

Is Fostering Hope Right for Your Community?

An Overview of Affiliation & Partnership



Our Why

Across the country, foster families face high levels of burnout and children experience frequent placement changes. Fifty percent of foster parents quit within a year, and as many as 40% of children experience multiple placements each year. This exacerbates pre-existing trauma and contributes to poor outcomes for former foster youth in adulthood. This is not a lack of commitment – it’s a lack of support.

Fostering Hope addresses this gap by providing consistent, relationship-based support that reduces stress and enriches home life so that families continue fostering and children experience fewer moves. This family-like support—where 6–10 volunteers serve a single family—is something the system cannot provide on its own and is essential to healing the wounds of abuse and neglect.

After 20 years of impact in Colorado Springs, Fostering Hope believes all families deserve this kind of support and healing. We believe every community has people who want to serve and a child welfare system that could use the help. We are committed to teaching and training organizations and communities what we’ve learned, at no cost, in hopes of serving more families.

What it Means to be an Affiliate

An affiliate is a local nonprofit or community-based organization that commits to learning and implementing the Fostering Hope model —serving foster families through a proven, relationship-based approach while maintaining local leadership, governance, and identity.

Affiliates are: • Locally led and governed • Aligned with a proven national model • Part of a shared learning network	Affiliates are not: • A franchise • A chapter managed by a national office • A loss of local autonomy
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What Affiliates Gain

- A time-tested relational model of support
- Training, coaching, and leadership development

- Playbooks, tools, and systems (program, data, fundraising)
 - A national peer learning community
 - Ongoing support to maintain quality and outcomes
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A Shared Partnership

Fostering Hope USA does not charge a fee to affiliates or expect a financial return. Our sole purpose is to improve the foster care experience for families and help children heal—and to that end, we work to minimize barriers to partnership.

Affiliate Responsibilities:	Fostering Hope USA Responsibilities:
• Leadership and governance • Fundraising and financial sustainability • Staff hiring and daily operations • Building partnerships & volunteer networks • Transparency about challenges/successes	• Training and ongoing support • Ensuring fidelity and sustainability • Facilitating learning • Providing tools, expertise, and resources • Creating a climate for innovation/learning

Who Makes a Strong Partner

Strong affiliate communities typically have:

- At least one committed local champion
 - A cooperative and positive relationship with child welfare leadership
 - A trusted community organization to develop and grow the program
 - Access to volunteers and faith networks
 - Willingness to raise local funding
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What It Takes to Launch

Typical timeline: 12–18 months

Key steps: Exploration and community assessment; formal partnership agreement; board and community development; fundraising & capacity building; staff hiring & training; launch of first families.

How We Discern Together

Strong partnerships are built through thoughtful discussion, shared values, and a commitment to long-term impact. If this resonates with you—regardless of your role—we would welcome a conversation.

For more information:

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