



## Foster Care & Adoption

### *Information Packet*

**R PRESSLEY  
RIDGE**  
All Children. Always.

# You Can Be the Difference

**3,500**

Children in Central PA are in need of Foster Homes

**1,700**

Children are waiting for their forever home



Hundreds of children are removed from their homes each year due to abuse, neglect, abandonment, or behavioral difficulties

Many of these children have experienced trauma and desperately need the care and support of a loving foster or adoptive family

## Opportunities with Pressley Ridge



Our respite services provide an opportunity for you to provide care on a part-time or as-needed basis.

Children spend time in your home so their foster parents can have a care break.

You provide support to foster parents on evenings, weekends, or extended periods of time. This opportunity is perfect if you are not ready to commit to being a full-time foster parent.



You have the unique chance to assist youth in care at a critical time in their lives.

Children typically receive a higher level of therapeutic services including weekly sessions and 24/7 on-call support.

You will be an integral part of the therapeutic team that works toward providing treatment and stability for the child.



Share your home—and lives—with children in need of temporary care through this rewarding opportunity.

Children are in the custody of Child Protective Services having been removed from their homes due to abuse, neglect, or abandonment.

The ultimate goal is to reunite children with their birth families once situations at home have stabilized.



We are uniquely equipped to help you adopt children and provide them with a forever home through our foster-to-adopt program.

We are a Statewide Adoption and Permanency Network (SWAN) affiliate.

Our compassionate staff will support you throughout your journey of adopting a child.

# Short Term. Long Term. *Or The Rest of Their Lives.*

Every child deserves to have a loving family — to live in a home that provides stability and opportunities for growth. Our foster and adoptive parents provide a safe, nurturing home for these children.

Becoming a  
Foster  
or Adoptive  
Parent

- 1 Be at least 21 years of age
- 2 Access to reliable transportation
- 3 Complete a background check
- 4 Have space in your home

Foster and adoptive parents are everyday people from every walk of life. At Pressley Ridge, we understand the commitment to foster or adopt comes with great rewards—and great challenges.

We're here to support you every step of the way through specialized training, in-home support, and tax-free financial compensation.

“My fondest memory of being a foster parent is when I watched my foster daughter sing on stage at a public event. I felt so proud of her that I got tears in my eyes. That was when I felt like her mother and not just her foster parent.”



# FACT vs.

# FICTION

## Becoming a Foster Parent

### FICTION

### FACT

Becoming a foster parent is too expensive.

Parents receive competitive tax-free compensation ranging from \$20-\$55 per day depending on level of care provided.

To be a foster parent, I have to be young and married as husband and wife.

No two children are the same nor should two foster parents be the same. Individuals from all walks of life are welcome at Pressley Ridge.

Foster parents must provide health insurance to their foster children.

Children in foster care have their own state or private insurance, foster parents are not financially responsible for health insurance.

Foster parents have no control over the types of children placed in their home.

Careful and diligent efforts are made by staff to assist parents in finding a positive match for their home. Foster parents and children have a say in where and who they want to live with.

I don't have time to be a foster parent.

There are a wide variety of opportunities from full-time, part-time, to as-needed services. Respite parenting provides parents with the chance to foster on a busy schedule.

# You Have the Power to Be A Loving and Nurturing Family



We had always wanted to have a family together, but experienced difficulty having children biologically. We found the idea of being able to provide a family to children that were already born and in need of stability to be an appealing possibility. We have always understood that family is less about genetics and more about people that love, support, and care for one another.

*“When we finally met our boys, we knew right from the start that we had found our family”*

This brought us to seek an alternative. We made an appointment to meet with a representative from Pressley Ridge, where our lives would be changed forever for the better.

In our journey, Pressley Ridge provided for all of our needs with an incredible degree of knowledge and understanding.

On our first visit, we met the Program Coordinator, who explained the process while making us feel welcome and guiding us through the initial steps. We attended Pressley

Ridge’s classes, which helped us to understand the challenges we were about to face. We were assigned a counselor, who provided advice and offered honest and non-judgmental support throughout the process, and was always willing to go out of her way to help us.

Our older son was a polite and inquisitive young man, and he displayed obvious insight and intelligence.

Our younger son was shy, but thoughtful and funny. We found both of them irresistible. We were told we could have a few days to think it over, but in a matter of hours we had made the decision to bring them into our lives.

Throughout the process, Pressley Ridge has continued to support our family. Our sons attended counseling with one of Pressley Ridge’s clinical therapists, who worked with the whole family to provide support to both the boys and us as well. The staff psychiatrist handled medication management for one of

our boys. Pressley Ridge stays in touch, informing us of events and services that might interest us. Throughout it all, the office staff has gone to great lengths to help us with whatever we need. We are truly grateful for the care and support we have received from the team at Pressley Ridge.

*Jennifer & Jonathan Atkins started their journey as foster parents with Pressley Ridge and adopted Dahvir and De’Andre (Pictured above). Thank you for sharing your inspiring story with us!*

## Why Join Pressley Ridge’s Family?

1

**Support.** *“Everyone is sensitive to our families’ needs and supportive.”*  
Jennifer, Foster Parent

2

**Expertise.** *“Pressley Ridge has professional people, and understand what children need. They let the children talk, I’ve heard kids in groups say they didn’t expect to say that, because they didn’t feel comfortable saying that anywhere else, but at Pressley Ridge they do”*  
Denise, Foster Parent

3

**Impact.** *“People act like we’re saints for taking a foster teen, but she’s been good for us just as much as we’ve been good for her.”*  
Angie, Foster Parent

## PASSION



“I learned that love always comes first.”

- Dahvir, Former Youth in Foster Care

“You have someone where you can go to, that you know that you’re not alone, that somebody does care.”

- Kayla, Youth in Foster Care

“You have the power to instill greatness in someone that didn’t even know it was there.”

- Jackie, Former Youth in Foster Care

“You have a family and you don’t have to go from house to house to house.”

- De’Andre, Former Youth in Foster Care

## PATIENCE



“They need a lot of love. A lot of them come from broken homes.”

- Willeas, Foster Parent

“Most of them are used to not being able to express themselves and most of them don’t know exactly how to express themselves so you just have to be patient and give them reassurance and encourage them.”

- Kayla, Youth in Foster Care

## WILLINGNESS



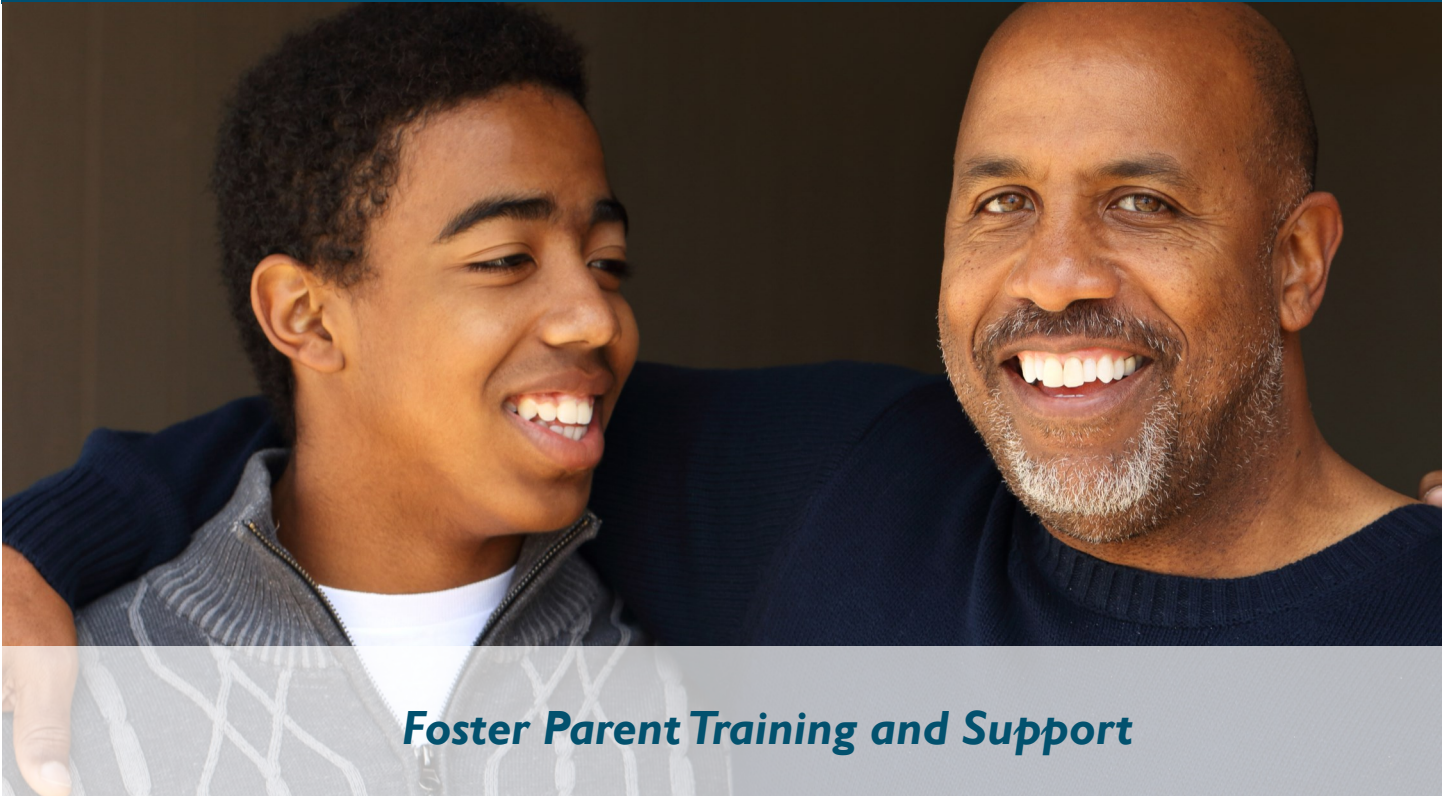
“I think one of the most important characteristics that you could have as a foster parent is just a willingness to love.”

- Jackie, Former Youth in Foster Care

“In the beginning there wasn’t a lot of trust but she’s grown to trust me. She’s just doing better in all kinds of ways, she’s doing better in school, she’s going to school everyday, she just seems happier.”

- Lori, Foster Parent

“Pressley Ridge, whatever you need, day or night... they are there for you. Whether its training, a phone call, or you need them to come out to the house.” —Daniel, Foster Parent



## Foster Parent Training and Support

### Reason for taking this course?

To help prepare you in becoming a foster parent, increase knowledge and skills around working with youth who are in foster care, and to discuss questions and concerns.

### What kind of course is this?

This course is designed to introduce you to becoming a foster parent and is necessary for meeting certification requirements. The course will cover 12 units in addition to CPR and First Aid Certification.

### How long will this course take?

On average, training will take about a month with meeting twice a week. Training can be shorter or longer depending on your schedule and flexibility. Training hours are available day, evening, or weekend.

### A sneak peek of what's to come:



Speak with a Recruiter to learn more



Schedule an informational meeting



Sign up for and attend training



Step-by-step support to complete paperwork



Prepare home for your foster child



Become a certified foster parent!



Learn about the youth needing homes



Matching, placement, and enjoy being a parent



Receive 24/7 on-call and therapeutic staff support

**SIGN UP TODAY !!**

[www.pressleyridge.org/cpa-fostercare-adoption-training](http://www.pressleyridge.org/cpa-fostercare-adoption-training)

**Contact us to learn about how you can  
*be the difference.***

**Lancaster Office**

**630 Janet Avenue Lancaster, PA**

**Recruiter's # : 717.397.5241 ext. 130**

**York Office**

**141 East Market Street York, PA 17401**

**Recruiter's # : 717.845.6624 ext. 21602**