



StepStone Family & Youth Services provides the full spectrum of support to children in need of alternative, safer and more positive living environments with residential, independent living and family services. StepStone connects children and youth who need homes with foster families, as well as foster care training, respite care and support services.

Many people with developmental disabilities benefit from ongoing support throughout their lives. At StepStone, we're proud to be a trusted provider of caring, family homes for both children and adults. Our goal is to create warm, supportive environments where individuals with special needs can truly thrive and feel at home.



2024 CHILD & FAMILY IMPACT REPORT

DELIVERING SAFETY & WELL-BEING

The StepStone network continues to grow, meeting the needs of our state partners and serving high-acuity children in safe and stable placements.

1,206 children lived in a StepStone foster home in 2024

8.64% increase from 2023

Children who StepStone serves experience exceptional permanency outcomes. A child in the StepStone network is 83% likely to achieve permanency through one of the three nationally accepted positive permanency outcomes.

FOSTER HOMES

599 children exited from the StepStone network with a positive permanency outcome

172 children were reunited with their primary caregiver.

194 children were placed in a pre-adoptive or adoptive home. **A 13% increase from 2023.**

233 children were placed with a relative out of foster care. **A 108% increase from 2023.**

DEVELOPMENTAL HOMES

In 2024, we served **57 children and 62 adults** in our developmental homes.

Of the children that achieved permanency in 2024, StepStone had a **96% positive permanency rate** where the child was either adopted or obtained a guardian, or the child was reunified with their primary caregivers or placed with relatives.

A LEADER IN PREVENTION SERVICES

StepStone's residential prevention services program is vital in providing children with key behavioral supports for their stability, reducing residential placements and decreased placements costs for our state partners.

408 families were served through StepStone's Prevention Services Program

87% success rate in preventing children from entering a residential placement because of our prevention services



BUILDING A ROBUST FOSTER CARE PLACEMENT CONTINUUM

To better meet the needs of children in foster care and provide critical support to our state partners during a time of increased demand, the StepStone foster home network has experienced robust growth - beating national trends that regularly illustrate a 3-9% decline in licensed foster homes.

344 New Foster Homes Opened

20% increase from 2023

75% Foster Parents Who Started Training Opened Their Homes

Foster parents who begin training are very likely to become licensed, which demonstrates the strength of our onboarding and support processes. This positive experience not only helps new foster families feel prepared and confident to safely serve children, but also highlights the effectiveness of our training program, grounded in trauma-informed care, and the value it brings to recruitment efforts. Equipping families with the tools to understand and respond to the effects of trauma, ensures they are better prepared to meet the emotional and behavioral needs of those in their care.

83% StepStone foster parents have a positive satisfaction rate

A large majority of StepStone foster parents have a positive impression of the services they receive from their local support staff. Satisfied foster parents often lead to increased foster parent retention, improved quality of care, and increased word-of-mouth recruitment efforts.

