In addition to the joy and satisfaction that is experienced by foster parents, there may also be a fair amount of anxiety, confusion, and frustration, especially for new foster parents. Having a helpful guide through the process would promote an initial experience that is both satisfying and successful.

Mentors are seasoned foster parents who know the “ins and outs” of the system. They are uniquely effective because they understand how difficult it can be to provide out-of-home care for dependent children and can empathize and share their own foster care experiences. Upon approval, mentors will provide relevant information, insightful coaching, and genuine encouragement to their assigned foster parent mentees for minimally three months.

**Foster Parent Mentor Program**

**Mentors can assist with information and resources regarding...**

- Health care
- Education
- Permanency
- Paperwork and policies
- Behavior management and support with behavioral challenges
- Building connections and assistance with resources and community supports
- Support for families with abuse allegations
- Birth Parent Visits
- Court
- Case Planning

**Foster Parent Mentors will...**

- Guide foster parents in the practice and skills learned during the pre-service training experience
- Suggest parenting strategies unique to providing out-of-home care
- Regularly contact assigned foster parent mentees and be available by phone for those “at needed” moments
- Offer emotional and practical support

For more information about the Foster Parent Mentor Program call 850-522-4485 ext. 8333