

## Why Be a Foster Grandparent?

Because it's an opportunity to do truly rewarding work.

As one Foster Grandparent recently said:

*"Initially I was interested because I needed to supplement my income, but after I started I fell in love with the children. I feel loved, appreciated, needed, and missed when I'm not there. I feel I have the opportunity to give love and approval to children who really need it."*



Eligibility to serve as a Foster Grandparent will not be denied on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin and/or limited English proficiency, age, disability, sexual orientation, genetic information, military service, education, political affiliation and marital or parental status.

### Foster Grandparent Program

Broome County Office for Aging

Mailing Address:

PO Box 1766

Binghamton, NY 13902

Location Address:

60 Hawley Street

Binghamton, NY 13902

**607-778-2089**

[www.gobroomecounty.com/senior/fgp](http://www.gobroomecounty.com/senior/fgp)



## AmeriCorps Seniors

Foster Grandparent Program of Broome County

*Supporting Children in Classrooms*

Funds provided by:  
Corporation for National and  
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New York State Office for Aging  
Broome County Office for Aging



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*Supporting Children in Classrooms*



**Help Children at Schools,  
Child Care Centers  
& Head Start Programs**

**(607) 778-2089**

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Broome County  
Office for Aging

## What Do Foster Grandparents Do?

Foster Grandparents are people, age 55 or older, who volunteer about 20 hours per week at schools, child care centers, Head Start sites and summer programs throughout Broome County.



## What Do Classroom Volunteers Do?

Foster Grandparents provide the encouragement, support and extra attention some children need to succeed. They work directly with children: talking, listening, reading stories and helping with academic work. The activities they engage in depend on the ages of the children and their needs. Some Foster Grandparents feed and rock infants. Others work with older children reinforcing lessons taught by teachers and acting as a role model of appropriate behavior.

## What Are the Benefits?

Foster Grandparents receive:

- Stipend of \$4.00 per hour (for income-eligible volunteers only)
- Reimbursement for travel costs
- A meal at their volunteer site
- Paid time off (up to a predefined amount each year)
- Paid orientation and on-going training
- The opportunity to socialize with other Foster Grandparents
- The joy of making a difference in a child's life.

Note: The stipend is tax free pay that does not affect housing subsidies or eligibility for other benefits.



## What is the Purpose of the Foster Grandparent Program?

The Foster Grandparent Program is designed to:

- Assist children with special needs who need additional help to succeed. Children are matched with a caring volunteer, the Foster Grandparent, who works with them to reach goals set by the children's teachers.
- Make it possible for low-income older adults to make a meaningful contribution to their community by providing the economic support they need to volunteer.
- Enable older adults to make a difference. Children have shown gains in reading, math and social development because of the Foster Grandparents' love and encouragement.

## What Else Should I Know?

All applicants to the Foster Grandparent Program must complete criminal history background checks, including:

FBI fingerprinting, Sex Offender Registry check, and NY State Unified Court System check. There is no cost to the applicant for these checks.