



PROFILES IN COMPASSION

PROFILE #2 Barbara Ford - Foster/Adoptive Parent

Opening one's heart and home to a child in need may be the greatest gift a person can make. But to Barbara Ford, she is the one who has been rewarded.

Back in the 1990s, this single mother of two decided to become a foster parent – and she discovered her calling in life. At first she provided temporary, emergency care of children. Barbara found it such a rewarding experience that she wanted to do more. After doing long-term foster placements for some time, she was asked to care for a child with HIV. Barbara rose to the challenge ... and caring for kids with special needs became her passion.

Barbara ultimately adopted six children, most of whom had special needs, including HIV. Today, she continues to foster children with special needs, providing the love, affection and stability every child deserves. Her story is an example of the compassion and personal commitment that make Children's Place Association a beacon of hope for Chicago's most vulnerable.



Barbara Ford (second row blue polo) at Universal Studios with her family.