



Bringing hope home

FAITHBRIDGE FOSTER CARE 2019 ANNUAL REPORT

Dear Ministry Partners,

There are no words to express how grateful I am for all you did in 2019 for the children and families we served. Thank you!

Your faithful support helped 463 foster children live in safe, loving Christian homes. That's an increase of 11.8% over the previous year. This represents 82,896 nights that children were in clean, warm beds and 82,896 days they were cared for and nurtured by a foster family.

We wish that children were not being abused and neglected so they would not have to enter foster care, but we are passionately committed to continue bringing hope, healing, and love to these children. You were the catalyst to help these vulnerable children heal from their trauma, provide encouragement to foster families in their journey, and help restore broken families to what God intended for them. None of this could have been possible without you!

Every child has a deep sense that “family” and “home” should be forever, and Christian foster families nurture that hope. We are accelerating our work with church partners and their Communities of Care to serve more foster children because even in the darkest moments, God’s hope runs deep.

We won’t stop until there are more than enough homes for all foster children, and we believe we can help provide the next 2,000 children with safe, loving Christian foster homes by the end of 2022.

You are a vital part of this bold plan. Thank you for helping to make it a reality.

You play a key role in caring for foster children and their birth parents. You are doing justice and what the Lord requires of you.

I will keep you updated with good news on our progress as we move forward together. Thank you again for all you do for FaithBridge Foster Care children and this ministry.

Bob J. Bruden-Matton
President and CEO

HE HAS TOLD YOU, O MAN, WHAT IS GOOD; AND
WHAT DOES THE LORD REQUIRE OF YOU BUT TO
DO JUSTICE, AND TO LOVE KINDNESS, AND TO
WALK HUMBLY WITH YOUR GOD?

- MICAH 6:8 -



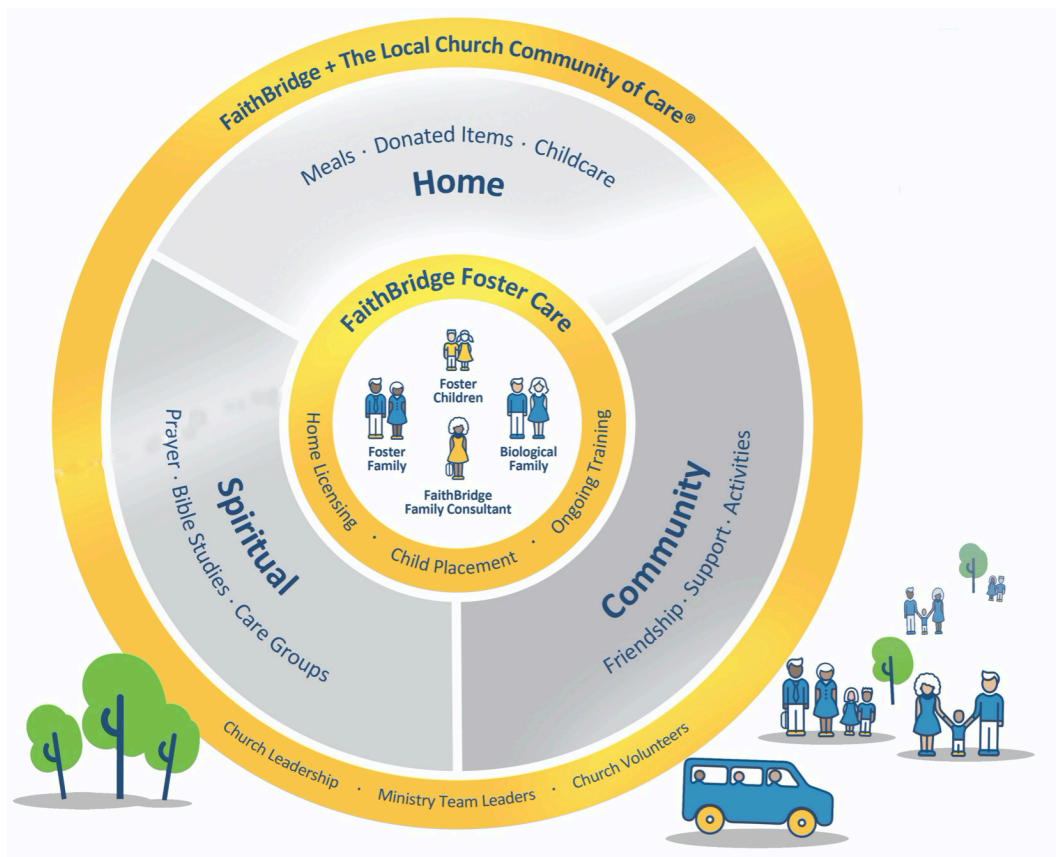
TOGETHER WE BRING HOPE, HEALING, AND LOVE TO GEORGIA’S FOSTER CHILDREN.

When children are brought in to foster care, they need families to help them heal from the trauma of neglect and abuse. FaithBridge Foster Care is the largest Georgia-based and Christ-centered child placement agency in the state. We recruit, train, and support foster families in local churches and license them to provide community-based, short- and long-term traditional, medically fragile and therapeutic care for foster children in Georgia.

Our vision is for every foster child to experience the hope, healing, and unconditional love of Jesus Christ and our mission is to mobilize, organize, and equip local churches to solve their community’s foster care crisis.

We pioneered the Community of Care® model which is designed to surround every foster family with a network of volunteers and professionals providing the support they need to provide safe and stable homes for foster children. Each family is also paired with a FaithBridge Foster Family Consultant who will walk through the journey of foster care with them.

[CLICK HERE TO WATCH A BRIEF VIDEO.](#)





Highlights of hope

THE MEYEROWITZ FAMILY

the team players.

It was important to the Meyerowitz family to find a way to give back to their community. They felt that volunteering to provide respite support to foster families in their church, Mt. Bethel UMC, seemed like a good fit.

“It has been a good experience. So far, we have volunteered to babysit and provide respite for three boys.” Says Nancy Meyerowitz. “There have been times when we feel that, as a family, we had too much going on. However, when we took a minute to step back and take our eyes off of our own problems, there is great clarity about what’s important.”

Volunteering has helped them understand the realities of fostering outside the negative stereotypes about foster children in the media.

“

Through this experience, we have been able to connect with people that we wouldn’t normally connect with. With two boys and their friends, it always feels like there are 20 kids in the house! What’s another one or two?

”

FAITHBRIDGE BY THE NUMBERS

1,156

**INDIVIDUALS WERE
INTRODUCED TO
FOSTER CARE**

24

**CHURCHES JOINED
US AS
PARTNERS**

**A 700% INCREASE
OVER 2018!**



Highlights of hope

THE CALHOUN FAMILY

opened
eyes and
hearts.

FaithBridge foster parent, Stacey Calhoun has learned that you can't do it by yourself. "It takes a village and teamwork. First it takes trust and faith in God, because he is your true source of strength. It takes support from your spouse and family. I also learned how important it is to ask for help when you need it and how important the Community of Care is."

God has shown up in powerful ways – not the least of which was when the Meyerowitz family offered, on short notice, to do respite for them. "We also saw God with all of the meals we received and people providing for the boys' needs, such as clothing, and bedding because we had the room set up for girls! God always provides what we need – including the helpful advice we get from our FaithBridge family consultant."

“

Before fostering, we were a family of six who lived in a bubble. Now we see what a need there is to step out of our comfort zone and push ourselves to where God is calling us.

”

FAITHBRIDGE
BY THE NUMBERS

100
FOSTER PARENTS
RECEIVED THEIR
LICENSE

463
CHILDREN
WERE SERVED

AN 11.8% INCREASE
OVER 2018!



Highlights of hope

THE FORT FAMILY

being part of the solution.

“As a school counselor, I experience the reasons why children are removed from their homes. I have the privilege of praying for the children, but like in the book of Nehemiah, I want to pray and take action. Our family’s action is to financially support FaithBridge, so we can be a part of the healing process both for the child and the parent.” says Wendy Fort, FaithBridge monthly donor.

“

We were totally sold on the concept of godly foster parents who would be supported by a church family. At this point in our lives, becoming foster parents is not possible so we were excited to know that we could help children by giving financially.

”

Wendy’s desire is to make an impact in the lives of foster children as well as their families. “Our hope is that the children who have been impacted by FaithBridge foster care families will break the cycle of abuse by growing up to be Jesus followers who love themselves and others.”

FAITHBRIDGE BY THE NUMBERS

99.16%

OF FAITHBRIDGE FOSTER
CHILDREN HAVE FOUND
STABILITY IN ONE FOSTER HOME

92%

OF CHILDREN WHO LEFT
FAITHBRIDGE FOSTER HOMES
WERE REUNIFIED WITH
FAMILY OR ADOPTED



hope runs deep.

Morgan's heart shattered when she heard her mom speak words no child should hear "You can take her. I don't want her."

Morgan had just made the difficult decision to call the police to help her get out of a difficult situation.

In 2019 we launched Hope Runs Deep, which is a God-sized vision to care for 2,000 more children, just like Morgan, by 2022. In our first 12 years, FaithBridge has cared for 2,711 children. We are confident that we can serve 2,000 more by 2022.

The cost to care for just one child is \$2,000 a year (this reflects the additional amount FaithBridge must raise per child, above and beyond existing state funding) and our goal is to raise \$4,000,000 by 2022.

By December 31, we raised \$151,000 to this effort, ensuring safe, Christian homes for 75 foster children. We continue to strive ahead to our goal of serving 2,000 children by 2022.

Thankfully, Morgan's story didn't end with calling the police.

Because of a FaithBridge foster family, Morgan is now living a whole new chapter of her life. [Watch Morgan's story here.](#)

Highlights of hope

HOPE RUNS DEEP

FAITHBRIDGE BY THE NUMBERS

82,896

**NUMBER OF NIGHTS
CHILDREN HAVE BEEN IN
CHRISTIAN HOMES**

**A 10.5% INCREASE
OVER 2018!**

"I have invested in FaithBridge from the very beginning because **THE KIND OF HOMES CHILDREN ARE IN IS IMPORTANT.**"

RICK JACKSON
CEO/JACKSON HEALTHCARE
BOARD CHAIR
FAITHBRIDGE FOSTER CARE

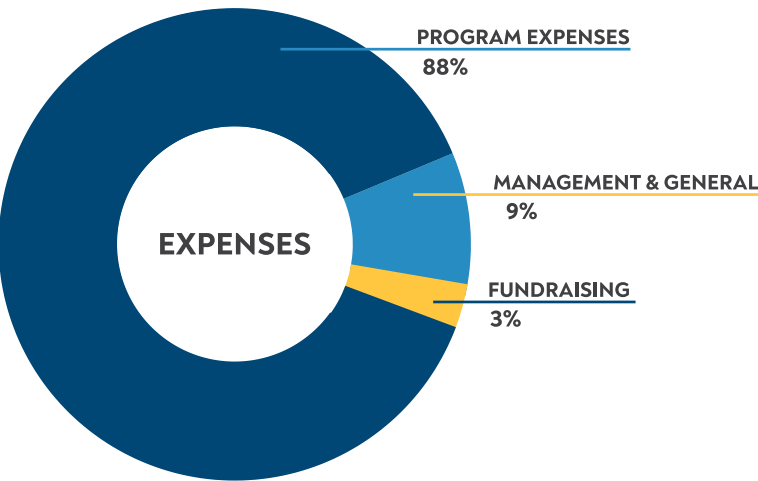
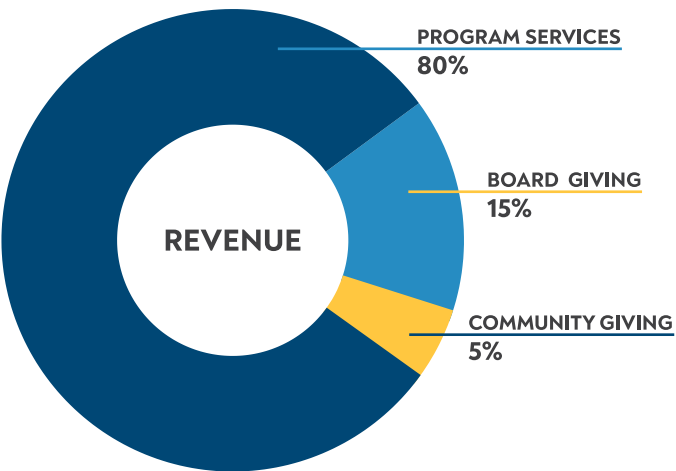
2019 overview.

Contributions from our Board of Directors cover all management, general, and fundraising expenses.

100% of every dollar goes directly to help foster children!

BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP

- Richard L. Jackson, Board Chair
- Michael Kendrick, Treasurer
- Wayne Stolz, Secretary
- Laurence Powell
- Charles R. Evans
- Bob Bruder-Mattson, President & CEO



“We were inspired to keep our goal and open our home in January to finally begin this journey God has called us to. So many wonderful people setting the example! And I was blown away by God answering my specific prayer request and placing my husband and I at a table with a couple that live 7 minutes away from us who also foster and homeschool!

- 2019 FaithBridge Institute Attendee -

THANK YOU!

You made all of this possible.

With your help, this past year, FaithBridge Foster Care has been able to serve even more children in foster care than previous years. We are ramping up our efforts to provide more foster homes so that more children can find hope.

hope starts here.

With your help, by 2022 we can serve the next 2,000 children in foster care through our Hope Runs Deep campaign. Go to [FAITHBRIDGEFOSTERCARE.ORG/2022](https://faithbridgefostercare.org/2022) to learn more.



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