



Our Mission:

To empower and serve people in need of specialized supports by providing innovative services that improve their ability to live fulfilling lives in the community.

Main Office

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Fort Washington, PA 19034-3234
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800.793.2150 (toll-free)
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Schuylkill/Carbon/Berks

340 South Liberty Street
Orwigsburg, PA 17961-2127
570.366.1154 ext. 253 (phone)
800.200.7701 ext. 253 (toll-free)
570.366.7711 (fax)
Mental Health Wellness Center
570.366.5096 (phone)
570.366.8755 (fax)

Lehigh Valley

3975 Township Line Road
Bethlehem, PA 18020-4200
610.866.6667 (phone)
877.896.6667 (toll-free)
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*Access Services is an Equal
Opportunity Care Provider.*

www.accessservices.org

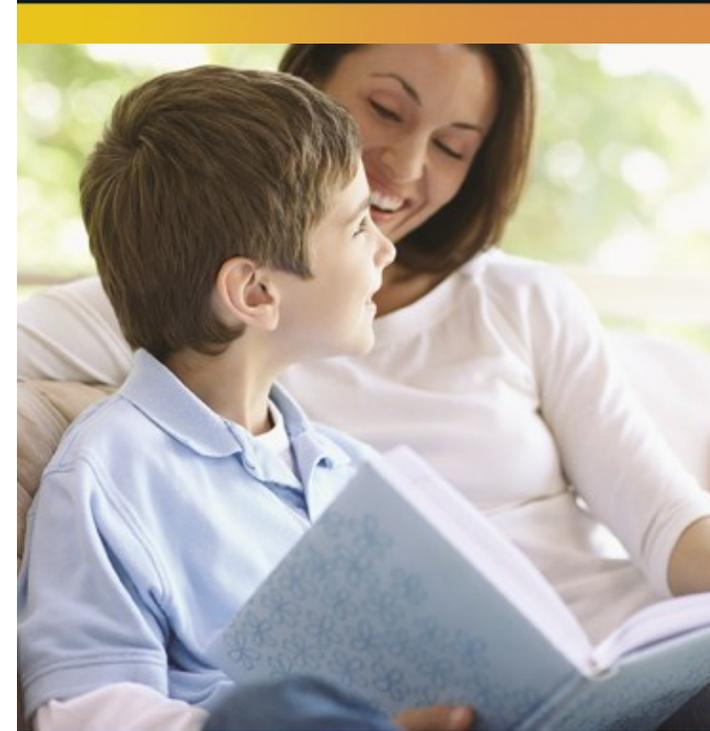


**ACCESS
SERVICES**

Creating better ways to serve
people with special needs

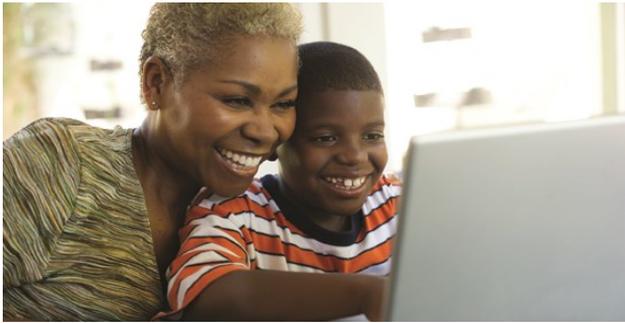
Foster Care

*Opening Our Hearts
and Homes*



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What is Foster Care?

“Foster” means to *nurture*. “Care” means to *provide*. Therefore, foster care provides the healing and nurturing a child requires within a family environment, in which we believe is the best place for any child to grow, develop and flourish.

What is unique about Foster Parents?

Foster parents are caregivers as well as agents of active change in a child’s life by setting a good example, and providing the time, care, and attention that a child deserves. Foster parents ensure that a child has a place to call home that is run by responsible adults in whom the child can count on for growth and care.

“It’s not always easy, but when you see a child’s face light up with pride in what they’ve done, it makes it all worthwhile.”

-Current Foster Parent

Rewards and Incentives

The feeling that comes from helping children who are in need of care and a nurturing home is most often a reward in itself. Other incentives for being a foster parent for Access Services are:

- Non-taxable monthly reimbursements
- Opportunities for training
- Bi-weekly check ups
- Exclusive events
- Referral bonus

Required Qualifications

Access Services’ foster parents (providers) provide only the best. We pick homes that are a good fit for the child and the family. A few of the main items needed to qualify are:

- Be at least 25 years of age and a resident of Bucks, Carbon, Chester, Delaware, Lehigh, Monroe, Montgomery, or Northampton County.
- Obtain current child abuse, criminal history and FBI clearances.
- Supply three non-family member references and one professional reference.
- Be in good physical and mental health.
- Have a valid driver’s license and a fully-insured car.
- Have a home that is insured and meets safety standards.
- Earn an income sufficient enough to meet the current financial needs of the family.
- Be willing to obtain the required training.



Frequently Asked Questions

Q. Am I qualified to be a foster parent?

We qualify our foster parents through an interview and home study process. Once approved, you will receive support from other team members and ongoing training to help you with your new foster parenting role.

Q. Will I have any special training to help me be a foster parent?

Access Services offers trainings which are convenient and flexible to fit in with most any family’s busy schedule. Foster parents are required to take 24 hours of training each year.

Q. How long will a child stay in our home?

The length of stay for a child usually depends on the specifics of each child’s situation. Foster care is temporary in nature with a primary goal of reunification with the natural family or a similar permanent solution.

Q. Can I decline taking in a child that I feel is not a good match?

Yes. A representative from the program will call and speak with you about a child. You always have the option of accepting or declining to have a child in your home. We respect your judgment in doing what is best for your family.

Q. If a crisis situation arises, what do I do?

Access Services provides emergency on-call seven days a week, 24-hours a day. You will be provided with intensive support to stabilize a crisis.