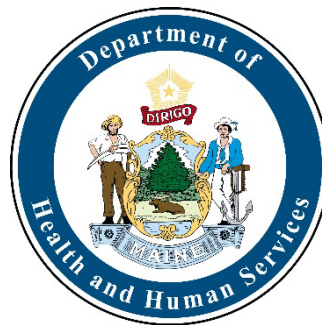


# Office of Child and Family Services Update

Bobbi L. Johnson, LMSW

Director

February 5, 2025



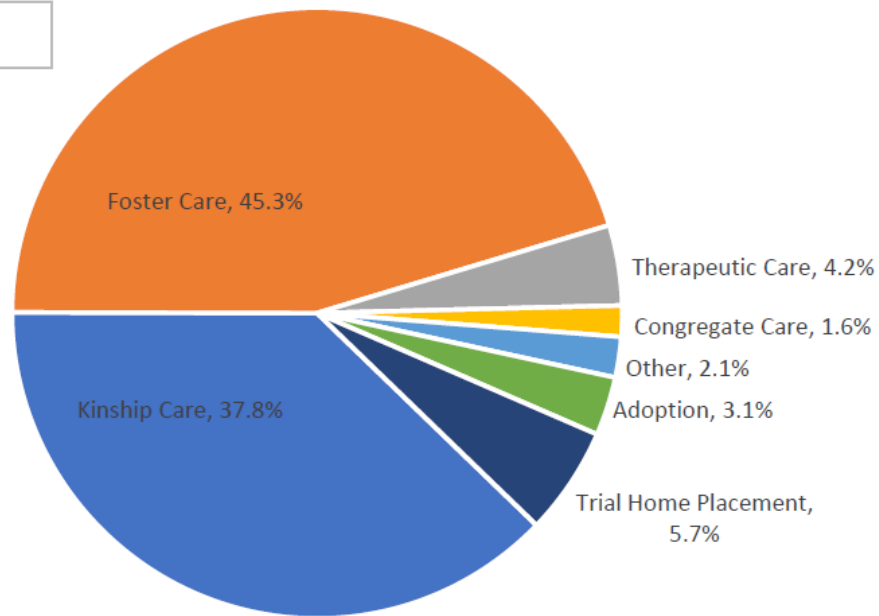
# Resource Parenting

“A resource parent is someone who opens their home and heart to a child in need, providing a safe and loving environment while working towards reunification with their biological family, offering stability and support during a difficult time.”

# Placement

## Monthly Snapshot of Children in DHHS Custody by Placement

Data as of December 1, 2024

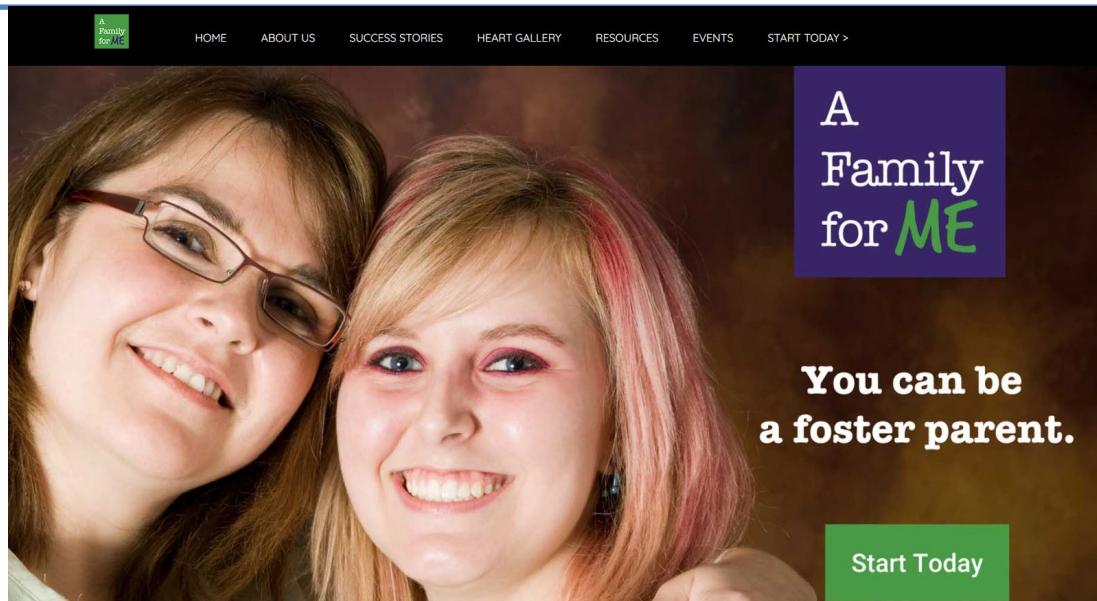


## Monthly Number of Family Reports Received/ Number and Percent of Family Reports Assigned for Investigation December 2024

# Resource Parent Data

As of January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025 there were 1,524 licensed resource homes statewide

There are over 400 children awaiting adoption statewide



# Resource Family Introductory Training (RFIT)

752 individuals completed RFIT in 2024. This brings the total number of people who have completed RFIT to 3,398 people since Winter 2021.

768 hours of training were delivered across 4 sessions, 32 training groups, and 256 classes.

The majority of those who completed RFIT were kinship caregivers (69%).

During the fall 2024 session, 186 individuals completed RFIT. 64% were kinship caregivers.

Source: RFIT Newsletter, University of Southern Maine

# Resource Family Board Rates

<b>Levels of Care</b>	<b>Daily Room and Board Rate</b>
<b>Unlicensed</b>	\$ 18.50
<b>A</b>	\$ 26.25
<b>B</b>	\$ 36.75
<b>C</b>	\$ 47.25
<b>D</b>	\$ 63.00
<b>E</b>	\$ 78.75
<b>Medical</b>	\$ 73.50

# Resource Parent Bill of Rights

*The Maine Resource Parents Bill of Rights provides foster, adoptive, pre-adoptive, unlicensed, and kinship families and Maine child welfare staff with a document to ensure that the Office of Child and Family Services resource parent community is treated with dignity, respect, trust, value, and consideration as a member of a professional team caring for foster children. It is further recognized that the resource parent community plays an integral, indispensable, and vital role in the state's effort to care for children in need of out-of-home placement.*

OCFS sought to update the Resource Parent Bill of Rights pursuant to Resolve 2023, Ch. 62 through a process that involved a stakeholder group that reviewed the existing Resource Parent Bill of Rights to ensure it properly supports foster, adoptive, and kinship families as active participants in caring for children in need of out-of-home placement

The updated Bill of Rights will be released in the coming weeks along with a letter to address hot topics among resource parents like payment issues, how to get in touch with OCFS when the child's caseworker or supervisor isn't available, placement disruption, etc.

# Resource Parent Portal

Leveraging technology to better support resource parents

Allows for online submission of all required licensing documentation for applications and renewals

Includes a tracking feature to track applications and renewals

Provides access to information about children placed in their care

Resource parents can upload documents regarding the child for the caseworker to review

Allows resource parents to view their payment transaction history for the previous 90 days, including the ability to filter payments



# Other Information

Maine is adopting the federal standards for kinship care

Adoptive and Foster Families of Maine, Inc. and the Kinship Program:

<https://affm.net/support/becoming-a-resource-parent/>

Resource Parent appreciation events sponsored in collaboration between OCFS Resource Units, AFFM, and the Youth Leadership Advisory Teams (YLAT)

- May 17 - Fort Knox State Park
- May 31 - Fort Williams State Park
- August 8 - Presque Isle
- August 2 - Augusta Elks Club
- TBD – Western Maine location

A Family for Me: <https://afamilyformemaine.org/> (recruitment contract)

“Foster Parents: Building better futures one family at a time.”

[\(844\) 893-6311](tel:(844)893-6311)

# Questions?

**Bobbi L. Johnson, LMSW**  
**Director**  
**Office of Child and Family Services**

