

Ways to Help Our SF Foster Youth: Permanency Option Description Chart

Option	Description	Minimum Commitment	Next Step
Create or Join a Team	Create or join a school or neighborhood recruitment team to help find permanent connections for youth or a permanency team for a known youth.	2 hrs/month	Contact an Our Community, Our Children representative (see below)
Donate	Donate items to a youth's home or foster care agency. Many need school supplies, clothing, shoes, or even toys. Suitcases or bags are often needed. Make sure you donate items that are in great condition. If you wouldn't let your own child wear it, don't send it on.	5 mins to arrange pick up	Contact an Our Community, Our Children representative (see below)
Mentor	Mentoring is a structured, consistent, and purposeful relationship between a young person and a caring adult who provides acceptance, support, encouragement, and guidance.	8 hrs/month	Contact an Our Community, Our Children representative (see below)
Back-up Childcare	<i>In-Home Childcare:</i> Carefully screened and trained providers provide childcare in the homes of families <i>Out-of-Home Childcare:</i> These certified host families provide daytime, overnight, or multiple day stays <i>Site-Based Childcare:</i> Childcare is provided to groups of children at various locations while parents attend support groups, parenting classes, job search and training programs or health programs	Varies	Call Tony Sanchez Family Support Services of the Bay Area Phone #: 415-861-4060, ext. 3031
Educational Surrogacy	A Surrogate Parent fills the role of a parent for a foster youth or a student with a disability whenever decisions are being made about the student's educational placement and program and attends all relevant educational meetings.	1 meeting w/ youth	Contact Carol Kocivar, SFUSD Phone #: 415-379-7642 Email: kocivarc@sfusd.edu
Respite Care	A service offered through Family Support Services of the Bay Area to many foster families, which provides foster family care for the foster children of another foster family for up to 24 hours.	24 hrs/month	Call Bruce Williams Phone #: 415-861-4060
NREFM Placement	NREFM (Non-Related Extended Family Member) placement is the housing of youth with a provider with an existing relationship with the youth. The process is very similar to foster parenting although the requirements and regulations are less strict.	Extended orientation + 24 hr care	Contact an Our Community, Our Children representative (see below)
County Foster Home	Licensed through SF County, county foster homes provide a temporary placement, which assists children in preparing for return to their birthparents or a more permanent home.	Training + 24 hr care	Contact an Our Community, Our Children representative (see below)
FFA Home	Approved through a FFA (Foster Family Agency), an agency with specialized training, foster homes provide a temporary placement for youth. Various programs are offered for youth based on agency and service and support needs.	Training + 24 hr care	Contact an Our Community, Our Children representative (see below)
PATH Program	PATH (Permanent Avenues Toward Home) is an innovative "host-home" model that builds upon positive, permanent relationships already existing in the lives of youth. PATH pairs youth with an adult of their choice who provides housing in their home. To participate, youth must identify a qualified adult that is able to house the youth in their home for up to two years, or the day before their 25 th birthday.	Orientation + 24 hr care	Talk to the youth and let them know you can provide this. Help contact an Advocate at ILSP (Independent Living Skills Program) to make it happen.
Legal Guardianship	A legal process where other persons take on the responsibility of raising the child with the right to sign all legal papers regarding that child.	Training + 24 hr care	Contact an Our Community, Our Children representative (see below)
Adoption	Adoption makes it possible for children to become a part of your family legally.	Training + 24 hr care	Contact an Our Community, Our Children representative (see below)

OUR COMMUNITY, OUR CHILDREN REPRESENTATIVE:

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For more information, go to SFUSD's Foster Youth Services Website at: www.healthiersf.org/FYS