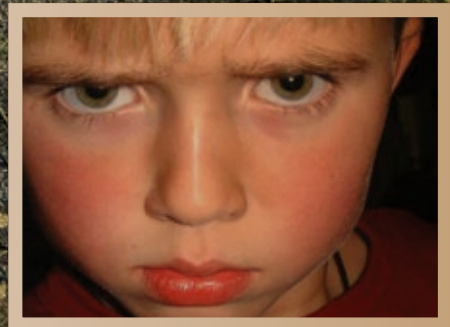


FOSTERING
Hope



Stability.
Enrichment.
Community.
Which one should
they go without?

Where there is help, there

There are 600 kids in the foster care system in El Paso County. Although most of them will return to their homes or be adopted within three years, about a fourth will “age out” of the system or be institutionalized.

- Of those that age out, half will be homeless within six months
- Of the boys, most will likely be in jail within one year
- Of the girls, most will likely be pregnant in that same time

(source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services—2009)

For these children, their foster parents and the foster care system are their last chance for a different outcome. Fortunately, research has shown the odds of success increase substantially when these kids are in a stable, enriched environment and connected to their community.



is hope.

A strong support system is crucial to the success of each foster family. It's not always easy to take on the challenges that can come from being a foster family. Friends and even family members can pull away. The foster children already feel like they have been abandoned once and can be distant or act out. These foster families need support. They need someone who is on their side, someone who understands. And that's where Fostering Hope comes in.

Stability. It's simple. These kids need predictability in their lives. Something they have had little of thus far. They need fewer transfers from home to home. They need to live with the same routines, expectations, rules and structure. And they need reasonable and healthy stress levels within the family and the household.

Enrichment. By creating relationships, taking part in activities and developing experiences typical of functional families, a level of much needed enrichment is added to these children's lives. They gain access to adults who are caring and dependable. They get to be around people who believe in their future and can be counted on to help make it possible. And people who will help them identify and develop their interests, skills and strengths.

Community connections. Without a connection to the community, the development of adult and peer networks within that community can become nonexistent. By helping these children build relationships that consist of future mentors, friends and advisors who will provide assistance today and tomorrow, they not only become part of their community, they belong to that community.

Fostering Hope solicits and supports teams of volunteers who function as an "extended" family for each foster family. Individually and as a team, they befriend the foster parent/s and assist them in caring for the foster children in ways that add that much needed stability, enrichment and connection with the community.

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Where there is hope, there is a future.

Fostering Hope needs your help to continue to make a difference. We can make a difference by helping Fostering Hope reach the seventy to seventy-five foster homes who care for the high need children in the foster care system. Resources may be a barrier but barriers can be overcome. With generous donors and citizens who care about the future of these children, we'll not only help them, we'll help the community in which these children will be able to realize their potential.

Getting to the heart of the matter.

An investment in your community and its children is an investment in its future.

Visit FosteringHopeFoundation.org or call 877.322.1576 to extend our network of hope.



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