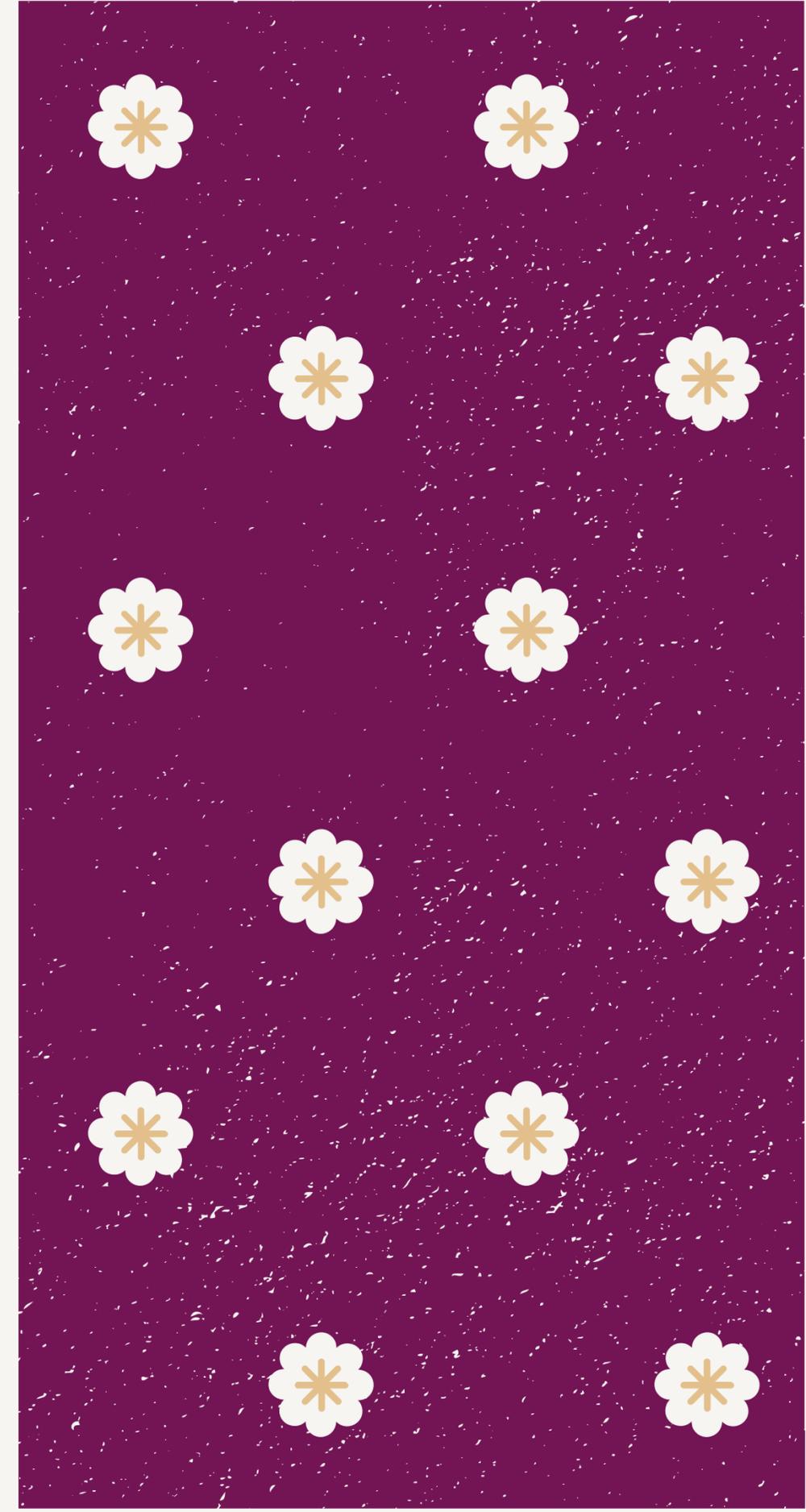




Foster Parent Newsletter

**JUNE
2022**



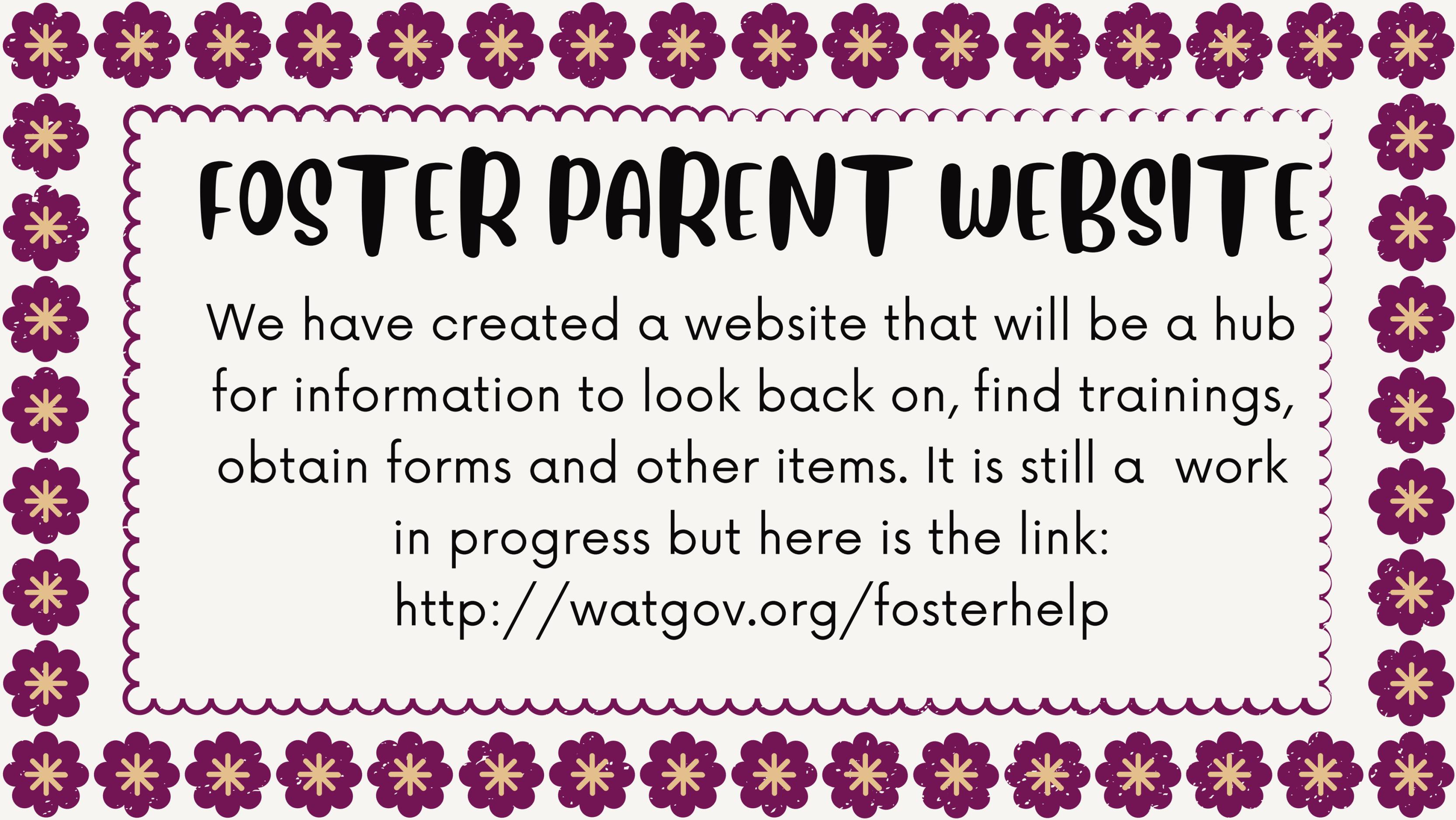
IMPORTANT DATES

Court: 6/27 & 28

May \$: 6/10

June \$: 7/15

*Budget is frozen for the
month of June



FOSTER PARENT WEBSITE

We have created a website that will be a hub for information to look back on, find trainings, obtain forms and other items. It is still a work in progress but here is the link:

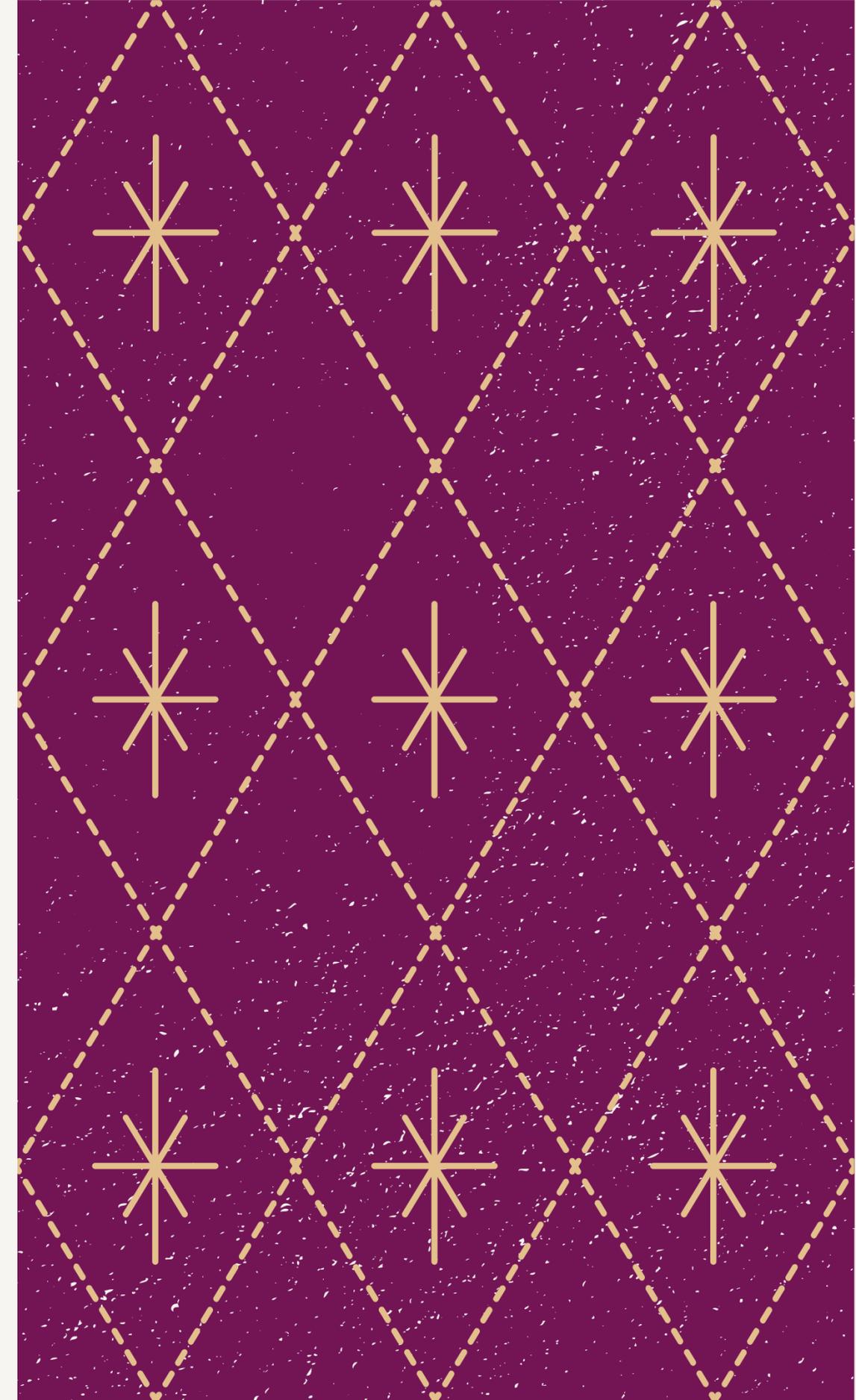
<http://watgov.org/fosterhelp>

SOCIAL WORKER FAREWELL

TOMMY BLALOCK WILL BE LEAVING HIS POSITION JUNE 2ND AND RETURNING TO DAYMARK. WE WISH HIM WELL!

OUR CURRENT PART TIME ADOPTIONS WORKER, KELLY STROUD, WILL BE TAKING HIS POSTION AS FOSTER CARE SOCIAL WORKER.

WE ARE HIRING FOR A NEW PART TIME SOCIAL WORKER





FOSTER PARENT NIGHT OUT

IS RETURNING! OUR FIRST DATE IS JUNE 20TH. MORE INFO TO COME. FOR NEW FOSTER PARENTS, THIS IS AN EVENT WHERE YOU CAN DROP OFF THE KIDS (INCLUDING BIO/ADOPTED) FOR A FEW HOURS IN THE EVENING, SO THEY CAN HAVE SOME FUN AND YOU CAN HAVE SOME FREE TIME...WHAT IS FREE TIME RIGHT?!



Family Connects is a fairly new resource in our community and offers home visits for newborns up to 3 months old. They are able to assist with any medical needs, new baby needs, mothers/fathers needs, help around the home, referrals etc.

This program is extended to foster and adoptive families as well.

<https://www.familyconnectsnorthwest.org/>



FOSTER PARENT REFERRALS



The best recruitment tool is usually word of mouth and from someone with experience! Starting in July we will be able to offer incentives to current foster parents that refer families who become licensed! Please feel free to share with others our great need for more loving homes!



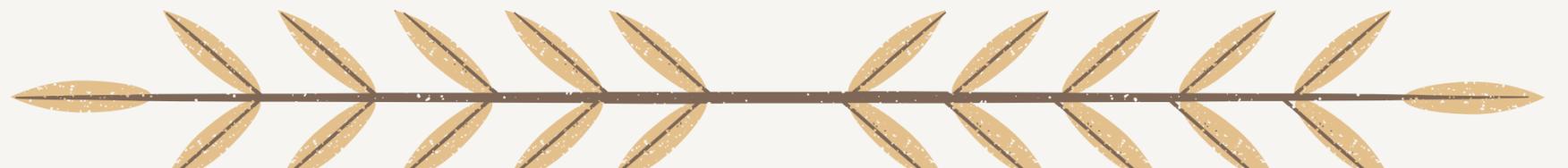
Foster Parent Spotlight



Dean Philyaw and Jake Orange have been married since 2015 and have been foster parents for a little over four years. They currently have three children, Isabella (12), Briella (7) and Gael (2) who have all been adopted. Dean and Jake followed the standard blueprint for the journey to parenthood; they got a house, they got a cat, and then they decided the house was too big for just two adults and a cat. Their hearts wanted more.

Shortly after becoming licensed they fostered two brothers for a short time while their biological grandfather was preparing his home for them. A month later they met Isabella and Briella, with Gael to follow a year later.

Going from zero to three kids of varying ages in 12 months was a scary whirlwind, but it is one they are thankful for. Being parents to three awesome humans has brought so much into their lives. They have enjoyed seeing the absolute magic that is the development of a child. They are thankful for the added laughter, smiles and gray hair their son and daughters have brought into their homes and lives. They do not know how their hearts could ever be more full.



Social Worker Spotlight



All of you know me but you will see my name changing to Jessica Hunter! I was married on 5/29. I grew up in Boone and never left. I was a hairstylist for 10 years prior to being a social worker. I have been at Watauga DSS since 2011 when I first worked as a temp worker for another social worker who was on maternity leave. I then completed an internship here for my Masters Degree and was employed as an Investigator in 2013. I was terrified and did not enjoy that job so after 6 months switched to Foster Care Case Manager. I did that for 5 years before coming into my current position as Licensing and Adoptions Social Worker. I enjoy my role working with foster & adoptive families and hope to get things back to how they were pre pandemic soon. My husband is a local mailman that some of you see around town or at your house :). We have a 20 month old daughter, Kaiya.

**HAPPY
FATHER'S
DAY**

CONTACT US

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