

2025

# DECEMBER NEWSLETTER



## FOSTER PARENT SHOUT OUT!

**Lori Lazarine** is a new foster parent with The Baby Fold, and she took placement in September of this year. Although she is new to foster care, Lori has done an exceptional job transitioning to caring for children full time. She has shown nothing but love and patience and she has been incredibly supportive both to them and the bio family. Lori goes above and beyond for the children in her care and always makes sure that they are happy and healthy. The Baby Fold would like to thank Lori for all that she does and recognize her dedication to caring for children in foster care!



## PLEASE JOIN THE BABY FOLD'S FOSTER CARE FACEBOOK PAGE

A private group created exclusively for our foster parents to stay updated on upcoming events and trainings. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out. Join using the link below or by scanning the QR code:

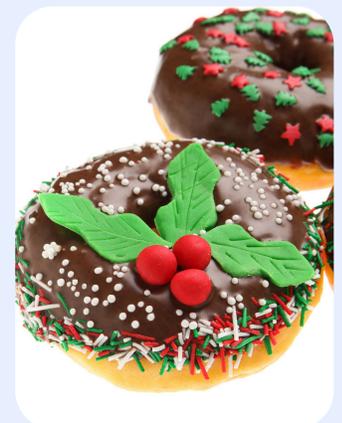
<https://www.facebook.com/share/g/17kGBfFaA>



## DONUTS WITH SANTA

The Baby Fold's Foster Care Program is hosting a **Donuts With Santa** event on **Saturday, December 6th from 9-11am**. Families are invited to bring their children for a festive morning with Santa, holiday fun, and delicious donuts. The event will take place at **1701 W Market St, Bloomington, IL 61701**.

Please RSVP by 12.6.25 with your licensing worker or through the Facebook invite



www.TheBabyFold.org



309.452.1770



1500 Fort Jesse, Normal



THE BABY FOLD'S

# FOSTER CARE

## FLU SHOT REMINDER!

Friendly reminder, all Youth in Care are required to get an **annual flu shot for all children 6 months and older**. Now is the perfect time to make sure you and your family are protected by getting your annual flu shot.

Find your local clinic here: [vaccines.gov/find-vaccines](https://www.vaccines.gov/find-vaccines).

Stay healthy and take good care this season!



Don't  
Forget!



## REFERRAL INCENTIVE PROGRAM

Don't forget—if you refer a family who becomes fully licensed and has a child placed in their home, you'll receive a \$150 reward! The referred family must identify you as the referral within the first three days of beginning the licensing process. If you have any questions, please contact your licensing worker.

## ON-CALL REMINDER!

If you experience an emergency situation involving a foster child, please contact the **on-call phone** at **(309) 530-1737**.

Situations that require an immediate call include, but are not limited to:

- Acute illness or injury requiring medical attention or hospitalization
- Police involvement or a child being missing, abducted, or having run away
- Unapproved contact with biological parents, extended family, or parents' partners that violates visitation, protection/safety plans, or court orders
- Suicidal threats, gestures, or other mental health crises
- A child who is out of control and posing physical harm to themselves, others, or property

Please always keep this number accessible at all times.

This information can also be found in your **Baby Fold Foster Parent Manual**.



THE BABY FOLD'S

# FOSTER CARE

## FOSTER PARENT LAW IMPLEMENTATION PLAN MEETING

Foster parents play an essential role in providing input into The Baby Fold's Foster Parent Law Implementation Plan, and we would be honored to have your input as we review and discuss The Baby Fold's 2027 Implementation Plan. Your feedback and perspective are incredibly valuable, and your participation helps ensure our services truly meet the needs of the children and families we serve.

Please join us for a hybrid meeting on **Monday, January 26, 2026**, from 12:00pm–1:30pm. You're welcome to attend either in person or online.

 In-Person Location:  
1500 Ft. Jesse Rd  
Normal, IL 61761

 Join via Zoom:  
<https://tinyurl.com/yc8mbnze>  
Meeting ID: 862 5474 7152  
Passcode: 708910



We truly hope you'll take part in this important conversation. Your voice matters, and we look forward to learning from you!

## FOSTER PARENT MANUAL REMINDER

According to The Baby Fold Foster Parent Manual:

### Basic Needs Guidelines

These guidelines clarify how funds are allocated for each foster child. Foster parents are expected to provide food, clothing, incidental expenses, shelter, and medical care. They must demonstrate adequate monthly spending on clothing (approximately \$35–70 depending on age) and provide three nutritious meals daily. **When a foster child is away during a meal (including visits with Foster Care Program staff), the foster parent must provide a sack lunch with a beverage or money for a meal.**



# TRAININGS & SUPPORT

## TBRI

Trust-Based Relational Intervention is an attachment-based, trauma-informed intervention that is designed to meet the complex needs of vulnerable children. TBRI uses Empowering Principles to address physical needs, Connecting Principles to meet attachment needs, and Correcting Principles to disarm fear-based behaviors. Virtual training every Wednesday 9am-12pm January through February. For questions reach out to Ken Summers at [KSummers@thebabyfold.org](mailto:KSummers@thebabyfold.org). To register: <https://tinyurl.com/bddjhurm>

## DADS SHARPEN DADS

A safe place for dads to share their unique challenges, as well as education and support for each other to be their very best. Meets on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month at 7:15pm. For more info, email Ken at [KSummers@thebabyfold.org](mailto:KSummers@thebabyfold.org) for more information.

## WEDNESDAY NOON GROUP

Provides education and support related to parenting, trauma, and self-care within the context of adoption and foster care. Meets on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month. Email Melissa at [MLegendre@thebabyfold.org](mailto:MLegendre@thebabyfold.org) for more information.

## GRANDPARENT CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP

Fostering a grandchild? This group is for you! Meets once a month at Community Care, located at 3601 General Electric Rd. Suite #2, Bloomington, IL 61704. Caregivers and children are able to meet together to do activities, crafts, share a meal, and get acquainted. If you would like more information, please call Angie Raymer at 309.661.6400.

## SIDE BY SIDE MINISTRIES

This ministry exists to engage the church & local community in consistent loving support of families involved in foster care by providing access to physical, relational, and spiritual resources. For more information, send an email to: [sidebyside1712@gmail.com](mailto:sidebyside1712@gmail.com).

### Cindy Musick

Family Development Specialist  
[cmusick@thebabyfold.org](mailto:cmusick@thebabyfold.org)  
309.557.1004

### Brittany Tweedt

Family Development Specialist  
[btweedt@thebabyfold.org](mailto:btweedt@thebabyfold.org)  
309.557.1108

### Stephanie Tanner

Family Development Supervisor  
[stanner@thebabyfold.org](mailto:stanner@thebabyfold.org)  
309.310.9867

BE STRONG FAMILIES PRESENTS  
THE 1<sup>ST</sup> ANNUAL

# WELLNESS FROM ROOT TO SOUL

## HAIRCARE SYMPOSIUM

GOVERNOR'S STATE UNIVERSITY  
UNIVERSITY PARK, IL

**DECEMBER 13, 2025**  
**10 AM - 4 PM**

EXCLUSIVE TO THE CHILD  
WELFARE COMMUNITY

**DRINKS &  
RAFFLES**

**HAIR  
SHOW**

**LIVE  
DEMOS**

**RESOURCE  
FAIR**

**WORK  
SHOPS**



This free event helps foster parents, child welfare professionals, and youth in care implement haircare plans under HB 5097 (The Haircare Bill)

LEARN MORE AT  
[BESTRONGFAMILIES.ORG/HAIRCARE](https://bestrongfamilies.org/haircare)

