

There are hundreds of children in Southwest Missouri who need a loving home.

While some might see it as heroic to love and care for a child, Springfield Partners sees it simply as caring people who want to make a difference in the life of a foster child.

***MAKE A DIFFERENCE:
HEROISM NOT REQUIRED.***

Springfield Partners is a consortium of three agencies devoted to children. Alternative Opportunities, Lutheran Family and Children's Services, and Good Samaritan Boys Ranch all have a distinguished history of caring for children.

Springfield Partners currently serves children living in Barry, Greene, Lawrence, and Stone counties.



Alternative Opportunities
www.aoinc.org



www.lfcs.mo.org



www.ranchlife.org

For information on how to make a difference in the life of a foster child please contact:

Springfield Partners, LLC through
Lutheran Family and Children's Services

2130 N Glenstone Ave.
Springfield, MO 65803

Phone: 417-862-1972
Fax: 417-862-3276

***YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE
A SUPER HERO
TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE***



***IN THE LIFE
OF A CHILD!***

**Springfield
Partners, LLC**
417-862-1972

Who Can Become a Foster Parent?

- ♥ 21 Years or older
- ♥ Marital status may be single, married, or divorced
- ♥ Reflect good moral character
- ♥ Verify financial stability
- ♥ Free of child abuse or criminal history
- ♥ Be of good mental and physical health
- ♥ With or without biological children
- ♥ Have a safe house or apartment with adequate space and furniture
- ♥ Willing and able to accommodate and care for additional children in your home



Q and A

What is the age of children in foster care?

The average age of a child in foster care is 10 years old. However, children in foster care can range from newborn to 21 years of age.

How long are children in foster care?

Children may be in foster care for one day or longer. The goal of foster care is to provide a safe, nurturing home for a child while support and assistance is given to the biological parents in order to make their home safe for the child's return. Most children return home to their birth families, though some are placed with adoptive, kinship, or guardianship families.

What type of health care coverage is provided to children in care?

All foster children are eligible for medical assistance, which covers medical, prescription, dental, and other mental health services.

What if I work full-time?

It is possible to work full-time and be a foster parent. Child care is provided by the State, as needed.

What are the steps to becoming a foster parent?

- ♥ After contacting us, you will be given a packet of information which provides detailed information on eligibility requirements as well as the opportunities and challenges facing a foster parent
- ♥ Preparatory meetings are held to discuss foster care
- ♥ Receive required foster parenting training known as STARS
- ♥ A home study is conducted during the training period which includes a family and home assessment
- ♥ If adoption is your goal, additional required training is provided

