

the
RESTORE NETWORK
changing the culture of foster care



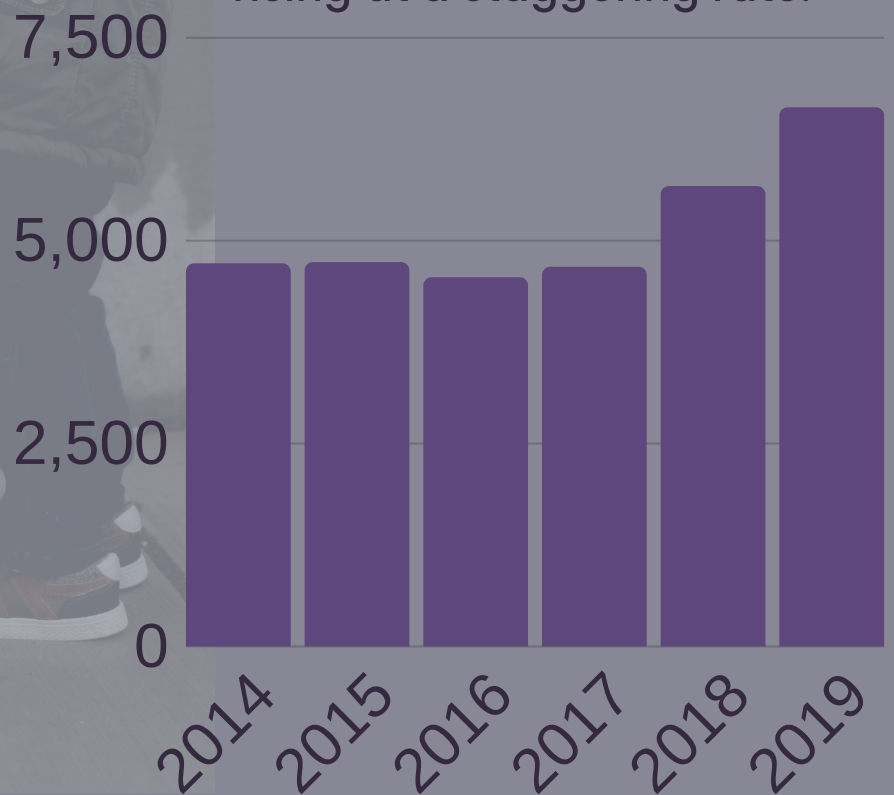
8 Ways Your Family Can End the Foster Care Crisis

(... whether you become a foster family or not)

the crisis

As hard as it is to hear, the foster care system in Illinois is broken. It's designed to protect children, but often, it becomes a source of further harm.

The number of kids entering Illinois foster care annually is rising at a staggering rate.





There aren't enough foster families to adequately care for the rising number of children in foster care.



Agency workers and court staff are buried under unreasonable caseloads making it extraordinarily difficult for them to bring healing to children and families.



In Illinois, 39% of children in foster care spend time in 4 or more foster homes.



Illinois is also ranked last in permanency outcomes for children, meaning our children stay in foster care longer than any other state.



Disillusioned, isolated and overwhelmed, most foster parents quit within the first year.

Church, this is a problem
that we can fix.

We know it's overwhelming. So overwhelming, in fact, that – no matter how heartbreaking – it can feel intimidating to act. Surely someone better equipped will respond.

We felt that way too at first. But we took a risk and got involved, and now we're inviting you to join us. Because, one thing is clearer now than ever before:

We are the answer.

All of us.

So, check out these 8 ways your family can end the foster care crisis.



1

Give financially.

It costs \$720 to support one child in a Restore Network home for a year. This gift allows us to recruit, equip and support each foster family in providing the best healing care to the child placed in their home.

[Give Now](#)



Volunteer for a Foster Family Event!

Who doesn't love a party? For kids in The Restore Network, events like our Back to School Bash, Parents Nights Out, Christmas parties and monthly Connect Groups are highlights! These events wouldn't be possible without the help of our volunteer teams.

Sign Up Now



3



Sign up to prepare and deliver a meal for foster families!

Imagine the moment when a child enters foster care. This child has experienced abuse, neglect or abandonment, and now he has been removed from his parents and placed with a foster family who he likely has never met before. He doesn't understand what is happening, and he doesn't know what the future holds (nor do any of the adults in his life). What this kiddo needs are foster parents who are nurturing and present with him as he navigates the difficulties and uncertainties of his life. Would you prepare and deliver a meal to relieve the burden of dinner so foster parents can focus on the new child placed with them?

[Sign Up Now](#)

Commit to be on your knees in prayer over foster care.

Foster care is filled with so much brokenness, darkness and a sense of hopelessness – for children, for families, for agency staff, for judges and lawyers. We know God’s answer to the foster care crisis is the church. Would you commit to pray over the foster care needs in your county?

[Sign Up Now](#)





Become aware of the needs in your county.

The sad truth is that foster care happens mostly in the shadows of our communities. Unless you decide to know what's happening, you might just remain oblivious to the tragedy. Research the realities of foster care in your county, in your zip code – in your own backyard.

[Learn More](#)

6

Coordinate a drive to collect items needed by foster families.

Engage your family, your small group, or your church in collecting items to give to foster families. It could be diapers, wipes, school supplies, books, or something creative that hasn't been done yet!

[Contact Us](#)



Shop for clothes when a child enters foster care.

Most children enter foster care with only the clothes on their backs. Join a team of volunteers who shop for clothes and delivering them to their foster family within the first few days of placement. For children who have experienced so much trauma, the gift of new clothes is not only a practical help but a way to restore dignity to a child who has only known shame.

[Sign Up Now](#)



8



Open your home through foster care.

At The Restore Network, we understand the tension of feeling like God may be calling you to foster while also having so many questions and concerns. Take the first step and attend an informational session today. The truth is – fostering a child is never easy. The promise is – it's always worth it.

**Sign Up for an
Informational Meeting**



God is calling us to respond in different ways, but be assured: we all have a part to play. Some will be called to foster, some to volunteer, and others to give financially. But, all of us are called to open our hearts to love and believe that, with God, the solution is within our reach. Kids are counting on us not to look away.

So, respond now.



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