

Foster Focus 2025



WASHINGTON COUNTY FOSTER CLOSET

To serve our county's youth and families by offering clothing and resources while providing support to our foster families and bringing awareness to our community.



Resources

We provide clothing and items a child needs when they are removed from their homes. Our goal is to provide foster, kinship, and guardianship families with the items they need so that the real focus is on the social and emotional wellbeing of the child.

[Learn more](#)



Support

We support foster families as they embark and continue on this journey. We want to encourage, educate, and empower families. We do this through educational trainings, family outings and events, and support groups.

[Learn more](#)



Awareness

We educate the public and bring awareness to the community. We want to inform and enlighten Washington County residents about foster care and encourage them to help children and families in our community.

[Learn more](#)



www.WashCoFosterCloset.org



A MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Dear Friends and Supporters,

As I look at the Washington County Foster Closet and its continued growth, I find myself reflecting with deep gratitude on the incredible generosity and compassion our community has shown to the children and families we serve.

Because of your support, the Foster Closet has been able to provide more than just clothing—we've been able to offer dignity, comfort, and a sense of belonging to children and young people during some of the most uncertain times in their lives. Every donation, every volunteer hour, and every kind word has made a meaningful difference.

This year, we distributed tens of thousands of items to children entering foster care, many arriving with little more than the clothes they were wearing. Thanks to you, each child was welcomed with care and given access to clean, well-fitting clothing, shoes, and essentials that helped them feel seen and valued. You reminded them—and us—that they are not alone.

We were able to expand our hours to support more families, thanks to our volunteers. We had many successful family events, thanks to our donors. We are able to extend our services to support families that once fostered and have now adopted those children.

We are especially grateful to our volunteers, whose dedication keeps the Foster Closet organized and welcoming, and to our donors, whose generosity ensures our shelves remain stocked. Your commitment fuels our mission and strengthens our ability to respond whenever a child is in need.

As we look ahead, we remain inspired by your continued partnership. Together, we can ensure that every child who walks through our doors experiences not only support, but hope.

On behalf of our entire organization, thank you for standing with us and for making this work possible.

*With heartfelt appreciation, Koa Dautermann
Executive Director, Washington Count Foster Closet*



GET TO KNOW US



HELP GIVEN IN 2025

We were honored to help foster / kinship / guardianship kids **more than 800** times, providing over **12,000 essential and comfort items**. This reflects nearly a **10% increase** from the prior year.

WHAT WE PROVIDED

- **Clothing** (Premie to Teen)
- **Cozy Blankets & Pajamas**
- **Hygiene Items**
- **Necessities for Babies & Toddlers** (Car Seats, Cribs, Diapers, Strollers)



OUR IMPACT

*"Thank you so much for the Christmas presents - they are **very much appreciated!!**"*

*"--- loved the backpack! I could tell **she was very proud** to own it. She showed her friends right away."*



THE SPOTLIGHT

VOLUNTEERS

We are so grateful for our amazing team of volunteers who warmly welcome our foster families and ensure they feel supported, valued, and safe.

THANK YOU!



BACK ROW: Sara, Chris, Carrie, Jen, and Mary
FRONT ROW: Lynn, Jenny, and Lois
NOT PICTURED: Dona, Kathy, and Ann.

COMMUNITY PARTNERS



A HUGE thank you to the West Bend Firefighters! We are truly amazed by their support and the incredible donation from their annual golf outing.

This generous gift will make a MEANINGFUL impact on the lives of our local foster children!



Thank You

To Our

Community Partners





HOLIDAY GIVING

*The **Holiday Gift Drive** offered an opportunity for community members to sponsor a foster child and provide them with a special holiday experience that gave them “something they want, something they need, something they wear and something they read.”*

KEEPING WARM

*In October, foster, kinship, and guardianship children attended our **Winter Wear Event** where they received winter coats, snow pants, hats, gloves, cold-weather apparel, and a fleece tie blanket - all for **FREE!***



FOSTERING TIP

*Every child, whether biological or foster, is wonderfully unique. That’s one of the things that makes being a parent such a meaningful journey. Discovering what works best for them is part of the growth and connection you build together. With patience, openness, and a willingness to learn, you will find the approach to **help each child thrive.***

BOARD MEMBER HIGHLIGHT



Since joining the Washington County Foster Closet in 2023, I have been truly privileged to witness the heart, dedication, and impact of this organization. In just a short time, I've seen remarkable growth—not only in the number of children and families we are able to serve, but also in the strength of our community of volunteers and supporters who make this mission possible.



As we look ahead, I am excited about the new opportunities before us. Together, we will continue to expand our reach, deepen our support, and find innovative ways to meet the needs of foster children and families.

Thank you for being part of this journey with us. Together, we're building something really special.

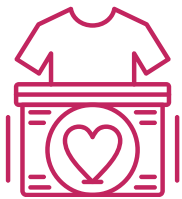
-Amy Baier, President, WCFC Board of Directors

Join The Movement!

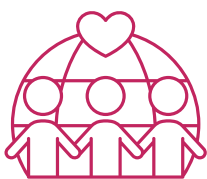
Our organization is led by the belief that
Every Child is Worth It!



Fund our Mission! Your gift helps ensure that foster children continue to have access to free, confidential support when they need it most. [Donate today!](#)



Become an volunteer! We're looking for friendly, reliable, enthusiastic volunteers to join our team, both in the warehouse and out in the community. If you are interested in giving your time and energy to create a warm and supportive space for families and donors alike then fill out the volunteer interest form that can be found here. ---> [Apply here.](#)



Are you a foster parent in need of emotional support? Want a safe place where you can discuss the highs and lows of fostering? Look no further, because we run a monthly Foster Parent Support group. Click to [request more information.](#)



Interested in learning more about fostering here in Washington County? - [email here](#) or click for [more info.](#)

FOSTER PARENT RESOURCES



TOGETHER WE
SERVE...

The Foster Closet is honored to support foster parents as they begin and continue their foster care journey. By supporting and strengthening our foster parents, we help provide children with the stability, love, and guidance they need to truly thrive. We do this through:

Educational Training Sessions

Family Outings/Events

Support Groups

All at no cost to the family!

WCFC MEDIA

The Foster Closet was recognized in 2025 by Spectrum News as an Everyday Hero



Everyday Hero: Nonprofit helps cloth Wisconsin foster children for free

Leaving home and the family they know can be a traumatic experience for foster children. The Washington County Foster Closet was created to help ease that transition for kids in the foster care system.

[spectrumnews1.com](https://www.spectrumnews1.com) / Sep 28, 2025



FOSTER

It's not just the child's life that changes

Foster care is the temporary placement of a child in a new home away from his or her family due to being unsafe.

BASIC REQUIREMENTS:

- Be at least 21-years-old
- Pass a criminal background, child protective services, and caregiver check
- Possess sufficient verifiable sources of income
- Meet physical home environment requirements and have bedroom space for foster child
- Be willing and able to work with and respect the child's biological family
- Have love and patience to share and be invested in the future of our community's children



A foster parent is committed to providing a safe and nurturing family environment for the child/teen until he or she can return home to live with their biological family.

WASHINGTON COUNTY



FOSTER CARE

Please contact us at:

262-365-5100

FosterCare@co.washington.wi.us

Foundations Health & Wholeness: the Ideal Foster Care Organization

We are a nonprofit organization

- Foundations Health & Wholeness's mission is innovating care to heal mind and spirit; changing lives, families and communities
- We provide mental health counseling in Green Bay, and Foster Care services throughout Wisconsin
- Our work is supported by individuals and businesses in the community
- We place a high priority on collaborations with other community partners

Our foster families are in the driver's seat

- Foster families control the pace of their training to fit their needs
- After becoming licensed, our foster families tell us what ages and situations they feel would be the best fit for them
- Foster families have the opportunity to meet and spend time with any child before they agree to have the child placed in their home

Supporting our foster families is our top priority

- One of the key components to the success of our program is the support given to each child and foster family through a licensed social worker with extensive knowledge and experience
- Our support doesn't end at the end of a work day; we provide 24/7 support including: regular contact with foster parents, children and participating team members; monthly plans and progress reports; collaboration with schools and other service providers; and optional therapeutic support through our Foster Parent Consulting Program
- We show appreciation to our foster families in a variety of ways, including exclusive events throughout the year
- Multiple offices bring support our foster parents where they live
 - Green Bay
 - Eau Claire
 - Southern Region/Janesville
 - Fox Valley
 - Greater Milwaukee
 - Central Region/Stevens Point

Alissa Getzin, Foster Care Regional Director - Southern WI
Phone: (414) 303 - 7240
Email: agetzin@wearefoundations.org

Jessica Lorum, Foster Care Licensing & Training Manager
Phone: (262) 305 - 8664
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WASHINGTON COUNTY FOSTER CLOSET MANAGEMENT TEAM



Wash. Co. Foster Closet
Our Children Are Worth It

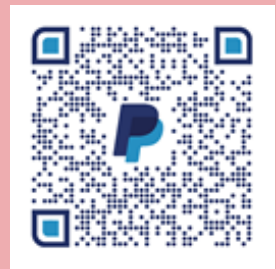
The Foster Closet is entirely volunteer-run, ensuring every dollar goes directly toward supporting children and families—none is spent on salaries or benefits.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Amy Baier, President
Noel Dedrick, Vice President
Angela Ish, Treasurer
Laura Foth, Secretary
Jasmyne Bass, Member
Laura Berhens, Member
Roric Griffith, Member

LEADERSHIP

Koa Dautermann, Executive Director
Carrie Broman, Bookkeeper
Kirstin Fiorentino, Special Projects
Ann Hill, Fund Development
Dona Picel, Office Manager



PayPal Donation Link



Venmo Donation Link



Thank you
Wash. Co. Foster Closet
Our Children Are Worth It

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CONNECT WITH US



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