

# Family Strengthening

"God places the lonely in families..." Psalm 68:6 NLT

The next generation depends on today's children, and the future of Indiana's kids has been in crisis for some time. Substance abuse, family instability, and financial insecurity risk the well-being of children. We want to see families and all children thrive and come around them for support and help during times of crisis.

# **Serving Options:**

## APPRECIATION GIFTS

**HOW YOU CAN SERVE:** Pack an appreciation gift and drop it off at our Traders Point Northwest, North, or Downtown campuses on Sunday, October 4, from 8am-5pm, and at the West campus from 8am-12pm.

The employees of our city's organizations that serve vulnerable children and families have hard jobs. They see, hear, and navigate some of the darkest places on earth. The turnover rate is very high. We want to show them the love of Jesus and our appreciation so they can continue doing their critical work.

Simply follow these steps:

#### STEP 1

#### Purchase office supplies.

If you're doing this as a group, decide who will purchase each item. You'll need one of each for every bag. Please keep all bags gender neutral.

- Post-It notes
- Post-It tabs
- Flair pens
- Sharpies
- Dry erase markers
- Mechanical pencils
- Fun paper clips / Binder clips
- Fun pushpins
- · Small notebook
- Blank cards or thank you cards

- Bag or box big enough to hold all the items
- Ribbon to close bag or box (if needed)
- Include an invitation to church – Handwrite a note or print one off from social media.
- If you'd like ideas or want to easily purchase items, check out this Amazon Wishlist.

#### STEP 2

#### Assemble.

Create the gift as a family or join together with your group. Write a handwritten note thanking them for their work. Pray over the gifts and for the person who will receive it.

#### STEP 3

#### Drop off.

Completed gifts can be dropped off at our Traders Point Northwest, North, or Downtown campuses on Sunday, October 4 from 8am-5pm, and at the West campus from 8am-12pm.

#### **IMPORTANT TIPS**

- If you want to include gift cards, they must be for no more than \$20 each.
- Give brand new items, not used.
- You may create as many or as few appreciation gifts as you'd like.

# **CARE COMMUNITIES**

HOW YOU CAN SERVE: Join a Care Community.

A Care Community comes alongside a foster family and gives needed support – anything from prayer to meals to housework. They provide ongoing support through a variety of roles including family helper, child mentor, and team leader. If you're ready to jump in or simply want to learn more, we'd love for you to attend our next volunteer orientation!

#### SIGN UP FOR VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION

LEARN MORE ABOUT CARE COMMUNITIES

Choose "I'd like to serve in Foster & Adoption Ministry."

### STR8UP MINISTRIES

HOW YOU CAN SERVE: Participate in a work day at the Str8Up Campus or provide items to care for kids.

Through the neighborhood youth lodge, Straight Up Ministries provides a local environment with activities to strengthen families and mentor youth in a variety of ways, particularly in the areas of life skills training, academic tutoring, and leadership development. They offer these activities at no financial cost to the youth and families. They also harness the energy and innovative ideas of the youth to give back to the community through neighborhood work days, tutoring, and other practical help.

# SIGN UP TO SERVE OR PROVIDE MATERIAL RESOURCES

#### **PURCHASE ITEMS HERE**

Please ship items directly to the Northwest Campus: 6590 S Indianapolis Rd | Whitestown, IN 46075-9509

# **CAREPORTAL**

**HOW YOU CAN SERVE:** Sign up to receive emails for CarePortal requests.

In every community, there are children and families at a point of crisis who need help. CarePortal exists to help hurting children and families. All requests submitted through CarePortal come from case workers at the Department of Child Services (DCS). By signing up, you will receive CarePortal requests via email.

SIGN UP TO RECEIVE CAREPORTAL REQUESTS VIA EMAIL

**LEARN MORE ABOUT CAREPORTAL** 

### LIFE CENTERS

HOW YOU CAN SERVE: Purchase items to make a new baby bundle.

Life Centers provides free confidential services, including pregnancy tests and one-on-one counseling to women who find themselves with difficult decisions to make. They also provide support services, resources, and a post-abortion recovery ministry to help women after those decisions have been made.

#### **PURCHASE ITEMS HERE**

**LEARN MORE ABOUT LIFE CENTERS** 

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