



2013 National Foster Care Month FAQ

<https://www.childwelfare.gov/fostercaremonth>

What is National Foster Care Month?

May is National Foster Care Month—a time to acknowledge the foster parents, family members, volunteers, mentors, policymakers, child welfare professionals, and other members of the community who help children and youth in foster care find permanent homes and connections. It is also a time to focus on ways to create a bright future for the more than 400,000 children and youth in foster care.

How does the Children's Bureau support National Foster Care Month?

The Children's Bureau—together with its information service, Child Welfare Information Gateway, the National Resource Center for Permanency and Family Connections, the National Resource Center for Youth Development, Voice for Adoption, and the National Association of State Foster Care Managers—supports National Foster Care Month through a website for child welfare professionals on Child Welfare Information Gateway.

Read the Presidential Proclamation that calls upon all Americans to observe this month with activities and programs that honor the children and youth in foster care: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2013/04/30/presidential-proclamation-national-foster-care-month-2013>

What resources will be available on the National Foster Care Month website?

The website's focus is "Supporting Youth in Transition." It provides resources about supporting youth in transition through creating meaningful connections, partnering with youth, advancing permanency options, and preparing youth for successful transitions to adulthood. Access the resources: <https://www.childwelfare.gov/fostercaremonth/resources/>

What are Real-Life Stories?

Storytelling is a powerful way to connect real-life scenarios to important practice issues. The National Foster Care Month website features real-life stories of children, youth, and families that can help child welfare workers, managers, training staff, and others engage audiences in a variety of settings. From training to recruitment, these inspiring stories, both written narratives and videos, are great tools for gaining perspective and highlighting the role each of us has in supporting youth as they make important life transitions. View the stories:

<https://www.childwelfare.gov/fostercaremonth/reallifestories/>

How can I spread the word about National Foster Care Month?

There are a number of tools you can use to help promote National Foster Care Month. Check them out:

<https://www.childwelfare.gov/fostercaremonth/promote/>

- Sample email signatures
- Sample email messages
- Sample social media messages
- Widgets

How can I learn about what other States are doing for National Foster Care Month?

Did you ever want to know what other States are doing to celebrate National Foster Care Month? Want to contact colleagues in other States to learn about their foster care policies? Access to State officials and other foster care information is available through the State Foster Care Contacts map. Take time during National Foster Care Month to get to know your colleagues across the country and learn about their work. View State Foster Care Contacts:

<https://www.childwelfare.gov/fostercaremonth/more/contacts/>

Tell me more about the history of the Children's Bureau and foster care.

Throughout its 100-year history, the Children's Bureau has worked to assist children and youth in foster care; engage youth in decisions that affect their lives; and support foster families, kinship caregivers, child welfare professionals, and others who help these children. Learn more: <https://www.childwelfare.gov/fostercaremonth/more/about.cfm>

Learn more about the 100-year history of the Children's Bureau: <https://cb100.acf.hhs.gov/>



U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Administration for Children and Families
Administration on Children, Youth and Families
Children's Bureau

