

## You can make a difference in the life of a child. Here's how.

Child Protective Services and our community partners have opportunities to fit almost any schedule or budget

**Support and comfort children.** CPS needs adults who can supervise and support children who have been taken into protective custody, who are waiting to be placed in foster care, or who need to come to hearings at juvenile dependency court.

**Phone:** Deanna Ramirez, (916) 876-7285

Email: <a href="mailto:ramirezde@saccounty.net">ramirezde@saccounty.net</a>

Website: <a href="http://www.sacdhhs.com/howtohelp">http://www.sacdhhs.com/howtohelp</a>

**Be a foster parent.** Be a foster parent and change a lifetime! Foster parents, also known as resource families, provide care, support, nurturing, and guidance for children whose parents are not able to keep them safe. Reimbursement rates vary depending on the age and needs of the child. Orientation meetings take place twice monthly. Call for details.

Phone: (916) 875-5KID (5543) Email: fhl@saccounty.net

Website: http://www.sacdhhs.com/cps

**Help teen foster youth.** The Sacramento County Independent Living Program helps current and former foster youth ages 16-21 make their way to adulthood.

Teens who are aging out of foster care need low-cost rental housing, new or gently-used furniture, household items, prepaid phone cards, and gift cards to supermarkets and variety stores like Target and Wal-Mart.

Donations to the Friends of ILP Scholarship Fund help youth attend college or vocational school.

Foster youth also need adults willing to act as mentors or tutors as they make their way to independence.

**Phone:** (916) 874-9308

Address: 925 Del Paso Blvd., Suite 500 Sacramento, CA

95815

Email: thurmta@saccounty.net
Web: http://www.sacdhhs.com/cps

**Be a child's advocate in court.** Volunteers for Sacramento Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) advocate for children in the juvenile court system, and make sure the child's needs, including those based on culture, ethnicity, and gender, are taken into account. Commitment is 15-25 hours a month for at least one year.

**Phone:** (916) 875-6460

Address: P.O. Box 278383, Sacramento, CA 95827-8383

Email: info@sacramentocasa.org

Website: <a href="http://www.sacramentocasa.org">http://www.sacramentocasa.org</a>

Help foster children have happy memories. Making Memories is a nonprofit program to raise money to help children in foster care (including those living with relatives)

children in foster care (including those living with relatives) enjoy summer camp, senior prom, after-school sports, and other fun activities that aren't covered by foster care payments. This is collaboration with CASA so donations are tax deductible. Systems are in place to ensure donations directly benefit the child.

**Phone:** (916) 875-6460 or (916) 876-5462

Address: PO Box 278832 Sacramento, CA 95827-8832

Email: slothowerl@saccounty.net

**Be a mentor.** Wonder, Inc. matches foster children ages 6-12 with caring adults who are committed to encouraging, engaging, and enriching their young lives. Together they embark on a journey that involves music, the arts, sports, volunteer service, dining out, and nature. Volunteer commitment is 10 hours a month for at least one year.

**Phone:** (916) 231-3027

Address: P.O. Box 188008 Sacramento, CA 95818

Email: info@wonderinc.org
Website: www.wonderinc.org

**Gifts from the Heart.** This program, coordinated by the county Department of Health and Human Services, arranges to distribute almost 10,000 holiday gifts to foster children and frail elderly. Gifts are purchased by community donors, who choose how many seniors or children they wish to help. Donors and volunteers are needed.

**Phone:** Tammy Liu, (916) 875-2027

Address: 7001A East Parkway, Suite 1000,

Sacramento CA 95823 **Email:** liut@saccounty.net

The Heart Gallery of Sacramento. This is an exhibit of professional-quality photos of children who need adoptive homes. Photos are designed to capture the spirit and personality of each child. Volunteers are needed to take photos, to serve on

the program's Board of Directors, and to assist at events.

**Phone:** (916) 217-1552

Email: info@sacheartgallery.org

Website:

http://www.sacheartgallery.org



