

Join our Pioneer Level of Engagement

HOW do you begin this process? Glad you asked!

[By attending an Advocate Clinic](#), this will begin the process of developing a sustainable Family Advocacy Ministry in your church or community group. Choose the best date that works for you and begin this pioneering adventure!

(Don't let costs stop you- scholarships are available, just let us know!)



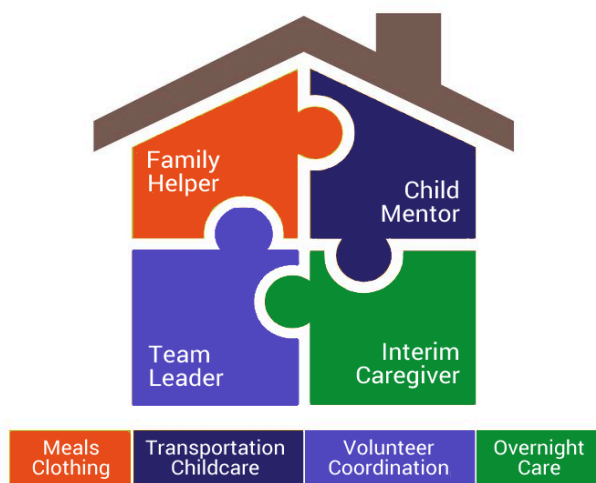
The Basics of Foster Care: What is a Care Community?

Care Community: An engineered team, much like an extended family, of 4-8 committed volunteers who support and serve the foster family and foster children. This team provides

regular and ongoing practical help such as meals, prayer, tutoring, childcare, transportation, laundry, yard work, etc. **Prayer is the foundational basis of the support given to a family.**

Care Community Volunteer Roles:

Family Helper: Family Helpers usually serve by providing a meal once per month, delivered on the same day of the week and same week of each month. (i.e. the second Tuesday of every month.) Additionally, these volunteers can run errands, assist with housework, do yard work, laundry, and help with other practical tasks to support the family.



Child Mentor: A Child Mentor commits to provide childcare or transportation 2-3 times per month, *with at least one scheduled day per month*. This is a unique opportunity to pour love and encouragement into these vulnerable children. In order to thrive, foster parents need the support of dedicated Child Mentors who will sacrificially serve them in this way. This role requires the necessary background checks in order for the volunteer to be

unsupervised with foster children.

Team Leader: The Team Leader provides leadership for the Care Community. This volunteer contacts the foster family weekly and sends out a weekly email updating the team on prayer requests. This role can be uniquely filled or combined with any of the above roles.

Interim Caregiver: Interim Caregivers serve as overnight caregivers in their home or in the foster home from as little as one night to up to two weeks, in accordance to the approval policy of the foster care agency. Additional background checks may be required, as well as a home safety inspection. Respite families also fall under this category of assistance.

***Respite Foster Family:** Respite families give foster families the extended breaks they need to build and maintain healthy marriages and a positive family atmosphere in the home. Respite

families are fully certified foster families that host foster children for short periods of time while the basic foster family takes a much-needed break or travels without the foster children. Ideally, this respite family is in relationship with the children and the experience is much like visiting an aunt or uncle for the weekend or a few weeks.