



The National Foster Parent Association is a champion for the thousands of families that open their hearts and home to over 400,000 children in out-of-home placement in the US.

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24 State Members

CoSA
Council of State Affiliates



Meet NFPA's State Affiliates (CoSA)

We are members of NFPA's **Council of State Affiliates**.

We are state non-profit foster care associations that provide support to foster, adoptive and kinship families and children.

We Need Your Ongoing Support!

- ⇒ Congress has a long history of caring about youth in foster care. We are grateful for that. We are seeking federal policy improvements that lead to better outcomes and opportunities for youth who experience foster care.
- ⇒ We want to share what's working, and not working to help youth in foster care heal and thrive. Our recommendations focus on mental health, permanency and economic security for youth and young adults.
- ⇒ Supporting foster parents and caregivers is critical to youth having permanency, whether it's reunifying with their families or having lifelong family through guardianship or adoption.

Why It Matters

Effective training and support for foster parents

- Improves retention
- Increase placement stability
- Increases capacity to help care for children/youth

A holistic approach

- Meaningfully addresses the mental health needs of foster children and youth
- Focuses broadly on their overall well-being - home, family, school, work, and community

Stable, nurturing placements

- Positively impacts child resilience and long-term well-being
- Relational permanency is fundamental to the well-being of children and youth in foster care

Maintaining relationships with relatives and kin

- Increases stability
- Reduces trauma
- Helps children maintain a sense of family, belonging, and identity

Everyone has a role to play in helping children and youth exit care with strengthened minds, holistic supports, and stable families.

www.childwelfare.gov/fostercaremonth

The Stats



- There are over [391,000 children and youth in foster care](#).
- [Mental and behavioral health](#) is the largest unmet health need for these children and teens.
- Many LGBTQIA2S+ teens, African Americans, Latinx/Hispanic and Asian Americans in foster care also deal with language barriers, and higher rates of depression, and substance abuse.