



# Goshen Homes

# FOSTERING

# GUIDE



*Learn what it's  
like to foster with  
Goshen Homes.*



Becoming a foster parent can be difficult and confusing.



**At Goshen Homes, we make sure the journey to becoming a foster parent is simple. We support you the whole way.**

A lot of people want to serve foster kids but are not sure how.



**Goshen Homes makes this exploration process easy. There's more than one way to serve!**

75% of siblings are separated when they enter foster care.



**Goshen Homes works to keep siblings together during their time in care.**

*"Those called to foster will be changing the lives of the young people in their care forever."*

- Zach Blend, CEO Goshen Valley

# KEEPING SIBLINGS TOGETHER IN FOSTER CARE



**Siblings in foster care shouldn't be separated. We recruit, train, license, and support foster families working with sibling groups within the state of Georgia.**



# MEET DESTINY

*Destiny's life is forever changed because of her Goshen Homes foster parents.*

Destiny came to Goshen Homes in 2021 where she was placed into a foster home with her siblings.

In school, Destiny was told that she was too far behind in classes to graduate with her 2022 class.

With the support of her foster parents, Destiny rose up to the challenge and worked hard to complete all of her classes on time to graduate.

**"They are like my biological parents. I call them mom and dad, my little siblings call them mom and dad..."**  
**- Destiny, about her Goshen Homes foster parents.**

Destiny's plan is to go into law enforcement and serve on a K9 unit. Her heart is for serving and helping those who may be in a similar situation to what she was in not long ago.

**YOU CAN CHANGE THE WORLD FOR  
FOSTER YOUTH LIKE DESTINY.**

# GOSHEN HOMES FOSTER PARENTS



## *Scott and Sandi Gaither*

**Scott and Sandi Gaither have been fostering with Goshen since 2018.**

This is the story of how Goshen foster parents, Scott and Sandi, not only kept a sibling set together during their time in foster care, but they also worked alongside the biological family to ensure a successful reunification.

In December 2021, Goshen Homes celebrated as a sibling group of three were able to reunify with their father after nearly two years in foster care.

*Georgia 2020 Foster Parents of the Year, Scott and Sandi Gaither, served as the foster parents for this sibling group.* They have served numerous sibling groups, but this was a special placement, because Scott and Sandi have remained close with the biological parents of the children to this day...

**At Goshen Homes, we believe siblings are better together. This is a perfect example of Goshen's mission being lived out. Through foster parents Scott and Sandi's care for the siblings and their partnership parenting with the biological parents, resulting in a positive outcome through a reunified family.**



# Four Steps to Fostering.



*"Getting licensed with Goshen was smooth and quick. We were licensed in four months!"*  
- Goshen Homes Foster Parent

1

## INFO SESSION

The first step in fostering with Goshen is a simple Zoom call or meeting with one of our staff. This is when you can get your initial questions answered and meet some of the staff who will be supporting you along your journey.

2

## COMPLETE TRAINING

IMPACT foster parent training equips you with the tools you will need as a foster parent. In each session, you'll also collaborate with other new foster parents. In the end, you will walk away prepared to begin your fostering journey with Goshen Homes.

3

## GET LICENSED

The licensing stage is where we diligently ensure your home and family is ready in every aspect for the challenges and blessings fostering can bring. Goshen Homes staff will walk you through paperwork and home preparations to complete your licensing.

4

## START FOSTERING

Your paperwork is turned in. Your training is completed. Your home is licensed. Now it's time to start fostering!

Your support from Goshen Homes doesn't end here. You'll be equipped with continuous training and on-call staff support along the way.

# 3

# ways to make a difference.

## RESPITE

As a respite foster parent, you are able to have an incredible impact on a foster child without the full-time commitment of having them live in your home. Respite care allows our foster parents to take a breather and recharge by providing care for things like date nights and vacations.

## PRIMARY

Our primary foster parents become full-time caretakers to the foster youth placed in their care.



As a licensed sibling reunification agency, Goshen Homes focuses on foster homes able to take in 2 or more youth.

## BABYSITTING

You may not be completely ready to foster right now, but you still want to make a difference. By babysitting with Goshen Homes, you can help to support foster parents while still showing love and care to the siblings at Goshen Homes.

# FURTHER TRAINING

## How will I be equipped to foster?

### Trust-Based Relational Intervention

“When you connect to the heart of a child,  
everything is possible.”

– Dr. Karyn Purvis

TBRI® is an attachment-based, trauma-informed intervention that is designed to meet the complex needs of vulnerable children.

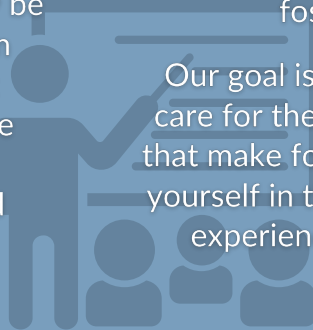
While a variety of parenting strategies may be successful in typical circumstances, children with histories of harm need caregiving that meets their unique needs and addresses the whole child. TBRI® will equip you with the tools you need to provide trauma-informed care to the foster kids in your home.

### Together Facing the Challenge

Goshen Homes is certified in Together Facing the Challenge (TFTC), officially credentialing the foster care provider with an evidence-based approach.

TFTC certification means that Goshen Homes is able to provide foster parents with a proven therapeutic foster care training and coaching program.

Our goal is to ensure that you are equipped to best care for the children in your home, learning systems that make fostering less confusing and taking care of yourself in the process. This will lead to foster youth experiencing more stable placements and greater lifelong outcomes.







# How will Goshen support me during my fostering journey?

## *Respite*

Respite care allows our foster parents to take a breather and recharge by providing care for things like date nights and vacations.

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## *Case Management Ratio*

Case Managers at Goshen Homes have a lower than average case load ratio so that they can better support you and the children in your care.

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## *Date Nights*

Goshen Homes goes above and beyond partnering with the community to make sure you get time to recharge.

## *Babysitting*

It can be tough to find childcare, so Goshen Homes is equipped to help you with approved babysitters.



# FAQs

## What's different about fostering with Goshen?

Goshen Homes foster parents get licensed quicker, receive more support from case managers with smaller case sizes, and receive the best training possible to equip them to create great outcomes for the youth in their homes!

## How much room do I need in my house to foster?

Foster youth of the same gender can share a bedroom, so as long as you have one open bedroom you can foster with Goshen.

## How many kids would I have to foster with Goshen?

75% of siblings get separated during their time in foster care, and part of our mission is to help siblings stay together. Because of this, all Goshen Homes foster parents commit to placements of 2 or more children.

## Can I foster if I am renting a house or apartment?

Yes! Home ownership is not a requirement for fostering with Goshen.

## What counties do you work with?

Goshen licenses foster homes located in Cherokee, Cobb, Bartow, Paulding, and Pickens Counties.

## What is respite foster care?

A respite foster parent gets fully licensed to foster, but rather than having children placed in their home full-time, they serve as a temporary placement. This scheduling is done at the availability of the respite parent and often consists of date nights for the primary foster parent, emergency coverage, or special events. Respite parents often describe their role as being “cool aunt or uncle” to a foster child.

## Can single people foster?

Yes! Some of our best foster parents are single, especially many of our respite parents.

**I have other questions, who should I contact to get answers?**

Email questions to [Foster@goshenvally.org](mailto:Foster@goshenvally.org)

# So, how do I start?



**Email [Foster@GoshenValley.org](mailto:Foster@GoshenValley.org) to schedule an info session today.**

*You can change the world for siblings in foster care with Goshen Homes.*



*"My husband and I have completed the foster care training with Goshen Homes. We felt comfortable and supported during the entire training and would look forward to every class. **It was like having someone hold your hand through the entire process.**"*

*If you are thinking about fostering, this is where you need to look."*  
- April K., Goshen Homes Foster Parent



# FosterWithGoshen.org

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