



**HSVS connects  
children and teens  
to safe, stable homes.**



*HeartShare St. Vincent's Services (HSVS) empowers youth, individuals and families to overcome the challenges of family crises, addiction, mental illness and poverty. Working together, we open new doors of opportunity to help our clients achieve healthy and happy lives.*

#### **Our Mission:**

To nurture and support, with dignity and respect, children, adults and families in order to expand opportunities and enhance lives.

#### **Our Vision:**

Our commitment to excellent services and supports will enable children, adults and families to reach their fullest potential and lead meaningful lives as active participants in society.

#### **Our Programs:**

Foster Care & Adoption • Preventive Services  
Health Services • Chemical Dependency Clinics  
Youth Residences • Children's Community Residences • Supported Housing Services • Youth Development • After School Programs

#### **HeartShare St. Vincent's Services**

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*Opening New Doors of Opportunity  
for New Yorkers in Need*

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# **FOSTER CARE & ADOPTION**



**Strengthening  
New York families**

# HEARTSHARE ST. VINCENT'S PLACES CHILDREN IN LOVING FOSTER AND ADOPTIVE HOMES THROUGHOUT NEW YORK CITY.

## Eligibility / Criteria

**Most people are eligible to become foster parents, including you:**

- You must be at least 21 years of age or older
- You can be married, single or partnered
- You must have your own income
- You must have sufficient space for a child or children to live safely
- All adults in the household must submit to a background check
- You must successfully complete all trainings
- You must submit all required documents

Our services, as well as any court or legal fees, are provided at no cost to you. You also will receive a monthly stipend to assist in the daily care of your foster child. The child's medical and dental are covered by Medicaid.

If you will like to learn more about becoming a foster parent, please call our recruiter at (718) 422-2405.

*HeartShare St. Vincent's Services' Foster Care and Preventive Services are funded by the New York City Administration for Children's Services and the generous support of our donors.*



*"It doesn't take that much to foster a child--just open hearts and open minds."*

- Edwin and Elizabeth, HSVS Foster and Adoptive Parents

**HSVS Foster Care and Adoption Services strengthens families facing long-term challenges or in times of crisis. We partner with parents to provide the tools and skills necessary to build loving, happy family foundations for children and youth.**

When a child enters into foster care, we match them with a nurturing and affirming foster home. Ideally, a child in care will be reunited with his or her biological family when it's safe. When a child cannot return to their biological family, we provide the child and the foster family with the resources necessary to transform them into a "forever family."

## How You Make a Difference

Children enter the foster care system for many reasons, but ultimately their parents cannot adequately care for them. By providing a home, short- or long-term, for a child in need, you are changing the entire course of his or her life. Studies show that foster children who endure a life without a forever family face:

- Low graduation rates
- Homelessness
- Incarceration
- Unemployment
- Early parenthood
- Long-term poverty

*Why should a child be forced to suffer for a lifetime due to circumstances not within his or her control?*

## Other Opportunities to Help

If you are unable to foster a child, you can still make a difference. Young men and women who have grown up in foster care need guidance and support to navigate the challenges of young adulthood, like applying to college or finding the right career path.

HeartShare St. Vincent's Services **Permanency Pact Program** creates a formalized, facilitated process to connect older teens and young adults with supportive adults who have pledged to offer lifelong friendship, professional guidance and emotional support.

To participate in the HSVS Permanency Pact Program, call (718) 422-2469.