



YOU CAN MAKE A  
DIFFERENCE IN THE LIFE  
OF A CHILD



For more information on  
becoming a Resource Family:

3711 Columbus Street  
Bakersfield, CA 93306  
661.631.6204

Kern County Probation Department  
Placement Unit-RFA  
5121 Stockdale Highway Suite #100  
Bakersfield, CA 93309  
661.396.4560

Relatives call 661.631.6666 and ask to  
speak with the Family Finding  
Social Worker of the day



Scan to visit website.  
[www.KCDHS.org](http://www.KCDHS.org)



100 E. California Ave.  
Bakersfield, CA 93307  
Tel 661.631.6000 • Fax 661.631.6631  
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@kerncountyDHS

# FAMILIES FORMED WITH LOVE

KERN COUNTY DEPARTMENT  
OF HUMAN SERVICES



KCDHS is an equal opportunity agency.  
KCDHS 979-RFA (3-24)



## RESOURCE FAMILY APPROVAL (RFA)

All children need and deserve a safe, loving, nurturing, accepting, and consistent place to live where they can thrive and mature. Becoming a resource family caregiver provides a home for a child to do just that.

Resource Family Approval (RFA) is a caregiver approval process that relatives, non-relative extended family members or unrelated families complete to be considered for potential placement of a child, youth or young adult (non-minor dependents from 18-21).



## RFA STREAMLINES THE APPROVAL PROCESS

RFA is a unified, family-friendly and child-centered resource family approval streamlined process that includes one application, one background check, combined home environment and permanency assessments, pre-approval and post-approval training for all families.

## RFA REQUIREMENTS

There may be minimal costs associated with RFA. For more information, please contact our office. The following is a partial list of requirements to be met prior to approval:

- Live Scan fingerprints
- Training
- Home environment assessment
- CPR/First Aid
- Health Screening
- DMV Report
- Criminal Background clearance

The approval process also includes:

- In-home visits with all adults and children, youth, and young adults
- Reference checks
- Collection of verification documents and completed application forms

Additional requirements may be needed.

## RFA SUPPORTS COMMITMENT TO CHILDREN, YOUTH, YOUNG ADULTS AND FAMILIES

RFA reaffirms the commitment to serving children, youth, young adults and families because it:

Focuses on Lifelong Relationships

- RFA supports connecting children, youth, and young adults to safe, caring relationships that can last a lifetime by focusing on families.
- RFA's purpose is to place children, youth, and young adults with families that can provide a lifelong connection by determining permanency approval upfront.

Achieves Results for Children, Youth, Young Adults and Families

- Training and ongoing services prepare caregivers to meet the needs of children and youth and assisting families with forming lifelong relationships.
- Supportive and loving long-term relationships lead to stable permanent placements and improved outcomes for children, youth, and young adults.

Improves Efficiency

- The RFA process will eliminate duplication, reduce paperwork, and maximize the efficient use of staff and system resources.



## RFA FACTS

Once approved, Resource Families may be considered for placement of related or unrelated child(ren) for foster care, adoption or legal guardianship, depending on the Resource Family's goals and the child's case plan. Resource Family Approval does not guarantee placement of a child. These decisions are determined by the child's social worker and the courts.

During an emergency situation, a child, youth or young adult can be placed in a relative home prior to approval if certain requirements are met.

- A home and grounds inspection
- Criminal record and Child Abuse Central Index check
- Initiation of RFA process within 5 business days if continued placement is desired including:
  - Completion of Live Scan background check within 10 days
  - Completion of RFA process within 90 days of placement

