

A young boy wearing a baseball cap and a uniform, smiling broadly with his arms outstretched. The image is in grayscale with a dark overlay, serving as a background for the text.

# FAM

---

**FAMILY ADVOCACY MINISTRY**

*Because children need families*



# FAMILY ADVOCACY MINISTRY



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

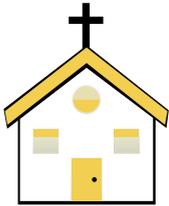
FAMs look different from church to church. The direction of your FAM depends on the heart of your congregation and the needs of at-risk kids in your local community.

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

# 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.



# 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!**

# 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.**

# 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.**



Learn more about FAM at  
**[SendRelief.org/FAM](https://SendRelief.org/FAM)**