



5 Things You Must Know Before Fostering

Hello there! If you're considering becoming a foster parent (which in Oregon we now refer to with the term "Resource Parent") there are a few important things you should know before taking the plunge. We understand that this is a big decision. It's natural that you have some fears or concerns. We at Every Child Oregon are here to provide you with some encouraging information that will hopefully ease your worries.

1. Foster care is meant to be temporary

One of the biggest fears that prospective foster parents have is that they will become too attached to the child in their care, only to have them leave after a significant amount of time. This is a valid concern. It's important to remember, however, that foster care is meant to be a temporary solution. The ultimate goal is to reunite the child with their biological family when safely possible, if that's not possible, a plan is put in place by the court to give the child stability often via guardianship or adoption.

2. You don't have to be perfect

Many people are hesitant to become foster parents because they feel like they have to be perfect. The truth is, no one is perfect, and that's okay. What's important is that you have a stable home environment, you are willing to learn about trauma, and have a lot of love to give. The rest can be learned along the way.

3. You will make a difference

Fostering a child can have a profound impact on their life. You have the opportunity to provide a safe and loving home for a child who has experienced trauma or instability in their past. By opening your home and your heart, you can help a child heal and grow.



Kristin Wall - Executive Director
EveryChild Lane County

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4. You will be part of a community

Fostering can be a lonely experience, but it doesn't have to be. There are many other foster parents out there who are going through the same thing you are. By joining a foster parent support group or connecting with other foster parents online, you can build a network of people who understand what you're going through and can offer support and encouragement.

5. You will receive support

Being a foster parent is not easy, and it's okay to ask for help. Every Child Oregon has an abundance of resources like Foster Parents Night Out, Foster Family Resource Guide, and many others. We invite you to join us for a virtual session online that we host monthly where you will hear from people living this foster parenting adventure. You will have access to a team of professionals who will be there to support you every step of the way. This team may include a social worker, a therapist, and other professionals who can help you navigate the challenges of fostering. If you are interested in fostering and are ready for the next step in your fostering journey, fill out this form by clicking the link here.

If you are ready to volunteer, learn more about the requirements for foster parenting, or are ready to become a foster (resource) parent, click Take Action below!

Take Action