



The St. Jerome Emiliani Foster Care program recruits loving foster families for youth who come to the U.S. with no parent or guardian. We work with the foster parents to provide ongoing support for each youth to help them adjust to life in the U.S. We prepare them to be self-sufficient when they reach adulthood through language instruction, life skills training and education.

SERVICES

St. Jerome's is an international foster care program with community homes throughout the Houston metropolitan area. All community homes have the capacity to care for up to five males and/or five females (this includes biological children). Youth in our program differ from youth in domestic foster care as they are usually long-term placements.

Our program offers three types of home placements for the youth in our program:

ASSESSMENT HOMES

These homes provide the initial placement for the youth into the program. While the youth are living in this environment, evaluations are provided to assess all their needs (medical, psychiatric/therapeutic, educational, vocational, social, familial, legal) with the development of an initial service plan. After these assessments are completed, a decision about a long-term placement is made in the best interest of the youth. If there are no beds available in an assessment home, then a youth may be placed directly into a long-term placement home.

PLACEMENT HOMES

These homes are meant to be long term placement homes for our youth. Youth may come into a placement home once they have been assessed in the assessment home or directly from their previous placement. Youth may be in a placement home until they reunify with family, move into our Supervised Independent Living Program, discharge, or age out of the program.

RESPITE HOMES

These homes provide temporary care to youth in our program when placement foster parents are unable to. These can be on occasions such as vacation, family emergencies, foster parent emergencies, etc. These homes will then care for the youth until their placement foster parents return.

ADDITIONAL SERVICES FOR YOUTH INCLUDE:

- Indirect financial support for housing, food, clothing, and other necessities
- Intensive case management by a social worker
- Independent living skills training
- Education/English as a Second Language (ESL)
- Tutoring/mentoring
- Job skills training and career/college counseling
- Mental health services
- On-going family tracing, where possible cultural activities/recreation
- Special education services, when needed
- Legal assistance

Interested in becoming a foster parent? Contact us:

**713.874.6545 or 713.874.6563
or 713.526.4611**

SJEHCRruitment@CatholicCharities.org