



FAM

FAMILY ADVOCACY MINISTRY

Because children need families



FAMILY ADVOCACY MINISTRY



FAM help provide what vulnerable children need most: **strong families.**

FAMs look different from church to church. The direction of your FAM depends on the heart of your congregation and the needs of at-risk kids in your local community.

God promises to “set the lonely in families” (Psalm 68:6), and FAM is dedicated to joining this effort.



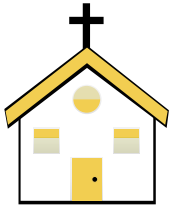
Send
Relief



WHY FAM?



Did you know that about 75% of foster care cases are due to neglect? By providing support for struggling families *before* foster care is a necessity, **FAM helps prevent children from entering the child welfare system.**



Fostering is hard work! In fact, the national average of families who continue fostering after their first year is about 50%, but when supported by a FAM and its wrap-around support, **90% continue fostering into a second year.**



Each year, 23,000 children age out of foster care without a permanent or lasting sense of family. Many of these kids end up homeless, incarcerated or victims of human trafficking. **FAM help children and families connect for a lifetime,** either through reunification or adoption.



Send
Relief



A background image of several children playing outdoors, reaching up and blowing bubbles. The image is overlaid with a semi-transparent dark blue filter.

THE ROLE *of an* ADVOCATE

Advocates are the champions of a FAM. With a pastor's blessing, an Advocate will custom build a FAM to match the identity and passion of the congregation. These Advocates are equipped with resources and ongoing support to help them build a sustainable ministry.

Advocates are typically Lay Leaders with a passion for the cause. This means pastors don't have to do the heavy lifting of this ministry!



**Send
Relief**



THE PASTOR'S ROLE



Offer a blessing for an Advocate to start a FAM in your church.



Be on the lookout for additional Advocates to join the ministry team.



Share the work of the church's FAM and the needs of vulnerable children and families.



Pray for and encourage Advocates leading a FAM in the church.



**Send
Relief**



HOW TO LAUNCH A FAM IN YOUR CHURCH



Identify Advocates to lead the FAM.



The pastor acknowledges support of the ministry's formation.



Advocates attend a **training to learn how to lead a FAM.**



Advocates launch the ministry with the consultation, resource and support of Send Relief.



**Send
Relief**





Learn more about FAM at
SendRelief.org/FAM