

Older Child Adoption

in the
Northwest Territories

Government of
Northwest Territories





Every Child Needs a Family

When people think about adoption, often they think about babies. The truth is, there are more older children and youth in permanent foster care waiting for a family.

Until recent years, older children and youth were rarely considered for adoption. That has changed. It is never too late for someone to join a family.

Like all of us, older children and youth need stability, a sense of belonging and opportunities to develop and grow. Success is far more likely if a child or youth is part of a family unit.

What Types of Families Adopt an Older Child?

All types of families adopt older children. They may be large families, single parents or older parents. Frequently, these parents are relatives or older parents who have seen their children grow up and leave home, but still want to raise more children.

It's never too late to make a difference in a young person's life. Older children and youth who are adopted generally thrive in their new families.

Most children and youth who are placed in foster care are there because they experienced abuse or neglect by their parents, not because of their own behaviour.

Why Adopt an Older Child?

- Do you enjoy the challenges of raising a family?
- Do you have a genuine desire to help a child or youth reach his/her potential by offering support, guidance and love?
- Do you enjoy guiding and teaching the life skills necessary to enter adulthood?
- Would you receive satisfaction from giving a child or youth a sense of belonging and a chance at a secure future?

If you answered yes to any of these questions, then you may want to consider adoption of an older child or youth.

How do I Adopt an Older Child?

Fill out an application to adopt children in the care of the Director of Child and Family Services. Contact your local Health and Social Services Authority and ask to speak with an Adoption Worker or Social Worker.

There's no place... like home!



Contact your local social services office in your community, or:

Department of Health and Social Services
Government of the Northwest Territories
P.O. Box 1320
Yellowknife, NT, X1A 2L9
Canada
Phone: (867) 767-9061 ext. 49160
CFS_Info@gov.nt.ca
www.hss.gov.nt.ca

If you would like this information in another official language, contact us at 1-866-846-8601.

Si vous voulez ces renseignements dans une autre langue officielle, communiquez avec nous au 1-866-846-8601.