



# Frequently Ask Questions

for organizational partners & individual supporters

- **Where do I direct people who want to learn more?**
  - [www.orangewoodfoundation.org/ycp](http://www.orangewoodfoundation.org/ycp)
  - Our webpage is a great starting point. Basic information about our program is available there and you can enter your information to be contacted to find out more and ask any questions you may have. (In the future) Informational sessions called orientations, are regularly held where in depth information is presented about the program, services provided, what it takes to become a resource parent and how to move forward in the process. (These events can be virtual or in person and dates will be listed on the webpage)
  
- **How do I respond if they ask me why I haven't become a foster parent?**
  - Foster care is a societal issue and there are many ways you can advocate for youth in foster care. A person decides how to use their individual talent for youth; one can help at a larger level and advocate for change or fund and create programs. Others use their talent in a special and personal way such as fostering a youth. I have chosen to use my talents to share information on a larger scale to find amazing people who I believe have the talents to share that are different than mine.
  
- **If they aren't interested in fostering, can they get involved in another way? How can they help?**
  - We're always looking for ways to help youth grow. Another way others can help is sharing their skills with youth in foster care. For example, a person may share aspects of their career to help develop independence skills. Others can also help by contributing financially to needs posted on the webpage. Youth in our Dorm could benefit from cooking lessons, art lessons, sharing different passions such as music or literature to open up discussion groups.
  
- **What is the time commitment I am asking my friends and family to sign up for?**
  - Although there is no specific time commitment for being a foster parent, but it is important to know going into being a foster parent that you are making a commitment to a youth and providing support to them as they age and develop. Youth placed in our program are expected to be in our program until they graduate high school so understanding that we strive for stability for our youth, one should assume that they can commit to providing care and a home for that length of time.
  
- **How long does the foster family selection process take?**
  - We strive to complete each family's review, training, and the required paperwork process in 45 days. Upon completion of these aspects, we submit the request for approval to the county for final authorization. The county has outlined their timeframe for approval to be done no later than 60 days from the start of the process. Upon approval of the county, a family can then begin fostering. Our matching process is designed so that we use each family's strengths and skills to support specific needs of a youth. Because we focus on making the best match possible, a family may not have a youth placed with them immediately.

