

WHAT DO I NEED TO DO TO BECOME A FOSTER PARENT?

If you already live in a home, either by yourself or with a family of your own, and you are a parent, grandparent, an auntie or an uncle, you probably already have everything you need to share your home with a child who needs a family.

Who are the children who need a foster home?

Children who need a foster home are children whose parents cannot take care of them for now. They are usually from the Native community. Their ages range from babies to teenagers.

How long do the children stay in a foster home?

Depending on the situation of their parents, children can stay in a foster home temporarily for a few weeks up to several years. Sometimes, if the child does not have any relative who can take care of them, you may be given the opportunity to adopt if that is what you want to do.

How are children placed in a foster home?

Children who need a foster home are placed by the Washoe Tribal Court and the Washoe Tribal Social Services in a foster home until their families can take care of them again. The children who are placed in your home will match, as closely as possible, the age, sex and number of the children you request. Whenever possible, we like to place brothers and sisters together in the same foster family.

Will I have help in taking care of a foster child?

The Department of Social Services will help you in getting the services you need to take care of foster children. You will also receive some financial assistance to help pay for the expenses of the children while they are in your care.

What do I need to do to become a Foster Parent?

- 1) Have enough room in your home for another child or children. Each foster child has to have their own bed.*
- 2) Fill out an application to be a Foster Parent with Washoe Tribal Social Services.*
- 3) Have your fingerprints taken to pass a background check.*

We will then make an appointment with you to come and talk to you in your home and answer any questions that you may have in order to license you as a foster parent.

For further information, please contact Tribal Social Services, at 775-265-8691