

# CARING FOR KIDS IN YOUR OWN BACKYARD



Project **1.27**

Fostering and Adopting in Faith

# CARING FOR KIDS IN YOUR OWN BACKYARD

Foster & Adoptive Families need time and energy to establish relationships as welcoming kids from hard places takes longer than just a few days. Often, families need support for months and even years. The church can be a consistent presence throughout the journey. Here's some ways to help..

## ENGAGEMENT

- Recruit foster and adoptive parents
- Pray for kids waiting to be adopted
- Organize a crowd source fundraiser
- Recruit CASAs & mentors
- Download [Ways to Support Kids in Foster Care](#) for more ideas

## INSPIRATION

- Preach about foster care/adoption
- Host an Stand Sunday Event
- Recognize Foster Care Month (May) or Adoption Month (Nov)
- Create and display visual reminders
  - Banners, posters, display, social media
- Host a Foster Care Adoption Friendly church event
- Share stories of foster/adoptive families, dedicate foster parents, pray for foster families

## KIDS STUFF

- Collect school supplies/backpacks
- Offer furniture to kids who aged out
- Provide snacks for local group homes
- Scholarship kids to camp
- Pay for a foster child's extracurricular activities ie; soccer, football, basketball, karate
- Volunteer filling emergency bags or backpacks for children going into foster care
- [Meghans Wish](#)
- [Packs of Hope](#)

## FAMILY CARE

- Create a meal prep & delivery team
- Offer support for biological families
- Recruit Respite Care Providers
- Host a [kids night out](#)
- Provide snacks for a local [support group](#)
- Download [Supporting Foster & Adoptive Families in the Church](#) for more ideas!

## CHILD WELFARE SUPPORT

- Host coffee & donuts for welfare staff
- Donate car seats & booster seats
- [Social Worker Car Kits](#) - Workers spend much of their week transporting children to visits, appointments and to placement after removal:
  - Collect donations from your congregation, local businesses or purchase items needed
  - Have your children's ministry/youth group/volunteers hold a packing party for assembly
  - Add a special note of appreciation for the caseworker

