

What is Foster Care?

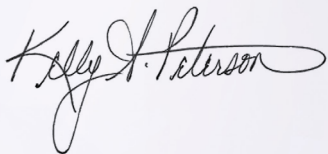
Imagine you are taken from your home. Away from familiar surroundings. You must learn the names of strangers and eat unfamiliar food. You are sleeping in a bed or with a pillow that doesn't smell right. You are starting a new school mid-year with unfamiliar faces at recess.

This is the reality of children in foster care right here in Utah.

Utah Foster Care's mission is to find families, train and support them to be sensitive to children's needs from the moment they are placed in foster care. Families combine skills learned in training with their own nurturing qualities, to lessen trauma for children to the greatest extent possible.

Children experiencing foster care today will live in our neighborhoods tomorrow. How they spend their early years will have a profound influence on whether they become successful contributors within our communities. We cannot let the children down — they are our future.

We present this report with heartfelt thanks to the many individuals who never forget that children need adults to protect them and give them a chance to grow in a safe environment — an environment that models good parenting and produces safe and nurturing families for future generations.



KELLY A. PETERSON
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

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Your donations make possible special programs such as the Wishing Well Fund, Foster Family Camp, and the Giving Tree.

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Utah Foster Care Changes Lives.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2013



thank you!



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Financials

INCOME

Investment Returns	\$65,820
Interest & Other Income	\$8,855
Contributions	\$574,807
State Contract	\$2,715,977

EXPENSES

Development	\$43,573
Recruitment	\$1,322,755
Education	\$733,432
Retention	\$883,554
Support	\$420,237

DIFFERENCE

(\$38,092)

NET ASSETS

Start of Year	\$1,500,507
End of Year	\$1,462,415

ABOUT THE COVER PHOTO

Rochelle came into foster care as a teenager. She credits her foster parents Tiffany and Ryan McDonald, of St George, with providing the guidance and safety she needed to grow into a thriving adult — working and living on her own.

Rochelle still visits the McDonalds for holiday meals and advice. She is considered a permanent member of the McDonald family.



Meaningful Work

886

PROSPECTIVE FOSTER FAMILY CONSULTATIONS

“Some of those discussions were quite difficult, but they prepared me well. Today, I have the most beautiful, loving daughter. I can’t imagine my life without her. Thanks Utah Foster Care!”

97

COMMUNITY EVENTS

“I’ll be forever grateful that my parents were willing to adopt me as a teen. I shudder to think where I might have ended up had they not given me a forever home.”

309

FOSTER PARENT SUPPORT GROUP MEETINGS

“My dearest friends are other foster parents. I’m so glad to have such a great support system — from people who know what I’m going through.”

2500+

HOURS OF TRAINING

“We feel committed, humbled, and excited to be foster parents — and much more prepared, thanks to having attended pre-service training.”

607

NEW FOSTER FAMILIES, INCLUDING 209 KINSHIP

“Each number in this report represents children and families who are struggling — and the foster families who help them. In its 14 years of existence, Utah Foster Care has recruited, trained, and supported more than 8,500 foster families. Today, Utah’s child well-being scores are fourth highest in the nation, and we recognize Utah’s foster families and service providers such as Utah Foster Care for their part in these successful outcomes. We thank Utah Foster Care for many years of invaluable service to Utah’s children and the families who serve them.” — BRENT PLATT Director, Utah Division of Child & Family Services

Foster Parents Speak



JENNIFER LARKIN, TOOELE

ABOVE LEFT, WITH SALT LAKE CITY MAYOR RALPH BECKER



THE GOOCH FAMILY, ST GEORGE

ABOVE RIGHT

“I’m just grateful — every day — that we pushed through the doubts about whether we could do this; whether or not we could risk becoming attached and having to let go... I’m so glad we persevered because we have been exactly where we needed to be, at exactly the right time for our family!”

“The kids just need a family — and we can give them that, even if it’s only temporary.” — Cindy Gooch

“I feel really fulfilled as a parent, and this is how we wanted to give back.” — Mike Gooch, Southwest Region Foster Dad of the Year

For more conversations with Utah foster parents and teens in foster care visit us online:

utahfostercare.org/changeslives



You're the Reason!

We can offer more to the thousands of vulnerable children in Utah because of **you**. Many thanks for these generous gifts — received from July 1, 2012 thru June 30, 2013.

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