

You can help take the fear out of a child's life.

Save a child.

Become a Foster Parent.



The Florida United Methodist Children's Home first opened in 1908, and continues to provide programs and resources that benefit children and families in crisis.

Launched in 2002, our Foster Care services recruits and licenses foster homes for the placement of children in need of care and currently serves children and families in Volusia, Flagler, Hillsborough, and Broward Counties.

We invite you to prayerfully consider partnering with the Children's Home to become licensed as a Foster Parent, providing a home that reflects the love of God for children in need.

"What God the Father considers to be pure and genuine religion is this: to take care of orphans... in their suffering and to keep oneself from being corrupted by the world."

James 1:27

Contact Information

Volusia/Flagler Counties

386.738.3663

Hillsborough County

813.988.2969

Broward County

813.313.7664

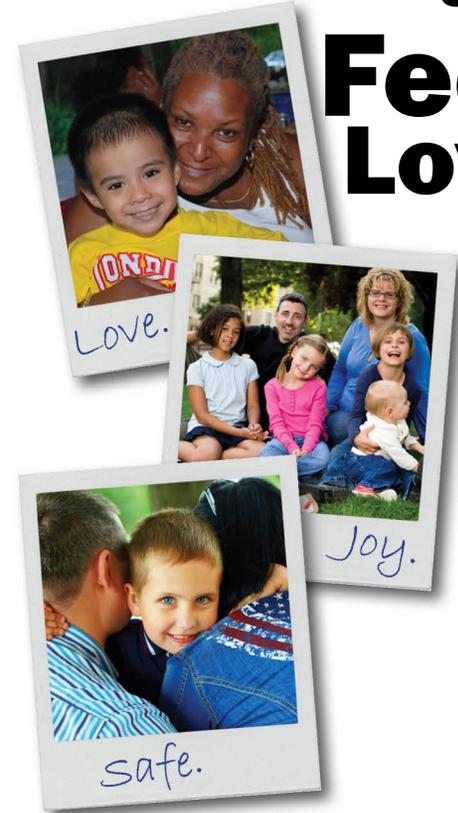
For more information visit www.fumch.org



51 Children's Way | Enterprise, FL 32725
386.668.4774 | www.fumch.org



Be the Reason they Feel Loved.



Become a Foster Parent.



www.fumch.org

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Can I be a foster parent if I'm not married and don't make a lot of money? I don't even own my own house.

A: *Just because you don't own your own home and don't make a lot of money doesn't mean you can't provide a loving home for a child.*

Q: I have a full-time job and can't stay home all day with the children, does that mean I can't be a foster parent?

A: *No, it doesn't. Many foster children attend daycare—funds may be available to help cover this expense.*

Q: My children are grown and out of the house. Am I too old to be a foster parent?

A: *There is no age requirement other than you must be at least 21 years old.*

Q: I don't have any children of my own, can I still be a foster parent?

A: *Yes! Many of our foster parents do not have children of their own.*

Q: Would I have to provide medical insurance for a foster child in my home?

A: *Children in foster care are provided Medicaid. Foster parents do not pay any of a child's medical expenses, other than over-the-counter medicines and supplies.*



Next Steps

- Attend the next "Question and Answer Session" presented by the Children's Home, or call to speak with a specialist who will answer your questions.



- Next, you will be invited to attend an orientation meeting led by the lead agency for all foster care in your region, where you will be given a detailed overview of the foster care program and the licensing and application process. This orientation leads to taking a pre-service course that is required of all those wishing to foster.

- In the required foster parent training, you will learn about many topics and be given skills to be an effective foster parent.

- During this time, a study of your home will be conducted. A background check of law enforcement records will be made for you and your family. Your friends, relatives and employers will be contacted to give character references.



- When you have successfully completed the preparation sessions and the home study has been approved, you will receive a license to be a foster parent.

- **You've made it!** You can now open your heart and your home to children in need through foster care.

- The entire licensing process takes about four months from the date you attend the orientation session. Once you are licensed as a foster parent, a child can come to live with you. Each year that you continue as a foster parent, you will need to attend 8-12 hours of recertification training on issues such as child development, attachment disorder, and how to support relationships between children and their families. You will also have to renew your foster parent license annually.



- The length of time a child in foster care will live with you will vary from child to child. During the time a child resides with you, the State will reimburse you for at least part of the cost of caring for the child. The reimbursement rate is determined by the age of the child. In addition, health costs for children in care are covered by Medicaid. A foster care counselor will meet with you and any foster children in your home on a regular basis and will be available to assist with concerns and questions.

Adapted from the Florida Department of Children and Families website.

