



# You can make a difference...

Foster and adoptive parents:

- **Are single, married, or divorced people of all ages, lifestyles, religions, ethnicities and incomes.**
- **Live in a house or apartment.**
- **Work inside or outside their home.**
- **Are patient, flexible, and have a good sense of humor.**
- **Are able to meet the needs of a child.**

Does it cost anything?

The state does not charge any fee for the application, training and processing to become a foster or adoptive parent.

Foster parents receive monthly reimbursement to help with the cost of caring for the child. The child's medical and dental costs are covered by the state's insurance program.

For families who adopt, some financial assistance may be available through the Adoption Assistance Program.

## My Life

Home sick is a weird thing. When you wake up you think your home, but your not. You don't know whats right and what is wrong because you don't no the rules. Evrething gets weird in its own way. Its like a air born disces to. You can't know whats going to happin next.

A new life is like being put in a foster home. You don't know who's who. You don't know whitch dog is whitch. In fact you don't know any thing.

— Written by an 8-year-old in foster care

## Call

# 1-800-331-0503



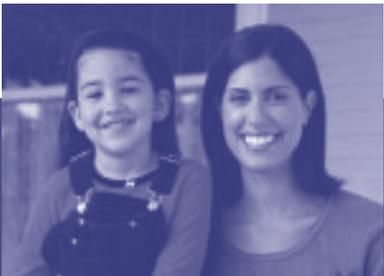
# ...foster or adopt a child.

You can make a difference in the life of a child ...

**T**he family is the best place for a child to grow. But some parents are unable to care for or provide safety for their children. These children need people who can provide them with a safe, nurturing home.

**Foster parents** give children a safe and supportive temporary home. Foster parents work with the Department of Human Services as essential partners to help children return to their own families whenever possible. Foster parenting is not adoption.

**Adoptive parents** are needed for children who cannot return home. Children of all ages are waiting to be adopted, but most of the children are school age, children of color, sibling groups, or children with disabilities.



It's not easy, but seeing the kids grow is my reward.

— Ben R., foster parent

We were absent for many of yesterday's beginnings – but we will always be there for tomorrow's adventures and accomplishments.

— Gayle C., adoptive parent

“When you see a birth parent and child reunited, it's just like you've taken that final test in school and you aced it!”

— Tayma A., foster parent

Words could never express the joy I feel. Being a single mother of three adopted daughters is the greatest blessing in my life.

—Tawnya B., adoptive parent

For more information, call

- **DHS Inquiry line 1-800-331-0503 or visit the DHS Web site at [www.dhs.state.or.us](http://www.dhs.state.or.us)**
- Special Needs Adoption Coalition 1-800-342-6688, or
- Your local Department of Human Services office.

We practice nondiscrimination and provide reasonable accommodation for persons with disabilities. If you have questions or need a document in an alternate format such as large print, computer disk, braille, audiotape, or oral presentation, contact your local DHS office staff.



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Make a difference ...

# Foster & Adoptive Parenting

