Foster Care Support
Georgia Care Partnership

with
DFCS, our Children and our Communities

Formerly North Georgia Coalition
GCP Agenda

- What?
- Why?
- How?
Overview

GCP’s plan is to enlist several faith-based schools, businesses and service organizations throughout Georgia to provide resources to assist and/or care for DFCS foster children.
Why?
There are almost 9,000 foster children in Georgia who need a good, safe and loving home. Dozens of families are needed to help with abused and neglected children.

Benefits:
• Partnering with your own community and friends
• Help from your community base for support and retention of the foster homes
• Less cost to our tax base since private agencies cost more from our tax dollars and for our State
• Team work between DFCS caseworkers, foster parents and biological families can help reunification or adoptions
• No cost to our community partners that help
How?
Each faith-based, school, neighborhood, business or service organization would have a goal to supply a sample of: (only takes one to start)

• 3 to 5 Foster Families
• 3 to 5 Respite Families
• 5 to 10 Volunteers
• A class room for training (one per geographic area serving multiple families
• Schools, faith and civic organizations and community businesses are the best resource of stability, love, nurture and guidance to help our children heal
• Support resources in the area are already in place for clothing and training support
Each Partner Could Have the Following Structure

- **Program Coordinator** (paid or volunteer position from the partner working within the partner/partners)

  - Foster Family
  - Foster Family
  - Foster Family
  - Foster Family

  - Respite Family
  - Respite Family
  - Respite Family

  - Volunteers
  - Volunteers
  - Volunteers
  - Volunteers
Georgia Care Partnership

Current partners involved:
Roswell UMC, Fellowship Bible Church,
Peachtree Road UMC, Roswell First Baptist, North Point Community, Roswell Presbyterian, DFCS, FCSF

your organization name can go here
3 to 5 Foster Families

• Families would provide care for foster children:
  • Families would receive children at their discretion from the county’s Department of Family and Children Services (DFCS)
  *approval and licensing is free

Requires:
  • Training from the County DFCS held in your area
  • Background checks-provided by the county
  • Home inspection
  • Love and Compassion

Returns:
  • Stipend of about $15.04 to $19.36 per day
  • Stipend is non taxable
  • Love, smiles, hugs, sainthood
  (riches are in heaven and in our hearts and souls)
3 to 5 Respite Families

• Think of babysitting; respite is short term care when a foster family needs a night, a day, a weekend or a week off for vacation, emergency, take a kid to college, maybe even a movie.

• Respite parents have the same training, background checks and home approval process as foster parents
• Respite parents receive the stipend when they keep a child overnight
• Respite families can, at any time, decide to become full time foster families or adoptive families without further training needed
Volunteers

• Driving children to appointments when needed; medical, DFCS office visits, court, taking to the park, etc
• Helping with visitation: Trained Supervision of child visits with biological families
• Provide specialized services for incoming new children
• Day provider: Background checked to watch children for a few hours, perhaps take them to the park example: Foster Smiles on the FCSF website Resource page
  Dentist and pediatricians can donate a first check up when a child comes into care
  Eye professionals can assist with vision needs etc.
Coordination

A coordinator from each partner, can be paid position or volunteer, will work with a facilitator which would be managed at central location such as the Foster Care Support center.

This person will:

- Organize information and needs for their group and/or coordinate with other groups and FCSF
- Coordinate foster parent needs with community volunteers-FCSF can assist
- Coordinate transportation for children
- Coordinate respite needs for foster families
- Plan other events, picnics etc. if applicable
End Results

• No middle man or contract fees to pay for such as payment to child placing agencies, no partnership fees to belong
• Direct communication with DFCS caseworkers about the children in your care
• Direct link to necessary information regarding the special needs of the foster child or their background experiences
• Multiple communities involved with supporting you and the neglected and abused children
• Helping mentor families
Creating new families by adopting when reunification is not an option
Questions?

• Phone: 770-641-9591
• Email: foster@fostercares.org

Hope for our children