



MICHIGAN COURTS NEWS RELEASE

John Nevin, Communications Director

Ph: 517-373-0129 Twitter: @MISupremeCourt FB: facebook.com/misupremecourt

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Apply by May 1 to Serve on Foster Care Review Board

*Volunteer board members help to protect the 11,000 children
in Michigan's foster care system*

LANSING, MI – March 25, 2021 – The Foster Care Review Board (FCRB) program, administered by the State Court Administrative Office of the Michigan Supreme Court, is seeking citizen volunteers for membership on review boards located throughout the state. The FCRB reviews cases of children placed in foster care to ensure they receive needed services while in out-of-home care and that they are placed in safe, permanent homes as quickly as possible. The FCRB also hears appeals by foster parents who believe that children are being unnecessarily moved from their care. There are currently over 11,000 children in Michigan's foster care system.

Recruitment for board membership is year-round, but volunteers are encouraged to submit their [applications](#) by May 1. Interviews and background checks are required for all applicants. Volunteers are urgently needed in Northern Michigan, the Upper Peninsula, as well as Washtenaw, Jackson, Monroe, St. Clair, Macomb, and Lapeer counties.

Each board includes five citizen volunteers who attend regularly scheduled review meetings one day each month. Board members read written case materials and surveys, and interview interested parties to the case. Their recommendations are then provided in a report to the court and child welfare agency.

Volunteers selected must reside within the region of their local board and are appointed to a three-year term. Please see the SCAO-FCRB [regional map](#).

Citizen volunteers should demonstrate an interest in child welfare and strengthening families. Younger volunteers are encouraged to apply. The program values diversity among board members to ensure various perspectives and life experiences positively inform decisions about the most vulnerable children in Michigan.

[Michigan's Foster Care Review Board Program](#) helps ensure safe and timely permanency for children in the state foster care system.

[Click here](#) for more information on becoming a volunteer board member.

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