



Nobody has ever before asked the nuclear family to live all by itself in a box the way we do. With no relatives, no support, we've put it in an impossible situation.

*American Cultural Anthropologist,
Margaret Mead*

Respite Worker Certification Requirements

Alternative Family Services has two levels of respite service depending upon where the respite services are to take place. Each level has specific requirements and training as listed below. Additionally, AFS must certify all respite workers who will be driving foster children.

AFS will pay an approved respite worker to come into any AFS foster home for a scheduled period of time so foster parents and children can rest and refresh themselves. Often times foster parents are most comfortable leaving their foster children in the care of close friends or relatives. AFS will perform the necessary interviews, clearances (fingerprints, child abuse index) and training for an individual to become a respite care giver.

All respite workers must be at least 21 years of age and must provide the following documentation prior to providing respite services:

1. Respite Worker Application Form
2. Criminal Record Statement
3. Fingerprints cleared via the Dept. of Justice and FBI
4. Statement to Report Child Abuse
5. Child Abuse Index cleared via the Dept. of Justice
6. Respite Worker Contract
7. W-9 Form
8. AFS Respite Training and Respite Parent Manual Review
9. Interview w/ AFS Foster Family Recruiter or Social Worker
10. Two letters of reference
11. TB Test/Good Health Statement
12. First Aid Certification
13. CPR Certification



Thanks for considering AFS! I am here to answer all of your questions about becoming an AFS respite worker.

Feel free to call me on my direct line at (510)282-8354 or email me at twhittington@afs4kids.org

~Thomas Whittington

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