



Interested in Fostering?

Have you considered fostering? Not sure where to start? Here are the steps to get you started!

Step 1 - Decide if Foster Care is right for you

There are several factors to consider as you decide if fostering is the right journey for you and your family. Check out this great [resource](#) to help guide your decision.

Step 2 - Submit an Inquiry

Fill out a brief [questionnaire](#). A representative from the Department of Children's Services will give you a call in a few days to answer questions and help you get signed up for PATH.

Step 3 - Complete PATH

All foster parents in Tennessee must complete a 7-week long course called PATH (Parents as Tender Healers). These classes are offered in every county several times a year. Check out this [link](#) to find a class that fits your schedule!

Step 4 - Home Study

You will need to complete a home study after finishing PATH classes. Your PATH instructor and home study writer will work together to get a full picture of your family, so you are prepared to accept placements. For more information on this process, we would recommend checking out this [link](#).

Step 5 - Approval!

Once you have completed all of these steps, your home is an open foster home, ready to accept placements. Congratulations!!

Additional Resources

[Overview of the process](#)
[Foster Parent Handbook](#)