

In August, 2000, the Manitoba Provincial Government reinstated funding for a province-wide association for foster parents. This supported the formation of the Manitoba Foster Family Network (MFFN). The Board of Directors is comprised of foster parent representatives from across the province, which is divided into three regions; the North Region, the South Region, and the Winnipeg Region. Each region has five Board Members who are elected by the foster families in that region.

All foster parents are members of the MFFN; there is no membership fee.

“The mission of the Manitoba Foster Family Network (MFFN) is to encourage, promote and assist in the development of healthy foster homes to improve the quality of life for children in care.”

The goals of the MFFN are to:

- Become an association that is recognized for working in the best interests of foster families and children in Manitoba.
- Establish strong and co-operative working relationships between foster families, mandated agencies, the government, other agencies and professionals providing service to foster children.
- Assist in the development and delivery of a Province-wide comprehensive competency based training program for foster parents.
- Support foster parents who are involved in a dispute, disagreement or conflict with an agency.
- Create mechanisms through which foster parents can have regular and meaningful communication with each other including an annual conference and a regular newsletter.
- Provide developmental opportunities for foster parents who wish to acquire new knowledge and upgrade their skills beyond what is available in the competency based training program.
- Work cooperatively with agencies to provide an orientation and participate in activities to welcome new foster parents into their role.
- Empower foster parents to advocate for themselves by providing information and support services.
- Encourage the development of foster parent communities by helping to organize and support local associations that will, in turn, provide opportunities for foster parents to discuss issues of concern or mutual interest.
- Provide a confidential, empathetic non-judgemental service to support foster parents to talk about difficult issues related to foster care.

For more information on the services offered by the MFFN or to find out how to become involved with the MFFN, contact:

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