

# About MAPP

## What MAPP is...

- MAPP is a 10 week, 30 hour training course that is used to help you decide if fostering or adopting is right for your family. We meet one night per week for three hours. In that time we discuss issues and topics specific to children in the custody of the Department of Social Services. There are role plays, discussions, and examples used during the classes to make sure families understand the situations in which the foster children have been.
- During MAPP, you will meet and interact with all the social workers so that you will be familiar with them. Families are encouraged to invite guests to the ninth meeting. In this meeting there will be a panel composed of current foster and adoptive parents, GALs, and other agencies involved in the foster care system. Families and their guests are encouraged to ask questions of the panel and learn from their experiences.

## What MAPP is not...

- Families do not need to make a commitment to become a foster parent until the end of MAPP. It is not unusual for a family to attend all 10 weeks of the class and decide not to become a licensed foster home. This is the purpose of the class. We would never want a family to feel that they must continue on if they do not feel that they are making the right decision.
- MAPP is not a parenting class. Many of the participants have grown children. They already know how to be a parent. MAPP guides families into areas where most families have never been. The children the family will be fostering have been removed from abusive or neglectful homes. These children need a different kind of parenting.
- MAPP is not the end of foster parent training. In fact, MAPP is only a very small portion of what training is needed to be a foster family. Each foster parent is required to have at least 10 hours of training each year in order to keep their license current. Social workers provide foster parent resources to help them with situations that arise during foster care. A foster parent is never alone, they are able to ask for help at any time.

# BASIC REQUIREMENTS TO BECOME A FOSTER PARENT

You must possess personal qualities that will allow you to work well with the agency and any children placed with you.

All members of the family must agree in the decision to foster.

If you are married, it needs to have been for at least one year.

You must be 21 or older to become a foster parent.

Physical exams for all household members are required every two years.

You must have a stable income sufficient for the families needs without the monthly board payments.

Foster parents cannot deny the child the opportunity for spiritual development and the right to practice his or her religious beliefs.

Both foster parents may be employed if suitable child care arrangements have been made.

The foster home must be located in an area with access to schools, doctors, and churches. Homes must be of adequate size and structure.

A local fire department official will inspect the home for fire and building safety.

Social Services will check into any criminal history.

Every foster parent must complete a 30 hour training course, and 10 hours yearly.

The foster parents, if appropriate, will be considered for adoptive parents if the child in the home becomes available for adoption.

# MAPP

## Personal Information Sheet

	Prospective Parent 1	Prospective Parent 2
Name (First, Middle, Last, Maiden)		
Address and County		
Phone numbers		
How Long at this address		
Where Employed and for how long		
Contact email address		

If you have children, please provide the following information for each child:

Name			
Age			
Where they reside			
Last grade completed			
Do they understand and support your decision to foster or adopt?			

Where will a foster child sleep while in your home?

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## Questions for: Prospective Parent 1-

What do you hope to learn from this MAPP class? \_\_\_\_\_

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Are you willing to attend and participate in all 10 weeks of training? Only 2 classes may be missed.  
An appointment should be scheduled to go over the materials missed.

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What do you feel you and your family will have to offer a foster child? \_\_\_\_\_

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Why do you think most children are in foster care? \_\_\_\_\_

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Are you interested in foster care, adoption, or both?

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How did you learn about the MAPP training? \_\_\_\_\_

## Questions for: Prospective Parent 2-

What do you hope to learn from this MAPP class? \_\_\_\_\_

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Are you willing to attend and participate in all 10 weeks of training? Only 2 classes may be missed. An appointment should be scheduled to go over the materials missed.

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What do you feel you and your family will have to offer a foster child? \_\_\_\_\_

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Why do you think most children are in foster care? \_\_\_\_\_

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Are you interested in foster care, adoption, or both?

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How did you learn about the MAPP training? \_\_\_\_\_

Please tell us anything you would like us to know or consider about your family:

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Foster Care *will* impact a child for a lifetime.

MAPP will help you be more equipped to Join the Village of fostering and adopting children.

You and your family are very important to us. Thank you for taking the time to inquire about our foster and adoption program and to fill out this form completely. Please keep parts that are for your information and return the questionnaire (pages 3-6) in order to sign up for the next MAPP training class.

POLK COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

# EVERY CHILD

BY Frances Hutson

Every child deserves a family of their own,  
A place of love and safety, a place to call "home."  
But sometimes that doesn't happen,  
For one reason or another.  
And to meet the need, to provide love and care,  
God made foster dads and mothers.  
He gave them loving hearts, arms to comfort and to hold,  
He gave them a sense of humor  
And the much-needed patience of Job.  
He gave them a deep commitment  
And a love that grows and grows.  
He gave them common sense and wisdom  
And strength when it's time to let go.  
But most of all He gave them the privilege  
Of opening their homes and hearts to another,  
The special blessing that comes from  
Being a foster dad and mother.

Polk County DSS

231 Wolverine Trail

Mill Spring, NC 28756

828-894-2100

# Timeline for licensure

Part of Process	Time	Forms Used / Actions Taken	Responsible Person	Date Completed
Initial Training	10 Weeks	Profiles included in MAPP resource book given by trainer	Parents are responsible for filling in and returning all forms in class	
		Strength and Needs sheets for all 10 meeting		
		Finger Prints done and turned in to trainer		
		List of 10 references e-mailed to trainer		
Initial Licensing	Can begin immediately after training or up to 6 months after	5015- Action request	Licensing Worker	
		5016- Application		
		5150- Environmental Checklist		
		5268- RIL check and clearance		
		1515- Fire Inspection	Family	
		5017- Medical History Form		
		5156- Medical information & TB test		
		Agency Foster Parent agreement		
		Confidentiality Agreement		
		Medication Procedures Agreement		
		Discipline Agreement		
		Send License Application to State	Licensing Worker	
Receive License and send to family				
Training	Within first year of licensure, but before first placement	First aid	Family	
		CPR		
		Universal Precautions		
Placement	Can happen any time after agency receives clearance letter from State		Child's Social Worker	
Training	20 hours every 2 years	Organized training provided by or preapproved by this agency	Agency	
Relicensure	Every 2 years	5015- Action Request	Licensing Worker	
		5150- Environmental Checklist		
		5157- Relicensure Application		
		5156- Medical information & TB test	Family	
		1515- Fire Inspection		
		Agency Foster Parent agreement		
		Confidentiality Agreement		
		Medication Procedures Agreement		
		Discipline Agreement		
		Send License Application to State	Licensing Worker	
Receive License and send to family				



## Contact Information:

### **Return Application to:**

Licensing Worker- Jennifer Pittman

Phone- 828-894-6621

E-mail- [jpittman@polknc.org](mailto:jpittman@polknc.org)

Address-

Polk County Department of Social Services

231 Wolverine Trail, Mill Spring, NC 28756

Phone- 828-894-2100