

Foster parents are
Agents of Hope who:



Love



Protect



Listen



Empower



Defend



Advocate

and make a difference
in the lives of children.



You can be the
difference in the
life of a child!



SAFY of Charleston

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SAFY TM
Preserving Families
Securing Futures

Become a
foster parent

SAFY TM
Preserving Families
Securing Futures

Why you?

The need for foster parents is greater than ever before. There are over 400,000 youth in the U.S. foster care system. At SAFY, we work with youth and families to reach their full potential and increase the well-being of our communities.

What is Therapeutic Foster Care?

SAFY's Therapeutic Foster Care (TFC) services provide stable home environments with families who care for and believe any youth can achieve their full potential. SAFY equips foster families with tools, such as parental skill building and behavioral coping skills, to ensure a youth's physical and emotional needs are met. Foster parents serve as Agents of Hope, a mentoring bridge between youth and their biological or adoptive family, to secure a youth's future.

Many youth in foster care are survivors of trauma and face challenges associated with cognitive or behavioral concerns and developmental delays. Youth with higher level needs are frequently uprooted and moved from one foster home to another because traditional foster parents are not trained to support their behaviors. SAFY has developed our Foster Family Network to create a pool of highly qualified therapeutic foster homes to support youth with the greatest needs.

What are the basic requirements?

Individuals interested in becoming a therapeutic foster care parent will need to meet the state requirements for foster parent licensure including, but not limited to, the following:

- At least 21 years of age
- Have a separate living space in your home for a youth
- Have a stable income
- Own or rent your place of residence
- Single or married couples

What is the therapeutic foster parent licensure process?

The licensure process is designed to ensure the safety and well-being of every foster youth and the family caring for them.

1. Attend an informational session with a foster parent recruiter
2. Complete required paperwork and background check
3. Actively participate in training courses
4. Actively participate in a home and family assessment

What are the benefits of becoming a licensed foster parent with SAFY?

- In-home therapy for youth and family
- 24/7 support
- Financial reimbursement*
- Youth enrichment support
- Mentor network of foster parents
- Foster family events and activities
- Respite
- Foster parent rewards (i.e., referrals)

*Licensed foster parents receive a biweekly reimbursement to cover the cost of caring for a youth. Medical and dental expenses are also covered.

