

## **AM I READY TO BE A FOSTER PARENT?**

*For each statement below, circle "T" for true or "F" for false. Your answers will help determine if you may be eligible or ready to become a Foster Parent.*

**1. I HAVE ENOUGH ROOM IN MY HOME FOR A FOSTER CHILD. T / F**

You must have an appropriate bedroom space for a foster child, and each member of the household.

**2. I AM READY TO HAVE A SAFETY INSPECTION OF MY HOME DONE NOW. T / F**

It is important that your home is safe and free of hazards. During the home study process, a checklist is completed that includes a safety inspection of your home. You must have working smoke detectors and a carbon monoxide detector, as well as safely secure all weapons.

**3. I AM IN GOOD PHYSICAL, EMOTIONAL, AND MENTAL HEALTH. T / F**

Being a foster parent can be demanding. You must be healthy and emotionally stable to care for children. Part of the assessment process includes verification of the physical health of you and every member of the household.

**4. I HAVE NEVER HAD A SUBSTANTIATED ABUSE OR NEGLECT CASE WITH AN AGENCY. T / F**

If you have a substantiated case of abuse or neglect of a child or adult, you may not be able to become a foster parent. Records will be reviewed for any other state where the applicant (s) have resided.

**5. I HAVE ADEQUATE INCOME TO MEET MY CURRENT FAMILY'S NEEDS. T / F**

You do not have to be rich to become a foster parent, but you must have enough income to meet your family's needs. During the assessment process, you will be asked to provide proof of both your income and your family's expenses.

**6. NO ADULT IN MY HOME HAS EVER BEEN CONVICTED OF A CRIME. T / F**

If you or another adult in the home has been convicted of certain criminal offenses, you may not be able to become a foster parent. Every applicant will be fingerprinted and every adult over the age of 18 will receive a criminal history background check.

**7. I AM READY TO BEGIN THE HOME STUDY PROCESS NOW. T / F**

You may be ready to begin the foster home licensing process now if your life and home are stable. "Stable" means that you are not about to move or undergo any major home renovations, not having financial, marital, or emotional difficulties or will be making any major life changes in the near future.

**Number of TRUE \_\_\_\_\_**

**Number of FALSE \_\_\_\_\_**

- *If you answered TRUE to each statement, you are ready to begin the licensing process!*
- *If you answered FALSE to any statement, we can give you additional information and answer any questions you have. We can also suggest other ways you can volunteer and support foster care.*

**Call your local MDHHS Foster Care Licensing Specialists in**

**Marquette, Alger, and Schoolcraft County:**

Monet Chartier 906-290-0290 Email: [chartierm1@michigan.gov](mailto:chartierm1@michigan.gov)

Katie Kubont 906-202-9292 Email: [kubontk@michigan.gov](mailto:kubontk@michigan.gov)

**Text "MDHHS FOSTER" to 64468**

**to receive updates about fostering!**