FOSTER VILLAGE MEMPHIS

Gear End Report 2021

After just 14 months of having our 50lc3, we are making big moves in Shelby County. We have only just begun the work of creating a community beyond the system!

We launched with a fun family event at Grind City Brewing Co. where we were able to garner support and spread awareness.

Our Back to School Shoe Drive provided 66 pairs of new shoes and uniforms to children experiencing foster care.

8 single foster moms experienced a kiddo free night thanks to a Mom's Night Out hosted by a local church.

The Village rallied to create a Christmas Beyond the Toys fund to meet 9 needs from DCS families beyond the average "Angel Tree" needs at Christmastime.



WHY WE CARE

THE PROBLEM



Foster Care is a pipeline to some of our most critical social issues. Former foster youth account for roughly:

of our homeless population

50% | 80% trafficking victims





80% of foster youth suffer from mental health issues such as PTSD and depression



About half of all licensed foster homes quit after their first placement, often citing lack of support as the reason.



community beyond the system

By bridging the gaps between a vulnerable population and a caring community we believe that we can see these troubling statistics shift and witness generational changes.



155
children served

67
Welcome Packs
provided

families received
Welcome Packs

116
families served

beds, carseats, and baby gear items provided

"I received a welcome pack within 48 hours of my foster son being placed in my home. It was a huge help! I was also able to communicate other needs with FVM and was connected with people who could meet them the next day. It relieved a huge burden of having to run around and collect all of these things in a crucial time of bonding with a child."

"FVM provides so many practical ways to serve these children and come alongside foster families and it has been a real joy to personally do that...From providing meals, packing welcome packs, or just sharing about FVM with family and friends it's so cool to see how this organization makes an impact!"

"Through Foster Village Memphis, I became more aware of the practical ways that I can support foster families in the Memphis area. From providing spaces for connection to other families to child care on a weekend or emergency needs, there are things I have seen FVM provide that I will continue to support."

"It was such a blessing to have diapers and clothes available in the first few days to save several store trips."

"Our family is grateful for the donations we received from Foster Village. The Welcome Pack included diapers, books, clothes, and toys. This made our fostering journey less stressful."

"It is beyond wonderful to have things show up on your door without having to run out and get anything. Loved having the backpack because we are still using it for daycare."

"I was overwhelmed with joy to see strangers step up to help me in a time of need being a new mom. My kids felt so loved and full of joy to receive "presents" as they say."

"The welcome pack was such a blessing for us as we scrambled for things with a 15 minute warning that changed us forever!"

The clothes were super helpful! She came with nothing. The sippy was so needed, and she loves the blocks.

2021 vision

In 2021, the Fostering Hope Campaign seeks to create a substantial base of monthly Village Partners making consistent financial contributions. These monthly donors will allow us to maximize our budget and planning.

We will focus on our existing Welcome Pack Program and aim to essentialize the process of receiving new donations, inventorying them, storing them, and packing them as needed.

We will be adding quarterly Mom Gatherings at Missio Dei Church where moms can join other foster moms in fellowship and community.

Our first event in 2021 will be a Spring Birthday Celebration for the whole family, keep a look out for those details!

Summer 2021 holds some exciting new fundraisers, even one in which the whole family can participate! We'll also be hosting a fun and unique fundraiser. We definitely want you there!

As we close out the year we hope to meet our goal of 75 new Village Partners, grow our peer to peer campaign for Giving November, and bless more famlies through Christmas Beyond the Toys.

Join the Mage

Please visit www.fostervillagememphis.org/give to help us continue work for children and families in our city.



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