

GoodNews!

Articles & Stories of Interest from Christian Family Care

July 2011

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Free Parent-Child Play Training Seminar

When:

Wed, August 17
6pm - 8pm

Where:

Christian Family Care
([map](#))

Description:

Healthy parent-child attachment through play led by Melissa Pasqua, RN, LAC.



Explore how to enjoy your kids again while building a long-lasting relationship. Training will include hands-on play activities to enrich your learning experience.

Call Anna Cervantes at 602 234-1935 x136 or acervantes@cfcare.org to register.

How many children are in Foster Care?

Amazing Graceson!

Parents Josh and Christine think their daughter, Graceson, is amazing - and for good reason! Her adoption has not only transformed their lives, but the lives of Graceson's biological family as well.



Josh and Christine met Graceson and her birth mom while both were still in the hospital. Her birth mother realized she could not parent Graceson the way she wanted and reached out to Christian Family Care for a family who could. Sitting in the hospital room holding Graceson, the Warrens knew she was the daughter God had created for them. Her birth mom knew it as well. That moment was the beginning of a relationship that has blossomed over time.

The two families meet regularly, giving Graceson an opportunity to know her biological siblings and extended family. Josh and Christine believe this is blessing that will help their daughter grow into a more well rounded individual. It's also allowed them to serve the family in ways they never dreamed possible.

Realizing this family was living with a grandmother in dire living conditions, Josh and Christine were determined to help. They went to work, finding a way to remodel the family's home through "Angels On Call," a community service project through Stardust Building Supplies. It's a renovation that took more than a month and countless volunteers, bringing new life to a family in need.



Right now, more than 10,000 children are in Arizona's foster care system. Several hundred of them have no active plan for adoption or reunification with their biological families. You can connect with one of these children today!

Learn more about these children waiting to make a connection by meeting [Idalia](#) and [Malachai](#).

These bright, beautiful teens are waiting to connect with Christian families who will demonstrate the love of Jesus to them. [Connect today!](#)

While the renovation is valued at more than \$100,000, it's true worth is seen in the transformation that is taking place in the lives of Graceson's biological family. It's been an opportunity for Josh and Christine to share the love of Christ with Graceson's extended biological family.

"Graceson's story shows the importance of open adoption with God as the architect," explains Mark Upton, president and CEO of Christian Family Care. "These adoptions allow the miracle of God's love to transform lives in ways we could never dream or imagine. That's what we're about - it's why Christian Family Care exists!"

It is the faithful prayers and stewardship of friends like you that make stories like Graceson's possible. To invest in the life of another child and family, [click here!](#)

Strike Up the Fun!

The coolest fun under the sun can be found at Christian Family Care this summer. And thanks to you, a foster child can share in every minute!



Beach Bowling Bashes are taking place in both Tucson and Phoenix, benefitting our foster children and families. Your participation means our CFC kids can enjoy some cool summer fun while we raise money to support them all year long. Here's how you can participate...

Sponsor a lane so kids can bowl or Captain a Bowling Team

Participation is fun and easy!

Form a team of five or six bowlers made up of friends, co-workers, neighbors or your church group. Pay your team's \$75 registration fee and also gather pledges to further the impact of CFC's foster care and adoption ministries. Pledge donations are tax-deductible and cover everything you need for a great time - shoe rental, drinks, food, entertainment and prizes.

Tucson: Saturday, July 23, 2-4 PM

Phoenix: Saturday, July 30, 2-4 PM

Register today and learn more! [Click here.](#)

Connecting the Hurting to a Healer

At sixteen years of age, a boy we call Steve had already missed three years of school. Living with his parents in a trailer out in the middle of the desert, he was functioning as a caregiver to his alcoholic and disabled parents. Tall and thin, Steve was fearful and withdrawn when Arizona's Child Protective Services intervened. Steve had lived in such isolation that he had no social skills, making it overwhelming for him to enter into a normal family environment.



When Christian Family Care entered his life, we placed Steve with a foster family with three teenaged boys of their own. This family accepted Steve as one of them, helping him learn how to interact with others. Steve's foster parents enrolled him in an alternative school with small classes to help him catch up academically and socially.

Steve's foster family went above and beyond, reaching out to his biological family, encouraging them to get help so Steve could return to his home. Time after time, they provided friendship and support, meeting the biological parents at restaurants and the CPS office so the family could work through the changes taking place in their relationship.

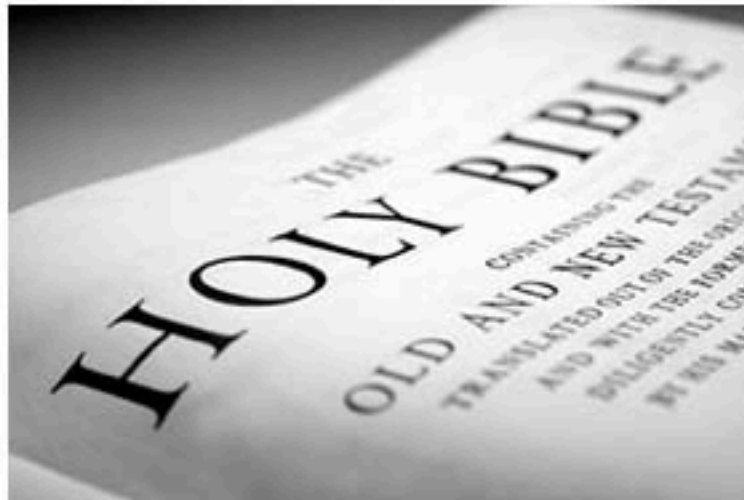
As these visits were taking place, Steve learned how to live out the person he was becoming. He developed independence, discovering that it is okay for him to form and voice his own opinions. He learned how to express his own needs and make his own choices - something he had never known. Most importantly, he met Jesus Christ and loved going to church.

Steve and his parents were ultimately reunited - and Steve insisted that his parents begin attending church with him. He returned to his parents a transformed individual, knowing Jesus and himself and what he wanted to do with his life. He became a whole, healed person! Through the classes and mentoring offered through Christian Family Care, it was our delight to equip them with the tools they needed in helping Steve become the person God intended.

The foster family and Steve continue to keep in touch. The family has assured Steve they will be a resource to him for as long as he needs them.

This is what Christian Family Care does. Through our Connect One initiative, we connect Arizona's foster children with Christian families - and with Jesus Christ, the Healer of the hurting. Learn how you can help by mentoring a teen, offering respite care, discipleship, tutoring, prayer and more. [Connect today!](#)

The Power of Prayer



The foster families we serve do more than love and care for children. These families pray for the biological families of the children in their care, asking God to bring healing and restoration.

Recently, we received this note from one of our foster moms. Her words describe the miracles that take place every day through Christian Family Care.

"One of the mothers of [our foster baby] was introduced to Jesus. As we developed a relationship with her, we found out she had never attended church, didn't know anything about the Bible or the stories that we have grown up knowing. I got to tell her about Adam, Eve, Noah, Mary, Joseph, Jesus and other facts from the Bible.

She then attended church with us a few times and even now that she has her baby back with her, they have attended too. Listening to her questions about Biblical issues has been very exciting to us because that shows that she's really listening and wanting to know more about our Savior."

Miracles can - and do - take place every day through Christian Family Care! Thank you for your stewardship of our ministry.



CHRISTIAN FAMILY CARE

Serving Children and Families Since 1982