



YOUR *church* CAN DO ORPHAN CARE

10 simple ways to get started

1. WHO'S WHO

Know your community. Chances are, there are churches and nonprofits in your community who are already killing it in orphan care! Find out who they are, learn from what they do, and ask how you can play a part!

2. ATTITUDE OF GRATITUDE

A simple thank you goes a long way. Add some food and it goes even further! Our child welfare workers are unsung heroes who are overworked and undervalued. Let your local office know you are in their corner by saying thank you and asking for nothing in return.

3. HELLO, MY NAME IS

Have you met your local child welfare judge? Start to learn the foster care system by attending family court. Ask your judge, "What is the greatest need in our county? And how can our church play a part in meeting it?" *

4. HERE TO SERVE

In orphan care, it's not us versus them. The child welfare system is not the enemy--they need our help. Find ways to serve your local office by hosting a serve day to help them with physical projects, volunteering at their next event, or providing transportation for kids!

5. DINNER'S ON US

Every parent's love language is a free and easy meal for the whole family. Partner with a local restaurant to provide meals for foster families in the community. A night like this goes far beyond the food; foster families long to feel valued and supported.*

6. BACK TO BASICS

Sometimes the best thing we can do for people is to meet their most basic needs. Contact your child welfare office to find out what items your church could collect for kids in foster care. Common items include backpacks, school supplies, clothing, shoes, and diapers.

7. DATE YOUR MATE

At the center of a happy family is a healthy couple. Support foster parents by gifting them an all-inclusive date night! Connect with your child welfare office about donating gift cards, movie tickets, or event tickets to foster families.

8. BABYSITTERS CLUB

If you're a parent who appreciates free and quality child care, say "Amen!" Finding approved babysitters is one of the greatest needs among foster and adoptive families. Have your launch team become certified babysitters through the state or a child placing agency. *

9. READY FOR BATTLE

Orphan care is spiritual warfare. Foster families aren't fighting the government, biological parents, or traumatized children--they're fighting the Enemy! And they shouldn't be fighting alone. Assemble a prayer team and give foster families the single greatest support: prayer.

10. PREACH IT!

Orphan care is a biblical mandate. Preach it frequently and passionately! Utilize scriptures such as James 1:27, Romans 8:15, Exodus 2:22, or Exodus 22:21-24! You can also invite a Backyard Orphans team member to do a service. It would be our honor to come to your church!

