



Safe Families
for Children



IMPACT REPORT

SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN WEST GA

2024



Safe Families
for Children

a program of Twin Cedars Youth & Family Services, Inc.



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LETTER FROM COORDINATOR

Dear Safe Families Community,

I hope this letter finds you well. As the year comes to a close, we wanted to take a moment to reflect on the impact our program has had and share some of the accomplishments we've achieved together. Thanks to your continued support, dedication, and partnership, we've been able to make a meaningful difference in the lives of countless children and families in our community.

Throughout the year, Safe Families has remained committed to keeping kids safe and families together, as we join hands together and become a community for those who do not have the support they deserve.

Here are just a few highlights of our efforts and successes:

- We hosted 37 children in our homes
- We served 62 families.
- We served 135 children.
- We are proud to report that 98% of our hostings are reunited with their families and are in a safe and stable environment.
- We have added approximately 50 new volunteer.
- We have extended our program into the Columbus area with two churches there who are involved with Safe Families.
- We have 15 churches participating in Troup County.
- We had two very successful family friendly fundraisers which included, our 1st annual Mother/Son Dance and our 2nd Annual Pancakes and Pajamas with Santa and Mrs. Claus.
- We received grants from Kia, Charles Hudson, and Davison Bruce Foundation.
- And because of this community and the countless partners we have made in ministry, we have provided resources such as, groceries, clothes, baby items, home supplies, rides to school, mentorships, utility fees, financial help with rent, motel stays, school supplies, summer camp fees, dental work, furniture, car repairs, Thanksgiving dinners, Christmas for 65 children, etc... The number of resources given this year is impossible to count.

As we move into the new year, we remain more committed than ever to creating a safe and influential environment for every child in our care. Your continued support—whether through volunteer work, donations, or simply spreading the word—allows us to keep doing this vital work. We look forward to building on these successes and continuing to make a difference in the lives of children and families in our community.

Thank you for your unwavering support.

Our core values are radical hospitality, disruptive generosity, and intentional compassion. Together, we are providing a safe alternative to foster care, building strong and resilient families, and creating extended family-like supports for people who need it most.

Warm regards,
Brooke Outland Bryant
Safe Families Coordinator
Cell: 706-616-8028
Email: bbryant@twincedar.org






MISSION OVERVIEW

OUR MISSION

Safe Families for Children (SFFC) hosts children and creates extended family-like support for isolated parents who have nowhere else to turn through a community of devoted volunteers motivated to keep children safe and families together.

OBJECTIVES

-  Stabilize and strengthen families
-  Prevent child abuse and neglect
-  Reduce the number of children necessarily entering foster care

TRANSFORMING LIVES THROUGH RADICAL, EVERYDAY HOSPITALITY

"Radically ordinary hospitality is this: using your Christian home
in a daily way that seeks to make strangers neighbors,
and neighbors family of God."

-ROSARIA BUTTERFIELD



CORE VALUES



REASONS FOR REFERRAL

- Lack of family support
- Unemployment
- Substance abuse
- Medical emergencies
- Mental Health
- Domestic Violence
- Insecure Housing
- Incarceration



Imagine with me for just a moment..... that as a parent you have no safe person to turn to for support throughout the daily journey called life. No one..... This thought is often very hard to take in for those of us who have never found ourselves in this position!

As a Parent-Aide working with families throughout our community, I have witnessed first-hand the positive and loving demonstration of services in which Safe Families has effectively demonstrated towards those in need of a stronger support network. I have found Safe Families to always respond in a timely, professional and caring manner. Safe Families lovingly assesses the unique characteristics associated with those in need; bridging the gap from fear towards trust. Safe Families is a critical link towards strengthening a family's support network in the provision of safe, dedicated and loving caregivers; and very often being the vital component in moving a case forward throughout transitioning a child home. Troup County, Georgia has indeed been greatly impacted through the generous support and dedication of Safe Families; providing a bright ray of hope for those in need! Thank you, Safe Families, for your light that always shines!

In a Client's own words:

Client #1: "Not having family in Georgia, I learned about the Safe Families program and it was a lifesaver to me on a few different occasion. I could not have made it through a couple of months without them! Safe Families have been extremely friendly! They are all so kind and have the best support system. My girls loved the couple of families they spent time with; they treated them as their own. We truly appreciate the program".

Client #2: "Knowing you have someone to turn to in your life can really change all aspects. When you do not have a support system, it can keep you in a dark place. Safe Families helps you to receive light in your family".

-Gail Woodward/Parent-Aide/West Georgia Counseling



FAMILIES SERVED

FAMILIES SUPPORTED

37 children
hosted

62 Families
served

135 kids served



DEMOGRAPHICS

100%

SINGLE
PARENTS

100%

BELOW
POVERTY
LINE

98%

REUNIFICATION
RATE

“

All of this—your love, support, prayers, and encouragement—has been the reason I’ve been able to stay afloat.



I don’t even know where to start, but I will try to express how much Safe Families and the families who became like my own have meant to me.

When I first met the Campbells through Safe Families, I had no idea how deeply they would impact my life. From the very beginning, they were there for me, especially when I had Thomas. Anna Campbell joined me in the delivery room so that I wouldn’t be alone giving birth. Their support gave me the strength to keep going in one of the most challenging times of life.

When it came time for Everette’s birth, Brooke Bryant and Anna were there for me, helping me through labor, offering comfort and encouragement. I honestly don’t know what I would’ve done without you both. I think of you both as my sisters now and my boys are so blessed to have you as their “Aunts”. Safe Families have helped me in so many practical ways. From the dental work I needed to help me keep my car running when I was struggling financially, the people of this ministry is always there. When I was out of work during my high-risk pregnancy, you all made sure I had food and the necessities I needed to stay afloat. Then, after Everette was born, you continued to support me, providing food and helping with bills during an incredibly tough time of adjusting to being a single mom to two kids under two years of age.

The community I have gained through Safe Families have advocated for me in ways I never could have, making sure life goes as smoothly as possible for us.

You gave my boys clothes, car seats, toys, and beds. You have given me moral support, love, mentorship, and compassion. I know without a doubt that we are prayed over daily and that you are all a phone call away.

All of this, your love, support, prayers, and encouragement—has been the reason I’ve been able to stay afloat. Safe Families and the families I’ve met through this program have truly been a blessing to me, and I can never thank you enough for everything you’ve done.

Hilary, Parent Partner

A photograph of three women from behind, embracing each other. The woman on the left has long dark hair, the middle woman has dark hair in a bun, and the woman on the right has dark curly hair. They are all wearing light-colored tops. The background is a soft-focus outdoor setting.

CHURCH ENGAGEMENT

LETTER FROM A PARTNER PASTOR

Having Safe Families at our church has been an incredible blessing, not only to the families we serve but also to our church family as a whole. I have seen firsthand how this ministry embodies the love of Christ in a tangible way by welcoming the vulnerable, supporting struggling parents, and providing a true sense of community for those who might otherwise feel alone. Families in crisis have found hope, children have experienced stability and love, and our congregation has been transformed by the radical hospitality and generosity that this ministry encourages. It has challenged us to step beyond comfort and into sacrificial love, living out the Gospel in real and meaningful ways. I am grateful for the way Safe Families has helped our church be the hands and feet of Jesus.

-Adam Camp, Rosemont Baptist Church





SPRING AND WINTER FUNDRAISERS

.....

Denim and Diamonds
Mother Son Dance and
Pancakes and Pajamas with
Santa raised over \$31,000
profit to use to continue to
support families in crisis

.....



CREATING CIRCLES OF SUPPORT

Sandy's Experience as a Safe Families Volunteer



My name is Sandy. I moved to Lagrange in June 2021. I felt nudged to help with Foster Families in some way, but nothing seemed to fit. And then I heard about Safe Families in 2022.

One of my first placements was an emergency need for a mom with 4 children. She was moving into a new apartment but as she moved into the old one, the new public housing had a problem and delayed her move in date. She had nowhere to stay. Her older two could stay with her mom but there was not enough room for all of them. I took in the 2 youngest children for a week or so. They were placed late in the day with only car seats and some clothes. I remember thinking "what have I gotten myself into" and then another Safe Family volunteer showed up to my house with sippy cups, booster chair, diapers and other things I needed. I knew then I wasn't alone, and that SF was a team ministry. The week went fine, and I learned what a blessing SF is for a family and how powerful a little help in a time of need was for people in our community. And I knew this was an excellent fit for me as a volunteer.

Another placement I helped with was an aunt that took in 2 of her 4 nieces when mom went to jail. The aunt was struggling to figure out how to be a single mom and provide for 2 preschool children. As a family friend and host, I was set up to do respite care of taking care of the girls a couple of weekends a month. Over time I was able to also pick them up on Wednesday nights from daycare and bring them to church. The Family Advocacy Ministry at our church paid for their dinner and the girls loved going to the preschool programs. On weekends I would take them to church and all the staff and church members they connected with loved on them deeply. I also started developing a relationship with the aunt and helped her figure out the glitch that was keeping the girls from being on Medicaid and other programs. I found out the power of relationships and just being there as a friend, and encourager and to help work through things physically or emotionally. The aunt became connected with programs like Gift of Love to help with Christmas and introduced to Circles to help with goal setting and budgeting. Even though the girls are now out of state, I am still in touch and encourage the aunt as she plans for her future. She is attending a community church now on the weekends she isn't working. I hope to visit there with her one weekend soon.

I have continued to be able to accept placements both Family Friend and Hosting since my beginning as a volunteer. In my most recent volunteer role I have been assisting an aunt that has guardianship over her nephews. The last time I helped watch the boys she was even able to help me out with a handyman type project that I could not do on my own. Isn't that what it is all about? Loving on and lending a hand to those in need so they can others! What better reward for being a part of Safe Families to see families get stable enough to pay it forward to another in need!! I am thankful and privileged to be a small part of Safe Family in Lagrange!

-Sandy, Host and Family Friend Volunteer since 2022

STAFF

**Brooke Bryant, Program
Coordinator**



**Brittany Hutchinson,
Outreach and Event Liaison**

