



## **TREATMENT FOSTER FAMILIES**

### **POSITION SUMMARY:**

Community Works is currently looking for potential foster families to provide a healthy family experience for one or more at-risk youth, that are placed in the program by the Oregon Youth Authority (OYA) or the Department of Human Services (DHS). The foster families are considered an integral part of the youth's treatment team which provides a variety of services including individual therapy, family therapy, counseling, substance treatment (if needed), on sight job training and experience, academics and independent living skills. There are several options for interested potential foster parents:

- Lithia Springs Treatment Foster Care (TFC) for OYA youth provides services to male youth who are ages 16-18 and are involved in the Juvenile Justice System (these youth do not have sex offenses or arson charges).
- Lithia Springs Treatment Foster Care (TFC) for DHS youth provides services to male and female youth who are ages 16 – 18 and are in the care of DHS due to family problems and a history of abuse and neglect.
- Youth and Family Services Treatment Foster Care (TFC) provides services to male and female youth who are ages 13 – 18 and are in the care of DHS due to family problems and a history of abuse and neglect.

A treatment foster family's job is to provide a safe, structured, supportive and supervised home environment. Treatment foster parents are members of the treatment team that works with the youth to help them become productive members of the community. Community Works offers comprehensive training, 24 hour support, paid respite, and competitive compensation. Potential foster families must pass a Criminal History Check.

### **QUALIFICATIONS:**

- High School Diploma required. Bachelor's degree in social service field preferred.
- Previous experience with at-risk youth.
- Experience as foster parents preferred but not required.
- Age 25 or older.
- Able to pass a criminal history check.
- Reliable transportation, appropriate car insurance, clean driving record and current Oregon driver's license.
- Certificate of Approval from the Department of Human Services to provide foster care.

### **SKILLS AND ABILITIES:**

- Ability to exercise sound judgment and demonstrate responsible, stable, emotionally mature behavior.
- Ability to manage their home and personal life.
- Ability to maintain conditions in the home that provide safety and well-being for foster youth.
- Have supportive relationships with family members in the home and other persons in the community.
- Have a lifestyle and personal habits that are free of criminal activity, and the abuse of alcohol or drugs.

- Have adequate financial resources to support the household independent of the monthly foster care payments.
- Ability to work effectively as member of service team.
- Ability to effectively supervise youth with emotional and behavioral issues.
- Good written and verbal communication skills.
- Basic understanding of adolescent development and treatment issues of at-risk youth.
- Good interpersonal skills and ability to resolve conflicts with others.
- Ability to set boundaries and limits with youth that are placed in the home.
- Have physical and mental capacity to care for youth that are placed in the home.

## **RESPONSIBILITIES AND DUTIES:**

### A. Expectations to maintain certification

- Learn and apply effective childrearing and behavior intervention practices focused on helping a child or young adult grow, develop, and build positive personal relationships and self esteem.
- Incorporate into the family's care-giving practices positive non-punitive discipline and ways of helping a youth build positive personal relationships, self control and self esteem.
- Respect and support youth with the birth family and other significant persons in the youth's life.
- Respect youth's spiritual beliefs, lifestyles, sexual orientation, disabilities, national origin, cultural identities, and provide opportunities to enhance the youth's heritage.
- Work in partnership with Community Works and DHS to identify the strengths and needs of each youth placed in the home.
- Follow through and comply with prescribed services, activities, and restrictions of each youth placed in the foster home.
- Use reasonable efforts to prevent anyone from influencing the youth regarding allegations in judicial or administrative proceedings in which the youth or family/legal guardian may be involved.

### B. Service Team Responsibilities

- Participate in the development of the youth's service plan and treatment interventions.
- Enforce program policies and procedures for youth.
- Provide BRS services including recreation, community activities and academic support (include documentation of these services).
- Participate in Level System by completing Point Sheets, Level Petitions, etc.
- Provide supervision for youth according to program policy and youth's status on the Level System.
- Maintain close communication with program staff including daily written communication form.
- Participate in client review process.
- Participate in family counseling with youth placed in home (provided by youth's therapist).
- Participate in crisis intervention as needed.

### C. Care of Youth Placed in Home

- Provide proper care to youth in home (safety, medical, nutritional, etc.).
- Provide transportation for youth as required.
- Ensure that youth has proper clothing and follows clothing guidelines.
- Provide family atmosphere and participation in family activities.
- Provide support to youth placed in home.
- Support job search and placement in the community.

### D. Foster Parent Responsibilities

- Attend foster parent meetings and training's.

- Sign and meet expectations of Foster Parent Contract.
- Provide respite care for other families.
- Follow ethical standards and guidelines for staff conduct.
- Meet OYA foster care certification guidelines.
- Follow payroll procedures as required.