ◆ You may own or rent your home or apartment
- ◆ You must have sufficient income to meet the basic needs of your household
- ◆ Security clearances, fingerprints, medical exams and references are required

How can you help?

We are always searching for individuals who believe they can make a difference in the life of a child, either as a foster or adoptive parent.



Foster or Adopt a Child!

How do I get started?

If you are interested in learning more about foster care and/or adoption, call us today! We would be happy to answer any questions you may have.



Our children need someone who will love and care for them and provide a safe home for as long as needed.

If you think you may be that someone, please call Ashtabula County Children Services Board at 440- 998-1811 and talk to a member of our foster care / Adoption team today!



Ashtabula County
Children services
Board

*Help Complete the Puzzle for
a Child in Need*



Foster or Adopt a Child!

Ashtabula County Children Services Board

3914 C Court

Ashtabula, OH 44004

440- 998-1811

www.help-a-child.com



Our Mission

Our mission is to assure that children at risk of abuse or neglect are protected and nurtured within a family and with the support of our community.

Are Foster and Adoptive Homes Needed?

- ◆ In 2016, there were 14,553 Ohio children living in foster families placements due to abuse, neglect or dependency
- ◆ Foster children vary in age, sex and race but share one universal need--someone to care for them until they can return home
- ◆ Nearly 3,000 Ohio children are waiting for the permanency an adoptive home will offer
- ◆ Children who tend to wait the longest for adoptive families include African American children, children over the age of ten, and children who are part of a sibling group



Foster Families

- ◆ Foster care is intended to be temporary and consists of services provided to the child, the biological family and the substitute caregiver



- ◆ Reunification with the biological family is the primary goal of foster care
- ◆ Foster parents are trained and supported by the agency to provide a safe, nurturing environment for children until they are able to return to their families



Adoptive Families

- ◆ If the court determines that reunification efforts have failed and the child cannot safely return home, then the biological parents' rights are permanently severed and an adoptive family will be needed
- ◆ An adoptive family may be a relative, a foster parent or another family approved and licensed for adoption
- ◆ Adoptive families are approved and licensed by either a public or private agency
- ◆ Adoptive parents make a life-long commitment to a child by legally becoming their parents

