



**Nathan Deal, Governor**

**Clyde L. Reese, III, Esq., Commissioner**

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Georgia Department of Human Services • Cherokee Family & Children Services • D'Anna K. Liber, Director  
P. O. Box 826, 105 Lamar Haley Parkway • Canton, GA 30169 • Phone (770) 720-3610 • Fax (770) 720-3680

## **How do you become a foster or adoptive parent?**

### **Frequently Asked Questions**

The first step in becoming a foster or adoptive parent is to attend Orientation. Orientations are held monthly at the Cherokee County DFCS office. At Orientation, you will be given a broad overview of the type of children in need of foster or adoptive homes and the process required to become a resource parent.

As well, you will have the opportunity to ask any questions you may have. If you feel becoming a resource parent is something that you wish to move forward with, we will ask you to give your permission for the Department to run an initial criminal background check at that time.

The next step would be to attend IMPACT training. IMPACT is a 20-hour training that will provide you in-depth information about the Department's mission in working with families. You will also be provided with information and skills needed to care for children in custody and working with their families, DFCS and other community partners. After completion of IMPACT, a Resource Development Case Manager will work closely with your family to complete your home study. Once your home study is written and approved you will then be able to start caring for children in your home as a resource parent.

Becoming a foster or adoptive parent is a life changing decision that can be an amazing and rewarding experience for you and your family while you provide a loving and stable home for children in need.

If you are interested in attending an orientation please call (877) 210-5437 or call Kathleen Gulnick or Lou Shewmake at (770) 720-3610.

### **2012 Orientation Dates**

August 20, 2012  
September 10, 2012  
October 15, 2012  
November 5, 2012  
December 17, 2012

Orientations are held at Cherokee County DFCS, located at  
105 Lamar Haley Parkway, Canton, GA 30114 from 6:00 PM to 7:30 PM