

Encouragement and help from supportive friends can make such a difference to parents and children in challenging times. I'm very pleased to be the Patron of Safe Families for Children as they extend their work to help volunteers and churches provide that essential support for families in crisis.

Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, Patron of Safe Families for Children

Safe Families for Children needs you!

Join our army of volunteers today...

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really

Safe Families for Children is a movement of the church to care for some of the most vulnerable members of our society - children whose parents are going through a hard time.

We recruit Host Families who voluntarily open up their homes, without pay, taking in the children for a short spell whilst their parents get back on their feet. It's not fostering and it's not adoption - just simple kindness and yet it can make a world of difference.

their families to reach out to their neighbours



How have churches been helping?

As 'Host Families'

issues.

Trustworthy families who take children into their loving homes for a little while, giving the parents in crisis much needed space to deal with the pressing

As 'Family Friends'

and their children.

Friendly folk who befriend, mentor and support parents through their crisis, helping them get back on their feet and making the home stable for them



As 'Resource Friends'

Generous supporters able to provide useful items such as a cot or children's clothing, or have helpful skills such as cooking or gardening.

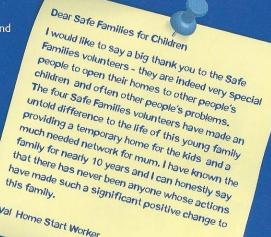
Week in, week out, struggling families are now being helped to get back on their feet



Claire's Story

My son is 18 months old and Safe Families came and got involved at a time when I really needed help. The

Host Family were brilliant, so I didn't have a problem with letting them keep my son overnight. I was able to get away and do what I needed to do. The Host Family have become very close to my heart, and my son loves them!





Kate's Story

Val Home Start Worker My husband's in prison and I needed to go to hospital to give birth. I was stuck and didn't know where to turn. I got in touch with Safe Families as

it felt like the right thing to do. They sent a fantastic couple and my two sons took to them instantly. I've now had the baby and with the ongoing help of Safe Families we're coping so much better.

Janet & John - Host Family



Mum needed a safety net, needed to be able to lift her child out

of the situation and know he would be safe and secure. It was a privilege for us to have a small child in the house again, and gave an opportunity for mum to have the space to do what she needed to do.

June - Family Friend



I was able to meet the family to find out exactly what help they

would need from me. After talking to them it became clear that because of mum having lots of cancer treatment, it would be those times that she would need the help with seeing to the children's needs.

Sam - Family Friend



It was amazing how much enjoyment I got from it. but also

much more importantly, how much more they got from it, because it was a break from circumstances beyond their control.