



ABOUT US

Our Mission

Utah Foster Care (UFC) serves Utah's children by finding, educating and nurturing families to meet the needs of children in foster care.


Our History


UFC is a 501 (c) 3 private nonprofit created in 1999 by Gov. Mike Leavitt and the Utah Legislature, serving every corner of the state.


Our Impact

16,650 foster families recruited and trained since 1999, participating in support groups, mentor programs, ongoing trainings, and more.

in UT **1700**
children in foster care

 Children in all Utah communities, experiencing abuse & neglect, often due to substance use disorder.

 Children including siblings, teens, & LGBTQ youth.

 Children needing safe and affirming homes.

in UT **800**
licensed foster families

State licensed adults who complete Utah Foster Care's trauma-informed training, a background check, and a home study ensuring safety for children in foster care.

Requirements

- Single or legally married
- Home owner or renter
- Documented US Status
- Age 18 and older

STATEWIDE STATS

DIVISION OF CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES

FISCAL YEAR 2024

- 1,636 Utah children are currently in foster care.
- 3,133 children received foster care services in FY24.
 - 1,275 children were newly placed in foster care.
 - 1,465 children exited foster care.
- Teens make up nearly 40% of children in foster care.
- Substance use disorder is a contributing factor in 65% of children entering foster care.
- In Utah, most children are in foster care for about 13 months.
- About three-fourths of children who enter foster care return to live with their birth parents or another relative. (76.6%)
- 95% of children who exited foster care to a relative in FY23 did not re-enter foster care within 12 months.
- 202 children were adopted or custody/guardianship awarded to a foster parent/non-relative.
- Six out of ten children in foster care have siblings. (61.1%)
- One in five children in foster care in Utah are Latino/Hispanic. (23.6%)
- One in three children in foster care are LGBTQ. (Nationally)



TRAINING & SUPPORT

Trauma-Informed Training

Utah Foster Care and our partners at Utah's State Division of Child & Family Services are committed to the welfare of children in care. An essential part of that commitment is the training that each family undergoes. Training affords foster, adoptive, and kinship families not only the tools they need to succeed but the confidence necessary to thrive.

Trainings cover topics such as child development, trauma and its effects, minimizing the trauma of placement, understand the child's families, managing emotions and behaviors, and more.

Support for Foster Families

Donor-funded programs promote healing and connection for youth in foster care and support for the families caring for them.

Wishing Well

Wishes for children in foster care, such as sports fees, music lessons, dance lessons, etc. to build self-esteem and provide normal child experiences.

Therapy Services

Foster families can access professional support to navigate the grief and trauma that often comes with their foster care journey.

Mentoring

Promotes knowledge, skills, resources, networking, team building, crisis support, connection, safety plans, and coping skills.