

What is the difference between Therapeutic Foster Care and Traditional Foster Care?

Therapeutic Foster Care and traditional foster care are two distinct program models intended to serve different populations.

Therapeutic/Treatment Foster Care is a clinically effective alternative to residential treatment facilities that combines the treatment technologies typically associated with more restrictive settings with the nurturing and individualized family environment.

Foster care has provided nurturing, safe and custodial care for children who require placement outside of their family. The primary reason for placement in traditional foster care is the need for care and protection. The role of the foster parent is that of caregiver and nurturer. Treatment if any, occurs outside of the foster home.

Children are referred to The Centers' Therapeutic Foster Homes Program to address their serious levels of emotional, behavioral and medical problems. Therapeutic Foster Care is active and structured and occurs in the foster family home.

The Centers' Therapeutic Foster Homes Program is a member of:



Centers for Youth & Families provides specialized prevention, intervention & treatment services that promote emotional & social wellness for children & families of Arkansas. Since 1884, The Centers has been building healthy children, families & communities.

The Centers' offers programs & services designed to meet the needs of today's families.

The mission of the Therapeutic Foster Homes Program is to provide trained, committed, alternative family homes & professional services that will strengthen, preserve & facilitate permanency for families & children with the hope of making the difference to the wellness of the family unit & the community as a whole.

Centers for Youth & Families

Therapeutic Foster Homes Program

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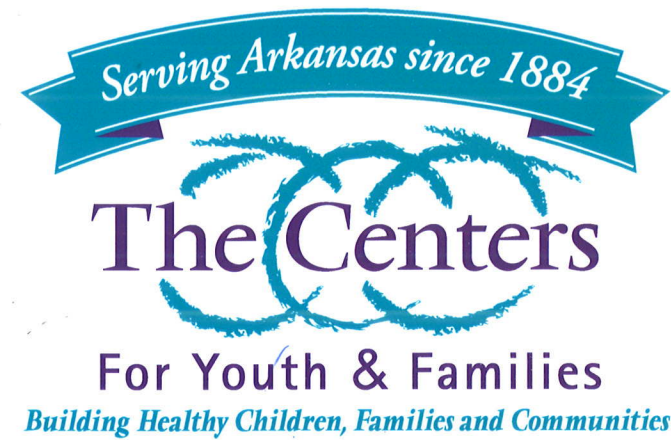
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Therapeutic Foster Homes Program



What is Therapeutic/Treatment Foster Care?

It is a distinct, powerful and unique model of care that provides children with a combination of the best elements of traditional foster care and residential treatment centers. The positive aspects of the nurturing and therapeutic family environment are combined with active and structured treatment. The Centers Therapeutic Foster Homes Program provides individualized and intensive treatment for children and youth.

Therapeutic/Treatment Foster Care is an evidence-based, informed, and community-based intervention form of care in specially trained families. These families provide foster care for youth who are exhibiting severe behavior disorders (including acting out sexually, mental illness and symptoms of complex trauma).

The heart of Therapeutic Foster Homes Program at Centers for Youth and Families is the foster parent. The parents who are part of the program are carefully recruited and trained. They serve as foster care professionals with the children and youth they accept into their homes.

The Centers' Therapeutic Family Homes Program staff provide support, supervision and assistance to the Foster Family to ensure that the family atmosphere in the home is positive. The children who are part of the Therapeutic Foster Homes Program receive psychiatric services, therapy, intervention, case management and behavioral services while in The Centers' care.



What is required of a Therapeutic Foster Homes Parent?

- One foster parent must be available to address the child's behavior at all times. Both parent's may work, but one parent must be flexible in their schedule to be available on a full-time basis.
- Must be over the age of 21 & under the age of 65.
- Married, or divorced for at least one year.
- Must successfully pass FBI & criminal background checks.
- Required to pass a DMV check as outlined by The Center's Insurance Carrier.
- Completion of 30 hours of pre-service training & must provide supporting documents within the designated time frame.
- Must complete the home study process with supporting documents submitted.
- Required to meet, or exceed, Licensing Requirements as set by the Federal, State and Programmatic entities.

Support Offered to Therapeutic Foster Families:

- Team Approach to Treatment
- Ongoing, specialized, skill-based training for therapeutic foster parents
- Online and computer-based continuing education units at no cost to the family
- Individual, Group and Family counseling
- Board Certified Child & Adolescent Psychiatrist with a medication clinic
- Weekly case management services in the therapeutic foster home, school or community
- 24 hour telephone support for emergencies

Find out more about becoming a Therapeutic Foster Homes Family

501.666.8686
www.CFYF.org

Find us online **TheCentersAR**

