



## Foster Care Resources

*This is not an exhaustive list, but rather a list of agencies and resources used by Grace Church families who have adopted or the Christian Alliance for Orphans (CAFO). By providing these resources, we are not endorsing the beliefs of the listed organization. E-mail us with questions, [atrisk@grace.church](mailto:atrisk@grace.church).*

### Public Foster Care Agencies

- **Carver County**  
952-361-1654; [www.co.carver.mn.us/departments/health-human-services/child-family/child-foster-care](http://www.co.carver.mn.us/departments/health-human-services/child-family/child-foster-care)
- **Dakota County**  
952-891-7400; [www.co.dakota.mn.us/HealthFamily/FosterCare/Pages/default.aspx](http://www.co.dakota.mn.us/HealthFamily/FosterCare/Pages/default.aspx)
- **Hennepin County**  
612-348-5437; [www.hennepin.us/residents/human-services/foster-care-adoption](http://www.hennepin.us/residents/human-services/foster-care-adoption)
- **Scott County**  
952-445-7751; [www.scottcountymn.gov/213/Foster-Care-Licensing](http://www.scottcountymn.gov/213/Foster-Care-Licensing)

### Private Foster Care Agencies

- Please visit [www.mnadopt.org/fostering-network/next-steps/np-foster-care-agencies/](http://www.mnadopt.org/fostering-network/next-steps/np-foster-care-agencies/) for a list of non-profit foster care agencies in Minnesota.

### Community Resources

- Bien Aimé Farm, [www.bienaimefarm.org/](http://www.bienaimefarm.org/)  
Equine, art experiences, and events for adoptive families. Respite farmhouse for adoptive couples.
- Children's Theraplay, [www.ctplaymn.com/](http://www.ctplaymn.com/)  
Numerous types of therapy to include physical, occupational, speech, feeding, treatment for sensory processing problems etc.
- Family Attachment Center, [www.familyattachment.com/](http://www.familyattachment.com/)  
Offers a full range of mental health services, with a special emphasis on services for children.
- Foster One, [www.fosteroneministries.com/](http://www.fosteroneministries.com/)  
Foster care wraparound support and a store house for supplies during the first few weeks of placement.
- Foster the Love Minnesota, [www.fosterthelovemn.org/](http://www.fosterthelovemn.org/)  
Creates placement bags for children when they are first assigned a foster home. They also provide support and extensive resources for foster parents.

- Reel Hope, [www.thereelhopeproject.org/adoption-info/](http://www.thereelhopeproject.org/adoption-info/)  
Resources for families looking to adopt from Minnesota foster care and videos of waiting children.
- River Valley Riders, [www.rivervalleyriders.org/](http://www.rivervalleyriders.org/)  
Therapeutic horse riding program for people with physical special needs and/or mental health needs. Minimum age is 4 and rider needs a note from a doctor that says the person is able to ride a horse.
- Safe Haven Foster Shoppe, [www.safehavenfostershoppe.org/](http://www.safehavenfostershoppe.org/)  
Creates placement bags for children when they are first assigned a foster home. These bags are age, gender and size specific and are delivered to the child's new foster home upon request.
- Family Achievement Center, <https://familyachievement.com/>  
Provides speech and occupational therapy to infants, toddlers, children and young adults in a fun and motivating environment.

## Websites

- Christian Alliance for Orphans (CAFO), [www.christianalliancefororphans.org](http://www.christianalliancefororphans.org)  
CAFO unites more than 150 respected organizations and churches worldwide. They work together to inspire and equip Christians for effective orphan care, adoption, and foster care.
- Empowered to Connect, [www.empoweredtoconnect.org/](http://www.empoweredtoconnect.org/)  
Free downloadable, professional resources, including Trust-Based Relational Intervention practitioners by location.
- Focus on the Family, [www.focusonthefamily.com/resources-adoption-foster-care/](http://www.focusonthefamily.com/resources-adoption-foster-care/)  
Foster care resources, encouragement, and blog.
- The Forgotten Initiative, [www.theforgotteninitiative.org/resources/](http://www.theforgotteninitiative.org/resources/)  
Foster care and adoption resources & book recommendations.
- Hope Connections, [www.tohavehope.com/](http://www.tohavehope.com/)  
Help for foster and adoptive families to form connections through education, coaching, and hands-on experiences so that these children and their families might experience healing and a new outlook for a positive future.
- Texas Christian University, Karyn Purvis Institute of Child Development, [www.child.tcu.edu](http://www.child.tcu.edu)  
Information on Trust-Based Relational Intervention.

## Top Recommended Books

- *The Body Keeps the Score: Brain, Mind, and Body in the Healing of Trauma* by Bessel van der Kolk
- *Building the Bonds of Attachment* by Daniel A. Hughes, PhD
- *The Connected Child* by Dr. Karyn Purvis
- *The Connected Parent* by Lisa Qualls and Dr. Karyn Purvis

## Other Books

- *Beyond Consequences, Logic and Control*, by Heather T. Forbes, LCSW and B. Bryan Post, LCSW
- *Faith, Hope, & Connection: A 30-Day Devotional for Adoptive and Foster Parents* by Melissa Corkum & Lisa Qualls
- *Honestly Adoption: Answers to 101 Questions About Adoption and Foster Care* by Mike & Kristin Berry

- *Transforming the Difficult Child: The Nurtured Heart Approach* by Howard Glasser and Jennifer Easley
- *The Whole-Brain Child: 12 Revolutionary Strategies to Nurture Your Child's Developing Mind* by Daniel J. Siegel & Tina Payne Bryson

## **Podcasts**

- *Adoption-Wise (also applies to foster care)*
- *Connected Families: Parenting Kids From Hard Places (Episode 45)*
- *Empowered to Connect*
- *The Honestly Adoption Podcast (also applies to foster care)*
- *The Forgotten Podcast: Meeting you right where you are on your foster care journey*
- *All Things Sensory*