



## Greater Abilene Foster Care Simulation 2023

Thank you for participating in our event! Our goal is to create an immersive experience in effort to raise awareness of the foster care system crisis, and how we as a community can work together to make a positive impact in the lives of vulnerable children and families.

Here are some opportunities for you to consider and to share with others:

- **The desperate need for more local foster parents:** <https://www.foster325.org/fosterparent>
- **The need for more CASA volunteers:** <https://bigcountrycasa.org/volunteer/>
- **Consider a career with a Child Placing Agency:** <http://fosteringbigcountrykids.com/TAYLOR/>
- **Consider a career with 2INGage:** <https://www.2ingage.org/employment/>
- **Join a Foster Parent wrap-around team:** If you know a foster parent ask to organize or join their team to support them physically and emotionally. If you do not know of a foster parent, find info at <https://www.foster325.org/individual-family->
- **Get your employer, church or civic group** to support a foster family with wrap-around services once a month. <https://www.foster325.org/individual-family->
- **Babysit for foster parents.** Ask the family which agency they are with, then call the agency for their next training. Or sign up here to volunteer through Foster 325: <https://www.foster325.org/babysit.>
- **Donate to the Bluebonnet Room** – A supply source that Case Managers can access after a removal. Call to ask what supplies are needed: Taylor County Child Welfare Board Bluebonnet Room: Shanna Shaeffer @ 325-267-1153, located at CPS offices: 3610 Vine Street, Abilene.
- **Donate to Help Here /AISD Homeless Program** – They provide basic needs of clothing, shoes, backpacks, school supplies and hygiene items to AISD displaced youth. Darrin Cox @ 325-725-3682
- **Donate to Southern Hills “Foster Love Connection”** – They provide various items including clothing, bedding basic necessities for foster parents /foster children. Call 325-677-9955
- **“Build a Bed”** - Ask your church or civic group to help build beds with **Beltway Boots on the Ground**. They provide the template, materials and skilled team leaders to guide! No experience needed. You can also **donate new twin sheets:** <https://beltway.org/ministries/care/boots-on-the-ground/>
- **Donate Items:** Get your church group/class or civic group to **donate** basic necessities; clothing, new shoes, clothes or hygiene items for children in foster care.
- **Supporting Bio & Foster Families:** If you own a business, could your policies provide support to bio and foster parents? Families may need time off for appointments and court hearings. There are many demands on these families, and they may need grace, consideration and/or flexibility on their schedules.
- **Financial:** Consider financially supporting one of the child welfare agencies providing services to children and families.
- **Volunteer:** Big Country CASA, Taylor County Child Welfare Board, Help Team and many other agencies rely on committed community volunteers!
- **SHARE the word!**
- **Complete our survey:** Use this QR code:



# Our Partners



**A FOSTER CARE**  
*SIMULATION*



Texas Department of  
**Family and Protective Services**

**RIVERCREST**  
**HOSPITAL**

