What is foster care? Indiana's Foster Care Program provides 24-hour placement of children and youth when they can no longer safely remain in their own homes due to the risk of abuse or neglect, or due to behaviors which may result in danger to themselves or others. When possible, a child is placed in close proximity to the child's family, particularly when reunification with the family is the case plan goal. Placement may occur until reunification with the child's family takes place or another permanent placement is established. The goal is to provide substitute family life in a safe, stable, and nurturing environment.