

## **Foster Care FAQs**

### **What is foster care?**

Foster care is a temporary safety net for abused and neglected children who are unable to safely live with their birth families.

### **Who can be a foster parent?**

There is no typical kind of foster parent. Instead, foster parents have a variety of backgrounds. Some comprise a two-family household, while others are single parents. Likewise, some foster parents work full-time and some are stay-at-home parents. There are many types of families that can provide loving homes!

### **What can a foster family provide?**

Support, love, inspiration, protection—the list is endless, and the results are rewarding. Many parents maintain that after fostering a child, their lives changed for the better and it is certainly easy to see why. Children in foster care are no different than any other children. Both require the same caring, nurturing environment that is necessary to successfully development into self-sufficient adults. Children in loving foster care homes can regain trust and self-worth, which are essential to paving the way towards a very bright future.

### **How can I help?**

Partner with Vista Maria to give the most precious gift you can give to a child—a safe and loving home. Our holistic team approach, on-call support, specialized training, and monthly support groups provide our foster care families with the on-going support and training they need to provide stable, caring home settings for children currently without a responsible adult to care for them.

**“What I like the most is watching them transform back into happy, normal kids.” Mr. R., foster father**