



What is Therapeutic Foster Care?

presented by
Woodfords Family Services

Therapeutic Foster Care, also known as Treatment-Level Foster Care, is a specialized level of foster care provided by specifically trained foster parents to youth in the foster care system with developmental, behavioral health, and/or mental health diagnoses who have obtained a DHHS Level of Care (LOC) of C or higher. Woodfords supports Maine youth between the ages of 3 and 21 year old in Therapeutic Foster Care and their foster parents through the delivery of evidence-based clinical wrap-around services and support resources.

What is the difference between Therapeutic Foster Care & Non-Specialized Foster Care?

Therapeutic Foster Parents:

- Provide support to a youth with a developmental, behavioral health, and/or mental health diagnoses and a DHHS Level of Care (LOC) of C or higher.
- Have access to a support team that includes: a DHHS Caseworker, guardian ad litem, AND a Woodfords Case Manager, clinical supervisor, and clinical support team.
- Receive pre-service training AND on-going training opportunities.
- Receive access to 24/7 clinical support
- Receive a daily stipend rate at levels C, D, or E.
- Receive access to foster family support workers, respite care, mentorship programs and much more!

Non-specialized Foster Parents:

- Provide support to typically developing youth and/or youth with a diagnosis and a DHHS Level of Care (LOC) of A or B.
- Have access to a support team that includes: DHHS Caseworker, guardian ad litem, and the resource parent care team.
- Receives pre-service training.
- Receives a daily stipend rate at levels A or B.

To learn more contact:

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Therapeutic Foster Care Licensing Process

Woodfords' dedicated team of Therapeutic Foster Care experts are here to support and guide prospective foster parents throughout each step of foster care licensing, placement, and matching the process.

STEP 1



Contact our Licensing Coordinator for information and support throughout the process

STEP 2



Complete the Woodfords and DHHS foster home license applications

STEP 3



Engage in the Home Study process with our dedicated staff

STEP 4



Complete required 24-hour pre-service training, offered online with flexible scheduling.

STEP 5



Complete home water test (if applicable)

STEP 6



Obtain licensing approval

STEP 7



Work with team on youth placement & matching process to ensure success

Qualifications

Therapeutic Foster Parents, also known as Specialized Foster Parents, come from all walks of life. Foster parents may be single or married, working or retired, and may own or rent their home. To be qualified to become a therapeutic foster parent an individual must:

- have a desire to support youth with developmental, behavioral health, or mental health diagnoses in their own homes
- be age 21 or older
- maintain personal physical and mental health
- possess either 6 months of experience working with children with disabilities or 1 year of experience as a licensed foster parent
- maintain professionalism and proficient communication skills in interactions with DHHS caseworkers, biological relatives, and fellow providers
- be willing to engage in services recommended for the youth in their care (therapy, in-home supports, clinical services, etc.)

Why Woodfords?

Woodfords team of dedicated and compassionate therapeutic foster care experts provide a unique array of clinical wrap around supports and resources to ensure the success of our foster parents and the youth in their care. Woodfords' therapeutic foster parents receive:

- a dedicated Case Manager trained in the evidence-based Triple P Model
- a daily stipend rate based on youth's LOC
- access to 24/7 on-call crisis support
- 14 days of respite care
- on-going evidence-based trainings
- clinical support for difficult to manage behaviors
- access to bi-monthly support groups with free childcare provided by trained professionals
- access to a Foster Family Support Worker, providing in-home and community support
- access to clinical experts and a community of experienced foster care professionals

Scan or click this code to learn more about Woodfords mission and becoming a Therapeutic Foster Parent

