



# Foster Care

## OUR MISSION

*Bethanna is a Christian organization that provides the highest quality system of care for children and families in order to ensure safety, restore emotional wellness, and build family stability. As a nonprofit agency, we are devoted to meeting the needs of children and their families. Each year, more than 2,000 children are served through our programs.*

## HOW CAN I LEARN MORE?

If you are interested in becoming a Bethanna Resource Parent, we invite you to attend an Information Session. Please call **1-800-989-1926** for information about the next scheduled meeting or if you have questions.

A copy of the official registration and financial information of Bethanna may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll free, within Pennsylvania, 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.

# Bethanna



statewide  
adoption and  
permanency  
network



**1-800-989-1926**

**www.bethanna.org**

# Bethanna

Serving Children and Families  
Since 1934



## WHY RESOURCE FAMILIES ARE NEEDED?

Many of the children and families Bethanna serves have experienced physical, emotional, and sexual abuse. Families have been disrupted by substance abuse, domestic violence, and other crises. Every child and family needs committed support, love, and compassion.

Children grow and develop to their fullest potential when raised in safe, stable homes. Some are healthy while others may have developmental, emotional, or medical needs. Bethanna is looking for loving individuals and couples willing to open their homes to children in need. Bethanna will provide support and encouragement to assist these special parents.

## WHAT DOES IT TAKE TO BE A RESOURCE PARENT?

- Married or single, with or without children already in the home
- Good health (physical exam required)
- Financially self-reliant and stable
- At least 24 years of age

- Free from criminal convictions related to Child Protective Services Laws
- Maintain a safe and nurturing environment for yourself and your foster child (home ownership not necessary)
- Provide transportation for child to health and therapy appointments, as well as to family visits
- Commitment to meeting with a foster care worker a minimum of twice a month in your home to discuss children's care and ways to support their service plans

As you consider this important commitment, be assured that Bethanna will stand shoulder to shoulder with you, providing ongoing support and training.

## WHAT ARE THE STEPS TO BECOMING A BETHANNA RESOURCE PARENT?

*The process includes these steps:*

- Attend an Information Session
- Complete safety check of your home

- Complete a pre-service training, involving four sessions of group orientation
- Participate in four to five mutual assessment (home study) meetings
- Complete required paperwork, including background clearances for anyone in your home over 18 years of age

## CAN I ADOPT MY FOSTER CHILD?

Adoption of children by their resource parents is possible under certain circumstances. Bethanna's primary goal is reunification of children with their biological families. In the event reunification can not occur, a permanent family is identified through adoption or permanent legal custodianship.

## IS FINANCIAL SUPPORT PROVIDED?

Resource parents receive a monthly stipend to help defray the cost of a child's basic needs, such as food and clothing. The amount is pre-determined by regulatory guidelines and varies based on the level of care children require. Medical, dental, and therapeutic expenses for children are typically covered by insurance (HMO).