

## What can my Foster Parent Support Specialist do for me?



### FPSS can assist foster parents in multiple ways.

Here are a few examples of how we can offer support:

- Crisis support through in-home visits or by phone
- Assist in identifying training needs to maintain licensure
- Brainstorm strategies to support children in your home
- Attend school meetings, court hearings, ACRs, or child and family team meetings as needed
- Facilitate foster parent support groups
- Act as a liaison with multiple agencies
- Telephone availability: Available during regular business hours for routine business and 24/7/365 for emergency support
- Assist you in getting services and supports
- LISTEN!

**We are here for you!**



### Foster Parent Support Specialist

*Your first line of support*



Illinois Department of  
**DCFS**  
Children & Family Services

**217.524.2422**

**[www2.illinois.gov/DCFS](http://www2.illinois.gov/DCFS)**



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## What is a Foster Parent Support Specialist?

Foster Parent Support Specialists (FPSS) work with licensed DCFS foster families or relative caregivers to

- Prevent placement disruptions
- Promote family reunification
- Stabilize foster care placements
- Facilitate youth development
- Ensure the safety, permanency and well-being of children in care

FPSS are current or previously licensed foster parents in the state of Illinois. Each FPSS participates in ongoing training to stay current on DCFS policy and procedure.

FPSS can help you understand your rights and responsibilities as a foster parent. You can call during a crisis situation for assistance in decision-making or to locate resources within your community. FPSS can advocate for you in many situations.

**We are available to you  
24/7/365**

Available during regular business hours for routine business and 24/7/365 for emergency support.

## Who is my Foster Parent Support Specialist?



FPSS are assigned to foster parents based on their geographic location. Even as children enter and leave your home, a FPSS will remain available.

If you are unsure of how to reach out to your support specialist, your DCFS licensing worker or DCFS caseworker can help identify the support specialist for your area.

**Empower**  
•  
**Support**  
•  
**Advocate**



*(Attach business card here.)*