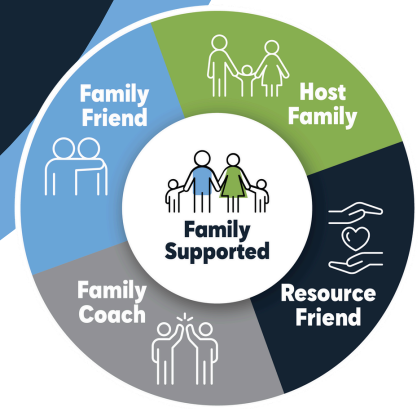




Safe Families for Children

FAMILY COACH

FACT SHEET



SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN hosts vulnerable children and creates extended family-like support for isolated families through a community of compassionate volunteers motivated by their faith to keep children safe and families together.

WHAT DOES A FAMILY COACH DO?

There are **FOUR GENERAL ROLES** of a Family Coach.

FACILITATES RELATIONSHIP

1

An important role of the Family Coach is to help the volunteer(s) and parent(s) connect in relationship as that is a primary goal of Safe Families. Sometimes volunteers may experience frustration or misunderstanding of a parent or the other way around. Acting as a neutral party the Family Coach can help both of them in promoting understanding and empathy.

MONITORS CHILD CARE & SAFETY

2

The most important responsibility of the Family Coach is monitoring kids currently in a Host Family home. This occurs within 48 hours after the hosting begins and once a week for at least a month. After a month, visits may be reduced to every other week. Ensuring the child's successful adjustment to the home environment and proper care is a crucial responsibility of the Family Coach.

PROVIDES RESOURCES TO THE PARENT(S)

3

Part of the Family Coach's responsibility involves making referrals and assisting parents in taking the necessary measures to achieve their goals. If another caseworker is involved, they will likely assume the primary role. However, based on their caseloads, you may need to step in and address any gaps.

SUPPORTS THE VOLUNTEERS

4

The Host Family is the key to providing a safe and secure environment for the children while also developing a positive relationship with the parent. Family Friends can help come alongside parents for additional support. The role of the Family Coach is to provide assistance and ensure the Host Family receives the necessary resources and support.

SUPPORTING VOLUNTEERS AND MONITORING CHILDREN

There are generally **FOUR PURPOSES** to each home visit:

1. **ENSURE** the safety and well-being of the child in hosting
2. **SUPPORT** and encourage the Host Family caring for the child
3. **EARLY IDENTIFICATION** and **PROBLEM-SOLVING** of potential problems that may eventually lead to a hosting disruption
4. **ENCOURAGE** and **FACILITATE** the relationship between the Host Family and the parents



SUPPORTING THE PARENTS

While parents may seek assistance from Safe Families due to specific crises like homelessness and substance abuse, the underlying cause behind nearly all hostings is actually social isolation. Deprived of the essential support system that often stems from family bonds or connections fostered through church or neighbors, parents find themselves in a position where they have no one else to turn to other than strangers. It is truly disheartening.

When children are in hosting it allows for a parent to experience significantly less stress and opens the doors to fresh input. Safe Families can support parents during this time by ensuring we schedule visits with their children to maintain their bond, referring to additional resources, and helping the parent connect with positive connections.

REASONS WHY A PARENT MIGHT NOT HAVE A SOLID SUPPORT NETWORK:

- Parent may lack the necessary social skills to develop and maintain relationships
- Parent's mental health may stand in the way of developing healthy relationships
- Parent may not have acquired the necessary skills for the natural give and take in relationships
- Parent's community may not foster mutual social connections
- Parent may have strained their relationships with family and friends

WHATEVER THE REASON, most parents need compassionate individuals who are open to forming friendships with them. These friendships have a powerful opportunity to prevent child abuse and crises in the future. At the core of Safe Families, our desire is to become part of the parent's support network. By doing this, Safe Families invites the parents to experience community. This is our area of expertise and precisely what the parents need. It's an exciting alignment of the church's ultimate strength with the most significant challenge parents face. This is why Safe Families is so important.



SCAN TO APPLY

CONTACT US



Safe Families
for Children



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