



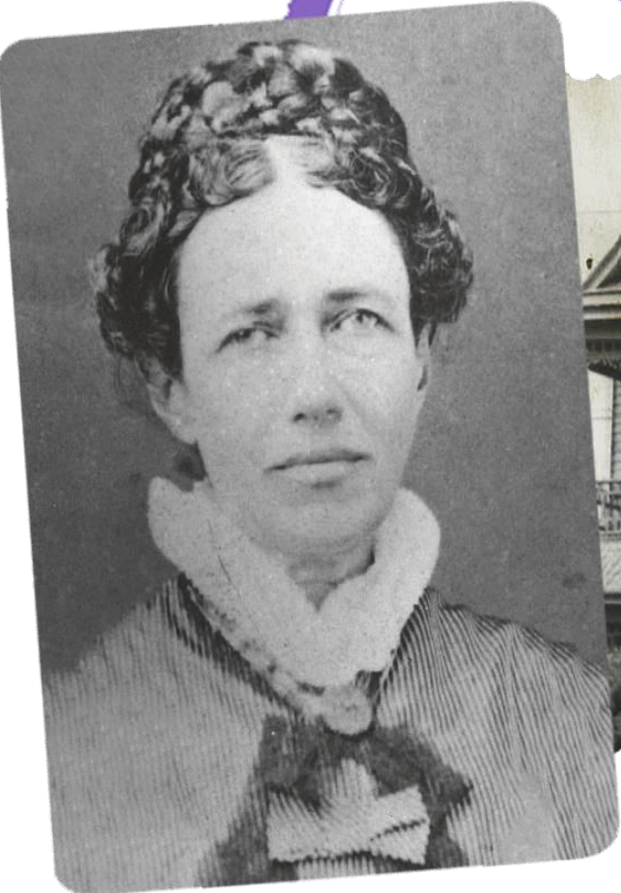
Foster Care Adoption Orientation



DePelchin
CHILDREN'S CENTER

DePelchin Children's Center

Our History



Kezia Payne DePelchin — a pioneering teacher, nurse and social worker — accepted three orphaned infants into her care. On May 2, 1892, Kezia was able to move the children into a small, rented house, which she christened “Faith Home”.

For more than 130 years, DePelchin has carried out her mission and now has expanded beyond Houston, serving families in New Braunfels, Austin, San Antonio, Lubbock, Greater Houston, Galveston, La Porte, and Richmond. We currently partner with more than 300 families, caring for more than 400 children across Texas.



Over 130 years of caring for Texas' children and families





Vision and Mission

Our Vision

We envision a world in which every child is safe and healthy.

Our Mission

We strengthen the lives of children by enhancing their mental health and physical well-being.

Why We Need You!

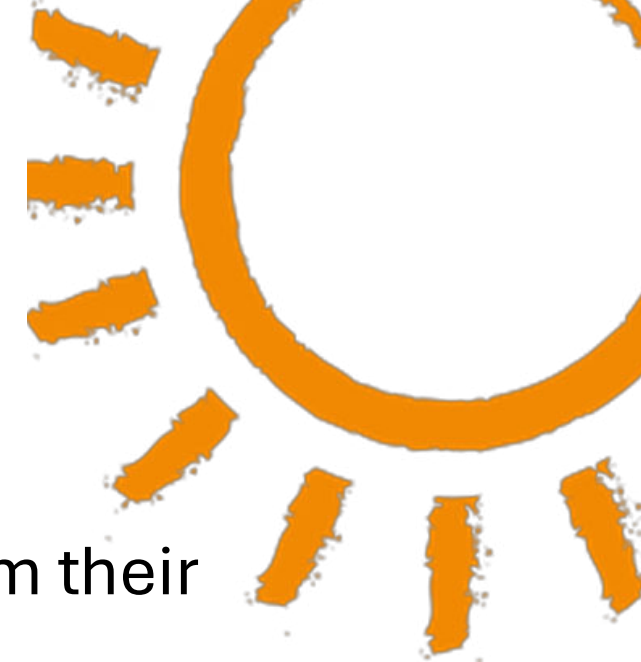


In the State of Texas, there are more than 15,000 kids in foster care

Only 30% of children in foster care will be reunited with their families






Children in the Greatest Need

- Sibling groups of 3 or more – 1 in 3 children removed from their families are part of a sibling group
- Teenagers
- Children who are not legally free
- Children who are a member of a minority group that traditionally has barriers to adoption
- Drug-exposed infants and toddlers
- Children with mental health diagnoses and special needs due to trauma
- Children with Primary Medical Needs



How You Can Make a Difference



-  Kinship and Fictive Kin Foster Care
-  Foster Parent
-  Respite Care
-  Volunteer
-  Donate

Fostering with DePelchin



- Be at least 21 years of age
- Be in good physical health
- Pass a background check
- Be able to provide for a child financially
- Have available bedroom(s)
- Have reliable transportation
- Have a support network
- Be willing to work with birth family
- Be willing to be in the fishbowl
- Have patience and flexibility
- Be willing to put the needs of the children first

Benefits of Working with DePelchin

As a DePelchin foster parent, you have access to:

- ✓ Health & dental coverage for children provided by the state
- ✓ Free breakfast & lunch at school provided by the state
- ✓ WIC benefits provided by the state for children that qualify
- ✓ 24 hour on call support
- ✓ In-home case management & crisis clinical support
- ✓ Mental health assessment & individualized treatment plan
- ✓ Therapeutic, counseling, & educational services as needed
- ✓ Reimbursement for portion of inspections
- ✓ Donation Station support
- ✓ Foster Parent Mentors

Foster Care Adoption with DePelchin

- Families are verified as foster parents and approved as adoptive parents
- DePelchin helps you match with children; CPS makes final selection of families for children
- Children must reside in your home for at least 6 consecutive months prior to finalizing your adoption
- DePelchin will provide attorney referrals and work with DFPS in preparing your court paperwork
- Fees typically range from \$800-\$1,200 and may be reimbursed
- Children may qualify for adoption assistance



Pre-Service Training

- Pre-Service training is a commitment of 40 hours of training, including but not limited to:
 - Creating Caring Connections
 - CPR/First Aid
 - Risk Management & Prevention of Sexual Abuse
 - Agency Related Policies & Procedures
 - Online Trainings
 - Homework



Common Misconceptions

You will not be able to adopt an infant

It costs a lot to adopt through foster care

You are unable to say No to a placement

FAQs

- Background Checks
 - Applicants
 - Household Members 14 years of age and older
 - Any individual you leave a child alone with in your home or theirs
 - Frequent visitors (visit your home 3 or more times in 30 days)
 - Out of State Background Checks
 - Anyone requiring a background check who lived out of Texas within the last 5 years, we must request from previous state(s) also
- References
 - 1 relative, 1 non-relative, 2 community members
- Pets
- Moving
- Pool
- Alcohol
- Travel
- Weapons & Firearms
- Medication
- Therapy



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Next Steps



Attend an orientation meeting (check!)



Submit a complete application



Virtual meeting with DePelchin staff to determine best path forward



Background checks (may take up to 4 weeks)



Complete required pre-service training



Participate in home study, and once complete, have your home study reviewed by committee. If approved, you will become a verified foster care adoption home!

Resources

- *The Boy Who Was Raised As A Dog* by Dr. Bruce Perry
- *Three Little Words* by Ashley Rhodes-Counter
- *Three More Words* by Ashley Rhodes-Counter
- *The Connected Child* by Dr. Karyn Purvis & Dr. David Cross
- *The Out of Sync Child* by Carol Kranowitz
- *The Out of Sync Child Has Fun* by Carol Kranowitz

- Mamas Well Podcast <https://mamaswell.com/>
- Empower to Connect Resources <https://empoweredtoconnect.org/resources/>
- TCU – TBRI Resources <https://child.tcu.edu/resources/#sthash.6ea2cLdG.PBoXfmyF.dpbs>
- Regional Statistics – Children in DFPS Care https://www.dfps.texas.gov/About_DFPS/Monthly_Data/default.asp#children-in-care
- Adoption Assistance Information https://www.dfps.texas.gov/Child_Protection/Adoption/adoption_assistance.asp



Save this Slide!



<https://www.depelchin.org/gettingstarted>

Password from Orientation: depelchin4kids

More Questions? GettingStarted@depelchin.org



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Application Information

- Complete in Binti
- Items to be uploaded to Binti
 - Driver's License for each applicant and others as needed
 - Social security card for each applicant and others as needed
 - Driving record for each applicant
 - Birth certificate or proof of legal residence for each household member
 - Proof of all household income – 60 days of paycheck stubs or bank statements
 - Proof of highest education for each applicant
 - Floor plan with labels of all living spaces and dimensions of all areas
 - Final Divorce decree(s), Annulment or judgment of former marriages



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[Ways to Give](#) ▾

[Give Now](#)

- ✓ **Application, completed and signed**
- ✓ **Driver license, social security card, and birth certificate (or proof of residency) of all applicants.**
- ✓ **Proof of household income: 60 days of pay stubs or bank statements and most recent tax returns**
- ✓ **Floor plan of home with labels and dimensions**
- ✓ **Contact information for references (they must have an email address)**



[Start Application](#)





DePelchin Children's Center Foster/Adoption Application

Sign up to access the online forms and get started

First Name *

Middle Name

Last Name *

Suffix (e.g. Jr, Sr)

Create a login so you can easily access your information. We will not use your information for marketing purposes.

Email address *





Welcome



Initial
Application



Orientation



Application
Forms Part I



Moving
Forward



Training



Application
Forms Part II



Moving
Forward for
Home Study



Home Study
Confirmation



Orientation

Thank you for completing the Initial Application! Next, you will need to attend the Foster Care and Adoption Orientation class, please click [here](#) to find a location near you. After attending your orientation you will be given a password that you can enter below to continue with the application process. If at any time, you have questions, please feel free to give us a call.

Please enter the password you received at orientation in order to continue:

Next: Application Forms Part I



Thank
you!