

THE MAGNITUDE – More than 513,000 American children are in foster care because their own families are in crisis and are unable to provide for their essential well-being.

THE NEED – Foster children and youth require safe, stable and nurturing environments to live in until they can safely reunite with their parents or establish other lifelong family relationships.

THE FACES OF FOSTER CARE – Child welfare issues arise in families of every race, ethnicity, culture and age group. Even though research shows that there is no difference in the incidence of abuse and neglect according to racial group, children of color comprise a disproportionate percentage of youth in foster care.

THE CONSEQUENCES – Like all young people, youth in foster care deserve and benefit from enduring, positive relationships with caring adults. Without these permanent connections, former foster children are far more likely than their peers in the general population to endure homelessness, poverty, compromised health, unemployment, incarceration and other adversities after they leave the foster care system.

THE PRIORITY – Older youth are in most urgent need of attention. Nearly half of the young people in foster care are older than 10. Each year, more than 20,000 young Americans age out of foster care, most without the appropriate resources, skills or options they will need to live independently.

THE FUTURE – If nothing changes by 2020:

Nearly 14 million confirmed cases of child abuse and neglect will be reported;

More than 22,000 children will die of abuse or neglect, most before their fifth birthday.

More than 9 million children will experience the foster care system;

More than 300,000 children will age out of the foster care system, some in poor health and ill prepared for success in higher education, technical college, or the workforce; and

Almost 100,000 former foster youth, who aged out of the system, can expect to experience homelessness.

THE SOLUTION – With guidance and support from nurturing adults, foster children and youth are capable of overcoming the repercussions of previous abuse and neglect. *Become a foster and/or adoptive parent and be a part of this solution.*



TFFA Goals

- * **To improve the well-being of children and families, especially Foster Children.**
- * **To promote understanding and communication to enlighten society as to the issues of family foster care.**
- * **To encourage the recruitment and the retention of foster parents.**
- * **To work with public and private child welfare agencies to improve the foster care system in Texas.**

TFFA Purpose

Our purpose is to educate, motivate and support foster and foster-adoptive parents and to be a united voice advocating for issues concerning foster and foster-adoptive families.

**“Partial funding of TFFA and its activities and publications are provided by the Department of Family and Protective Services”
Report suspected child abuse or neglect to the Abuse and Neglect Hotline, 1.800.252.5400 or online at www.txabusehotline.org**

TEXAS FOSTER FAMILY ASSOCIATION



HELPING FAMILIES / HELPING CHILDREN

www.tffa.org

(512).947.3367

The Texas Foster Family Association is guided by ...

A belief in the value of children. ...

The strength and importance of a family ...

The ability of foster / foster-adoptive parents to help break the cycle of abuse and neglect.

~Membership Application~

Groups: Mail a list of your members
(full names and complete addresses and phone numbers
and Email addresses) to
TFFA Membership Chair
Ann Bailiff
PO Box 2225
Brownwood, Texas 76804
325. 646.7419
membership@tffa.org or abailiff@hughes.net

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone #: _____

Email: _____

DFPS Region #: _____

MEMBERSHIP RATES	
Membership Year is from September 1 - August 31 of the following year	
INDIVIDUAL	\$15
COUPLE	\$25
SUPPORTIVE MEMBER	\$25
ASSOCIATION/AGENCY MEMBER (INCLUDES ALL MEMBERS OF AGENCY AND THEIR COMPLETE MAILING ADDRESSES)	
FOR GROUPS OF 1-25	\$75
FOR GROUPS OF 26-50	\$100
FOR GROUPS OF 51-75	\$150
FOR GROUPS OF 76-100	\$200
FOR GROUPS OF 101-150	\$300
FOR GROUPS OF 151-200	\$400
FOR GROUPS OF 201-250	\$500
FOR GROUPS OF 251-300	\$600
FOR GROUPS OF 301-500	\$700
FOR GROUPS OF +500	CALL ANN

~Texas Foster Family Association Offers~

Volunteer Caregivers

- ★ Foster families receive reimbursement to cover most expenses associated with the care of a foster child.
- ★ Foster families have the difficult, but rewarding, job of caring for over 15,000 children receiving foster care services.

Why The Need

- ★ In 2008 across Texas there was an average of 1,191 children removed from their homes per month because of alleged child abuse or neglect.

TFFA Programs

- ★ The F.O.C.U.S. ~ This publication is full of information for all Texas foster and adoptive families.
- ★ Recruitment & Retention of Foster & Adoptive families across Texas.
- ★ Scholarship Fund available to foster, adopted, and biological children of our members.
- ★ Memorial Fund is available to it's Members.

TFFA Offers Support

- ★ Regional Representation Program.
- ★ TFFA Region Representatives help families and provide valuable input at the state and regional level regarding issues facing foster parents.
- ★ Local Foster Parent Associations.

Across Texas local foster and adoptive parent support groups offer local opportunities to network, receive training and provide emotional support.

Training

- ★ Our TFFA annual training conference has been held each year since 1974. Attendees come to the conference to obtain many of their required annual training hours, have the opportunity to network with other foster parents, to gather information for better understanding of the foster care system, and to enjoy time away from the everyday stressors of foster parenting.

Recruitment & Retention

- ★ With such a tremendous need for experienced foster families and more foster homes, TFFA provides year round efforts for recruitment and retention.

Advocacy & Community Education

- ★ Helping the children of Texas begins but does not end in the home of a foster family. TFFA works through Legislative Alerts, web site forums and training to keep foster and adoptive families apprised of opportunities to share their insights with legislators, public officials and their communities, with the intent of improving child welfare.



TO LEARN MORE VISIT US AT WWW.TFFA.ORG

