



Recruitment, Support, and Retention of Foster Families

Stronger Families Together

Guiding Principles

- Every child deserves a safe, loving family
- Foster families protect children and partner with families
- Kinship is a priority whenever possible
- Native American children need to be with families who can meet their cultural needs
- Support is key for all families caring for children
- Permanent families are needed when reunification isn't possible



Steering Committee and Sub Workgroups

Recruitment and
Retention Teams

SFT Newsletter Team

Communications Team
-Media and Messaging

SFT and Department of
Tribal Relations



Stronger
FAMILIES
Together

Department of Tribal Relations/SFT Collaboration subgroup

Tribes and State Collaboration

Raising Awareness

Recruitment Materials

Tribal Leader Engagement



Keep In Mind

Hundreds of South Dakota children need foster families while their own families work to overcome circumstances that make the child unsafe.

The more foster families there are in our communities, the easier it is to keep siblings together and keep children in their own neighborhoods and schools. Foster families of every culture are needed to help children build and maintain positive identities.



For More Information

Thank you for your commitment to know more about becoming a foster family. You could be the one to change the lives of children.

855.830.5062

DSS.Learnmore@state.sd.us
StrongerFamiliesTogether.com

- Oglala: 605.867.5752
- Standing Rock: 701.854.3431
- Sisseton Wahpeton: 605.698.3992
- Flandreau Santee: 605.997.3891
- Crow Creek: 605.245.2581



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Recruitment and Retention Teams

Black Hills Region –
Rapid City,
Northern and
Southern Hills

Region 3 –
Pierre, Eagle
Butte, and
Mobridge

Region 4 –
Chamberlain,
Mission, and
Winner

Region 6 –
Sioux Falls



Kinship Licensing

**Kinship Licensing
Standards
Implemented
June 1, 2026**

**240 new kinship
foster home
licenses since
June 1, 2026**

July 1, 2025 – April 30, 2026

6% increase in Total Kinship Placements (576-610)

80% increase in Kinship Placements w/License (143-258)

Planning for the Future

www.strongerfamilies.together.sd.gov

Statewide assessment

- Identify strengths, gaps, and opportunities
- Tribal input is needed
- 3-year recruitment plan with revised goals and strategies

**Interested in partnering
with SFT?**

**Contact information
below.**

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