

The background is a solid light blue color. It is decorated with several light blue five-pointed stars and white asterisks scattered across the page. The stars are of varying sizes and orientations, while the asterisks are smaller and more uniform in size.

JANUARY 2022

FOSTER PARENT NEWSLETTER

Board Payment Update!



Ages 0-5: \$541

Ages 6-12: \$654

Ages 13+: \$698

Respite care rate: \$25 per night





Important Dates :

*Court: 1/20 & 1/21

*Dec payment: 1/7

*Jan payment: 2/14

*Office closed: 1/17

TAX TIPS!

*File them early

*You can claim a child that has been with you for at least 6 months out of the calendar year

*Foster care board payments **DO NOT** need to be reported

*Emergency care stipends **DO** have to be reported

*Ask Jessica or child's social worker for social security info

<https://www.efile.com/foster-child-care-deduction-and-taxes/>

Foster Parent Spotlight * The Esmonds

Becca and Simon have been married since 2012. They will celebrate their 10th anniversary this month! They lived in Idaho until moving to Boone in 2017. They love being outside and being with family and friends. They both come from large families. So far, they share that God has not given them natural children but they believe God called them to be parents and were able to adopt their son, Luke. He was born on 12/24/2019; a wonderful Christmas gift. Coming from big families and desiring to be parents, they believed that God also called them to be foster parents. After adopting Luke and having a permanent child, they knew they could help children who might come and go, they wanted to be able to give children a safe, fun, and loving home for as long as needed.

They have really enjoyed loving on their infant foster son and watching him grow and develop, as well as caring for his toddler big sister - she is very cute, smart, and funny. They have enjoyed seeing her thrive in their home and especially enjoying the structure and consistency of a schedule.



Social Worker Spotlight:

Alice Langseth

Foster Care Social Worker

Alice was born in Ashe County but raised in Bryson City NC. She came back to Ashe after being married with 2 kids to be near her parents. She started out as a social worker for disabled adults setting up home services so they wouldn't have to go to a nursing home or assisted living facility. She has been doing case management (SW) for 26 years. Alice enjoys being able to assist families in moving forward in bettering their lives. Her favorite part of the job is happy endings-either with reunification or guardianship/adoption. Alice and her husband have been foster parents and adopted three kids. They are the perfect pieces to her family puzzle. Elijah is 17 and a Junior in HS. He plays football and wrestles. Amanda is 17 and a Sophomore. She likes to swim. Stephanie is 9 and likes/loves just about everything and everyone. Eating is her sport. Alice and her husband, Erick have been married for almost 24 years. She wishes a Happy New Year to everyone!



Current Foster Care

Stats:

*75 kids in care

*17 kids placed with kinship providers

*32 placed in foster homes

*12 placed in residential group homes

*12 placed in leveled care

*2 are 18+

We have kids placed in 15 counties in NC and 3 different states

*36 licensed homes



Contacts:

After hours/weekend: 828-264-3761 ask for
on call worker

Mental Health Crisis Line: 828-264-4357

828-265-8100

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Thank you for your
commitment as foster
parents and we wish
you a Happy New
Year!

