



MAY IS NATIONAL FOSTER CARE MONTH



A Family for **ME** QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

April '26 - June '26 • AFamilyForMEMaine.org •



A Family for **ME**

National Foster Care Month - Turn Compassion Into Action



Scan the code to learn about foster care!

May is National Foster Care Awareness Month: Turn Compassion into Action

Every May, we recognize National Foster Care Awareness Month- a time to shine a light on the thousands of children across our country who need safe, stable, and loving homes. Here in Maine, that need is especially urgent.

Right now, there are children in our communities who are waiting. Waiting for consistency. Waiting for someone to show up for them. Waiting for a place where they can simply be kids again.

Maine is facing a critical shortage of licensed foster homes. This means children are sometimes placed far from their schools, their friends, and everything familiar to them. It means siblings may be separated. It means waiting longer for stability. But this is where our community can make a difference.

Becoming a licensed foster parent may feel like a big step- and it is. But you won't take it alone.

Training, support, and guidance are provided at every step of the way.

What matters most is your willingness to open your heart and your home. You don't have to change the world to change a life.

This May, we invite you to consider becoming a foster parent. Ask questions. Learn more. Start the conversation. Because right now, a child in Maine is waiting for someone just like you.

Curious about foster care?

A Family for **ME** Foster Care Q & A

Join us via **zoom** the 2nd Monday of every month at 6pm to learn more about foster care!

Register on the events page at afamilyformemaine.org




From Quiet Thought to Open Door

It often begins more quietly than one might expect, but with a fleeting thought they have. Perhaps it arrives while reading a story, passing a playground, or noticing the absence of something in a child's life. That thought lingers until it asks to be considered more seriously: What if I could help? From that single question, a path begins to take shape.

The process of becoming a licensed foster parent is, by design, both thorough and supportive. It typically begins with an inquiry to A Family for Me. From there, you will be assigned a recruiter who will guide you through the application process, as well as answer any questions you may have along the way. There are background checks, references, and a home study, not as barriers, but assurances that each child will enter a space prepared to meet them with care and stability.

What began as a thought has become something tangible, something steady. And just like that, the quiet idea that once passed through their mind now lives, breathes, and settles into the rhythm of everyday life with a foster child in their home. The process does not ask for extraordinary people; it reveals the extraordinary capacity within everyday people.

District Recruiters:

Amy Bergeron - Districts 6 & 8 (Northern ME)
207-572-0950, abergeron@spurwink.org

Christine Brown - District 3 (Central ME)
207-274-0745, cbrown@spurwink.org

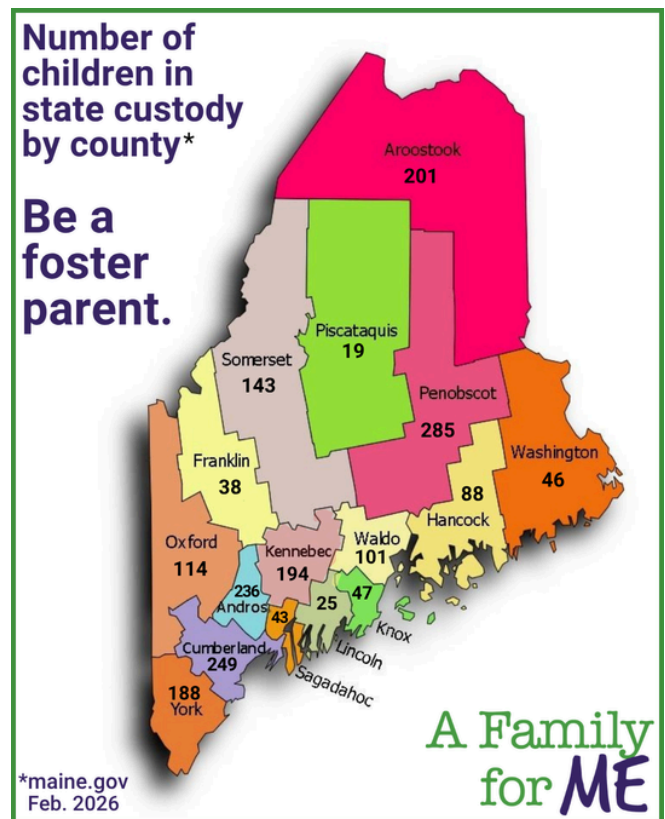
Cate Colombo - District 5 (Central ME)
207-699-9408, ccolombo@spurwink.org

Patricia Tate - District 4 & 7 (Eastern ME)
207-810-6010, ptate@spurwink.org

Stephanie Shue - District 1 & 2 (Southern ME)
207-400-9146, sshue@spurwink.org

You can make a difference! Ways you can help spread awareness:

- Invite us for a "Lunch & Learn" on foster care needs here in Maine, and how people can become licensed foster parents
- Distributing AFfME flyers or other print materials within your community
- Sharing information about fostering with coworkers, family, and friends
- Following, sharing, and engaging with our social media channels (at the top of this newsletter!)
- Including a mention about AFfME in your organization's newsletter or other communications
- Invite us to your workplace, church, or school for an informational presentation
- Volunteer to help spread awareness



Visit the Maine Heart Gallery to learn more about children awaiting adoption!

afamilyformaine.org/heart-gallery