

FOSTER FAMILY SUPPORT NEWSLETTER



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HELLO FROM YOUR FOSTER FAMILY SUPPORT TEAM!

As of July 1, 2018, Big Bend Community Based Care started providing Foster Family Support in-house. Molly Clore, Emily Pritchard, Kelsey Barker, Shannon Tucker-Diaz, Ciara Richardson, and Calyn Stringer are excited to be the team that will be supporting you as foster parents and helping you navigate the system. Anyone can always reach out to Molly (850) 591-1923 or any member of the team by phone or at foster@bigbendcbc.org.

MEET THE TEAM!



Molly Clore hails from Wakulla County and was a bank manager in a former life. She is wife to Eric, and Mom to Thomas, Tucker, and many foster children who have filled their home with love and laughter since 2016. Molly is the Supervisor of the Foster Family Support Program and is passionate about retaining great foster families. You can often find her popping up in court and appearing in your staffings to make sure you're supported.

Emily Pritchard is a Maine transplant who is somehow surviving Florida weather. She and her husband have two children, one of whom they adopted from foster care. Emily loves Starbucks and traveling, is a former President of TAFAPA, and is our resident expert on anything related to statutes and code. Emily is our Lead Foster Family Support Specialist and will be helping you navigate system issues that arise.



Shannon Tucker-Diaz is an Administrative Assistant with BBCBC. She is the mother of five children, four girls and one boy. She enjoys spending time with her children and baking. Shannon also enjoys reading and watching her children help others.



Kelsey Barker has been working in foster family support for the last three years. Kelsey graduated from Florida State University in 2017 with a MSW. When Kelsey is not supporting our foster families, she is providing private counseling. Kelsey and her husband, David, will be welcoming their first child in March 2019! Kelsey enjoys Pure Barre, rescuing all the animals and spending time with family and close friends.



Ciara Richardson has a background in social work as it relates to community outreach and administration. Ciara was previously a Dependency Case Manager for 2 years. She is currently a full-time graduate student in the Doctoral Public Health program at Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University. Ciara enjoys spending quality time with family and helping others within the community.



Calyn Stringer is a Tallahassee native who is a former ESL instructor at FSU. She is passionate about making the foster process more efficient for foster parents. and loves going out and recruiting new families. She and her husband, Kenley, are former foster parents, and with their one biological son, also adoptive parents to a sibling group of 5.



Training and Support: John Sheetz works with Calyn Stringer to provide our Quality Parenting Training classes to new foster parents. He has been training, equipping, and supporting foster families and children in care for 14 years at both Camelot and Boys Town and in Ukraine. He and his wife Bekkah have been foster parents for 2 years. John is passionate about educating and retaining foster families in our area.

"We live in a world in which we need to share responsibility. It's easy to say, 'It's not my child, not my community, not my world, not my problem.' Then there are those who see the need and respond. I consider those people my heroes." -Fred Rogers



The Latest QPT class just finished February 26 in Leon County. Congratulations!

UPCOMING EVENTS:

First CPR/Water Safety Class

Through a partnership with FSU and Leon EMS, come get your CPR and Water Safety training, **Sunday, March 24, from 2-5:30 pm**, for free! Bring the kids; they will join for CPR then have separate (dry) activities for Water Safety. Registration is limited. Call us or email Foster@bigbendcbc.org

March 25 Parents' Morning Out (last day of Spring Break)

On Monday, March 25th, BBCBC, students from the FSU MSW program, and All Saint Anglican Church will be providing a Parents' Morning Out from 10am to noon.

Email foster@bigbendcbc.org to register. Limit of 25 children.

March 25 TAFAPA Meeting

On the fourth Monday of each month, the Tallahassee Area Foster and Adoptive Parent Association meets from 6-7:30 at Northwoods Baptist Church at 3762 Capital Circle NW. Childcare, dinner, and training hours are provided at each meeting, and it's a great way to connect with other families. This month's topic is Working with the Legal System. Please look for an email to sign up!

Did you know? There is a NEW TOOL for assessing biological parent functioning. This will be completed on all parents once at the start of the case before transfer to case management and case plan tasks are developed. Look for more details to come.

RECENT EVENTS:

February - Fun was had by parents and kids at the State Foster and Adoptive Parent Association Mini-Conference, which was paired with our local Super Saturday. Great trainings were provided along with a beautiful lunch for the parents while kids enjoyed games and activities. Thank you to all who helped organize. The local Quality Parent Award winners were given.



Contact Us

BBCBC Foster Family Support
1000 W. Tharpe Street, Suite 15
Tallahassee, FL 32303
850-488-0506
foster@bigbendcbc.org