

Advances in medical technology are saving the lives of children with severe and chronic health conditions. Because technologies have increased the level of care needed to sustain their lives, it has created a very specialized group of children with needs and challenges many do not understand. Planning and providing for their necessary care can be overwhelming for families, case workers, the judicial system, and their communities.

Dream House has developed a one of a kind education program, **Family for Keeps™**. The **FFK** program has three courses: **Basic**, **Professional** and **Advanced**. **FFK Basic** trains anyone caring for a medically fragile child, whether they are biological, foster, adoptive, extended family, and friends.

## FFK Professional Training

**FFK Professional** provides information that assists the non-medical professional, such as a social worker, with making sound decisions regarding the placement of a child with complicated healthcare conditions.

### **FFK Professional: 12 hour, 2 day training course**

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- DAY 1**
- Caring for a medically fragile child
  - Defining “medically fragile”
  - Challenges of caring for a medically fragile child
  - Training, support, & resources
  - Overview of body systems
  - Utilizing guide to pediatric medical conditions
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- DAY 2**
- Best placement of a medically fragile child
  - Assessing the child
  - Assessing the family
  - Assessing the home and community
  - Documentation



Once the **FFK Basic** or **FFK Professional** course has been successfully completed, additional training is available for anyone involved in the life of a child with special healthcare needs.

## FFK Advanced Training

Dream House offers many advanced skills training opportunities. Listed are just a few of the subjects covered in the training sessions. To learn more about these or other subjects taught, contact Dream House.

**Ostomy Care:** Overview of the digestive system, types of ostomies, and reasons an ostomy may be necessary. Common home care, such as dietary considerations, changing pouches, and skin care.

**Tracheostomy Care:** Overview of the respiratory system and reasons a tracheostomy may be necessary. Common home care, including suctioning, skin care, emergency procedures, and basic introduction to ventilators.

**Respiratory Conditions:** Overview of the respiratory system and healthcare conditions such as asthma, apnea, and cystic fibrosis. Common home care necessary, including use of equipment such as apnea monitors, inhalers, nebulizers, and oxygen delivery systems.

**Care of the Diabetic Child:** Types of diabetes and necessary home care, such as nutrition, exercise, blood glucose monitoring, and insulin injections. Preventing, recognizing, and treating complications.

To sign up for a class or for more information, contact: [education@dreamhouseforkids.org](mailto:education@dreamhouseforkids.org)  
call: 770.717.7410 or visit: [www.dreamhouseforkids.org](http://www.dreamhouseforkids.org)

