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**If you are interested in becoming a
Therapeutic Foster Boarding Home
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**NYC Administration
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Therapeutic Foster Boarding Home Program



Q & A

Therapeutic Foster Boarding Home Program

What is the Therapeutic Foster Boarding Home Program?

The Therapeutic Foster Boarding Home (TFBH) Program is also known as Treatment Foster Care. This is a combined program of foster home care and therapeutic/support services that create opportunities for teaching, learning and treatment in a nurturing family environment. A TFBH placement is the least restrictive environment available for children who might otherwise be placed in institutional care. Foster parents and staff collaborate as a team to provide care and treatment

Who is the target population?

Children with behavioral disorders, emotional disturbances, and those assessed for a higher level of care than regular foster boarding home care make up the service population. In addition, children whose behavior has been modified in the more restrictive environment of a residential treatment center may "step down" to TFBH care in the community and receive a less restrictive level of care.

What type of training and support services do TFBH parents receive?

TFBH foster parents are the primary treatment agents in a child's life. Their interventions are expected to have the most impact on the child's recovery. As a result, TFBH foster parents care for a maximum of two children at any one time in order to best implement the child's individual treatment plan. TFBH parents receive intensive training prior to licensing. The Model Approach to Partnership in Parenting (MAPP) provides an orientation for potential foster parents. In addition, TFBH parents receive training in the "ABCs of In-Home Problem-Solving". This treatment model addresses behavior management and teaches positive alternatives to challenging behavior.

A variety of supports are available to TFBH parents. Program staff manage very low caseloads and act as consultants to the TFBH families. Foster parents are an integral part of the Interdisciplinary Treatment Teams. The teams meet regularly to share important information, review each child's progress, revise goals and strategies and strengthen teamwork.

Planned and emergency respite care are also available to TFBH parents to provide a temporary break from the day-to-day responsibilities of caring for children with special needs.

What is the Child-Family Matching Process?

In TFBH care, it is very important for the child and the potential foster family to be compatible. The TFBH Child-Family Matching Process works to establish and maintain consistent therapeutic care in a suitable environment while decreasing multiple placements. A matching assessment is completed for each child and family before the child is placed in a foster home. The matching process starts with an initial visit between the child and prospective foster parent(s) and gradually increases to a number of visits during the week until weekend visits are appropriate. These visits enable the child and the family to become familiar with each other, the TFBH environment and the local community.

What are benefits of TFBH care?

Frequent evaluations and home visits by the social worker and the socio-therapist are one of the distinguishing features of the TFBH Program. Professional treatment is provided to the children by staff on a weekly basis while supporting the foster parents. TFBH parents receive around-the-clock crisis intervention services to address difficult situations and emergencies. Finally, TFBH care has been recognized as an effective alternative to costly institutional care.