

Love In Deed

Love In Deed, Inc. supports Michigan's foster children by providing clothing, shoes, and other items that are essential for daily living at no cost to the foster families.

Are you a foster parent in need of our help? Please call us at (517)449-2250, or visit loveindeed.org. Please provide ages and sizes for the children and any immediate needs they have. We will do our best to supply them!



Our ultimate goal is to have a central location where we will be able to store inventory and meet foster families so they can get what they need for their new kids. Until that time, we will be happy to arrange a convenient meeting place to bring you what you need.

We want to ensure that donations we receive are used in the manner that they were intended. Because of this, we require verification of foster status when distributing items. This can be either a copy of your current foster care license or your Consent to Treat card for your children. We also ask that all items received from Love In Deed, Inc. be selected for your current foster children only.

Changing Families

When a foster child has been placed in your home for several months or even more than a year, it is expected that the child has adapted to your family environment even while visits with their birth parents continued. As time goes on, discussions about the concurrent plan may start to surface more often. When a child's goal of reunification may not be possible, discussions about adoption may begin.

Termination of parental rights is not an event to be celebrated. There may be reasons why that is in the best interest for the children, we need to recognize those feelings of attachment that the child still has to their family. These are not always obvious because as a foster parent, you may see that the child cries when going to visits, becomes hysterical leaving the visit and doesn't mention his or her parents outside the agency. You may be questioning if this child even has a bond with his parents. Those are valid thoughts. What we need to remember is that there is a whole context here that needs to be examined. A caseworker, a therapist, a foster parent and the birth family all have different perspectives. When you anticipate that a child placed in your home may be subject to permanent separation from his or her parents, this is the time you would want to re-visit your training on loss. PRIDE training offers a whole session on this topic and there are several other resources out there to address this specific time in a case. Let your caseworker or licensing worker know what is going on in the home and what resources, training or other support you need to help you and your child through this time.

**Capital Area Interagency
Coalition 2016 Foster/Adopt
PRIDE Training Schedule**
March Meeting Location:
LSSM Lansing Office
Nussdorfer Center
1545 Keystone Drive
Lansing, Michigan 48911

Session	Date	Time
1-4	Wednesday, March 16	8 AM - 5:30 PM (breakfast provided; please bring sack lunch)
5-7	Thursday, March 17	8:30 AM - 5:30 PM (breakfast provided; please bring sack lunch)
8-9	Friday, March 18	9 AM - 12 PM (breakfast provided)

Dear Foster Parents,

For over 100 years, Child and Family Charities has been protecting and strengthening families in Mid-Michigan. We have grown significantly over the past decade and continually strive to be a leader in human services. We currently have 6 divisions managing 17 total programs serving thousands of children and families in our community. With growth come many new names and faces and we have been pleased to continually grow our child welfare division by adding new case managers. As we continue to grow and stabilize our positions, we sincerely appreciate your flexibility and understanding. We realize that changes can be difficult and often it leads to changes of workers within your home. We are also continually adding new foster parents to our Child and Family network here and so we extend a special welcome to you as well. So, how does this work? You may wonder who your worker is, why you have more than one worker and who are all the supervisors? What role to each of these people play in terms of the child who is placed in your home?



Division Director Diane Goodemote

Child Welfare is comprised of 3 areas of focus including foster care, adoption and licensing/certification. At CFC, we aim to cross train our case management staff so that case workers specifically can perform the functions of both a foster care worker and an adoption worker. This model was developed to ensure “one worker one child” and assist in reducing or eliminating multiple worker changes and strengthening the working relationships with all those involved in the case. Our CFC child welfare department is comprised of 3 division directors (supervisors). Each supervisor can manage a maximum of 5 staff members. Our directors include Dawn Mead (26+ years of service), Nancy Oliver (6 years of service) and myself, Diane Goodemote (9 years of service). Dawn and Nancy supervise the foster care and adoption case management staff. We currently have 9 case managers and 2 clerical support staff. I supervise the licensing/certification department which currently has 5 licensing workers. There can be up to 20 staff members working together on behalf of children who have entered foster care and are in need of services. We also have 90+ licensed foster families and many more individuals and families who are in the process of becoming licensed or are interested in starting the process.

Becoming a foster parent requires more than providing love and shelter to a foster child in need. It also means opening up your home and your life to many other people. We sincerely hope that you find our network of workers and supervisors here to be supportive and see your place here as a foster parent as part of a team supporting the needs and challenges of foster children placed in your home. At any time you do not feel supported or as part of a team, please let us know! I assumed this leadership position of supervising the licensing staff and certification process in late 2013. I would love to have a chance to get to meet and mingle with all of you at some point! It’s only fair you know who I am as much as I know who you are! If you see me, stop me and say hello! Thank you for all you do!

Reactive Attachment Disorder Support Group

The Reactive Attachment Disorder (RAD) Support Group has been meeting for over 13 years. New families are always welcome to join— both foster and adoptive families can attend. The group typically meets on the 4th Monday of each month at the agency from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Dinner is served potluck style, and if families register ahead of time, childcare may be provided. The next meeting will be held on **March 28**.

Please RSVP to Korey Wheeler at 517-882-4000 Ext. 133 or koreywheeler@childandfamily.org