



FOSTER BRIDGE PROGRAM

EXPANDING ACCESS FOR FOSTER CHILDREN

Riverside County Office of Education (RCOE), in partnership with Riverside County Department of Public Social Services (DPSS), offers the Emergency Child Care Bridge Program for Foster Children (Foster Bridge Program) for children whose foster case originated in Riverside County.

The Foster Bridge Program is a time-limited program designed to increase the number of foster children successfully placed in home-based family care settings by reducing child care barriers for approved resource/foster families and parents under the jurisdiction of the juvenile court.

There are three components to the Foster Bridge Program:

NAVIGATOR



RCOE Resource & Referral offers child care navigator services to assist eligible foster care resource families with:

- Finding a child care provider and securing a subsidized child care placement
- Completing child care program applications
- Developing a plan for transitioning into long-term child care paid through another source (subsidized or unsubsidized).

VOUCHER



Eligible resource/foster families whose work or school responsibilities preclude them from providing care when the child for whom they have care and responsibility is not in school or for periods of time when the family is required to participate, without the child, in activities associated with parenting a child that are beyond the scope of ordinary parental duties, may receive a time limited child care voucher to help cover child care costs for foster children, birth through age 12 and for children with exceptional needs up to age 21.

TRAUMA-INFORMED



Child care programs engaged in the Foster Bridge Program will receive access to Trauma-Informed Care training and coaching to provide information about the effects of trauma, and to help build capacity for working with children who have experienced trauma.

Referrals to the Foster Bridge Program must be made through the resource family's Social Services Practitioner at DPSS and submitted to childcarebridge@rivco.org.