

Goshen

— H O M E S —





**AT GOSHEN HOMES, WE
BELIEVE SIBLINGS ARE
BETTER TOGETHER.**

**WE RECRUIT, TRAIN,
LICENSE, AND SUPPORT
FOSTER FAMILIES WORKING
WITH SIBLING GROUPS
WITHIN THE STATE
OF GEORGIA.**

Letter from Zach

Hello and thank you for your interest in fostering with Goshen Homes. In 2015, we set out to serve the needs of separated siblings through the recruitment and licensing of families like yours. What we have experienced since then is nothing short of amazing. Instead of witnessing brothers and sisters being separated within the system, we have been able to reunite and keep hundreds of children together. This has resulted in the reunification and adoption of dozens of sibling groups. As you will learn, the journey to fostering is not always easy. The training needed can be tedious and the emotions often heavy, but those willing to take on this call will be changing the lives of the young people in their care forever. This is a gift unlike any other. I wish you well with the steps to come and thank you for trusting Goshen Homes as a valued partner in the process.



WITH PEACE & PURPOSE,

**ZACH BLEND
GOSHEN VALLEY FOUNDATION, CEO**



**“ANY TIME I AM FEELING
SAD, MY FOSTER PARENTS
KNOW. THEY CHECK ON ME
TO MAKE SURE I AM OKAY
AND THAT MAKES ME FEEL
LOVED. THEY ARE ALWAYS
THERE FOR ME WHEN I
NEED THEM.”**

- GOSHEN HOMES FOSTER CHILD

Building Goshen Homes

Goshen Homes was created in 2015 to meet the need of keeping siblings together during their time in foster care. We noticed that while the boys at the Ranch were having visits with their families their siblings were living with different foster families, sometimes a great distance from each other.

From the birth of Goshen Homes until now we have kept 119 children together with their siblings.



“SHE LOOKED AT US AND SAID, YOU’VE TAUGHT ME WHAT IT FEELS LIKE TO BE LOVED AND HOW TO LOVE.”

-ROB DITCHEN, FOSTER PARENT

Become a foster parent and leave a legacy of love.



1998

Goshen Valley Foundation was created

2016

First Goshen Homes Family Licensed

2017

Expanded our office to accommodate Goshen Homes growth

2018

Added 4 new staff positions; created in house home licensing team

2019

Added Goshen Homes Family visitation room for bio families and children to visit weekly

2020

Goshen Homes has families licensed in 5 Counties and growing...

**“ONE OF THE MOST
EXCITING PARTS OF MY JOB
IS MEETING NEW FAMILIES! I
LOVE TO HEAR THEIR
STORIES OF HOW THEY
HEARD ABOUT GOSHEN AND
WHY THEY WANT TO
FOSTER. EACH FAMILY HAS
ITS OWN BEGINNING, BUT
EACH END WITH LOVING
SIBLINGS IN FOSTER CARE
THROUGH GOSHEN HOMES.”**

**- SARAH COPPIANO,
FOSTER PARENT RECRUITMENT
AND DEVELOPMENT**



Find your place in Goshen Homes

Goshen Homes offers an array of avenues to serve foster children. The first step is seeing the need and the next step is asking the right questions to see the best route of involvement for you and your family.



Primary Families provide care to children that live in their home for the entirety of their time in foster care. They partner with biological families and meet the needs of the children while the parents work their case plan.

Respite Families offer relief care to primary families by taking in foster children on a more temporary, short term basis. We like to think of this as a visit to the cool aunt and uncle or fun grandparents.

FAMILY SUPPORT
We have several ways to serve families and children. Our parents are always welcoming meals and other donations.



“WE DON’T FEEL THAT WE CAN IGNORE SUCH A GREAT NEED AROUND US, SO WE DO ALL THAT WE CAN TO HELP. WE BELIEVE IT MAKES US STRONGER AS A FAMILY, BECAUSE BY BEING INVOLVED, WE GAIN AN AWARENESS FOR STRUGGLES THAT KIDS LIVING AROUND US FACE. WE WOULD LIKE TO LEAVE THIS WORLD BETTER THAN WE FOUND IT. IN ORDER TO DO THAT, WE BELIEVE THAT BEING AN EXAMPLE OF LOVE TO FOSTER KIDS IS A GREAT PLACE TO START.”

- NOELLE BANKS, FOSTER MOM

The Journey to Becoming a Foster Parent



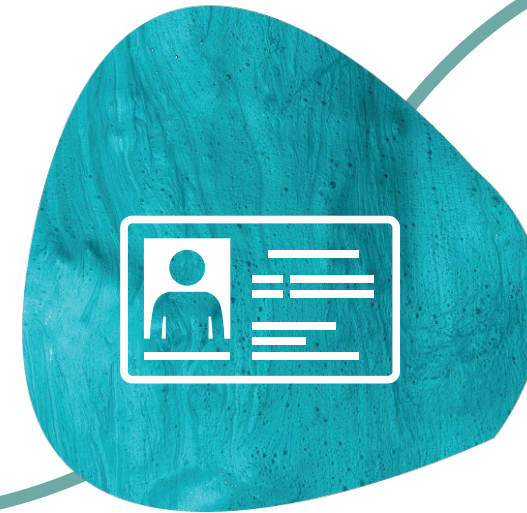
GET INFORMATION

The first step in fostering with Goshen is a simple phone call or meeting with one of our staff. This gives us an opportunity to get to know you and your family. This is when you can get your initial questions answered and see if we are the right fit for you. After this we would have an information session where we take a deeper look at foster care and being a foster family with Goshen Homes.



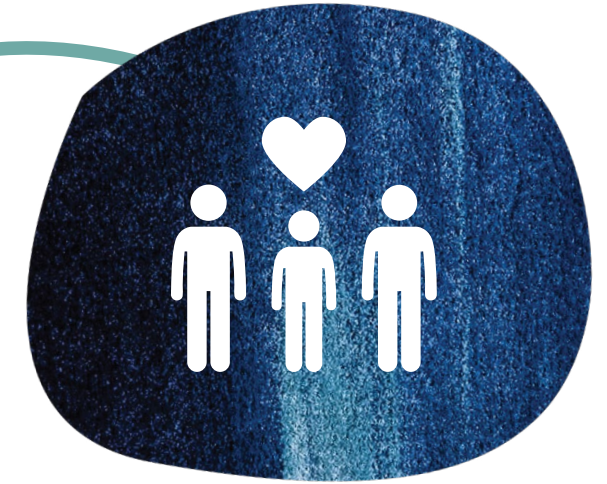
GET TRAINING

Our 6-part IMPACT training is engaging, relevant and practical, preparing you to care for your foster youth. This is a state required training and it is the crash course on all things foster care. Goshen Homes has developed a special IMPACT training that teaches the state curriculum with the added Goshen difference. Each session you will laugh, possibly cry and enjoy engaging with other new foster parents. In the end, you will walk away with a better understanding of what children face in foster care, how to partner with DFCS and be better prepared to begin your journey as a Goshen Homes family.



GET LICENSED

After IMPACT is completed, we begin the home study. Both primary and respite foster homes need home studies to be licensed. The Home Study is the last step required before your home can be open to caring for foster children. The well-being of the children in our care and your family is our top priority. The home study is where we diligently ensure your home and family is ready in every aspect for the challenges and blessings fostering can bring. Goshen staff will make multiple visits to your home in order to complete your home study. These visits will help ensure that you are prepared to make this commitment that will change the lives of the children you are serving.



START FOSTERING

Your paperwork is turned in. Your training is completed. Your home is licensed. You're almost there! Now we just need to match you with children needing a foster home. Each family has the opportunity to make preferences of age and gender of the kids that will work best with their family. Once we know what works for you, our Goshen Placement Services team will begin the search for the right sibling set.

We want to enable you to be the best foster parent that you can be! In order to help you succeed, we connect you with childcare and respite to give you some time to recharge. We provide the required training and offer additional therapeutic training to equip our families. In addition, Goshen Homes has a monthly support group for our families to connect and encourage each other.

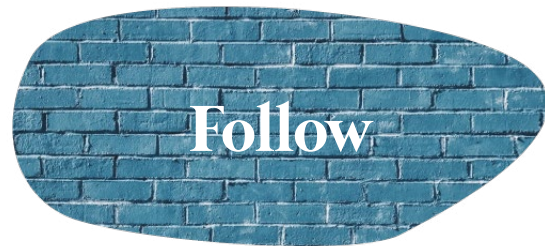
**“THE IMPACT CLASSES
OPENED MY EYES IN NEW
WAYS. I HAVE HEARD
STORIES BUT NOTHING
LIKE THESE. THEY WERE
REAL LIFE AND RAW AND
IT PREPARED ME FOR MY
NEXT SEASON AS A
FOSTER MOM.”**

**- KAYLA TURNER,
IMPACT CLASS FALL OF 2018**



How to Get Started

We hope this guide helped you to find your place in Goshen Homes. We understand that not everyone is ready to foster, but everyone can help a foster kid! Here's a few things you can do:



FOLLOW GOSHEN VALLEY ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Every like, comment, and share helps us get our story in front of more prospective foster families and volunteers. We'd love to have you join our story on social media.

**INSTAGRAM
@GOSHENVALLEY**

**FACEBOOK
/GOSHENVALLEYFOUNDATION**



\$50 FUNDS A CHILD'S BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

Many foster children have not had a birthday party in years. A \$50 donation helps a foster family celebrate this happy day.

Your donation can help cover the cost of everything from haircuts, school supplies, new clothing, and more.

GOSHENVALLEY.ORG/DONATE



FAMILY + EVENT SUPPORT

Help Goshen Homes with trainings and date night events. We offer free childcare at each of our training days and most events. This helps our foster parents step away from their parenting role and focus on enrichment and building relationships.

If you volunteer for family support we will partner you with one or two families to offer help in the form of babysitting, tutoring, meal donation or transportation.

**CONTACT SARAH COPPIANO AT
SCOPPIANO@GOSHENVALLEY.ORG**



READY TO BEGIN YOUR FOSTERING JOURNEY?

Let's begin! Reach out to Sarah, our Foster Parent Recruiter at scoppiano@goshenvalley.org.

**CONTACT SARAH COPPIANO AT
SCOPPIANO@GOSHENVALLEY.ORG**





GOSHEN HOMES
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