



Embrella (formerly Foster and Adoptive Family Services) is the leading statewide advocacy agency for foster, adoptive and kinship parents in NJ. Our mission is to provide advocacy and enriching programs and services to empower families and youth to thrive. We help foster children achieve their dreams and wishes. We provide services, support and training opportunities for foster, adoptive & kinship families. We help foster children by offering programs to support them from childhood to young adulthood. Our vision is a future where all youth and families thrive in safe, stable and nurturing homes. www.embrella.org

The funds raised by NJSFWC will go to support our programs that directly benefit children and youth in foster care, including the following:

- Dreamers and Believers/Extracurricular Activities – Provides up to \$600 for children and youth in, or adopted from, foster care to pursue a dream or an activity in which they are interested, such as Gymnastics Camp, boxing lessons, piano lessons, ballet classes, etc.
- Educational Supports – Providing foster youth who are attending college, vocational school/other job training or going directly into the workforce with funding for textbooks, transportation assistance, food cards, equipment such as computers or school supplies, etc.
- Camp Scholarships – Provide an opportunity for a child in foster care to attend a week- long sleep-away camp during the summer.
- Private Scholarship & Opportunity Grants: Covering tuition for youth who are aging out of the foster system to pursue a college education, vocational training or other job training programs.

The following are some of the additional projects for NJSFWC to participate in:

- Recreational Events/Holiday Parties: A variety of events take place throughout the year offering foster families a time to network as well as an opportunity for the entire family just to have fun! These vary from bowling parties, a day at the aquarium, museum, arcade, or beach, pumpkin/apple picking, Christmas/Hanukkah parties, etc. NJSFWC can assist in any part of these events from planning, creating fun activities (face painting, cookie decorating, pumpkin decorating, games, karaoke, dancing, arts & crafts, etc.).
- Volunteer at Embrella's Annual Recognition Brunch: In May, awards are presented to outstanding families & youth within the foster care system. Private scholarships are also presented. It is a very moving, inspiring event.
- Collect birthday gifts, backpacks & school supplies to provide to children in foster care throughout the year.
- Care packages for college students: For most college students, getting that care package in the mail from home is a wonderful reminder of the family that loves them. Kids in foster care often don't have this experience. We send out over 400 care packages (snacks, toiletries, school supplies, fun trinkets) to all students in our scholarship programs.
- Conferences, events: We hold various events throughout the year and can always use assistance in planning as well as on the day of the event.
- Public Policy/Legislation: work on state & federal policy initiatives on issues affecting foster families.