

Hello everyone,

My name is Beulah Simmons Mack. I've been a foster parent for approximately 5 plus years. There were a couple different reasons that influenced my decision to become a foster parent. One was all of the advertisements concerning becoming a foster parent. Second was the person who was a great mother figure in my life who was a foster parent herself, encouraging me. Since I became a foster parent, the experience is greater than I anticipated. Once my children come into my home, I make them understand that my house is their house, and they are my children and not my foster children. I hold them to a higher standard because I've come to realize that they all are capable of learning, but sometimes they learn different. I try to introduce them to different types of things that they never had the opportunity to experience before. These kids enjoy structure and guidance. They just want to be loved and enjoy being part of a stable home.

There are a lot of tough times, but my good times outweigh my bad times so I won't complain. I thank God for the overwhelming amount of support I get from SCYAP. Whether it's from my treatment coordinator, the psychologists, the psychiatrists or licensing coordinator, everyone goes above and beyond to help you with every situation you encounter. That means more to me than I can explain. I do a lot of word-of-mouth advertising to people of all walks of life concerning SCYAP and being a therapeutic foster parent. Before the pandemic I hosted a couple of meetings here in my home with potential foster parents and SCYAP's Chris Whitaker came down and brought the snacks and facilitated the meetings. I'm looking forward to hosting more meetings and most of all I'm looking forward to years of foster parenting.