

# Foster Care Program

## Who Can Access the Foster Care Program?

In order to utilize the Family Support Foster Care Program, a family must:

- be fostering a child with or without a disability between the ages of birth and 18 years of age.
- have an agreement with Child and Family Services Authority (CFSA) regarding the provision of respite or therapy hours.
- be residents of Region 8 Northwest Alberta Child & Family Services Authority.
- not be receiving services from a similar program.

*The Family Support Program Coordinator will determine if the family meets the admission criteria.*

### Family Support Program-Grande Prairie

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*Family Support Program  
& Foster Care Division*



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# Family Support Program

## **The Family Support Program offers the following:**

- Assistance with recruiting, hiring, training, managing and scheduling respite or therapy aides. The family makes the final decision regarding who is hired to work with the child. The family is considered the employer of the aide.
- Adminstrating payroll for the respite/therapy aides.
- Identification of and referral to other available resources these may be other available services, family supports, community supports or specialists.
- Aiding the family in their role as advocates of the child as well as advocating for the family.
- Assisting the family to train others in their support network to work with and interact with their child.
- Promoting skill development of family members in relation to the needs of the child.
- Skill development of the child with the focus of facilitating the growth of the support network among their peers and community.



## **Purpose of the Family Support Program**

- To enhance a family's ability to meet the many needs of their family member with a disability.
- To improve the quality of supports provided to families.
- To make a positive difference in the life of the person with a disability as well as the lives of all family members.



The Family Support Program is designed to assist families who are caring for a child with a disability. The services provided by the Family Support Program are directed by the family. Families can choose supports and services based on their needs and preferences.

*Providing quality services to individuals with diverse needs by encouraging opportunities for growth, development and community support.*