

# Foster Care

Foster parents provide temporary care for children in foster care until it is safe for them to go back home. Now more than ever, your local department needs your help caring for children in foster care. Use the QR code or link below to let your local departments know you are interested in becoming an approved foster parent.

## Who are the children in foster care?

Children enter the foster care system at no fault of their own and for a variety of reasons including but not limited to neglect, abuse, parental substance use, incarceration of a parent, and medical illness of a parent. The temporary nature of foster care allows the child's parents to engage in services provided by local departments of social services to improve their capacity to meet the needs of their children before they are re-unified.



## How do I let local departments know of my interest to become a foster parent?

Start an inquiry today by scanning the QRcode below. Starting an inquiry is not a commitment; it simply allows you to submit information about yourself and family. This information is visible to local Departments of Social Services. Once your inquiry is complete, a department will reach out to families like yours who are interested in learning more or starting the approval process.



## Who can become a foster parent in Virginia?

You must be at least 18 years of age or older to be approved as a foster parent. Individuals and/or couples must have the time and energy to give to a child and must meet all the approval requirements. There are no restrictions based on marital status, home ownership, race, ethnicity, religion, or sexual orientation.

## Contact us!

Jessica Crack at 540-459-6937 or  
[jessicacrack@dss.virginia.gov](mailto:jessicacrack@dss.virginia.gov)

