

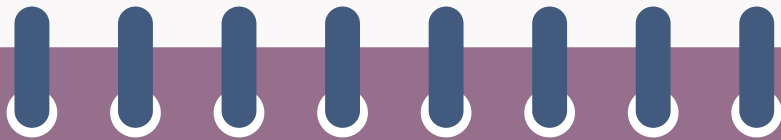


The Baby Fold

1500 Ft. Jesse Road
Wing A
Normal, IL, 60761

SERVING CHILDREN AND FAMILIES SINCE 1902

OCTOBER 2024 NEWSLETTER



OCTOBER 2024

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FOSTER PARENT SHOUT OUT!



The Baby Fold Foster Care Team would like to recognize Scott & Cheryl Turner for their commitment to children in care.

Scott & Cheryl Turner are providing care for their four grandchildren. Both are strong advocates for the children and their birth mother. They have provided assistance with supervising visits between the children and their birth mother and are supportive of the return home goal. Both have been actively involved with casework and licensing staff. They make sure that the children are getting the services they need to address their developmental needs. Cheryl and Scott's ability to provide structure and support have helped the children improve their level of functioning. While caring for four children with some specialized needs, they have also been able to complete the tasks involved in getting licensed. We appreciate all the efforts that have made to support their daughter and grandchildren as they work towards reunification.

AGENCY EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CELEBRATING HALLOWEEN? COME JOIN US AT THE BABY FOLD'S TRUNK OR TREAT EVENT

Location: 1500 Fort Jesse, Suite A
Normal, Illinois 61761
Time: 4:00pm-7:00pm

Please join us for a delightful evening, filled with candy, costumes, games, and a spooky hallway walk!

If you are not able to join our trunk or treat festivities, there is another trunk or treat event on October 27th, 4:00pm-6:00pm, at the Normal First United Methodist Church located at 211 North School Street.



AGENCY EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

BE ON THE LOOKOUT...

NEW FOSTER PARENT FACEBOOK PAGE

We are launching a Facebook page specifically for our foster parents!

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

We wanted to notify you that the implementation plan will be mailed to you in the near future. Please review and return the signature page and any feedback within 30 days. Signature pages can be emailed to your licensing worker, dropped off at our office, or given to your case manager or licensing worker during any visits in October.

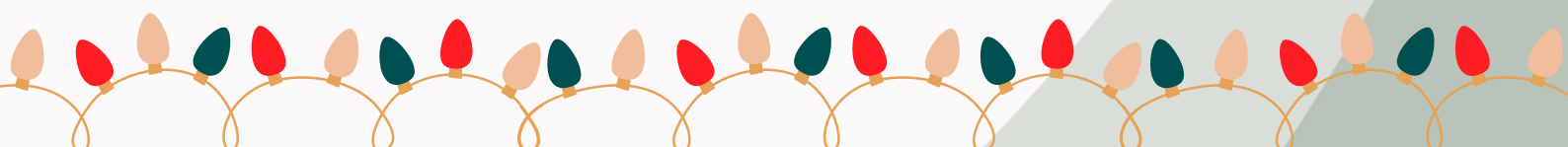
CHRISTMAS WISH LIST PROGRAM

Christmas Wish List allows individuals, groups, and organizations in our community to 'adopt' the Christmas Wish Lists of children served by The Baby Fold. Once you receive the submission form, please fill it out and return it to the worker ASAP, the **deadline for submission is October 31st.** There's no guarantee that lists will be adopted, but the sooner you submit your wish lists, the higher the likelihood it will be adopted.

Wish List Guidelines:

- Complete **1 wish list per child**
- Child must be under 18 years old.
- Siblings of clients (biological, adopted, or foster) may submit a wish list if they are under 18 and live in the same household as the client.
- Gift requests should total \$60-\$70 per list.
- Each list should include the child's top 2-3 wishes.
- Be specific: Include details like preferred ethnicity for dolls/Barbie's, gaming systems (e.g., Xbox, PlayStation) for games, and clothing or bedding sizes. (Not including this information will delay the process and your list may not get adopted)
- Lists can include gift cards, but there must be at least one physical item.
- It can be helpful to include online links to the item, including Amazon lists.

If you have any questions, please contact your worker, or feel free to contact our office directly: (309)-557-1049.



AGENCY EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

TRAINING WITH OUR NURSE: KIM SEWELL

CPR/First Aid in person @ our office

All foster parents needs to sign up individually. Click on the link to sign up:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0B45ABA62CA4FBCE9-51031839-cprfirst>

- **October 5th from 8am - 12pm**
- **October 17th from 5pm - 9pm**

DADS SHARPEN DADS

A safe place for dads to share their unique challenges, as well as education and support for each other to be their very best. Meets 2 times a month. Check out the flyer on page 16, and Ken Summers at Ksummers@thebabyfold.org for more information

GRANDPARENT CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP

If you are fostering a grandchild, this group is for you! This support group meets once a month at Community Care, located at 3601 General Electric Rd. Suite #2 Bloomington, IL 61704. At monthly meetings, caregivers and children are able to meet together to do activities, crafts, share a meal, and get to know one another. This support group is also helpful if you are looking for new resources or funding for specific needs. If you are interested and would like more information about the group, please call Angie Raymer at 309-661-6400.

SIDE BY SIDE MINISTRIES

This ministry exists to engage the church & local community in consistent loving support of families involved in foster care by providing access to physical, relational, & spiritual resources. Check out the flyer on page 14 for more information about this resource.

WEDNESDAY NOON GROUP

Provides education and support related to parenting, trauma, and self-care within the context of adoption and foster care. Meets 2 times a month. Check out the flyer on page 15, and email Melissa at MLEGENDRE@thebabyfold.org for more information.

Please reach out to your worker if you have any questions:

Cindy Musick
cmusick@thebabyfold.org
(309)-557-1004

Brittany Tweedt
btweedt@thebabyfold.org
(309)-557-1108

Amy Howe
ahowe@thebabyfold.org
(309)-557-1037

AGENCY EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

TBRI TRAINING AND SUPPORT GROUP

Trust-Based Relational Intervention is a trauma informed program that focuses on meeting relational and developmental needs of children, while supporting caregivers in building healthy attachments and effective interventions. Join our 12-week virtual training designed for caregivers and professionals working with children from hard places. Learn trauma-informed strategies to help children heal, grow, and thrive.

For Questions, contact Michaellee Maier mmaier@thebabyfold.org

- Dates: Weeks of September 24th through December 17th on Tuesday Evenings from 5:30pm to 7:00pm (12 weeks, 3 weeks per section.)
- Register: www.eventbrite.com/e/1004001654977?aff=oddtcreator

FOSTERING STRONG

The foster care staff is excited about our core training program, Foster Strong! Twice each month (except November due to the Holiday schedule) we are offering a virtual, trauma-informed training topic that may help guide you in your foster parenting efforts. Please reach out to any foster care staff members if you have questions. RSVP is preferred but not necessary. Here is a list of the upcoming dates:

Foster Parent Transitions and Routines Training Dates & Details:

- **October 15th** 12:00pm-1:00pm ;
 - Meeting Link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87944416287?pwd=JGSbUC4f4GEGsENUYAxkgWqaCCwffex.1>
 - Meeting ID: 879 4441 6287
 - Passcode: 763305
- **October 22nd** 6:00pm-7:00pm ;
 - Meeting Link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84385800494?pwd=bDHO1bZREHAEzSK4I6pC6f5U4KKciY.1>
 - Meeting ID: 843 8580 0494
 - Passcode: 551329

Foster Children Grief and Loss Training Dates & Details::

- **November 19th** 12:00pm-1:00pm ;
 - Meeting Link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82007695390?pwd=CMBaJyzOhHu8tfFqmHU5T3gXRI1AnC.1>
 - Meeting ID: 820 0769 5390
 - Passcode: 256183
- **December 3rd** 6:00pm-7:00pm ;
 - Meeting Link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82787140491?pwd=fKWe6sH8rZEA172tX482VpDkNBKkow.1>
 - Meeting ID: 827 8714 0491
 - Passcode: 640470

REMINDERS

FYI, this is the DCFS Website Link: <https://dcfs.illinois.gov/>

Please do not forget to submit the following documents, updates, verifications, or certifications to your licensing worker:

- CPR/First Aid
- Auto Insurance
- Pet Records
- Quarterly Evacuation Practices

Respite Reminder: We appreciate when families identify their own respite resources, and to help make that possible, the licensing team wants you to be aware of some steps that need to be taken first, if paid respite is needed.

- You must inform your youth in care's caseworker prior to utilizing any licensed foster family for respite.
- Licensing staff need to ensure the licensed respite provider has appropriate capacity to accommodate the children they will be caring for.
- If you have identified a respite resource who is licensed through another agency, The Baby Fold needs to be aware that this home is being used.
- If you offer to do respite for a family licensed by another agency, The Baby Fold needs to be informed.
- If you have any further questions, please talk to your licensing worker or caseworker or refer to the Foster Parent manual.
- Remember it is important to let your caseworker know your plans for childcare.

FOSTER PARENT ANNUAL SURVEY



We value your opinion!
Please complete this annual survey
at your earliest convenience.
Your feedback helps us improve.
Please scan the QR code
to complete the survey.



LOCAL EVENTS

To learn more about local events, go to visitbn.org/events/

Haunted Twilight Mini Golf

Date: Saturday, October 5, 2024

Time: 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Join us for the final night of Twilight Mini Golf for the year. It will be a fun night with glow-in-the-dark golf balls, festive Halloween decorations, and fun! Games are \$7 per person with the last tee at 8:15 PM. Costumes are highly encouraged. The Putting Zoo is located near the entrance of the Miller Park Zoo.

Autumn Market

Date: Sunday, October 13, 2024

Time: 10:00 am - 2:30 pm

Cost: FREE

Location: DESTIHL Brewery, 1200 Greenbriar Drive, Normal, IL, 61761

Join us at our Autumn Market set up on the brewery lawn! This enchanting outdoor event showcases local goods from various vendors. Find something unique for yourself or give it as a gift!

Dia de las Monarcas (Day of the Monarchs)

Date: Saturday, October 19, 2024

Time: 12:00 pm - 2:00 pm

Location: Miller Park Zoo, 1020 South Morris, Bloomington, IL

Cost: \$7-9

Phone: 3094342260

Website: <https://www.bloomingtonparks.org/facilities/miller-park-zoo>

Come and celebrate the importance of Monarch Conservation with us! Learn about the Monarch Tag and Release program that Miller Park Zoo is a part of. Also, learn the significance of Monarchs to the Mexican communities of the world. Watch a demonstration of Monarchs being tagged and released! There will be Mexican music, crafts, dance demonstrations, face painting, and food trucks. All activities are free with admission.

Treat Feast

Date: Thursday, October 24, 2024

Time: 5:00 pm - 6:30 pm

Cost: Free

Location: Uptown Circle, 11 Uptown Circle, Normal, IL, 61761

Website: <https://www.uptownnormal.com/1680/Treat-Feast>

Trick-or-treat in Uptown Normal while the streets are closed! Costumes encouraged; all ages welcome.



Reminder: If you are ever in need of help on a holiday or weekend, please call us on our On-Call Phone:

**Foster Care #:
309-530-1737**



LOCAL EVENTS CONTINUED...

Downtown Trick-or-Treat

Date: Friday, October 25, 2024

Time: 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Cost: Free

Location: Downtown Bloomington, Downtown Bloomington, Downtown Bloomington, IL

Phone: 309-434-2295

Halloween is one of our favorite times of the year to spend in gorgeous Downtown Bloomington! The City of Bloomington is excited to host their annual trick-or-treat event! Businesses from all over the downtown will participate along with local nonprofits and community organizations. We'll be bringing a night of candy costumes and spooktacular fun to downtown on October 25 from 5-8 pm!

Halloween Hoopla at the Children's Discovery Museum

Date: Friday, October 25, 2024

Time: 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Cost: \$11-16

Location: Children's Discovery Museum, 101 E Beaufort Street, Normal

Website: <https://www.childrensdiscoverymuseum.net/262/Halloween-Hoopla>

Young and old, witches, pirates, princesses, dragons and comic book heroes are invited to Halloween Hoopla. Families will enjoy dressing up in costume, trick-or-treating in the exhibits, face painting by The Zoo Lady, spooky science and lots of Spooktacular themed hands-on games and activities. Museum exhibits will be transformed into not-so scary immersive experiences to delight and fright!

Howlabaloo at the Zoo

Date: Saturday, October 26, 2024 & Sunday, October 27, 2024

Time: Sat. 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm & Sun. 12:00 pm - 3:00 pm

Cost: \$5 for members and \$10 for non-members.

Location: Miller Park Zoo, 1020 S. Morris Ave., Bloomington, IL, 61701

Phone: 3094342260

It's Halloween time! What better way to get into the fun spirit of Halloween than Miller Park Zoo's annual Halloween party? It's the same fun event, just renamed! This evening event will be a little bit scary, but still a lot of fun for all ages. There will be local vendors, crafts, games, and glitter tattoos! There will also be an opportunity to purchase hayride tickets at the admissions window for \$3.00 each (weather permitting).

Halloween Skate Fest

Date: Sunday, October 27, 2024

Time: 2:30 pm - 4:00 pm

Cost: Admission: \$7.00; Skate Rental: \$3.00

Location: Bloomington Ice Center, 201 S Roosevelt Ave, Bloomington, Illinois, 61701

Phone: 3094342260

<https://www.bloomingtonparks.org/facilities/ice-center>

Join us at the Bloomington Ice Center for some Halloween fun while skating with family and friends! This chilling event features Halloween-themed music, treats, and a special skating performance! Skaters who wear costumes will receive \$1.00 off admission!



FOSTER PARENTS RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Right 7: The right, at any time during which a child is placed with the foster parent, to receive additional or necessary information that is relevant to the care of the child.

Child welfare specialists are trained regarding all information that is to be shared with foster parents concerning the children in their care. For initial placements, within sixty days of placement the worker will complete the entire Child/Caregiver Matching Tool, adding information that has become available through the integrated assessment including school reports, medical records, and psychological or psychiatric evaluations. The completed Child/Caregiver Matching Tool is signed by the child welfare specialist and the supervisor and then filed in the child's case record.

In signing the Foster Home Placement Agreement, the child welfare specialist agrees to discuss with the foster parent information regarding the child's family and background in order to assist the foster parent in understanding and helping the child. Child welfare specialists continue to evaluate and assess the need for foster parents to receive other pertinent information regarding a child in their care on a case by case basis. Such case issues are discussed between the child welfare specialist and the supervisor during supervision. Pertinent information is then shared with the foster parent as it relates to the children in their home.

Supervisors are responsible for holding child welfare specialists accountable for sharing pertinent information with the foster parents. Through individual supervision, and team meetings, supervisors ensure that pertinent information has been shared with the foster parent.

Child welfare specialists and licensing workers routinely check the child's record folder that the foster parent maintains, to ensure that the foster parent has all the necessary information. Foster parents receive updated information through the school staffings, medical appointments, agency staffings, court hearings, and Child and Family Team Meetings that they attend.

When requested, the child welfare specialist will provide the foster parent with documentation that verifies the child's placement with the foster parent, in order for the foster parent to be able to provide that confirmation to the child's school or other service providers such as WIC.

FOSTER PARENTS RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES CONTINUED

Responsibility 7: The responsibility to assess the foster parent's ongoing individual training needs and take action to meet those needs.

Foster parents receive information regarding ongoing training requirements through receipt of the licensing standards and The Baby Fold's foster parent manual. Family development staff and foster parents together assess training needs and complete and sign the Licensing Monitoring Record form, which contains the training plan pertaining to the child(ren) placed in the foster home.

Through regular license monitoring and case planning activities foster parents and the agency identify training needs, as they pertain to the care of the children currently placed in the home, and in preparation for accepting future placements. The Caregiver Matching Tool is used to identify areas in which the foster parent may need assistance through additional training. The Baby Fold informs foster parents through personal contacts and the monthly newsletter of ongoing module training, agency training, and outside training that can meet those training needs. If necessary, the licensing worker will seek a training resource to fulfill a particular need. As stated in The Baby Fold's Foster Parent Manual, The Baby Fold will reimburse foster parents for travel expenses to attend agency-approved training.

Foster parents are informed of information resources, such as articles, books, audio tapes, video tapes, and community support groups. They are encouraged to use the DCFS Virtual Training site.

Through the foster parent newsletter and the foster parent committee meetings, foster parents are invited to suggest training topics that can be addressed through the foster/adoptive parent training sessions. Foster parents can access training through the Foster Parent College DVD series and the Trust Based Relational Interventions (TBRI) Healing Families DVD series. The Healing Families series includes: TBRI Overview, Attachment: Why It Matters, Children From Hard Places and the Brain, Playful Interaction, Healthy Touch, A Sensory World and Trust Based Parenting.

Spooky
Hallway

Candy

TRUNK OR TREAT

Costumes

Games



Friday, October 18 4-7pm

1500 Fort Jesse Normal, IL



TRUST-BASED RELATIONAL INTERVENTION®



Classes and Caregiver support

Join our **12-week virtual training** designed for caregivers and professionals working with children from hard places. Learn trauma-informed strategies to help children heal, grow, and thrive.

What is TBRI®?

A trauma-informed program that focuses on meeting the relational and developmental needs of children, while supporting caregivers in building healthy attachments and effective interventions.

Key Takeaways from the Training:

- Introduction to TBRI®: Empowering, Connecting, Correcting principles.
- Understand the link between trauma history and development.
- Learn to interpret and respond to behaviors to strengthen attachment.
- Discover strategies for creating felt safety and addressing behavior factors.
- Explore secure attachment and building deep emotional connections.
- Develop practical tools to balance structure, nurture, and correct behaviors.

Training Details

Sept. 24th-Dec. 17th

Tuesday evenings, 5:30-7:00
12 weeks, 3 weeks each section

Register here:

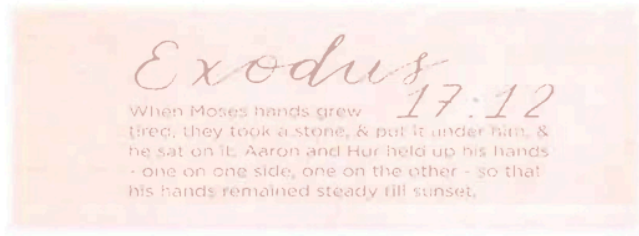
Eventbrite:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/1004001654977?aff=odtdtcreator>

Contact Information

Michaëlle Maier

Email: mmaier@thebabyfold.org



Side by Side Ministries exists to engage the church and local community in consistent, loving support of families involved in foster care by providing access to physical, relational, and spiritual resources.

TEAMS

Foster Community Resource Team:

All foster parents and support members share educational, spiritual resources/encouragement, and also respite care needs through the Groupme app.

The Nourish Team:

Support members uplift foster parents by giving a meal, gift cards, notes, etc.

The Go! Team:

Support members provide support through donations or sharing materials with foster families who receive a new placement by using a checklist. This is on an as-needed basis.

Example...clothes, diapers, formula, strollers, gift cards, etc.

Nurture Nights

Hosting gatherings three times a year for foster care and adoptive parents with the intent to provide community, connection, and educational training.

We are thankful for your willingness to be involved in foster care ministry and would like to learn more about your needs and your family.

Please email us at sidebyside1712@gmail.com so we can better assist you!

Daton & Kathy Kupferschmid and Ryan & Hope Stoller



THE BABY FOLD'S
**VIRTUAL PARENT
SUPPORT GROUP**

1nd AND 3rd WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH
12:00-1:00 PM

SUPPORT AND EDUCATION FOR FAMILIES FORMED
THROUGH ADOPTION AND GUARDIANSHIP

EMAIL MELISSA AT MLEGENDRE@THEBABYFOLD.ORG FOR
MORE INFORMATION & LINK TO MEETINGS

“You cannot lead a child to a place of healing
if you do not know the way yourself.”
– Dr. Karyn Purvis

Dads Sharpen Dads

“As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another.”

The Baby Fold

Dad’s Support Group

1st & 3rd Monday evenings

7:15 pm–8:15 pm

Email Ken Summers at ksummers@thebabyfold.org

to sign up!

“ If we can communicate to our children,
It’s you and me against your history,

We have a strong place to begin.”

Dr. Karyn Purvis