

## Foster Care - General Resources

**Colorado State Foster Parent Association:** <http://csfpa.org/>

"The Colorado State Foster Parent Association was formed in 1971 and this year we are celebrating our 35th Anniversary of serving Colorado's foster parents. In that time, we have sponsored an annual education conference which is considered one of the best foster parent conferences in the region. We always seek to provide the most current and topical subjects presented by recognized experts in the field so that we may provide the ultimate educational opportunity to our members." Provides training.

**The Institute for Families at the University of Denver:**

[www.ifduonline.org](http://www.ifduonline.org)

"The Butler Institute for Families at the University of Denver seeks to enhance the well being of children, youth and families through research, education, training and consultation. Associated with the Graduate School of Social Work, the Institute is a resource for building professionalism and discovering effective practices and policies for child and family programs." Provides training.

**Change a Life Forever:** <http://www.changealifeforever.org/index.asp>

CDHS's foster and adopt site. Currently have a foster parent survey available (for parents to fill out). The administration is a bit confusing but some of the questions are really interesting.

**Adoption Alliance:** [http://www.adoptall.com/foster\\_care.html](http://www.adoptall.com/foster_care.html)

"Adoption Alliance provides ongoing training, guidance and support to foster parents and to the children placed in their home. Intensive supervision of each foster home is essential to assure a successful placement for every child and family.

Foster Families receive the following services:

- Monthly tax free reimbursement
- Free training
- Support from staff & other foster families
- Year end tax benefits
- All dental & medical needs of children are covered through Medicaid”

**Child Welfare League of America – Foster Care:**

<http://www.cwla.org/programs/fostercare/>

Good research, best practices, tools and oversight including various reports on individual states. There is also a guide to “peer mentoring” for new foster parents.

**The Casey Family Programs:** [www.casey.org](http://www.casey.org)

“Casey Family Programs’ mission is to provide and improve—and ultimately to prevent the need for—foster care.” On-line tools, publications, best practices, etc.

**National Foster Parent Association:** [www.nfpainc.org](http://www.nfpainc.org)

“The National Foster Parent Association is the only national organization which strives to support foster parents, and remains a consistently strong voice on behalf of all children.” Provides training and some on-line training options. Links to state conferences.

**Foster Family Treatment Association:** [www.ffa.org](http://www.ffa.org)

Organization for “treatment foster care.” This is a model for youth who need the services that a residential treatment center would provide but is designed so the youth stay with a foster family. They say it is much better for the child and more cost-effective.

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

Treatment Foster Care is a clinically effective and cost-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 Treatment Foster Care programs to address their serious levels of emotional, behavioral and medical problems. Treatment Foster Care is active and structured, and occurs in the foster family home.”