

VOLUNTEER AS A FOSTER CARE CASE REVIEWER

HELP US PLAN A FUTURE



MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF
Children & Families

1-800-286-0323 | mass.gov/dcf

(617) 748-2277

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The Massachusetts Department of Children and Families (DCF) works in partnership with families and communities to keep children safe from abuse and neglect. When parents cannot ensure the safety of children in their home, DCF provides out-of-home care based on the child's individual needs.

A case review panel consists of three members: a case reviewer from the independent DCF foster care review unit, a staff member from the local DCF office, and a volunteer case reviewer from the community.

What is a case review?

A child's case is reviewed every six months by a three person panel, to ensure necessary services are being provided and to monitor progress toward establishing a permanent living situation for the child.

When and where do reviews occur?

Reviews are scheduled Monday through Friday from 9-5pm at DCF area offices statewide. Each review lasts approximately 90 minutes.

What are the benefits of becoming a volunteer case reviewer?

- Support children in foster care and group care in your community
- Help identify services in your community to assist families working with DCF



What does it take to become a volunteer case reviewer?

Volunteer case reviewers are community members who are not employed by DCF. Case reviewers choose to volunteer in the DCF area office most convenient to school, work or home.

Additionally, you must have the following:

- Commitment to the welfare of children and families
- Fairness and objectivity
- Good communication skills
- Culturally sensitive
- Ability to encourage active, honest discussion among review participants
- Able to participate in a one day training
- Available to review at least one case per month
- Willing to provide a one year commitment for volunteering
- Be age 18 or older

**For more info and to apply online visit: www.mass.gov/dcf
or call: (617) 748-2277 or 1-800-286-0323**