

Maintaining connections to family,
friends, and neighborhoods.

DEPARTMENT of SOCIAL SERVICES

DSS VISION

A responsible and caring community: Safe, Resilient and Healthy.

DSS MISSION

We partner with the community to enhance self-sufficiency while ensuring that safety and basic human needs are met for the people of San Luis Obispo County.

DSS GUIDING PRINCIPLES

We believe all people have strengths.

We work together to assist in removing barriers and finding solutions.

Services meet the unique needs of each community, family and individual.

We strive to eliminate poverty.

We strive to eliminate abuse.

Many relatives and non-related extended family members are amazed at how quickly they can be approved for the placement of a specific child. Sometimes this is immediately, other times within a week.



Children in foster care need strong connections to family, friends, schools, neighborhoods and community to ensure stability in their life.



San Luis Obispo County
Department of Social Services
P.O. Box 8119
3433 S. Higuera St.
San Luis Obispo, CA 93403-8119

Phone: (805) 781-1705

www.slodss.org

Foster Parent Association
234-1208 or 781-1713

Family²Family

CONNECTIONS IN FOSTER CARE

As a relative or family friend
of a child in foster care, YOU
can make the connection!

**WHO
ARE
THE
CHILDREN
IN
FOSTER
CARE?**

A foster child may be someone directly related to you. You might be the aunt, uncle, cousin, grandparent or other relative of a child in foster care.

Foster children might also be friends of your own children. Or, a child from next door or down the street. Or, a child who attends the same local church, synagogue or temple. Or, a child who is on your child's sports team or in your child's classroom.

All children in foster care are in need of a safe, stable and loving atmosphere that they can call "home". Sometimes, the ones who can provide those homes are people who the child has a close relationship with...

Maybe someone like you?

**FAMILY-TO-FAMILY CONNECTIONS
IN FOSTER CARE**

**Do you have a connection to a child
in foster care?**

CALL TODAY | 805.781.1705

A "RELATIVE"

A "relative" is defined as an adult who is related to the child by blood, adoption or affinity within the 5th degree of kinship (Welfare & Institutions Code 319.)

Examples: *Stepparents, step-siblings, all relatives whose status is preceded by the words "great", "great-great" or "grand"; the spouse of any of these persons, even if the marriage was terminated by death or dissolution"*

**A "NON-RELATIVE EXTENDED
FAMILY MEMBER"**

A "Non-Relative Extended Family Member" is defined as any adult caregiver who has an established familial or mentoring relationship with the child.

FAMILIAL RELATIONSHIP

A person who does not fall within the 5th degree of kinship, but is considered to have a "family tie".

Examples: *2nd cousin, godparent*

MENTORING RELATIONSHIP

A person who is not related to the child, but has established a relationship with the child.

Examples: *teacher, clergy, neighbor, coach*