

31 Days of Foster Care Wishes

Informational Document

In honor of May as National Foster Care Awareness Month, the Regional Resource Teams (RRT) and the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) are highlighting exceptional foster families by fulfilling 31 wishes of 31 foster families during the 31 days in May.

Eligibility Criteria:

- The family must have an active foster care license in good standing or provide relative care.
- The family must currently reside in Michigan.
- One or more children must be placed in the home at the time the nomination is submitted.

Nominations:

Please be sure to include in your nomination narrative specific examples of how the nominated family demonstrates any of the following qualities:

- Commitment
- Creativity
- Perseverance
- Resourcefulness
- Patience
- Advocacy Skills
- Collaboration
- Flexibility
- Supports Reunification

Examples of Wishes:

Each family chosen to be recognized will be contacted by the RRT to select a wish. Examples of wishes families might select include:

- Family zoo membership
- Movie tickets
- E-Reader to provide access to literature
- Amusement park or museum passes
- Digital camera to create life books
- Gift certificate for a family dinner
- Backpacks and school supplies
- Outdoor toys
- Craft and art supplies
- Family board games

Selection and Recognition:

A panel of judges will review nominations, sans identifying information for the family, and select 31 families to be recognized. One family's foster care story and photo will be featured each day during the month of May on the Foster Care Navigator (FCN) website and FCN and MDHHS social media outlets. The 31 families selected will be granted a wish to benefit their family, and these wishes will be presented by the Regional Resource Teams throughout the state.

Rules:

- 1) Wishes may range in cost but **should not exceed \$300.**
- 2) Wishes should benefit and/or enrich the entire family/household.
- 3) Fulfillment of specific wish requests is not guaranteed for selected families.
- 4) Families must have an active foster care license in good standing or provide relative care, currently live in Michigan, and have a placement at the time of nomination to participate in this recognition program.
- 5) Self-entries will not be accepted.

Nomination Submission:

Submit your nomination form online using the following link:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/FC935WT>

Nominations must be submitted by Friday, March 18, 2022, at 9:00 a.m.

Award Notification & Picture Submission

Families selected to be highlighted will be notified via phone or email by their Regional Resource Team. The family will be asked to submit a family photo that will be shared on the FCN and MDHHS websites, social media, and/or print materials. The family will be provided instructions on submission of this photo in the notification of their recognition.

For more information, contact Loren Sanders, Regional Resource Team Communications Coordinator, at (734) 528-2008 or loren_sanders@judsoncenter.org.