

Mission Statement

Provide for the care and maintenance, support and education of foster children and foster families in the Purchase Area.

Transform local United Methodist Churches by informing them of the ever-present need for foster parents, respite parents, and adoptive parents.

Help develop foster children into good citizens of the community through experiencing the love of Jesus Christ.

[Recipient Name]
[Address]
[City, ST ZIP Code]

WKUMFS

PO Box 3204, Paducah, KY 42002

Western Kentucky United Methodist Family Services

WKUMFS is a 501(c)(3) Foster Care Support Agency of the Memphis Conference of the United Methodist Church





The Need for Foster Care Support

Nationally foster care has grown by 10.2% in the last four years ending in 2016. Over 8,600 children (under 18 years old) are in foster care in Kentucky today. There are about 200 children needing adoption in the Purchase Area.

WKUMFS supported an average of 30 foster children (peak demand of more than 64 foster children) along with 21 foster parent families in 2017. A similar level of need is likely for the future.

The oppression of children placed into foster care occurs mostly from neglect, drug abuse, parental coping skills, or physical abuse. WKUMFS engages this mission field by establishing connections with social workers and foster parents as it prays for and serves these hurting children.

The Support We Provide

Upon discovering foster children with needs, WKUMFS equips foster parents with access to resources, expert services and life experiences beyond their means and excluded by Kentucky foster care services.

Some examples are special tutoring and counseling, summer camp fees, summer recreational outings, laptops for college bound foster children and Christmas gifts. This support helps the foster children feel loved, accepted, and alike their peers.

Who We Are

The WKUMFS Board of Trustees consists of: Volunteer laity and clergy from local area United Methodist Churches; Purchase District Superintendent, Lay Leader, UMW President, and Resource Leader; Memphis Conference Connectional Ministry Director; and Omni Visions Foster and Adoption Kentucky State Director.

Outreach Opportunities

Concerns in our neighborhoods from drug abuse, family violence, and mental impairment along with the lack of parenting skills and ability to manage the tasks of daily living, and careful prioritizing of children's safety can lead to child abuse and neglect. Local United Methodist Churches can engage their neighborhoods to help parents overcome these obstacles and achieve a healthy family environment.

What Can Local UM Churches Do to Help?

It isn't all or nothing! Not everyone is meant to bring a child they did not birth into their home ...but everyone can do something. Which is good news! When congregations are inspired and equipped to be with foster and adoptive families: Every child is cared for, every family has hope, congregations are strengthened, and communities are healthier and safer. Here are several ways congregations can get involved: begin a Prayer Initiative, start a Supportive Care Group hold an Adoption/Foster Care Awareness Event, host a Local Child Placing Agency Training or Special Event, begin a Bags of Love ministry, or donate to WKUMFS.

Our Success

With God's grace, the foster children we serve will grow into fruitful and faithful Christians. The blessing of support from the United Methodist Memphis Conference along with other faithful contributors enable WKUMFS to touch the lives of foster children with love, care, and The Word of God.

Improving the life of foster children is the measure of success. The faces of joy upon receiving Christmas gifts from WKUMFS is unforgettable.

The Kentucky Foster Care program measures success against its permanency goals. The top three permanency goals are 1) return to birth parent, 2) permanent relative placement and 3) adoption. Nine children in foster care, helped by WKUMFS, were eventually adopted in 2017.

Jesus described the final judgement in Matthew 25:40 NLT ***"And the King will say, 'I tell you the truth, when you did it to one of the least of these My brothers and sisters, you were doing it to Me!"***

Contact Us

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(270) 443-9004 For Foster Care/Adoption Questions
(270) 564-6888 For Foster Care Support Questions
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