

FOSTER PARENT MENTOR PROGRAM

In October of 2023 CYFS began a program to help our foster parents who care for our youth receive additional support to help them become empowered to better meet the needs of the youth in their homes. The **Foster Parent Mentor** (FPM) program is made up of licensed foster parents who have taken on additional training to work alongside our foster parents to help provide support, guidance, and connection to resources to help retain our foster parents,

help prevent placement disruption, and promote family reunification and permanency.

Penny Powell, Betty Gillespie, Michelle Grindley, and DrewAnn Lee have taken up the cloak to work alongside and empower our foster parent heroes. We thank you for helping in launching this program as we join forces to be real-life heroes for our youth.

FOSTER CAREGIVER ADVISORY BOARD: UNITING HEROES TO CREATE A BETTER FOSTER PARENT COMMUNITY

The **CYFS Foster Caregiver Advisory Board** has been lighting the way for foster caregivers since our doors opened 12 years ago. Our board consists of a group of CYFS foster parents from across the agency. They work to provide ways to support, advocate, and develop programs to help enhance the fostering experience for our caregivers. Their mission has remained steadfast throughout the years to ensure the voice of all foster parents is heard.

MISSION STATEMENT The Center for Youth and Family Solutions Foster Caregiver’s Advisory Board (FCAB’s) provides foster parents the opportunity to support each other and work side by side with the CYFS staff to build and strengthen the foster parent community. The FCAB strives to create a positive sense of foster parenting within their local communities.

*If you would like more information about becoming an FCAB member, please contact **Mindy McBride** at mlmcbride@cyfsolutions.org

FCAB MEMBERS

Bev Huffman.....	Peoria	Jill Wood	Peoria
Bill Huffman	Peoria	Amanda High	Springfield
Berenice Boyer.....	Rock Island	Lois Bennett-McDonald	Peoria
Herneidra Tellery.....	Springfield	DrewAnn Lee	LaSalle
		Meghan Gentry	Champaign