

## Therapeutic Family Homes Program: Frequently Asked Questions

### **Question: Who can apply to be a therapeutic foster parent?**

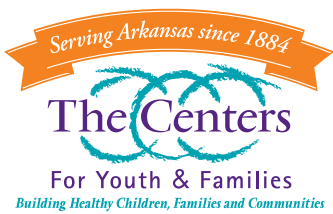
Answer: If you can answer, "YES" to all of the following questions, you are eligible to apply to be a therapeutic foster parent.

- Are you between the ages of 21 – 65 years of age?
- Have you been divorced or married for at least one year?
- Do you have a high school diploma or GED?
- Are you in good physical, emotional, and mental health?
- Can provide verification of sufficient financial resources to meet current applicants needs?
- Are you willing and able to complete all necessary documentation and/or paperwork requirements to Open Home?
- Are you willing to schedule, and ensure, that a child/youth placed in the home will receive routine medical appointments (including dental, vision and hearing) as well as appointments necessary to address emotional and/or behavioral problems?
- Do you have a valid, State of Arkansas drivers license?
- Can you provide necessary transportation for appointments?
- Do you have adequate bedroom space (with a window in the bedroom) for youth/children?

### **Question: What is required to open my home?**

Answer: There are quite a few background checks and documentation requirements that must be met in order to open your home, including...

- FBI Background Check on all family members 18 years of age and older who reside in the home.
- State Criminal Background Check on all family members 18 years of age and older who reside in the home.
- Adult Maltreatment Background Check on all family member 18 years of age and older who reside in the home.
- Child Maltreatment Background Check on all family members 10 years and older who reside in the home.
- Completion of Local Background Check on adults who reside in the home.
- Driving record verified with the State of Arkansas on all licensed drivers who will be transporting youth.
- Verification of Home Owners/Renters Insurance, including liability transportation.
- Verification of Auto Insurance.
- Other Agency specific forms.
- Completion of CPR and First Aid.
- Completion of Non-Violent Crisis Prevention Intervention (CPI).
- Completion of 30 hours of pre-service training.



## Therapeutic Family Homes Program: Frequently Asked Questions

### **Question: What is Pre-service Training?**

Answer: Pre-service training is the training required to move forward with having a child/youth placed. 30 hours of Pre-service Training includes both Foster Pride/Adopt Pride and Pressley Ridge Treatment Foster Parent Training. The training is designed to help ensure competency – based excellence in the provision of services for children and youth in foster care.

### **Question: How do you decide how children are placed?**

Answer: Children/youth are matched with families based on their needs along with the abilities and skills of the family. Other areas of consideration include location of the child's biological family, composition and location of the therapeutic foster family, services available within the community, academic resources available within the community, and other necessary supports.

### **Question: How much does a person get paid for being a therapeutic foster parent?**

Answer: Payment varies and is based on the needs of the needs and expectations for the Therapeutic Foster Parent(s).

### **Question: How many children/youth can be placed at a time?**

Answer: One to two children/youth are placed at a time, depending on the needs of the child/youth.

### **Question: How do you decide how children are placed?**

Answer: Children/youth are matched with families based on their needs and the abilities and skills of the family. Other areas of consideration include location of the child's (biological) family, composition and location of the therapeutic foster family, services available within the community, academic resources available within the community, and other necessary supports.

**If you feel that you are qualified and interested in becoming a Therapeutic Foster Care Parent, please contact Leah Williams at: 501.660.6817 or [LWilliams@cfyf.org](mailto:LWilliams@cfyf.org)**