

“Fostering a child is so important. You can see the difference you’re making.”

“Fostering isn’t easy, but it’s incredibly worthwhile,” says Nonnie. “When Gemma was about six years old, she said to me, “You can’t make it alright, but you can make it better. And that’s what we’re here to do – to teach the children to have good relationships and make their lives better. Even if you’re only in their life for a short term, you’re so important.”

Nonnie, Caregiver



About Iosis

- We are an Auckland Social Services agency working with parents in vulnerable situations to transform their family life for good.
- We are committed to seeing families freed from long-term damage that negatively affects the next generation.
- We are leaders in the use of experiential learning programmes that transform family life.
- We connect with others, shaping our work to meet the needs and goals of the family.

transforming
family life for good

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Foster Care

www.iosis.org.nz

What is Foster Care?

Sometimes when families have problems, children may be unsafe or not well cared for at home. Caregivers, also known as foster carers, open up their homes to the children and young people who can't live with their own family or whānau.

Caregivers play a vital role in ensuring children are:

- Safe from harm and well cared for.
- Supported as part of a loving family and whānau.
- Helped to thrive and become the best they can be.



Criteria

Types of care Iosis offers:

- **Respite** – Caring for a child for up to a week, to give the main carers a break.
- **Emergency** – Caring for a child who has been placed in care urgently because of immediate risk. This is normally short term until a safe placement can be found.
- **Short term** – Can be up to 2 months while Oranga Tamariki have a temporary care contract.
- **Extended care** – When children need to be placed for a longer term while Oranga Tamariki search for a safe family, whānau or Home for Life placement.

Do I get paid to be a carer?

People become foster carers in order to make a difference to children's lives. Financial help is provided to meet the day-to-day costs of caring for a child. A care allowance is paid fortnightly and covers board, clothing, personal items and pocket money. This allowance varies according to the child's age. We also provide allowances for Christmas and birthday presents.

How do I become a carer?

We are presently in need of carers from all backgrounds who would be available to take children into their home for both short and long term placements.

Contact us for further information.

Email fostercare@iosis.org.nz or
phone 09 269 0050



How will we support you?

As a carer, we will make sure you are:

- Allocated a key worker who will provide you with ongoing support.
- Provided with a 24/7 on-call emergency support system.
- Well-matched to the child in your care.
- Provided ongoing training and regular support.
- Able to ask for respite care if you need time out.
- Given a copy of the Iosis child's care plan, which includes relevant details about the child's needs, behaviours and background.
- Clear about your roles and responsibilities as a carer.