



The **Saskatchewan Foster Families Association** (SFFA) exists to support and encourage foster families through education and advocacy, helping create healthy homes, positive environments, and brighter futures for children and youth in care across the province.

## **EDUCATING THE COMMUNITY**

The right support can make all the difference to foster families. Education, advocacy, and a place to turn to for advice can help foster parents provide the support and healthy homes that foster children need. Training programs for foster parents and children can help foster families develop a deeper understanding of each other and the process, manage stress and build effective relationships.

### **GUIDING FAMILIES THROUGH THE PROCESS**

Foster Parents should feel secure when communicating and working with the Ministry of Social Services. This can be assured by our association through support, policy clarification, support through appeals, attending meetings and conflict resolution. It is our goal to have the foster parent and the Ministry of Social Services working together efficiently while maintaining a harmonious relationship.

# **OUR ROLE**

The SFFA is funded by the Ministry of Social Services to assist families in navigating the foster care system. Our goal is to educate the community of the need for foster families, support families through the foster home approval process and support families after they are approved to ensure success in their fostering journey.





#### **AVAILABLE SUPPORTS FOR FOSTER PARENTS**

The SFFA offers a variety of supports to all approved caregiver's;

#### Advocacy

The right support can make all the difference to foster families. The SFFA Family Advocate is available to assist caregivers through support, policy clarification, attending meetings and conflict resolution, working alongside the caregiver and the Ministry of Social Services.

### **Training**

The SFFA assists the Ministry of Social Services to ensure all approved caregivers maintain all mandatory training's. We also offer a variety of professional development training and monthly sessions on a variety of topics. We believe that educating and equipping caregivers is vital to their success as Foster Parents. Families are also encouraged to reach out and inquire on any topics or area's they feel would be beneficial to them.

## **Family Engagement**

Through a variety of social events such as BBQ's, Christmas Parties, Appreciation Supper's and Conferences, we bring foster parents together to create connections with families who are fostering themselves.

#### **Damage Assessment**

There are times where a foster child placed in your care may cause damage to your home or belongings. The SFFA has a contracted assessor who works along side our Family Advocate to ensure families are compensated appropriately for any damages that may be caused from a child in your care.

### In Home Support

There are times where it may be addressed that a Caregiver needs extra support to keep up with the day to day needs of the children in their care. Your Ministry worker would complete an assessment of your home and if it is decided In-Home Support is required, they will complete an In-Home Support contract which would then be assigned to a Program Coordinator within our SFFA office. From there, a Program Coordinator will work with the Caregiver to hire a candidate who would be a good fit for your home to come in and provide support for the contracted hours. All applicants must go through a complete hiring process including an interview, references, and criminal background checks. Caregivers are able to refer a support worker they know; they would still be required to complete the hiring process.

## **ACCESSING SUPPORTS THE SFFA OFFERS**

Upon approval, all Foster Parents become Members of the SFFA. This allows access to all the supports we offer at no cost.

Foster Parents can reach us by calling into our provincial office at 1.888.276.2880, or by visiting our Contact Us page at saskfosterfamilies.ca.









