



Motivated by Christian faith, COBYS Family Services educates, supports, and empowers children and adults to reach their full potential.

What you should know

Approximately 15,000 children in Pennsylvania’s child welfare system are unable to live with their biological families due to abuse, neglect, or behavioral problems.

The goal of foster care is to assist biological families in resolving the issues that led to the child’s placement in care so that families can be reunited as quickly and safely as possible.

Foster care is intended to be temporary for children. If families cannot be reunified within 15 months another permanent option, such as adoption, is pursued.

Who Are Resource Families?

COBYS Resource Families are married or single persons, families with or without biological children, and families with and without a stay-at-home caregiver.

They have a common a desire to share God’s love with children in need through one of three types of foster care.

Resource families provide love, guidance, nurture, and structure children need to heal from past experiences and realize their God-given potential.

Considering Foster Care or Adoption?

Is it time?

Foster Care/Adoption



Three Types of Foster Care



Short Term – Stand-by/Respite Care:

Short term care provides emergency or planned help for foster and adoptive families.

Respite Care: COBYS needs “part-time parents” to help provide temporary care for a few hours or a few days a month to allow foster and adoptive families to regroup and take time for themselves.

Stand-by Care: There is a tremendous need for families who can provide on-call/ emergency placement for children after hours (5 p.m.–8:30 a.m.) and on weekends for the The Lancaster County Children and Youth Social Service Agency.

Short Term care also is a great way for families to explore whether God is calling them to an even greater commitment to caring for children in need. COBYS pays respite care providers for their service.

Long Term – Foster Care:

COBYS foster families provide full-time care for children, ages birth to 18, until children can be safely returned to their biological family or permanently placed in an adoptive home. Foster parents can bring hope, healing, and a positive Christian influence into the lives of children who have been victimized by abuse and neglect.



Forever – Adoption:

Adoption is a beautiful way to build a family and provide a stable, loving home for a child. Currently more than 2,500 children in Pennsylvania need permanent adoptive homes. COBYS seeks committed Christian families who can provide a lifetime of unconditional love and stability for children in need.

Why COBYS?

Based in Lancaster County, COBYS Family Services provides a range of foster care, adoption, permanency, family life education and counseling services.

- 40 years of Foster Care experience
- Facilitated over 520 adoptions
- Provide ongoing casework care for over 100 children at any given time
- 24/7 access to an on-call caseworker
- Prepare families with over 27 hours of preparation, training, and guidance before becoming foster care providers
- 15 hours of training support annually after approval

For more information visit www.cobys.org/foster-care/request-information email careforkids@cobys.org or call us at 717-656-6580