




Wishing you and yours a very

Merry Christmas

and Happy New Year!



We want to thank all of you for all that you do every day for the children that are placed in your care. We give thanks for the incredible dedication, patience, and genuine care you show to children each and every day, particularly during this holiday season. Thank you for wanting to make a difference in a young person's life. Your impact on children's lives is immeasurable!

Don't forget about our Referral Incentive Program!

If you refer a family for licensure that successfully becomes licensed, you will be rewarded \$150! Referred families must identify you within the first 3 days of the licensing process. Please reach out to your licensing worker if you have any questions or concerns.



REMEMBER TO JOIN THE BABY FOLD'S
FOSTER CARE FACEBOOK PAGE



Foster Parent Rights and Responsibilities #9

Foster Parents have the right to be notified of scheduled meetings and staffings concerning the foster child in order to actively participate in the case planning and decision-making process regarding the child in their care, including individual service planning meetings, administrative case reviews, interdisciplinary staffings, and individual educational planning meetings; the right to be informed of decisions made by the court or the child welfare agency concerning the child; the right to provide input concerning the plan of services for a child and to have that input given full consideration in the same manner as information presented by any other professional on the team; and the right to communicate with other professionals who work with the foster child within the context of the team, including therapists, physicians, and teachers. Foster Parents also have the responsibility to know the impact foster parenting has on individuals and family relationships; and the responsibility to endeavor to minimize, as much as possible, any stress that results from foster parenting.

UPCOMING SUPPORT GROUPS AND TRAININGS

SIDE BY SIDE MINISTRIES

This ministry exists to engage the church & local community in consistent loving support of families involved in foster care by providing access to physical, relational, & spiritual resources. Check out the flyer on page 13 for more information about this resource.

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. Meets 2 times a month. Check out the flyer on page 17, and Ken Summers at Ksummers@thebabyfold.org for more information

GRANDPARENT CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP

Fostering a grandchild? This group is for you! Meets once a month at Community Care, located at 3601 General Electric Rd. Suite #2 Bloomington, IL 61704. Caregivers and children are able to meet together to do activities, crafts, share a meal, and get acquainted. If you would like more information, please call Angie Raymer at 309-661-6400.

TBRI TRAINING & SUPPORT GROUP

Trust-Based Relational Intervention is a trauma informed program that focuses on meeting relational and developmental needs of children, while supporting caregivers in building healthy attachments and effective interventions. Join our 12-week virtual training designed for caregivers and professionals working with children from hard places. Learn trauma-informed strategies to help children heal, grow, and thrive.

FOSTERING STRONG TRAINING PROGRAM

The foster care staff is excited about our core training program, Foster Strong! Twice each month we offer a virtual, trauma-informed training topic that may help guide you in your foster parenting efforts. Please reach out to any foster care staff members if you have questions. RSVP is preferred but not necessary. Upcoming dates TBD.

WEDNESDAY NOON GROUP

Provides education and support related to parenting, trauma, and self-care within the context of adoption and foster care. Meets 2 times a month. Email Melissa at MLEGENDRE@thebabyfold.org for more information.

LOCAL CHRISTMAS EVENT: VISIT WITH SANTA IN UPTOWN NORMAL

Dates: December 6th-8th, 12th-15th, 19th-24th

Time: Visiting hours for the dates listed above are 5-7 p.m. on weeknights and 1-4 p.m. on weekends. Christmas Eve (Tuesday, Dec. 24) hours are 1-3 p.m.

Where: Uptown Normal- 11 Uptown Circle, Normal, IL, 61761

Cost: Free (donations encouraged)

Stop in and see Santa this holiday season in Uptown Normal! Visits with Santa are free, but donations are encouraged (proceeds support local nonprofits). Photos are welcome; bring your own camera!

For More Bloomington Normal Events, go to this website: visitbn.org

