

ARE YOU READY

*to foster or adopt
a New Mexico youth?*

As a foster or adoptive parent with the New Mexico Children, Youth and Families Department (CYFD), you can help a child by providing a safe place for them to stay. Foster parents open their homes and their hearts to children in custody by allowing them to feel safe, grow and learn in a family setting. Foster parents support children in their home to remain



connected to their religion, culture and community. CYFD encourages foster parents to maintain lifelong connections with the children and their biological families whenever possible. CYFD's goal is always to reunify birth parents with their children in care.



Are you ready?

In four to six months, you can qualify to become a foster or adoptive parent if you are ...

- Committed to caring for children.
- Single, married or cohabitating.
- Physically and emotionally healthy.
- 18 or older.
- Able to pass a federal/state/local criminal background check, and abuse and neglect check.
- Willing to participate in a free SAFE home study. This includes family interviews, home safety check and reference checks.
- Willing to attend FREE pre-service training.
- A New Mexico resident and legal U.S. resident.



**CHILDREN,
YOUTH AND FAMILIES
DEPARTMENT**
State of New Mexico

Are you ready to adopt?

Children in foster care do not always return home. They may become eligible for adoption. There are children who are available for adoption right now.

Visit www.cyfd.org to view photos of New Mexico's waiting children.

CYFD provides the following support:

- Foster parents are reimbursed for monthly expenses incurred while providing care.
- Children in foster care have complete medical coverage.
- Child care services are provided for families that work outside their home.
- CYFD covers approved legal fees associated with the finalization of your adoption.
- Information on federal/state tax credit available to adoptive families.
- CYFD offers support services to foster families by offering continuing education, support groups, and child-specific support for foster and adoptive placements.



Are you ready for more information?

FOSTER AD PT

1-800-432-2075
www.cyfd.org



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