

RFA SUPPORTS CHILDREN, YOUTH, YOUNG ADULTS AND FAMILIES

RFA Focuses on Lifelong Relationships

- Resource Parents work with birth parents, social workers, and others to reunify children with their birth families and, if this is not possible, establish permanency plans with legal guardians or adoptive families.

Prepares Resource Parents to meet the challenges of fostering a child.

- RFA Pre-service training prepares caregivers to meet the needs of children and youth.

Resource Parents receive on-going support.

- Services to address child-specific needs.
- Mentors who educate, encourage, and assist.
- Social Workers who support both birth parents and Resource Parents.
- In class and online training.
- Monthly foster care benefits on behalf of the child.
- Emergency clothing allowance.

Love makes a family.

--Anonymous



Got Questions?

ASK US.

MCDSS RFA

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Building 3(RED)

Madera CA 93638

Phone: (559) 675-5815

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DSSFosterCare@maderacounty.com



**Become a
Resource Parent
today!**

**A Child in Our
Community Needs You.**



Resource Family Approval (RFA)

All children need and deserve a safe, loving, and nurturing home where they can thrive and mature. Resource Parents (formerly known as Foster Parents) provide this by opening their hearts and their homes to children in need.

The Resource Family Approval process certifies families (known as Resource Families) to be considered for potential placement of a foster child, youth, or young adult (18-21 years old).

Who Can Be a Resource Family?

- Adults 18 years or older
- All races and ethnicities
- Single, married, divorced, domestic partnership
- Retired or working
- Homeowner or renter
- House or apartment



RFA Requirements



The following is a **partial list** of requirements to be certified as a Resource Parent:

- First attend an RFA Orientation
- Fill out application and other forms
- Submit Live Scan fingerprints for all adults living in, or regular visitors to, the home
- Complete Pre-approval training
- Participate in a home environment assessment
- Obtain CPR & First Aid certifications
- Submit a health screening report
- Submit a DMV Report
- Complete family interviews with a Social Worker
- Submit two character references

Emergency Placement of a Child

During an emergency situation, a child, youth or young adult can be placed with a relative or adult family friend prior to the RFA certification if certain requirements are met:

- A home and grounds inspection
- Criminal record and Child Abuse Index check
- Initiation of RFA process within 5 business days of placement of child
- Completion of Live Scan background check within 10 days
- Completion of RFA process within 90 days of placement

Step 1: RFA Orientation

RFA Orientations are held at the Madera County Department of Social Services:

1610 Sunrise Avenue
Madera, Ca. 93638

- Orientation in English: second and fourth Tuesday of every month from 9am-11am. Second Tuesday of every month at 5pm-7pm.
- Orientation in Spanish: fourth Tuesday of every month at 5pm-7pm.

Please call 559.675-5815 or visit:

www.maderacounty.com/government/social-services for times.