

The Family Connection

It's the most wonderful time of the year! Welcome December!

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Special points of interest:

- **Come to an Info Session in December and earn a Grub Hub gift card!**
- **Interested in helping but don't know how? Become a respite provider**
- **We are always accepting donations of smoke detectors, carbon monoxide detectors and gift cards for our providers**

We made it!!! Another 12 months down! Where did the time go! As we look forward to 2023, let us pause to recognize that December is a month full of celebrations all around the world. There are so many different festivals and celebrations that occur and so much learning that can be done through them! In preparation for writing this article, I Google searched, "Holiday's in December around the World," and aside from the very well known holidays, each page revealed different information. I fell down the rabbit hole of learning as I searched through the different pages and looked up different celebrations I had never heard of! Here are some of them:

On December 7th, Unduvap Full Moon Poya Day is celebrated. It is an important holiday in the history of Sri Lanka. Do you know that Unduvap Full Moon Poya is based on the arrival of Sangamitta Theri, the daughter of Ashoka, in Sri Lanka with a Bo sapling from the sacred Jaya Sri Maha Bodhi in India during the month of Unduvap. It usually falls on the last full moon day of the year in December, the ninth month in the Sinhalese calendar.

On December 8th Bodhi Day is celebrated. Bodhi Day is the Buddhist holiday that commemorates the day that Gautama Buddha is said to have attained enlightenment, also known as bodhi in Sanskrit and Pali.

On December 25th, Quaid-e-Azam Day is celebrated. It is a celebration of Muhammad Ali Jinnah's birthday across Pakistan. He is believed to be the founder of the country and was known as 'Quaid-e-Azam,' which means 'Great Leader.'

On December 26 Zarathosht Diso (Death of Prophet Zarathustra) is celebrated. Zoroastrianism is one of the world's oldest mono-

theistic religions, having originated in ancient Persia. It contains both monotheistic and dualistic elements, and many scholars believe Zoroastrianism influenced the belief systems of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. Zarathosht Diso is an important day of remembrance in the Zoroastrian religion. It is a commemoration of the death anniversary of the prophet Zoroaster. It is observed on the 11th day of the 10th month. In the seasonal calendar, Zarthost No-Diso falls on December 26.

There is of course the usual celebrations of Christmas, Hannukah, Kwanza, Yule and New Year's.

Whatever you celebrate, a happy, merry to you. Enjoy your month and take the time to learn about a new holiday celebrated within this month! When we learn more about others, we find we aren't so different after all!

To learn more, check out these resources:

<https://www.womansday.com/life/a38346909/december-holidays-and-observances/>

<https://www.eastidahonews.com/2015/12/14-religious-holidays-believers-celebrate-december/#:~:text=In%20fact%2C%20the%20Interfaith%20Calendar,for%20the%20month%20of%20December.>

<https://worldstrides.com/blog/2015/12/december-holidays-around-the-world/>

Sources:
<https://nationaltoday.com/unduvap-full-moon-poya/>

<https://www.britannica.com/topic/Zoroastrianism>

Information Sessions

Racine County Foster Care

Information Session

Let's Talk about Foster Care:

Racine County needs those interested in becoming treatment foster parents! Racine's children need those who can step up to the plate and go the distance to help them and their families heal and grow!

If you are interested in learning more about becoming a foster parent and would like to attend an Information Session, please email Jessica Scheeler at jessica.scheeler@racinecounty.com Info Sessions are held at 5:30PM on the 3rd Wednesday of the month. Please contact for location information.

December 21, 2022



There is only one Info Sessions left for the year!
Don't wait, learn more about foster care now!

Training Opportunities: Strengthening Families



Strengthening Families (5-17)

Join us for a **FREE** 11-week group to help parents improve their parenting skills in the areas of bonding, boundaries & monitoring. The program is for parents and their children, ages 5-17, and will be conducted weekly via Zoom or In-Person.

Mondays, November 28 - February 6 (5:30pm-7pm) or
Tuesdays, November 29 - February 7 (11:00-12:30pm) or
Wednesdays, November 30 - February 8 (11:00-12:30pm) or
Thursdays, December 1 - February 9 (1:00-2:30pm)

Parents and their children will have the opportunity to develop positive communication, family organization, family bonding, conflict solutions and pro-social skills.



To sign-up contact: Referral Phone: (262) 945-8856 or

Luci Arroyo @ larroyo@psqip.com or

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0c4cafab2fa6f8c25-strengthening>

For more info or to register, contact Luci at 262-945-0291

Training Opportunities: Triple P

December Virtual Triple P Events



Hassle Free Shopping

Natalie Popple - Triple P Parent Educator, and Cheryl Wendt - Nurse Practitioner

Learn how to make shopping more enjoyable by teaching children how to behave on shopping trips.

Time & Date: 11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m., Friday, December 9

Location: Zoom

Coping With Stress

Nelly Martinez, Triple P Parent Educator

Learn how to handle day-to-day stress so you can act consistently and calmly with your children.

Time & Date: 10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m., Tuesday, December 13

Location: Zoom

Power of Positive Parenting

Amanda Kotowski, Nurse Practitioner

This seminar introduces parents to the five key principles of positive parenting that form the basis of Triple P.

Time & Date: 12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m., Tuesday, December 13

Location: Zoom

Getting Teenagers to Cooperate

Casey Hills, Triple P Parent Educator

Learn tips and create a plan to motivate your teenager to cooperate at home.

Time & Date: 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m., Friday, December 16

Location: Zoom

Triple P teaches families with children 0-16 years of age how to spend less time battling challenging behavior and more time building close relationships. You'll develop positive parenting skills to manage stress and encourage healthy habits, and that can mean more good days for your family.

Register online at childrenswi.org/triplep

Register online at childrenswi.org/triplep or scan QR code



© 2019 Children's Wisconsin. All rights reserved. Children's complies with Federal civil rights laws. We do not discriminate based on race, color, national origin, age, disability or sex. Si no habla inglés, se programarán servicios de idiomas en forma gratuita. Llame al (414) 266-7848 (TTY: 414-266-2465). Yog hals hax koj talo bowe hals lus Aakhe, pob yuav leem sij hawm muab kev pob behals lus pob dawb neu koj. Hu neu (414) 266-7848 (TTY: 414-266-2465). PC137 GEN 1119. This program is supported in part by the Wisconsin Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Board (Prevention Board). Twenty percent of the Prevention Board's funding is from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration on Children, Youth, and Families (Community-Based). Points of view expressed do not necessarily represent the official positions of the financial sponsors.

Community Information:

Check out Racine Theatre Guild's 85th Season!

Fourth Show of the Season is The Little Mermaid! December 9-18!

For more info:
[https://
racinetheatre.org/](https://racinetheatre.org/)

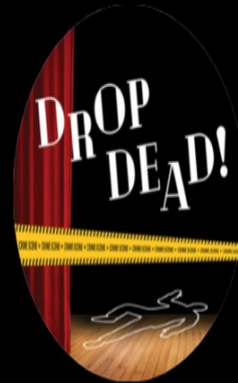
RACINE THEATRE GUILD 2022 - 2023 85TH SEASON



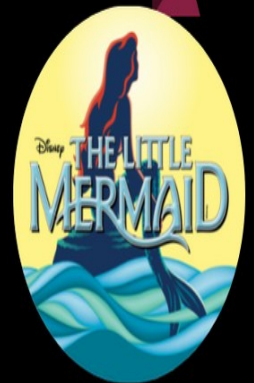
JULY 15 - 31, 2022



SEPT 16 - OCT 2, 2022



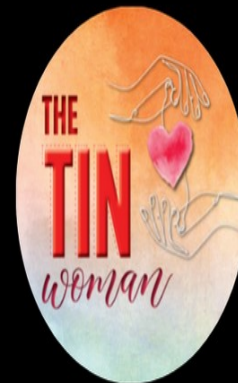
OCT 28 - NOV 13, 2022



DEC 9 - 18, 2022



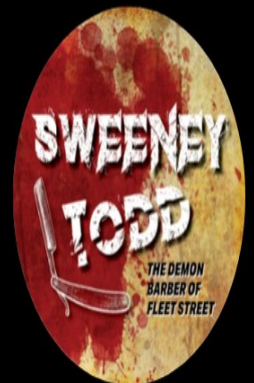
JAN 13 - 29, 2023



FEB 24 - MAR 12, 2023



APRIL 14 - 23, 2023



MAY 19 - JUN 4, 2023

2519 Northwestern Ave. | Racine, WI | RacineTheatre.org | 262.633.4218

Community Information:



You may qualify for...

A Free Hot Spot and Two Years of Internet Service

Does your household lack internet access due to financial barriers or connectivity issues and as a result, struggles to access essential and emergency services? Racine County can help. Our Closing the Digital Divide initiative can provide a free hot spot and two years of internet service at no cost to qualifying individuals.



For more info contact
Travis at 262-636-3721

For more information, contact

Travis Richardson •
travis.richardson@racinecounty.com •
262-636-3721



The Closing the Digital Divide initiative is proudly supported by Racine County American Rescue Plan Act funding.



Community Information:

FREE Early Head Start and Head Start!

Programs for Children
6 Weeks-5 Years Are Enrolling Now!

- K4 Available (must be 4 years old by September 1st to be eligible and registered with RUSD or Burlington School District)
- Full Day & Extended Day (CCA required)
- Year- Round Programs
- Our Trained Staff Will Help Get Your Child Ready for Kindergarten

NOW HIRING! Go to www.accelero.net/careers

Grand Avenue
3 Years Old to 5 Years Old
1032 Grand Avenue, Racine WI 53403
(262) 456-2054

Burlington-Waller Elementary
3 Years Old to 5 Years Old
195 Gardner Avenue, Burlington WI 53105
(262) 289-0940

Green Street
6 Weeks Old to 5 Years Old
1923 Green Street, Racine WI 53402
(262) 456-0014

Next Generation Now
6 Weeks Old to 5 Years Old
1220 Mound Avenue, Racine WI 53404
(262) 635-1920

Some Documents are Required:

1. Immunization Record
2. Medical Card
3. One of the following:
W-2 Statement-OR-SSI/SSA Award Letter-OR- most recent tax return-OR-paystubs showing year-to-date totals
4. Most recent physical, dental and lead exam reports
5. Proof of Child Care Authorization (if applicable)



Use this QR code to enroll

Or use this link to enroll:
<https://familyapplication.shineinsight.com/accelero>



Head Start for the Best Start

For more information about Acelero Learning
Head Start Programs, visit www.accelero.net

For more info contact:

Lori McLaughlin | Executive Assistant to Family Services and Health | **Acelero Learning Wisconsin** | Walton Center
7833 W. Capitol Drive,
Milwaukee WI
53222 | C: (262)
221.6621 | E: lfritz@accelero.net
| Website: www.accelero.net

Community Information:



20th ANNUAL HOLIDAY BOOK GIVEAWAY

Saturday, December 17, 2022

9:00 – 11:00 a.m.

**FESTIVAL HALL
5 FIFTH STREET
RACINE, WI 53403**

This event
is
FREE
for all
children!

Santa Claus will be
visiting with all the kids!

Gift wrapping is available courtesy of
Junior League of Racine.

We're trying to go green - please bring your
own recyclable heavy duty bags, canvas
bags & backpacks!

Some plastic bags will be available courtesy of Uline

For more information
contact:

Becky St. Martin
Administrative Assistant
Cops 'N Kids Reading
Center, Inc.
800 Villa Street
Racine, WI 53403
262-939-0107 - Cell
bstmartin@cops-n-kids.org



SPECIAL GUEST

**Julia M.
Witherspoon**

Founder/Executive
Director,
Cops 'N Kids
Reading Center



SPECIAL GUEST

**Maurice
Robinson**

Chief of Police,
Racine Police
Department



SPECIAL GUEST

**LeRoy
Butler**

Green Bay
Packer
& Pro Football
Hall of Famer

Other special guests may include the Racine Police
Department, K9's, the Racine County Sheriff's Office
and many other Law Enforcement Officers from
surrounding SE WI agencies including the FBI and
Racine/South Shore Fire Departments to autograph
your books if you like. Stop by and chat with them!

Questions? Contact Cops 'N Kids (262) 632-1606



Community Information:

● RACINE COUNTY SPECIAL NEEDS RESOURCE FAIR

Waterford Union High School, 100 Field Drive, Door 19,
Waterford, WI

COME AND LEARN ABOUT LOCAL DISABILITY SERVICES AND RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO YOU AND YOUR FAMILY, SUCH AS FINANCIAL RESOURCES, COMMUNITY-BASED THERAPIES, RESPITE OPPORTUNITIES, RECREATIONAL IDEAS, JOB/TRAINING SUPPORT, LIVING ARRANGEMENTS BEYOND THE HOME, AND MUCH, MUCH MORE!

THIS FREE COMMUNITY EVENT PROVIDES AN OPPORTUNITY TO ASK QUESTIONS, CONNECT WITH OTHERS, AND FIND THE ANSWERS YOU NEED!

SCAN THE QR CODE FOR MORE INFORMATION

SAVE THE DATE



MAY 2, 2023 4:30-6:30 PM

Made with PosterMyWall.com

Sponsored by multiple school districts in Racine County and ADRC

● FERIA DE RECURSO PARA NECESIDADES ESPECIALES DEL CONDADO DE RACINE

Waterford Union High School, 100 Field Drive, Door 19
Waterford, WI

VENGA Y APRENDA SOBRE EL SEVICIO LOCAL PARA DISCAPACITADOS Y LOS RECURSO DISPONIBLES PARA USTED Y SU FAMILIA, COMO RECURSO FINANCIEROS, TERAPIAS BASADAS EN LA COMUNIDAD, OPORTUNIDADES DE RESPIRO, IDEAS RECREATIVAS , CAPACITACIÓN/ APOYO LABORAL, ARREGLOS DE VIVIENDA MÁS ALLÁ DEL HOGAR Y MUCHO, MUCHO MÁS.

ESTE EVENTO GRATUITO DE LA COMUNIDAD OFRECE LA OPORTUNIDAD DE HACER PREGUNTAS, CONECTARSE CON OTROS Y ENCONTRAR LAS RESPUESTAS QUE NECESITA!

ESCANEE EL CÓDIGO QR PARA OBTENER MÁS INFORMACIÓN

APARTA LA FECHA



2 DE MAYO, 2023 4:30-6:30 PM

Un traductor que habla español también estará disponible en el evento

Made with PosterMyWall.com

Patrocinado por los diversas distritales escolares del condado de Racine y ADRC

For more info:

Lori A Radtke, SSW
~Cooper, Waller, Winkler, Dyer,
Lyons Center
248 Kendall Street, Burlington,
WI 53105
(Cooper) 262-763-0180 Ext 2224
(Waller) 262-763-0185
(Dyer) 262-763-0220 ext 2226
(Winkler) 262-539-2726
(Lyons) 262-763-5380
Google Voice: (262) 955-8955
Email: LRadtke@basd.k12.wi.us

Community Information:

Youth connection

Racine Women's Resource Center

A Safe and confidential place for
youth 10-18 to learn about healthy
relationship skills, discuss challenges.

Group is FREE

Please contact Ashley to register

ahess@racinewrc.org

262.865.4791

Tuesday's
5:00pm- 7:00pm

For more information contact:

Ashley Hess
Youth Specialist/ Safe Start
Coordinator
PO Box 1764, Racine WI
53401

Business Phone:
262.633.3274 ext. 107
Cell: 262.865.4791
Text line: 262-221-0058
Fax: 262.633.5523
Crisis Line: 262.633.3233

Community Information:

**BOTVIN LIFESKILLS TRAINING - MIDDLE SCHOOL
6TH-8TH GRADE**

FREE 14-WEEK LIFE SKILLS GROUP



TOPICS COVERED:

- DECISION MAKING
- RESOLVING CONFLICTS
- ASSERTIVENESS
- MYTHS & REALITIES OF ALCOHOL/SUBSTANCE ABUSE
- COMMUNICATION SKILLS
- COPING WITH ANGER & ANXIETY
- ADVERTISING & VIOLENCE IN THE MEDIA

**EARN UP TO \$100 FOR
A PAIR OF SHOES
AFTER COMPLETION**

**\$25 TO REFER
A FRIEND**

Flexible, ongoing
enrollment
(call for hours)

Anthony Lane
COP House
or
16th Street
COP House

Contact Katie Meader for
more info! 262-945-8205

JOIN US! SIGN UP

Contact Katie Meader to register:
(262) 945-8205
kmeader@psg cip.com



Community Information:

**BOTVIN LIFESKILLS TRAINING - HIGH SCHOOL
9TH-12TH GRADE**

FREE 10-WEEK LIFE SKILLS GROUP



TOPICS COVERED:

- **MANAGING STRESS, ANGER, & OTHER EMOTIONS**
- **HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS**
- **RISK-TAKING & SUBSTANCE ABUSE**
- **DECISION MAKING FOR HEALTH**
- **THE MEDIA & HEALTH**

**EARN UP TO \$100 FOR
A PAIR OF SHOES
AFTER COMPLETION**

**\$25 TO REFER
A FRIEND**

**Flexible, ongoing
enrollment
(call for hours)**

**Anthony Lane
COP House
or
16th Street
COP House**

*Contact Katie Meader for
more info! 262-945-8205*

JOIN US! SIGN UP

**Contact Katie Meader to register:
(262) 945-8205
kmeader@psgcip.com**



Community Information:

BOTVIN LIFESKILLS TRAINING - PARENT GROUPS

FREE 7-WEEK LIFE SKILLS GROUP



TOPICS COVERED:

- FAMILY COMMUNICATION
- PARENTAL MONITORING
- APPROPRIATE & CONSISTENT DISCIPLINE
- CLEAR STAND ON DRUGS
- HELPING YOUR CHILD BUILD LIFE SKILLS AND SELF-MANAGEMENT SKILLS

**FREE \$50 GIFT CARD
FOR COMPLETION**

Flexible,
ongoing
enrollment
(call for hours)

Anthony Lane
COP House
or
16th Street
COP House

Contact Katie Meader for
more info! 262-945-8205

JOIN US! SIGN UP

Contact Katie Meader to register:
(262) 945-8205
kmeader@psgcip.com



Foster Care Hero December 2022: Community Partners

Foster Parent Hero of the Month December 2022: Community Partners

As we reach the end of the year, we would like to offer our sincerest thank you to all those who have helped our program and our providers this year. It takes a village and Racine County has embraced this mentality. From local businesses opening their establishments to allow providers to gather for trainings or staff to host Information Sessions, to organizations volunteering their time to train our providers, to individuals reaching out to help with various recruitment efforts!

Thank you to the following businesses and individuals who have helped us this year:

Mulligan's Mini Golf and Buddy's Sports Grill
Racine Assembly of God
Blue Bear
Mocha Lisa's
Divino Gelato
Java Jos'z
Flippy's Fast Food
Waterford Public Library
YMCA Sealed Air
SC Johnson Community Aquatic Center
Burlington Community Aquatic Center
RUSD Aquatic Center
PSG/CIP
UW-Extension
FoodWlse
BeLeaf
LGBTB Center of SE WI
Aging and Disability
Cornerstone Counseling Services
RUSD
SC Johnson
TraxSide Skating
Swan's Pumpkin Farm
Kenosha Kingfish
Racine Art Museum
Milwaukee Art Museum
Milwaukee Wave
Bronco Barber

Rasmussen's Diamonds
Festival Foods
Piggly Wiggly
City of Racine
Guardian's of the Children
Theresa Villar-DA
Royal Family Kid's Camp
Faith, Hope and Love
Nancy Pipp-Park High School Teacher
Cave of the Mounds
Chit Chaat
Scrub a Dub Car Wash and Oil Change
Monkey Joe's
Sunshine Club
Alley Faith-103.7KISSFM
Racine Journal Times
Racine County Eye
Carnival of Lights
Emma, Nevaeh, Morgan, Justin, Jordynn, Julicia, Mrs. Hernandez Cristina, James, Colleen, Kathryn, Scarlett, Greyson, Beckett, Nora, Clara, Mackenzie, Jasmine, Deziray, Gabriella and Stephanie-Sticker Contest Contestants
Kylie G-Sticker Winner
Gienna (Gigi), Avery, Malika, Anderson, Jordan, Kamare- What would you do Video Performers and their parents Sue Savaglio-Jarvis, Samantha Sustachek, Maria and David Barreras, Betsy Bauer, Katie Cranley and Nortoya Evans
WI Shares
Racine Zoo

Alyssa Filkins, Crystal Wetzel, Brittany Sutton, Phyllis Boone, Tracy Proksa-Atkins, Cheryl Milan, Kelly Fragassi, Debra Ladwig, Caroline Mertens, Nicole Martin, Lori Cottingham, Kidia Bums, Erin Edwards, Wendy Piehler, Mary Koke, Kelly Smith, Zyaire Strowder, Cheryl Brunswick-Schwartz, Jami LaRue, Katie Tuttle, Kim Bartel, Evonne Stevenson, Ann Hanson, Pamela DeGroot, Angela Ruesch, Faye Scholler, Jordan Barbee, Amy Haman-Halloween Goodie Bag Give Away Helpers
Roma Lodge
Downtown Racine Corp.

Union Grove Elementary
Washington Caldwell School
The Motivation Declaration Podcast
Local and State Elected Officials and Faith Based Leaders
Foster Parent Champions

And each and everyone of you that read the newsletter or Facebook page and share the info!

I hope I didn't miss anyone, but I fear I did, as you are all so important and I want to give recognition where recognition is due.

Thank you so much Racine County for helping support not only Foster Care, but your community!



If interested in learning what more you can do to either support our providers and/or become a foster parent?

Contact Jessica Scheeler:
jessica.scheeler@racinecounty.com or 262-638-6595
for more information. Or attend an Information Session on December 21, at 5:30pm at 1717 Taylor Ave.

Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, concerned citizens can change world. Indeed it is the only thing that ever has. —Margaret Mead

Yum Yum for Your Tum Tum: Hoppin' John

Ingredients:

1/3 pound bacon, or 1 ham hock plus 2 tablespoons oil
1 rib celery, diced
1 small yellow onion, diced
1 small green bell pepper, diced
2 cloves garlic, minced
8 ounces dried black-eyed peas (about 1 1/4 cups)
1 bay leaf
2 teaspoons dried thyme
1 heaping teaspoon Cajun seasoning
Salt
2 cups long-grain rice
Scallions or green onions, chopped, for garnish
Cooked **collard greens**, kale, beet tops, or turnip greens, for serving

Method:

Cook the bacon, celery, onion, green pepper and garlic: If you are using bacon, cut it into small pieces and cook it slowly in a medium pot over medium-low heat. If you are using a ham hock, heat the oil in the pot. Once the bacon is crispy (or the oil is hot if you are using a ham hock and not bacon), increase the heat to medium-high and add the celery, onion, and green pepper and sauté until they begin to brown, about 4 to 5 minutes. Add the garlic, stir well, and cook for another 1 to 2 minutes.

Add the black-eyed peas and seasonings: Add the black-eyed peas, bay leaf, thyme, and Cajun seasoning and cover with 4 cups of water. If you are using the ham hock, add it to the pot and bring to a simmer. Cook for an hour to an hour and a half, (less time or more depending on the freshness of the black-eyed peas) until the peas are tender (not mushy).

Cook the rice: While the black-eyed peas are cooking, cook the rice separately according to package instructions.

Strain the peas and adjust the seasoning: When the black-eyed peas are tender, strain out the remaining cooking water. Remove and discard the bay leaf. Taste the black-eyed peas for salt and add if needed. If using a ham hock, remove it from the pot, pull off the meat, and return the meat to the pot.

Serve with the rice: Serve the dish either by placing a ladle-full of black-eyed peas over steamed rice, or by mixing the two together in a large bowl. Garnish with chopped green onions. Serve with **collard greens**, kale, **beet** tops, or turnip greens.



**RACINE COUNTY
FOSTER CARE**

1717 Taylor Ave Racine,
WI 53403

262-638-6595

jessica.scheeler@racinecounty.com

<https://racinecounty.com/residents/bring-them-home-3113>

<https://www.facebook.com/racinecountyfostercare/>

Racine County Foster Care Unit is a team comprised of dedicated staff ensuring the safety and stability of children placed in out of home care. As well as, educating the community on the need for foster providers and what the foster care program is, our staff is also responsible for screening, interviewing and licensing all our prospective foster home. Additionally, the Racine County Foster Care unit is responsible for maintaining exceptional customer service with our families, to ensure all needs are being met, by providing support to our homes to ensure they succeed. The Unit is also responsible for placement of all children who enter out of home care. We are the family connection.

<https://racinecounty.com/government/human-services/youth-and-family/foster-care>

We Need You!!!!

Be a shining star guiding the way in the dark.

Become a child's bright light!

Help cultivate ho ho hope!

This holiday season, give the gift of love, change and community support, become a foster parent!

Attend the last info session of the year, December 21st at 5:30pm!



Keep them Home
Racine County
Fostering Our Community • Fostering Our Kids

ABOUT

The Department of Children, Youth and Family Services (CYFS) is committed to keeping children in their family homes, but when that's not possible, we help find safe, stable, and loving foster families to care for them.

Racine County's 1000 Bring Them Home campaign reached the number of children placed in foster care outside the County from over 100 kids last year to 50 kids in 2022.

Now we need you to Bring Them Home. Our hope is to never place a foster child outside of their community.

Find Bring Them Home:
- Calling into a Foster Family to see if you're a good fit.
- Submitting an application to become a foster parent.

CONTACT

Heidi Schaefer • heidi.schaefer@racinecounty.com • 262-638-6595
racinecounty.com/foster

*The images and logos used here are not of actual foster kids.

