



## National Foster Care Month FAQ

<http://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, community members, child welfare professionals, and policymakers who help children and youth in foster care find permanent homes and connections. National Foster Care Month is a time to focus on ways to create a bright future for the more than 400,000 children and youth in foster care, and we celebrate all those who make a meaningful difference in their lives.

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

The Children's Bureau—with its information service, Child Welfare Information Gateway, and the National Resource Center for Permanency and Family Connections—supports National Foster Care Month through a dedicated web section on the Information Gateway website (<http://www.childwelfare.gov/fostercaremonth>). The Children's Bureau also is a partner in the national "Change a Lifetime" initiative (<http://www.fostercaremonth.org>).

Read the Presidential Proclamation that urges everyone to participate in efforts to serve our children throughout the year: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2012/05/02/presidential-proclamation-national-foster-care-month>

### What resources are available on the National Foster Care Month web section?

The web section's focus is Achieving Well-Being With Children and Youth in Care. It provides resources to help caseworkers, managers, and administrators support children, youth, and their families:

- Build well-being postpermanency
- Build well-being with transitioning youth
- Build well-being through support in sibling connections
- Build well-being through support in school and the community
- Build well-being through trauma-informed child welfare systems

### What are Real-Life Stories?

Storytelling is a powerful way to connect real-life scenarios to important practice issues. The National Foster Care Month web section 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 are great tools for gaining perspective and highlighting the importance of building well-being for children and youth involved with child welfare. View the stories at: <http://www.childwelfare.gov/fostercaremonth/stories.cfm>

### 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 at: <http://www.childwelfare.gov/fostercaremonth/promote.cfm>

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

Also, keep up-to-date on Facebook about how to build well-being for children and youth in foster care: <http://www.facebook.com/childwelfare>

### 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 at <http://www.childwelfare.gov/fostercaremonth/about.cfm>

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

