A Giving Tuesday Campaign

IMMEASURABLY MORE



faithbridgefostercare.org

Imagine you're eight years old...

You're home on a Saturday, watching TV with your siblings. Your stomach growls. A reminder that it isn't a school day and there will be no lunch. You're trying your best to ignore the hunger pains when **your mom and her boyfriend start to fight. Again.**

You gather your brother and sister and take them to the bedroom you share. **You stay quiet, hoping the neighbors don't hear the fighting.**

Suddenly, you see blue and red lights flash outside the window. Everything is happening so fast, and you don't really understand what's going on. Before you know it, you and your siblings are sitting in an office. Mom is nowhere to be found and there is still no food to eat. You hear a grownup talking on the phone. "No one can take all three? What about the little ones? I could find a different home for the older one."

That's when you realize you aren't going back to your home. You think to yourself, "A different home? For me?" You try desperately not to cry.

A few hours later, you're in front of a house and a couple opens the door. The woman bends down so you can see her eyes. "We have a room ready for you, come on inside."

You follow her without looking back for your brother and sister, too afraid you'll cry. Then you notice the beds. Three of them. All made up. A teddy bear sits on each pillow.

Your eyes fill with tears. ***They made room for all three of you.***

> **Then something strange happens. The couple tells you how special you are and that they care about you.**

You gather your siblings to bring them to the room. **The house is unfamiliar, but already it feels safer than the familiar one you just left.** You're so relieved to be together, but now you can't stop thinking about Mom. **"Does she know where we are? Is she looking for us?"**

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The smell of food reminds you of your hunger. You all sit down around a big table and then they close their eyes and thank God for you. They ask Him to bring you peace and comfort and to keep Mom safe. **This is the first time you have ever heard anyone pray.**

After praying, the woman looks at you again. “I know we’ve only just met, but I promise we’ll take care of you until you can see your mom again. Jesus loves you,” she says. “You are not alone.”

You can’t figure out why, but for the first time in a long time, you begin to feel safe. **That night you sleep better than you have in a very long time.**

> **This is a real experience of a child who has been welcomed into a FaithBridge home.**

And it is why we do what we do. So that every child who enters a FaithBridge home is safe and can begin healing, reminded that they matter, and shown the love of Jesus.

But our vision reaches far beyond that first night. We want to see more children in safe, loving, Christian homes so that they can heal, provide more foster families with the support they need to keep saying yes, and equip young adults to thrive long after their time in foster care ends.



You can help us get there.

Immeasurably More

Since 2007, we've believed the local church is the real answer to the foster care crisis. That belief became our mission: to mobilize, organize, and equip local churches to solve their community's foster care crisis. Every FaithBridge family is surrounded by a local church community that provides the kind of support that no state agency can offer.

For nearly 20 years, our foster families and staff have stepped into the darkest nights and hours of a child's life, ensuring each one would experience the hope, healing, and unconditional love of Jesus Christ.

> **And yet, God is doing Immeasurably More than we ever could have dreamed or imagined.**

To date, our families provided more than 920,000 nights in loving, Christian homes. **This year we're on pace to add 60,000 more nights where children are shown that they matter, that they belong, that they are safe, and they can heal.**



By our 20th anniversary next year, we believe we'll cross one million nights of care. That's more nights than have passed since the birth of Jesus!

While we celebrate what God has done, the challenges of foster care are only increasing. Children are coming into our care having experienced significantly more trauma than ever before. Many also have higher physical and medical needs such as feeding tubes, autism, and fetal alcohol syndrome to name just a few. New foster families are not yet equipped to care for the elevated needs of these children. And young adults are aging out into an increasingly difficult world without the family or support system most of us rely on.

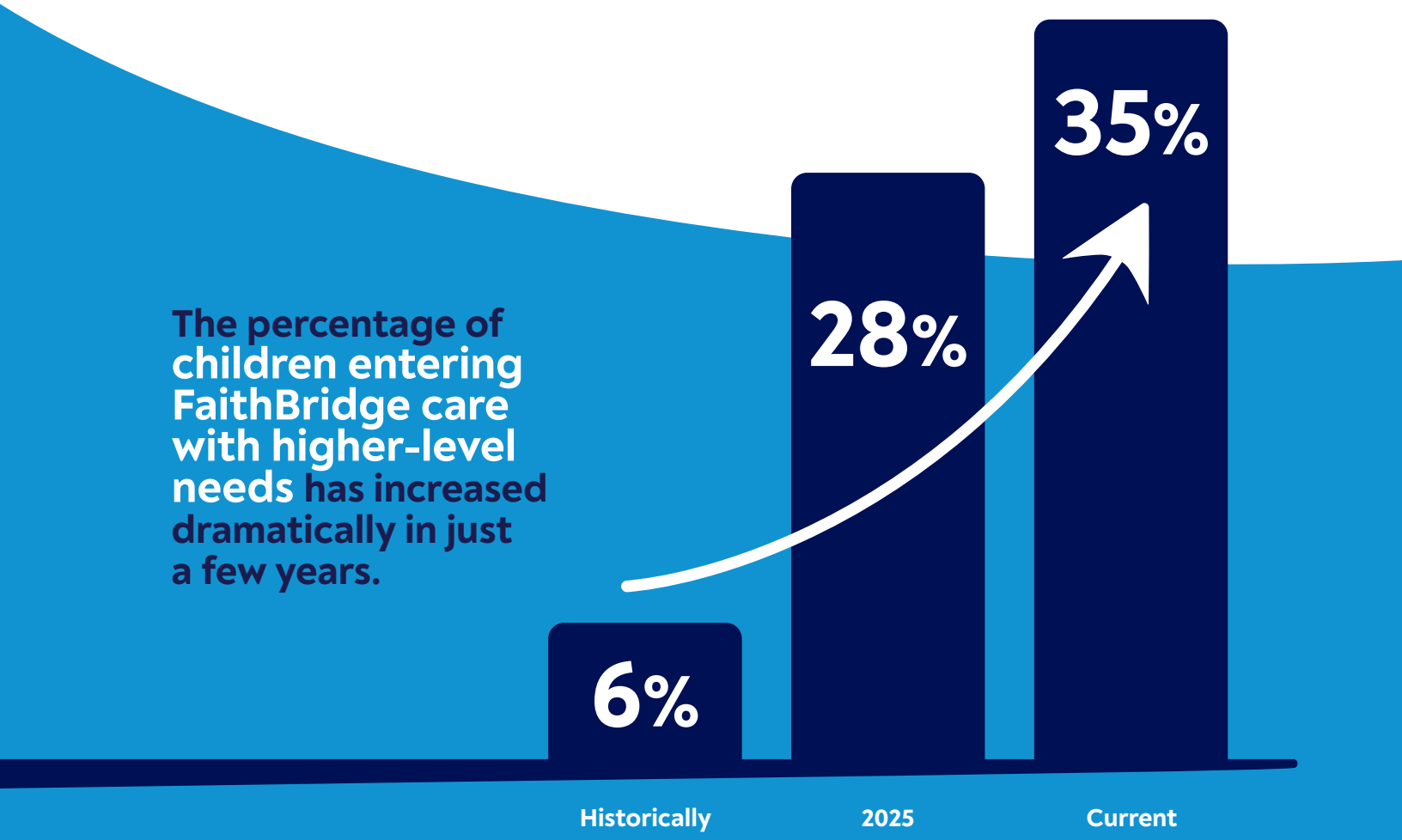
And yet, **God is showing us how we can have a greater impact.** At every stage, the need for FaithBridge is accelerating. And that's exactly why we can't slow down now.

Three things sit at the heart of everything FaithBridge does, and **your generosity is critical to us as we begin to see a path forward where breaking the cycle of foster care is possible.**

Foster Care | Equipping Parents | Aged-Out Youth

We believe that God has built the foundation and now we ask that you consider joining us in expanding what He has started.

The percentage of children entering FaithBridge care with higher-level needs has increased dramatically in just a few years.



Foster Care

When a child is removed from an unsafe home, everything familiar can disappear in a matter of hours. They lose their home, their bed, their parents, often their siblings, (even their stuffed animals!) - all of this after having already experienced significant trauma in their lives.

There is no question: **on what may be one of the most traumatic nights of a child's life, where they go next matters.** That's why we place children with families who feel a deep calling from God to care for them.

We believe a well-equipped, loving, and Christian home is the best place for healing to begin.

We want children to experience first-hand the love of Jesus and know that they are not alone.

That first night a child spends in a FaithBridge foster home may be the first time they have ever heard of Jesus. Imagine how a child's life begins to change as they pray their first ever prayer for their parents, siblings, and friends.

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Children who experience unstable foster care placements are more than twice as likely to experience mental health difficulties than children in stable placements.

We are seeing the difference that kind of home can make. Despite the significant increase in the number of children with higher-level needs, the outcomes of their placements continue to improve. **FaithBridge homes are now eight times more stable than the state average.** This means that typically, children will be moved from home to home to home, each move causing even more trauma. However, once they are in our care, **94% of the children experience only one placement, one home, one family.**

But the need is outpacing how many children we can serve, and we find ourselves at an inflection point. Every child we say yes to needs a FaithBridge social worker to support both the children and the family caring for them. That means **our capacity to serve more children is directly tied to our ability to grow our team.** And as more children come to us requiring higher levels of care, we are at the limit of how many we can serve.

In 2025, we had to say "no" to more than 1,100 children. We can and need to do far more.

Equipping Parents

The biggest crisis in foster care is that there are not enough foster parents.

Nationally, half of all first-time foster families quit within their first year. One of the biggest reasons is because they are simply not equipped to deal with a child who has experienced severe trauma or has significant physical needs. It can be harder than they ever imagined and there are very few resources to help educate them for this specialized care.

> **It is estimated that between 30-40% of ALL foster families quit each year.**

Three years ago, there were approximately 225,000 foster families in America. That number is now less than 190,000.

For years, much of the focus has been on recruiting more foster families. But recruitment alone cannot solve the problem if families continue leaving at this rate. **That's why FaithBridge is investing in retention.** We believe helping good foster families stay is one of the most effective ways to use the resources entrusted to us.

FaithBridgeU™, our online learning platform, is how we're doing it. By giving foster parents the training, resources, and support they need, **we're helping families feel better equipped to keep saying "yes" to these deserving children.**



FaithBridgeU

FaithBridgeU contains more than 200 hours of expert-led on-demand training, including 40 hours of Spanish language courses. It also provides 100+ hours of annual live trainings led by national industry experts. **These courses address the toughest challenges foster families can face through Christ inspired, expert led courses.** Foster parents now have access to the tools and support they need to keep going, even when fostering gets hard. Because when a foster family is equipped to stay, a child doesn't have to lose another home.

The results speak for themselves: in 2023, 40% of our foster families stopped fostering. Today, that number is down to 18%, less than half the national rate.

This is one of the most effective things that FaithBridge does.

That success is why we want to provide more families with access to FaithBridgeU. By partnering with organizations and churches nationally, we already have supported over 2,780 of their foster parents and staff across 31 states.

We originally built FaithBridgeU so that our families could receive the number of training hours the state requires each year. **God has done Immeasurably More by allowing more of our own families to continue to say "yes"** and to help thousands of foster children nationally to stay in their foster homes!

> **With your support, we can reach an additional 1,000 foster families this year.**

What users are saying:

The courses have been very helpful in our journey. It has taught us how to gain trust with the child in our care as well as trust of our bio kids.



We probably wouldn't still be fostering if it wasn't for FaithBridgeU.

FaithBridgeU has made me a better parent.

Aged-Out Youth

When a young person turns 18 and ages out of foster care, they're often expected to figure out adulthood on their own, without the family or support system so many of us take for granted. And the consequences can be devastating. **Nationally, more than half of the homeless population, 20% of incarcerated individuals, and an estimated 60% of sex-trafficked individuals were once in foster care.**

This is why we launched our Youth Opportunities program in 2023. The goals are simple, to equip youth who have aged out of foster care to be self-sufficient in life and be a functioning part of their local community.

FaithBridge Life Coaches partner with each young adult in our program to understand their unique needs, help them set personal goals, and provide the financial, educational, and emotional support they need to build successful, independent lives. They are truly the lifeblood of the program.

> **Every person in Youth Opportunities has a Life Coach because of your support.**



Emily
FaithBridge Youth

And the impact doesn't stop with our current Youth Opportunities participants. **When a young adult has the support they need to become self-sufficient, it can change the future for their children, too.** We never imagined how God would use this program to prevent the cycle of trauma from continuing, making an impact for generations to come.

Youth Opportunities breaks the generational cycle of foster care.

Of the young adults who come through Youth Opportunities, sadly more than 80% have food and housing instabilities. 69% are female, who collectively have 123 young children of their own. Based on their significant needs for basic food and shelter, one would anticipate many of their children would be in foster care themselves.

Thanks to God, of those 123 children, only one is in foster care.

That's what it looks like to break the generational cycle of foster care.

How it STARTED

Our first year, the goal was to serve **6** young people. We ended up serving **81**!

How it's GOING

Three years later, we have served more than ***575*** young adults.



Sergio
FaithBridge Youth

Now is our Opportunity to Take the Next Bold Steps.

We have always believed these programs would make a difference. But what we've watched God do through them has been Immeasurably More than we ever imagined.

Because of your generosity, thousands of lives have already been dramatically changed.

God defines pure religion as taking care of widows and orphans in their distress. That's why this year **we're asking you to prioritize FaithBridge in your giving, so that we can expand our reach to help even more children and youth.**

GIVINGTUESDAY

Giving Tuesday (December 1) is a global day of generosity when millions pause to give generously. This year, our goal is bold: raise $1 million before the end of the year.

A generous group of donors has committed an additional $500,000 if we reach our goal. **One million dollars becomes $1.5 million, giving FaithBridge the opportunity to say yes to even more children, families, and young adults**.

We serve a God who has done Immeasurably More than we asked or imagined with what you've already given us, so we're asking boldly again, because we believe He's not done yet.

Here's How to Join Us

PRAY
Ask God what your best gift to FaithBridge looks like on Giving Tuesday.

DISCERN
Consider your own unique circumstances and how you are able to partner with us.

GIVE
Please make your gift on or before Tuesday, December 1

We long to see a day when there are more foster homes than there are children who need them, when all foster children receive the support and healing they deserve, and when former foster youth are self-sufficient, breaking the cycle of foster care for generations to come. **A day when every one of them experiences the hope, healing, and unconditional love of Jesus. Truly, that would be Immeasurably More than we could ask or imagine.**

To donate:

please visit us at
faithbridgefostercare.org/more

or contact David Deal at
ddeal@faithbridgefostercare.org

