

Children's Aid Society of Northumberland

The Children's Aid Society of Northumberland is a charitable, non-profit agency established under the authority of the Child and Family Services Act and funded by the Ministry of Children and Youth Services. The CASN is mandated to provide Child Welfare Services in Northumberland County and is governed by a 12 member volunteer Board of Directors.

The CASN strives to ensure children continue to live with their families whenever possible. Unfortunately, even after receiving help and counseling, some parents cannot provide their children with adequate care. In these situations children may be brought into the care of the CASN and since a child's needs are usually best met in a family environment, foster family care is one of the first choices for children admitted to care. With approximately 100 children in the care of the CASN today, it is imperative that we work in collaboration with foster parents and volunteers and continue to serve our children in need.

We encourage you, upon reviewing this pamphlet, to contact the Children's Aid Society in your community and speak to a trained professional if you would like to learn more about fostering or adopting a child. On behalf of Children's Aid Society of Northumberland and our children in care, thank you!

Society Contact Information

To learn more about the Children's Aid Society of Northumberland's fostering process please refer to our website, www.northumberlandcas.org. or visit the "Winning Kids" site at www.fosteradoptwinningkids.com

About Winning Kids

The Winning Kids website is a result of twelve child welfare agencies in Eastern Ontario collaborating to encourage people in Eastern Ontario to foster or adopt the children and youth in care in our region. On average, the twelve Children's Aid Societies are responsible for the care of approximately three thousand (3000) children and youth. The Winning Kids website is funded by the Children's Aid Foundation and links each of these child welfare agencies.



Other websites of interest include:
www.oacas.org (Ontario Assoc. of Children's Aid Societies)

WHAT IS FOSTERING?

Every
Child Deserves
to be a **Kid**



The Children's Aid Society
of Northumberland



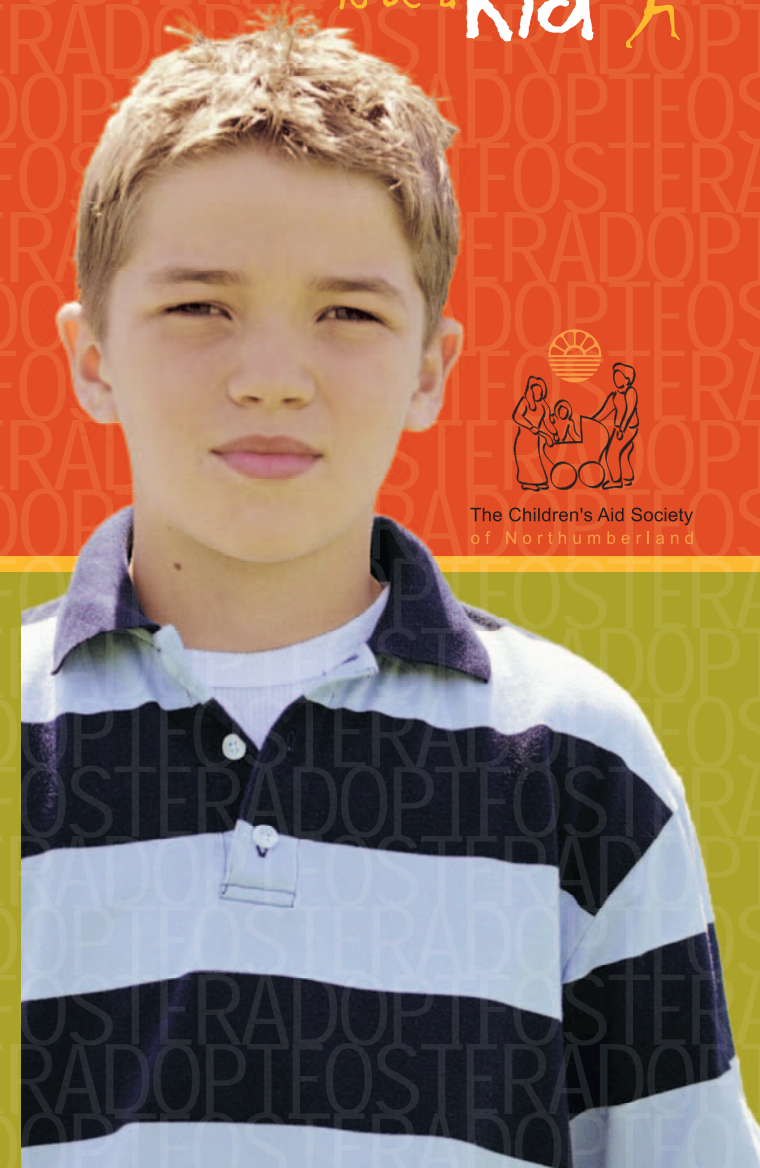
The Children's Aid Society
of Northumberland

Head Office

1005 Burnham St., Cobourg K9A 5J6

For all inquiries contact: 1-800-263-7902
or 905-372-1821

www.northumberlandcas.org
www.fosteradoptwinningkids.com



Where do you begin?

Following your initial inquiry and in-home consult, you will attend a 10-week pre-service training session on the PRIDE model.

This model is designed to strengthen the quality of foster care services by providing a standardized, structured framework for recruiting, preparing and selecting foster parents.

What is Pride?

PRIDE is a model for the development and support of foster families. It was designed to strengthen the quality of foster care by providing a standardized, structured framework for recruiting, preparing and selecting foster parents. It also provides foster parent training and ongoing professional development.

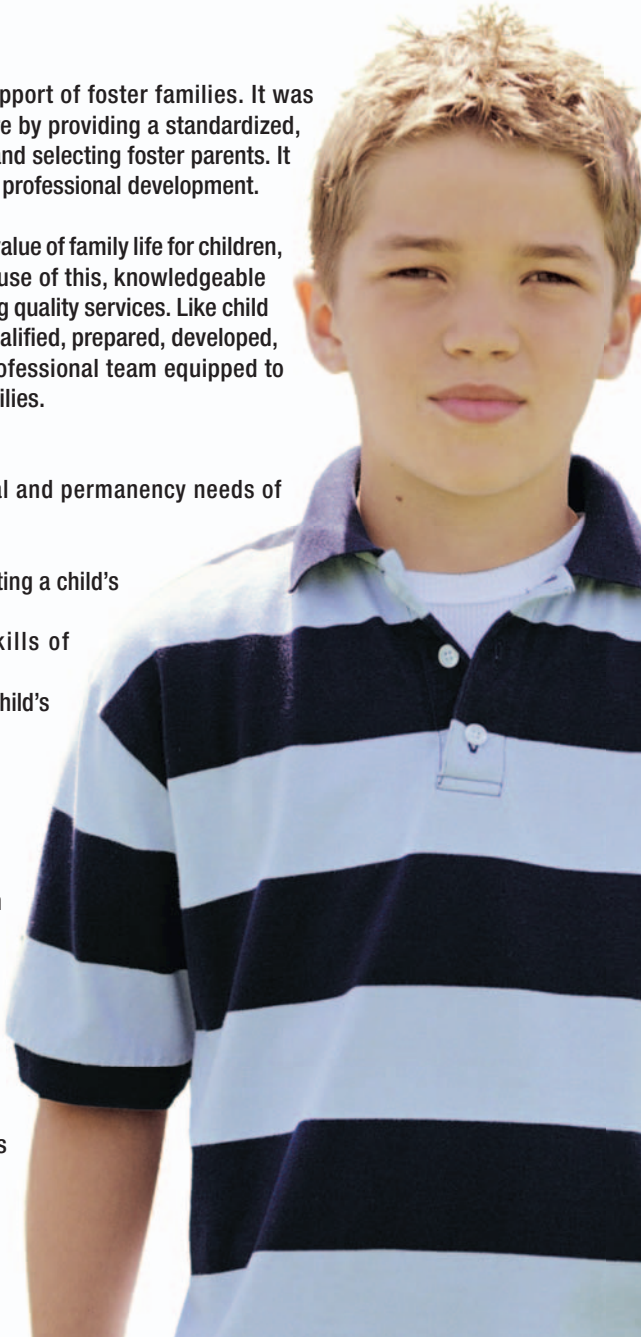
The program is based on the philosophy that the value of family life for children, however family is defined, is compelling. Because of this, knowledgeable and skilled foster parents are integral to providing quality services. Like child protection workers, foster families should be qualified, prepared, developed, selected and approved to work as part of a professional team equipped to protect and nurture children and strengthen families.

PRIDE Program's Goals are to help:

- Meet the protective, developmental, cultural and permanency needs of children placed with foster families.
- Strengthen families, foster families.
- Foster parents know the importance of promoting a child's positive sense of identity, history and culture.
- Foster parents practice and learn the skills of teamwork.
- Parents and families realize their impact on a child's development.

What is Foster Care?

Foster care is a protective service for children from infant to eighteen years of age where they are provided with a substitute family life experience in a Society approved home, which may be a few days, a week, several months or possibly, years. The primary goal is to work toward a plan to return the child to their family of origin and if this is not possible, then a permanent plan will be developed for the child's placement.



Foster Family Support

- 24-hour emergency support
- Support services your foster child may need outside of the family
- Ongoing mutual support from other foster parents
- Worker support for foster families and foster children
- Regular relief for you and your family

Who can Foster?

Children in the care of Northumberland CAS have diverse needs and backgrounds. It is important that the Society recruit foster families with a range of knowledge and ability in order to properly match families and children. Foster families come from a variety of cultural, racial and religious backgrounds as well as a variety of age groups but must be of legal age.

If you are a family with young or adult children or no children at all, a single or divorced parent or one stay at home parent or both parents working, have a love for children, are optimistic and patient you can become a foster parent.

An educational background or experience in a child related field is an asset but not a requirement.

Roles & Responsibilities

- Preserve a safe and supportive family setting
- Meet child's daily needs and develop strong family relationships
- Maintain a positive and professional working relationship with Society
- Willingness to participate in learning opportunities

Financial Reimbursement

Category	Basic Rate Per Day
Level 1	\$27.28 per child
Level 2	\$37.76 per child
Level 3	\$47.24 per child
Treatment	\$63.05 per child

Note: The rates listed may vary slightly and should be confirmed with Children's Aid Society of Northumberland.

In addition to these rates foster parents are also provided with a daily care allowance which includes clothing, recreational activities etc.

Certain costs are deemed to be reimbursable. ie. prescription medications.