



POLK COUNTY SOCIAL SERVICES

612 N. Broadway Rm. 302

Crookston, MN 56716

Phone (218) 281-3127* Fax (218) 281-3926

Toll Free (877) 281-3127

www.polkcountymn.gov

Dear Prospective Foster Care Provider:

Thank you for your interest in foster care. Enclosed is some general information about being a foster parent.

Minnesota State Law requires licensure for anyone providing care to a non-related child (except in a few specific instances). Relatives may also apply to become foster parents.

The information necessary to become a licensed foster home includes:

1. The initial application.
2. Three personal references (listed on application).
3. Applicant(s) and anyone 13 years and over are required to complete a background check. Applicant(s) and anyone in the household 18 or older will need fingerprints completed. 13 and over may need fingerprints as well.
4. A safety inspection of the home and possible fire marshal inspection.
5. Training: Child Passenger Safety Class to transport children under 8 years of age. SUIDS/AHT (Sudden Unexpected Infant Death/Abusive Head Trauma) to foster children under 6 years of age. Other training includes DVDs or an online link on Children and Mental Health, Normalcy and Prudent Parenting Training.
6. A series of meetings with the licensing social worker called a "home-study".
7. Miscellaneous verifications and forms as indicated by the home-study.

The process typically takes ten to twelve weeks - sometimes faster or slower - depending on how quickly the necessary verifications are returned. To begin the process, you will need to complete the enclosed application along with the individual fact sheet(s) for anyone 18 or older living in the home and return them to Polk County Social Services at the address listed above. Please also sign and return the Email/Text consent. You'll be contacted by the licensing worker to set up an appointment once your application has been received. When the licensing study is complete, a recommendation for a child foster care license will be sent to the Department of Human Services Licensing Division in St. Paul, MN within 20 days. You will receive your actual license in the mail about two weeks later.

Thank you again for your interest in becoming licensed for foster care. If you have any questions, please contact me at jaime.dragon@polkcountymn.gov or 218-470-8433.

Sincerely,

Jaime Dragon

Jaime Dragon | 218-470-8433
Licensing Case Aide

"An Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer"