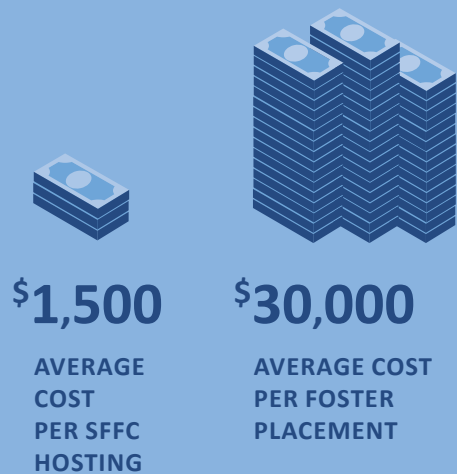


Cost/Benefit analysis and ROI:

Safe Families costs less than 5% of the average cost of foster care. Safe Families decreases the need for short-term state custody while improving child, parent, and community well-being.

Staffing cost for one chapter averages \$145,000 (1.75 FTE's of staff with various roles).



Referrals

33.41% are parent self-referrals

Other referrals come from shelters, treatment providers, medical and school personnel, law enforcement, and child protective services

TOP REASONS FOR REFERRAL

- Homelessness
- Lack of support
- Hospitalization/medical
- Substance abuse treatment
- Mental health challenges



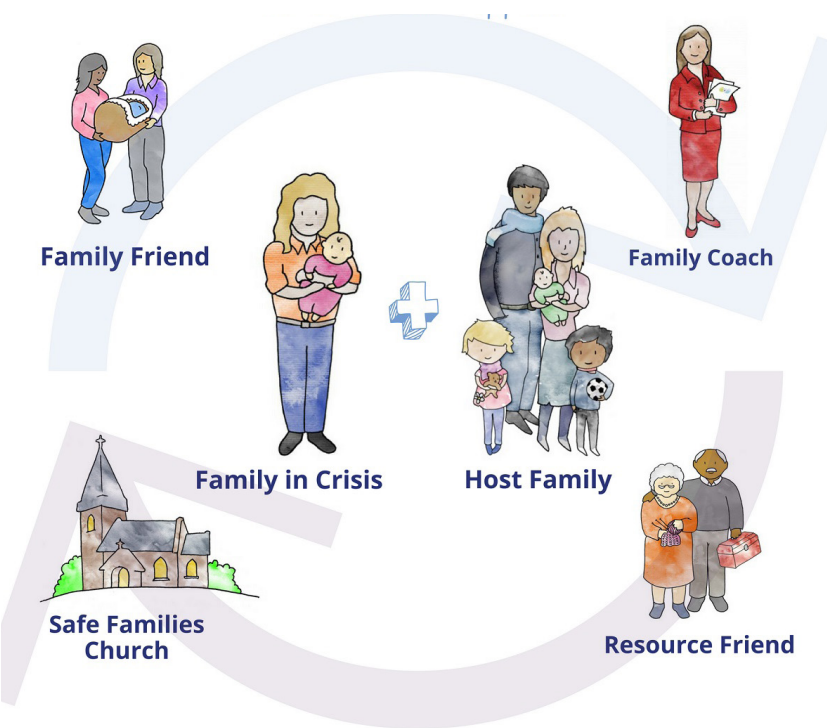
HELPING FAMILIES IN TIMES OF CRISIS

When parents are going through a temporary time of crisis, we find families to care for their children. This allows parents to take essential steps toward stability. In partnership with churches, we screen and train volunteer Host Families. Then we provide ongoing support to help families emerge stronger once reunited.

a ministry of
Bethany

Circle of Support

A hallmark of this ministry is the Safe Families Circle of Support. Churches, Safe Families staff, and community volunteers provide specific kinds of support, for both families in crisis and Host Families caring for children.



For more information, contact:

ESTABLISHED
2003



50,000+
HOSTINGS



120 CHAPTERS

40 STATES

+Canada +United Kingdom

SINCE **2008**

BETHANY HAS PROVIDED

10,000+
HOSTINGS

97%
OF HOSTED CHILDREN
RETURN TO THEIR FAMILIES

<3%
REQUIRED STATE CHILD
WELFARE INVOLVEMENT

Emergency care is not foster care

Volunteer Host Families offer loving care to parents by watching over their children while the parents regain stability. Host Families are vetted, trained, approved, and supported by Safe Families staff.

Safe Families aims to facilitate a relationship between Host Families and the parent(s), in which the host family becomes a kind of “extended family” for the family in crisis. Parents maintain full custody of their child and are encouraged to maintain contact and participate in decisions regarding their child’s care. Host Families are strongly encouraged to maintain a relationship with the family even after the hosting ends.

Emergency care is different from foster care, where a court removes a child from their home, often due to neglect or abuse. With emergency care, parents voluntarily seek a safe, temporary place for their child for a variety of reasons, including an unexpected illness, homelessness, housing instability, or the lack of extended family support. Safe Families is practical, proactive intervention that often keeps children from entering foster care.

While each situation varies, the average length of stay in Safe Families is 30 days, whereas foster care can be closer to a year or more. This temporary care for children gives parents time to re-establish stability in their home so the family can be reunited—stronger than ever.



Safe Families *for* Children

Evidence-based research

The California Evidence-based Clearinghouse for Child Welfare has given Safe Families a HIGH Child Welfare Relevance Rating, and current evidence-based support is promising. Initial six-month findings of a low-cost Random Control Trial (RCT) in Illinois show that Safe Families effectively reduces the number of children entering foster care and prevents new referrals to the child welfare system. Led by Dr. Mark Testa, the RCT is expected to release final results in early 2020.

Accreditation

Bethany is accredited for Family Preservation services under the Council on Accreditation, ensuring consistent quality and effectiveness across its Safe Families chapters.

Support for Families First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA)

In addition to its potential evidence-based approval, Safe Families complements other programs approved in the FFPSA Prevention Services Clearinghouse. Safe Families provides excellent after-care support for families who also complete more intensive support services.

National prevention services

Safe Families can be funded under the Title IV-B Promoting Safe and Stable Families (PSSF) discretionary grant provided to each state’s child welfare agency.

Legislative support

17 states have passed bipartisan legislation to support the volunteer-driven and professionally supported Safe Families movement.



Your local Safe Families Chapter Impact:

AVAILABLE
HOST FAMILIES

HOSTINGS
SINCE

OF HOSTED CHILDREN RETURN
TO THEIR FAMILIES

ADDITIONAL CIRCLE OF
SUPPORT VOLUNTEERS

DAYS
AVERAGE LENGTH
OF STAY

OF CHILDREN REFERRED
& HOSTED ARE UNDER 5