Fostering Hope

pray, love, serve

A Foster Care Ministry of Summit Crossing Community Church

Fostering Hope exists to pray, love, and serve families involved with DHR within North Alabama. This is done by seeing our church body rise up to holistically serve and pray for our community - including those within our church body directly serving in the foster system or our local caseworkers & volunteers.

Our desire for Fostering Hope is to live out the gospel by pouring into the entire foster system including:

- To support foster children, foster families, biological families, CAJAs, and caseworkers.
- To educate the church body on foster care.
- To point families to Christ and an eternal hope every step of the way.

Support foster children, foster families, biological families, CAJAs (Court Appointed Juvenile Advocate), and caseworkers:

- For regular attenders that serve in the foster system, we pray for specific monthly requests and fill urgent needs (baby gates, fire extinguishers, meal schedules, etc.).
- For biological parents within Madison County, we offer Families Count, a gospel-centered parenting class, to fulfill a state-mandated requirement by also sharing the gospel weekly. We fill the needs of a weekly meal, childcare, and parent advocate with the help of our church members and attenders.
- For our local caseworkers, we provide a monthly breakfast for workers and fill specific physical needs (in the past we've done car seats, multiple $5 gift cards for meals, formula, snacks, towels/washcloths, Christmas & birthday presents, items for kinship families, etc.).
- We commission foster families in the same way we commission other missionaries by bringing them before the church to pray over & commission out in the gospel.

Educate the church body on foster care:

- Through our monthly emails, we include clarifications of terms used and roles within the foster system, what being a foster parent or child in care actually looks like, etc.
- We promote the need of Christ-following foster parents and advocates in our area.
- We support and work with Lifeline in teaching foster parent classes. Two members of Summit Crossing alternate semesters and teach weekly alongside a Lifeline caseworker. We host the classes in the spring each year, too.