



Call it a clan, call it a network, call it a tribe, call it a family. Whatever you call it, whoever you are, you need one.

20th century British Author,
Jane Howard



Your Donation has a Direct Impact

Alternative Family Services works with an annual average of 1,500 foster children and youth in nine Northern California counties. Here are some ways your financial donation can help.

\$50 provides approximately 150 miles worth of transportation costs for foster children and youth

\$100 provides 3 hours of tutoring for one foster child

\$350 allows 20 foster children and youth to start the school year with a new backpack and school supplies

\$1,000 buys 70 packs of diapers for the more than 200 babies and small children in foster care

Retail gift cards: Back-to-school, the AFS Wish Upon a Wreath holiday campaign and AFS' Transition Aged Youth program are examples of programs that are always in need of retail gift cards to help purchase school supplies and clothes, holiday gifts and home goods for our foster children, youth and families.

Backpacks and rolling backpacks: AFS has hundreds of school aged foster children and youth that are in need of new backpacks for school. Please consider donating a new backpack that is free of logos (team logos, characters, etc.).

Car and Booster Seats: Every AFS foster child under six years or 60 pounds needs to ride in a car or booster seat when being transported. AFS foster families and staff are in constant need of new infant, toddler and children's car seats and booster seats to ensure the child's safety and abide by the child transportation laws.

Gas cards, BART tickets and bus passes: A foster family has many appointments to keep. In addition to traditional appointments of getting the kids to the doctor, dentist, sports practice, etc., foster families must go to court appearances and appointments with various specialists and caseworkers. For older foster youth, many take public transportation to school, work and appointments. The transportation costs for foster children, youth and families are very high and therefore donated gas cards, BART tickets and bus passes are much needed.

Laptops: Many foster homes are in need of new or refurbished laptops. Some homes have many individuals sharing one computer or a home may not have a computer or internet access. AFS wants to ensure all school aged foster kids, transition aged youth and foster parents can use technology to keep up in school, work and family life.

Food industry gift cards: AFS provides foster parents with foster parent trainings, monthly foster parent support meetings and foster family appreciation events. It is customary for AFS to provide food for our foster families at these events to show gratitude for the hard work and dedication in addition to giving the family a chance to take a break from having to provide a meal. AFS is always in need of gift cards to grocery and wholesale retailers and restaurants.

AFS Foster Family and Agency Wish List

Home Goods and Kitchenware: Transition aged youth are foster kids who are about to exit the foster care system and begin living on their own. Most of these kids do not have any home goods or kitchenware such as sets of utensils, dishware, pots and pans, dressers, dining room table, etc. Donating your new or like new home goods and kitchen items will help these foster youth transition into independent living.

Portable doll houses and dolls of all ethnicities: AFS mental health counselors often use role playing and dolls to help foster children and youth process the events in their lives during therapy. AFS is always in need of portable doll houses and dolls of all ethnicities.

First Aid Kits, Disaster Kits and Photoelectric Smoke Detectors: Please help AFS reach its goal to ensure that every foster home and car is adequately equipped with a first aid and disaster kits, in addition to keeping all homes in compliance with the appropriate amount of smoke detectors. Donate a first aid kit, disaster kit or photoelectric smoke detector today.

Equine Therapy Scholarships: AFS provides foster children in our Family Alternatives for Children with Developmental Disabilities (FACDD) with the opportunity to participate in equine therapy (aka therapeutic riding), which can teach children and youth with disabilities about companionship, responsibility, leadership, vocational and educational skills. Sponsoring therapeutic riding lessons can have an incredible physical and psychological benefit to a child with developmental disabilities.



Thanks for considering AFS! Please contact Jennifer Harper, Director of Development and Marketing at (510)759-1271 or jharper@afs4kids.org with your Community Partner questions.

Si necesita hablar con alguien en español, favor de llamar a mi compañera, Silvia Mendoza, al (800) 300-1022

AFS Locations

Santa Rosa Office

Administrative Office
1421 Guerneville Road, Suite 218
Santa Rosa, CA 95403
(707) 576-7700

San Rafael Office

361 Third Street, Suite G
San Rafael, CA 94901
(415) 482-1640

San Francisco Office

250 Executive Park Blvd, Suite 4900
San Francisco, CA 94134
(415) 656-0116

Oakland Office

111 Myrtle Street, Suite 102
Oakland, CA 94607
(510) 839-3800

Sacramento Office

8795 Folsom Blvd, Suite 109
Sacramento, CA 95403
(916) 267-4045

Vallejo Office

100 Corporate Place, Suite A
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(707) 648-2000