

Who are the children placed in Aviva foster families?

Aviva places children ages 0 through 17 years old with foster families. Their backgrounds are diverse and include all ethnicities and socioeconomic status. Many of the children have been mentally, physically and/or sexually abused and neglected.

Role of the Foster Parent and Adoptive Family

The role of a certified foster and adoptive parent is to provide a loving, nurturing home to a child. It is important that the child feels and is treated like one of the “family” and continues what is natural, that is- to be a child. This includes going to school, having friends, engaging in activities, and participating in the foster family’s home life. Our foster parents not only provide care and actively participate with the children, but serve as role models.

It is Aviva’s goal for each foster child to be reunited with their birth families when the family is ready to provide a more secure environment through the development of parenting skills. Aviva actively assists with this process through the birth family’s visitation with the foster family so that the so that the parent child relationship continues. In instances where a child is unable to return to the birth family, Aviva is a licensed Adoption Agency in which our Adoption Coordinator is able to take the family and child through the adoption process from the start to finalization.

Aviva’s Support Systems of Foster and Adoptive Parents

Parenting is a full-time job and Aviva recognizes that taking in a foster or an adoptive child may present unknown challenges to well-intentioned families. It is Aviva’s commitment to provide support systems that provide answers to any questions that a family may have.

Services include weekly visits to the foster/adoptive home setting where a social worker will assess and identify the needs of the foster family and the child. The role of an Aviva social worker will be to facilitate resources that may include medical, educational, therapeutic, psychiatric, summer activity programs and financial support through a monthly stipend. In addition, Aviva provides free training to our foster/adoptive families so that there is a better understanding of the child’s emotional and behavioral difficulties. Once a child is placed there are continued monthly support groups for the foster and adoptive families.

Aviva maintains licensed credentialed social workers who masters degree in social work and/or psychology and are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to assist our certified foster and adoptive families.

BECOMING A FOSTER OR ADOPTIVE PARENT WITH AVIVA

For those interested in becoming a foster or adoptive parent. Please call our Foster Family and Adoption agency at **323-876-0550 x116**

Professionally trained staff can answer all your questions. We are licensed by the state of California as a Foster Family and Adoption Agency. Aviva has contracts with the County of Los Angeles to accept referrals of children and place them on our certified foster and adoption homes.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE: A diverse range of applicants is needed to accommodate the cultural diversity of the Los Angeles area.

- Those with a desire to help and provide a home to a child or children
- Home or apartment with enough spacing for a child

INITIATING THE PROCESS:

- Attendance at an Orientation Meeting
- Home interview by Aviva's Recruitment Department Staff
- Completion of an application

SCREENING: Aviva is committed to providing a safe, healthy and stable home. Listed below are some of the screening tools that are used prior to certifying a family.

- Fingerprint clearances
- Driver's license and photo ID
- Auto insurance
- Medical exam and TB test

TRAINING:

Aviva proudly offers its potential families the PRIDE (Parent Resource for Information, Development Education training). The training is free.

REIMBURSEMENT:

Financial assistance is provided to the families of Aviva when a child is placed in the home. The rate of reimbursement is dependent upon the age of the child. An additional allowance is usually provided to help defer clothing expenses. Most children's medical costs are covered by Medi-cal.

To contact Aviva Foster Family and Adoption Agency by emailing Foster-Adoption@avivacenter.org or call us at **323-876-0550 x115**