

## Upcoming Virtual Trainings/Meetings:

Contact your therapist or Ken Summers at [ksummers@thebabyfold.org](mailto:ksummers@thebabyfold.org) for more information about...

### Parent Support Groups:

- ❖ **Supporting and Celebrating Neurodiversity:** A support group for caregivers of children with diagnoses such as Autism, Sensory Processing Disorder, Learning Disorders, ADHD, OCD, executive functioning difficulties, and so forth. Meets 2x a month. Open to all interested families.
- ❖ **Tuesday Night Parent Support group:** Provides education and support related to parenting, trauma, and self-care within the context of adoption and foster care. Meets 2x a month.
- ❖ **Tuesday Daytime group:** Similar to the group above, but is offered during the day. Meets 2x a month.
- ❖ **Single Parent Support group:** For single caregivers who are raising a foster or adopted child. Possible topics include anxiety, stress, self-care, balance, etc. Meets 2x a month.
- ❖ **Mom's Support group:** Primarily focuses on support, celebrating successes and sharing/discussing challenges. Meets 1x a month.
- ❖ **Dads Sharpen Dads:** A safe place for dads to share their unique challenges, as well as education and support for each other to be their very best.
- ❖ **Ethnic Hair and Skin Care Parent group:** A supportive group of adoptive and foster parents in learning all about how to care for and maintain your child's skin and hair.

### Teen/Youth Support Groups (for clients who are currently open in services):

- ❖ **Teen Group:** A space where teens throughout The Baby Fold services can connect to receive support on personal, social, and school-related issues.
- ❖ **Transracial Adoptee Support group:** A safe space for transracially adopted kids/youth to talk about things that are not talked about, yet necessary. Topics to include, but not limited to, race, culture, identity challenges, colorism, isolation, and other important topics.

## TBRI Tip of the Month:

"Our children were harmed in relationship, and they will experience healing through nurturing relationships."  
-- Dr. Karyn Purvis

Recommended resource:  
*I Love You Rituals*  
by Becky Bailey  
(see info below)

**Ecological Strategies** focus on the child's external environment; they increase the child's sense of felt safety, and they empower children to learn and practice self-regulation skills.

### Transitions

- ❖ Children who are fearful are likely to react negatively (fight, flight, or freeze) when faced with a new and challenging situation. Set them up to succeed by letting them know what to expect and when to expect it, in terms that they understand.
- ❖ There are two different types of transitions that your child may encounter:
  - Daily Transitions: from home to school (and back again); switching from one task to another; going to extracurricular activities.
  - Life Transitions: moving to a new home/town; joining a new family; birth of a sibling; addition (or departure) of a family member; reaching new developmental levels.

### Routines and Rituals

- ❖ **Routines:** Consistent, predictable practices that occur regularly as part of a regular schedule. An evening routine might include: homework, dinner, brush teeth/bathe, go to bed.
- ❖ **Rituals:** Times of heart-to-heart connection that have deeper meaning than routines. An evening ritual might include: playing a game together with soap bubbles/shaving cream in bathtub, bedtime story, hug/kiss goodnight, back-and-forth sing-song chant such as "good night, sleep tight, wake up bright" or "later alligator, in a while crocodile."

THE BABY FOLD PRESENTS

# SUPPORTING *and* CELEBRATING NEURODIVERSITY

LEARNING DISORDERS

TIC DISORDERS

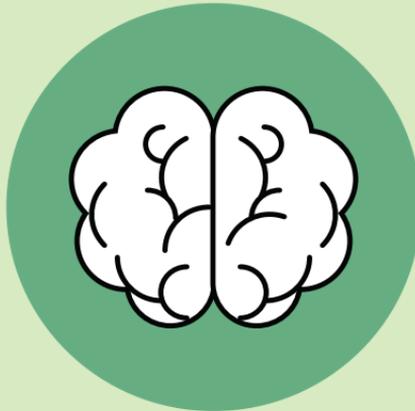
EXECUTIVE  
FUNCTIONING  
DIFFICULTIES

AUTISM

ADHD

SENSORY  
PROCESSING  
DISORDER

OCD



FETAL ALCOHOL SPECTRUM DISORDERS

A SUPPORT GROUP FOR CAREGIVERS

HELD VIA ZOOM

OPEN TO ALL INTERESTED FAMILIES

1ST AND 3RD WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH

STARTING OCTOBER 20TH, 2021

7 PM - 8 PM

PLEASE CONTACT MORGAN JOHNSON AT  
MJOHNSON@THEBABYFOLD.ORG OR MELISSA LEGENDRE AT  
MLEGENDRE@THEBABYFOLD.ORG FOR MORE INFORMATION



## THE BABY FOLD **PARENT SUPPORT GROUP**

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**1<sup>ST</sup> AND 3<sup>RD</sup> TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH  
8-9PM**

EMAIL EMILY BACKODE AT [EBACKODE@THEBABYFOLD.ORG](mailto:EBACKODE@THEBABYFOLD.ORG) OR  
MARY ROBERDS AT [MROBERDS@THEBABYFOLD.ORG](mailto:MROBERDS@THEBABYFOLD.ORG) FOR MORE  
INFORMATION

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**“You cannot lead a child to a place of healing  
if you do not know the way yourself.”**

**-- Dr. Karyn Purvis**

# The Baby Fold



Open to Foster, Adoptive, and any Parents that need support surrounding behavioral, emotional, and attachment difficulties.

**2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month**

Location: Virtually through Microsoft Teams

**Time: 12:00 – 1:00 pm**

Contact **Liz Fultz** ([Lfultz@thebabyfold.org](mailto:Lfultz@thebabyfold.org) or 309-531-7444)

**Nicole Hrabik** ([nhrabik@thebabyfold.org](mailto:nhrabik@thebabyfold.org) or 309-532-1230) or

**\*Please email to be put on parent support group or if you need assistance with Teams.**

# What have you done for yourself this week?

Join us:

## Single Parent Support Group

Thursdays 8pm – 9pm

Open group: Join when you can

Topics include:

Self-care, Stress, Anxiety,  
Communication, Balance, Etc.

RSVP and Questions:

Brooke DeClerck

[bdeclerck@thebabyfold.org](mailto:bdeclerck@thebabyfold.org)

309-826-5268

Marge Parker

[mparker@thebabyfold.org](mailto:mparker@thebabyfold.org)

309-433-6536





October 4, 2021

To Whom It May Concern,

On behalf of Kaleidoscope, I would like to introduce you to Find Your Future. Find Your Future is a paid summer internship program offered by Kaleidoscope and funded by the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS). Since its inception in 2003, FYF has provided more than 400 students with internships in a range of professional environments that align with the intern's academic concentration.

Eligible program candidates include current or past DCFS youth who are enrolled full-time in college (university or community), participate in Youth in College or Youth in Scholarship programs, in an ILO, TLP, or Foster Care program, and have a GPA of at least 2.0 (see FAQ for more eligibility requirements). Students of all backgrounds and levels of experience are encouraged to apply to this competitive program.

Find Your Future is a statewide program, so internships are based on a student's geographic location for the summer and academic concentration. **Internships begin at the end of May 2022 and end by mid-August 2022. Exact start and end dates may vary depending on an intern's school schedule and internship provider availability.**

Prior to students beginning their internship, all are required to attend a four-day mandatory professional curriculum beginning May 24, 2022. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, workshops will be conducted virtually. Students will then report to their internships the following week. Students are then eligible to work up to 375 hours throughout the summer, which is compensated at \$11 per hour. If COVID safe, the mandatory closing luncheon is scheduled to take place in Chicago on Friday, August 5, 2022. The curriculum covers topics such as: office etiquette, financial literacy, resume writing, interviewing, professional social media etiquette, team building, a service project, professional networking, and business dinner etiquette. The program also includes optional activities, which allow participants to build peer-to-peer relationships networks.

Interested applicants should apply by completing an application packet to include the following:

- Program Application
- Resume
- 1-2 Letters of Recommendation
- Unofficial College Transcript
- Writing Sample: outline as to why the applicant is applying for Find Your Future
- Complete applications should be postmarked, emailed, or faxed no later than December 31, 2021.  
**Late or incomplete applications will not be considered.**

Candidates who are selected for an interview will be notified via phone and will receive additional details about the interview process at that time. Interviews will take place virtually between January 3<sup>rd</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> of 2022. If you have any questions, contact Liz Mulkern at [findyourfuture@kaleidoscope4kids.org](mailto:findyourfuture@kaleidoscope4kids.org).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Liz Mulkern".

Liz Mulkern

Find Your Future Coordinator



## **Find Your Future Frequently Asked Questions**

### **Q. What are the qualifications for this program?**

Each participant must be enrolled in one of the following DCFS programs and meet the following GPA requirements:

1. Youth in College
2. Youth in Scholarship
3. Independent Living, Transitional Living Program, or Foster Care
4. Self-selected placement

Each participant must also meet the following educational requirements:

1. A GPA of 2.0 or greater through the spring semester. Accepted students are required to provide fall and spring semester unofficial transcripts.
2. Each participant must be enrolled in a 2 or 4 year college or vocational program during and after the application process.

### **Q. Am I eligible for Find Your Future if I graduate college in May 2022?**

No. All participating students **MUST** be enrolled in school post Find Your Future internship. You are eligible to apply if you are scheduled to graduate in December 2022.

### **Q. What if I am a freshman and I don't have transcripts to send with my application package?**

Submit all other Find Your Future application requirements and a brief cover letter explaining that because you are freshman you do not at present have college transcripts.

Student's final acceptance will be contingent upon the receipt of their transcripts and meeting all other Find Your Future requirements.

### **Q. What type of transcripts do I need to submit official or unofficial?**

Unofficial transcripts must be submitted at time of application to Find Your Future. However, students may be required to submit official transcripts to the internship placement interview.

### **Q. When does the program start and finish?**

The Program begins on Tuesday, May 24, 2022 with four days of mandatory workshops. Workshops are normally held at our Chicago office, but due to the COVID-19 pandemic, workshops have been switched to a virtual format. Students will then report to their internships in the following weeks. Students are then eligible to work up to 375 hours throughout the summer. If COVID safe, the mandatory closing luncheon is scheduled to take place in Chicago on Friday, August 5, 2022.

When accepting this internship each intern is required to sign an agreement outlining obligations and responsibilities.

### **Q. Where are internships located?**

Internships are based on the geographical location of the student. Find Your Future is a statewide program with established partnerships across the state, but the Find Your Future (FYF) Coordinator continually seeks new partnerships.

### **Q. How is my internship chosen?**

Internships are determined by college concentration, interviews, and location in relation to student's summer housing.

### **Q. What if I want to take summer classes or have additional employment?**

The Find Your Future Program is a rigorous internship program that can include 25-37.5 hours per week at the assigned internship provider. It is highly recommended that the student prioritize the internship. However, if the student needs to

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attend summer classes, it must be communicated to the FYF Coordinator and a summer schedule must be provided prior to enrollment. In addition, if you intend to have additional employment during the summer, it also must be communicated to the FYF Coordinator to eliminate scheduling conflicts.

**Q. Am I required to take summer classes to maintain my Youth in College stipend?**

No. Enrollment in Find Your Future meets the Youth in College/Scholarship academic requirements to maintain a student's monthly stipend.

**Q. Am I an employee of Kaleidoscope?**

No, interns are not employees of Kaleidoscope. Participating students are considered independent contractors; therefore, all students are required to pay the income tax on earned stipends.

**Q. As an intern do I have any benefits?**

No. As an intern of the Find Your Future Program you do not earn vacation, sick, holiday, or personal time. For any time taken off, students must have supervisory and FYF Coordinator approval and will not receive pay for hours not performed.

**Q. How is my stipend calculated?**

Interns earn a stipend of the hourly rate of \$11.00. Youth can earn up to \$4,125 for the normal schedule of 37.5 hours per week for ten weeks. Under no circumstances can an intern perform more than 40 hours each week.

**Q. When do we receive our stipends? Can stipends be directly deposited?**

Interns receive stipends bi-weekly. Yes, stipends can be direct deposited.

**Q. How many workshops are there?**

There are (7) mandatory workshops which are: Orientation, Office Etiquette, Resume Writing, Interviewing, Networking and Business Dinner Etiquette, Volunteer Service Project, Financial Literacy, Team Building Activity, and Professional Social Media. Additional workshops or retreats may be added.

**Q. Why are all workshops mandatory?**

Attendance is **required** for each workshop and activity. Your acceptance into the FYF Program requires you to participate in the workshops. The workshop curriculum is part of the Find Your Future professional learning experience; therefore, they are all mandatory and students must make arrangements with work, school, and travel.

**Q. Is transportation provided?**

Students receive a one-time transportation stipend to assist with traveling to the week of workshops and the closing luncheon.

**Q. Is housing provided?**

In recent years, we have been able to provide temporary housing for workshop week for students more than 50 miles outside of Chicago. If any additional housing can be provided, students will be notified immediately.

**Q. Will this internship lead to permanent employment?**

Possibly. Several students have been offered employment, but this is determined by employer needs, student's performance, and student availability.

**Q. Can I receive academic credit for my internship?**

Yes, as long as your University/College is aware you are being compensated for hours worked. This must be communicated with the FYF Coordinator.



**Find Your Future Application**  
**Summer 2022**

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Pronouns:  he/him  she/her  they/them  other: \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Gender: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Secondary Phone (If Applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Personal Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Preferred Email Address:

Personal

School Email: \_\_\_\_\_  School

Current Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Apt: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Summer Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Apt: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of College/University: \_\_\_\_\_

What is your Major or Concentration? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have a Minor? If so, in what concentration? \_\_\_\_\_

Year in School:  Freshman\*  Sophomore  Junior  Senior

Expected Graduation Date: \_\_\_\_\_ GPA: \_\_\_\_\_\*

\*(If you are a freshman, you will be required to supply your GPA prior to or at your interview.)

**Type of Internship Sought**

Part-Time (20-25 hours/per week for 10 weeks)

Full-Time (37.5 hours/per week for 10 weeks)

Either

**Hours Available to Perform Internship**

<u>Sunday</u>	<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>	<u>Saturday</u>

What would your ideal internship placement look like, i.e. field, company, industry, etc.?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



**Housing and Transportation**

Are you planning to live in the Chicagoland area over the summer?  Yes  No

If not, where will you be living? \_\_\_\_\_

Will transportation to an internship in Chicagoland area be an issue for you?  Yes  No

Do you have a valid Driver's License?  Yes  No

If yes, do you have or have access to a car?  Yes  No

**DCFS Programs**

Which of the following educational program(s) are you a current participant of?

Community College Payment Program  Education Training Voucher  DCFS Youth in College

DCFS Youth in Scholarship: Which year were you awarded this scholarship? \_\_\_\_\_

Other \_\_\_\_\_

Which category describes your current status with DCFS?

Adopted  Emancipated from DCFS  Independent Living Program  Foster Care

Transitional Living Program  Guardianship  Self-selected placement

Have you participated in Find Your Future before?  Yes  No

If yes, what year? \_\_\_\_\_ (Students may participate in Find Your Future twice.)

Have you applied for Find Your Future before?  Yes  No If yes, what year(s)? \_\_\_\_\_

**Background (This does not affect your acceptance into the program.)**

Which racial/ethnic group(s) do you self-identify with?

American Indian or Alaska Native  Asian  Black or African-American  White

Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander  Hispanic  Bi/Multi-Racial  Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you self-identify at LGBTQ?  Yes  No  Prefer not to answer

Are you fluent in any other language?  No  Yes: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you currently parenting?  Yes  No  Expecting

Have you ever been convicted of a crime?  Yes  No

If yes, what were you convicted of? \_\_\_\_\_

Have you ever been charged of a crime?  Yes  No

If yes, what were you charged of? \_\_\_\_\_

Have you ever been fired from a job?  Yes  No

If yes, why? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have any medical conditions or disabilities that we should be aware of/you need accommodations for?

No  Yes: \_\_\_\_\_

If you receive this internship, are you planning on taking classes during the summer of 2022?

Yes  No  Possibly



If you receive this internship, are you planning on maintaining additional outside employment during the summer of 2022?

- Yes  No  Possibly

How did you initially hear about the Find Your Future program?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Use the lines below to provide us with any additional information which will be helpful in the selection process.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Emergency Contact Information**

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

*(Must be physically signed, as electronic signatures are not valid.)*

**APPLICATION CHECKLIST:**

- Completed application form
- Resume
- 1-2 Professional Recommendation Letters (Professor, Caseworker, Employer Supervisor, etc.)
- Copy of unofficial transcripts with current GPA: *Freshman are required to provide their Fall Term Transcripts with GPA at or before their scheduled interview.*
- 1 page essay (may be double spaced): *Answer the question "Why I should be chosen for the Find Your Future Internship?" If you are an FYF alumnus, please also describe your experience and skills gained from your previous experience, as well as the experience/skills you would like to gain from an additional internship.*

Completed applications can be emailed to [fyf@kaleidoscope4kids.org](mailto:fyf@kaleidoscope4kids.org), faxed to 773-278-5663, or mailed to:

Kaleidoscope, Inc.  
Find Your Future  
1901 W. Carroll Ave, Suite 205  
Chicago, IL 60612

**Complete applications must be submitted via email or fax by 11:59pm on 12/31/2021, or postmarked no later than 12/31/2021. Incomplete or late application packets will not be considered.**

**You will be notified when your application is received or if it is incomplete. Upon receiving applications, you will be called to schedule your interview, which will take place virtually between January 3rd & 28th of 2022.**

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