Foster Parent Requirements

To learn more about becoming a kinship care provider, a foster parent or adopting a child, call the Kent County Department of Social Services at

410.810.7600
or 1.877.5Foster.

Kent County
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

The best way to provide a home for every child is through our "Place Matters" initiative... an approach that promotes safety, family functioning, permanency and community-based placement for foster care children.

Requirements

- State police and FBI criminal background check
- Home study conducted by a social worker*
- Demonstrate good parenting skills
- 27 hours of pre-service training (mandatory for all parents in the home)
- Parents must be over 21 years old
- Reside in Kent County
- Income must be adequate to meet family expenses
- Health Department sanitary survey of the home
- Fire marshall safety inspection of the home

***Home Asessment Process**

- It may be initiated during PRIDE training
- It must be completed within the minimum of 90 days and a maximum of 120 days.
- A minimum of three home visits is required.
- Child protection services clearances and state and federal criminal background checks will be obtained on any household member over the age of 18 years old.
- There will be income verification via pay stubs, W-2 forms, etc.
- There will be a sanitation survey.
- There will be fire safety inspections.
- Medical exams will be required, including tuberculosis testing.
- You will be requested to provide three personal references.
- You will be requested to share legal documents as applicable.
- There may be visits to your child's school.
- There will be screening for child support.
- You must be prepared to show that all PRIDE assignments have been completed.
- You may be requested to provide additional information.

Kent County Foster Parent Program
Give your home. Find your heart.