



PLACEMENT CARE KITS

A practical, low-cost ministry that provides essential items and comfort to children entering foster care—often with little or nothing of their own. These kits bring dignity, stability, and reassurance during one of the most stressful moments a child and foster family may ever face.

MINISTRY VISION & PURPOSE

Why the Church Cares for Foster Children

VISION

The Placement Care Kits Ministry demonstrates the love of Christ by meeting an immediate and tangible need at the moment a child enters foster care. Children often arrive with no clothes, toiletries, or comfort items. A thoughtful, age-appropriate kit communicates dignity, care, and compassion during the most vulnerable hours of their transition.

BIBLICAL BASIS

Scripture reveals God's heart for vulnerable children and families in crisis. Throughout the Old and New Testaments, the people of God are commanded to see, protect, and support those experiencing instability, trauma, or abandonment.

"Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress."

— **James 1:27**

Caring for children entering foster care echoes the ministry of Jesus—who notices the overlooked, comforts the hurting, and meets practical needs with gentleness.

PURPOSE

To provide ready-to-go kits filled with essential items, comfort objects, and encouragement for children entering foster care, helping stabilize their first 24–48 hours in a new home.

This ministry reflects Christ's compassion, helps foster families respond more effectively to emergency placements, and supports the broader goal of providing safety and reassurance to children navigating trauma and change.

WHY CARE KITS MATTER

Children entering care are often removed quickly, with little time to gather personal belongings. Many children arrive with:

- Clothes that don't fit or are not weather-appropriate
- No pajamas, socks, or underwear
- No hygiene items
- No comfort item to help them feel secure
- No toys, books, or personal belongings

A Placement Care Kit:

- Brings **peace and stability** during a chaotic transition
- Meets **immediate physical needs**
- Helps children feel **seen and valued**
- Reduces stress on foster parents in the crucial first days
- Gives the church an opportunity to enter a story of **healing and restoration**

This ministry is simple but deeply meaningful.

HOW IT WORKS

A foster family or agency requests a kit

Families can submit a short request form or contact the coordinator directly when a placement arrives.

A ministry coordinator assembles or assigns the kit

The coordinator pulls from pre-prepared kits or contacts a volunteer to assemble one for the child's age and size.

A volunteer delivers the kit

Kits are delivered quietly, respectfully, and with confidentiality—typically using a simple porch-drop method unless the family requests interaction.

The coordinator restocks supplies

After each delivery, inventory is replenished so the ministry is always ready for the next placement.

WHAT'S INCLUDED IN EACH KIT

STANDARD ITEMS FOR ALL AGES

- Pajamas
- Socks
- Underwear (new, sealed)
- Travel-size toiletries (shampoo, body wash, toothbrush kit)
- Comfort item (soft blanket or stuffed animal)
- A simple activity (coloring book, crayons, fidget item, small puzzle)
- Scripture or encouragement card

AGE-SPECIFIC ADD-ONS

Baby (0–2 years):

- Diapers
- Wipes
- Bottle
- Pacifier
- Baby lotion

Toddler (2–5 years):

- Sippy cup
- Board book
- Toddler toothbrush

Child (6–12 years):

- Toothbrush kit
- Small chapter book or activity book

Teen (13–17 years):

- Journal
- Deodorant
- Cozy socks
- Age-appropriate hygiene products

LEADER'S ROLE

- Introduce the ministry to the congregation
- Recruit volunteers for assembly and delivery
- Maintain storage and inventory
- Respond to kit requests quickly and compassionately
- Coordinate deliveries
- Ensure guidelines are followed
- Celebrate stories and highlight impact

VOLUNTEER COMMITMENT

- Assemble kits (monthly or as needed)
- Deliver kits when available
- Protect confidentiality
- Follow delivery etiquette and safety guidelines
- Pray for the child receiving the kit

CHURCH NEEDS TO LAUNCH

- **10–20 volunteers**
- **Ministry coordinator**
- **Storage area** for kits and supplies
- **Request form** for families/agencies
- **Standard packing lists**
- **Announcement slides & social graphics**

This ministry is low-cost, easy to start, and simple to maintain.

IMPACT

The Placement Care Kits Ministry:

- Raises awareness about foster care in your congregation
- Builds trust with foster families and agencies
- Equips families to welcome children well
- Provides an easy service opportunity for new volunteers
- Helps children feel safe, valued, and supported
- Aligns with James 1:27 by meeting real needs in a compassionate, practical way

BUDGET BREAKDOWN

Cost Per Kit

Standard Care Kit Supplies:

- Pajamas: \$10-\$15
- Socks: \$5-\$10
- Underwear: \$5-\$10
- Toiletries: \$5-\$10
- Comfort item: \$5-\$10
- Activity item: \$5-\$10
- Bag or cinch sack: \$1-\$3

Typical Cost per Kit: \$50-\$65

Age-Specific Add-Ons

- Baby items: +\$10-\$20
- Teen hygiene items: +\$5-\$10

Annual Estimate (Small Church)

If a church supports 12 placements per year:

Estimated yearly cost: \$450-\$650

Notes for Churches

- Most costs can be offset through donation drives
- Members love contributing items
- Bulk purchasing reduces cost
- Kits remain low-cost but high-impact

PARTNERSHIP POSSIBILITIES

- County Child Welfare Offices
- Foster Family Agencies (FFAs)
- Foster & Adoptive Family Support Groups
- Local Schools

- CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates)
- Community Organizations Serving Foster Youth
- Family Resource Centers
- Crisis Nurseries
- Nonprofit Mentorship Programs
- Other Local Churches

PLACEMENT CARE KIT REQUEST FORM (TEMPLATE)

Name:

Phone:

Address:

Child's Age/Size:

Urgent Needs:

Preferred Delivery Time:

Special Notes or Sensitivities:

PROMOTION SCRIPTS

30-Second Announcement

"We are launching a Placement Care Kits Ministry to bless children entering foster care. Many children arrive with almost nothing. A simple kit—filled with pajamas, toiletries, and comfort items—brings dignity and comfort during a stressful time. If you'd like to help assemble or donate items, visit the lobby or sign up online."

Social Media Text (Short)

New Ministry: Placement Care Kits

Help support children entering foster care by donating items or assembling a kit. Your kindness brings comfort and stability in their first hours. 💙

QUESTIONS TO ASK (EVALUATION)

1. Are kits being delivered quickly when requested?
2. Is the inventory system organized and easy to use?
3. Are the items in kits meeting real needs for families?
4. Are volunteers serving at a sustainable pace?
5. Are children receiving appropriate items for their age and stage?
6. Is delivery being done confidentially and respectfully?
7. Is the church hearing stories that reinforce the ministry's value?
8. Are kits consistently stocked and ready?
9. Are we effectively communicating the availability of care kits?
10. Are community partners (agencies, nonprofits) aware of this resource?

VOLUNTEER QUICK GUIDE

Before You Assemble

- Use only new items
- Follow the packing list
- Pray briefly for the child

During Assembly

- Keep kits neat, clean, and age-appropriate
- Use cinch bags or clear containers
- Include an encouragement card

Delivery

- Porch-drop preferred
- Text the family before arrival
- Respect confidentiality
- Keep interaction brief and positive

After Delivery

- Report completion to coordinator
- Note any restocking needs
- Continue praying for the child

