



FOSTER FAMILIES NEEDED IN ESTEVAN AND WEYBURN

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The Saskatchewan Foster Families Association (SFFA) is launching a public awareness campaign in Estevan, Weyburn and the surrounding areas to encourage individuals and families to consider fostering vulnerable infants and young children.

The need for foster homes for Saskatchewan children remains very high, especially in certain areas of the province. The "Foster New Beginnings" campaign has been successful recruiting new families with advertising and outreach to local organizations and groups and will launch again this fall in Estevan, Weyburn and the surrounding areas.

"The initial campaigns over the last two years targeted areas of Saskatchewan with the greatest need of foster homes and as a result we have increased the number of foster families in those areas and across the entire province," SFFA Executive Director Deb Davies said. "However, there are babies and children in communities across the south that also need a safe and loving home."

SFFA is a community-based organization that provides support for prospective and approved foster parents across Saskatchewan. They jointly deliver training with the Ministry of Social Services through a globally recognized program to support foster families to provide a home environment that is safe, caring and respectful.

"The online training program for our Foster Families is world caliber and is an excellent tool in supporting interested individuals in becoming an approved foster home," Social Services Minister Paul Merriman said. "Foster parents are crucial to helping some of the province's most vulnerable citizens. These kind volunteers open their doors and hearts to welcome a child into their home to provide a safe and welcoming space."

"I first became a foster parent 35 years ago and I have to say that the program has evolved into a highly supportive network to provide the best care for vulnerable children while their families are in crisis. The one thing that hasn't changed, however, is that the program is based on individuals and families helping other families," said Davies.

For more information about foster families in Saskatchewan or what is required to become a foster parent, please call the SFFA at 1-888-276-2880 or visit their website at www.saskfosterfamilies.ca.

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