



## State looking for foster parents

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(NEWSCHANNEL 3) - May is National Adoptive Care Month, and with thousands of kids across the state in need of a place to call home the Department of Human Services is looking for recruits.

They are asking people to become foster care and adoptive parents.

16,000 kids are in foster care in the State of Michigan. More than 4,000 of them are in need of homes right now and one West Michigan family is hoping their story will inspire others to adopt or foster kids of their own.

"They're always there for each other," said Jeremy Schnyders.

The family photo wall speaks for itself in the Schnyders home. There are 11 smiling faces lined up in a row. It's the Schnyders's family endorsement for adoption.

"I would have never guessed that we would have had 11 children before, but now as time progresses and you meet them and foster them and you get to love them they just obviously need to stay," said Tammy Schnyders.

After having two kids of their own the Schnyders decided to become foster parents, taking in and eventually adopting nine more kids.

And while it hasn't always been smooth sailing, Tammy Schnyders hopes other families will open their homes and their hearts like she did.

"You do it cause they're so easy to love, even though you go through all the challenges, at the end of the day you love them each to death," said Tammy.

With so many kids in need the Michigan Department of Human Services has started a campaign to find foster and adoptive parents.

"There's a huge need for adoptive parents and we're trying to match children with families that meet those needs," said Michigan DHS Director Smael Ahmed.

"It's like something given to you that can't be taken away," said adopted son Jeremy Schnyders.

The Department of Human Services says they especially need people to foster older children and siblings. For more information [click here](#).