



Wisconsin Foster Care Fact Sheet

- * Foster parents give a child a safe and loving place to stay when the child's parents are unable to provide for them. These children come from a wide variety of backgrounds and situations. They are children of all ages and races. Above all, most of these children need a loving and stable place to call home.
- * Many different types of people from all walks of life can be foster parents.
- * In order to become a foster parent, you must be 21 years of age or older and a responsible adult. A potential foster parent will be asked to provide information about his or her background, including alcohol or drug abuse or law violations that might make them unable to provide a safe environment.
- * The prospective foster parent(s) and their family will meet with a licensing specialist. They will provide orientation to the foster care program and training on parenting.
- * The amount of time a child stays in foster care can vary from as little as a few days to a number of years. Most children in foster care return home in less than three months, however some children are still in foster care after three years.
- * Most children in the foster program are not available for adoption, but the foster parents are eligible to apply if that child does come up for adoption.
- * Foster parents receive information about a child before they are placed in the home. The foster parent, along with the case manager can decide if the child should be placed in their home.
- * More than 5,100 families are currently licensed foster care providers in the state of Wisconsin.
- * On average, 7,000 children in the state of Wisconsin will be placed with these foster families.
- * LSS further supports its commitment to children with these accreditations and memberships:
 - Hague Accreditation
 - COA Accreditation
 - JCICS Member (*Joint Council on International Children's Services*)
 - CWLA Member (*Child Welfare League of America*)



Wisconsin

Appleton 800-577-4100
 Eau Claire 888-746-2850
 La Crosse 608-788-5090
 Madison 608-277-2966
 Milwaukee 414-671-5950
 Superior 715-394-4173, ext. 106
 Waukesha 800-216-3437
 Wausau 888-522-3678

Upper Michigan

877-994-8344

LSS serves every county in Wisconsin and Upper Michigan. Call your nearest office.

