

7 WAYS YOUR FAMILY CAN TRANSFORM THE LIVES OF VULNERABLE CHILDREN TOGETHER

1. **Pray.** Download this [Foster Care Prayer Guide](#) to pray together for 24 groups of people involved in foster care in your community. *Pro Tip: This resource is great for dinner-time discussions.*
2. **Learn about the needs of vulnerable kids.** Research facts about poverty and foster care in your area, then share them with others. *Pro Tip: Read and discuss the kids' book, [Farmer Herman and the Flooding Barn](#) (elementary age), or watch [this video](#) showing the barn being moved.*
3. **Be a good friend.** It's easy to befriend those who look like you, talk like you, and dress like you. It's harder to be friends with someone who seems different or sad. You never know a person's story. Sharing a smile or inviting someone to join you can make their day...and yours!
4. **Fundraise for a trusted organization.** Host a bake sale, read-a-thon, yard sale, etc. Be creative, invite others to participate, and have fun! *Pro Tip: Efforts that assist those in poverty help to strengthen families and may keep kids out of foster care.*
5. **Donate your resources.** Find a foster closet or another organization serving vulnerable kids and families. Gently used clothing, toys, and furniture are often needed. *Pro Tip: Ask or look for donation rules and give only what is truly needed so you don't create a burden to those sorting items.*
6. **Show appreciation for caseworkers.** Social workers have important yet difficult jobs and can always use encouragement. Connect with a local foster care agency and ask how you can show your love and support. *Pro Tip: Some workers are not allowed to accept gifts with monetary value. It's good to ask before planning.*
7. **Volunteer your time.** Serve together at a community garden, food pantry, or after-school program, make freezer meals for a foster family with a new placement, and more. *Pro Tip: Transformational ministry is relational, not only transactional. Ask yourself: Do these efforts allow for relationship-building, and encourage the strengths and abilities of those being served?*