



Preparing Your Church for Foster Care Ministry

- Encourage church members to become foster parents/families.
- Encourage members to become licensed to provide respite care if they are not able to become foster parents.
- Advocate that placement agencies provide children with something other than trash bags in which to put their belongings.
- Commit to sponsoring at least one family to experience a day out at a local or even out-of-state attraction (attraction fees) of their choosing.
- Collect personal hygiene items for families (based on their preferences)
- Collect back-to-school items for your sponsored families.
- Host a foster parent night out once-a-month, and on special occasions like Valentine's Day
- Connect a church family with a foster family to babysit for their anniversary date, birthdays, or other special occasions.
- Host a baby shower once a quarter to assist families with ongoing needs for formula, bottles, diapers, wipes, pacifiers, etc.
- Host a birthday party once a quarter for children in care.
- Provide some or all the items needed for licensing approval, such as fire escape ladders, smoke detectors, fire extinguishers, first aid kit.
- Take the family to breakfast, lunch, or dinner, and/or a day out to an event attraction.
- Teach a child a new skill or help further develop their talents.
- Ask your family how you may best help serve them.
 - *Courtesy of Debra Smith of Legacy Health Connections*