WEEK 1 - Front & Back

America's Kids BELONG

Every child in a loving home

Uniting **government**, **faith-based**, **business**, and **creative communities** to end the foster care and adoption crisis in the U.S. – *state by state*.

- There are over 400,000 children in the U.S. foster care system.
- 300,000 have the goal of being reunited with their birth family and need a loving foster family while they wait.
- 100,000 are legally-free for adoption and are waiting for a forever family.

We imagine a future in which every American foster child – whether through reunification or adoption – *belongs* in a loving, safe and permanent home.

Because every child deserves to belong

Join our story (and the story of these 400,000 children) by visiting us at
AmericasKidsBelong.org

@AmKidsBelong /AmKidsBelong @AmKidsBelong

Permanence and a sense of belonging are crucial to the development of a child. A loving, safe and supportive family provides both of these things. When a child is without a family, the results can be tragic.

DID YOU KNOW?

Every year, **26,000** children in foster care age out of the system at 18 (or 21 in some states) with little or no support.

Less than half
will have graduated from high school

1 in 4
will be in trouble with the law within just two years of aging out

Nearly 2/3
of the girls will be pregnant by age 21

1 in 4
will experience Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder in their lifetime
(more than twice the rate of U.S. Veterans of War)

1 in 5
will become homeless

All
have an exponentially higher risk of becoming a victim of human trafficking

FINANCIAL COST: According to The Annie E. Casey Foundation, every child who ages out of the system costs taxpayers and communities an average of $300,000 over the child's lifetime.

26,000
foster youth

×

$300,000
per person

=

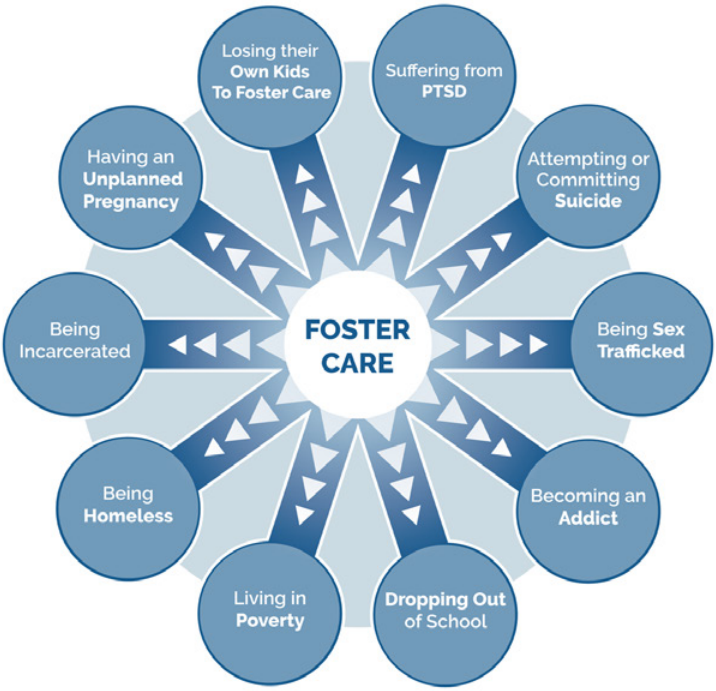
$7.8 BILLION
per year

WEEK 2 - Front & Back

America's Kids BELONG

Making children in foster care a priority is not just a heart issue, it is a smart issue to care about. Kids who age out of foster care without belonging to a family are far more at risk for the following:

10 Social Wounds of Foster Care



WHAT YOU CAN DO

Sign Up For a Next Steps Meeting

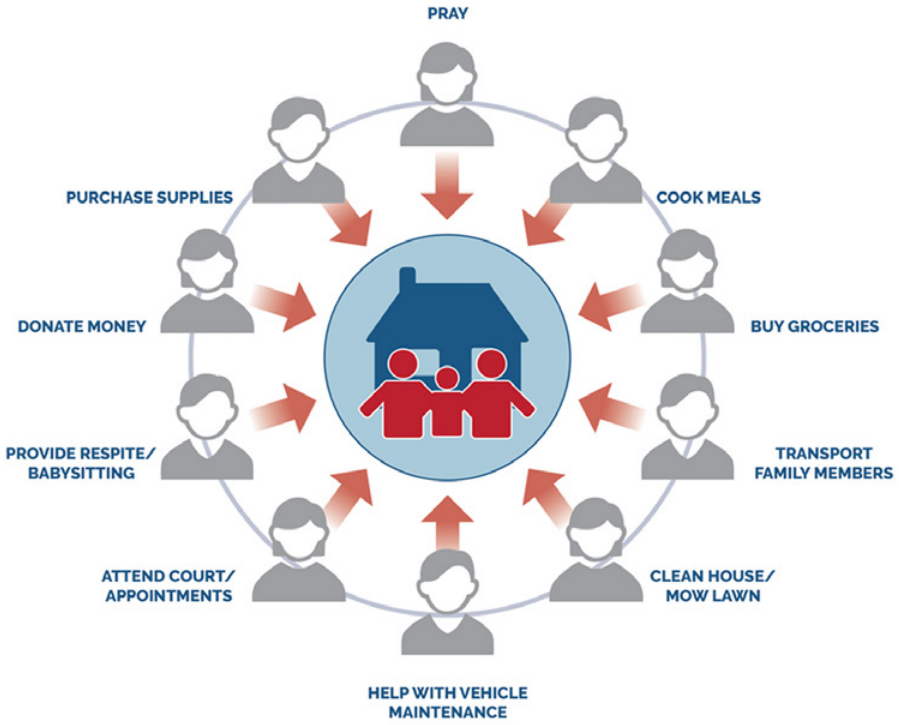
Please plan to attend to learn more and join the story!

WEEK 3 - Front & Back

America's Kids BELONG

Did you know one of the most common causes of breakdown in a foster or adoptive placement is lack of social support? Not everyone is called to foster or adopt, but we are all called to care. How can you help out?

Wrap Around Care Model for Foster & Adoptive Families



WHAT YOU CAN DO

Sign up to Learn More!

We'd love for you to attend the following event
to learn more and join the story!

Let Us Know How You Are Joining the Story!

Please print clearly.

Name: _____ Church: _____

Email: _____ Phone: (_____)_____-_____

☐ I am planning to attend a Next Steps Meeting on ___/___/___.

☐ I would like to help support families who are fostering or adopting.

☐ I would like to learn more about becoming a foster/adoptive parent.