



SERVING YOUR LOCAL CHILD WELFARE

Serving Child Welfare Professionals | Why It Matters

Child welfare professionals who serve our community's most vulnerable children and families are, in many ways, first responders. They work under intense pressure, often face dangerous situations, and carry heavy caseloads. Their well-being and emotional health have a direct impact on how they engage and respond each day.

Did you know Case Manager stability directly affects permanency for children in foster care? The statistics tell the story - if a child has only one case manager, they have a 74.5% chance of achieving permanency, but as soon as a child experiences staff turnover, their chance of achieving permanency plummets to a mere 17.5%. That's why finding meaningful ways to encourage, support, and uplift these front-line workers is transformational. Your efforts can truly change the story for kids in your community.

Humble Approach | How to Build Relationships

Supporting your local child welfare office is all about relationships and usually begins with one key individual. If you don't yet know anyone at your local office, try to find someone who can introduce you. Remember: we build relationships with people, not organizations. And because staff turnover is common, it's wise to develop connections with various individuals over time to ensure your support remains steady.

We need to enter our communication and service with humility, knowing we don't know the whole story or the specific pressures the staff might be facing. Come with a curious mindset and ask what specific needs are. Do not initially present an agenda, solutions, or programs. First listen, then brainstorm possible solutions of how your church might help meet one or more of those needs - not over promising, but always trying to over deliver.

When needs are shared, respond with urgency where possible. Small, timely acts of care often open the door to deeper relationships. Keep in mind that your interactions with staff may be brief—they are often juggling demanding caseloads and shifting priorities. Your flexibility and thoughtfulness will speak volumes.

Prayer is Essential

Child Welfare professionals are on the frontlines every day—and they need our consistent, heartfelt prayers. As you build relationships, use your discretion and consider asking if they would be open to prayer or if they have specific prayer needs. Whether privately or in conversation follow through with intentional, ongoing prayer.

How we speak about and serve Child Welfare professionals matters. Our posture of honor and respect helps shape how others in our community view and engage with them.

Looking for ways your church can serve? Flip this page for ideas to get you started.



**Host a coffee bar
or food truck**



**Clean, restock,
and/or renovate
the visitation room**



**Hire a company to
offer chair massages**



**Hire a billboard to
advertise your church's
appreciation for local
agency staff**



**Host a flower cart to
make your own bouquet**



**Host a
Drive-through
Parade**



**Cater a Breakfast
or Lunch**



**Hire a car wash
company to wash
employee's cars**

*And yes, something as small as an encouraging handwritten card can be incredibly meaningful. Just remember—before planning any type of project (like collecting pajamas or suitcases), take the time to ask what the real and current needs are - the best way to build trust and make a lasting impact.



nationalhospitalityweek.com