



Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

What should I consider to help me know if fostering/adopting is right for me?

- Do I have interest in learning about how to help children with special needs?
- Do I have time, patience and commitment to care for a child with special needs?
- Am I willing to be an active team member with the educational, child welfare and community providers who will be helping the child(ren) in my care?
- Will my family and friends support me in fostering and adopting?
- Do I have a flexible schedule?

What are the qualifications for becoming a foster parent?

- At least 21 years of age
- Pass a background check
- Provide a safe home with an available bed for a child
- Possess a passion to make a difference in a child's life

What are the steps to becoming a foster parent?

1. Attend orientation (*See Enclosed Flyer*)
2. Submit an application
3. Participate in required trainings
4. Engage in home and family assessments
5. Receive license to foster or adopt; receive a Youth!

What is the difference between traditional and specialized Foster Care?

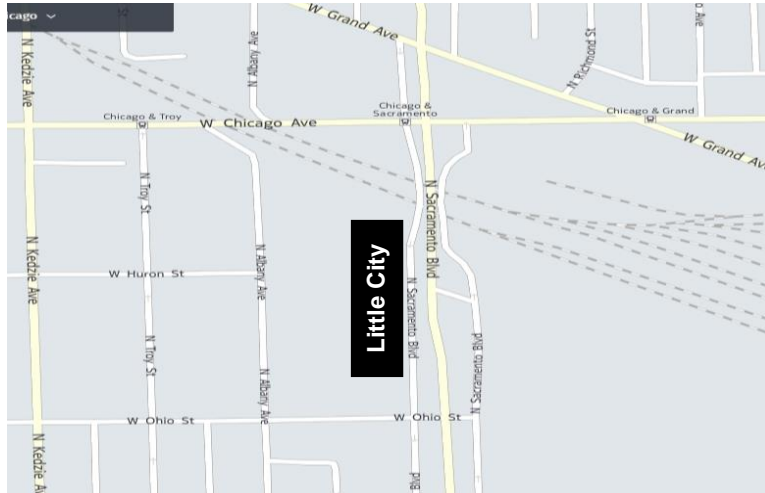
Traditional Foster Care	Specialized Foster Care
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parents meet youth's basic needs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Food, Clothing, Shelter, Medical, Education, Safety, Well-being • Parents encourage youth's growth and development • Parents support youth's connection to their family of origin • Parents care for youth as if youth was own child 	<p><i>Parents meet all Traditional Foster Care criteria, <u>plus</u>:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Youth have special needs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Emotional/behavioral – Medical – Developmental delays • Parents receive extra training, assistance, and agency supervision to enable them to care for a specialized child or adolescent • Parents have additional responsibilities as necessary to meet Youth's individual needs

When and where are orientation sessions held?

Orientation sessions are regularly scheduled for the 3rd Wednesday of every month. Contact us to attend: **Email Foster@littlecity.org or Call 1-855-WE-FOSTER**

Where is the Little City Chicago Office, and how do I get there?

The Foster Care & Adoption Program is located near the intersection of Chicago Ave and Sacramento, in Chicago. Parking is available along the service drive. Enter through the south entrance of the building, using the Suite number (201) as the access code.



From North

90 E to Chicago

Exit at California (#46)

Bear to right on California

Turn right at Diversity

Turn left on Sacramento

Drive about three miles: at Chicago Ave, bear right and make an immediate left onto Sacramento service drive.

From South

94 W to Chicago

Take 290 West

Turn right onto California and continue on Van Buren to Sacramento

Turn right on Sacramento

Turn left on Chicago and make a quick left on service drive

From West

290 East to Sacramento

Turn left on Sacramento

Turn left on Chicago and make a quick left on service drive