



RESOURCE GUIDE

FOR RESOURCE PARENTS

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**SOCIAL SERVICES AGENCY
PROGRAMS**

Child Care Bridge Program

Caregivers are encouraged to discuss their childcare plans or need for assistance with the child's placement or assigned social worker as early as possible.

The program is available to resource families and parents under the jurisdiction of the juvenile court, including non-minor dependent parents who have their child placed with them.

Child Care Bridge payments are made up to six months or until the child is successfully enrolled in long-term, subsidized child care, whichever comes first. Children ages 0 to 12 are eligible. The child's placement or assigned social worker will complete a child care referral form for caregivers who meet eligibility.

CONTACT INFORMATION

County of Orange Social Services Agency
(714) 704-8278

Children's Home Society
Resource and Referral Hotline: (714) 543-2273
Main number: (714) 456-9800



www.chs-ca.org



Education Travel Reimbursement

SCHOOL OF ORIGIN

Children in foster care have the right to remain in the school they were last enrolled in for the duration of their Juvenile Court case. This promotes educational continuity and is in the best interest of the children, including non-minor dependents. Reimbursement is provided to resource parents for transporting children in care to their school of origin over three miles each way.

- If the child has an individualized education plan (IEP) that specifies the district will provide transportation to school, the child is not eligible for reimbursement.
- Resource parents are expected to transport the children to school activities such as sports or social events, as well as attend any required school meetings or conferences.
- Resource parents caring for multiple children attending the same school may submit reimbursement for each child.

The child's assigned social worker needs to submit a request for reimbursement (School of Origin Transportation Expense Form (F063-25-687)) to the assigned eligibility technician. Flat rates are paid based on the distance from the placement to the school of origin.

There are two rate types for ETR payment:

- Mileage rate (private automobile)
- Flat rate (public transportation)

Note: Reimbursement is per child, on a monthly basis and includes periods when the child is on summer break or off-track at a year-round school.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Please contact the child's assigned social worker to start the reimbursement process. Caregivers may also contact the Resource Family Support team for assistance.

Resource Family Support

(714) 704-8255

Email: ResourceFamilySupport@ssa.ocgov.com



Families & Communities Together

Families & Communities Together (FaCT) is a network of 15 family resource centers (FRC) located throughout Orange County's highest-risk communities. Each FRC provides free social, educational and health services for all families, including birth, blended, kinship, adoptive and foster families.

CORE SERVICES (offered at all FaCT FRCs)

- Counseling
- Parenting education
- Family support services
- Emergency assistance
- Case management team services
- Domestic violence personal empowerment program
- Information and referral services

ADDITIONAL SERVICES (may vary across FaCT FRCs)

- Family health and wellness
- Family economics and self-sufficiency
- Child development activities
- Emergency assistance
- Family literacy and education
- Application assistance
- Legal assistance

CONTACT INFORMATION

(714) 566-2878

For more information and FRC locations, scan the QR code.



www.factoc.org



Family Visitation Centers

Court-ordered visitation between children and their families is an integral part of family reunification efforts. Each visitation plan is determined on a case-by-case basis in consultation with the case-carrying social worker. The visitation sites below provide safe, family-friendly environments for visits to take place. Visitation services may only be obtained by a referral from the assigned social worker. For more information, please contact the assigned social worker.

LOCATIONS

- **County of Orange Social Services Agency
Children and Family Services**
800 N. Eckhoff St., First Floor
Orange 92868
(714) 704-8000

- **New Alternatives, Inc.**
1202 Civic Center Dr., Suite 205
Santa Ana 92703
(714) 245-0045

- **Olive Crest**
2130 E. 4th Street, Suite 200
Santa Ana 92705
(714) 543-5437

- **Orangewood Children and Family Center (OCFC)**
401 The City Dr.
Orange 92868
(714) 935-7584

CONTACT INFORMATION

Please contact the child's assigned social worker.



Health Care Program for Children in Foster Care

The Health Care Program for Children in Foster Care (HCPCFC) is a team of public health nurses who assist with the coordination of care for children and youth in the child welfare system. Children in the foster care system are at an increased risk of negative health outcomes including growth and developmental delays. The public health nurses serve as an important resource to promote continuity and quality health care by collaborating with social workers and caregivers.

ASSISTANCE

- Health education
- Coordination of care
- Locating a provider including: pediatrician, dentist, mental health provider and/or other community resources
- Health insurance issues
- Developmental screenings for children ages 0 to 5
- Referrals for developmental and community resources
- Reproductive health education for teens

CONTACT INFORMATION

(714) 704-8530

Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Email: FCPHNInbox@ssa.ocgov.com



Hearts in Motion

Hearts in Motion is a collaboration between the County of Orange Social Services Agency and many diverse Orange County communities: faith, business, educational institutions, civic groups, nonprofits, neighborhood groups and concerned individuals. The mission is to connect the community to opportunities to support children and families touched by foster care.

The partners help in meeting concrete needs for children and families in care. As a caregiver, if you have a specific need that cannot be met by any other means, contact your assigned social worker. In addition to meeting concrete needs, the partners also offer resources to promote placement stability which include:

- Foster care ministries
- Support groups
- Special events
- Food pantries/resource centers
- Respite days
- Training opportunities

CONTACT INFORMATION

HeartsInMotionOC@ssa.ocgov.com



<https://bit.ly/49QzWic>



Mileage Reimbursement

Resource family and Emergency Shelter Homes (ESH) are eligible to receive mileage reimbursement for mileage expenses incurred while transporting children placed in their home to and from eligible activities.

ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES

- Transporting from Orangewood Children and Family Center or another placement home at the time of initial placement
- Court hearings
- Court-ordered visits with parents and/or family members
- Medical, dental, psychiatric, counseling/therapy appointments, occupational/physical therapy appointments
- Child and Family Team meetings at the request of Children and Family Services

REIMBURSEMENT PROCEDURE

- Complete and submit the County of Orange Resource Parent Mileage and Other Expenses Claim form within **90 days** the mileage expenses were incurred
- Request the form and instructions by calling (714) 704-8255 or email ResourceFamilySupport@ssa.ocgov.com
- ESH resource parents must complete the ESH Parent Mileage Claim form

CONTACT INFORMATION

Resource Family Support

(714) 704-8255

ResourceFamilySupport@ssa.ocgov.com



Operation Santa Claus

HOLIDAY SMILES

Operation Santa Claus distributes toys/gifts to foster children during the holiday season. All families under the supervision of a Social Services Agency, Children and Family Services program will receive a mailer from their assigned senior social worker with instructions on how to schedule a shopping appointment. Please note that no one will be allowed to shop without a referral from their social worker and an appointment.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Resource Family Support
(714) 704-8255

BIRTHDAY SHOPPING • SPECIAL OCCASIONS

It's a joy to see smiles on children's faces when they receive a gift at a special time such as a birthday, graduation or even at the time of placement. The goal is to facilitate this for all foster children in Orange County resource family homes.

Donated gifts are available at the warehouse in Santa Ana. Each foster child placed in a Resource Family Approved home may receive two gifts, plus one article of clothing and either a book or plush toy. Caregivers must bring the child's Placement Agreement form (in the placement folder) to the appointment. A caregiver may shop for several foster children at one time as long as all birthdays, graduations, et cetera are within three months.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Operation Santa Claus Warehouse
(714) 679-2438



Orangewood Care Line

Everyday, children and youth experience challenges that may cause them stress. Caregivers may need some extra assistance in handling these situations as they occur. The Orangewood Care Line is a phone number established for caregivers and/or youth to call and get 24/7 support by Orangewood Children and Family Center (OCFC) staff. OCFC staff are trained to work with youth of all ages and may assist with:

- Bedtime routines
- Challenging behavioral issues
- Resources

CONTACT INFORMATION

(714) 935-6262



Quality Parenting Initiative

The Quality Parenting Initiative (QPI) is a statewide approach to recruiting and retaining high quality resource parents who provide excellent care for children in California's child welfare system. The following is Orange County's value statement:

Orange County's resource parents are committed, loving families helping families. They have a lifetime impact on children and families in our community.

RESOURCE PARENTS

- Valued, professional team members who mentor, strengthen and support children and their families
- Trained in meeting the diverse needs of children in their care
- Respectful of children's connections to their culture, family and traditions

To learn more about QPI and how to get involved, attend a QPI/Foster Care Advisory Board meeting which is held every other month at Children & Family Services. Contact the Resource Family Support team for dates and times.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Resource Family Support

(714) 704-8255

ResourceFamilySupport@ssa.ocgov.com



Resource Family Support

The Resource Family Support team serves resource parents by:

- Providing opportunities to talk about issues or concerns and exploring options to resolve conflicts
- Referring resource parents to Agency and community support services/resources
- Explaining the Agency's policies and procedures regarding the child welfare system
- Promoting strong partnerships and communication among the assigned social worker, biological parents and resource parents
- Accompanying resource parents to Child and Family Team meetings
- Assisting with foster care payment issues

CONTACT INFORMATION

Resource Family Support

(714) 704-8255

ResourceFamilySupport@ssa.ocgov.com



Respite Care Services

What is respite care?

The respite care program is a service that offers relief to resource parents by providing temporary care for the children placed in their home.

Who can provide respite care?

Respite care is provided by approved resource families in their homes for periods ranging from one hour up to 14 days. Respite care providers are paid a supplemental rate.

How is respite arranged?

Caregivers and social workers may arrange respite placements by calling New Alternatives' Respite Care Services.

What is the cost of respite care?

The daily cost of respite care is equivalent to the daily foster care rate. Caregivers will be billed for the service.

Can I become a respite care provider?

Yes, you may become a respite provider if you have the desire to help our children by offering a caring and secure environment on a temporary basis and if you are an Orange County approved resource parent.

Who do I call for more information on respite care?

For information on becoming a respite care provider or using the respite care program, please call Dianna Madrigal-Munoz at New Alternatives.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Respite Care Services - New Alternatives

Cynthia Zanabria

(714) 245-0045 or (714) 726-1321 (cell)

Email: cynthia.zanabria@newalternatives.org

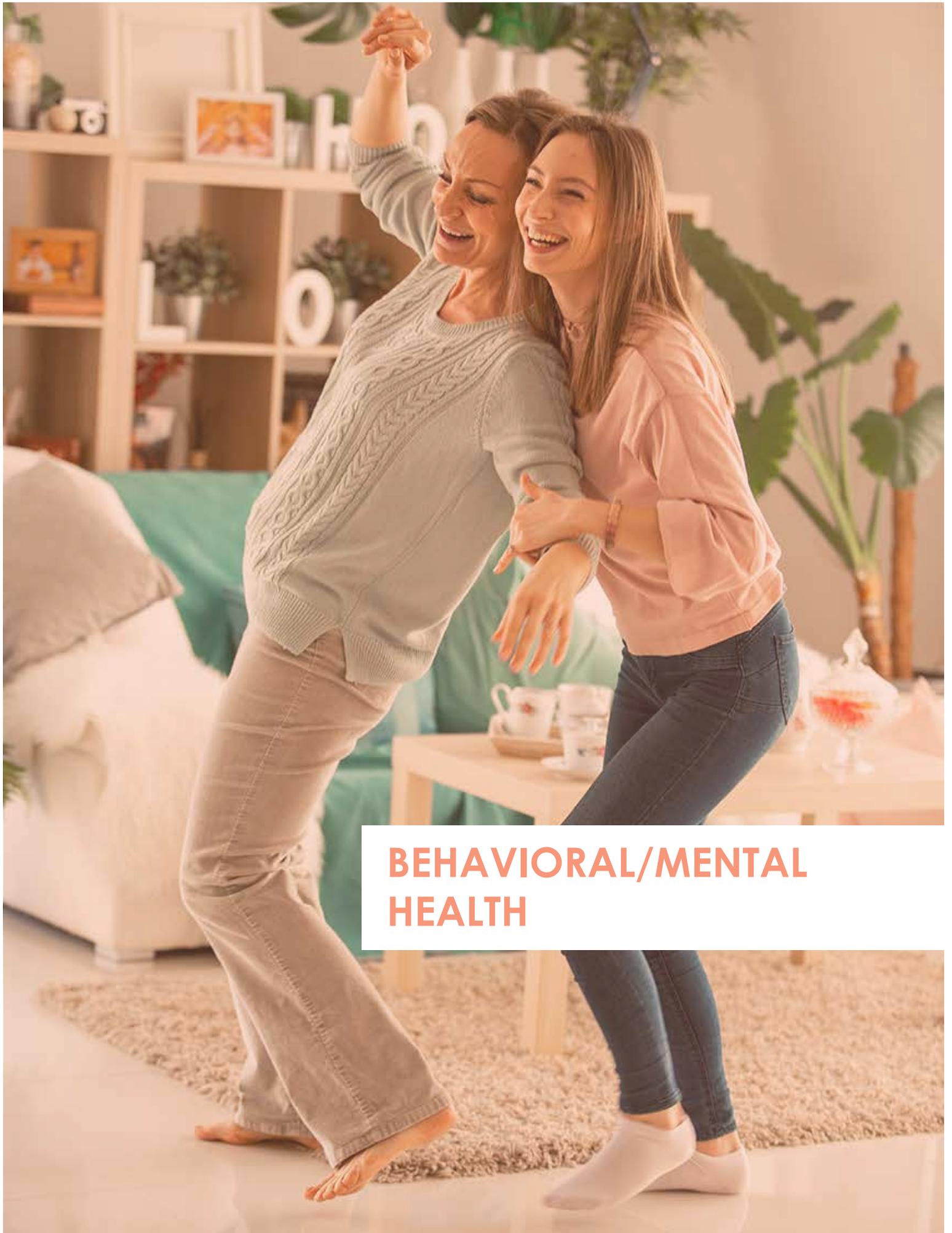
County of Orange Social Services Agency

Resource Family Support

(714) 704-8255 (TALK)

ResourceFamilySupport@ssa.ocgov.com





**BEHAVIORAL/MENTAL
HEALTH**

Family Urgent Response System

The Family Urgent Response System (FURS) gives youth and caregivers access to immediate intervention services during times of instability. Youth and caregivers may call a state-wide crisis line staffed with trained professionals ready to provide trauma-informed support and assess needs in an effort to stabilize placements. Depending on the circumstances, families may be linked to the Orange County mobile response team through the County of Orange Social Services Agency's contract agency, Seneca Family of Agencies, which may provide face-to-face guidance.

SUPPORT

- 24/7 crisis line support via phone, text or chat
- County mobile response support
- Personalized support and stabilization
- Relevant aftercare support and follow up

CONTACT INFORMATION

(833) 939-3877 (FURS)

NOTE

When the call is first answered, a recorded confidentiality advisement will play. Please stay on the line and a representative will respond shortly.



<http://bit.ly/4nb0xg2>



NAMI Orange County

NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness) Orange County provides emotional support, education and resources for families affected by mental illness. Services include educational programs, meetings and support groups throughout Orange County at no cost.

NAMI OC WARM LINE (714) 991-6412 or (877) 910-9276 (TOLL FREE)

The 24/7 hotline is a free and confidential service to Orange County residents needing emotional support and resources.

SUPPORT GROUPS

All groups are provided at no cost and registration is not required prior to attending. Support groups are for individuals 18 years and older who are family members or friends of someone with a mental health condition and those living with a mental health condition. Please scan the QR code for support group information.

CONTACT INFORMATION

(714) 544-8488

Email: Info@NAMIOC.org

NAMI OC



<http://bit.ly/46T81j2>

Support Groups



<http://bit.ly/479CXub>



OC Links

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH INFORMATION AND REFERRALS

OCLinks is an information and referral phone and online chat service designed to help callers navigate the OC Health Care Agency's Behavioral Health Services. Clinical navigators provide referrals and service information and connect callers directly to the needed programs. Navigators may assist in English, Spanish, Vietnamese and Farsi. Other languages may be accommodated through translation services. Behavioral health programs/services include:

- Adult and child mental health
- Alcohol and drug inpatient and outpatient programs
- Crisis services
- Prevention/early intervention programs
- Parenting and family support services
- Counseling services for youth and adults
- Suicide prevention

CONTACT INFORMATION

(855) 625-4657 (OCLINKS)

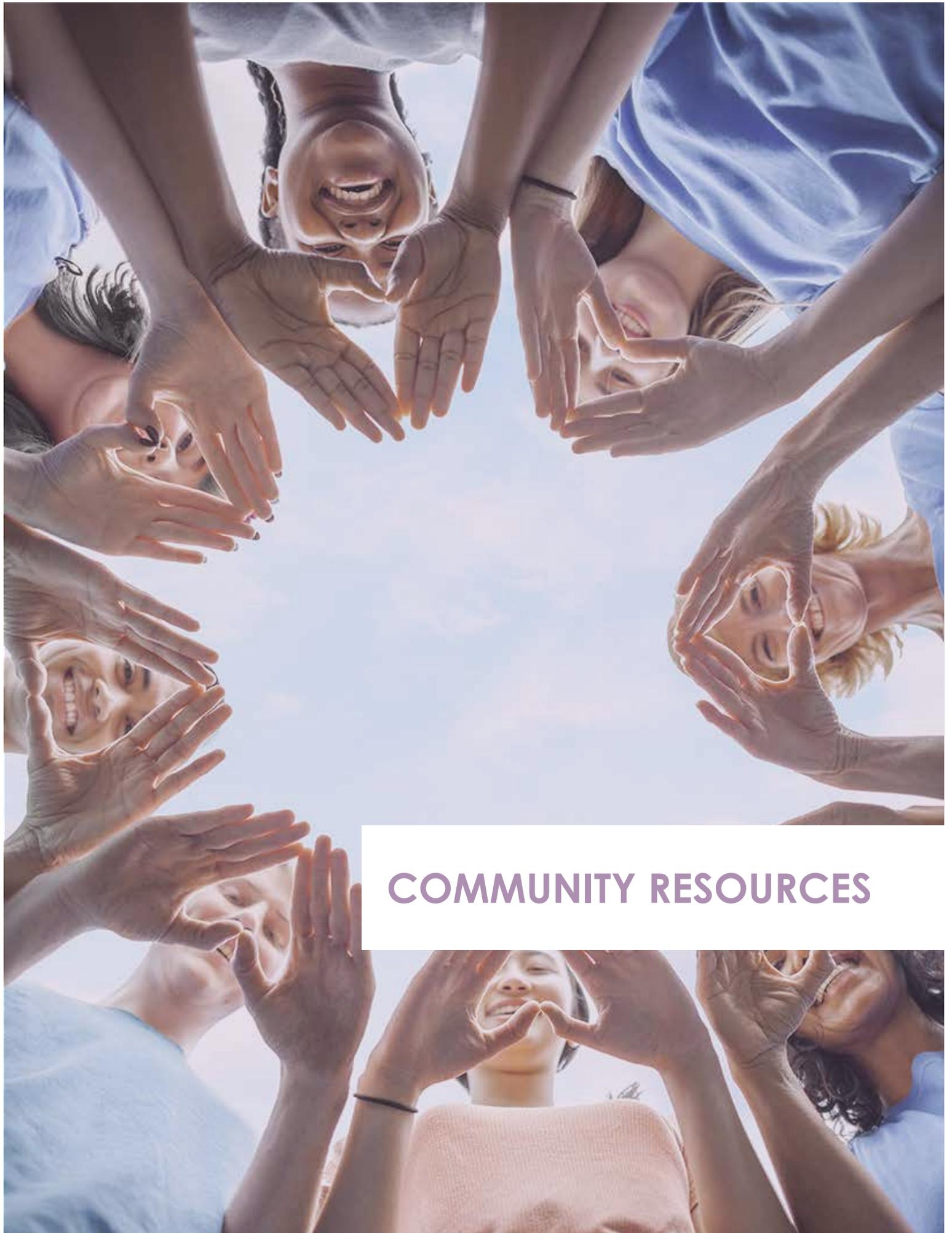
TDD (714) 834-2332

Phone line and live chat available 24 hours.



<https://bit.ly/3FVVuNY>





COMMUNITY RESOURCES

Three Starlings Foundation

The Three Starlings Foundation supports Orange County children in foster care through the Bundles of Joy package program. Each package includes basic baby care items such as diapers, clothing and bottles and are available to resource parents and biological parents/family members at reunification.

Bundles of Joy may be customizable based on the child's needs and age but are limited to available items in stock. Social workers and resource parents may contact the foundation to request a package.

CONTACT INFORMATION

(714) 721-3652

Email: ThreeStarlingsFoundation@gmail.com



<http://bit.ly/3LeROvX>





EDUCATION

Educational Support

ORANGE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION FOSTER YOUTH SERVICES COORDINATING PROGRAM (FYSCP)

The mission of FYSCP is to ensure that Orange County foster youth are equipped with the resources they need to achieve their maximum educational and/or vocational potential.

CONTACT INFORMATION

(714) 835-4909

Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES

California College Pathways



<https://bit.ly/3LTLWqw>

Provides college planning guidance and financial aid resources.

Free Application for Student Aid (FAFSA)



<https://bit.ly/3TNryst>

Outlines the process to complete and submit the FAFSA form.

California Chafee Grant for Foster Youth



<https://bit.ly/3Kc0yjR>

Awards up to \$5,000 a year to eligible foster youth.

California Student Aid Commission



<https://bit.ly/48JQtDN>

Lists financial aid programs.

California Colleges



<https://bit.ly/49YnbSP>

Assists students to plan for college and careers.



Orange County Head Start, Inc.

Orange County Head Start is a free, comprehensive child development and parent engagement program designed to meet the educational, social-emotional, health, and nutritional needs for enrolled children and their families. The full-day program offers up to 10 hours of services to children Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Services are for children, ages birth to 5, and expectant families. Children who are homeless or in foster care and families receiving public assistance (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), CashAid or Supplemental Security Income (SSI)) are eligible.

SERVICES

- Full day, center-based (over 26 centers throughout Orange County)
- Hearing, vision, developmental, and growth assessments
- Weekly, 90-minute home-based program with two monthly socializations
- A school-readiness curriculum including early reading, science and math
- Assistance with access to health and dental care
- Inclusion services for children with disabilities
- Referrals to mental health services
- Referrals to community resources such as food banks and emergency and crisis services
- Nutritious meals and snacks
- Parent education, including nutrition, parenting and child development classes
- Parent leadership opportunities

CONTACT INFORMATION

Enrollment Department

(714) 241-8920 (Spanish and Vietnamese available)

For application intake and enrollment questions, email enrollment@ochsinc.org

For general questions, email info@ochsinc.org



TASK

Team of Advocates for Special Kids (TASK) provides support and education to individuals with disabilities, ages 0 to 26, and their families. TASK supports all disabilities including mental illness, chronic health and medical conditions and emotional challenges due to abuse or environmental trauma.

SUPPORT

- Assistive Technology (AT): help families explore ways to use AT to promote learning, communication and independence for individuals of all ages, including adults
- Special Education System: help families understand their rights, how to request assessments, provide strategies for the Individualized Education Plan (IEP) preparation
- IEP consultations and document review
- Programs for transitional-age youth
- Workshops on special education and transitional planning
- Resources and referrals

CONTACT INFORMATION

(866) 828-8275

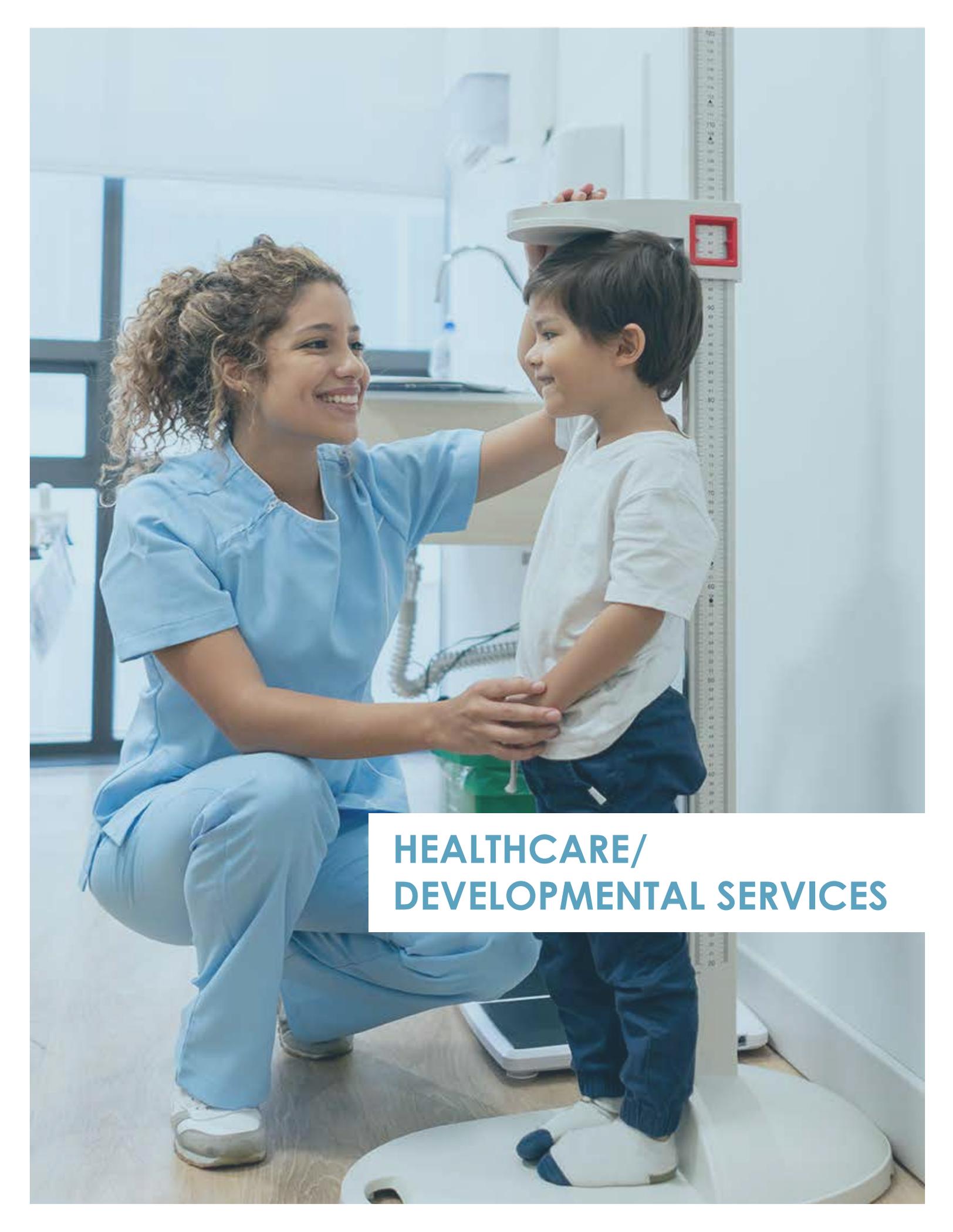
(714) 533-8275

Email: task@taskca.org



<http://bit.ly/4okrnTV>



A healthcare professional with curly hair, wearing light blue scrubs, is kneeling on a wooden floor. She is smiling and looking at a young child with dark hair who is standing on a white height measurement scale. The professional has her hands on the child's arms, and her other hand is resting on the top of the scale's headpiece. The child is wearing a white t-shirt and dark blue pants. The background shows a clinical setting with a sink and a window.

**HEALTHCARE/
DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES**

CalOptima

CalOptima is Orange County's managed care system for Medi-Cal beneficiaries. Orange County dependent children are automatically eligible for Medi-Cal because of their foster care status.

CHANGE OF HEALTH NETWORK/PRIMARY CARE PHYSICIAN

A caregiver may change the child's health network or PCP by contacting CalOptima's Foster Care Liaison, Cydney Weber, at (714) 796-6132.

GENERAL PROBLEM SOLVING

The caregiver may contact the CalOptima Foster Care Liaison for any general questions. If a caregiver pays for medication reportedly not covered or authorization is not available, the caregiver should call CalOptima's foster care liaison or customer service immediately to obtain instructions for reimbursement.

ELIGIBILITY QUESTIONS

Please call (714) 704-8000 and ask to speak to the eligibility technician officer of the day. The eligibility technician can help determine the problem and provide information to resolve the issue regarding situations such as:

- Child being dis-enrolled/non-eligible for CalOptima (note all Orange County foster youth are automatically enrolled with CalOptima)
- General eligibility questions
- Benefits Identification Card (BIC)
- Medi-Cal eligibility

CONTACT INFORMATION

CalOptima Liaison: (714) 796-6132 or cweber@caloptima.org

CalOptima Customer Services: (714) 246-8500

For TTY: 711

Toll Free: (888) 587-8088

CalOptima Behavioral Health: (855) 877-3885

ABA Services: (855) 877-3885

Vision Service Plan: (800) 438-4560

**Court authorization is required for all psychotropic medications.



Family Support Network

Family Support Network provides resources and advocacy for families and children with social, emotional, intellectual and physical needs.

SERVICES

Developmental Screenings

Families may receive a free comprehensive developmental screening for children ages 0 to 5 who live in Orange County. This is an opportunity for parents and caregivers to see how their children are progressing cognitively, developmentally and socially. Screenings are held at different locations throughout Orange County and Spanish translation is provided.

Emergency Needs Program

Items such as cribs, strollers, diapers, specialized formulas, food boxes and clothing are provided to low to no-income families struggling to meet their basic needs. Families must be referred by a social worker, case manager or nurse.

Supportive Help in Family Transition (SHIFT) Support Group

Held the third Thursday of the month from 10 a.m. to noon, this group is for families needing resources for their adult children.

Parent Mentor

Parent mentors are parents who have been through the child welfare system, reunified with their children and want to give back to other parents experiencing the same situations.

CONTACT INFORMATION

(714) 447-3301

Developmental Screenings

(714) 447-3301, ext. 205

Email: kaguilar@fsn-oc.org

Emergency Needs Program

(714) 447-3301, ext. 207

Email: scastaneda@fsn-oc.org



<http://bit.ly/3JgfdN2>



Help Me Grow

FOR CHILDREN BIRTH TO 8 YEARS OLD

Help Me Grow connects families and children with developmental, behavioral or learning concerns to resources in Orange County. Care coordinators will link parents, caregivers, service providers and professionals to developmental services for: learning, behavior, development, parenting, support groups, basic needs and education. Support with basic needs such as diapers, formula and food is available.

WWW.HELPMEGROWOC.ORG

Submit a request online. Parents, caregivers and providers may scan the QR code below to enter the child's information and a description of the issues or concerns. Help Me Grow will contact the child's parents or caregivers within one to two days to learn more about the needs and connect them to programs and services.

CONTACT INFORMATION

(866) 476-9025

Monday through Friday - 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Press "1" for English, "2" for Spanish

If on hold, leave your name and number and a care coordinator will call you back.



<https://bit.ly/3P9BD29>





PARENTING PROGRAMS

Fristers

Fristers helps teen and young adult parents build healthy and stable families through educational classes and workshops, mentoring and case management. Surrounded by a strong support system, young parents are graduating high school, enrolling in college and vocational training, securing employment, building healthy relationships and learning how to be successful parents.

SERVICES

- A community of support that improves parents' mental health and well being
- Referrals and resources to complete high school
- Introduction to college and vocational training programs and help with enrollment
- Life skills and workforce readiness classes that guide young parents toward economic security
- Healthy relationships and parenting training that create a thriving family environment
- Programs for children that promote healthy development and school readiness

CONTACT INFORMATION

(949) 387-7889

Email: info@fristers.org



<http://bit.ly/4onovWm>



MOMS Orange County

MOMS Orange County programs focus on the health and mental well-being of expectant/new moms, dads and health of the new baby. Under nurse supervision, MOMS home visitors deliver women access to prenatal care, health screenings, health education, infant development screenings and resource referral services beginning in early pregnancy and through baby's first birthday.

The in-home program targets families isolated from the resources and social support that help prevent birth complications and poor health conditions for children.

Prenatal, postpartum, becoming a dad and mommy and me workshops equip parents with the knowledge and skills needed for each stage of pregnancy and during the early development of their baby. Scan the QR code below to view the class schedule.

CONTACT INFORMATION

(714) 972-2610

Email: info@momsorangecounty.org



<https://bit.ly/4a0RmJ7>



<https://bit.ly/4bVj4ZB>





**RESOURCE PARENT
EDUCATION**

Foster & Kinship Care Education

SADDLEBACK COLLEGE

The Foster and Kinship Care Education (FKCE) program offers free classes in English, Spanish and Vietnamese for resource parents. Classes qualify for hours required to meet both county and state resource parent training mandates. Classes are open to all resource parents, professionals and community members, space permitting. FKCE offers classes online and in person at various locations throughout the county.

REGISTRATION

To view classes and register, please scan the QR code below.

CONTACT INFORMATION

(949) 582-4884

Email: scfkce@saddleback.edu

Facebook: @FKCESaddlebackCollege



<https://bit.ly/49vkqZ9>



Olive Crest Active Parenting

Olive Crest's Parenting Education Program is offering free parenting courses to all Orange County residents over 18. The Active Parenting series will strengthen the parent/child relationship through skill building. The courses are available in person and virtually. Registration is required.

There are three age-specific courses to choose from:

Active Parenting: First Five Years

6 weeks

This course will cover a variety of skills geared toward building a strong and healthy relationship with your child. You will learn positive disciplining skills; how to maintain open lines of communication; learn to teach responsibility, courage and other character traits; encourage school success; and diffuse power struggles.

Active Parenting: School Age (ages 6 to 17)

7 weeks

This workshop will give you the skills to promote a more satisfying family life and help your children experience greater joy and success. You 'll learn several strategies for school success, positive discipline, communication techniques, and other tips and tricks to help you navigate parenting.

Active Parenting of Teens

7 weeks

You will learn positive discipline methods on how to prevent risky behaviors including drug and alcohol use and sexual activity. Learn how to avoid communication blocks to build courage and resilience in your teen.

CONTACT INFORMATION

(714) 361-4381

Ivette Solorzano (714) 543-5437, ext. 1933



<https://bit.ly/49DJ6iv>





STATE OF CALIFORNIA PROGRAMS

California Kinship Navigator

The California Kinship Navigator (CKN) is a free service supporting kinship caregivers and current or former foster youth. CKN quickly finds and accesses resources by connecting caregivers and youth with a team of community responders. The community responders will talk through resource options, identify solutions and take on the administrative work of research, paperwork and follow-up. Services include:

- Financial support
- Housing
- Food, clothing & supplies
- Physical & mental health
- Childcare & activities
- Education
- Legal aid
- Employment

To access resources in Orange County, visit the CKN website by scanning the QR code below.

CONTACT INFORMATION

(619) 505-3950



<https://bit.ly/44vb6RJ>



WIC

Women, Infants and Children (WIC) is a nutrition program that helps pregnant women, mothers with infants and children up to age 5 eat well, be active and stay healthy. Grandparents, resource parents or guardians who care for eligible children are welcome to participate in the program. Services are provided at no cost to the recipient.

SERVICES

- Nutrition information and health tips
- Breastfeeding support and information including access to experts
- Benefits to get healthy food: fruits and vegetables, whole grains, milk, eggs, bread, cereal, juice, peanut butter and more
- Help in finding health care and other community services

QUALIFICATIONS

- Pregnant, breastfeeding or just had a baby (or recent pregnancy loss) **or**
- Have a child or care for a child under age 5 **and**
- Have low to medium income or receive Medi-Cal, CalWORKS (TANF) or CalFresh (SNAP) benefits **and**
- Live in California

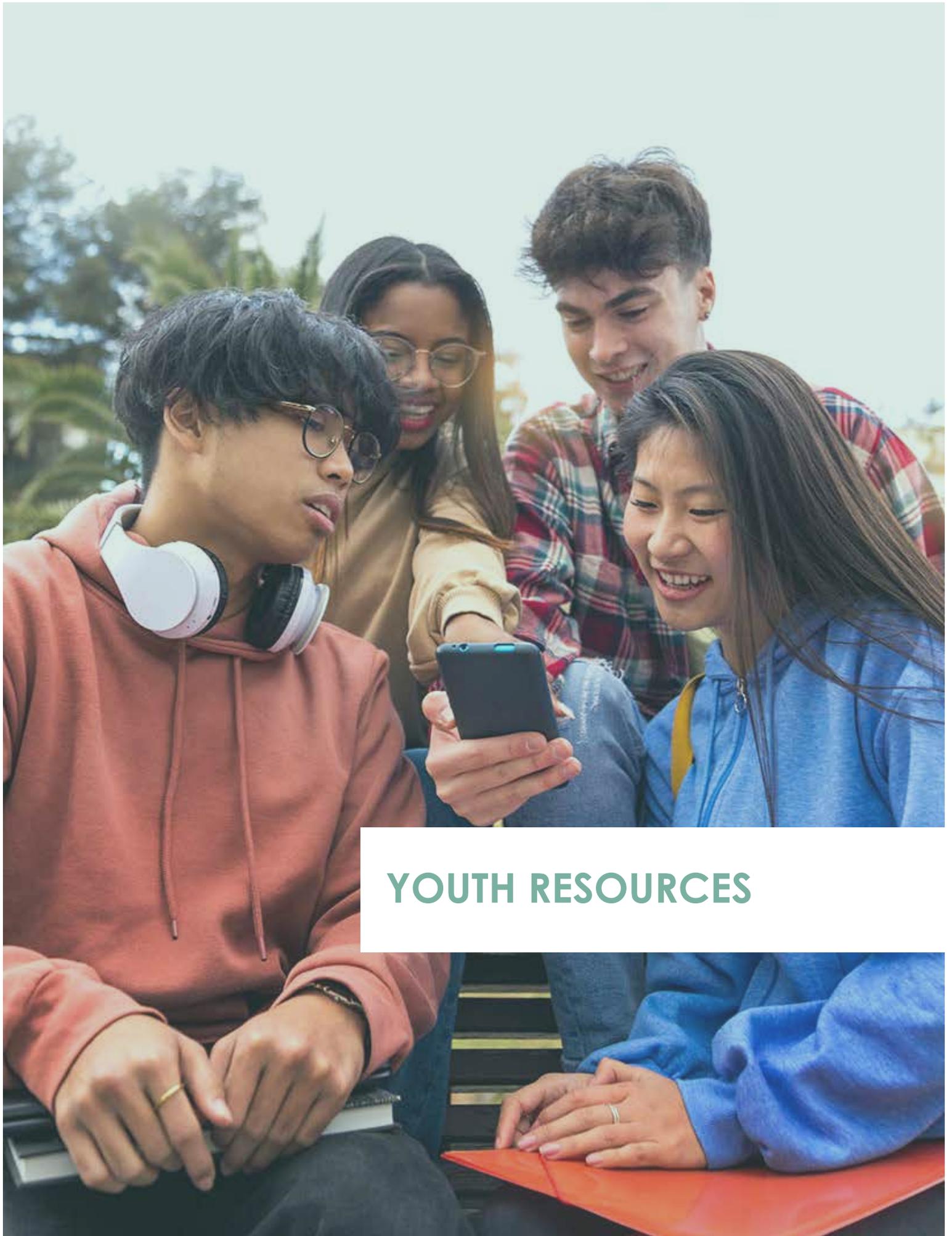
CONTACT INFORMATION

(800) 852-5770



<https://bit.ly/3Pjym0p>





YOUTH RESOURCES

Cal State Tuition Waiver

THE CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY

TUITION WAIVER FOR CURRENT & FORMER FOSTER CARE RECIPIENTS

Students enrolled in an undergraduate program are exempt from paying tuition fees at any California State University campus. The tuition fee waiver only applies to the systemwide, mandatory tuition fee and application fee. It does not include campus fees, housing, books, transportation or other costs of attendance. Students must meet eligibility requirements and submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid and the California State University Foster Youth Tuition Waiver Application. For more information and access to the tuition waiver application, please scan the QR code below.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Youth will need to contact their campus financial aid office or the Office of the Registrars for additional resources and information.



<https://bit.ly/3lpUqTj>



California Youth Connection

California Youth Connection is a youth led organization of current and former foster youth between the ages of 14 and 24. The mission is to develop leaders who empower others in their communities to transform the foster care system through legislative, policy and practice change.

ACTIVITIES

- Day at the Capitol conference
- Summer leadership conference
- Outreach and community engagement
- Youth development and leadership

CONTACT INFORMATION

(510) 708-4922

Member Interest Form



<https://bit.ly/48RDVtO>



<http://bit.ly/3KMJhR0>



iFoster

iFoster's mission is to ensure every child growing up in out-of-home care has the resources they need to become successful, independent adults. A free platform of resources is available to youth in care, resource parents and organizations serving families involved in the child welfare system. iFoster collaborates with corporations, government agencies and community organizations to provide educational, employment, health and daily living resources.

iFOSTER TECH

All current and former youth in care may receive a free smartphone with unlimited voice and texting and high-speed data. Youth need to meet eligibility requirements. An application is also required and may be submitted by the youth or a responsible adult on behalf of the youth (assigned social worker, caregiver, parent, teacher, etc.). Be sure to reference "Orange County Social Services Agency" in the Referring Agency section of the application. Scan the QR code below to access the application.

CONTACT INFORMATION

(855) 936-7837

Email: support@ifoster.org or phone@ifoster.org



<https://bit.ly/49PgUsR>



John Burton Advocates for Youth

John Burton Advocates for Youth assists current and former youth in care by providing resources for education, housing, health care and financial security. Available resources include:

- Free Application for Federal Student Aid completion workshops
- College preparedness workshops
- Listing of financial aid programs
- College & career planning guides for high school students
- A step-by-step guide to filing taxes
- Video tutorial for claiming tax credits
- The Burton Critical Needs & Opportunity Fund toolkit

CONTACT INFORMATION

(415) 348-0011

Email: info@jbay.org



<http://bit.ly/3WagVTa>



NextUp

CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY COLLEGES NEXTUP

The NextUp program provides specialized resources, support and services for students enrolled in a participating California community college. Current and former youth in foster care must meet eligibility requirements. Assistance may include:

- Books and supplies
- Child care
- Counseling and career planning
- Educational planning
- Emergency housing
- Food
- Tutoring
- Transportation assistance

CONTACT INFORMATION

Youth will need to contact their college's EOPS office for more information.



<https://bit.ly/49NEKW1>



Orangewood Foundation

The Orangewood Foundation is a private, non-profit agency in Santa Ana that provides support services for youth in foster care as well as young adults with a foster care history.

SERVICES

Grants and Scholarships: Current and former Orange County youth may qualify to receive funding for school and work related expenses, extracurricular activities, driver's education training, and living expenses.

Advanced Studies Scholarships: A program for former foster youth who have earned a college degree and want to pursue advanced studies. The youth must have a current or past connection with Orangewood Foundation.

Independent Living Services: Orangewood Foundation is contracted with the County of Orange to provide special events and support services to help prepare youth currently in foster care and young adults with a foster care history to successfully transition to independence.

Mentoring Services: Youth currently in foster care and those with a foster care history may be matched with an adult mentor for emotional support, educational and career guidance.

Peer Mentors: Peer mentors are employees of Orangewood Foundation and provide support and life-skills instruction to youth participating in ILP workshops/special events. Former foster youth who've successfully transitioned to independence may qualify to become a peer mentor.

Orangewood Resource Center (ORC): Provides youth with individualized guidance and assistance to live independently. The ORC is the place for information on other Orangewood programs and referrals to other organizations.

Rising Tide Communities: Rising Tide is an affordable and supportive transitional housing program for young adults (single or with children) who are at least 18 and have emancipated from foster care or are AB12 eligible. The goal is to provide skills necessary to live independently.

CONTACT INFORMATION

(714) 619-0200

Email: ctf@orangewoodfoundation.org





SSA RESOURCE PARENT TOOLS

Children & Family Services: Meet the Team

SENIOR SOCIAL WORKER (SSW)

Several SSWs and support staff will be involved while you are caring for a child in foster care. Some of these workers include:

■ **PLACEMENT SSW**

Places child in the least restrictive and most appropriate family environment that promotes familial ties and is best suited to meet the child's physical, emotional, medical and educational needs.

■ **RFA SSW**

Evaluates safe, stable and loving homes for children who must temporarily live away from their parents due to abuse or neglect. They also maintain the approval and complete all required reassessments.

■ **CHILD'S ASSIGNED SSW**

Supervises, coordinates and oversees the cases for dependent children of the Juvenile Court. Interacts regularly with all involved and is the "go to person" for questions related to the child and the Juvenile Dependency case. Conducts monthly home visits, arranges visitation, completes court reports, and monitors the overall well-being of the child.

■ **ADOPTION SSW**

Social workers in the Adoption Program specialize in partnering with children, youth and caregivers involved in the adoption process through the Juvenile Court. Senior social workers provide direct case management services to children while completing the adoptive legal requirements.

■ **RESOURCE FAMILY SUPPORT**

Works alongside the child's social worker and resource parent to promote quality parenting, stability for children, reunification goals, visitation, and permanency when reunification fails.

SOCIAL WORKER II (SWII)

Supports the efforts of the SSW in a variety of ways. SWIIs may be responsible for monitoring and supervising visitations, assists in tracking resource family training hours, supports the Resource Family Approval process, and assists with many other services to support families through their involvement with Children & Family Services.

ELIGIBILITY TECHNICIAN (ET)

Ensures foster care funding, Medi-Cal and other related financial support are provided to the resource parent who is caring for the child.



Children & Family Services: Meet Your Team

SOCIAL WORKERS INVOLVED IN THE CHILD'S DEPENDENCY CASE

PLACEMENT SOCIAL WORKER

NAME: _____ CONTACT INFO: _____

DEPENDENCY INVESTIGATIONS SOCIAL WORKER

NAME: _____ CONTACT INFO: _____

SERVICES SOCIAL WORKER

NAME: _____ CONTACT INFO: _____

CONTINUING SOCIAL WORKER

NAME: _____ CONTACT INFO: _____

ADOPTION SOCIAL WORKER

NAME: _____ CONTACT INFO: _____

SOCIAL WORKER II

NAME: _____ CONTACT INFO: _____

SOCIAL WORKERS ASSISTING RESOURCE PARENTS

RESOURCE FAMILY APPROVAL ASSESSMENT SOCIAL WORKER

NAME: _____ CONTACT INFO: _____

RESOURCE FAMILY SUPPORT

NAME: _____ CONTACT INFO: _____

SOCIAL WORKER II

NAME: _____ CONTACT INFO: _____

FOSTER CARE ELIGIBILITY

NAME: _____ CONTACT INFO: _____



Children & Family Services: Who Do I Call?

If the senior social worker is unavailable, please call (714) 704-8000 and ask for the officer of the day or the worker's supervisor.

SITUATION	CHILD'S SOCIAL WORKER	RFA SOCIAL WORKER	RESOURCE FAMILY SUPPORT (714) 704-8255	OTHER
Extra crisis assistance/support with behaviors, tantrums, routines	X			OCFC After Hours (714) 935-6262 Family Urgent Response System (FURS) (833) 939-3877
Issues with biological parents and visits between child and birth family	X			Orangewood Care Line (714) 935-6262 after hours
Traveling out of state or country with a foster child	X			
Out of County services & placement support	X		X	
One of the resource parents is absent due to: vacation, divorce or separation, serious illness, or death	X	X		
New family members or adults moving in or out of your home/ any physical change in the house structure	X	X		
Moving or planning to move	X	X		Foster Care OD (714) 704-8000
Reimbursement check issues due to late payments, lost or incorrect amounts and direct deposit requests			X	Foster Care OD (714) 704-8000
Critical incidents such as hospitalizations, serious illness, death, suicide attempt, runaway, or arrests of the foster child	X	X		OCFC After Hours (714) 935-6262 Family Urgent Response System (FURS) (833) 939-3877



Children & Family Services: Who Do I Call?

If the senior social worker is unavailable, please call (714) 704-8000 and ask for the officer of the day or the worker's supervisor.

SITUATION	CHILD'S SOCIAL WORKER	RFA SOCIAL WORKER	RESOURCE FAMILY SUPPORT (714) 704-8255	OTHER
Academic problems with foster child	X			Dept. of Ed. FYS (714) 835-4909
Suspected child abuse of a foster child	X			Child Abuse Registry (714) 940-1000
Pre-approval/annual trainings		X		Resource Parent Training & Recruitment (888) 871-5437
Ready for another placement?				Family Available Line (714) 270-8174
Not sure who to call?	X	X	X	

